

**TALENT:** Mark Handley, Brisbane International Tournament Director - 0403 234 702- 3120 7910

**NOTES:** In studio, car park arranged

**TEASE:** What will you be doing once your New Year's celebrations have worn off? Will you be deep into summer sport, perhaps heading out to Tennyson for the Men's ATP Cup and the Brisbane International Tennis Tournament? Stick around and you'll hear who's going to be gracing the bill and what's new at the Queensland Tennis Centre.

### **INTRO:**

Early next year, Brisbane will be home to some of the world's biggest tennis names.

The ATP Mens Cup and the Brisbane International women's event will be held in early January at the Queensland Tennis Centre at Tennyson.

And next year's lineup could be the strongest and most competitive field in the history of the tournament.

Mark Handley is the Tournament Director of the Brisbane International ...

### **QUESTIONS:**

**Q:** Is it true the your lineups for these events are so competitive that even dual grand slam winners didn't even get a look-in?

**Q:** Who will be the top male seeds at the ATP Cup?

*(World Number Two Novac Djokovic*

*World Number Six Stefanos Tsitsipas*

*World Number Seven Alexandre Zverev*

*World Number 18 Alex DeMinaur*

*World Number 30 Nick Kyrgios)*

**Q:** So who will be your top female seeds for the Brisbane International?

*(- World Number One, Brisbane's own local heroine Ash Barty*

*- World Number Two and defending champion Karolina (CARO-LEENA) Pliskova*

*(PLISS-cova)*

- *World Number Three Naomi Osaka*
- *former World Number One Venus Williams,*
- *returning 2017 Brisbane International champion Elina (EL-EENA) Svitolina (SVIT-o-LEENA).*

**Q:** What do you think brings the very best players in the world to Brisbane for this tournament?

**Q:** Who are, typically, the Brisbane International's biggest patrons?

**Q:** Are you expecting smaller or larger crowds now that the tournament is only for women players?

**Q:** What feedback have you had from all these top class players about why they've chosen to come to Brisbane, a fairly recent addition to Australia's summer of tennis?

**Q:** What's special about the Tennyson complex for this level of competition?

**Q:** Does Tennyson have anywhere near the heat concerns as they do at the Gabba? How do you deal with our fierce summer temperatures and humidity for patrons and players?

**Q:** What's new in 2020 for Tennyson?  
*(water park, diversity and multicultural partnerships)*

**Q:** What's your vision for the tournament into the future?