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RECYCLING TAKES CENTRE COURT AT AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic) is taking recycling to centre court at this year's Australian Open with the return of 'Trash Talkers' - a dedicated team of onsite recycling champions.

A hit at the Australian Open last year, 'Trash Talkers' is an innovative partnership with which aims to reduce waste, promote recycling and support grassroots tennis communities across the state.

Trash Talkers will act as sustainability ambassadors, educating tennis fans on CDS Vic container eligibility and which bin to use for their waste using the recycling hubs spread across the AO precinct.

At last year's tournament, CDS Vic's Trash Talkers and recycling hubs helped to collect **more than 886,192** eligible containers to be recycled.

Refunds from containers collected at AO 2025 will be directed towards **the Australian Tennis Foundation's** inspirational tennis programs for disadvantaged children and young people, focused in Victoria.

To further minimise single use containers from ending up in landfill and waterways, Sustainability Victoria will provide **38,000 reusable cups** for attendees to refill at the event's bars throughout the three-week tournament.

The Trash Takers and reusables program are two of many landfill reduction measures Tennis Australia is implementing to deliver a more sustainable event for players and patrons and ensure the Australian Open precinct remains litter-free.

John Porta, Acting CEO, of CDS Vic Scheme coordinator VicReturn, said the partnership with the Australian Open was a positive action to reduce waste at one of the world's most iconic sporting events.

"Our Trash Talkers are here to rally the tennis community around sustainability and make recycling a smashing success at AO 2025.

"The partnership at one of the world's premier sporting events highlights the importance of environmental responsibility to a global audience. These initiatives will not only have positive impacts on the environment but will also support local communities," he added.



CDS Vic is part of the Victorian Government's \$515 million investment to transform the state's waste and recycling systems, driving progress towards diverting 80% of waste from landfill by 2030.

Since its launch in November 2023, there have been **1.27 billion containers** deposited with **\$127 million** back in the pocket of Victorians.

Learn more about CDS Vic and find your nearest refund collection point at cdsvic.org.au.

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