

U11 – U14 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS 2024

INTRODUCTION

The National Performance stage of the pathway is for those aged 11-14 * who compete regularly at a national level and in Tennis Europe and/or ITF events. The aim of this stage is to increase the number of internationally competitive 14U players with the potential to transition strongly to the international Junior stage. The National Performance stage comprises of the following:

- *National Activity (National Match Play Weekends, and National Camps)*
- *International Activity (Official Trips, GB Friendlies, and GB Team Events)*
- [National Age Group Programme](#)
- [RDPC's](#)
- [National Academy](#)

This document outlines the selection criteria and process for all national and international activity between the ages of 11-14.

- 'International activity' encompassing LTA Official Trips (including GB representative events and friendlies) and;
- 'National activity' covering National Camps and National Match Play Weekends.

Further information on NAGP Scholarships, which aims to support 12-14 year old players * who are showing the potential to meet the selection criteria for National Academy selection within 2-3 years, can be found [here](#).

Further information on the other areas of the National Performance Stage of the Pathway (including RPDCs and National Academy) can be found [here](#) (under National Performance).

** Players younger will be considered in exceptional circumstances*

ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

For 'National activity'

In order to be eligible to be considered for selection for U11 – U14 national activity, players must meet the requirements 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, eligible players may then be considered for selection as per the selection process.

1.1

Age eligibility - A player must be in their 11U, 12U, 13U or 14U year on the 1 January e.g. in year 2024 – players born 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. *

**Players younger will be considered in exceptional circumstances*

1.2

Eligible to represent Great Britain - Players must hold, or be in the process of obtaining, a British passport, be a British Citizen and have not represented any other nation in a representative team event. Evidence may be asked for to prove eligibility. Those not meeting this stipulation, but who have lived in Great Britain continuously since 1 September 2022 will be considered on a case-by case basis. Such players must contact playerpathway@lta.org.uk to confirm they would like to be considered.

1.3

Adhere to the [LTA Official Trips Policy](#) and [LTA Code of Conduct](#).

Players should only accept invitations and partake in 'national activity' (national matchplay weekend or national camps) if they are 100% fully fit.

For 'International activity'

In order to be eligible to be considered for selection for U11 – U14 international Activity players must meet the requirements in 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, eligible players will then be considered for selection by the Selection Panel:

2.1

Age eligibility - A player must be in their 11U, 12U, 13U or 14U year on the 1 January e.g. in year 2024, players born 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 *

**Players younger will be considered in exceptional circumstances.*

2.2

Tennis Europe 12U and 14U Winter Cups, European Summer Cup 12U and 14U, World Junior Tennis 14U (qualification through European Summer Cup), and 14U European Junior Championships *

Eligible to represent Great Britain - Players must hold a British passport and have not represented any other nation in a representative team event. Evidence may be asked for to prove eligibility.

**The above events eligibility is determined by Tennis Europe (TE) and/or the International Tennis Federation (ITF)*

LTA official trips (not including the events outlined above)

Eligible to represent Great Britain - Players must hold, or be in the process of obtaining, a British passport, be a British Citizen and have not represented any other nation in a representative team event. Evidence may be asked for to prove eligibility.

2.3

Adhere to the [LTA Official Trips Policy](#) and [LTA Code of Conduct](#).

In addition, for LTA Official Trips to overseas tournaments that require entry, it is the responsibility of the player to enter the tournament before the entry deadline and make payment for their entry fee. Players who have not entered, or do not gain entry to these events are not eligible to be selected or travel with the team.

Players should only accept invitations and partake in GB representative events and/or official trips if they are 100% fully fit.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

Selections for national and international activity will be made on an activity-by-activity basis typically six weeks prior to the start of the specific activity:

- The relevant National Age Group Coach will put forward players, with prior agreement from the Head of National Performance Pathway, that they believe should be selected for the specific national or international activity to the 'Approval Panel' (consisting of a minimum of three of, the 11U -14U National Age Group Coaches, RPDC Network Lead, and Head of National Performance Pathway) who will normally meet at least six weeks prior to the activity.
- A member of the LTA Performance Operations Team may also be invited to attend and record selection decisions.
- The National Age Group Coach submitting the nominations must include the reasons for the nomination in relation to the below selection criteria, as well as why they believe this opportunity would benefit the development of the player.
- The Approval Panel will discuss the nominated players and confirm the selections for the specific national or international activity.
- All selection reasons will be recorded.

Selection criteria for national and international activity

The Approval Panel will consider the recommendation of the National Age Group Coach against the selection criteria (outlined below) to determine if a player should be selected for the U11 – U14 national or international activity being discussed. They will use multiple sources of evidence available to them, including but not limited to results profiles, ranking trajectory, progress against their individual development plan (IDP), and Performance Pathway scouting data, as well as their expert judgement:

- **Progress against their individual development plan (IDP)**
- **Game style:** The player is developing an all-round game, with an emerging gamestyle which can be successful at the international junior stage and beyond,
- **Strengths & Weapons:** The player has emerging strengths which can be developed into successful weapons at the international junior stage and beyond,
- **Head:** The player demonstrates smart decision making, good problem-solving abilities and a level of focus in matches, irrespective of the match situation,
- **Heart:** The player's drive and attitude in training and competition shows a willingness to learn and a desire to win matches,
- **Athlete:** The player has a robust athletic foundation which can be developed into physical attributes that could positively influence the outcome of matches,
- **Performance:** The player has competitive results, ranking and rating (at current year of birth or above) and a capability to beat players of a higher level than themselves.
- **Readiness:** The player is ready to engage, benefit from, and meet the demands of the specific activity.

COMMUNICATION OF SELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

All U11-U14 national and international activity selections will be communicated as outlined below:

- Selections will normally be communicated to selected players within 5 days of the panel meeting and typically 4 - 6 weeks prior to the trip *

**in exceptional cases, or where there is clear justification for why, the timeline of the selections and communication of selections may be closer to the activity start date.*

APPEALS PROCESS FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

For the avoidance of doubt, players who do not meet the eligibility criteria (for national activity - 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, or for international activity 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3) and/or are not selected for national or international activity are not eligible to appeal.

AMENDMENTS

The LTA reserves the right to amend or cancel any national or international activity if necessary.

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

Please reach out to playerpathway@lta.org.uk if you have any questions.