

# **Press Release**

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# **2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar**

- LTA publishes domestic Performance Competitions Calendar for first four months of 2024.
- Includes the addition of two new ATP Challenger tournaments in February, in the same weeks as back-to-back ITF W50 events.
- 2024 also sees an uplift in international junior tournaments in Britain.

The LTA has today published the calendar of domestic international and national adult and junior events for the first four months of 2024 – access the 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendars below.

The LTA Performance Competitions Calendar (PCC) is designed to provide comprehensive opportunities for British players to play, earn ranking points and win prize money at home, throughout the year. The calendar is structured to reward success with players earning opportunities to 'play up' in older age groups and higher-level tournaments, with wild cards to allow players to advance when ready.

The 2024 PCC will largely reflect the 2023 calendar with the addition of two ATP Challenger events in February – the Lexus Nottingham Challenger (Challenger 75) beginning 5 February, and the Lexus Glasgow Challenger (Challenger 50) beginning 12 February, with two ITF W50 events running at the same time. This reflects the LTA's desire to ensure a calendar which best supports the current British cohort of players, with domestic playing opportunities at the appropriate level. The PCC is currently projected to provide an increase of \$118k in total prize money available at pro tournaments in 2024.

There will be an uplift in the number of junior international tournaments hosted in Britain in 2024, on both the ITF and Tennis Europe circuits, including 14U (Liverpool) and 12U (Nottingham) Tennis Europe tournaments in February. The Lexus Junior National Championships (16U and 18U) will return once again to the National Tennis Centre in early April, with wildcards available for Wimbledon qualifying and the Wimbledon junior championships.

LTA Director of Participation Olly Scadgell (whose role includes oversight of the competition calendar) said: "2023 saw over 40 weeks of competition and prize money earning opportunities on home soil, and it's great to see the impact of that on the progression of British players at all levels this year. We are always looking for ways we can improve the calendar and best match it to meet the needs of our players and will continue to work closely with our dedicated network of venues and delivery partners to drive further success in 2024."

LTA Performance Director Michael Bourne said "The addition of two new ATP Challenger events in the early part of 2024 is a really positive addition to the calendar that will provide significant opportunities for British players to gain crucial ranking points and international competition at the start of the season."

2023 marked a year of continued success for British players on home soil, taking the opportunities presented by the domestic calendar. 56 unique titles were won by British players across pro and wheelchair events, including 12 singles and 26 doubles titles at ATP, WTA and ITF tournaments. Across the 29 ITF events staged in 2023, 103 British players played at least one main draw match with Brits making up 50% of main draw entries across the tournaments. 18 of the 29 tournaments featured a British player in the final.

The PCC is designed to support the LTA Performance strategy and 2023 saw a number of British juniors gaining valuable experience at the pro level following promising junior results. Mimi Xu reached the semi-finals at W60 Glasgow, Hannah Klugman reached the quarterfinals at W60 Glasgow and W100 Shrewsbury while Wimbledon boys' champion Henry Searle competed in a number of domestic events in the second half of the year, with a highlight being a run to the semi-finals at the M25 in Aldershot.

The LTA is pleased to continue to work with external partners, including the Progress Tour operated by Barry Fulcher, who will be hosting a number of events on the PCC in 2024.

The LTA and River Media Partners remain in discussion around a partnership to support the staging of the UK Pro League in 2024 which would see further events added to the calendar. We are hopeful that subject to securing the necessary commercial partners, the UKPL will be able to proceed and if so, tournament dates will be confirmed at the earliest opportunity.

### The 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar events:

Pro – 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar

18U – 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar

14U, 12U and 11U – 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar

10U and 9U – 2024 LTA Performance Competitions Calendar

#### **Notes to Editors**

10 different British players won a total of 12 singles titles at LTA Performance Competitions Calendar events staged in 2023:

Dan Little (M25 Loughborough)
George Loffhagen (M25 Nottingham, M25 Roehampton)
Harriet Dart (W25 Nottingham)
Andy Murray (Lexus Surbiton Trophy ATP Challenger, Rothesay Open ATP Challenger)
Katie Boulter (Rothesay Open WTA 250)
Toby Samuel (M25 Nottingham)
Katy Dunne (W25 Foxhills)
Jack Pinnington-Jones (M25 Roehampton)
Arthur Fery (M25 Aldershot)

## Jacob Fearnley (M25 Edgbaston)

26 doubles titles were won by a British player, or a British pair, in 2023 – including 3 titles for Johannus Monday and Emile Hudd (M25 Roehampton x2 & M25 Aldershot), 3 titles for Marcus Willis and Scott Duncan (M25 Nottingham, M25 Bath and M25 Sheffield) who have now gone on to win their first ATP Challenger title, and 2 titles for Maia Lumsden and Naiktha Bains (W25 Nottingham x2) ahead of a quarter-final run at Wimbledon for the pair.

#### **ENDS**

### For LTA media enquiries please contact:

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#### 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 1,000,000 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 Rothesay Open Nottingham, the Rothesay Classic Birmingham, the cinch Championships (at The Queen's Club, London) and the Rothesay International Eastbourne. For further information about the LTA and tennis in Britain, visit www.lta.org.uk or follow us on Twitter @the LTA.