



**WELCOME MESSAGE FROM
THE HON JOHN GRAHAM MLC;
MINISTER FOR TOURISM**

I am pleased to welcome you to Sydney for the second edition of the United Cup.

The United Cup is an exciting addition to the sporting calendar, showcasing equality in tennis at the highest level of the sport, with the world's top-ranked men's and women's players from eighteen countries lining up, side-by-side.

There are so many benefits to embracing sport in all its disciplines and forms and hosting an event of this calibre. Having the world's best tennis players competing for the honour of representing their nation in the semi-finals and final of the United Cup here in Sydney is fantastic for local and visiting tennis fans alike. The opportunity to watch emerging and established stars has a wonderful community benefit, inspiring fans and motivating future generations of tennis players.

NSW has consistently proven that we are one of the world's best hosts of international sporting tournaments, from the Sydney 2000 Olympics to the recent FIFA Women's World Cup. The way sport captures the imaginations and brings communities together, from across the world and the city is inspiring. As you know, tennis a beloved sport internationally because it is accessible – if you've got a friend, and an hour, two rackets and a ball, you've got a game! At an elite level the athleticism, skill and endurance is exhilarating to watch.

I wish all competitors and fans a happy and enjoyable extended stay in Sydney, one of the world's great sporting cities. I encourage you to explore our great city and surrounding areas – from our diverse cultural offerings, vibrant hospitality and nightlife to our stunning beaches and mountains and I look forward to welcoming your return for next year's United Cup.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Graham'.

The Hon John Graham MLC

Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts,
Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council