

## Andy Murray, the Scottish young man who became professional in Barcelona

Scottish player Andy Murray formed as a tennis player and gave the important step from junior to professional player in Barcelona, during his stay at the Academia Sánchez-Casal (AS-C).

This young man arrived Barcelona when he was 14 years old, initiating himself in small tournaments, later in ITF and 4 years later, once he was 18 years old, he was already ranked amongst the first 400 ATP players; after a stay where he forged himself as a player and consolidated as a person in an important experience of having to live far away from his hometown.

With a "good hand", innate talent - although perhaps quite slim and in need of more physical formation - he began his path through the Academia Sánchez-Casal, founded by former professional tennis players Emilio Sánchez Vicario and Sergio Casal, and where he learned the values that all players need to confront the challenges of going from junior to professional.

This teenager soon began to solidify in national and international tournaments and later had the logical, but faster, progression in the ITF because he would play at the same level as Gorka Fraile, keeping the weight and game speed.

He learned and grew with the William "Pato" Alvarez's training system, based on the normal cubes system, to move with solidness and efficiency on three areas of the court (defense, offense and definition) and improve his foot game as well as his mental strength for the demanding world of competition.

That is who they call the "tennis guru", for his great tennis vision; he is the Colombian tennis coach who has placed the most players in the top 100 ATP and taught Murray to become more stable, think in making fewer errors instead of searching for winners; to put heart, head and legs in the same direction, searching for the experience and not only a good result.

From his stay in Barcelona, Andy Murray remembers his classmates and good friends, such as Carlos Mier, who usually travels with him, Daniel Vallverdú, with whom he played doubles in the Queens tournament and Daniel Navarro, who continues to work as a coach in our Academy.