

## **Little Aces Progressive Tennis Program**

**Little Aces is a community tennis project funded by Tennis Canada to introduce affordable and accessible progressive tennis programs into schools, gyms, community leagues, clubs and parks and recreation departments. With a focus on children under the age of 12, the program provides new participants to the game of tennis an opportunity to combine practice and play.**

**Progressive Tennis introduces the sport of tennis in a fun and interactive way and ensures immediate success for young players aged 5-12. Using modified tennis balls, racquets, nets and courts, young players are properly equipped to enjoy rallies and learn the fundamentals of the game early on. Skills are developed more quickly than with traditional teaching methods, allowing for an easy transition to full court. Tennis Canada fully endorses Progressive Tennis and is developing programs and competitive structures across the country to give more players the opportunity to experience its positive benefits.**

**Edmonton has been selected by Tennis Canada to be the next community to introduce the Little Aces Progressive Tennis Program. Edmonton was selected because of its long standing tradition of well organized community partnerships, sound infrastructure and a proven track record for innovation and excellence.**

**The goal of the Edmonton Little Aces project is to establish tennis as a highly visible and easily accessible choice for Edmonton youth and families to pursue healthy, active lifestyles. Implementation of the Little Aces strategy for Edmonton will be handled by a small group of volunteer committees, supported and facilitated by Tennis Alberta staff. Committees are being created for:**

- 1. Executive**
- 2. Parks and Recreation**
- 3. Communities and Clubs**
- 4. Schools**
- 5. Marketing and Communication**

**The Executive Committee, chaired by Jill Groves, Administrative & Program Manager for Tennis Alberta is already in place.**

### **WE ARE SEARCHING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO FILL POSITIONS IN THE OTHER COMMITTEES.**

**For all VOLUNTEERS, the following qualifications apply:**

- Must have commitment to the goals of the Edmonton Little Aces program
- Must be willing to devote sufficient time to properly carry out his or her duties
- Experience with not for profit organizations or project management is an asset
- Experience in tennis is desirable but not mandatory
- Must be eighteen (18) years of age or older

**The responsibilities of the CHAIR of each committee include but are not limited to:**

- Lead all committee meetings and communicate progress to the Executive Committee
- Act as lead for development of committee action plan and assist with tracking all results
- Based on committee experiences and results, provide advice and strategic direction to the Executive Committee

**The responsibilities of COMMITTEE MEMBERS include but are not limited to:**

- Attend and participate actively in all committee meetings
- Contribute to development of the committee action plan
- Carry out action responsibilities as determined at meetings

**Little Aces Committees are expected to consist of up to 6 volunteers each. Each committee should expect to meet as a group 6 times annually but may be required to meet more regularly with sub-committees. The projected amount of time required for each position is about two hours per week.**

## **Committee Mandate Summaries:**

### ***Executive Committee***

The Executive Committee is responsible to develop and define the overall goals, objectives and strategies for the Edmonton Little Aces project, to oversee implementation of strategies through the other committees it creates and to provide reporting of results (including key metrics) to Tennis Canada and Tennis Alberta.

### ***Parks and Recreation Committee***

The Parks and Recreation Committee will be responsible for planning and implementing progressive tennis as part of the City of Edmonton's sports and recreational programming, focused on the use of city facilities. This may include lessons and camps and/or minor tennis leagues. Both indoor and outdoor programs may be included.

### ***Communities and Clubs Committee***

The Communities and Clubs Committee will be responsible for planning and implementing progressive tennis programs within community league and club programs. This may include lessons and camps, minor tennis leagues and tournaments. The community and club programs will provide a pathway to competitive tennis programs for those children with aptitude and interest to explore tennis as a serious sporting opportunity.

### ***Schools Committee***

The Schools Committee will be responsible for planning and implementing progressive tennis programs in schools, focused on the use of school facilities. This may include incorporation of the program into the school's Physical Education curriculum or after school activities and minor tennis leagues.

### ***Marketing Committee***

The Marketing Committee will be responsible for planning and implementing marketing and communications support for the programs defined and managed through the other three committees. This will include development of a web site for Little Aces, supported by social media and mass media as well as definition of a consistent look and feel for Little Aces communication and promotion, including a logo, key messages and formatting.

**For more information or to apply for a position, please email Jill Groves at [jill.groves@tennisalberta.com](mailto:jill.groves@tennisalberta.com) or Mary Manley at [mary.manley@tennisalberta.com](mailto:mary.manley@tennisalberta.com), or call Jill at 780-644-0440 or Mary at 780-415-1694.**