TSA Play & Stay Trainer Course Schedule for Candidates

(February 2017: Tennis South-Africa as adapted from ITF 2014)



ITF 'PLAY TENNIS' COURSE SCHEDULE SUMMARY

DAY	HOURS ON COURT	HOURS IN LECTURE ROOM	TOTAL
1	6.5	1.5	8
2	7.5	0.5	8
3	7	1	8
4	6 (plus or minus 1 hour)	2 (plus or minus 1 hour)	8
TOTAL	27	5	32

The aim of the course

The aim of the Play Tennis course is to help participants understand how to organise and deliver a tennis session and other tennis activities to beginner level players of all ages.

After the course the coach will be able to work with beginner adult players (ITN 10) and 10 and under children and will have knowledge of basic tactics and technique. The coach will be able to organise simple competitions and use correct equipment and court sizes for beginner players

At the end of the course, participants will be assessed through a short written paper covering the key information from the course.

From January 2014, the Play Tennis course is a pre-requisite for the ITF Coaching Beginner and Improver players course.

Notes on delivering the course:

- The ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign was launched in June 2007. It is an important campaign which aims to promote in the Play Tennis Course many of the objectives of the campaign. It is important that tutors explain the campaign and its objectives, and, if possible, show some of the promotional material available
- Each day of the course includes 7 hours of tutor contact time both on court and in the lecture room, plus lunch and drinks breaks. Drinks breaks are not shown on the schedule. These should be taken at the tutor's discretion and dependent on facility availability.
- It is recommended than a maximum of 24 participants are accepted onto a Play Tennis course
- No players are required for this course. Practical sessions should involve participants, who could play with their non-dominant hand to simulate beginner players.
- This course is about training coaches so that they can introduce the game to beginner players using game based practices. All instruction should be based on the tactics within the 3 game situations for singles since this forms the basis of getting players to play the game at beginner level. Participants should therefore be discouraged from spending long periods of time giving detailed technical information but the most important part of their work is to get the starter players playing the game as soon as possible.
- The Play Tennis manual was rewritten in 2013 and is provided for all participants, it provides the essential information covered in the course, plus additional relevant information to help participants in their beginner tennis programme.
- The participants should be informed that additional information is to be found at www.tennisplayandstay.com

Notes on equipment

- The entire course is based on the use of slower red, orange and green balls for beginner players of all ages, and the use of smaller courts especially for children 10 and under. It is therefore essential that the following equipment is available for the duration of the course:
 - o Red, orange and green balls. The amount of equipment required depends on the number of participants, but the following ratios can be used as a guide:
 - For up to 16 participants 30 red, 30 orange and 30 green balls, 4 baskets and small rackets
 - For between 16 and 24 participants 50 red, 50 orange and 50 green balls, 5 baskets and small rackets

- Additional equipment required for the course includes:
 - o A DVD player or laptop and speakers
 - o A screen and projector
 - Cones, lines and markers
 - o Small nets and/or barrier tape or rope

The Play Tennis course has the following course objectives and coaching competencies:

	Training	Competition and competitive games
Planning and organising activity	 understand the Play and Stay campaign and its objective to get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible is able to explain the key characteristics the game based approach to beginner players prepare for a practical activity 	 understand the role of competition in the Play and Stay campaign and its objective to get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible prepare for a competition know the different formats and scoring for beginner adults and children
Conducting training/ running competition and competitive games	 know the tactics (tactical intentions) in 3 game situations set up 2 activities and rotations for each of the 3 game situations complete a simple lesson checklist for a group lesson understand the importance of dressing and acting in a professional manner at all times operate a safe playing environment (use of equipment, organisation of activity) is able to explain the differences between yellow ball and the 3 types of slower balls able to set up the red and orange courts for training use targets or cones to help players play the game feed the ball in different ways (hand, basket, rally) adapt exercises and tasks to help players play the game speaks clearly and is audible to all players (ability to project the voice over one tennis court) understand the importance of animation (passion/smiling/fun/enthusiasm) understand the differences in how children and adults learn demonstrate practical tasks and activities give simple teaching points to help beginner players improve effectiveness in the 3 game situations 	 able to set up the red and orange courts for competition set up and run simple competition and competitive games able to explain the rules of tennis and different scoring methods introduce the rules to beginner players know about the ITN, the description of standards and ITN rating levels for beginner players

DAY 1 (8 hrs)

KEY THEMES	CONTENT/OBJECTIVES	TIME	RESOURCES	Key competencies covered
Introduction to the course	Introduction to course Tutor to cover the following aspects: • Timetable, Course content	30 min	PP D1-1	
(Lecture Room)	 Expectations of the participants Course manual, participant schedule and ground rules (punctuality, professional appearance, animator, motivator etc) 			
TennisPlay and Stay campaign (Lecture Room)	 PowerPoint introductory presentation on Play and Stay Show ITF TennisPlay and Stay, Tennis 10s and Tennis Xpress DVDs and play and stay website Defining the role of the coach of beginner players – not just techniques, but helping players to play the game better Tutor to explain the requirements of the course and how it is structured and assessed 	60 min	PP D1-2 ITF TennisPlay and Stay DVD	understand the Play and Stay campaign and its objective to get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible understand the Play and its players to get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible

Introduction to halls	Tutor to introduce the different halls	45 min	ITE Court line manual	• operate a cafe playing
Introduction to balls and courts	Tutor to introduce the different balls and court sizes By the end of this session all participants should understand: • that slower balls are available around the world • why they are important for beginner players and young higher level players • that the balls correspond to different court sizes • that many countries now have a system of player development using progressive court sizes which correspond with red, orange and green balls • that slower balls and smaller courts can also help introduce tennis to beginner adults • the different ways to set up the courts for practice and competition • that all activity must be conducted in a safe environment, and that coaches are responsible for ensuring the safety and welfare of all players	45 min	ITF Court line manual	 operate a safe playing environment (use of equipment, organisation of activity) know the differences between yellow ball and the 3 types of slower balls
Setting up courts	Tutor-led session to show how to set up red and orange courts in different ways. This should include: Showing how to make the most of available space Show how to set up micro courts (any space with a boundary or target area Explaining the different between court set up formats for coaching/activity compared	30 min	ITF Court line manual	 know how to set up the red and orange courts for training operate a safe playing environment (use of equipment, organisation of activity)

	to competition (safety and space, number of players required to be active at one time, requirement for 'official' court sizes in competition but not for coaching/activity) Showing how to set up 4 red courts for competition or 6 red courts for coaching/activity sessions on one tennis court Showing how to set up 2 orange courts on one tennis court for coaching/activity sessions			
Introduction to competition for beginners	By the end of this session participants should know that: competition is not just for good players; beginners of all ages can compete too competition should be appropriate to age and ability of the players some competition formats are better suited to beginners than others whilst many players play tennis for competition, others don't like to compete competition for beginner players is primarily at local level resources exist to help coaches set up and run competition in clubs competition could be during a lesson or as a separate event	60min	D 4-1 Intro & role of competitions Manual: Section 8	

Serve rally and score from the first lesson, using red, orange and green courts Introducing Progressions for baseline game	How to get beginner players of all ages to serve, rally and score quickly • Kids • Juniors • Adults Note that this session should cover principles to be used with beginner players, and not become specific to a particular age group	60 min	Manual: Section 5, 6, 9 & 11	 apply the game based approach to beginner players set up and run simple competitive games
Tactics for beginner players – game situations and tactical intentions	Introducing 3 game situations:	60 min	Manual: Section 6 & 9	 apply the game based approach to beginner players know the tactics (tactical intentions) in 3 game situations set up 2 activities and rotations for each of the 3 game situations

Different types of practices	Tutor-led session to show the difference between cooperative and competitive practices, and how an activity can be quickly and easily changed from cooperative to competitive. The tutor should also use this as an opportunity to highlight at least 2 different scoring systems which can be used for competitive activity.	60 min	Manual: Section 5, 8 & 9	 set up and run simple competitive games set up and run simple competitions set up 2 activities and rotations for each of the 3 game situations
Organising activities for beginner players	Aim is to help participants understand how to organise and rotate a group of beginners on a tennis court so that everyone is active and playing the game. The tutor should also point out that more time will be spent on communication for children and adults in days 2,3 and 4 of the course.	30 min	Manual: Section 3 & 4 ITF Court line manual	 feed the ball in different ways (hand, basket, rally) understand the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication understand the importance of animation (passion/smiling/fun/enthus iasm)
Communication skills for coaching beginner players	Aim is to help participants understand the importance of good communication skills and energy, and the ability to animate a beginner tennis lesson for players of all ages. Participants should understand what it means to be "an animator" and to understand the importance of animation in beginner coaching. The tutor should also point out that more time will be spent on organising activities and competition for children and adults in days 2, 3 and 4 of the course.	30 min	Communication checklist from Manual: Section 3	 understand the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication understand the importance of animation (passion/smiling/fun/enthus iasm)

DAY 2 (8 hrs)

KEY THEMES	CONTENT PRESENTATION	TIME	RESOURCES	Key competencies covered
Recap from Day 1 Introduction of ITF Tennis 10s	Tutor to explain the ITF Tennis 10s programme, using the Tennis 10s presentation: Importance of slower balls and smaller courts for 10 and under players The ITF rule change from 2012	30 min	ITF Tennis 10s DVD Tennis 10s Parents leaflet	 understand the Play and Stay campaign and its objective to get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible
Introducing key rules and how to score for beginners	Tutor-led session to show participants how to introduce the important rules of the game through simple throw-catch and rally activities for kids Tutor-led session to show participants how to check that adult beginners know the important rules of the game	45 min	D 4-3 Scoring progressions Manual: Section 8	know the different formats and scoring for beginner adults and children
Serve, rally and score at red Introduction progressions for net game and serving/returning	Tutor to show how young beginner players can serve rally and score from the first lesson, including: • emphasis on playing the game using small courts, red balls and creative use of equipment and space This session should build on session 4 from day 1	90 min	Manual: Section 5, 6, 7, 9 & 11	 apply the game based approach to beginner players place targets or cones relevant to the tactical intention adapt exercises and tasks to help players play the game

Adaptation of activities for young children	Tutor to explain that in a group of young children it is likely that there will be different abilities. Therefore differentiation and adaptation of the activity is important	60 min	Manual: Section 5	
'5Rs' and Receiving skills	Tutor to explain that the ability to rally with simple technique relies on the ability of players to: • receive the incoming ball • control the outgoing ball Participants should also understand that many of the errors made by beginners are because of problems in receiving the ball, and specifically to: • lack of balance • poor positioning 5 R's: • Ready • Read • React • Racket • Recover	60 min	Explain the ready, read, react, racket, recover process Manual: Section 7	give simple teaching points to help beginner players improve effectiveness in the 3 game situations

Sending skills & Basic Biomechanics	Tutor to explain and demonstrate PAS – path, angle and speed of the racket - and how they can use it to help players develop simple technique The tutor should also briefly explain the importance of the following in developing simple technique in young players: • balance during contact • grips primarily to achieve consistency • contact point – this should include the height, distance in front and to the side, and the timing (falling ball) of the contact • 3 phases of the stroke – take back, contact, follow through Cover the Basics of Biomec with practical Examples The tutor should then show the simple checklist shown in the manual to help players to play better. Tutor to conclude by explaining that PAS will also be applied to coaching adult beginners in day 3.	90 min	Tutors to refer to path, angle and speed (PAS) Manual: Section 7 Manual: Section 7	ξ 6	give simple teaching points to help beginner players improve effectiveness in the 3 game situations
Serve, rally and score at orange	Tutor-led session introducing the game at orange. Participants should understand that: • beginners will benefit from playing on the red court before they progress to orange	30 min	Manual: Section 5, 6, 7, 9 & 11	• k • k • a	apply the game based approach to beginner olayers know what to consider when progressing olayers from red, to brange to green

	 it is not a race to yellow! Players should be able to start and then maintain the rally before moving to the next court/ball simple 'player competencies' are suggested for coaches to know when players are ready to move to green once a good foundation has been developed at red, the bigger orange court and the faster ball allow the game to develop further in practice it is possible to have 2 orange courts on one full court 			
Serve, rally and	Tutor-led session introducing the game	30 min	Manual: Section 5, 6,	 apply the game based
score at green	at green. Participants should understand that: • beginners will benefit from playing on the orange court before they progress to green • it is not a race to yellow! • players need to have simple but sound technique before they move to the next level • simple 'player competencies' are suggested for coaches to know when players are ready to move to using a yellow ball • once a good foundation has been developed at orange, the bigger green court and the faster green ball allow the game to develop further		9 & 11	approach to beginner players • know what to consider when progressing players from red, to orange to green

Demonstrations	Participants should understand the importance and key aspects of demonstrations for all beginners, but especially for children: • people learn most by watching and copying • children rely even more on visual learning • demonstrations should be simple and appropriate to the player • coaches will need to demonstrate activities and tasks, organisation/rotations and simple technique at any stage during a lesson • to understand the value of checking understanding by getting one of the players to show what coach has demonstrated	30 min	Section: 3 & 7	understand the differences in how children and adults learn demonstrate practical tasks and activities
6. Summary of the day	Tutor-led summary of the day - what have we learnt?	15 min		

DAY 3 (8 hrs)

KEY THEMES	CONTENT PRESENTATION	TIME	RESOURCES	Key competencies covered
Recap from Day 2	Tutor to recap on day 2 and check for understanding of the key themes. This could be done as a simple group quiz.	15 min		
Competition	Tutors run through principles of	60 min	D4-2 Competition	set up and run simple
formats for Tennis	competition for Tennis 10s:		formats	competitions
10s	 children can compete through rally based activities, through throw-catch or other modified games formats which allow children to play many short matches are better than those with a few longer matches no elimination formats keep rules and scoring very simple. Children may need help from older juniors or adults Coaches should explain and insist on Fair Play between 		Manual: Section 8	
Preparing for a	players Objective is to give participants time	30 min	Manual: Section 11	prepare for a practical
practical session	to prepare a rally-based activity suitable for between 4 and 6 children on a red court, and which is specific to a game situation covered earlier in the course. The activity may be one already shown on the course, or a new idea thought up by the participant			activity complete a simple lesson checklist for a group lesson

Practical session	Objective is allow participants to implement ideas covered so far in the course. It is suggested that participants are used as players, some of whom may use dominant hand and some using non-dominant hand (to require differentiation): • setting up activities using game situations and intentions • organisation and rotation of players • demonstrations and communication suited to young children • simple teaching points using the 5 Rs and PAS	120 min	Manual: Section 5, 6, 7, 9 & 11	set up 2 activities and rotations for each of the 3 game situations
Introduction of ITF Tennis Xpress	Tutor to explain the ITF Tennis Xpress programme, using the Tennis Xpress presentation: Importance of slower balls and smaller courts for beginner adults Take them through the website and the hour by hour schedule so they see how user friendly it is (videos etc)	30 min	Tennis Xpress DVD D3-1 Tennis Xpress presentation Tennis Xpress leaflet if available Tennis Xpress course schedule Manual: Section 10	understand the Play and Stacampaign and its objective get starter players to play (serve, rally and score) as soon as possible
Tennis Xpress – serve, rally and score for adults	Tutor-led session to present and go through course content for Tennis Xpress. By the end of this session the participants should: - know about Tennis Xpress - understand the course philosophy and course content - have experienced 2 sessions from the Tennis Xpress course as players	60 min	Tennis Xpress course schedule Manual: Section 10	 apply the game based approach to beginner playe understand the differences how children and adults lea

Practical session	Objective is allow participants to implement ideas on Tennis Xpress. Players should be course participants. In addition to familiarising themselves with the content and delivery of Tennis Xpress, tutor should check that they can • set up activities using game situations and intentions • organise and rotate players • demonstrations and communication suitable for adults • give simple teaching points using the 5 Rs and PAS	90 min	Tennis Xpress Schedule & Course Manual: Section 10	set up 2 activities and rotations for each of the 3 game situations
Differentiation & adaptation of the drill	Tutor to remind participants of the simple ways shown on Day 2, in which activities can be made easier or harder. By the end of this session, participants should be able to differentiate activities for beginner adults, and know that the progression from red, to orange and green is not always simple because: • beginners may start playing at different ages • beginners vary in size, strength and athleticism • players progress at different rates • adults come to tennis with different life and sporting experiences • the red, orange and green ball can be used as learning tools for all beginners Tutors show ways to differentiate rally activities for adults	60 min	Manual: Section 5	 understand differentiation and optimal challenge – speak to DM – adapt or differentiation? adapt exercises and tasks to help players play the game place targets or cones relevant to the tactical intention demonstrate practical tasks and activities

6. Summary of the	Tutor-led summary of the	15 min	
day	day - what have we learnt?		

DAY 4 (8 hrs)

KEY THEMES	CONTENT PRESENTATION	TIME	RESOURCES	Key competencies covered
Recap from Day 3	Tutor to recap on day 3 and check for understanding of the key themes. This could be done as a simple group quiz.	15 min		
Competition formats for Tennis Xpress	Tutors run through principles of competition for Tennis Xpress: reminder that the aim of Tennis Xpress is that beginner adults can play a friendly or fun match on an orange or green court by the end of the course whilst many adults don't want coaching, but do want to compete, there are others who are not so keen on competition formats which allow adults to enjoy playing in a social environment are very popular and important competition for adults should be kept short and arranged at convenient times to fit in with busy lifestyles	45 min	D 4-2 Competition formats Manual: Section 8	set up and run simple competitions
Preparing for and running a competition	Candidates prepare and deliver Competition planned on day 3	60 min Preparation is for homework on day 3	16 Primary school children Competition organisers training book Manual: Section 8	 prepare for a competitio know how to set up the red and orange courts fo competition set up and run simple competitions
Brief explanation of ITN	Tutor-led explanation of ITN	15 min	Manual: Section 8	 know about the ITN, the description of standards and ITN rating levels for beginner players

Level of Play Test	Orange Court with Orange Ball: All participants complete the test, with following exception's: Players who had an ITF Junior Ranking or a Professional Ranking (ATP/WTA Points)	45 min	All Course Content & Manual Section 7	Serve, Rally and Score with a Partner
Written Assessment (Lecture Room)	All participants to complete the written paper which accompanies the course	45 min 15 min for instructions and preparation 30 min for written paper	All Course Content	 understand the importance of dressing and acting in a professional manner at all times
Group Lesson Mock Test: 20min Red Court with 2 to 4 Players	All participants complete the Group Lesson Mock Test as part of the Course. Tutor explain the Video Assessment Procedures to follow:	240 min	All Course Content	
Summary of the course (Lecture Room)	Tutor-led course summary and conclusions: summary of the day - what have we learnt? reminder of key principles covered on the course. reminder of ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign, including key objectives information about Level 1 presentation of certificates	15 min	Course summary presentation	