

LTA Announces Cancellation of pre-Wimbledon Grass Court Events

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday 1 April, 2020

The LTA, in conjunction with the All England Club, the ITF, ATP and WTA, has regrettably announced today the cancellation of its summer Grass Court events and the British Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships following the latest advice from the UK Government and the suspension of professional tennis due to the escalating coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The LTA summer major events grass court circuit includes the Nature Valley Open in Nottingham (8-14 June), the Fever-Tree Championships at The Queen's Club and the Nature Valley Classic in Birmingham during the week of 15 June, as well as the Nature Valley International in Eastbourne (21-27 June). This period also covers the ITF/ATP Trophy Series events staged by the LTA in Manchester (8-14 June) and Ilkley (15-21 June), the ITF junior Grade 1 events in Nottingham (22-27 June) and Roehampton (28 June – 3 July) and the ITF Wheelchair events held alongside the Tour events at Birmingham and Queens. The British Open Wheelchair Championships event in Nottingham in July has also been cancelled, although the LTA has reserved the option to re-stage the tournament later in the season.

This news comes alongside today's announcement regarding the cancellation of the 2020 edition of The Championships, Wimbledon, along with the ATP, WTA and ITF confirming that all professional tennis around the world will remain suspended until 13 July 2020.

For any fans who bought tickets to The Fever-Tree Championships or Nature Valley-sponsored events in Nottingham, Birmingham or Eastbourne, they will have a choice of receiving a face-value refund or rolling their ticket forward to the 2021 event. These details will be sent via email or letter from the ticketing providers. For any ticket buyers to the LTA Trophy Series events at Surbiton, Manchester or Ilkley, the face value of any tickets purchased will automatically be refunded via [The Ticket Factory](#).

Scott Lloyd, LTA Chief Executive said: *"Given the escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic, the latest government advice and our discussions with the ATP, WTA, ITF and AELTC, it is with deep regret that our summer grass court tournaments and the British Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships have been cancelled for 2020. This is an unprecedented situation and the health of those attending our tournaments as spectators, players, staff, media, sponsors and guests had to be our number one consideration. We at the LTA will be working hard to support our wider tennis community to allow the sport a strong return to health when conditions allow. In the meantime we hope that our tennis fans are staying safe and we look forward to welcoming them back to tennis when we can."*

In the coming days, the LTA will be announcing a series of measures to support those involved in tennis in Britain during this unprecedented situation. This will include support for tennis venues, coaches, officials and players affected by the coronavirus pandemic, with the goal of ensuring that tennis in Britain emerges from this period in as strong and healthy position as possible, and the sport is able to resume its unique role in keeping the nation active. Fans can keep entertained and up to date with their favourite players and news in their living rooms via exclusive content on the LTA's digital channels.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Draft 2021 LTA Summer Grass Court Schedule

Surbiton Trophy 31 May-6 June (an ITF World Tennis Tour event and ATP-Challenger event)

Nature Valley Open (Nottingham) 7-13 June (a WTA and ATP-Challenger event)

Manchester Trophy 7-13 June (an ITF World Tennis Tour and event)

Fever-Tree Championships (Queen's) 14-20 June (an ATP Tour event)

Nature Valley Classic (Birmingham) 14-20 June (a WTA event)

Ilkley Trophy 14-20 June (an ITF World Tennis Tour and ATP-Challenger event)

ITF Wheelchair Series 2 Birmingham/London 18-20 June

Nature Valley International (Eastbourne) 20-26 June (a WTA event)

ITF Junior Grade I Nottingham 22-27 June

ITF Junior Grade I Roehampton 28 June – 3 July

ABOUT THE LTA:

The LTA is the National Governing Body of tennis for Great Britain. We are here to govern and grow tennis, from grassroots participation through to the professional game. Our vision is "Tennis Opened Up" and we're on a mission to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable. We work with schools, with volunteers, with coaches and with venues across the whole country. We also represent the interests of over 685,000 Members, men and women, girls and boys, playing on more than 23,000 courts. The LTA runs and supports a network of 11,500 approved tournaments for players of all ages, the four corner-stones of which are the premier grass-court events leading up to The Championships, Wimbledon: the Nature Valley Open (at Nottingham), the Nature Valley Classic (at Birmingham), the Fever-Tree Championships (at The Queen's Club, London) and the Nature Valley International (at Eastbourne). For further information about the LTA and tennis in Britain, visit www.lta.org.uk or follow us on Twitter @the_LTA

