

South Wales Selection Policy
LTA Men's, Ladies' and Junior County Cup 2024

1. Introduction

LTA County Cup events are team competitions which take place throughout the year. Wales has two counties represented in County Cup competitions: North Wales and South Wales.

The selection process set out below is geared towards selecting the best available team to represent South Wales in terms of playing standard.

The information which follows outlines the dates and formats (where known) for the men's, ladies' and junior County Cup competitions in 2024, along with the selection process and criteria for each. Should you have a query regarding the selection policy, please email tenniswales@tenniswales.org.uk

Tennis Wales may need to amend this policy periodically. Any amended policy shall be published on the Tennis Wales website.

2. Age groups and provisional dates/team sizes for 2024:

Age Group	Dates	Team
Men's / Ladies' (born 2010 and earlier)	Summer = Monday 22 to Friday 26 July 2024 Winter = Friday 22 to Sunday 24 November 2024	Squad size of 8-10 players Summer = Best of 9 doubles per tie Winter = 6 singles / 3 doubles per tie, Round robin with promotion / stay / relegation
U18 (born 2006 or later)	Friday 1 to Sunday 3 March 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 7 to 8 players, 6 singles / 3 doubles per tie, Round robin with promotion / stay / relegation
U14 (born 2010 or later)	Division 2 & Division 1 Play-Offs = Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 April 2024 Division 1 National Finals = Friday 10 to Sunday 12 May 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 4 to 6, 4 singles / 2 doubles per tie, Top 6 teams on LTA Rankings = National Finals Teams 7-14 on LTA Rankings = Div 1 Play-Offs Teams 15 and lower on LTA Rankings = Div 2
U12 (born 2012 and 2013)	Division 2 & Division 1 Play-Offs = Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September 2024 Division 1 National Finals = Friday 27 to Sunday 29 September 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 4 to 6, 4 singles / 2 doubles per tie, Top 6 teams on LTA Rankings = National Finals Teams 7-14 on LTA Rankings = Div 1 Play-Offs Teams 15 and lower on LTA Rankings = Div 2

U11 (born 2013 and 2014, or qualifying through an LTA Passport)	Division 2 & Division 1 Play-Offs = Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 June 2024 Division 1 National Finals = Friday 5 to Sunday 7 July 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 4 to 6, 4 singles / 2 doubles per tie, Top 6 teams on LTA Rankings = National Finals Teams 7-14 on LTA Rankings = Div 1 Play-Offs Teams 15 and lower on LTA Rankings = Div 2
U10 (born 2014 and 2015, or qualifying through an LTA Passport)	Qualifying = Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 May 2024 National Finals = Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 June 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 4 to 6, 4 singles / 2 doubles per tie Winning teams through to south/north National Finals
U9 (born 2015 and 2016, or qualifying through an LTA Passport)	Qualifying = Sunday 23 and 24 March 2024 National Finals = Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 April 2024	Separate boys and girls events, Squad of 4 to 5, 4 singles, 2 doubles per tie Winning team through to south or north national finals
U8 (born 2016 and later)	Saturday 27 or Sunday 28 April 2024	Separate boys & girls events, Squad size of 4 to 5, Introduction to county cup, recommended for players who haven't played a county cup before

Note: A team will only be entered into a County Cup event if there is a sufficient number of players who are of an appropriate standard to have a positive experience of the event.

3. Eligibility

3.1 Eligible players are those who are LTA members and who satisfy the area qualification rule (rule 66 on page 33-35) in the [LTA Rules policy](#).

3.2 Players must be of an eligible age as described in (2) above to be considered for selection.

4. Selection committee

A County Cup selection committee will be agreed upon annually by Tennis Wales Ltd and the two county committees. The selection committee will meet or liaise as necessary to select the junior and men's/ladies' teams and will consist of a maximum of the following:

- Head of Performance, Tennis Wales Ltd
- County Coordinator
- Age-group captain
- County sub-committee member(s)*

*County sub-committee members who are parents of county players who have the potential to be selected or who are potential players in a team themselves, cannot be involved in the selection or complaints process for such teams.

4.1 Selection of U8, U9 and U10 teams

There will be a formal meeting of the selection committee in person or virtually whereby team selections will be decided.

4.2 Selection of U11, U12, U14, U18, Men's, Ladies' teams

There will be no formal selection meeting for these teams. The age-group captain will propose the team to members of the selection committee by email, who will have the opportunity to check and challenge their proposal before the team is confirmed and communicated.

5. Selection process

5.1 Availability will be requested for players approximately 9 weeks prior to the event with a response expected within 7-10 days.

- All players attending county training at the relevant age-group will be asked, other than at U8 where up to 10 boys and 10 girls will be asked based on their competitive profiles and level in county training sessions
- Any players attending county training at younger age-groups who are eligible and deemed relevant to be considered in relation to the level of the initial group of players
- Any players outside of the county programme who are eligible and deemed relevant to be considered in relation to the level of the initial group of players
- No players will be asked who have opted out of the County Performance Programme by choice unless the county is unable to field a full team
- Players training outside of the county, or who have suffered a recent and significant injury or illness can be considered

5.2 The date on which any rankings, ratings or competitive profile information are taken will be approximately 7 weeks prior to the event, with the exact date to be specified to all players when requesting availability.

5.3 The selection committee will meet/liaise to make their selections soon after the ratings/rankings date specified and will aim to communicate the team no later than 6 weeks prior to the event.

5.4 Communications will be sent by Tennis Wales to selected players, non-travelling reserves where there are any, and non-selected players who were asked for their availability. There will be no communications to non-selected players who were not asked for their availability.

5.5 Any non-travelling reserves selected may be given the option to decide if they want to travel to the event for the experience. This will only be considered by the selection committee when there is no impact on the cost to the county and no impact to the logistics at the event eg. practise court space, travel arrangements...

6. Selection criteria

Please note that the selection criteria are not listed in any priority order.

6.1 Men's/Ladies' Winter & Summer County Cups

Information from the following list of criteria should be used as a basis for selecting the team:

- Rankings and ratings attributed to players which may include LTA combined rankings, Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), World Tennis Number (WTN), international rankings
- Indications of competitive level, which may include recent results and/or performances

in previous years in singles and doubles

- Any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
- Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.2 U18 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 7-8 players)

- The top 6 available players according to 18U LTA combined ranking will be selected
- Information from the following list of criteria should then be used as a basis for selecting the remaining players:
 - Rankings and ratings attributed to players which may include LTA domestic rankings, Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), World Tennis Number (WTN), international rankings
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.3 U14 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-6 players)

- The top 4 available players according to 14U LTA combined rankings will be selected
- Information from the following list of criteria should then be used as a basis for selecting the remaining players:
 - Rankings and ratings attributed to players which may include LTA combined rankings, Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), World Tennis Number (WTN), international rankings
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.4 U12 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-6 players)

- The top 4 available players according to 12U LTA combined rankings will be selected
- Information from the following list of criteria should then be used as a basis for selecting the remaining players:
 - Rankings or ratings attributed to players which may include LTA combined rankings, Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), and World Tennis Number (WTN)
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby

allowances may need to be made

6.5 U11 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-6 players)

- The top 2 available players according to 11U LTA combined rankings will be selected
- Information from the following list of criteria should then be used as a basis for selecting the remaining players:
 - Rankings or ratings attributed to players which may include LTA combined rankings, Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), and World Tennis Number (WTN)
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.6 U10 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-6 players)

- Information from the following list of criteria should be used as a basis for selection:
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.7 U9 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-5 boys and 4-5 girls)

- Information from the following list of criteria should be used as a basis for selection:
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made

6.8 U8 County Cup (based on selecting a team of 4-5 boys and 4-5 girls)

- Information from the following list of criteria should be used as a basis for selection:
 - Indications of competitive level across the past 12 months
 - Performance and attitude at county training sessions, and any positive or negative impact to team dynamic a player may have
 - Any health-related issues which cause concern over a player being fit to play, or which may affect the accuracy of the other criteria and whereby allowances may need to be made
 - The LTA recommend that players should not have played in a county cup event previously. The selection panel will consider this but it is not a firm ruling for selection.

7. Complaints Process

Please direct any requests for further information on a selection decision to:

South Wales U8 to U10 = rstrelzyn@gmail.com

South Wales U11 to U18 = chris.lewis@tenniswales.org.uk

South Wales Men's / Ladies' = chris.lewis@tenniswales.org.uk

Please send any formal complaints regarding a selection decision ahead of or during a County Cup event, in writing, to tenniswales@tenniswales.org.uk and which will be reviewed by members of the relevant county committee who were not involved in the selection process.