

# Annual Report

# 2024



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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

<mark>sport</mark>scotland Observer Alison Lunn

adida.

LTA Observer Oliver Scadgell

# Chair's Welcome

**Graham Watson** Chair, Tennis Scotland

> As we look back on another year of strong growth for tennis in Scotland, I am delighted to introduce our Annual Report for 2024.

It was a landmark year in many ways for Scottish tennis, from the development of new facilities to increasing participation at grassroots level and the retirement of the greatest player this nation has ever produced.

Following the opening of the new six-court Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre at Heriot-Watt University at the end of 2023, I was delighted to see the completion of another indoor facility in the shape of the fourcourt complex at Moray Sports Centre. Having overcome delays as a result of the pandemic and rising construction costs, the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis programme is now in full flow and we look forward to a third centre opening in Dumfries & Galloway in the months ahead.

Participation growth has been a key success story of 2024. I was delighted to see more adults and children playing and, in particular, more women and girls. Organisations such as Achieve More Scotland, which won a Tennis Scotland Award and then an LTA Award in 2024, are so important to driving participation, delivering the LTA SERVES programme in underserved communities throughout Glasgow and North Lanarkshire.



The wider tennis world said 'hello' to Jacob Fearnley from Edinburgh a very talented young man with a big future ahead. It was a year of great significance for Scotland at the highest levels of the sport as Sir Andy Murray confirmed his retirement following a fifth appearance at the Olympics. We joined in the wave of celebration that spread around the country as we looked back on his incredible achievements. However, as he said farewell, the wider tennis world said 'hello' to Jacob Fearnley from Edinburgh - a very talented young man with a big future ahead.

Gordon Reid also continued to win at the highest level, adding three more Grand Slams and another Paralympics Gold medal to his account during another phenomenal year, while Charlie Robertson gave us a glimpse of his potential by reaching the semi-finals of the boys' US Open.

Padel's growth continued at pace, with a number of new facilities opening around the country and the sport being showcased at the Scottish Cup Finals.

My thanks as ever to my Board colleagues, and the staff at Tennis Scotland, for their dedication and professionalism. Our sport's incredible growth is a testament to their vision and hard work. I also remain grateful to the LTA and **sport**scotland, as our principal funding partners, for their continued support.

# **CEO** Introduction

Blane Dodds CEO, Tennis Scotland

It's with great pleasure that I present our Annual Report for 2024 as we reflect on a period of unprecedented growth in Scottish tennis and once again celebrate record high club membership of 81,428.

On top of that, participation levels increased by almost 11% in 2024, which means that not only are more people playing tennis across Scotland, but they are playing it more regularly. We are seeing growth among adults and children, especially amongst women and girls, where there was a 27% increase in participation.

As more people play, we continue to see investment in facilities with a third centre now underway as part of the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis project and 160 park courts around the country completely refurbished. This work cannot be done in isolation and we thank our partners including the LTA and **sport**scotland and our valued commercial partners for their support and investment in Scottish tennis.

It was also a year when we showcased our sport to wider audiences. Domestic competitive tennis was screened around the UK after we agreed a deal with BBC Scotland to broadcast the Tennis Scotland Open Tour Finals. Viewing figures beat all expectations and audiences were treated to a terrific men's final as two of our young players in Ewen Lumsden and Hamish Stewart went head-to-head over three gripping sets. The support of our key partner for the TS Open Tour is paying dividends and is much appreciated.

There was also a significant moment for one of our most prestigious events when the Scottish Inter-Club Challenge Cup celebrated 100 years of women's competition. We took the opportunity to honour some of those who have contributed so much to women's tennis in Scotland, not least the inspirational Marjory Love who became world number one in 2024 at the age of 74 in her ITF Masters Tour age group.

We're also now hosting more international events than ever and, earlier in the year, we were delighted to welcome the return of the ATP Challenger Tour to Glasgow for the first time since 2019. Big crowds came out to support the players all week and were celebrating when Scott Duncan won the doubles title on home soil.

> It was fitting that we endured and enjoyed one last Murray rollercoaster as he and Dan Evans saved multiple match points en route to the quarter-finals. Sir Andy's achievements are extraordinary and the tributes were suitably emotional.

As Wimbledon came and then the Olympics, it was time to bid farewell to Sir Andy Murray as his incredible career came to an end. It was fitting that we endured and enjoyed one last Murray rollercoaster as he and Dan Evans saved multiple match points en route to the quarter-finals. Sir Andy's achievements are extraordinary and the tributes were suitably emotional.

With his retirement came the emergence of Jacob Fearnley onto the international stage as he started to fulfil the promise many people at Tennis Scotland first saw a long time ago. Jacob's journey through the US college system has prepared him well for life on tour and we will be supporting him throughout the years ahead. Gordon Reid continued to break records, adding three Grand Slams and Paralympic Gold in a clean sweep of the big wheelchair doubles titles, and he continues to inspire so many.

This remains an incredibly exciting time to be involved in Scottish tennis and Padel and there is much to look forward to, whether it's new facilities in the pipeline, the continued strengthening of our competitions calendar or on the court itself where many of our players are thriving.

I would like to thank everyone across the tennis community for their hard work and dedication in growing our game. Our partners and sponsors remain valued and vital to our work and will help us achieve our ambitious targets in the months and years ahead.



#### WORKFORCE

**596** LTA accredited coaches (including Padel) and officials 341 candidates gualified from coaching courses

13 females completed LTA Coach engagement score of 79% Instructor core training



### **COMPETITIONS & EVENTS**

**17,146** adult & junior players competed in at least 1 match

1467 events held from Grades 4–6 including Youth Matchplay, Local Tour and One Day



PERFORMANCE

18 players met criteria

**Development Centres** 

the LTA

for Regional Performance

20 players invited to National

Age Group Activity organised by



1 ATP Challenger and 3 ITF World Tennis Tour events delivered

**164** players aged 10U played at least 40 matches

**3** Grand Slams and a **Paralympic** 

**Gold** medal won by Gordon Reid

6 medals won by Scots

at the Virtus World Tennis

Championship for players with an intellectual impairment

FACILITIES

**38** park renovation projects completed comprising of 160 courts

3 Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis projects now complete or under construction

open in Scotland

**39** Padel courts now



### PARTICIPATION

2951 players in the LTA SERVES programme

406 players in the Open Court programme

2206 teachers trained on LTA Youth Schools

115 venues accessible on LTA Play Tennis

682 players in the Prime Video LTA Youth Girls programme



**Tennis Opened Up:** 

How We're Doing

CORPORATE

67 safeguarding support visits completed

**Compliant** with LTA Safeguarding Standards at all registered venues

**4** Youth Welfare Ambassadors appointed

#### **Diversified and increased** commercial and sponsorship income

**2** Tennis Scotland Ambassadors — Maia Lumsden and Sam Macneil — raised the profile of tennis and Padel in Scotland



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

# Facility Development

Our ambition in facilities continues to focus on growing the game by protecting and enhancing tennis and Padel facilities throughout the country.

It was an exciting year for facilities development, with many projects completed around the country, benefiting thousands of tennis and Padel players.

More park courts were completely transformed and reopened to the public, improvements took place at a host of clubs, new Padel courts were opened and, as two new indoor tennis centres opened their doors, work began on another similar facility in Dumfries & Galloway.

Facilities priorities continue to be formed using criteria including national, regional and local environments, mindful of existing provision and the demand for tennis. We work closely with 'enablers' — people, places and partners — to collaboratively invest in developing the right facilities in the right places.

### **KEY PRIORITIES**



INCREASE THE NUMBER OF INDOOR/COVERED TENNIS COURTS



More Padel Courts



IMPROVED AND SUSTAINABLE PARK TENNIS COURTS



MORE FLOODLIT COURTS



SMARTGATE ACCESS SYSTEMS AND DIGITAL IMPROVEMENTS



ALL-WEATHER SURFACES



OPERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AT VENUES





# The Grange Club

The Grange Club is one of the most historic sports clubs in Scotland, with its origins dating back to 1832, well before the invention of modern tennis. The club comprises Grange Dyvours LTC, formed in 1883, as well as cricket, hockey, squash and now Padel sections. Including juniors, it now boasts more than 1,000 members and actually previously had indoor tennis back in the late 19th century.

Also home to grass courts as well as allweather outdoor tennis courts, the club had considered various options over the years to become a truly year-round tennis facility.

The LTA Quick Access Loan scheme was the perfect catalyst for this project, allowing the club to put together a viable business case for the fantastic new facilities.

Being situated in a conservation area of Edinburgh meant a complicated and lengthy design and planning stage lasting around two-and-a-half years, with constraints including a historic line of trees and Victorian sewers.

The structures were kept as simple as possible to manage costs, while also ensuring the sporting facilities were best in class, such as a cushioned acrylic surface within the airdome.

After planning permission was achieved, a combination of club reserves, members' donations and loans, and an LTA Foundation Quick Access Loan provided the funds required to get to work. Ground was broken in May 2024 and the project completed at the end of the year. PADEL MEMBERSHIP HAS RISEN TO



#### CASE STUDY

Get involved www.thegrangeclub.com

#### Success

2 floodlit airdome-covered tennis courts, 2 floodlight canopy-covered Padel courts & Smartgate access management



Feedback since the new facilities opened has been overwhelmingly positive. The growth of Padel has been exponential with huge demand — membership quickly rising to 300 and a lengthy waiting list now formed. The Grange Padel Academy has also been established to provide coaching for new players.

Tennis remains the largest constituent section of the club. With the arrival of the indoor courts, membership has grown at twice the normal rate, the ability to play indoors proving extremely popular. Being the only club in north Edinburgh with payto-play indoor courts, members of other clubs have also been enjoying the facilities, while strong links have been established with Broughton High School and children who require additional support for learning.



# **Dumbarton Tennis Club**

**Dumbarton Tennis Club** 

CASE STUDY

Get involved clubspark.lta.org.uk/DumbartonTC

> Success Court resurfacing and new floodlights

A further £40,000 was then secured through the local authority and the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme. As a result, the lighting was installed in May 2024 with the courts completed the following month.

As part of the project, the courts were opened to non-members and the club was renamed Dumbarton Tennis Club. During the year, membership increased by 38% — soaring to 70% in junior sections. Attendances at junior coaching also increased by 63%.

The new facilities have also seen an increase in adult participation, both by driving new memberships, and through encouraging existing members to play more. Utilising floodlights, autumn and winter Box Leagues have been introduced, while club champions were crowned in a record six categories. They also entered a record number of teams into the West of Scotland leagues.

#### CASE STUDY

# Kilmarnock Tennis Club

Kilmarnock Tennis Club saw an upsurge in membership, coaching and general participation in the period after the pandemic in 2020 — so decided to expand their facilities and provide a pay-and-play option.

They worked with East Ayrshire Council to complete a community asset transfer of a derelict bowling club in Howard Park in the centre of town and engaged with Advantage Sports Consultancy to develop a feasibility study, supported by Tennis Scotland.

Two new floodlit tennis courts, a floodlit Padel court and a Pickleball court opened in August 2024, made possible thanks to funding from the Scottish Power Renewable Energy Fund, East Ayrshire Place-Based Investment Programme, **sport**scotland, EB Scotland and an interest-free loan from the LTA.

The venue is self-managed, with bookings and payments made through ClubSpark. Players enter the Smartgate by using a one-time code generated by the booking system. The floodlights are configured to switch on and off as bookings start and end, depending on the time of year, while equipment is available from a locked box on site.

The Howard Park site has proved to be a tremendous success with 1,270 hours of court bookings in the first three months since opening.

Padel participation, in particular, has proved higher than expected. More than 90% of Padel and Pickleball bookings have come from non-members, demonstrating the potential reach of a park venue. The expanded facilities and central location have also allowed the club to increase engagement with local schools and community groups.

#### Get involved

clubspark.lta.org.uk/ KilmarnockTennisClub

#### Success

Club extension by converting derelict bowling green to add 2 floodlit tennis courts, a floodlit Padel court, a Pickleball court & Smartgate access management

(previously known as Kirktonhill Tennis Club) was established in 1889 As the only remaining tennis club in West Dunbartonshire, it has played a vital role in providing local access to tennis

Recent years have been challenging for the club, with dated facilities, a lack of floodlighting, and courts reaching the end of their lifespan, hampering abilities to effectively promote the sport. With fresh investment badly needed, the club embarked on a plan which would see three new courts laid and floodlighting installed for the first time.

Planning began in spring 2023 with a desire to offer all-year-round play, with quality surfaces and lights, as well as wheelchair-accessible gates between courts, while overcoming the challenges of being situated in a residential area closely overlooked by neighbouring properties. Following extensive consultation with neighbours, a planning prospectus was developed and eventually approved in early 2024. However, the challenges did not end there, with fundraising required to meet the £110,000 cost. From a number of funding applications, three grants totalling £57,000 were secured.

Through the club's own efforts, which included a lottery, race nights, quiz nights and other fundraisers, along with crowdfunding and reserves, £13,000 was raised to ensure preliminary works could be carried out.



### **Newlands Lawn Tennis Club**

# Newlands Lawn Tennis Club has always had a policy of re-investing surplus funds in facility development, increasing membership and offering more sporting opportunities to a wider range of people.

The club has also widened its pool of volunteers, all of whom have designated jobs. The emphasis has been on very strong financial management and consistently maintaining facilities at the highest level, while still retaining a family ethos. CASE STUDY

Get involved clubspark.lta.org.uk/NewlandsLTC

2 new covered Padel courts

Membership has soared over the last 30 years from 400 to more than 1190 by carrying out the following developments:

#### **BUILDING A NEW CLUBHOUSE**

Demolishing the old clubhouse and building a new one with three squash courts.

#### **BUILDING A SQUASH CENTRE**

Agreeing a lease with Glasgow City Council to rent more land and building a squash centre and a gym at a cost of £750,000, with the help of a £340,000 grant from the National Lottery.

#### **BUILDING INDOOR COURTS**

Selling land for £1.2 million and investing over £2 million building indoor tennis courts with a viewing facility, storage and an extra fitness area. The funding was helped by an interest-free loan from the LTA of £210,000 and an LTA grant of £140,000.

#### **2 COVERED PADEL COURTS**

The construction of two covered Padel courts in 2024 at a cost of approximately £500,000. This was part-funded by an interest-free loan of £196,000 from the LTA Tennis Foundation. During this time, nearly 25 parttime and full-time jobs have been added at the club, allowing it to offer top-class tennis, squash, racketball and Padel coaching together with personal gym coaches.

Newlands Lawn Tennis Club is now one of the biggest clubs in Scotland with plans in the pipeline for future developments over the next few years, including re-surfacing of the outdoor tennis courts and upgrading changing rooms.



# Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis

Two indoor centres flourished in 2024 under the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis (TSIT) partnership between Tennis Scotland, the LTA and **sport**scotland.

#### **ORIAM INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE**

Play began at **Oriam Indoor Tennis Centre** at Heriot-Watt University just after Christmas 2023, before the tennis community came together for an official opening event in February 2024, attended by Sports Minister Maree Todd MSP.

A plaque marking the arrival of the £4.5m facility was unveiled by Ms Todd and Professor Richard A Williams, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Heriot-Watt University.

To mark the occasion, a group of around 100 boys and girls from local primary schools were invited to a fun-filled morning of tennis activities under the expert tutelage of Oriam's Tennis Manager, Danny Curtis. They were joined by representatives from partner organisations and guests involved in the ambitious project.

#### **MORAY SPORTS CENTRE**

Then, in July 2024, a new £1.63m four-court indoor tennis centre opened at **Moray Sports Centre** in Elgin, providing a vital and popular addition to the sporting infrastructure in the region and beyond.



#### KING GEORGE V SPORT COMPLEX

Further exciting news was announced in September 2024 when it was confirmed that a £2.3m three-court indoor centre would be built at the **King George V Sport Complex** in Dumfries & Galloway.

Ground was broken a few months later and the tennis centre is scheduled to open its doors in 2025, providing a vital base for the sport for Dumfries & Galloway and the many rural communities in the area.

A number of other projects are being examined with a range of partners across Scotland

# **Parks Tennis**

Under a nationwide investment by the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation, supported by Tennis Scotland, public tennis courts have been refurbished around the country at a cost of more than £2.5m, opening up the sport to many more people. More than 160 courts across Scotland have been transformed and reopened to the public — bringing back existing courts that were left in poor or unplayable condition.

Public tennis courts are where many people get their first taste of the game and often see higher participation rates amongst women and girls and players from disadvantaged communities.

# **Bellfield Park, Inverness**

Dangerous worn polymeric surfaces were replaced by 8 full-size and 2 mini courts using macadam acrylic. Smartgate access management was also installed and bookings now take place through ClubSpark. The next stage of works at Bellfield Park will see floodlights installed to increase the number of hours the courts can be used.

The park is now thriving, offering payto-pay tennis, free sessions, coaching programmes, competitions including leagues and social events.



#### CASE STUDY

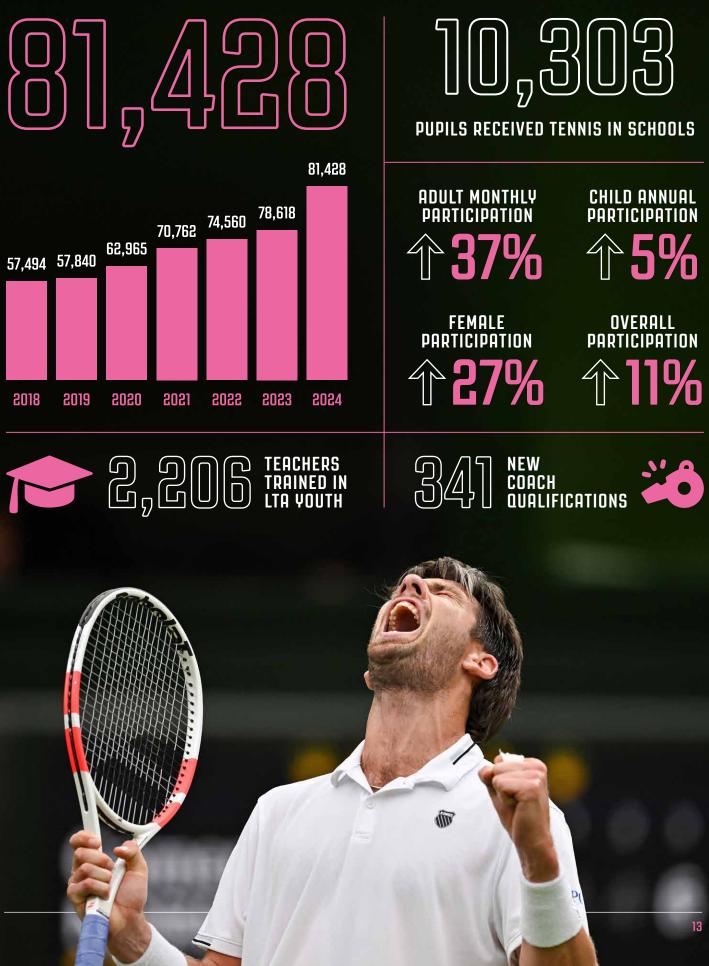
Get involved clubspark.lta.org.uk/BellfieldPark

#### Succes

Resurfacing of 8 full-size and 2 mini courts, with Smartgate access management and ClubSpark booking.

# Participation

**CLUB MEMBERSHIP** 



# <u>Communi</u>ty



Tennis Scotland is addressing the lack of tennis access in some of Scotland's most underserved communities by actively growing the LTA SERVES programme.

# **LTA SERVES** Transforming Lives Through Tennis in Scotland

By collaborating with leading local organisations, we're working to improve the health, wellbeing and inclusivity of individuals across the nation, working towards a more equitable Scotland.

In 2021, fewer than 20 LTA SERVES venues were available in Scotland. By the end of 2024, Tennis Scotland is proud to support 60 LTA SERVES programmes in partnership with community organisations nationwide. From Aberdeen to Ayr and Glasgow to Golspie, hundreds of young people are discovering the joy of tennis, thanks to Tennis Scotland's efforts.

Each LTA SERVES partner organisation receives ongoing support from Tennis Scotland, including £500 worth of tennis equipment, Tennis Activator training, and access to a variety of social impact tools that measure and amplify the positive effects of tennis on the lives of young people. Several LTA SERVES partners have expanded their programmes to become key tennis providers in their communities. The Russell Anderson Foundation, for example, now operates tennis programmes at six venues in Aberdeen, supported by a growing team of tennis activators, some of whom have achieved Levels 1 & 2 coaching qualifications.

Sport Aberdeen has also joined the LTA SERVES network, adding sessions at five venues in Northfield. Together, these organisations have significantly increased opportunities for young people from all backgrounds in Aberdeen.

One success story includes a Level 2 coach from the Russell Anderson Foundation who was selected for a Tennis Scotland Apprenticeship. Meanwhile, Achieve More Scotland were double award winners in 2024, winning the Connecting Communities Award at the Tennis Scotland Awards and going on to win an LTA Award as well. Achieve More Scotland has now expanded its operations, delivering tennis across 14 venues in Glasgow and North Lanarkshire. Looking ahead to 2025, Tennis Scotland aims to expand the reach of LTA SERVES across the country. Additionally, we are committed to connecting participants with public tennis courts, ensuring that tennis becomes a regular and integral part of their lives.

### LTA SERVES IN NUMBERS

#### PARTICIPANTS



# ACTIVATORS

### **VENUES IN SCOTLAND**



#### **READ MORE:**

Achieve More Scotland using tennis to make a positive difference to children's wellbeing

# Communitu



#### SUCCESS STORIES

- Tennis Scotland helped Achieve More Scotland to secure an LTA Tennis Foundation fundraising grant, allowing them to appoint a part-time Tennis Co-ordinator who works to make tennis more accessible to low-income communities in Glasgow.
- We're working with the Russell Anderson Foundation to develop funding applications to expand and grow in Aberdeen.
- Both organisations have now helped a number of young community Tennis Activators towards achieving Levels 1 and 2 coaching qualifications, directly supported by Tennis Scotland.

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

• Our priority is to identify similar opportunities in Edinburgh, Dundee & Elgin in 2025, with emphasis on linking LTA SERVES activity to newly improved community tennis facilities.



# Inclusion

2024 was another great year for inclusive tennis in Scotland. Continued growth was achieved across all projects, demonstrating the incredible steps being taken to ensure more people can access our sport than ever before.

Utilising the LTA's **Open Court** initiative, there was a 43% increase in monthly participation from players with disabilities across the summer compared with the previous year.

Tennis Scotland is reaching record numbers of regular players with disabilities, which is testament to the many fantastic coaches and volunteers we're supporting.

Our Disability Activator training saw a total of 70 volunteers given the skills needed to assist coaches in delivering sessions for players with disabilities. This has helped clubs move towards total inclusion and driven participation, particularly in rural settings.



Continuing our journey of introducing more girls to sport, the **LTA Amazon Prime Youth Girls** programme returned to Scotland for 2024. With the help of 16 incredible coaches, we introduced 440 new players to the sport — 125 more than 2023 and exceeding the target for Scotland by 19%.

Tennis Scotland continued to link with **Pride in Tennis** and **LEAP sports** to expand the network of LGBTQ+ inclusive tennis spaces in Scotland. The Weegie Whackers in Glasgow celebrated their first birthday with membership numbers continuing to grow and new sessions introduced for women and non-binary players, while the Dundee Deuces became a formalised club and enjoyed a year of growth. Plans are in place to activate an LGBTQ+ venue in Aberdeen in 2025. CASE STUDY

# **Suncourt Care Home**

Brian Knox and Graham English headed into Suncourt Care Home in Troon in June 2024 to deliver tennis sessions supported by the Open Court initiative as well as the Tennis Scotland Disability Activator course.

The coaches from Troon Tennis Club have since continued to deliver fun and engaging sessions at the care home after receiving positive feedback from participants and staff.

CASE STUDY

# East Dunbartonshire Disability Tennis Festival

More than 40 adults and young people with disabilities got on court for tennis activity at Nuffield Health Milngavie under a partnership between The Sporting Aces, East Dunbartonshire Active Schools, Badowie TC, Thorn Park LTC and Lenzie TC.

Venues linked together to provide training for volunteers and coaches to become Disability Activators, working towards developing a workforce with disabilities themselves or experience in the field.

# **Tennis Black List**

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CASE STUDY

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Inclusion

The Tennis Black List Awards returned for their second year in 2024. Hosted at the National Tennis Centre in London, the event celebrated the achievements of tennis role models from black and mixed heritage backgrounds.

There were two winners of awards from Scotland with Hephzibah Oluwadare taking the award for Rising Star and Leonard Ogbonna being named Game Changer in the Community for the incredible work he does at Kelvingrove Park in Glasgow.

#### **READ MORE:**

Black History Month: Meet the tennis game changer with an award to prove it



# LTA Amazon Prime Youth Girls

# Vikki Paterson was a huge contributor to this project in 2024 across five venues in Aberdeenshire.

Running sessions across a wide range of age groups, Vikki saw 56 players get involved this year with high retention rates and continued participation. Additionally, her programme created matchplay outlets aimed at getting females competing.

On top of this, the programme was linked to school participation, encouraging as many young players as possible to access tennis.



**READ MORE:** Scottish Women & Girls In Sport Week 2024: The ex-football referee who's inspiring girls into tennis



# **SDS Parasport Festivals**

In March 2024 as part of a pilot initiative, Tennis Scotland supported coaches delivering tennis for players at Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) Parasport Festivals in Glasgow and Stirling.

James Reid from Strathgryffe Tennis Club and Hannah Pickford from Strathblane Tennis Club attended the festivals, giving a taste of tennis to participants with a wide range of disabilities.

One of our most inspiring moments of the festivals was meeting Matilda Campbell (pictured above), who proved categorically there really is no barrier to sport that cannot be overcome when she took part in tennis activity in Glasgow.

# **Educational Activities**

# **Education**

# **Universities**

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

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 each university.

Tennis participation continues to rise within the sector with more than 1500 students participating in the sport as part of their university tennis clubs in 2024.



#### EACH UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP AIMS TO DEVELOP TENNIS ACROSS THESE KEY AREAS:

#### PARTICIPATION

- University tennis clubs
- Coaching programmes for studentsSocial and matchplay sessions for
- students to play tennis

#### COMPETITION

- Internal competition such as club championships and box leagues
- Team tennis opportunities through British University and College Sport (BUCS)
- External competitive opportunities through Tennis Scotland events

#### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Access to free LTA University Activator Course to help students develop basic tennis activity sessions for their club
- Access to free LTA Park Activator Course to help students develop park tennis activity sessions.
- Free spaces on LTA Referee Course
- Access to student-only LTA coach education courses

#### TIER 3

University of Stirling

#### TIER 2

- University of Glasgow
- University of Edinburgh
- University of St Andrews
- University of Aberdeen
- Heriot-Watt University

#### TIER 1

- University of Strathclyde
- Robert Gordon University
- University of Dundee

# Education

# **Schools**

By the end of 2024, Tennis Scotland had trained 2,206 teachers across 850 schools nationwide to deliver LTA Youth sessions. This is helping to introduce tennis to increasing numbers of young people across the country.

The Tennis Scotland Schools Roadshow took our sport directly into schools. Coaches from 30 registered venues visited 117 schools, engaging 10,303 pupils in tennis, sparking interest and excitement about the sport.

Meanwhile, the Tennis Scotland Participation Festivals and Competitions saw 20 local authorities host events in 2024. A total of 232 schools took part in these organised festivals or competitions. These events were hosted at 23 registered tennis venues, showcasing the vibrant community spirit that tennis brings.



#### LTA YOUTH SCHOOLS



**TOTAL TEACHERS TRAINED BY END OF 2024** 

#### **TENNIS SCOTLAND PARTICIPATION** FESTIVALS AND COMPETITIONS 2024



SCHOOLS TOOK PART

LOCAL **AUTHORITIES** RAN **EVENTS** 

**TENNIS SCOTLAND** SCHOOLS ROADSHOW 2024



**PUPILS RECEIVED TENNIS IN SCHOOL** 



VENUES DELIVERED A ROADSHOW

**SCHOOLS** WERE VISITED **BY COACHES** 



# **Club Support**

Tennis Scotland continues to support all tennis venues across a number of areas and, to enhance this, we developed a series of online club webinars on a variety of topics.

#### **THESE INCLUDED:**

- Tennis Scotland funding for school/club links
- Free support and grants to help your club slash energy costs and improve facilities
- Developing your workforce
- Growing your club competition programme
- Equality What does it mean? How do we do it?
- Transforming tennis in parks for local communities
- Electric vehicle chargers for tennis clubs
- Venue Registration 2025

These webinar sessions proved to be very successful with more than 150 attendees across all sessions. The club webinars will therefore return in 2025 to continue to provide tennis venues with ongoing support.

# **Business Energy Scotland**

In 2024 Tennis Scotland worked in partnership with Business Energy Scotland to provide free and impartial energysaving support and funding to interested tennis venues.

Business Energy Scotland are funded by the Scottish Government and provide interest-free loans and cashback grant funding to venues to help pay for energy and carbon-saving upgrades.

Through this partnership in 2024, funding of more than £300,000 has been given to tennis venues across Scotland to help with energy costs such as LED floodlights and boilers. This partnership will continue into 2025 with a plan to continue supporting tennis venues to become more sustainable.

# Workforce

It has been another highly successful year for Coach Education & Workforce Development.

### 341 candidates qualified from the following courses:

### LTA ASSISTANT (LEVEL 1) 249 candidates on 21 courses

#### LTA INSTRUCTOR (LEVEL 2)

66 candidates on 7 courses

### LTA COACH

(LEVEL 3) 18 candidates on 1 course

# PADEL INSTRUCTOR

8 candidates on 1 course **15 different venues** across Scotland were used to deliver these courses — from Aberdeen to Dumfries and Irvine to Elgin.

#### Learner satisfaction — 97% with 0% dissatisfaction.

9 'bespoke' Level 1 courses for underrepresented groups and rural areas in Scotland, including Achieve More Scotland (Glasgow), the Russell Anderson Foundation (Aberdeen), Irvine Community Club, Montrose Volunteers for Disability Project, and courses in West Lothian and Elgin.

#### We supported the following learners from under-represented groups through extra subsidy from **sport**scotland/LTA funding:

- 23 coaches with a disability or involved in delivering disability sessions in their venue.
- 15 coaches from very low-income post code households or involved in delivery to SIMD 1 areas in Scotland
- 10 ethnically diverse candidates
- 35 female Level 1 candidates and 19 female Level 2 candidates

**11 Leader/Activator courses** for underrepresented groups and rural areas for example we ran an LGBTQ+ Activator course in Glasgow and Leaders courses in Mull and for 2 LTA SERVES projects.

 150 volunteers and high school pupils attended these courses.

22 CPD courses in 11 different venues across Scotland so that all coaches had the opportunity to widen their knowledge. A total of 352 coaches attended these courses, ranging from Coaching Doubles to Psychology and Inclusion.



# Jack MacCauley

#### CASE STUDY

# Jack is from Tain and was very keen to develop his coaching skills and move quickly from Level 1 to Level 2.

Epilepsy means he is unable to use his right shoulder due to frequent seizures and has taught himself to play with his left hand so that he can continue to coach and play tennis. Jack was able to apply for funding to assist with costs to join the Level 2 course at Oriam tutored by Mhairi Beattie and Graeme Clarkson.

He took a role at Inverness Tennis and Sports Club and was mentored by Anne Erskine and Malcolm Macrae from the club who supported his progress as a coach. He has been taking regular adults and junior sessions and is very popular amongst the members. He was also supported through visits from Anna Myatt, our Workforce Manager, to ensure that he had the knowledge and experience needed to complete the course.

He achieved his qualification in 2024 and has recently taken on an additional role at Elgin Tennis Club, and also helps out with Moray District groups at the new indoor tennis centre at Moray Sports Centre in Elgin.

He is a great addition to the workforce in the Inverness/Moray area and will continue to develop and flourish in his new roles.

# **Craig McKay**

#### CASE STUDY

# Craig lives in Banchory and works as a full-time coach for the Russell Anderson Foundation in Aberdeen.

A graduate from the University of Dundee, he is now based in schools in the most deprived areas of Aberdeen, delivering sports sessions to pupils from nursery-P7 and small groups of children who are struggling in schools or have behavioural needs.

Craig completed his Level 1 qualification with six of his fellow coaches from the Russell Anderson Foundation in 2023 and was keen to continue his tennis coaching journey by taking the Instructor (Level 2) qualification in 2024. He completed the course in Aberdeen in July 2024 and is being mentored by coaches from Westburn Tennis Centre along with support from Tennis Scotland, who visit the charity frequently for CPD and support visits.

Once he has completed his qualification, Craig will be able to mentor other coaches from the Foundation and embed tennis even more into their current delivery and holiday camps provision.

# National Coaches' Conference

The Tennis Scotland National Coaches' Conference returned for the first time since the pandemic.

80 coaches attended the weekend at the University of Stirling under the theme of 'Coach to Competition'.

Speakers included Alan Macdonald, Merlin Van de Braam (LTA), the Tennis Scotland Performance & Competitions Teams and our Coach Consultant Kris Soutar

It was a great weekend of learning and networking for Scottish coaches.

# **Tutors Team**

We have a strong team of 8 tutors delivering all the CPD and qualification courses. The feedback on tutors has been consistently excellent and they are covering a wide geographical spread to ensure all groups and coaches have access to high-quality education.

# Workforce

### **Meet Our Apprentices**

Four Tennis Scotland Apprentices are working successfully in four very different venues across Scotland.



#### **Harrison Crann**

Harrison started playing tots tennis at Prestwick Tennis Centre and has kept playing ever since. He is now competing at county level and plays regularly while undergoing coaching at Prestwick. He is currently doing his Instructor course in Glasgow and hopes to do his Level 3 coaching course soon before looking to gain experience abroad.



#### **Chloe Skinner**

Chloe works in schools in some of the most deprived areas of Aberdeen with the Russell Anderson Foundation, helping primary children learn and develop their skills. Working alongside other coaches, she works with children from nursery age to P7, including those who are having difficulties in education. She is currently undertaking her Level 1 coaching qualification. Chloe is dyslexic and wants to help others who struggle with similar issues.





#### **Cameron McRobbie**

Cameron is based at Stirling and Dunblane tennis clubs, where he coaches players across a range of junior and adult levels. A keen tennis player, he applied to become an Apprentice to develop his coaching skills in different environments and learn all the aspects of being a Lead Coach. He is also involved in providing Parks Tennis at the recently refurbished Kings Park courts in Stirling. He is just completing his Level 3 Coaching course and wants to become a full-time coach, travelling the world to support high-level players.

#### **Gregor Mclver**

A Level 2 coach from Stonehaven, Gregor is based at Montrose TC and Westburn TC in Aberdeen. He started playing aged four and has been a member at Stonehaven for 14 years while also representing the North of Scotland. He eventually wants to coach national-level players but also finds club coaching extremely rewarding and fulfilling. Gregor is inspired by encouraging players to take up tennis, a sport he says has provided him with enjoyment for as long as he can remember.

# Performance

We continue to grow and evolve the Scottish National Player Pathway (SNPP) to help nurture Scottish players.

A new era for our performance programmes began in August 2024 following record £2.5 million investment from the LTA. The SNPP focuses on three development stages:

11U LOCALISED DELIVERY through the 9 districts supported by Tennis Scotland

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11—16 SCOTTISH PLAYER Development centre

Delivered by Tennis Scotland and linking into the wider LTA Regional Performance Development Centre (RPDC) network and supported by the **sport**scotland institute of sport



### 16+ TENNIS SCOTLAND NATIONAL PLAYER PROGRAMME

supported through a base coach and services from the **sport**scotland institute of sport

PARIS 2024

GREAT BRITAIN



# **Scottish Player Development Centre**

The SPDC extended its support to the best Scottish players aged up to 16 years. A total of 18 players were selected for the longlist, meaning they can access the SPDC/RPDC network as a full-time or access player. Benefits for players include strength and conditioning support from Tennis Scotland, access to the **sport**scotland Senior Preparation Coach and nutrition workshops and other services from **sport**scotland institute of sport such as video analysis.

In addition to sessions delivered at the University of Stirling, more localised sessions were offered to players twice a week at Oriam and Scotstoun.

Enhanced investment into the new SNPP allowed the recruitment of **Toby Smith** as Head Coach and **Joe Gill** as Lead Performance Coach during summer 2024. The goals of the programme are to ensure players are technically competent in all areas of the court, tactically adaptable, excellent movers and enjoy competing.

Over the course of 2024, we had 20 players invited to National Age Group Activity organised by the LTA.

Trips run by the performance team included to the Lexus National Championships. We had a total of 22 players involved in the 11U/12U/14U national events and the 9U and 10U Grade 1 events happening at the same time. Other trips included taking players to 12U Tennis Europe in Spain at the Vilas Academy.



# **Notable Successes:**

- Cameron Rae won the 11U Lexus grass-court event in Frinton and the 11U Lexus clay-court event singles and doubles. Fraser Newcombe and partner were the beaten finalists in doubles. Cameron was also runner-up at the Lexus 11U National Championships singles and winner of the doubles.
- **Cameron** and **Fraser** were both invited to GB camps and represented GB in the international team event at the West Hants Club.
- Louis Taylor won the 11U Scottish Closed National Championships and reached the singles final in the Lexus 10U National Tour. He was runner-up at the Grade 1 Lexus National Tour event in singles.
- Frank Atkins won the Scottish Junior Indoor Singles Championships at 11U and 12U, and the Lexus Scottish Junior Open at 10U.
- Louis and Frank were both invited to LTA camps and were part of a GB team that competed in a tournament in Grenoble, France.
- Caelan McKechnie won the Road to Wimbledon event.



# **Notable Successes:**

- Charlie Robertson enjoyed a fantastic 2024, playing in all four Junior Grand Slams and making a run to the semi-finals of the US Open. He also finished as runner up in two J300 events and qualified for the ITF Junior Tour Finals where he finished third after finishing the year as world junior number eight. There was also significant doubles success as he reached the finals of two J500s and a J300.
- Hephzibah Oluwadare won an ITF J200 event in Germany and competed at the Australian Open and Wimbledon. She was also selected to play for GB at the European 18U Championships in Austria.

### 110

Euan McGinn was appointed as 11U Manager in August 2024 with responsibility to drive player development locally within the districts to achieve more and better players

Friday sessions take place at the University of Stirling on a rotational basis, bringing the best players together in different age groups with a good balance of girls and boys in mixed sessions.

National 'mini matchplays' have been set up around existing competitions to give players further opportunities to play the game in a more relaxed environment, with focus on skills rather than results.

Five players aged 10 and under from this programme have been invited to LTA camps.

### 16+

National Training continues to take place with players integrating with students at the University of Stirling and additional sessions taking place in the east and west of Scotland.

Jonny O'Mara was appointed as full-time base coach for the 16+ National Player Programme in summer 2024, with players benefiting not just from training courts, but access to coach time and practitioner support from the **sport**scotland institute of sport, including video analysis, lifestyle support and physiotherapy.

The GB National Academy at the University of Stirling came to an end in July 2024, with **Charlie Robertson** and **Hannah Rylatt** graduating; Hannah headed off to college in the US for the next stage of her tennis journey, while Charlie opted to play fulltime until the end of the year.

Hephzibah Oluwadare remained in Scotland to finish her final year of schooling at Dollar Academy, supported by the LTA and the Tennis Scotland base coach.

# **Pro Spotlight**

It was a momentous year for many Scottish professionals: Andy Murray brought the curtain down on his incredible career, Gordon Reid completed the career Golden Slam and Jacob Fearnley made a dramatic breakthrough.



#### **Andy Murray**

Clinched his 500th tour-level win on hard courts at the Dubai Tennis Championship before announcing his retirement from the sport. Andy joined forces with brother Jamie for his final appearance at Wimbledon in the men's doubles before a dramatic end to his career at his fifth Olympics, saving multiple match points with Dan Evans en route to the men's quarter-finals.

**WATCH:** Tennis Scotland's tribute to Sir Andy Murray.



#### **Gordon Reid**

Gordon completed the calendar Grand Slam in doubles by winning the Australian Open, French Open and Wimbledon, while also claiming the Gold medal in doubles at the Paris Paralympics, all alongside his GB partner Alfie Hewett. Gordon now has 28 Grand Slams to his name.







#### **Cameron Norrie**

Reached the fourth round of the Australian Open and was selected to represent Great Britain in the Olympics for the first time.

Ali Collins Reached four doubles finals on ITF World Tour.

**Jacob Fearnley enjoyed** a phenomenal 2024. He started the year ranked 646 — and ended it inside the top 100, breaking ATP records for the fastest rise.

As well as winning four ATP Challenger titles, Jacob reached the second round at Wimbledon, where he lost in four tight sets to Novak Djokovic on Centre Court.



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# Maia Lumsden

Reached her highest world ranking in doubles at 57 in July. Maia won her second WTA 125 title alongside Emily Appleton and reached the final of a WTA 250 in France. She also competed in all four Grand Slams.

### Scott Duncan

Won doubles title on home soil at the ATP Lexus Glasgow Challenger.



Jamie Murrau Teamed up with John Peers to win two ATP doubles titles and also won the Oatar Open

with Michael Venus.





Ewen Lumsden Won his first ITF singles title in Monastir to add to three doubles titles. Ewen also won the Tennis Scotland Open Tour Finals singles title and the Scottish National Doubles Championships with Jonny O'Mara.

### James MacKinlau

Reached two ATP Challenger doubles finals.

# **Pro Spotlight**





### **Hamish Stewart**

Won an M25 ITF doubles title with Charles Broom and reached last eight of the ATP Lexus Glasgow Challenger.

# World Number One

Marjory Love became the world number one in the ITF 75+ category in a year in which she won five singles and three doubles titles on the Masters Tour.

She also joined Christine Windmill and Christine Lockhart in the GB women's 75+ team which won the coveted Queen's Cup.

#### **READ MORE:**

www.lta.org.uk/about-us/in-your-area/ tennis-scotland/news/marjory-loveplayer-profile



# Virtus World Tennis Championship

Three Scots were part of the GB team which travelled to Annecy, France, in September to compete in this elite sports event for athletes with an intellectual impairment.

**Dominic lannotti** won the men's doubles with partner Fabrice Higgins and was third in the men's singles.

**Anna McBride** won the women's singles and was third in the women's doubles with partner Lily Mills.

**Dominic** and **Anna** also teamed up to win the mixed doubles title.

**Aidan Moody** and partner Oliver Beadle finished third in the men's doubles event.

# **Junior Four Nations**

The annual Junior Four Nations event took place in Ireland in September. There were some battling performances over a highly competitive weekend and nail-biting match tiebreaks.

#### U18 team

Anna McKnight, Aadya Chadalawada, Callum McGinn, Lance Nisbet. *Captain: Toby Smith* 

Four Nations

#### U14 team

Dominik Czopek, Becky Macleod, Jessica Currie, Caelan McKechnie. *Captain: Joe Gill* 

#### U12 team

Cameron Rae, Fraser Newcombe, Kana Saito, Natalia Augustynska. *Captain: Euan McGinn* 

# **Other Notable Successes**

- Wheelchair player **Ellie Robertson** won the women's doubles at the ITF Futures in Greece with partner Cornelia Oosthulzen. She finished 2024 ranked 80 in doubles and 99 in singles.
- University of Stirling Men's First Team won the British Universities and College Sport (BUCS) Team Championship, while Liam Hignett was BUCS Men's Individuals singles champion and doubles champion with Rob Cowley.
- Stirling student Liam also won an ITF M25 doubles and reached the finals of two other events as well as finishing runner-up in an ATP Challenger doubles event in Spain. And he represented GB at the BNP Paribas International University Championships, where they won silver.

- Anna McBride won the Australian Open singles and doubles titles in the PWII category for players with an intellectual impairment.
- Sarah McFadyen represented Great Britain in the over 40s team
- North of Scotland Men celebrated a Scottish first by achieving Division One status in the summer and winter County Cups in the same year.
- Anna McKnight won the singles and doubles titles (alongside Aadya Iyer Chadalawada) at the J30 Edinburgh on the ITF World Juniors Tour.

# TS OPEN TOUR

# Competitions

OPEN TANK

**Competitive tennis is** key to retaining players in our sport, while also providing performance players with vital matchplay experience throughout their development.

17,146 1,467 ACROSS

PLAYERS COMPETED IN AT LEAST **ONE MATCH** 

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TV CREW

GRADE 4–6 **EVENTS HELD** SCOTLAND

# **National Competition Results**

#### Tea Cup — 18U Inter-County Championships

1st: West 2nd: North 3rd: East 4th: South

Scottish Indoor Championships Men's Singles: Ewen Lumsden Women's Singles: Mia Wainwright

Scottish National Championships Men's Singles: James MacKinlay Women's Singles: Flora Johnson

#### Scottish National Doubles Championships

Men's Doubles: Ewen Lumsden & Jonny O'Mara Women's Doubles: Hephzibah Oluwadare & Marelie Raath

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#### **Tennis Scotland Open Tour Finals**

Men's Singles: Ewen Lumsden Women's Singles: Mia Wainwright

#### Scottish Junior Nationals (Closed)

9U BS	Aonghus Archibald
10U BS	Oscar Cook
11U BS	Louis Taylor
12U BS	Coby Stewart
14U BS	Ray Gallacher
16U BS	Chenming Dong
18U BS	Logan Gillespie
9U GS	Connie Kerr
	Connie Kerr Amitris Rahmani
10U GS	
10U GS	Amitris Rahmani
10U GS 11U GS	Amitris Rahmani Alexa Paton
10U GS 11U GS 12U GS	Amitris Rahmani Alexa Paton Jazmin Ward
10U GS 11U GS 12U GS 14U GS	Amitris Rahmani Alexa Paton Jazmin Ward Kate Murray

#### Four Nations Junior Championships

1st: England 2nd: Wales 3rd: Scotland 4th: Ireland Scottish Schools Championships Boys: Strathallan School Girls: Strathallan School

Scottish Inter-Club Challenge Cup Men: Thorn Park Women: Newlands Tennis Club

#### Team Tennis (Open) Scotland Men: University of Stirling Women: University of Stirling

#### Padel Scottish Cup

Men: West of Scotland Padel Women: West of Scotland Padel

Ewen Lumsden



# Competitions

# **ATP Challenger** Lexus Glasgow Challenger

Scotland hosted an ATP Challenger event for the first time since 2019, the Lexus Glasgow Challenger proving a great success. Feedback from both the LTA and ATP on how the event was delivered by Tennis Scotland was full of praise and a return was soon confirmed for 2025.

Each day saw crowds of more than 200 attend, with both stands completely packed out during finals day. There was also plenty of activity around the event, including children's team competitions, come-and-try tennis sessions and schools festivals.

There was lots of Scottish success on the court, with Scott Duncan winning the doubles event with Marcus Willis, Charlie Robertson coming through qualifying and winning a round in the main draw and Hamish Stewart making the quarter-finals. Clement Chidekh won the singles event.



# CLEXUS GB PRO-SERIES

# **Lexus GB Pro-Series Glasgow** Scottish Open

We delivered a combined women's 75 and men's 25 event on the ITF World Tennis Tour in Glasgow.

The event was a huge success, with several Scottish players taking part alongside top GB players Liam Broady and Jodie Burrage.

Christian Sigsgaard from Denmark won the men's singles, with Simona Waltert from Switzerland taking the women's title. British pair Freya Christie and Jodie Burrage won the women's doubles.

### **Adults**



# Scottish Inter-Club Challenge Cup

#### Thorn Park and Newlands were celebrating Scottish Cup success after an incredible finals day at Whitecraigs Tennis Club.

In a thrilling and feisty final that went the distance, Thorn Park ended Newlands' dominance of the men's competition, winning back-to-back tie-breaks as they came from a set down in the deciding rubber with the scores locked at 4–4.

The winning moment, which saw Fraser Craig and Finlay Watters edge Liam Hignett and James MacKinlay, sparked some wild on-court celebrations from the new champions.

On the women's side, Newlands lifted their fifth consecutive Scottish Inter-Club Challenge Cup by beating Braid 6–2 following a series of hotly contested encounters.

Newlands wrapped up the title in the third round with two straight-sets wins; Jennifer Steel and Caves beating Heather Croll and Emily Gates 6-2, 6-4 and Caitlin Steel and Heather Barlow overcoming Provan and Vrhunec 6-2, 6-1. That brought an end to another dramatic season of Scotland's premier club competition, which saw a big crowd gather to enjoy the action on a (mostly) sunny Saturday.

The event also marked 100 years of the women's competition, with Tennis Scotland hosting a series of presentations to honour some of those who have contributed to the event over the years.

Among them, Dunfermline Tennis Club received a commemorative quaich to celebrate their record number of 18 wins, while presentations were also made to 75+ world number one Marjory Love, long-serving Scottish Cup player Christine Lockhart and 15-year-old Newlands star Anna McKnight, who is one of the youngestever winners.

# **TS Open Tour** Scottish National Championships

James MacKinlay and Flora Johnson took home Tennis Scotland Open Tour titles at the Scottish National Open Championships.

Held at the University of Stirling, the Scottish Nationals was the last Leaderboard event of the 2024 season with players competing to pick up valuable ranking points in their bids to qualify for the TS Open Tour Finals.

For Mackinlay, it was a first tour title of the season in a final that saw him take a 6–4 3–1 lead before Ewen Lumsden was forced to withdraw due to injury.

In the women's draw, Flora Johnson of Middlesex lifted the trophy after an impressive weekend of tennis, beating Marelie Raath 5–7 6–3 6–3 to capture her first TS Open Tour title.

# **TS Open Tour** National Doubles Championships

Ewen Lumsden teamed up with former world number 44 Jonny O'Mara to take the men's title, while Stirling-based Hephzibah Oluwadare and fellow top junior Marelie Raath clinched the women's trophy.

O'Mara and Lumsden clinched their victory over Rob Cowley and Liam Hignett 6–4 6–3 during an action-packed weekend at Scotstoun.

The women's event saw Oluwadare and Raath enter unseeded and lift the title with a 6-4, 6-0 victory over Heather Barlow and Anna McKnight.

# **TS Open Tour** Scottish Clay Court Championships

The Scottish Clay Court Championships took place at a new venue in Whitecraigs Tennis Club. This event carries our higher-tier prize money and is also a British Tour Grade 2 event, meaning it attracts players from across Britain. Whitecraigs provided bar and catering services, a gym and player lounge facility along with great viewing. Players thoroughly enjoyed the venue and spoke highly of the experience, which also included one of the year's best weeks of weather.

A one-day qualifying event was followed by three days of main draw action. This provides opportunities for players to receive multiple matches a day should they progress, and with the top four seeds entering on day three, other players have the opportunity to win before facing a topranked opponent. This format is becoming increasingly popular amongst players, parents and coaches.

Players are able to play good-quality matches over a relatively short period of time, which is cost and time efficient; for many it complements school and university commitments. For our full-time players, it is ideally scheduled around the ITF calendar, while enhanced prize money ensures our best Scottish players have feasible competitive options throughout the year. Qualifying provided Scottish success with Thomas Dixon and Rhys Watters winning through to the main draw. On the women's side, Nikemi Olafare, Eva Dorado and Olivia McGuire made it through.

After the first three days of competition, Hamish Stewart faced Patrick Foley with James MacKinlay playing Marcus Walters in the semis — all four players currently have world rankings. Hamish and James won through to an all-Scottish final, with Hamish going on to claim another TS Open Tour title.

In the women's event, Heather Barlow lost out in the quarter-finals to Amelie Brooks. Mia Wainwright took her third TS Open Tour title of the year home after a very entertaining final against Amelie.



# **TS Open Tour Finals**

#### Ewen Lumsden and Mia Wainwright were crowned champions after a thrilling two days of action at the Tennis Scotland Open Tour Finals — broadcast live by BBC Scotland.

In a repeat of last year's men's final, Lumsden turned the tables on Hamish Stewart, winning in three sets to lift the title for the first time.

Earlier, Wainwright defeated Emma Wilson in two sets to cap off a brilliant year for the 17-year-old on the TS Open Tour.

The finals at Scotstoun attracted big crowds and were streamed live for the first time on BBC iPlayer and BBC Sport website. Lumsden, who beat Logan Gillespie, Patrick Young and James MacKinlay en route to the final, came through 7–5, 3–6, 7–5 after an epic battle with his fellow Scot, ending a superb year for the 24-yearold following four titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour.

Wainwright clinched the women's title with a 7-6 (7), 6-2 win over Wilson, adding to her wins at the Scottish Indoors, Clay and Grass championships in 2024.

# **TS Open Tour** Scottish Open Indoor Championships

Mia Wainwright

An exceptionally strong field saw several current and former world-ranked players take part in the event at the University of Stirling.

Ewen Lumsden (ATP 1270) and Emma Wilson (WTA 972) headed into the weekend as top seeds, although Emma had to withdraw on the morning of the semi-finals.

Three Scottish junior players won linked TS500 events held in Aberdeen and Oriam to qualify for the event; Isaac King, Logan Gillespie and Aadya lyer Chadalawada.

The standard of play was very high with a lot of positive feedback from parents and players. The men's final was an all-Scottish match with Ewen Lumsden defeating Cameron Fryer 6–4, 6–2. An all-English ladies' final saw Mia Wainwright overcome Teodora Prisadnikova 6–3, 6–2.

The event was well supported over the weekend and finals day saw a team of ball boys and girls take to the courts for the semi-finals and finals.



## Scottish Junior Indoor Championships

134 players competed in the 2024 edition of this competition, which included 11U boys and girls' events for the first time, and was played across two venues; Gorbals and Scotstoun.

Giffnock's Nikhil Bollapragada won both the boys' 16U and 18U titles with Frank Atkins (Murrayfield) winning both the 11U and 12U boys' events. Jessica Currie, from Cults in Aberdeen, won the girls' 18U title.



# Scottish Junior National Championships

The annual Scottish Junior Closed competition was refreshed into the Scottish Junior National Championships and given a new slot in the calendar in December.

Taking place indoors at Scotstoun and Oriam, the move from the traditional summer week meant that more of the best-ranked Scottish juniors were available to take part in turn, this significantly strengthened the quality of the field.

The name change also helped place more emphasis on creating national junior champions at all age groups, and with boys and girls from all ages being brought together, there was a great atmosphere. Overall, the changes were very well received by all, and plans are already underway to further enhance the event in 2025.

# **Scottish Junior Indoor Doubles Championships**

122 competitors contested eight events over two days at Scotstoun. The 12U and 16U events were played on the first day and, with full draws in all four events, there was plenty of action on all courts. In the 16U girls' event, Freya Cooper from Perth and Glasgow's Anna McKnight ended the day as champions for the third year in succession — beating top seeds Hanna Augustynska and Aadya Iyer-Chadalawada 7–6 (1) 6–1 in the final.

On Day 2, the 14U and 18U events were played. Top seeds and favourites Alexander English and Callum McGinn won the boys' 18U championship with a hard-fought 6–4 3–6 [10–6] final win over second seeds Ben Cooper and Jed McMillan.

The 14U competitions ran to form with the top seeds Caelan McKechnie and Ray Gallacher winning the boys' title and Chloe Sanderson and Jessica Currie the girls' championship.



## Scottish Inter-District Junior Team Championships

All nine districts took part across 12U and 16U age groups at Strathallan School where the usual match format of two boys' and two girls' singles, along with a mixed doubles encounter, made up a tie. As always, there were more than a couple of shootouts required, which without doubt remain a highlight during the event.

The week wasn't blessed with great weather with the availability of three indoor courts ensuring the event could be completed. 216 matches were scheduled over three days, and with some Fast4 scoring used due to weather, we completed 204 matches, which meant that the 72 players on site all received seven or eight matches.

The event remains the highlight of the district calendar and players and captains enjoy the residential team element alongside competitive tennis.

The calculators were out for the 12U event where Central narrowly pipped North East and Highlands for the title. West of Scotland came out on top of 16U event with North East once again in the runners-up spot.

**Overall final positions:** 

- 1. North East
- 2. West
- 3. Central
- 4. East & Highlands
- 6. Ayrshire
- 7. Tayside = D&G
- 9. Borders

# Tennis SCOTLAND

# **Scottish Schools Team Championships**

2024 saw the Scottish Schools Championships revert to a new format; boys and girls each competing over a one-day doubles event which was trialled to provide pupils with multiple matches, ease fixture congestion and be overall easier for schools to attend.

George Watson's College, Edinburgh, kindly agreed to host the event with a compass draw of 16 schools and a round-robin shield taking place across 16 courts.

Over the two days, 29 different schools competed, with 145 pupils, 72 team matches and 144 doubles rubbers generating a great atmosphere.

Overall feedback was very positive, opening up the potential for expansion in future years. The aim is to increase local participation and the number of schools competing, while delivering a good-quality event and removing barriers.

#### RESULTS

GIRLS Winners: Strathallan School Runners Up: Dunblane High School

#### BOYS

Winners: Strathallan School Runners Up: High School of Glasgow

## Juniors

## Lexus Scottish Junior Open

There was an incredible week of tennis as the Lexus Scottish Junior Open — the biggest Grade 2 event in Britain — was held at Craiglockhart Tennis Centre in Edinburgh.

A total of 588 matches took place as junior players of all ages competed for the prestigious titles. On the whole, players and parents enjoyed the event and we received good feedback around scheduling, communication and organisation.

#### **10U**

Boys singles: Frank Atkins Girls singles: Amathea Iordache

#### **11U**

Boys singles: Matyas Oprchal Boys doubles: Tomas Gabor & Matyas Oprchal Girls singles: Honey Robinson Girls doubles: Emma Fu & Honey Robinson

#### 12U

Boys singles: Joseph Knightley Boys doubles: Joseph Knightley & Beau Martinez-McCune Girls singles: Eloise Doumbia Girls doubles: Eloise Doumbia & Kate Murray

#### **14U**

Boys singles: Harry Emmett Boys doubles: Harry Emmett & Veer Tumber Girls singles: Katie Randall Girls doubles: Julie Oprchal & Katie Randall

#### **16U**

Boys singles: Jacob Blackler-Rose Boys doubles: Thomas Dixon & Kacper Laskowski Girls singles: Olivia Kaser Girls doubles: Ellie Barker & Bella Thomson

#### **18U**

Boys singles: Logan Gillespie Girls singles: Lucy Bear



### **Junior Four Nations**

Team Scotland travelled to Dublin, Ireland, to compete in the 2024 Junior Four Nations Championships. The team was led by Tennis Scotland Head of Performance Karen Ross along with age group captains Euan McGinn (12U), Joe Gill (14U) and Toby Smith (18U).

The final standings saw Scotland finish third overall with the 12U and 18U team placing second and the 14U team placing fourth.

The 12U team made up of Fraser Newcombe, Cameron Rae, Natalia Augustynska and Kana Saito claimed wins over Wales and Ireland, but fell to winners England.

The 14U team of Dominik Czopek, Caelan McKechnie, Jessica Currie and Becky Macleod lost out to England and Ireland in ties that featured a number of close matches. Scotland were able to pick up a win against Wales on Sunday in singles, but ultimately it wasn't enough for a third-place finish.

The 18U team of Callum McGinn, Lance Nisbet, Aadya Iyer Chadalawada and Anna McKnight secured a win over England by sets score, but lost out to Ireland by set score as matches were level at three rubbers a piece.

Scotland fell to Wales in singles on the final day, but still finished second in the 18U category. The overall results saw Scotland finish third behind winners England and runners-up Wales.

## Scottish Junior Inter-County Championships

The 18U Tea Cup, as this event is known, took place at Giffnock Tennis Club, featuring North, East and West of Scotland juniors competing over two days.

The format sees 18U juniors compete in a mixed dual-match event involving boys' singles, girls' singles, boys' and girls' doubles as well as mixed doubles.

The West squad defended their 2023 title with an 11–2 win over the East of Scotland and another 11–2 win over the North of Scotland.

The West team consisting of Liam O'Brien, Tristan Mills, Lucas Nolte, Callum McGinn, Anna McKnight, Emma Barlow, Poppy Bonar and Elisa Gibson were led by team captain Jordan Gray.

Meanwhile, the North of Scotland secured second place by beating East 8–5.

#### **Seniors**



- SINCE 1939

Team Scotland travelled to Bolton for the 2024 edition, which featured 35+, 45+ and 50+ age groups for men and women.

Going into the final day, it was all to play for as Scotland and England played off to decide who would take home the trophy.

Mhairi Beattie, Sarah McFadyen and Claire Paterson rounded off an unbeaten weekend with a 3–0 win at 35+ while the women's 45+, featuring Eilidh Smith and Jennifer Duncan, lost 2–1 in a close tie that saw two match tie-breaks go in England's favour.

Heather Lockhart secured a match tie-break win in the 50+ to keep Scotland in it, but England emerged victorious in doubles to win the tie 2–1.

As for the men, the 35s lost 2–1. Jamie Hunter was narrowly edged out in a third set, but Robert Dalgetty and Gary Thomson managed to pick up the remaining rubber in the doubles.

The 45+ men battled England in a close contest that went the hosts' way 2–1. However, the result didn't stop Scotland from topping the group.

The 50+ men were drawing 1–1 after singles thanks to a win from Allan Ralston, but the deciding doubles match wasn't played as the title had been decided.

Scotland won the Women's 35+, Men's 45+ and Women's 45+ age categories, but finished as runners-up to England in the overall standings.



## **ITF Masters Glasgow** Scottish Senior Championships

#### The 2024 Scottish Seniors Open mostly took place at Scotstoun, with two other venues used for three days of the competition.

Due to the size of the entry list, the competition was extended to five days, with all 25 finals taking place on the last day, creating a great atmosphere and attracting lots of spectators.

The event was a great success with 285 entries and several Scottish players picking up titles. There was also a new age group introduced — the women's 75+ category, which was won by Scotland's Marjory Love.



# **Padel Scottish Cup**

#### The second running of the Scottish Cup culminated in an entertaining finals weekend at David Lloyd Shawfair.

The weekend began with the men's semi-finals and finals day, which saw defending champions Barnton Park and West of Scotland Padel progress before playing out a nail-biting decider, eventually edged by West of Scotland Padel.

Sunday saw the final stages of the women's event as West of Scotland Padel and Edinburgh Sports Club reached the final. After some close rubbers, the team from the west made it a double — for their club and themselves, having won also won the cup in 2023.



# **Finance Report** For the year ended 31 December 2024

Turnover for the year was £2,918,451 compared to £3,240,054 in the prior year, a decrease of £321,603. This decrease in income reflects the reduced performance funding following the planned cessation of operations at 31 July 2024 in the GB National Academy. To continue delivery of performance tennis in Scotland, Tennis Scotland have secured new funding for five years from the LTA to introduce a Scottish National Player Pathway programme which commenced from 1 August 2024. Other income was up on prior year due to activity in workforce for coach education and also increased competitions activities during 2024.

The four-year funding agreements with **sport**scotland and the LTA for operational funding continue which secures funding at comparable levels until March 2026.

Expenditure has decreased by £265,663 from £3,240,483 in the prior year to £2,974,820. This reflects the decrease in spend in performance investment as mentioned above, this decrease being partially compensated by slight increases in competition and coach education costs.

The balance sheet at 31 December 2024 shows a stable position with reserves of £427,737. Cash at bank is £540,571 compared to £773,423 in prior year; cash flow being monitored and controlled throughout the year and decrease in cash in the year reflecting the year-end deficit and the increased trade debtors position at the year end.

Overall, the Tennis Scotland accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 show a deficit of £47,059 compared to a prior year surplus of £3,892. This deficit has been deducted from the brought forward reserves of the company.



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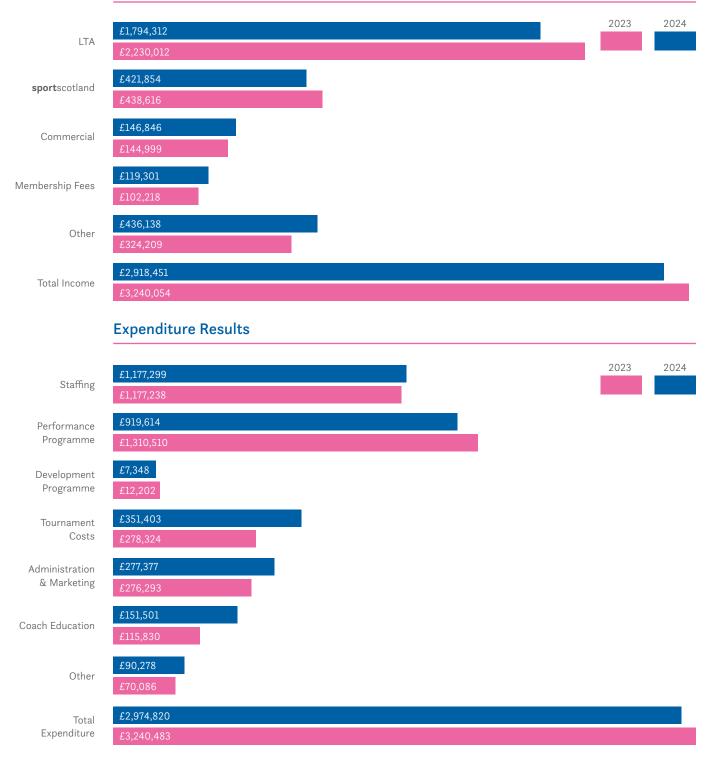
The company has worked hard to achieve this financial position for the year managing costs and income on an ongoing basis with significant change of activity and budget. It should be noted a deficit result was budgeted with the final deficit result being reduced on the original forecast. This has been achieved through cash flow 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 through the continued support of multi-year grants from the LTA and **sport**scotland in place 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 2024

#### Income Results



# Statement of **Comprehensive Income** For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Turnover	2,918,451	3,240,054
Competition costs	(468,335)	(389,144)
Tennis costs	(1,869,971)	(2,240,727)
Administrative and marketing expenses	(636,514)	(610,612)
Operating loss	(56,369)	(429)
Interest receivable and similar income	9,310	4,321
(Loss)/Profit before taxation	(47,059)	3,892
Taxation	-	-
(Loss)/Profit for the financial year	(47,059)	3,892

# Statement of Financial Position

# For the year ended 31 December 2024

	20	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	_	29,927	-	43,011	
Current assets					
Debtors	261,804		134,340		
Cash at bank and in hand	540,571		773,423		
	802,375		907,763	_	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one Year	(401,565)		(475,978)		
Net current assets	_	400,810	-	431,785	
Total assets less current liabilities	-	427,737	_	474,796	
Capital and reserve					
Profit and loss reserves	_	427,737	_	474,796	

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 and are signed on its behalf by:

B Dodds (Chief Executive) **Director**  G Watson (Chair) **Director** 



# **Tennis Scotland Awards**

Volunteer of the Year: Aidah Isa

Rising Star: Dylan Galloway

Development Coach of the Year: Jordan Gray

Performance Coach of the Year: Ashley Webster

Connecting Communities: Achieve More Scotland

Park Venue of the Year: Meadows Park

University of the Year: University of Stirling

School of the Year: Dollar Academy

Tennis for All: Montrose Tennis Club

Official of the Year: David Duncan

Competition of the Year: Scottish Grass Court Championships (Giffnock Open) Team of the Year: Scottish Junior Four Nations Team

Padel Award: West of Scotland Padel Women

Padel Award: Barnton Park Padel Men

Club of the Year: Kelso Orchard Tennis Club

Senior Veteran Player of the Year: Frances MacLennan

Junior Player of the Year: Charlie Robertson

Senior Player of the Year: Jacob Fearnley

International Player of the Year: Maia Lumsden

Special Recognition Award: Richard Cook

Lifetime Achievement Award: Christine Windmill



Lifetime Achievement Award: Christine Windmill OBE

