



LTA PADEL COMPETITION

**Opportunity To Deliver
FIP and LTA Grade 1 & 2 Competition 2026**



INTRODUCTION

LTA PADEL COMPETITION DELIVERY – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR 2026

The padel landscape in Britain is evolving rapidly, and with it, the demand for competition at all levels continues to grow. In 2025, over 250 LTA Padel graded competitions will be delivered, spanning Grades 1 to 6. While the majority of these have focused on adult categories, the LTA Padel Strategy outlines a clear ambition to broaden the competition offering encouraging venues to deliver events for juniors through to seniors, and to create more opportunities for female participation.

As we plan for 2026, we invite operators or venues interested in hosting and delivering LTA-sanctioned padel competitions to express their interest (details outlined below).

This document provides guidance for prospective hosts of FIP and LTA graded competitions in 2026. It includes essential requirements for the delivery of FIP and LTA Grade 1 and Grade 2 events, as well as the support that the LTA Competitions Team will offer to successful applicants. Please note that these requirements may be updated periodically.

This document should be read alongside the [LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide 2026](#).

The below provides an overview of the proposed planned delivery schedule throughout the season, structured to support the GB player base with access to both international and domestic competition. This forward view will demonstrate how the LTA Padel Performance Competitions Calendar provides a clear pathway of development. (Before competitions being finalised with specific dates, we will collaborate with FIP)

FIP	Focus on silver and bronze level events (approx. 4, spread evenly across the year)
Grade 1	Between 6–8 events, with January, March, June, and September as priority months
Grade 2	20+ events (2 each month, no more than one per week)

We are encouraging applications for juniors at FIP Promises, LTA Padel Grade 1 and 2 Competitions

COMPETITION PLANNING PERIODS

- Application window opens: **Wednesday 1st October**.
- Application window closes: **23:59pm Friday 31st October**
- LTA Selection Panel meeting to review applications: **WB Monday 13th November**.
- LTA confirms successful and unsuccessful applications via email **WB Monday 1st December**.
- All successful applicants must publish their tournament(s) on the LTA Competition Management System by **31st December**.
- For tournament dates up to and including **27th June 2026** applicants must appoint a Tournament Referee, who must be named on the published tournament(s),

Any queries relating to this application process should be directed to the LTA Customer Support Team by submitting an [Enquiry Form](#).

Please note. We will **NOT** accept applications received outside of the application window for FIP, LTA Padel Grade 1 and 2 for 2026, outside of this application process.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Operators or venues interested in delivering **FIP, LTA Padel Grade 1 and/or Grade 2 Padel competitions** should follow the two-stage application process outlined below and summarised here:

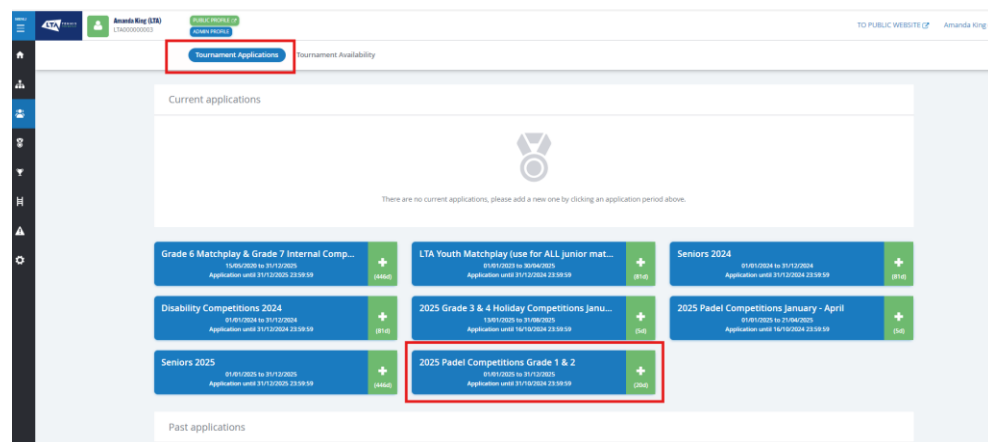
1. Apply for all FIP, Grade 1 and or 2 Competitions through our competition management system.
Once finished your tournament code(s) will be emailed to you. These codes are required to complete stage 2.
2. Complete the expression of interest to deliver FIP LTA Padel Grade 1 and/or 2 form.

The tournament sanction is granted for a period of one year. Competitions will be expected to reapply in the future, and sanction in a previous year does not necessarily guarantee sanction in future years. Please note the dates and grades of any competitions you apply for are not guaranteed.

If an application for a competition grade is not successful, we will look to offer the opportunity to deliver the next available grade. For example, if not approved for a FIP Bronze, we would seek to provide the opportunity for an LTA Padel Grade 1.

STAGE 1

If you are interested in organising LTA sanctioned Grade 1 or 2 events in 2026, please complete the application form on the <https://competitions.lta.org.uk/r/organiser-portal>



You will be asked to specify the age group you wish to cater for – for instance Open competition, Senior's competition, and/or Junior competition.

STAGE 2

Complete the **Expression of Interest to deliver LTA Padel Grade 1 and/or 2 form** demonstrating your capability across key areas including event management experience, venue facilities, and player experience. Be sure to provide clear evidence for each requirement, including tournament application codes from the LTA Competition Management System. Applications will be assessed against a scoring framework prioritising venue suitability, timing, operational delivery, and commercial alignment. Incomplete or insufficient submissions may not be considered, so ensure your application is detailed and fully supported.

[Expression of interest to deliver LTA Padel Grade 1 and/or 2 form.](#)

Once your submission is completed, we will send confirmation of receipt by email.

LTA PADEL COMPETITION

The information below sets out the detailed expectations of FIP & LTA Grade 1 and 2 events and interested host venues should review these carefully.

Tournament Grade/Type	Ideal Number of Courts	Minimum Number of Courts per category	Minimum Draw Size	Draw Duration	Balls provided by LTA	Prize Money Requirements *LTA to provide a contribution to prize money	Sanction Fee
FIP Platinum	3 plus 1-3 practice	4		5 Day main draw 2 Day qualifying	✖	FIP require €120k - €150k*	€12k
FIP Gold	3 plus 1-2 practice	4		3 Day main draw 2 Day qualifying	✖	FIP require €50k - €80k*	€6k
FIP Silver	3 plus 1 practice	4		3 Day main draw 1-2 Day qualifying	✖	FIP require €18k - €30k*	€3k
FIP Bronze	3 plus 0-1 practice	3		3- Day main draw 2 Day qualifying	✖	FIP require €8.5k - €12k*	€1.5k
LTA Grade 1	6+	3	16 main draw plus qualifying	?	✓	£4,000+*	£0
LTA Grade 2	4+	3	16 main draw plus qualifying	?	✓	✖	£0

Please note. The number of courts indicated for each grade of competition, as above, is a minimum. requisite to host that particular grade. Courts cannot be shared across several categories – e.g. If you intend to offer an Open competition with a Seniors and/or Junior's event, you need to ensure that you have sufficient number of courts to do this. For example, offering a Grade 1 Open competition, running alongside a Grade 1 Seniors event, would require 12 courts.

LTA PADEL GRADE 1

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Facilities and Balls

- The host venue must be an LTA Registered Venue at the time of application.
- The host venue to provide the use of a minimum number of Padel Courts as set out in the table, however preference will be given to those venues who meet the ideal court requirements and are indoor/covered. The court surface of **all** courts to be used for the competition must be consistent.
- The host venue provides suitable space for the Referee, Tournament Director, and Padel TV to operate in.
- The host venue must have toilets, shower and changing facilities on site and be available.
- The host venue should provide catering facilities available throughout the duration of the tournament.
- The host venue must use the Official LTA Padel Tour ball for grade 1 & 2 balls provided by the LTA. If you require more than the contribution, it is the venue/ tournament organisers responsibility to order additional balls of the same brand accordingly.

Padel TV

- As part of this partnership, Padel-TV will fully cover the costs of streaming production, ensuring high-quality live coverage of our leading padel events. This includes filming, recording, and producing professional feeds, which will be made available through their subscription platform.
- For host venues, this represents an excellent opportunity to gain national and international exposure, highlighting your facilities and helping to grow the profile of padel. To ensure the smooth delivery of live streaming, venues will need to provide:
 - Access to the venue, including parking for the production team.
 - Reliable and strong internet access to support streaming. (A good high-speed internet connection is necessary for live streaming. A wired connection is more stable than Wi-Fi,)*
 - A lift or scaffolding (where possible) allow for optimal main camera angles.
 - Space for a small studio setup, including basic furniture.
 - A designated area for commentators, with chairs and a table.

*While we do not require more than standard voltage, past experiences have shown that high-power equipment such as food trucks or catering appliances can cause disruptions. Ensuring a steady power source will help prevent any interruptions during live broadcasts.

All additional requirements will be arranged and funded by Padel-TV, ensuring that no extra financial or operational strain is placed on the venue.

Personnel

- The competition must appoint an LTA Licensed Official at the time the event is due to take place (Grade R5 or above) who is specified at the time of application and they:
 - Must have passed the LTA Referee Course (Tennis or Padel).
 - If tennis, must have passed the LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course.
 - Must be experienced at delivering regional or national level Padel and /or Tennis competition.
 - Must be an LTA Licensed Official at the time of application.
- The competition must appoint a Tournament Director to oversee logistics and to plan and deliver the competition.

Categories

- The competition must run the following events:
 - Open Men's Doubles
 - Open Women's Doubles
- For Open categories **only 2 matches per day** can be scheduled for main draw.
- If the host wishes to also offer senior and/or junior category events alongside the open categories, this must be specified on application, and additional courts are required.

Prize Money and Prizes

- This will be made up from **both** the venue and the LTA (see LTA support below).
- The venue must contribute a minimum of £2,000 towards the total prize money pot.
- To ensure fairness and transparency across all competitions:
 - Prize money must be distributed equally between the men's and women's draws.
 - Allocations must be made to both winners and runners-up as a minimum.
 - The percentage breakdown of prize distribution must be published prior to the start of the event.
 - The venue must provide prizes and trophies for the winners and finalists.

Partners and Promotions (please refer to LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide 2026 for more detail)

- The host venue must include the LTA Padel logo on all tournament artwork and promotional material and ensure that LTA media requirements are completed

- The host venue may have partners that differ from LTA partners, but these must first be agreed with the LTA and all other mandatory requirements must be met (e.g., the official LTA Padel Tour ball must be used for all matches)
- The host venue must display all provided LTA branded assets (for example LTA Padel banners).
- If the host venue develops their own promotional material, they must seek approval from the LTA Padel team prior to Initial Event meeting (6 weeks prior to event)
- The venue must promote the tournament locally and to their membership base.

Pre-Tournament Set Up

- The host venue must use the LTA Competition Management System to manage the event, manage entries and submit results to the LTA.
- The host venue must follow all planning procedures and deadlines in the LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide 2026. This has been provided and is available [here](#).
- The host venue must complete a risk assessment for the tournament and safeguarding requirements for competition
- The Tournament Director must complete the tournament fact sheet on the Competition Management System to communicate all key event information to players entering the competition. This needs to be in place ahead of entries opening for the competition.

Tournament Delivery

- The tournament will be delivered in accordance with the the LTA Competition Regulations including the LTA Code of Conduct.
- The referee must be onsite and present for the whole competition.
- The referee must submit results within 48 hours post event.

OPTIONAL ELEMENTS

- The host venue provides suitable space for the Control Desk.
- The host venue should have viewing facilities available for spectators.
- The competition should include the following components, that run on the specified days:
 - Qualification: Thursday & Friday (dependent on entries)
 - Main Draw: Friday – Sunday (dependent on entries)
- The venue should consider offering a training opportunity, camp, competition, or some type of promotional activity in the lead up to the competition to provide the opportunity and awareness for players (in particular this could target your junior players) to prepare for the competition.
- The venue should consider providing a welcome pack for each player, to include:
 - Tournament T-shirt which includes the LTA Padel Logo
 - Re-usable water bottle
 - Small gift
 - Other items from LTA partners if provided by the LTA (see LTA support below).
- The venue should consider whether it would be helpful to have an Assistant Referee—especially for bigger draw sizes and to support player experience.
- The venue should consider requesting court supervisors to help with scoring issues and potential player disputes.
- The venue could consider providing discounts to local hotels.
- The venue could consider providing transfers: Airport – Hotel – Airport, Hotel – Venue – Hotel
- The venue could consider booking a Photographer as long as there is adherence to the LTA Photography & Filming Policy.
- The venue could consider providing a player area for time between matches to relax.

The LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide provides further details and support about how to prepare and deliver Padel events, and this information should be followed and adhered to.

LTA SUPPORT

- The LTA will provide a named point of support to answer any questions and to ensure everything in this agreement is understood and in place accordingly, inline with the following [meeting framework](#)
- The LTA will provide insurance cover for the event through the LTA Registered Venue cover.
- The LTA will allow use of the LTA Padel logo on all tournament marketing material and assets within branding guidelines
- The LTA will promote the event on the LTA Padel [website](#).
- The LTA will provide LTA Padel 2025 branding to the host venue.
- The LTA will provide a contribution towards prize money, with the exact amount to be confirmed if selected as an LTA Grade 1 Competition Event Deliverer as part of the LTA Padel.
- The LTA will provide Official LTA Padel Tour balls for the event.
- If the host venue wishes to use Court Supervisors for the tournament – the LTA will select and confirm LTA Court Supervisors, who are Licensed Officials.
- The LTA will award the relevant ranking points to the players following the conclusion of the competition as set out in the the LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide.
- The LTA will provide an LTA Padel 2026 asset pack to all host venue

LTA PADEL NATIONAL GRADE 2

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Facilities and Balls

- The host venue must be an LTA Registered Venue at the time of application.
- The host venue to provide the use of a minimum number of Padel Courts as set out in the table, however preference will be given to those venues who meet the ideal court requirements and are indoor/covered. The court surface of **all** courts to be used for the competition must be consistent.
- The host venue provides suitable space for the Referee, Tournament Director, and Padel TV to operate in.
- The host venue must have toilets, shower and changing facilities on site and be available.
- The host venue should provide catering facilities available throughout the duration of the tournament.
- The host venue must use the Official LTA Padel Tour ball for grade 1 & 2 balls provided by the LTA. If you require more than the contribution, it is the venue/ tournament organisers responsibility to order additional balls of the same brand accordingly.

Personnel

- The competition must appoint an LTA Licensed Official at the time the event is due to take place (Grade R5 or above) who is specified at the time of application and they:
 - Must have passed the LTA Referee Course (Tennis or Padel).
 - If tennis, must have passed the LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course.
 - Must be experienced at delivering regional or national level Padel and /or Tennis competition.
 - Must be an LTA Licensed Official at the time of application.
- The competition must appoint a Tournament Director to oversee logistics and to plan and deliver the competition.

Categories

- The competition must include the following components that run on specified days:
 - Open Men's Doubles
 - Open Women's Doubles
- If the host wishes to also offer junior and senior category events alongside the open categories, this must be specified on application, and additional courts are required.

Partners and Promotions

- The host venue must include LTA Padel logo on all tournament artwork and promotional material.
- The host venue may have partners that are different to the LTA partners, as long as they ensure all other mandatory requirements are met. (for example; Official LTA Padel Tour ball for all matches).
- The host venue must display all provided LTA branded assets (for example LTA Padel banners).
- If the host venue develops their own promotional material, they must seek approval from the LTA Padel team prior to publication.

Pre-Tournament Set Up

- The host venue must use the LTA Competition Management System to manage the event, manage entries and submit results to the LTA.
- The host venue must follow all planning procedures and deadlines in the LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide 2026. This has been provided and is available [here](#).
- The host venue must complete a risk assessment for the tournament and safeguarding requirements for competition
- The Tournament Director must complete the tournament fact sheet on the Competition Management System to communicate all key event information to players entering the competition. This needs to be in place ahead of entries opening for the competition.

Tournament Delivery

- The tournament will be delivered in accordance with the LTA Competition Regulations including the LTA Code of Conduct.
- The referee must be onsite and present for the whole competition.
- The referee must submit results with 48 hours post event.

OPTIONAL ELEMENTS

- The host venue provides suitable space for the Control Desk.
- The host venue should have viewing facilities available for spectators.
- The competition should include the following components, that run on the specified days:
 - Qualification: Thursday & Friday (dependent on entries)
 - Main Draw: Friday – Sunday (dependent on entries)
- The venue should consider offering a training opportunity, camp, competition, or some type of promotional activity in the lead up to the competition to provide the opportunity and awareness for players (in particular this could target your junior players) to prepare for the competition.
- The venue should consider providing a welcome pack for each player, to include:
 - Tournament T-shirt which includes the LTA Padel Logo
 - Re-usable water bottle
 - Small gift
 - Other items from LTA partners if provided by the LTA (see LTA support below).
- The venue should consider whether it would be helpful to have an Assistant Referee—especially for bigger draw sizes and to support player experience.
- The venue should consider requesting court supervisors to help with scoring issues and potential player disputes.
- The venue could consider providing discounts to local hotels.
- The venue could consider providing transfers: Airport – Hotel – Airport, Hotel – Venue – Hotel



- The venue could consider booking a Photographer as long as there is adherence to the LTA Photography & Filming Policy.
- The venue could consider providing a player area for time between matches to relax.

The LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide provides further details and support about how to prepare and deliver Padel events, and this information should be followed and adhered to.

LTA SUPPORT

- The LTA will provide a named point of support to answer any questions and to ensure everything in this agreement is understood and in place accordingly, we will offer a preseason meeting with all Grade 2 sanctioned competition organisers
- The LTA will provide insurance cover for the event through the LTA Registered Venue cover.
- The LTA will allow use of the LTA Padel logo on all tournament marketing material and assets.
- The LTA will promote the event on the LTA Padel [website](#).
- The LTA will provide Official LTA Padel Tour balls - 2 boxes of 24 tubes (of 3 balls) for each grade 1 and grade 2 competition to support with the delivery of the tournament. (based on Open 16 pair main draw and 16 pair qualifying (used balls for consolation matches)
- If the host venue wishes to use Court Supervisors for the tournament – the LTA will select and confirm LTA Court Supervisors, who are Licensed Officials.
- The LTA will award the relevant ranking points to the players following the conclusion of the competition as set out in the The LTA Padel Competition Referee and Organiser Guide.



LTA PADEL NATIONAL GRADE 3 – 5

THE APPLICATION PROCESS TO HOST AND DELIVER GRADE 3-5 PADEL COMPETITIONS INVOLVES THREE APPLICATION WINDOWS AS SET OUT BELOW.

Application Window Name	Type	Application Period (From – To)	Tournament Period (From – To)
2026 G3-G5 Padel Competitions January - April	Padel	24 September 2025 to 19 October 2025	5 January 2026 to 12 April 2026
2026 G3-G5 Padel Competitions April - August	Padel	8 January 2026 to 1 February 2026	13 April 2026 – 31 August 2026
2026 G3-G5 Padel Competitions September - December	Padel	18 May 2026 to 14 June 2026	1 September 2026 – 3 January 2027

Please note because of the above date venues may need to submit Grade 3-5 Applications for Jan-Apr before knowing the outcome of their Grade 1 & 2 application, we will consider this and prioritise Grade 1 and 2 applications and communicate accordingly.

Link to application process can be found here: [2026: Padel Competitions Jan-April](#)