

2025 NATIONAL OFFICIATING CONFERENCE – THE SESSIONS

**All sessions are subject to change*

DAY 1 – SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

Keynote Speaker Sara Cox MBE, Rugby Referee

We are delighted to welcome leading Rugby Union Referee Sara Cox MBE to this year's Conference as a Keynote Speaker.

Sara will talk to Officials about her inspiring journey as a female Official in a male dominated sport, how she has worked her way to the top and her experiences officiating at the 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup. Sara will also be taking questions from Officials in attendance.

Timings: 10.10am – 11.20am

Aimed at: all Licensed Officials

Available: In person & virtual attendance

Key principals for email promotion and communication

LTA Customer Engagement Manager Rochelle Williams leads Referees and Competition Organisers through this session looking at best practice and key principles to use when using email communication.

Timings: 11.50am – 12.50pm

Aimed at: Licensed Referees and Competition Organisers

Available: In person attendance

Match Assistants – Learnings and Looking Ahead

ITF Gold Badge Chair Umpires Kelly Rask & Rob Balmforth lead on court Officials on a session focussed on the role of the Match Assistant looking at the how the first year at major events went and looking ahead to 2026.

Timings: 11.50am – 12.50pm

Aimed at: Licensed Umpires

Available: In person attendance

New Officials Networking

LTA Development & Accreditation Co-ordinator Chris Drew takes 2024 & 2025 newly qualified Officials through this informal session allowing new Officials to make connections, share experiences and ambitions and ask questions.

Timings: 11.50am – 12.50pm
Aimed at: Licensed Officials first qualified in 2024 & 2025
Available: In person attendance

ITF Officiating

The ITF Officiating team – Iain Smith, Anastasia Petrarca and Ivan Martinez Barredo – will take Officials through a session covering the ITF Schools and education programme, the ITF Youth Initiative and an update on Review Officiating.

Timings: 1.50pm – 3pm
Aimed at: All Licensed Officials
Available: In person attendance

Off-court Officiating Scenarios

R1 Referees and Referee Tutors Selena Coburn & Graham Silvester lead Officials through an interactive session covering scenarios where rules and regulations and the code of conduct have to be applied.

Timings: 1.50pm – 3pm
Aimed at: Licensed Referees, Court Supervisors, Competition Organisers
Available: In person attendance

Control Desk Officiating

ITF White Badge Referee Mark Wilkinson leads this session taking a close look at the responsibilities and procedures involved in Control Desk officiating and what is needed to excel in the role.

Timings: 1.50pm – 3pm
Aimed at: All Licensed Officials
Available: In person attendance

On-court Officiating Scenarios

ITF Gold Badge Chair Umpires Kelly Rask & Rob Balmforth lead this interactive session taking Officials through on court scenarios applying the rules and regulations and code of conduct.

Timings: 3.05pm – 4.15pm
Aimed at: Licensed Umpires
Available: In person attendance

Padel Officiating Scenarios

R2 Referee and Referee Tutor Kathryn Heathcote will lead this interactive session which will see Officials working through various scenarios from Padel competitions applying the rules and regulations and code of conduct.

Timings: 3.05pm – 4.15pm
Aimed at: All Licensed Officials

Available: In person attendance

Tournament Case Study – ITF J30 Weybridge

Tournament Director and Licensed Official Piers Herfet-Jones presents a case study of the planning and delivery of the new ITF Junior tournament at St George's Hill Lawn Tennis Club.

Timings: 3.05pm – 4.05pm

Aimed at: All Licensed Officials

Available: In person attendance

LTA Keynote Speakers Merlin Van der Braam & Jenny Mcaneny Vincent

Head of Coach & Official Development & Support Merlin Van der Braam and Head of Competition Jenny McAneny-Vincent present an update on LTA strategy and the LTA Competition Plan with a focus on how Officials are at the heart of the game.

Timings: 4.45pm – 5.30pm

Aimed at: all Licensed Officials

Available: In person & virtual attendance

DAY 2 – SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

Keynote Speaker Matt Montagano, Kraken Technologies Director of Human Design

We are delighted to welcome Matt Montagano, Director of Human Design at Kraken Technologies, to this year's Conference as a Keynote Speaker.

Through his Human Design practice, Matt helps organisations transform their ways of working, embedding the “magic” that enables world class customer service. Matt will be talking to Officials about what is needed to deliver the highest levels of customer service.

Timings: 10.15am – 11.15am

Aimed at: all Licensed Officials

Available: In person & virtual attendance

Focus on LTA Selections

LTA Officiating Operations Manager Matthew Morrissey leads the interactive session taking Officials through the various elements of the process involved in selecting Officials for LTA events and events on the LTA officiating calendars.

Timings: 11.45am – 12.55pm

Aimed at: all Licensed Officials

Available: In person attendance

LTA Safeguarding

LTA Safeguarding Case Manager Greg Pople and LTA Safeguarding Officer Jenny Burr take Officials through this session including at the work being done to safeguard competitions, work being done to educate Parents and reporting safeguarding concerns from tournaments.

Timings: 11.45am – 12.45pm
Aimed at: all Licensed Officials
Available: In person attendance

Officiating Pathways & Progression

LTA Qualification Pathways Manager and Development & Accreditation Co-ordinator Chris Drew will take Officials through this session covering opportunities for progression in the different officiating roles and how to get involved in different areas of officiating.

Timings: 1.55pm – 3.05pm
Aimed at: all Licensed Officials
Available: In person attendance

TTP Top Tips & Troubleshooting

LTA Competition Measures & Systems Manager (& ITF Silver Badge Referee) Chris Mann leads this session for Referees and Competition Organisers sharing updates to Tennis Tournament Planner (TTP), top tips and troubleshooting issues and questions raised.

Timings: 1.55pm – 3.05pm
Aimed at: Licensed Referees & Competition Organisers
Available: In person attendance

Keynote Speakers Alison Hughes MBE & Fergus Murphy

We are delighted to welcome to ITF Gold Badge Officials Alison Hughes MBE and Fergus Murphy to the Conference as Keynote Speakers.

Alison and Fergus will be talking about their storied officiating careers, sharing experiences and lessons learned that have led to them chairing Grand Slam Finals and will take questions from Officials in attendance.

Timings: 3.35pm – 5pm
Aimed at: all Licensed Officials
Available: In person & virtual attendance