



## **HIGH PERFORMANCE COACH MENTOR PROGRAM**

### **February 2016**

The High Performance Coach Mentor Program is an initiative spearheaded by Tennis Canada's development team to provide Certified Coaches the opportunity to improve their skills, knowledge and experience to work with elite players. The goal is to provide tangible opportunities for identified coaches related to the ongoing training for elite development that are accessible to promising coaches who are committed and passionate. In collaboration with the high performance coaching team, the program aims to create new experiences that will enable coaches to train world-class athletes.

#### **Why make the commitment?**

The High Performance Coach Mentor Program enables coaches to progress and hone their skills in order to acquire a higher level of expertise.

- High-level coaching requires that coaches constantly update their knowledge and skills.
- Coaches want to acquire international-level knowledge to become familiar with elite coaching approaches and discover new methods.
- Coaches want to facilitate their professional development according to national and international standards.
- The certificate program includes an individualized program as well as financial support to ensure that the training is accessible, efficient and cost-effective. Program participants receive a per diem during their involvement.

Note: the mentor experiences could potentially be used for part of the requirements towards level 4 certification

#### **What does the program consist of?**

The High Performance Coach Mentor Program includes 60 total days of individualized training, over a 2-3 year period, to ensure that coaches reach their individual development goals.

The program involves:

- yearly home club visits
- weeks of coaching at one of Tennis Canada's national/regional centre(s)

- travel to a National level tennis tournament (with provincial association or Tennis Canada)
- ongoing skills/knowledge development regroupings with other coaches enrolled in the program
- travel to international tournaments (various levels and age categories)
- participation in provincial and/or national training camps

Note: involvement in the program will be reviewed annually which will include an evaluation of the ongoing progress made as well as the commitment by the Coach. The program must be completed within the three years.

### **What are the requirements for coaches selected to the program?**

Coaches must:

- Have a passion for player development
- Have successfully completed their Coach 2 or 3 Certification with a high level of success
- Be committed to completing their coach 3 as this is a requirement for receiving their certificate.
- Commit to the mentoring program for a three-year period
- Work in a high-performance setting where the majority of the time is spent with junior development
- Be available to spend 3-4 weeks away from your home club each year (for a 3 year program)
- Take responsibility for their career advancement
- Be proactive, open to suggestions and questions (attitudes, behaviours, practices, ideas, etc.)

Note: a strong playing background would be an asset

### **How are coaches selected to the program?**

Selection to the High Performance Coach Mentor Program is by invitation only at the discretion of Tennis Canada.