

## RESOURCE Q

# Quality Standards for Kids Tennis

## INTRODUCTION

In recognizing the importance of a kid's early experience in sport, Tennis Canada, along with its provincial partners and the Tennis Professionals Association, developed Quality Standards for Kids Tennis. The Standards were developed in accordance with the High Five national curriculum and National Coaching Certification program. Aligning with national initiatives that promote safe and quality kids programming, the Standards help tennis deliverers review, evaluate and improve their kids tennis programs.

## WHY QUALITY MATTERS?

Research has shown that a kid's early experience in sport can have a long-lasting impact on physical activity levels and sport participation as an adult. These early experiences are heavily influenced by positive interactions, encouragement and a safe environment. Meeting these needs through high quality programming is critical to providing the positive experiences that motivate kids to continue playing tennis. When kids keep playing, everyone benefits. Children stay active and learn a game that can be enjoyed for life, and deliverers see improved retention rates.

## WHAT ARE QUALITY STANDARDS FOR KIDS TENNIS?

The six key characteristics of quality kids programs are:

- 1 Caring Instructor
- 2 Making Friends
- 3 Active Participation
- 4 Appropriate Challenge
- 5 Opportunity for Skill Improvement
- 6 Fun

Tennis Canada, along with its partners, have encouraged tennis organizations across Canada to take a pledge to improve their kids tennis programming through these six key characteristics. Organizations that take the pledge to quality programming are provided with a poster that communicates their commitment to parents and participants.

To help organizations honour their pledge, Tennis Canada has developed numerous resources that include **training videos, a self-assessment checklist, online modules, workshops** and more. To access these resources and for more information on Quality Standards for Kids Tennis, please visit the TPA Website or contact [coveredcourts@tenniscanada.com](mailto:coveredcourts@tenniscanada.com)



Quality Standards for Kids Tennis Official Poster