

LTA NOMINATIONS FOR WILD CARDS INTO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON AND ALLOCATION OF WILD CARDS INTO THE LTA'S MAJOR GRASS COURT EVENTS FOR 2026

This policy sets out the basis on which the LTA will make recommendations for Wild Cards into The Championships, Wimbledon (hereafter referred to as 'The Championships'), including the Qualifying and Play-off events and how the LTA will allocate Wild Cards for the LTA's Major Grass Court events.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON

1. THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON

All Wild Card decisions for The Championships Main Draw and Qualifying are made by the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Limited (the AELTC). However, the LTA, as the National Governing Body, are invited by the AELTC to make recommendations based on their knowledge of the British players.

Decisions on nominations for The Championships will be made by a panel consisting of the LTA Performance Director, the Head of Men's Tennis, and the Head of Women's Tennis (the LTA Panel) after consultation with the Men's Tennis Team and Women's Tennis Team respectively. The LTA Panel will meet to discuss and agree the LTA's recommendations shortly before the date of the AELTC Wild Card Committee. The recommendations of the LTA Panel will be considered by the AELTC Wild Card Committee at The Championships Wild Card selection meeting.

1.1 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S MAIN DRAW AND QUALIFYING SINGLES

The LTA Panel will recommend to the AELTC a list of players to be considered for either a Main Draw or Qualifying place. The LTA will not necessarily use a ranking threshold when submitting their recommendations to the AELTC. The criteria used to determine who will be recommended for a Wild Card are explained in Section 1.4 below. Please note that the AELTC may not allocate all the available Wild Cards and may allocate Wild Cards to international players.

1.2. WILD CARD PLAY-OFFS

Normally, singles players not included in the recommendations to the AELTC for Main Draw or Qualifying wildcards will be able to compete in a 16 draw Playoff event held at Aorangi Park, Wimbledon, on Thursday & Friday the week prior to the qualifying event. The two finalists, from both the Men's draw and the Women's draw, will be awarded Wild Cards into the Wimbledon Qualifying tournament. Three Wild Cards are available into the Men's and six Wild Cards are available into the Women's Play-off events and these will be allocated by the LTA's Men's and Women's Teams. How these Wild Cards will be allocated will be outlined in the Wild Card Play-off factsheet when it is published (and will be linked from this policy).

1.3. DOUBLES

The LTA Panel will also recommend to the AELTC a list of doubles players to be considered for a Doubles Main Draw Wild Card. The criteria used to determine who will be recommended for a Wild Card are also explained in Section 1.4 below.

1.4. CRITERIA FOR WILD CARD RECOMMENDATION INTO THE MAIN DRAW, QUALIFYING AND DOUBLES EVENTS OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

When selecting which players / teams will be recommended, the LTA Panel will consider the following criteria (in no particular order):

Previous top 100 singles / representing GB: Players who have been selected for Billie Jean King Cup or Davis Cup in the last 12 months and been top 100 singles WTA/ATP ranked in the last 6 months (working back from the date of the start of the championships)

Emerging Players: Emerging players who are on an upward ranking trajectory towards achieving a direct acceptance into the Main Draw or Qualifying of the Championships (or other Grand Slams)

Ranking:

- a) Singles: The ATP/WTA rankings of players (normally top 250 ATP / WTA singles ranking will be most relevant) *
- b) Doubles: The combined singles / doubles ranking of a team will be taken into account when making nominations, along with the following:
 - Top 100 singles player playing with a British partner (using either singles or doubles ranking) that gives the team a combined ranking inside the top 200;
 - A team with a combined ranking of 300 or higher using either their singles or doubles ranking. For players using their singles ranking, they must demonstrate a commitment to playing doubles throughout the season, by normally playing doubles in a minimum of 25% of events where they have played singles*. Please note, the LTA Panel may choose to cap the number of nominations from these criteria, to allow for additional nominations from the development opportunities criteria;

and

then:

- We may consider nominating British players playing with a regular international partner (normally a minimum of 5 events together in 2026) with a combined ranking of top 200 ATP or WTA

**Players with a protected ranking will have their results from the past three months taken into consideration*

*** 25% of events is within the current WTA / ATP / ITF ranking period, unless there is a clear reason why this hasn't been possible (for example but not limited to ranking to gain entry, scheduling conflict or returning from injury)*

Recent results: The quality of recent results in ATP/WTA or ITF Men's or Women's events will be considered as well as the 2026 Grass Court season. As a guide, results from the last three months will be the most relevant.

Development opportunities: Younger players who will gain a particular benefit from playing in The Championships. Consideration will be given to the following for singles:

- ATP / WTA ranking / ranking progression;
- ITF Junior ranking and performances at Junior Grand Slams
- NCAA singles ranking and results

And consideration for doubles will be based on the above, plus:

- NCAA doubles rankings and results of players who have graduated in the past 1-2 years
- British players who win a Junior Grand Slam doubles title

Previous Wild Cards: A player's Wild Card history, including both the number of Wild Cards and the quality of performances may be considered.

Additional points for consideration: Criteria, that are the same for recommendations for The Championships and nominations for the LTA's Major Events, are outlined in appendix 1.

LTA MAJOR GRASS COURT EVENTS

2. LTA MAJOR GRASS COURT EVENTS

For the LTA's Major Events the LTA Men's Tennis and Women's Tennis teams will allocate Wild Cards. For clarity, the LTA's Major Events begin the week commencing the 2nd June (Birmingham) and conclude the week commencing 23rd June (Eastbourne). Wild Card decisions will be made and communicated in the week preceding each event. Where possible reasonable notice will be given, but the Men's and Women's Tennis teams may hold on confirming their decisions up until the Qualifying sign in (or the Main Draw sign in for doubles) to see relevant results and / or the actual cut.

2.1 CRITERIA FOR WILD CARD ALLOCATION FOR LTA MAJOR EVENTS (SINGLES AND DOUBLES)

When selecting which players / teams will be nominated for Wild Cards, the LTA's Men's and Women's Tennis teams will consider the following criteria (in no particular order):

Previous top 100 / representing GB: Players who have been selected for Bille Jean King Cup or Davis Cup in the last 12 months and been top 100 singles WTA/ATP ranked in the last 6 months (working back from the date of the start of the championships).

Emerging Players: Emerging players who are on an upward ranking trajectory towards achieving a direct acceptance into the Main Draw or Qualifying of the Championships (or other Grand Slams)

Ranking:

- c) Singles: The ATP/WTA rankings of players (normally top 250 ATP / WTA singles ranking will be most relevant) *
- d) Doubles: The combined singles / doubles ranking of a team will be taken into account when making nominations, along with the following:
 - o Top 100 singles player playing with a British partner (using either singles or doubles ranking) that gives the team a combined ranking inside the top 200;
 - o A team with a combined ranking of 300 or higher using either their singles or doubles ranking. For players using their singles ranking, they must demonstrate a commitment to playing doubles throughout the season, by normally playing doubles in a minimum of 25% of events where they have played singles*. Please note, the LTA Panel may choose to cap the number of nominations from these criteria, to allow for additional nominations from the development opportunities criteria.

**Players with a protected ranking will have their results from the past three months taken into consideration*

*** 25% of events is within the current WTA / ATP / ITF ranking period, unless there is a clear reason why this hasn't been possible (for example but not limited to ranking to gain entry, scheduling conflict or returning from injury)*

Recent results: The quality of recent results in ATP/WTA or ITF Men's or Women's events will be considered as well as the 2026 Grass Court season. As a guide, results from the last three months will be the most relevant.

Development opportunities: Younger players who will gain a particular benefit from playing in The LTA Major Event. Consideration will be given to the following for singles:

- ATP / WTA ranking / ranking progression;
- ITF Junior ranking and performances at Junior Grand Slams
- NCAA singles ranking and results

And consideration for doubles will be based on the above, plus:

- NCAA doubles rankings and results of players who have graduated in the past 1-2 years
- British players who win a Junior Grand Slam doubles title

Additional points for consideration: Criteria, that are the same for recommendations for The Championships and nominations for the LTA's Major Events, are outlined in appendix 1.

5. JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

As well as the above factors, junior players are also required to play in the Lexus Junior National Championships (unless exempt or there are exceptional circumstances as to why it is not possible to do so) to be eligible for LTA Major Events wildcards or wildcard nominations to The Championships

6. RECORDING OF WILD CARD RECOMMENDATIONS

The LTA will maintain records of the Wild Card recommendations that it makes.

7. AMENDMENTS TO THIS POLICY

The LTA may amend this Policy from time to time. Any amended Policy shall be published on the LTA website.

APPENDIX 1:

In addition to the criteria outlined at 1.4 for The Championships and 2.1 for LTA Major Events, the following criteria are additional points for consideration when nominating wild card recommendations to the AELTC or for allocation to LTA Major Events:

- (i) **Representing Great Britain:** Consideration will be given as to whether the player is eligible and has consistently made themselves available, to play for Great Britain in the Davis Cup / Billie Jean King Cup events.
- (ii) **Conduct and Professional commitment:** The conduct of the player may be taken into consideration, including if the player has been in breach of any LTA rules, regulations or codes of conduct or those of the ATP/WTA/ITF Tour or The Championships. In addition, the LTA will take into account the player's demonstration of levels of commitment, professionalism and dedication towards their tennis and operating standards throughout the whole preceding year.
- (iii) **Medical fitness:** The player's medical fitness to perform at their best at The Championships and LTA Major Events will be considered.
- (iv) **Recent injury or illness:** Consideration will be given to cases where a player has suffered from injury, illness or exceptional circumstances which may have prevented them from achieving a high enough ranking or results to warrant consideration.