



ITF Development Officer English Speaking Caribbean

Anthony Jeremiah
#6-8 Centre Road North Upper 7th Ave
Malick, Barataria
Trinidad WI
Tel: +1-868-675-4974
Fax: +1-868-638-5713
Mob: +1-868-726-5330
Email: coachjerry80@gmail.com

To: ITF Member Nations
From: Anthony Jeremiah
ITF Development Officer (Caribbean)
Subject: 2011 Activities
Dates: 30 November 2011

Dear President,

I hope this letter reaches you in the best of health and strength? We are quickly approaching the end of another year and about to start a new year. Many projects for 2011 were completed successfully and I would like to thank member nations for the continued support, since you are an integral part of 2011 successes.

I have taken the opportunity to list successful programmes or 2011.

Review of 5 Year Development Plan:

All Caribbean nations have a 5 years plan, however some plans expires by December 31st 2011. A new template for 2012/2016 was provided and should be submitted prior to 2012 for approval. Please note that no development assistance will be given for 2012 if a plan is not submitted and approved

JTI/Tennis10:

Many nations had better success in the JTI programmes since a better structure was in place, having in place the necessary components. The Tennis10s was also successful; although nations were slow implementing but picked up later in the year. Training and various competitions of (red, orange and green), since the rule change will be in effect from 2012. It is important for associations insure the rules are followed

EDP:

Distributions were based on budget allocation, the level of commitment and success of the relevant programmes; not only numbers but the start up and continued interest, which led to developing small programmes. The EDP also strengthened existing programmes and started many new ones.

Davis Cup Fed Cup Olympic Tennis Event Pro Circuits Officiating
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Coach Education/ OS Funding:

More nations were convinced that coach education is the key to successful programmes since emphasis was encouraging and creating additional opportunities for coaches to broaden their horizon. Barbados, Bahamas and Turks and Caicos organized a Play tennis courses; Trinidad and Tobago did three play tennis courses, Guyana and Suriname organized a Level 1, eight Caribbean coaches attended the Worldwide Coaches Conference in Egypt. Kadija Richards (JAM) successfully completed the level 2 in Spain, which increased the level 2 female coaches to five and a Regional Tennis10s workshop was organized in Trinidad and Tobago.

Suriname Tennis Bond started pursuing self sufficiency in coach education as Suriname became the first ITF member nation in the English Caribbean to organize a local Level 1 using the ITF syllabus, with local experts (John Goede and Carolina Vera Vera).

GSDF:

The Grand Slam Development Fund (GSDF) provides opportunities for players to compete and also assist directly through teams or travel grants to gain international competitive experience so that more nations can be represented in the main stream of international competition.

99% of the 2011 applications for travel grants were approved: (Dylan Hall, Malena Lopez, Simone Pratt, Gian Issa, Breana Stampfi, Ethan Ammon) received grants. Simone Pratt, Justin Robarts and Gian Issa were selected to the COSAT team.

In addition Barbados, Belize and Turks and Caicos received facility grants to improve existing facilities.

Development Championships:

Participation remains high considering the economic challenges. The quality of the players was very good considering most of the players were younger with another year to participate in 2012. D'Jeri Raymond (ANT) and Kyle Frankel (ARU) won the girls and boys respectfully as Jamaica, Aruba and Antigua and Barbuda placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively.

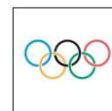
The event continues to give the best talented players 13&under the opportunity to participate amongst the best in the region with a further opportunity to be selected to ITF training camps.

12&under Team Event:

There was a new 12&under, which was held in El Salvador with the participation of five Caribbean nations: (Bahamas, Jamaica, Suriname, St. Lucia and USVI). Jamaica

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won the event with Dimitri Bird / Roger Lin and Lisa Chin as coach.

ITF/COTECC Training Camp:

Curacao was the venue for the ITF/COTECC training camp, as nine invited players from the Caribbean were joined with two local players. The quality of play and performance of players was very good. The COTECC 14&under circuit complimented the training camp for the first time as the players had an opportunity to compete in a regional event and also secured points.

Team Event/JITIC:

Bahamas continue to show dominance as they won the pre-qualifying of the JDC with (Kevin Major, Shaquille Taylor and Christian Cargil. Kevin Major also won the boys 16&under and Breana Stampfli (TRI) was runner-up in the girls 16&under at the JITIC in Santo Domingo.

New ITF Circuit:

Improving the level of the Caribbean players through competitive means is crucial and it is important to improve the number of the circuits. A new tournament was added to the ITF/COTECC calendar, which was organized in Tobago.

Regional Tennis10s:

With the continued improvement in Tennis10, a regional workshop was organized in Trinidad and Tobago and conducted by Ronald Pothouzen. The workshop was funded by Olympic Solidarity in conjunction with the National Olympic Committee and the Tennis Association of Trinidad and Tobago. The objective was to continue the promotion of the Tennis10 concept prior to 2012 rule change. Twenty four coaches participated from the following nations: (Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Curacao, Suriname, Guyana, Cayman Island, Jamaica, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago)

New Members:

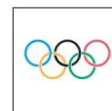
Belize, Curacao, Bonaire, Anguilla and Martinique became active members of COTECC. Curacao, Anguilla and Bonaire also became members of ITF.

Players:

Simone Pratt improved her ranking based on #200 targets set for 2011, she reached #203, Christopher Rego, Dylan Hall, Elan Mendez and Ethan Ammon after attending the training camp in 2010 also improved their COTECC rankings (#3, #4, #5, #7 respectively). Five Caribbean players are in the top ten in COTECC. D'Jeri Raymond performed very well at the age of 13 and gained an ITF ranking #1534 and #3 in COTECC. Breanna Stampfli has also

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performed well and improved her ITF ranking to #602; Gian Issa also improved his ranking #571,

Darian continues to do very well on the men's circuit with a ranking of #708 and #554 singles and doubles respectively. He also got to the semi-finals of the Pan American Games (Mexico) with Hayden Lewis, but lost. Barbados placed fourth, losing to USA.

On behalf of the ITF and the Development Department I would like to say a heart-felt thanks to everyone for making 2011 the success it was as we look forward to a brighter 2012 while continuing to build on the solid foundation that was laid.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families all the best for the Christmas season and may the good lord bless and keep you throughout 2012.

Regards:

Anthony Jeremiah
ITF Development Officer (Caribbean)

