

Japan Tennis Association Business Plan for FY2018 (From April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019)

In the fiscal year ending in March 2018, the Japan Tennis Association (JTA) strengthened the organizational aspects of its managerial foundation including its finances and secretariat, bearing in mind the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

By adding 'nurturing junior players' to our original policies of tennis development and player reinforcement, we promoted these three pillars of our activities. In addition, we initiated to forge a foundation to improve the tennis environment in Japan while making maximum use of the upcoming Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. With regards to tennis development, junior player nurturing, and player reinforcement, we formulated a mid-long term strategic plan for tennis in Japan; introduced a Junior JPIN player registration system to configure a fair competitive environment for junior players; and designed a nationwide junior player ranking system based on this junior registration system.

As a governance effort for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics to cope with the impact of the renovations of the Ariake Tennis Forest Park, we started off by securing alternative venues to hold major tournaments and storage place for property owned or maintained by JTA such as historical documents on tennis and other materials. In addition, we adopted a four-year financial plan by carefully examining the impact to our finances due to the changes in the venues of the Japan Open Tennis Championships and the Davis Cup ties held in Japan.

On the other hand, with frauds by athletes and sport associations including a former Japanese tennis player, and the recurrence of unethical behavior, JTA reviewed the efforts towards governance, compliance, and improvement in fair play during tennis matches that have been pursued since 2012 when JTA was transformed into a public-interest incorporated foundation. In February this year, the review of these policies was made from risk management perspectives under the name of *Efforts to Secure Integrity in Tennis*, at the monthly meeting of Executive Directors, which will be use as a reference for JTS's future policy-making process.

FY2018 holds the '2018 Issue'. Namely it will be a year where JTA will be hard-pressed financially with the changes in venues for major tennis tournaments due to the renovation of Ariake Tennis Forest Park that will continue until August 2019. At the same time, FY2018 is an important year for translating into practice the series of measures to improve the tennis environment adopted in the preceding year so that they can be fruitful for the Tokyo

Olympics and Paralympics, and the JTA Centennial Anniversary in 2022. As a public interest incorporated foundation that supervises and governs tennis in Japan, JTA will execute the following business activities in FY2018 to contribute to the sound physical and mental development of the Japanese people through the promotion and development of tennis as a lifetime sport, a competitive sport, and spectator sport, and furthermore by reconfirming our social mission to nurture children, who shoulder the future of Japan, to become good members of society and citizens of the world.

1. As the central sporting association JTA will continue to run our organization bearing in mind the importance of governance and compliance, based on our operating principles of “fair play, teamwork, and globalism”.
2. Similar to FY2017, as major policies, JTA will strengthen the organizational system including its financial base and secretariat for the steadfast promotion of tennis development, junior player nurturing, and player reinforcement as well as for the sound management of our association
3. To promote tennis, JTA will create an environment to enjoy and help familiarize tennis and will promote TENNIS PLAY & STAY so that this program can take root even at the level of cities, wards, towns, and villages and increase the number of tennis players. Concrete measures in this respect are to develop the TENNIS PLAY & STAY promoter system. With the revision of the elementary school curriculum by the government to include tennis as a teaching material, measures to promote tennis in nationwide elementary schools are positioned as one of the major policies for FY2018.
4. To nurture junior tennis players, based on the mid-long-term plans for tennis in Japan, JTA will configure a nurturing system for players and instructors linked with the block and regional training centers, and National Training Center (NTC) so that tennis will secure the position as a representative national sport even after the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Particularly, a tennis instructor network will be created throughout Japan to clarify the pathways for development, nurturing, and strengthening. The roles of the instructors in each level of training will also be defined. For this reason, a Junior JPIN player registration system will be implemented to secure a nationwide junior ranking system.
5. To strengthen tennis players, JTA aims at having Japan compete in all tennis games and to win medals in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. To realize this goal, we will hold elite athlete training programs focused on national team tennis members. We are also planning to execute elite athlete training programs to strengthen junior players for tennis tournaments held after 2024.

6. In the circumstances of the renovations of Ariake Tennis Forest Park, JTA will make its utmost to bring its hosting tournaments to success by holding the Rakuten Japan Open at Musashino Forest Sport Plaza and the All Japan Tennis Championships at Utsubo Tennis Center. The Japan Women's Open will take place at Hiroshima Regional Park Tennis Courts in Edion Stadium Hiroshima.
7. JTA will continue to secure compliance in pursuit of its projects under a new aim to secure integrity in tennis, based on the decisions taken at the September 2017 Board of Executive Directors. JTA will also steadily implement measures to prevent the occurrence of illegal acts and unethical behavior. It will also promote fair play during tennis matches including the Five Point Self-judging Principles; and also, to introduce safety and security of heat stroke and necessary attendant measures during the hot summer months. The above-mentioned *Efforts to Secure Integrity in Tennis* will be used as reference for these steps. JTA will also continue to apply not only face-to-face training sessions but also e-learning compliance training programs at training sessions for representative national team players, professional players registered in our association, accredited instructors, and umpires and major training sessions including the annual JTA Conference. Information will also be shared regarding compliance, fair play, and social risk management with national student tennis federations as in the case of FY2017.
8. For measures for globalization, JTA will perform concrete cooperative programs with France including joint training and TENNIS PLAY & STAY sessions for junior players in the context of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Federation Française de Tennis (FFT) concluded in September 2016. Together we will continue to work on the establishment of successive cooperative frameworks with Tennis Australia and other neighboring East Asian countries. To respond to the change in international tournament rules scheduled in 2019, we will gather information from the International Tennis Federation and other associations; communicate with the organizers of international tennis tournaments held in Japan in such a way as to secure relevance with the mid-long-term strategic plan for tennis in Japan.
9. In FY2018, JTA will continue to publish a report on the results of its annual survey on the tennis environment in Japan as a project subsidized by the Japan Sport Council. The FY2018 report will take up TENNIS PLAY & STAY related surveys and safety, security and fair play during tournaments. JTA will publish information of our activities on our official website, annual report, mail magazine, to name a few. Our website now has an English page, launched in August 2017, to provide our basic information about JTA in English.

10. JTA could not perform its programs without the understanding and cooperation of our tennis family. In FY2018 our president will continue to visit and hold dialogues with regional and prefectural tennis associations, our associate members; hold periodic meetings to exchange opinions with the Japan Professional Tennis Association, the Japan Tennis Industry Association, and the Japan Ladies Tennis in the framework of the Japan Tennis Consortium. It will also share information on compliance and fair play with cooperative associations including national school tennis associations. Furthermore, particularly with the preparations for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, and to secure integrity in sports, JTA will continue to emphasize collaborations with the Japan Sports Agency, Japan Sports Association, Japan Olympic Committee, Japan Sport Council, and the Japan Anti-Doping Agency.
11. As an occasion to look back at tennis in 2018 as well as to interact and foster friendship with our tennis family including our national team players, JTA will hold a JTA Convention at the end of November.

FY2018 will be a key year to strengthen the foundations for our association for the future. Kishi Memorial Hall, built 55 years ago, is a building where many sporting associations, including JTA, hold their offices. It will relocate in the spring of 2019 near the new national stadium that is being built in Kasumigaoka-machi in Shinjuku City, Tokyo. JTA will also move to this new location in May 2019. Moving the JTA office to the new building will be of great significance to tennis in Japan, given the fact that one of our prioritized policies is to strengthen the organizational aspects of its management foundation including its finances and secretariat, bearing in mind the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. After the move to the new office, JTA will start the preparation for the JTA Centennial Anniversary in 2022 which was decided at the extraordinary board meeting in December 2017; the strengthening of our administrative functions and improve the working environment for our staff; and the establishment of an information security system.