

LTA OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2023: KELLY RASK





LTA OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2023: KELLY RASK

Volunteer official Kelly Rask (formerly Thomson) is a committed member of the tennis community and a dynamic role model. As an ambassador for the ITF's Advantage All campaign, she has helped inspire women from all backgrounds undertake officiating and improve their self-confidence. In 2023 she was nominated and won Official of the Year at the LTA Tennis Awards presented by Lexus.



ABOUT KELLY

Kelly holds an LTA Officials' Licence and has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to tennis. She has officiated at the highest professional level, including:

- Wimbledon Women's Singles semi-final between Simona Halep and Elena Rybakina in 2022
- Wimbledon Women's Singles semi-final 2023
- All four Grand Slams
- The Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup
- Top level ATP and WTA events
- Refereeing a Winter Count Cup Group

She attained a Gold Badge qualification in November 2022, the highest level of qualification for a chair umpire. This demonstrates not only her skill and integrity, but also the confidence and trust sought by others.

**SHE ATTAINED A
GOLD
BADGE
QUALIFICATION
IN NOVEMBER 2022**





AMBITIOUS AND INCLUSIVE

The ITF's Advantage All campaign aims to increase the number of women within officiating and to achieve equal opportunity. Kelly is an Advantage All Ambassador and is mindful of improving diversity and inclusion to optimise the experience for all women. Her nurturing and mentoring approach has helped many flourish in their careers as well as in officiating – a remarkable feat.

Kelly devotes a lot of her time to helping new officials progress. She oversees the LTA's Development Groups for up-and-coming chair umpires, leading by example.

Kelly and her husband have recently welcomed a baby son into the world, but Kelly has no plans to step back:

“If you are a female, you can still have a family and you can still do this job. I feel like that is an important message to send to everybody. It is tough, as my husband is also an umpire as well, so we are managing to mix it.”

Kelly has demonstrated ongoing personal development by becoming a referee, the person responsible for supervising all players at a competition to ensure they follow the rules of tennis. She is currently a White Badge referee, an internationally recognised level, and has juggled this with becoming a new mum. As part of her role in charge of the LTA Development Groups, she is always keen to develop new ideas and innovative ways to help younger officials improve. No doubt Kelly will continue to inspire others and progress in her own officiating capacity.



ARE YOU INSPIRED BY KELLY?

If you want to make a difference in the tennis community, you could volunteer as Line or Chair Umpire, Competition Organiser, Referee and Court Supervisor, and be immersed in all the action of a competition whilst upholding standards. Find the information you need [here](#) to get started.

Kelly was nominated by Robert Balmforth.



FOLLOW US FOR MORE

LTA, The National Tennis Centre
100 Priory Lane, Roehampton
London SW15 5JQ

T: 020 8487 7000
E: info@lta.org.uk
www.lta.org.uk

