Annual Report **2023** 



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## **Board of Directors**

<mark>Chair</mark> Graham Watson

Non-Executive Director Derek Quirk

Non-Executive Director Graeme Gault

Chief Executive Blane Dodds

Honorary President Dennis D Carmichael OBE

President John Wilson

Non-Executive Director Deborah Hood

Non-Executive Director Sean Lineen

Company Secretary Barbara Southern Vice President Rhona Alston

Non-Executive Director Anja Vreg

Non-Executive Director Michele Mair

sportscotland Representative Alison Lunn LTA Representative Oliver Scadgell

**TENNIS SCOTLAND ANNUAL REPORT 2023** 

## **Chair's Welcome**

Graham Watson Chair, Tennis Scotland

Following another year of substantial growth for tennis in Scotland, I am delighted to introduce our Annual Report for 2023.

John Stirling stood down as our President at our AGM in 2023 and I would like to thank him for his service, while welcoming his successor John Wilson. We also further strengthened our Board with the appointment of Rhona Alston to Vice-President, adding valuable experience and support as we continue to deliver the 2022–2026 strategy.

To underline our vision that tennis should be accessible to all, we were delighted to welcome the opening of the six-court Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, a major milestone for the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis (TSIT) project. Having overcome multiple challenges as a result of the pandemic and the rising costs of construction, the  $\pounds$ 4.5m centre is a superb addition to the top-class tennis facilities on offer around the country. The thriving Scottish tennis community was again celebrated at the annual LTA Awards, as Alessia Palmieri was named GB Development Coach of the Year, just a few months after winning the same prize at the Tennis Scotland Awards. Ella McDonald, who honed her game in Stirling with Tennis Scotland at the GB NTA, was named Girls Player of the Year, while Cameron Norrie won the Men's Award.

> Once again, Scots continued to perform impressively on the international stage.

Maia Lumsden surged to the top of the GB women's doubles rankings and reached the last eight at Wimbledon. Gordon Reid has kept on winning and our young players such as Charlie Robertson, Hephzibah Oluwadare, Hamish Stewart and Jacob Fearnley showed they have very bright futures.

Continued growth in Padel tennis saw the hosting of the first-ever Scottish Cup and, as we look ahead to 2024, we will see further development of both sports, both in terms of facilities and participation opportunities.

Finally, my thanks to all my Board colleagues, together with the staff at Tennis Scotland, for all their efforts to deliver such impressive outcomes. We remain grateful to the LTA and **sport**scotland for their continued support in the growth of tennis in Scotland.

## **CEO** Introduction

Blane Dodds CEO, Tennis Scotland

It gives me great pleasure to present our Annual Report as we reflect on yet another successful year of growth and development and celebrate memberships across the country again reaching an all-time high of 78,618.



Not only are there more of our communities joining our clubs, but there is more activity from those who are playing the game with significantly increased participation rates for adults and children.

There's no doubt that this is an incredibly exciting time to be involved in Scottish tennis and we look back on a year of significant growth with tremendous pride whilst also looking forward with great confidence for the future.

Continuing with our strategy of ensuring tennis is visible in Scotland, I am delighted that we are now hosting many more highprofile national and international events than ever before.

On our performance pathway, players continue to break through barriers, such as Maia Lumsden becoming the British number one women's doubles player, representing her country and reaching the quarter-finals of Wimbledon. Jacob Fearnley had a breakthrough year, winning three professional titles, including one at ATP Challenger level, as did Hamish Stewart, who showed remarkable consistency towards the end of 2023 before winning the TS Open Tour Finals.

As we enter the final few months of the GB National Academy in Stirling, our young players continue to impress. Charlie Robertson reached 25 in the Junior ITF world rankings and started 2024 on a high, winning three matches at the Lexus Glasgow Challenger. Hannah Rylatt was the women's winner at the TS Open Tour Finals, while Hephzibah Oluwadare enjoyed another strong year, playing a key role in Scotland winning the Junior Four Nations. On the international stage, Gordon Reid added three more Grand Slams to his collection and Jamie Murray picked up another four ATP titles. Cameron Norrie cemented his place as Britain's number one and Andy Murray continued to show his quality and fly the flag at Grand Slams and in the Davis Cup.

There's no doubt that this is an incredibly exciting time to be involved in Scottish tennis and we look back on a year of significant growth with tremendous pride whilst also looking forward with great confidence for the future.

We continued to host competitions all over the country, with the Scottish Cup Finals again one of the highlights on a packed calendar as Newlands LTC retained the men's and women's titles. The TS Open Tour continued to go from strength to strength with significantly enhanced prize money helping our young professionals compete both at home and internationally.

Padel tennis enjoyed further growth with more investment in facilities and 30 new courts being delivered across Scotland. We also launched the sport's first Scottish Cup, where Barnton Park Men and West of Scotland Women came out on top. We were also delighted to welcome the opening of the six-court Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre, the first completed project under the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis (TSIT) programme, with more indoor court projects to follow soon.

And there was a major step forward across Scotland with 86 public tennis courts being fully refurbished — on our way to a total of around 140 — thanks to the LTA Park Regeneration Fund. This will add significant capacity to our sport and helps greatly with accessibility.

With such a positive set of numbers and stats via investment and internal growth, tennis and Padel have taken a major step forward in 2023. This would not be possible without the support and buy-in from our tennis community and all involved, including our dedicated staff and Board.

Thank you also to our partners **sport**scotland and the LTA, as well as our many sponsors, whose support is so important and appreciated. I speak for all of us when I say we all look forward to further growth and development as we continue to work together to deliver our Vision 2022–2026.

#### WORKFORCE

**342 new** coaching qualifications achieved

Volunteer engagement rated at 79%

Coach engagement score of 74%

95 female learners completed the Level 1 course



### CORPORATE

100% compliance with the **sport**scotland code for Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport

Compliant with LTA Safeguarding Standards at all registered venues

64 safeguarding support visits completed

Increased turnover and resources in line with a growing sport



First SGB engaged in new Moving to Inclusion Framework

#### **3 Tennis Scotland Ambassadors**

raised the profile of tennis in Scotland (Maia Lumsden, Ali Collins & Jonny O'Mara), along with **1 Junior Ambassador** (Charlie Robertson)



9435 adult and junior players competed in at least 1 match

**408 teams** competed in LTAY Team Challenge events at 67 venues

#### Padel Tennis Scottish Cup held



## **Tennis Opened Up:** How We're Doing

#### PERFORMANCE

2 players progressed to the next level of the LTA Performance Pathway (Ella McDonald and Jacob Fearnley)

8 Scottish players selected for National Age Group Activity

11 Scottish players met criteria for Regional Performance Development Centres

6 players competed at Junior Grand Slams

272 players aged 10U competed in 20+ matches

3 more Grand Slam wheelchair men's doubles titles won by Gordon Reid alongside partner Alfie Hewitt

8 medals for the GB Team. which included 4 Scots, at the Virtus Global Games for athletes with an intellectual impairment



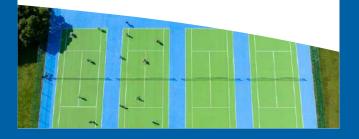


### FACILITIES

#### 29 new Padel Tennis Courts delivered

**86 courts** redeveloped at 31 sites under the LTA Park Regeneration project

50 clubs supported to develop facilities, including enhancements to indoor options, court surfaces, floodlights and clubhouses



### PARTICIPATION

1551 teachers trained to deliver LTA Youth Schools Health of club network rated at 77%

3 inclusive tennis venues delivered via Pride in Tennis Festivals

46 venues delivered the SERVES programme

29 venues delivered the Open Court programme

40 park venues accessible via LTA Play

20 local authorities participated in primary school festivals,

leading to local competitions and regional finals in East and West

**85 schools** took part in Schools Roadshows linked to club open days (more than 50% female participation)

3595 pupils engaged via LTA Youth and Tennis Scotland national schools programmes (50% female)



MISSION: TO GROW TENNIS BY MAKING IT RELEVANT, ACCESSIBLE, WELCOMING AND ENJOYABLE

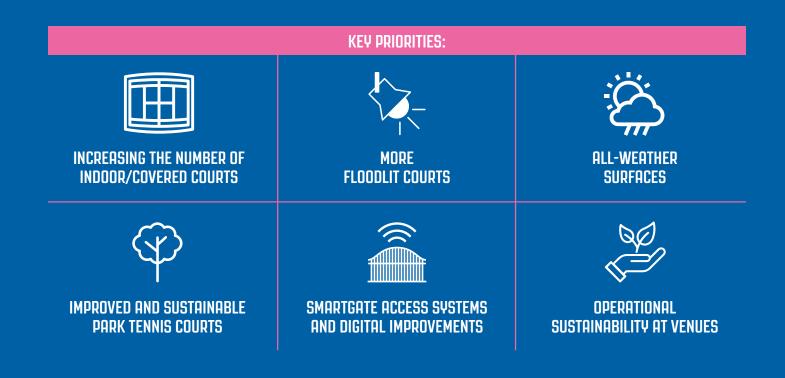
## **Facility Development**

Our ambition is to grow the game by protecting and enhancing tennis and Padel tennis facilities throughout the country. New opportunities are progressed where demand and need are established, developing an appropriate infrastructure for the growth of our sports.

Despite a challenging year in 2023 as the cost-of-living crisis escalated and the public sector faced further pressure on its budgets — prompting many local authorities to make tough decisions involving sporting assets — facilities for both tennis and padel continued to be developed.

Priorities for Scotland are formed in the context of national, regional and local environments and mindful of existing provision, expected tennis demand, demographics, travel networks, population and maximising useable court time. Central to this are 'enablers' — people, places and partners — that collaboratively create the next generational progression in Scotland.

Most notably, these include clubs/venues, local authorities and leisure trusts, **sport**scotland, the LTA and an array of volunteers and coaches acting on their passion to make a difference.





### **Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre**

#### We were delighted to announce the opening of a new six-court community indoor tennis centre at Oriam — Scotland's Sports Performance Centre — at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh.

The centre was funded in partnership between Heriot-Watt University, the LTA, **sport**scotland and Tennis Scotland through the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis (TSIT) fund.

When Oriam was built in 2016, three courts were removed to make space for the new building, but both Oriam and the university made a commitment to re-instate tennis facilities at a later date.

External funding became available through TSIT, enabling the university to get far more for the investment than was previously expected.

The venue will host Tennis Scotland activity such as competitions, performance coaching and workforce development under a court-access agreement of more than 2500 hours each year. The centre will also be open to the public under a Pay-As-You-Play offering and provide lessons and children's classes to help everyone improve their serves and swings.

Within its first few months of operation, Oriam attracted more than 200 children onto weekly programmed activities.

Maree Todd, Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport at the Scottish Government, attended the official opening event and said: "I'm very pleased to mark the official opening of this worldclass indoor tennis facility. It will have a positive impact on the local and student communities, providing more and better opportunities to play tennis all year round, in an affordable, inclusive space."

### **Case Study**

#### Get involved

www.oriamscotland.com/ oriam/activities/tennis/

### Success

Development of new community indoor tennis centre

## Parks Tennis

### As part of the UK Government and LTA's £30 million parks refurbishment project, Scotland will benefit from £2.1 million of investment into 160 tennis courts across 46 venues.

Park tennis court facilities are owned by local authorities — 16 of which across Scotland have benefited — and are vital community assets that can help widen the impact of the physical and mental health benefits that being active through tennis can bring.

There are currently 1.7million adults and many more children who play tennis in a local park every year across Scotland, England and Wales, and park tennis courts are particularly important in providing affordable, engaging and accessible opportunities for more female players and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds, as well as being the most popular venue for women to play after they have left education.

To support ongoing participation within parks, a new initiative has been created. Free Park Tennis will offer free, family social tennis sessions every weekend across the country. These sessions wouldn't be possible without the incredible work of volunteer activators. These teams work together to plan and lead fun activities on court as well as collaborating with venues and operators to get more people active and enjoy tennis.

## Ayr Fort

## **Case Study**

#### The six-court venue benefited from £155,000 of investment from the refurbishment project. Since it reopened in June 2023, there have been more than 900 players enjoying tennis on site.

Ayr Fort runs weekly junior and adult coaching sessions as well as Free Park Tennis and Tennis For Free sessions at the weekend, allowing families to enjoy tennis together. The venue also hosts district competitions and acts as a central hub for players across Ayrshire to compete.

Local schools have also benefited from the newly refurbished facility. South Ayrshire Active Schools and Prestwick Tennis have been able to support curricular and non-curricular coaching sessions and camps at Ayr Fort, with local schoolchildren being able to use the new courts.



Get involved www.prestwicktennisandfitness.co.uk/ayr-fort/

## **Maryhill Park**

### Tennis courts have existed in Maryhill Park since 1930, but after they were left sitting in disrepair and unusable for most of the year, local group Friends of Maryhill Park championed their importance.

Subsequently securing more than £257,000 of funding, renovated courts opened just over a year ago with Maryhill Tennis Community Club still thriving, illustrated by its nomination for a Tennis Scotland Tennis for All Award, which is rewarded to an organisation or programme that has pioneered in bringing tennis to under-represented groups or communities and inspiring positive change.

Thanks to investment from Glasgow City Council, **sport**scotland and a host of other partners, three full-size all-weather, floodlit courts and four mini courts have replaced the old red blaes offering. The courts are open to the public, like all tennis courts operated by Glasgow Life in the city's parks. A new smart access system has also been installed, linked to the floodlights to minimise energy use and ensure they are only on when courts are booked.

E257K+ of funding secured

## **Case Study**

Get involved www.facebook.com/ maryhilltennis

#### Success

Seasonal courts upgraded to all-weather, SMARTgate access added



## Padel

Padel, which originated in Mexico in 1969, is a form of tennis that is easy to play, fun and extremely sociable.

It is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court about a third of the size of a tennis court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities, as it is not power dominant.

HOW TO PLAY:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=muB3H1cYqb0



## Facilities Westburn Padel Tennis

We welcomed the opening of a new padel tennis centre next to Aberdeen Tennis Centre in Westburn Park.

The two courts are fully covered, ensuring the fast-growing sport can be enjoyed all year round.

Sport Aberdeen, the charity which operates the courts, received an interest-free loan from the LTA and support from Tennis Scotland to bring the project to life.

Players are provided with all equipment, including padel bats and balls, by Sport Aberdeen. Tony Dawson, Sport Aberdeen Chairman, said: "We are so excited to bring this fast-paced, social sport to the city thanks to the Lawn Tennis Association for the financial support which has made it possible.

"I have played padel for a few years now over in Spain – having witnessed the growing popularity of the sport across Europe, we decided it was time to introduce this offering to the north-east.

"Our courts are situated in a beautiful park location and are the only indoor courts in Aberdeen. Padel tennis is suitable for anyone to play, so if you are reading this we strongly encourage you to come along and have a go for yourself." Get involved www.sportaberdeen.co.uk/ activities/padel

> Success Covered and lit Padel tennis courts

### Workforce

We delivered three Padel tennis CPD courses in 2023 in Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Gleneagles.

We also hosted a Padel tennis Instructor Course in Edinburgh for nine coaches.





## Competition

History was made as we hosted the first-ever Padel Tennis Scottish Cup, crowning the winners after a thrilling day's action.

After both finals went the distance in front of a strong crowd, West of Scotland Padel women and Barnton Park Padel Club men lifted the inaugural titles.

The champions were, though, made to work for their celebrations as both matches finished 2–2 after all four rubbers — meaning they each required a 10-point shootout to split the sides.

In tense deciders, West of Scotland Padel edged out Edinburgh Sports Club in the women's final, before Barnton Park beat Thistle following an epic men's tie that finished under the lights at David Lloyd Shawfair.

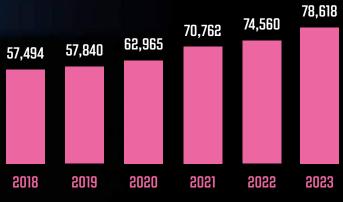




## Participation

# **CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

## **MEMBERSHIP GROWTH**







COMPLETED



**SCHOOL TEACHERS TRAINED IN** LTA YOUTH SCHOOLS

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**VENUES IN SCOTLAND** 

**MORE THAN DOUBLED** 

**LTA SERVES VENUES** IN SCOTLAND

COMMUNITY

ORGANISATIONS

## **LTA SERVES** Helping communities across Scotland with Tennis

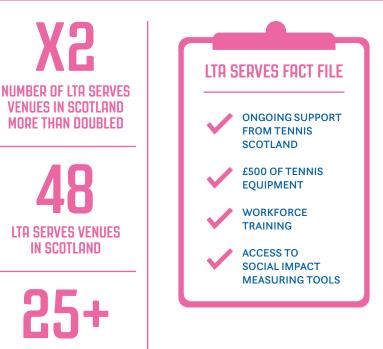
### **Tennis Scotland continues to support** community development across the country with the growth of LTA SERVES.

Working in partnership with a range of organisations across the country, the programme helps young people from all communities access the benefits of tennis.

From Golspie to the Gorbals, the number of LTA SERVES venues in Scotland more than doubled to 48 in 2023. More than 25 community organisations are now delivering tennis to thousands of young people in a variety of different spaces at the heart of the community.

In 2024, Tennis Scotland has exciting new training opportunities and plans to link LTA SERVES programmes to the growing network of accessible public tennis courts.

Tennis has the power to change lives and Tennis Scotland is committed to supporting a more inclusive and healthier nation by working with all sections of the community.



## **Achieve More Scotland**

Achieve More Scotland are showing how tennis can make a massive positive difference to the lives of young people in the highest areas of deprivation.

The charity was recently awarded a grant from the LTA Tennis Foundation to appoint a part-time tennis co-ordinator to help them take the sport to more children.

With ongoing support from Tennis Scotland, they deliver the LTA SERVES programme, which helps young people in under-served communities get active and experience the physical, social and mental health benefits of tennis.

The partnership has created access to local weekly tennis sessions for thousands of children across Glasgow and North Lanarkshire.

The charity's Business Advisor Robert McHarg said: "We're trying to enable children to get a racket in their hand — not to find the next Andy Murray or Emma Raducanu — but to find that joy of being able to hit a ball over a net."

Achieve More Scotland was formed 15 years ago, borne out of Robert's "frustration at the lack of quality services for children and young people".

After establishing programmes tailored around football and dancing, the charity soon turned their attention to tennis, and now estimate that they've helped put a racket in the hands of more than 2,000 children.

The LTA Tennis Foundation grant has allowed Achieve More Scotland to employ Jack Edward as their new tennis co-ordinator.

He will work to take tennis activity to even more communities with a focus on keeping children in the sport after it has been first introduced.

The partnership with Tennis Scotland also allowed Achieve More Scotland to take a group of children to The Championships — Wimbledon at the All England Club in London last summer, thanks to ticket donations.







## Workforce

## It was a really positive year for Coach Education and Workforce Development.

We now have 480 Accredited coaches in Scotland, including 130 at Level 3 or above.

## 342 23

#### QUALIFICATION ENROLMENTS

Courses at 23 different venues, including Elgin, Moffat, Aberdeen and Oban

DIFFERENT VENUES

# **16**

16 candidates on Level 3 course in Dundee, Stirling and Glasgow



#### LEVEL 2 INSTRUCTOR COURSES 8 Level 2 Instructor Courses for 71 coaches in 6 different venues



### ASSISTANT COURSES

22 Assistant courses for 260 new coaches at 20 venues



### **'BESPOKE' COURSES**

5 courses were 'bespoke' for particular groups, including Russell Anderson Foundation, Achieve More Scotland and an all-female project in partnership with David Lloyd Clubs



#### TENNIS SCOTLAND ANNUAL REPORT 2023

## Highlights for 2023

#### **More Accessibility**

With the support of **sport**scotland, we extended accessibility to courses both geographically and to under-represented groups, such as females and people with low income or disability.

**Sport**scotland awarded Tennis Scotland grant funding to support targeted candidates onto and through courses.

It has also enabled us to run specific courses for charities and in partnership with Active Schools in low-income communities in Scotland.

#### **Coach Education**

We delivered 26 Continuous Professional Development (CPD) courses for coaches in Scotland.

Covering 12 different topics, 342 coaches attended these as well as LTA Coach Forums in December, which we codelivered with Merlin Van der Bramm, Head of Coach Education at the LTA.

#### **Unified Tutoring Team**

We now have seven tutors working as a unified team and delivering a range of courses and CPD across Scotland

Mhairi Beattie joined the tutor workforce after passing her LTA Certificate in Tutoring Skills in June 2023. She is now delivering Level One and Two courses and CPDs, and her course delivery has been very well received by coaches.

#### New Level 3 Course

Four tutors — Kris Soutar, Graeme Clarkson, Mhairi Beattie and Anna Myatt — attended LTA training for the new Level 3 Coach course. We will run our first edition of this course in August 2024.

## Meet Our Apprentices

## **Lewis Simpson**



Lewis plays at Elgin Tennis Club and competes in the Highland Leagues, earning Player of the Season for the U18 boys. He also plays in various events throughout the season, a notable highlight being the North of Scotland Open Championships held at Elgin TC.

He started coaching under the guidance of John Walker at Elgin along with former Scottish champion Keith Meisner.

Aiming to complete his LTA Level 2 qualification by the end of the year, he will continue his coaching journey at the new indoor tennis facility at Moray Sports Centre under his mentor Joe Hargreaves. He then plans to complete his Level 3 qualification and forge a long-term career in tennis coaching with help from Joe and assessor Eric Dawes.

## Hugh O'Neill



Hugh started playing tennis aged nine at Cambuslang LTC. He then moved to Giffnock Tennis Squash and Hockey Club and managed to reach a good level of play competing in regional and County tournaments. Hugh regularly competes in County events in both junior and senior categories as well as playing for Giffnock in the West of Scotland leagues.

Having begun his coaching journey at the age of 12 at Cambuslang, he started assisting with red ball sessions when he moved to Giffnock. The experience helped developed his passion for teaching children and adults alike about the sport.

Once Hugh has completed his apprenticeship at Tennis Scotland, he plans to further enhance his professional attributes through developing his communication and coaching skills. By the end of 2024, he plans on enhancing his qualifications by undertaking the LTA Level 3 coaching course.

## Dylan Galloway



Dylan started playing tennis aged four and competes at club level as well as in various regional leagues in both singles and doubles. He also regularly takes part in events at Prestwick Tennis Club, where he coaches.

He started coaching in 2019 when he completed the Tennis Leaders course, assisting coaches at his home club Strathgryffe. He assisted with all levels, ranging from sponge to yellow ball, and went on to complete his LTA Level 1 Assistant course in 2022. This allowed him to help out at summer and Easter camps as well as squad coaching.

Currently working towards his LTA Level 2, he is coaching players from a wide variety of ages and abilities at Prestwick on a daily basis. This includes young children from the age of three and adults with learning difficulties, wheelchair tennis and squad training. Additionally, he does outreach work within the local community and schools.

Dylan is hoping to gain more and more knowledge and experience through his apprenticeship before he undertakes a degree in sports coaching. Long-term, he hopes to secure a career within the sport at a high level.

## Disability and Inclusion



2023 saw growth in all areas of Disability and Inclusion. Using the LTA's Open Court initiative, Scotland now has 27 venues delivering inclusive sessions across the country, ensuring tennis is accessible for all.

Particular focus on increasing provision in outdoor community venues saw Tennis Scotland create and initiate Disability Activator Training for 40 volunteers across five venues in the second half of the year.

This training allows small workforces of volunteers to offer inclusive sessions within mainstream programmes that are sustainable and accessible to all. This training is being scaled up in 2024.

Tennis Scotland, with its partners at Pride in Tennis and LEAP Sports, helped to activate the first two LGBT+ sites in Glasgow and Edinburgh. The Weegie Whackers (Glasgow) and the Edinburgh Curveballers operate out of park sites, offering sessions to the LGBT+ community where members can be their authentic selves and play tennis free of judgement and discrimination. Both sites kicked off with festivals during Pride month, each attracting more than 30 participants with membership on the increase ever since. The Weegie Whackers now have a membership of more than 40 regular players and are looking to increase their competitive outlets.

Tennis Scotland linked up with 35 clubs who showed interest in delivering the Tennis4RAD programme — specifically designed to help aid cognitive function and ward off the effects of dementia — and will aim to take the programme to more venues in 2024.

To enhance this programme, 2023 saw the training of coaches at Maryhill, Hillhead and Drumchapel tennis clubs to participate in a scientific study, in conjunction with Glasgow University, to learn why tennis has such a positive impact on cognition. 2023 also saw Tennis Scotland help launch the Amazon Prime LTA Youth Girls programme. Running across 11 different Scottish venues, 315 females were introduced to tennis. This programme will be further grown in 2024 with a new cohort of coaches trained, taking the total number of venues to 35.

### **Open Court**

#### At the newly renovated Irvine Tennis Community on 7 September 2023, Tennis Scotland hosted one of its Disability Activator training pilot courses.

This course looked at training coaches and volunteers alike to create a linked-up workforce that can deliver sustainable Disability sessions at clubs.

Other courses have taken place at Dunfermline, Fossoway, Craiglockhart and Montrose tennis clubs with volunteers ranging from the ages of 11 to 71 years of age. This course looks to change the way accessible sessions are delivered, making them more sustainable for clubs to deliver and offer more provision for players at a location that is convenient for them.



## **Rally Allies**

### Newly renovated courts at Newlands Park in Glasgow and the Meadows in Edinburgh hosted Rally Allies festivals during Pride Month in June 2023.

These festivals marked the launches of the Weegie Whackers and Edinburgh Curveballers LGBT+ clubs, which have since gone from strength to strength, growing their memberships and culminating in Scotland sending its first LGBT+ team to the Pride in Tennis Cup in Nottingham in October 2023.

This has been a great demonstration of enabling access to tennis for underrepresented communities and demonstrating a pathway from initial participation right through to competitive tennis.

#### ONE PARTICIPANT, CONNOR GLYNN, SAID:

"Since joining the Weegie Whackers I have learned lots of new tennis skills and even participated in my first competition. The most positive aspect I am developing is resilience, which has allowed me to push through challenges and stay motivated to perform better. This has been developed with the support of the Weegie Whackers group, one of the most inclusive, friendly spaces for a beginner of the sport to join."



## Tennis4RAD

### Physical inactivity is one of the biggest lifestyle risk factors for developing dementia. Research shows that regular exercise can reduce that risk by 30%, therefore tennis is being promoted as the ideal sport to stave off the condition.

Tennis Scotland Coaching Consultant Kris Soutar got on court with local players aged 50+ to put them through their paces in a Tennis4RAD session. The purpose of the event at Scotstoun was to train coaches to deliver Tennis4RAD sessions for an upcoming scientific study to test the impact on the cognition of participants.

The sessions are designed to get players thinking, moving and problem solving on court through a range of tennis exercises, drills and games. Above all, they are designed to be interactive and fun, keeping the mind and body active.



Tennis4RAD is aiming to make these sessions a staple of tennis club programmes, offering fun and interactive sessions which have significant health benefits for players aged 50+. This is combined with the goal of raising money for Sir Jackie Stewart's Race Against Dementia charity.

#### **JANETTE BAIN'S STORY**

www.lta.org.uk/about-us/in-your-area/tennis-scotland/news/ janette-bain-and-tennis-4-rad



## LTA Youth Girls

In partnership with Prime Video, this girls-only beginner tennis course is packed with games and activities that will help build skills on court, as well as new friendships and confidence in everyday life.

Olivia Smart led the way in delivering the LTA Youth Girls initiative in 2023, introducing 63 new girls to the sport at four venues in Falkirk, the highest number of participants of any coach in Scotland.

Olivia said: "The initiative has been an anchor point in my coaching journey, allowing me to access so many opportunities and help grow a squad of girls and ladies locally.

'After receiving the initial training, I set up courses across four local venues, attracting an initial 50 girls between the ages of 4–16 (now at over 75).



"AS WE ENTER 2024, I'M EXCITED TO SEE THE GIRLS DEVELOP EVEN FURTHER AS THEY HOPEFULLY EMBARK ON TO LOCAL LEAGUES AND BECOME ROLE MODELS FOR OUR PRIME NEWBIES." "From the offset, the social buzz was unmatched. Not only was there a great sense of community amongst the girls, but also a willingness to get stuck in, fostered by the encouragement from their friends and club mates. I found the sense of competitiveness was solely team based, making the Girl Set Match team challenge the perfect way to celebrate skills, with many girls winning their first ever medal! That glimmer of gold even spurred some of the girls on to enter LTA matchplay events."

## Educational Activities

## **University Partnerships**

#### Tennis Scotland are working in partnership with universities across the country as part of the LTA University Programme.

Our partnerships with 11 Universities are broken down as follows:

TIER 3 STIRLING

#### TIER 2

GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, ST ANDREWS, ABERDEEN AND HERIOT-WATT

#### TIER 1

STRATHCLYDE, GLASGOW CALEDONIAN, EDINBURGH NAPIER, ROBERT GORDON AND DUNDEE Tier 1 universities have a voluntary Tennis Ambassador role, while 2 and 3 have a paid University Tennis Coordinator, which has been match-funded between the LTA and the University.

The biggest success over 2023 was the increase in the number of Tier 2 universities from two to five, therefore providing an increase of funding to Scottish university tennis.

Each university partnership aims to develop tennis across key areas such as Participation, Competition, Performance and Workforce.

This includes supporting participation tennis programmes and clubs for students, internal and external competition opportunities and providing a platform and programme to develop a workforce through the students at each university. We are also working closely with Stirling, Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt, Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow universities to develop integrated training programmes between students and district players to create quality local training programmes for those at an appropriate ability level.

University of FORMERS St Andrews 1413

Across 2024, we aim to develop these partnerships to develop Scottish tennis through the university sector.

## **Club Leaders Conference 2023**

#### Tennis Scotland hosted the National Club Leaders Conference on 19 November at Dunblane Hydro Hotel.

The first conference since 2019 was a great success, featuring more than 40 clubs taking part in workshops designed to help them develop their programmes and grow their memberships.

#### THE WORKSHOPS INCLUDED:

- DEVELOPING LINKS WITH SCHOOLS
- GROWING YOUR COACHING AND COMPETITION PROGRAMME
- GROWING YOUR WORKFORCE
- PADEL TENNIS
- SATELLITE PARK VENUES
- OPENING TENNIS UP TO UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

The feedback was very positive and we aim to deliver another successful event towards the end of 2024.

Throughout the year, we will also deliver monthly webinars on a variety of different topics to help clubs develop and gain any necessary support from the Tennis Scotland team.



### **Schools Tennis**

#### **Teacher Training**

Tennis Scotland trained 850 new teachers in 2023, bringing the total number of teachers qualified to deliver LTA Youth Schools during curricular time to 1551.

This not only increases the number of schoolchildren playing tennis, but creates opportunities for stronger links between schools and clubs.

#### Tennis Scotland Schools Roadshow Fund 2023

In 2023, Tennis Scotland funded 30 club-led projects designed to establish and strengthen links between schools and clubs via the Schools Roadshow Fund.

The fund enables coaches and clubs to deliver school tennis taster sessions linked to the promotions of club open days and junior coaching programmes.

The fund helped deliver tennis to 3500 school pupils with more than 1000 taking part in follow-on activity at tennis clubs.

In addition, Tennis Scotland has worked in partnership with local authorities and key clubs to support a series of school participation events and competitions, attended by more than 2500 school pupils in 2023.

This captures some of the fantastic work undertaken by our partners to grow the game in schools and Tennis Scotland looks forward to further growth in 2024.

## Performance

We continue to grow and evolve the Scottish Player Pathway to help nurture Scottish players.

Our aim is to enhance opportunities for performance player development in Scotland, supported by the LTA as part of the overall LTA Performance Strategy.

As such, we have been working with the LTA on an updated plan and we anticipate that a new Scottish Performance Pathway will be launched in Autumn 2024.



Andy Murray

## U14

The Scottish Player Development Centre continued to support the best players aged from 10–14. A total of 11 players were selected for the longlist, meaning they can access the SPDC/RPDC network as a full-time or access player.

As well as on court training, players had the benefit of nutrition workshops and antidoping training. Overall time contact with the players increased by over 50% in 2023.

Sessions at the University of Stirling were complemented by the opening of the six courts at Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre, allowing access to more courts for localised bespoke sessions.

#### **NOTABLE SUCCESSES:**

- Louis Taylor won the 9U Grade 1 in Nottingham.
- **Cameron Rae** won the 10U National Championship and the 10U Grade 1 clay event. Cameron also represented GB at an event in France, winning the doubles.
- Lucas Nolte won the 14U Indoor Grade 1 singles event in Nottingham. David Dong and his partner were runners-up in the doubles.
- **Dominic Czopek** won the 12U Tennis Europe singles in Nottingham.
- James Crowther won the 9U Grade 2 in Nottingham.

We had eight players invited to National Age Group Activity organised by the LTA.

The performance team supported over 30 events at the various U14 age groups over the year.

We had 15 players at summer Nationals across the age groups and the 9U Grade 1 main draws.



### 14+

Integrated training has grown in strength over the year with National Training, GB NTA, National Player Programme (NPP) and University players all training together at Stirling, creating a highly motivating environment

The concept has grown, with further sessions now taking place in the East, West and North-East, where the districts and counties are linking with local universities.

Three more players became part of the NPP – Hamish Stewart, Ewan Moore and Scott Duncan all receive training support at Stirling and SIS practitioner support, as well as anti-doping advice and updates.

Charlie Robertson continued to flourish in the GB National Academy in Stirling, winning three singles titles and one doubles title on the ITF junior circuit, competing at the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open, and finishing the year ranked 52 in the World ITF rankings.

Hephzibah Oluwadare also competed at the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open. Hephzibah played for Scotland in the Junior Four Nations event in September, winning all her matches. She was also selected for the Junior Billie Jean King Cup, helping GB to win a bronze medal.



## Pro Spotlight

A record number of nine Scots competed in the main draws at Wimbledon in 2023: Andy Murray, Jamie Murray, Cameron Norrie, Gordon Reid, Maia Lumsden, Ali Collins, Jonny O'Mara, Jacob Fearnley and Connor Thomson

Scots won another three singles titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour: Aidan McHugh claimed two with Jacob Fearnley also winning a tournament.

### Gordon Reid

Won three Grand Slam titles with Alfie Hewett, including Wimbledon in front of a packed crowd on Court One. He also won the Doubles Masters and the men's World Team Cup with GB. Gordon also reached the final of the US Open singles and was awarded an OBE in the King's Honours.



#### Maia Lumsden

Won six doubles titles, including a maiden WTA title during a fantastic year. Maia reached the quarter-finals of the women's doubles at Wimbledon with British partner Naiktha Bains and became Britain's number one after reaching a career-high doubles ranking of 74. She was also selected to represent GB at the Billie Jean King Cup and United Cup.



Commercial





**Cameron Norrie** Won the ATP Rio Open, beating Carlos Alcaraz in the final, and finished the year ranked 18.

#### Andy Murray Runner-up at the ATP Qatar Open and won three ATP Challenger Tour titles, finishing the year inside the top 50 at 42.

### Jamie Murray

Teamed up with Michael Venus from New Zealand to win four ATP titles and finished the year ranked 16.

## **Doubles Spotlight**

There was significant success for Scottish players in doubles over the year with 15 ITF doubles titles won.



Ali Collins Picked up three titles in 2023





Jonny O'Mara Reached the semi-finals of the Wimbledon mixed doubles with Olivia Nicholls

Jacob Fearnley Two doubles titles and received a wildcard into Wimbledon



**Connor Thomson** Won a title and received a wildcard into Wimbledon



Scott Duncan Three ITF doubles titles and an ATP Challenger Tour win in Maspalomas with partner Marcus Willis



Hamish Stewart Won an ITF doubles title and the TS Open Tour Scottish National Doubles Championships with Ewen Lumsden



## **Junior Four Nations**

Scotland were crowned champions at the Junior Four Nations in Wrexham in September, thanks to battling performances during a highly competitive weekend which featured some nail-biting match tie-breaks.

The 18U team went unbeaten, only losing two rubbers over the three days of play to win the category. Cameron Fryer and Hephzibah Oluwadare went unbeaten in singles and the two doubles pairs were also unbeaten against all teams.

The 14U team won their category as they too went undefeated. Aadya Iyer Chadalawada won six from six in singles and doubles with Lucas Nolte winning all of his singles rubbers.

The 12U team were locked in numerous nail-biting matches as Lea Kochfar won all three singles. After several matches that finished in match tie-breaks, it was not to be as they finished fourth in the category with one draw and two losses.

As Sunday's play came to a close, the results were calculated and the Scotland team topped the overall standings with nine points, edging out Ireland who finished on eight. Scotland were presented with the Junior Four Nations plate to take home as well as awards for the 14U and 18U categories.

Karen Ross, Tennis Scotland Head of Performance, said: "It was a fantastic weekend of tennis. I'm delighted with the win for Scotland and so proud of the team effort from the players on the court competing and off the court supporting their teammates.

"A special shoutout to the captains who played every point with the players courtside using their knowledge and experience to support in the key moments."

#### **U18 TEAM**

Cameron Fryer, Kyle McKay, Hephzibah Oluwadare, Anna McKnight Captain: Euan McGinn

### **U14 TEAM**

Lucas Nolte, David Dong, Hanna Augustynska, Aadya Iyer Chadalawada Oran McBride

Captain: Karen Lamb **U12 TEAM** 

Dominik Czopek, Lea Kochfar, Amy Lamb, Captain:

Joe Gill

## **Virtus Global Games**

Four Scots were part of the GB team that won eight medals at the Virtus Global Games, the pinnacle elite sports event for athletes with an intellectual impairment.

Dominic Iannotti, Anna McBride, Luke Turnbull and Aidan Moody travelled to France for the 2023 edition of the Games, which take place every four years.



## Academy

The GB National Tennis Academy based at the University of Stirling continued to enjoy success in 2023 despite entering the last 18 months of the project.



PLAYERS REPRESENTED TEAM GB



CURRENT AND FORMER GB NTA PLAYERS COMPETED AT JUNIOR WIMBLEDON



JUNIOR ITF TOURNAMENTS HOSTED IN SCOTLAND

## Academy Highlights

During 2023, the GB NTA players won 10 Junior ITF Titles and 1 ITF W25 title.

The GB NTA were represented by five current and three former scholars at Junior Wimbledon: Charlie Robertson, Ella McDonald, Hannah Read, Hannah Rylatt, Henry Jefferson, Hephzibah Oluwadare, Phoenix Weir and Viktor Frydrych.

#### Four GB NTA players represented Team GB in 2023

Ella McDonald

- **Hephzibah Oluwadare** represented Great Britain 18U in the Junior Billie Jean King Cup Finals, where the team finished third.
- **Hephzibah** represented Great Britain 16U in the European Summer Cup where they won through qualifying before finishing as runners-up in the Finals.
- **Charlie Robertson** and **Henry Jefferson** were joined by former GB NTA player Viktor Frydrych to complete the 18U GB team in the European Summer Cup. The boys came through qualifying to reach the Finals, where they finished seventh.

The GB NTA supported three additional ITF Junior tournaments delivered by Tennis Scotland 2023, including the J100 in Glasgow.

Dollar Academy provided academic flexibility, enabling GB NTA players to travel extensively throughout the year, most notably supporting players during SQA examinations while at ITF events.

3 GB NTA players at Dollar Academy secured Division I US College Tennis Scholarships.

#### Ella McDonald

Reached a career-high junior ITF world ranking of 8 and competed in all four Junior Grand Slam events in 2023.

Ella gained momentum on the women's circuit with singles ranking highs of 923 and 897 for the WTA and ITF respectively. In doubles, she won the ITF W25 doubles event in Glasgow with Maia Lumsden on her way to a WTA ranking high of 381.

#### **Charlie Robertson**

Reached an ITF Junior world ranking high of 25, a meteoric rise in 17 months from his pre-GB NTA ranking position of 722.

Charlie competed in the last three Junior Grand Slam events in 2023.

#### **Henry Jefferson**

Won his first ITF singles title in his final event as a GB NTA player at the J100 in Loughborough in December 2023. Henry also won a doubles title as he worked his way into the ITF Junior top 100.

#### Hannah Rylatt

Secured a Division I US College scholarship at the University of Central Florida for summer 2024. Hannah impressed in 2023, winning an ITF J100 singles title and a J200 doubles title with Hannah Read. Domestically, Hannah was in fine form, winning four British Tour titles, including the season-ending TS Open Tour Finals in Stirling.



### Graduates

**Ella McDonald** became the first GB NTA player to graduate onto the LTA Pro Scholarship Programme.

**Millie Skelton** graduated from the GB NTA and secured an excellent scholarship offer at Southern Methodist University in Texas, an NCAA Division I institution. In recognition of this achievement, Dollar Academy awarded Millie with the Macquarie Quaich for Endeavour, celebrating extraordinary effort and character.

**Henry Jefferson** took a relatively unique route to US College, transitioning 8–12 months earlier than most counterparts after completing one-year Higher courses provided by the Scottish education system. Henry finished his time with the GB NTA in December 2023 before becoming a Gator at the University of Florida.

### Workforce

GB NTA Head Coach **Noelle Van Lottum** was headhunted by Tennis Canada to become their Head Women's National Coach in summer 2023.

GB NTA Academy Coach **Evie Williams** departed for a similar role at Loughborough University National Tennis Academy.

**Toby Smith** is working in a support role with the GB NTA while also ensuring integration with the National Player Programme to further enhance training and competition opportunities.

### **Experiences**

**Hephzibah Oluwadare** represented the triumphant Team Scotland at the Junior Four Nations in Wrexham and played a tight match against GB Billie Jean King Cup star Heather Watson.

GB NTA players competed in every Junior Grand Slam in 2023.

All GB NTA players have enjoyed regular training alongside professional players, including GB Billie Jean King Cup player **Maia Lumsden**, doubles professionals **Scott Duncan** and **Ali Collins**, **Anna Brogan** and recent US College graduates making their way on the professional tour in **Hamish Stewart**, **Ewen Lumsden**, **Ewan Moore**.

GB NTA players benefited from training experiences with scholars from the University of Stirling, Tennis Scotland's National Player Programme and National Training.

## Competition

Competition is key to retaining players in tennis as well as giving performance players much-needed matchplay experience throughout their development.

The past year has seen a huge increase in the number of events held at a local level, encouraging more people to take part in competition.

Number of Grade 5 & 6 Events	2019	2021	2022	2023
Grade 6	131	56	483	500
Grade 6 Youth Matchplay		215	230	210
Grade 5 Local Tour	67	146	150	275
Grade 4 One-day events			93	368
Total Grade 6,5,4 Events	198	417	956	1353
Percentage increase		111%	129%	42%

Regular Competing Players	2019	2023
6+ Matches	5517	7271
Percentage increase		32%
1+ Matches	8876	10,145
Percentage increase		14%



### JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS HELD IN 2023

"I can't thank Tennis Scotland enough for putting on these events, which really does support our journey as professional players and I look forward to playing again next year."

**Ewen Lumsden** 

## National Competition Results

#### Tea Cup — 18U Inter-County Championships 1st: West 2nd: North 3rd: South 4th: East

Scottish Indoor Championships Men's Singles: Yuri Santiago Syromolotov Netrebin Women's Singles: Aimee Knowles

Scottish National Championships Men's Singles: Ewen Lumsden Women's Singles: Hannah Rylatt

#### Scottish National Doubles Championships

Men's Doubles: Ewen Lumsden & Hamish Stewart Women's Doubles: Hannah Read & Hannah Rylatt

Tennis Scotland Open Tour Finals Men's Singles: Hamish Stewart Women's Singles: Hannah Rylatt

#### Four Nations Junior Championships 1st: Scotland 2nd: Ireland 3rd: England 4th: Wales

**Scottish Schools Championships** 

Boys: Merchiston Castle School Girls: Dunblane High School

#### Scottish Cup

Men: Newlands Tennis Club Women: Newlands Tennis Club

Team Tennis (Open) Scotland Men: Newlands Women: Blackhall

#### Scottish Junior Nationals (Closed)

9U BS Frank Atkins 10U BS Louis Taylor 11U BS Findlay Price 12U BS Mitchell Tasker 14U BS Rory Robb 16U BS Jed McMillan 18U BS Adam Clunie

9U GS Scarlett McHardy
10U GS Maisie Currie
11U GS Natalia Augustynska
12U GS Amy Lamb
14U GS Jessica Currie
16U GS Aadya Iyer Chadalawada
18U GS Shaylin Holt



## **Competitions** Adults

## GB Pro-Series Glasgow — Scottish Open

Maia Lumsden won her sixth doubles title of the year, this time on home turf as the ITF World Tennis Tour visited Glasgow. Lumsden teamed up with Francisca Jorge to carve through the draw in the W60 at Scotstoun, sealing the title with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Freya Christie and Olivia Gadecki.

In the M25 doubles, Hamish Stewart and partner George Houghton came close to the title, narrowly losing out in the final to Finn Bass and Millien Hurrion in a match tie-break 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-10.

Stewart also enjoyed a strong week in the singles, knocking out Wimbledon Boys champion Henry Searle and Paul Jubb en route to the semi-finals, where he was edged out by eventual winner Alexander Blockx. Jacob Fearnley also reached the final four in Glasgow, powering to three straight-sets wins before succumbing to injury against Anton Matusevich in the semis.

In the women's singles, Anna Brogan reached the quarter-finals, before losing out to Harriet Dart.



## Scottish Inter Club Challenge Cup

Newlands Lawn Tennis Club's men and women's sides retained their Scottish Inter-Club Challenge Cup silverware in fine fashion on their home courts. The men's team faced off against formidable opponents, Thorn Park, in a highly anticipated rematch of the 2022 final. After their 6–3 semi-final win over Kilmarnock, a young Thorn Park team arrived inspired to challenge once again for the title.

However, after two rounds, and three tie-breaks in round one, Newlands emerged victorious after a series of hotly contested matches. Newlands' women's team once again showcased their dominance as they clinched their third consecutive Scottish Cup title. Their opponents, Braid Tennis Club from Edinburgh, had shown their mettle in the semi-finals with a resounding 5–2 victory over Thistle Women, fuelling their aspirations for a maiden championship.

However, two-time champions Newlands proved too much, emerging triumphant on their home turf with a commanding victory.

## TS Open Tour — Scottish Clay Court Championships

Held at Craiglockhart Leisure Centre, the British Tour Grade 2 event was part of the enhanced TS Open Tour. Nick Rosenzweig was in form once again as he made it two titles in two weeks. Seeded fourth, he put in a string of commanding wins to reach the final, where he beat ATPranked Alexis Canter to take home £1250 in prize money. In the women's draw, eighth seed Amelie Brooks won her first TS Open Tour event of the season after a strong title run, beating Teodora Prisadnikova in the final to bank £1250 of her own.

## TS Open Tour — National Doubles Championships

The first year of this doubles-only event attracted more than 100 players, taking to the courts over four days at Scotstoun to compete to be crowned the Scottish National Doubles Champions. Scottish pros Hamish Stewart and Ewen Lumsden were men's champions, while GB National Tennis Academy's Hannah Rylatt and partner Hannah Read took home the women's title. Each pair shared a £2,000 winners' prize.



## TS Open Tour — Scottish National Open Championships

#### A strong field of players were attracted to Stirling for the Scottish National Open Championships in November.

In the men's singles, Ewen Lumsden cemented his place as one of the top performers on tour as he lifted the title without dropping a set, including a 6-3, 7-6 (3) win over Ewan Moore in the final.

Hannah Rylatt, from the GB National Tennis Academy based at Stirling, was the champion in the women's singles, also lifting the title without dropping a set. In the final, she overcame Teodora Prisadnikova in two hard-fought sets, with Rylatt edging both in tie-breaks.



## Scottish Open Indoor Championships

### The Scottish Open Indoor Championships were played at the National Tennis Centre at the University of Stirling in March.

The men's and women's singles competitions, both Tennis Scotland Open Tour events, were well attended, with more than 100 entries in total, leading to main draws featuring 24 players following four qualifying events.

With a prize pot of  $\pounds$ 7,200, as well as being a Grade 2 British Tour event for the first time, the competition attracted a number of high-level players.

The event was also enhanced by development activities, including club workshops, children's festivals and ball team supporting the final matches.

The men's singles were won by Yuri Santiago Syromolotov Netrebin, who beat junior Jack Deveney 7–6, 6–2, and the women's singles were won by Aimee Knowles, who beat Heidi Crncan 6–1, 6–2.



## **TS Open Tour Finals**

#### Hamish Stewart and Hannah Rylatt ended the Scottish domestic year in style as they won the 2023 TS Open Tour Finals.

The 16-player events at the University of Stirling saw both finals contested by the top two seeds, with Stewart seeing off his compatriot Ewen Lumsden in three sets, while Rylatt beat Teodora Prisadnikova in two.

Stewart battled back from a set and break down to take the second on a tie-break before pulling away from Lumsden in the third to seal a 2-6, 7-6 (3), 6-1 victory.

Rylatt knocked out Lucy Beeston and Himo Fernando on the first day of the Finals, before beating Heather Barlow with the loss of only one game in the last four.

In the final, she produced more incredible tennis to beat the top seed and TS Open Tour Leaderboard winner Prisadnikova 6–3, 7–5.

Stewart and Rylatt both banked £2,000 along with their titles following a thrilling and dramatic year on Scotland's domestic tennis tour.



## Competitions Juniors

## Scottish Inter-District **Junior Team Championships**

### 2023 saw a return to the event for Dumfries and Galloway at all age groups and in turn saw Strathallan School host the competition as increased court capacity was required.

In total, 108 players took part in eight matches each to make a total of 324 rubbers, across 12 courts and four days of competition. The competition continues to be a highlight for the districts, players, coaches and parents.

Tayside took the title in the 15U and 18U age groups. This combined with a runners-up spot to West of Scotland in the 12U category saw them take the overall title.

#### **Final positions**

- 1st Tayside
- 2nd West of Scotland 3rd Central
- 4th East of Scotland
- 5th Ayrshire & North-East
- 7th Dumfries & Galloway 8th Highlands
- 9th Borders





## **Scottish Junior Indoor Championships**

127 players were accepted into the boys and girls draws in four age categories at Scotstoun from 27-30 December.

and 16s Girls titles.

Tait (12s) also won their age-group



## **Scottish Junior Indoor Doubles Championships**

More than 100 young players contested eight events in four age groups at Scotstoun in April.

competition in every age category. There was plenty of home success



## Scottish Junior Inter-County Championships

West of Scotland won the Tea Cup following a 5-1 semifinal win over East of Scotland and a 4-2 final victory over North of Scotland at Uddingston LTC, whose hosting was much appreciated.

A shoot-out win over East earned South of Scotland third place after their match was tied at three rubbers each.

#### West of Scotland team:

Kyle McKay, Findlay Pratt, Nikhil Bollapragada, Callum Peat, Anna McKnight, Eleanor Cochran, Emma Barlow, Poppy Bonar, Nathan Lundie (Captain)



## **Scottish Junior Open**

530 entries across 18 events saw 608 matches played at Craiglockhart Tennis Centre and Thistle Tennis Club from 24 June to 1 July, making it one of the biggest junior tennis tournaments in Britain.

The week wasn't blessed with the best of weather, however with minimal alteration to the schedule, we completed the event without any significant change in play. That is an excellent outcome for a large event.

There were a number of strong Scottish performances, most notably Anna McKnight winning the girls 16U singles.

### Scottish Secondary Schools Tennis Team Championships

#### 31 girls and 33 boys' teams entered as, once again, the early rounds were played on a regional basis.

The event coincides with the LTA Youth Schools events, providing multiple opportunities for schools to compete in the busy summer term.

Finals once again took place at Craiglockhart on a beautiful sunny and hot day.

The Boys final was a repeat of 2022 with Merchiston edging out Strathallan in a tie-break shoot-out after the tie finished 3–3 following the singles and doubles. It was a tough defeat for Strathallan, who narrowly lost in a tie-break shoot-out the previous year.

There were two different finalists in the Girls event with St George's playing Dunblane High. After many long singles matches, Dunblane had the edge which they managed to retain into the doubles and ran out 4–1 winners.

### Scottish Junior Nationals (Closed)

Formerly the 'Scottish Junior Closed', the event was rebranded with a new home and place in the summer calendar. The closed event is for players from a Scottish County and aims to bring together the best juniors in the country.

143 entries across 14 categories and 204 matches produced a good-quality Grade 3 event.

This event was the third week in our early summer swing after the Scottish Junior Open and Junior ITF, all based in Edinburgh.

## **Competitions** Seniors

## ITF Masters Glasgow — Scottish Senior Championships

The 2023 Scottish Seniors Open took place mainly at Scotstoun, but with three other venues used for two days of the competition due to the size of the entry list.

With categories ranging from 35+ to 70+, the event was a great success with several Scottish players picking up singles and doubles titles.

The event, an ITF Masters MT400, had been upgraded from 2022 due to the number of entries and level of players coming to take part, attracting more than 280 competitors from 12 nations, an increase from 200 competitors in 2022.



## **Senior Four Nations**

### An action-packed weekend of Senior Home Nations tennis saw England edge out Scotland on the final day to take the trophy south.

However, the Scotland 60+ men's team of Ronnie Terras, Mike Aitken, Gerard Kelly, and Ian Campbell, and 60+ women's team of Nicky Henderson, Rosie Dennis, Jane Russell, and Daphne Hill emerged victorious in their categories.

Final Standings:

- England 21 points
- Scotland 17
- =3. Ireland 11
- =3. Wales 11



## **Finance Report** For the year ended 31 December 2023

Turnover for the year was £3,240,054 compared to £3,125,261 in the prior year, an increase of £114,793. This uplift in income reflects the increased activity for 2023 and the increased income from the LTA for funding following the investment made by Tennis Scotland in recruiting new staff and continuing to build on strengthening the staff team to achieve our ambitions. Other income was up on the previous year due to activity in workforce for coach education and also increased competitions activities during 2023.

The four-year funding agreements with **sport**scotland and the LTA continue, which secures funding at comparable levels until March 2026. The GB National Academy in Stirling will cease to operate as from 31 July 2024. To continue delivery of performance tennis in Scotland, Tennis Scotland has secured new funding for five years from the LTA to introduce a Scottish National Player Pathway programme commencing 1 August 2024.

Expenditure has increased by £77,697 from £3,162,786 in the prior year to £3,240,483. This reflects the increase in spend in staffing costs following investment in this area and competitions costs as mentioned above, these increases being partially compensated by a slight decrease in GB National Tennis Academy costs.

The balance sheet at 31 December 2023 shows a stable position with reserves of £474,796. Cash at bank is £773,423 compared to £732,800 in prior year. Cashflow being monitored and controlled throughout the year and increase in cash in the year reflecting the year end surplus and movement in working capital at the year end.



# 2022 TURNOVER

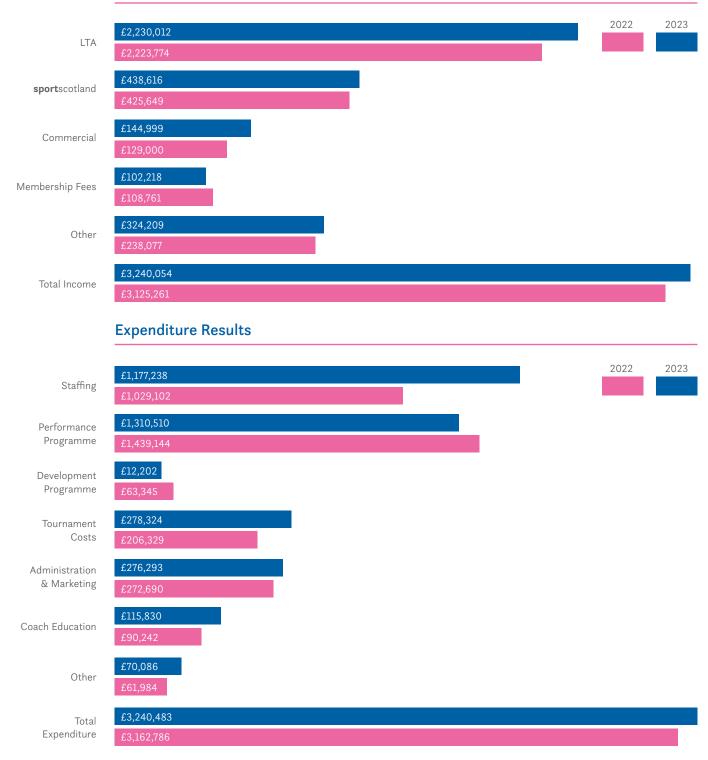
Overall, the Tennis Scotland accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 show a surplus of £3,892 compared to a prior year loss of £37,301. This surplus has been added to the broughtforward reserves of the company. The company has worked hard to achieve this financial position for the year by managing costs and income on an ongoing basis. This has been achieved through cashflow management, efficiencies, and close budgetary controls.

The Board, in considering the reserves of the company, are satisfied there are sufficient reserves and secured future funding in place through the continued support of multi-year grants from the LTA and **sport**scotland to allow Tennis Scotland to continue operating for the foreseeable future. The Board and executive are continuously and carefully managing the business.

Copies of the profit and loss account and balance sheet as extracted from the audited accounts are included within this report. The full set of Tennis Scotland financial statements are available publicly from Companies House.

## **Finance Analysis** For the year ended 31 December 2023

### Income Results



## **Profit and Loss Account**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	3,240,054	3,125,261
Competition costs	(389,144)	(322,665)
Tennis costs	(2,240,727)	(2,292,166)
Administrative and marketing expenses	(610,612)	(547,955)
Other operating income	-	-
Operating (loss)/profit	(429)	(37,525)
Interest receivable and similar income	4,321	224
Profit/(Loss) before taxation	3,892	(37,301)
Taxation	-	-
Profit/(Loss) for the financial year	3,892	(37,301)

## Statement of Financial Position

## For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	_	43,011	-	60,355
Current assets				
Debtors	134,340		339,004	
Cash at bank and in hand	773,423		732,800	
	907,763		1,071,804	_
Creditors: amounts falling due within one Year	(475,978)		(661,255)	
Net current assets	_	431,785	-	410,549
Total assets less current liabilities	_	474,796	-	470,904
Capital and reserve				
Profit and loss reserves	-	474,796	-	470,904

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 25 March 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

Man 1

B Dodds (Chief Executive) Director

G Watson (Chair) Director

## Tennis Scotland Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award Ken Revie

Volunteer of the Year Teresa Tait

Rising Star Euan Donegan

Development Coach of the Year Alessia Palmieri

Performance Coach of the Year Joe Gill

Club of the Year Abercorn LTC Communities and Park Promoting Inclusion Through Sport

Official of the Year Lucy Davies

School of the Year Dollar Academy

University of the Year University of St Andrews

Tennis for All Accessible Tennis CIC

Competition of the Year East Lothian Open

> Ali Collins International Player of the Year

Senior Veteran Player of the Year Sarah McFadyen

Junior Player of the Year Charlie Robertson

Senior Player of the Year Jacob Fearnley

International Player of the Year Ali Collins

Team of the Year Prestwick Academy Girls' Team

