

# LTA ANTI-DOPING STRATEGY 2020-23

## INTRODUCTION & MISSION

The LTA is committed to promoting and protecting clean tennis. We recognise the contribution that sport can make to health, national pride and social development when supported by a strong ethical and moral environment. The LTA values of Integrity and Excellence align directly to the anti-doping strategy and mission:

*To promote a 'Clean Tennis' culture and environment at all levels in British tennis, and to protect the rights of players and their support personnel to play and compete clean.*

In support of the strategy, anti-doping is regularly discussed by the LTA executive team and LTA Board. A member of the LTA Board has specific responsibility for anti-doping. A dedicated Anti-Doping Officer is in place to lead and coordinate activity within this area with responsibility to ensure the LTA meets the commitments set out in this strategy.

## OBJECTIVES

We have identified three themes within the anti-doping strategy and have set our primary objectives accordingly:

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & REGULATIONS:

- Implement a robust governance and regulatory structure that is fit for purpose to support the successful delivery of the anti-doping programme.

### CLEAN TENNIS STRATEGY - EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Raise awareness of the importance of clean sport amongst the wider tennis population.
- Create an environment for players to develop and to succeed without doping by promoting clean sport attitudes and beliefs to positively influence the behaviour of players and their support personnel.
- Enable players and support personnel to make informed and responsible decisions to minimise their risk of inadvertent doping through provision of relevant, accurate and timely information and education .

### INTELLIGENCE, INVESTIGATIONS & TESTING:

- Proactively deter and detect doping, and to take appropriate strong action against those found to have breached the Anti-Doping rules.

## PARTNERSHIPS

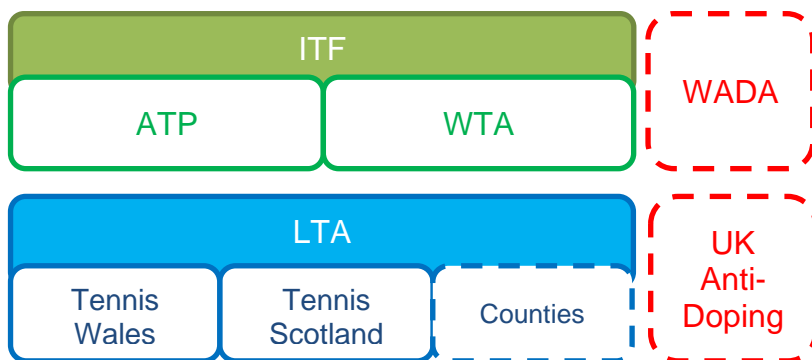
The objectives can only be met by working in partnership with a number of organisations who share responsibility for anti-doping. It is vitally important that we take a coordinated approach to best support players as they play and compete at various levels across the country and around the world.

The LTA works in partnership with Tennis Wales and Tennis Scotland as member organisations that fully endorse and support the strategy.

The international federation for tennis globally is the International Tennis Federation (ITF). The ITF runs the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (TADP) which covers tennis at an international level including the Grand Slam events and the professional tours. The professional tour bodies (the ATP & WTA) provide their

members with anti-doping education and work in partnership with the ITF to implement a testing programme.

Alongside partner tennis bodies the LTA works closely with UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) and as a responsible governing body we have certain responsibilities that must be met. Delivering this strategy will ensure that the UKAD Assurance Framework requirements are met and where possible exceeded. We will continue to work closely with UKAD to ensure the objectives of the strategy are met.



The LTA supports the UKAD position on the use of nutritional supplements, advising players to assess the need, assess the risk and assess the consequences. As part of its partnership with Healthspan, LTA supported players have access to Healthspan’s elite range of supplements to support their health and performance. These products go through stringent quality control procedures to ensure they are free from traces of substances banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

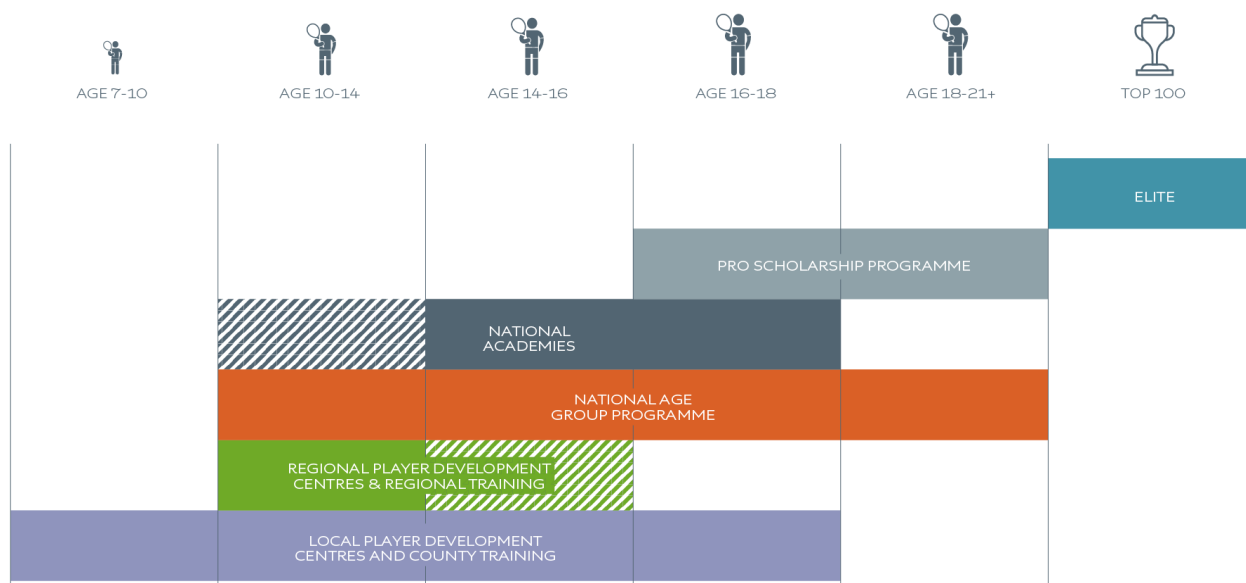
## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & REGULATIONS

Robust fit-for purpose rules, regulations and governance procedures are vital to support any anti-doping programme. We will ensure that the LTA meets it’s obligations under the UK Anti-Doping Policy through anti-doping regulations (The LTA Tennis Anti-Doping Programme) that remain WADA Code compliant and sufficiently robust to ensure the effective delivery of the programme. The regulations form part of the broader LTA Disciplinary Code and are consistent with the ITF TADP and the UK Anti-Doping Rules.

## CLEAN TENNIS STRATEGY - EDUCATION & COMMUNICATON

### PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

The LTA performance pathway will be provided with access to targeted anti-doping information and education. The UKAD education curriculum will be used to guide education provision for players and will be appropriate to the player’s performance-stage and age, and will be built upon throughout their careers to ensure they are well equipped to meet their Anti-Doping responsibilities.



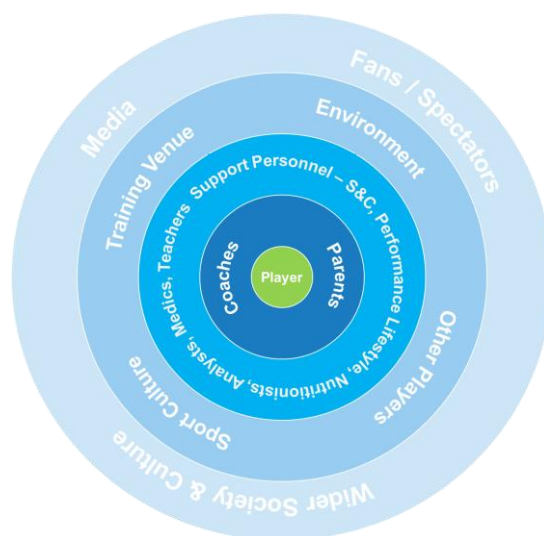
## PARTICIPATION TENNIS & WIDER GAME

Awareness and support of the clean sport messages should not be reserved only for performance players, and we recognise the importance of instilling a positive culture and environment at all levels of the sport.

## PLAYER SUPPORT PERSONNEL & INFLUENCERS

There are a number of key relationships and roles that will support and influence a player during their development. Ensuring that players are surrounded by people and environments that promote the clean tennis message is vital to positively influencing their behaviour.

In addition to educating players, the programme will provide appropriate information, education and support to those with the potential to have greatest influence on players, and to promote environments in which clean players can flourish.



## INTELLIGENCE, INVESTIGATIONS & TESTING

### INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATIONS

The gathering of information and intelligence is crucial from both an education and testing perspective. Investigations will be conducted in collaboration with the UKAD Intelligence and Investigations team and the ITF Tennis Integrity Unit as appropriate. The results of such investigations will be followed up and appropriate action taken where necessary.

Whistleblowing is an effective tool in the fight against doping. The LTA supports the UKAD Protect Your Sport programme, and encourages players and others to report any concerns they have using the confidential telephone number, web form or other methods available. The relevant contact details will be publicised as part of the communication and education activities within this strategy.

### TESTING

The LTA, in collaboration with the ITF and UKAD runs a comprehensive testing programme incorporating both in-competition and out-of-competition testing at no advance notice. Effective testing is crucial from a deterrent, public confidence and assurance perspective, and to this end the stringent regime within elite tennis must continue.

Testing Pools:

Testing Pools exist to facilitate out-of-competition testing at no-advance notice and are controlled by the ITF and UKAD. The ITF Testing Pool (the International Registered Testing Pool or IRTP) is largely based on year-end rankings. The IRTP includes (but is not limited to) the top 100 men and women by singles rankings, top 10 players by doubles rankings and top 10 men, women and quad wheelchair players.

In addition UKAD runs a National Registered Testing Pool (NRTP) and a Domestic Testing pool (DTP). Players in testing pools are required to provide whereabouts information 365 days per year. The LTA will support British players who are members of a testing pool in order to assist them to meet their obligations.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Implementation plans have been developed in consultation with UKAD in order to deliver a range of anti-doping and clean tennis initiatives across the game.

Each initiative is specifically designed to deliver against one of the strategic objectives outlined above on the three themes of i) Structure, Governance & Regulations, ii) Communications & Education, and iii) Intelligence, Investigations & Testing.

### 2020

- To be compliant with all aspects of the UKAD Assurance Framework.
- To have made significant progress in delivering against the Clean Tennis Strategy.

## **2021**

- To be delivering against all aspects of both the UKAD Assurance Framework and Clean Tennis Strategy.
- Consider whether the additional non-mandatory aspects of the UKAD Assurance Framework are appropriate for implementation in 2022.

## **2022-2023**

- To continue to deliver against all aspects of the UKAD Assurance Framework and Clean Tennis Strategy with the aim of being one of the leading Sport Governing Bodies in nationally and globally within tennis.
- To review the strategy and consider future actions for the next strategy period.

## **MONITORING & EVALUATION**

We are committed to implementing, monitoring and evaluating this strategy so that successive generations of players and their support personnel are fully aware of and adopt the principles of clean sport.

Implementation plans will be reviewed by the LTA with UK anti-doping on an annual basis to monitor and evaluate progress against the strategy, and where appropriate to make adjustments for the following year.

In the third year, in consultation with UKAD and other partners the strategy will be reviewed and work will commence to ensure the strategic direction for the next period is aligned with the organisational objectives and the landscape at that time to ensure best use of resources.