



ANNUAL REPORT



Chair's Welcome

Graham Watson | Chair, Tennis Scotland

Thanks to the excellent work of my predecessor Scott Martin, and the continued endeavours and commitment of our CEO Blane Dodds, I have been able to join Tennis Scotland at an exciting time for the organisation and the sport. With a very positive platform from which to deliver continued growth now in place, I look to continue the ambition that is clearly present in the organisation for developing all aspects of the sport for everyone to benefit from.

The last year proved to be a particularly challenging one but one that was aided by all involved within the tennis community with their positivity and solution orientated approach. We were all delighted that the Tennis Scotland Guidelines were adopted by the Scottish Government and **sport**scotland early on to allow tennis as one of the first sports back to activity in June 2020 following a period of lockdown. This clearly helped deliver excellent growth stats for both participation and club membership. Events and competitions were obviously more challenging with most players having a very abbreviated competitive schedule linked to the associated pandemic.

However, despite this, Scottish players continued to shine in both the national and international arena. Gordon Reid remains the flag bearer for Scots in wheelchair tennis, having remained undefeated alongside doubles partner Alfie Hewett and secured three Grand Slam doubles titles on offer across the year.

Jamie Murray also enjoyed a successful year, finishing as runner-up in the mixed doubles at the Australian Open and reaching quarter-finals at the US Open and the French Open. He has been joined in the latter stages by Cameron Norrie

and Jonny O'Mara who continue to progress in the Grand Slams. Maia Lumsden also made an impression in competitions, winning the British Tour at Roehampton before competing in the Battle of the Brits alongside Jamie and Andy Murray, Cameron Norrie, Jonny O'Mara and Aidan McHugh.

I know that the executive and the Board have ambitious plans for the year ahead and while normality has yet to resume and finances remain under pressure, I am confident we can achieve our goals and continue the growth and development towards a lasting legacy for our sport.

Substantial hurdles stood in our way as the country adapted to changing environments and a new way of life. However our new events proved popular and allowed participants to return to competition. The vast turnout to these events highlighted that the appetite for playing is most certainly still intact. I know that the executive and the Board have ambitious plans for the year ahead and while normality has yet to resume and finances remain under pressure, I am confident we can achieve our goals and continue the growth and development towards a lasting legacy for our sport. We have a very strong team in place with the drive and ability to implement our strategies and players eager to return. Our historic agreement with the LTA, together with the capital funding and increased investment in performance programmes in Scotland, coupled with increased turnover from partnerships with sportscotland, the LTA and commercial partners, places us in good position to grow and open up our sport as lockdown restrictions end. Perhaps some may even follow in the footsteps of some of the great Scottish players who have graced the court in recent times. I would like to thank you for your support throughout this year. Your support has played a key role in allowing us to continue our ambitions and aid us in striving to make tennis a sport for everyone across Scotland.



CEO Introduction

Blane Dodds | CEO, Tennis Scotland

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2020 Annual Report for Tennis Scotland. Despite the significant challenges faced over the course of the last 12 months, the tennis community has remained strong and our sport in Scotland has seen continued growth and development.

Not only was the sport championed as one of the first to return from lockdown, and remain active throughout the majority of the year, we successfully overcame barriers and welcomed new members to the community, thanks to unrivalled support from our membership and growing organisation.

Throughout a difficult year, we worked effectively to position tennis as a sport accessible to all during lockdown as the majority of our clubs opened their doors to newcomers, resulting in an impressive growth of participation and membership figures. I would like to credit our membership for the pivotal role played in enabling a reintroduction of tennis activity, which came as a result of hard work and commitment to the safe reopening of facilities across Scotland.

In addition to an impressive increase in participation numbers, it also gave us great pleasure to see a 10% increase in club memberships, almost 50% of which were attained by women and girls.

Increasing participation also had a knock-on effect on the number of players competing in Tennis Scotland events. To relaunch competitions following the initial lockdown period, we coordinated a number of competitions across our Super Matchplay Weekend which encouraged 280 junior players to return to competitive action. This was followed by the success of the inaugural Battle of the Scots events which allowed junior players to proudly represent their counties. As a consequence of restrictions, we pivoted our strategy to enable coaches, officials and competition organisers to continue their development by delivering a series of online webinars throughout lockdown This provided an excellent platform for working members of the tennis community to stay connected and continue progressing from home.

Coach development remained at the heart of our priorities through online learning, with circa 150 individuals given the platform to complete formal UKCC qualification. We also assisted coaches and venues through emergency relief support mechanisms, including a £1m Hardship Fund Support Scheme for LTA Accredited Coaches via the LTA, which aided in the early stages of the pandemic in addition to assisting with the Small Business Grant Scheme which helped source circa £1m of additional support direct to the tennis community through the pandemic as well as establishing our own Hardship support for those who perhaps didn't qualify for any assistance.

In addition to supportive funding, and in response to raising the ambition for Scottish tennis via a proactive strategy to grow the

game supported by **sport**scotland, a record multi million pound agreement was agreed with the LTA to grow our organisation through the creation of appropriate infrastructure, and open up the sport by strengthening activity and programmes across the country; from facility development, to grassroots participation and performance development. Whilst this growth opportunity was put on hold initially early in the year due to the pandemic, the initial recruitment has seen a number of new roles being created and successfully recruited in areas including coaching, performance, and participation. This will give us the opportunity to capitalise on the ambitions we have for Scottish tennis moving forward.

It was with great excitement, and thanks to the LTA and sportscotland, that we announced significant investment in facilities through the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis fund, which will help develop more all year-round play. The development of a four-court facility at Moray Sports Centre in Elgin will be the first of our projects to benefit from the £15m fund which has been allocated. Lockdown resulted in a number of projects being put on hold, but we are now beginning to get back on track and are hopeful that at least three new indoor centres will be approved in 2021.

In 2020, substantial investment was also made in performance through a number of key appointments that will support the provision of an excellent Player Pathway for the nation's top players and prospective players. New roles have been established for the entire performance pathway. At the time of going to press we have finalised the recruitment and establishing the new team in performance.

The Player Pathway continues to benefit from the GB National Tennis Academy based at The University of Stirling which evolved last year with additional new coaching roles to supplement our world-class Head Coach Leo Azevedo. Apprentice coach opportunities have also been established so that our young coaches with aspirations can learn and develop their expertise and skills. This will enhance development opportunities for the nation's future generations of tennis players, inspired by the amazing achievements of Andy Murray, and build on this years's successes which include 4 ITF Junior title wins and first professional victories for academy members.

Protocols were approved in line with Scottish Government provision for Elite Sportspeople to return to training under the resumption of performance sport, enabling GB NTA and NPP players to access indoor tennis in Stirling, as well as access to the International Travel Exemption for Elite Sportspeople in 2020.

The year also marked an exciting time for the growth of padel as we were confirmed as its national governing body in Scotland. We look forward to capitalising on the accelerating popularity of the discipline and are enthusiastic about the prospect of working alongside clubs to increase the provision of their offering to complement existing tennis facilities.

I would once again like to praise the tennis community for adhering to guidelines and showing dedication to progressing our sport, in spite of the challenges we all faced in our daily lives. On behalf of Tennis Scotland, I thank you for the role you played in securing growth in tennis over the 12-month period which will have a positive impact on the sport in Scotland for many years to come.

Our progression across the year would not have been possible without support from the LTA, sportscotland and the Scottish Government. We will continue to work closely with all of our partners to ensure a swift return to full activity in our performance and participation programmes, our facility development plans, as well as the competition calendar following further easing of restrictions. In the meantime, please continue to follow our guidance and support fellow members of the Scottish tennis community.

Finally, I would like to thank our now departed Chair, Scott Martin, for his many years of hard work leading our Board of Directors. Scott's support along with other Board members helped lay the foundations and achieve the largest investments in our history across performance, capital and infrastructure. The ambition to develop an organisation with appropriate resources to continue the growth and development of our sport and deliver lasting impact and legacy, is now progressing well. We now welcome our new Chairman Graham Watson, who brings a wealth of knowledge and skills in addition to significant Board experience to build on the progress we are making to continue the development and delivery of our ambitions for Scottish tennis.



Strategy

Vision

Tennis Opened up to Deliver The Legacy in Scotland

Mission

To grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable:

- · To build stronger venues at the heart of our community making tennis accessible
- To build a world class player development pathway
- To develop a range of facilities and venues fit for the future of our sport making tennis relevant
- To grow and develop a world class workforce
- To deliver a range of events and competitions to experience and showcase tennis making tennis enjoyable and welcoming
- · To grow and develop resources to deliver an effective new organisation

In summary we want to see more people playing across clubs and pay as you go facilities. We want to see more quality facilities and world class workforce development and coaching. We want to see an all year round sport in our communities with tennis a major or leading player in terms of community access to facilities. We want to see more Scottish players succeeding at the very top of the game in juniors and on the ATP, WTA and ITF wheelchair tours. We want an ambitious confident organisation working with all to create growth and investment to ensure a sustainable and healthu future for Scottish tennis.

Blane Dodds





Highlights

Participation

Club membership is 62965. This is a 10% year on year increase (+5125).

CLUB MEMBERSHIP 62,965 '



YEAR ON YEAR **INCREASE**

LTA members/Advantage members in Scottish clubs

Number of adults playing tennis per year

> Number of venues improving accessibility by utilising online website and booking system (including ClubSpark)

Number of venues opting into and encouraging pay to play and new casual users via Rally integration and campaign

OPEN

Of tennis venues in Scotland adapted and remained open over periods of Covid restriction



UKGOV trend data suggested tennis participation across all mechanisms is up 6%

Workforce

New LTA qualification structure formed and Coach Development Centre secured for Scotland via Tennis Scotland.

3,451

People with a UKCC coaching certificate in tennis within Scotland

395

Fully accredited and directly linked to a Scottish venue in the capacity of club coach (390 retained from 2019) 84%

Of individuals asked are positive about the future

82% Of individuals

asked are satisfied with support

144

Coaches completed a new or progressive UKCC qualification despite Covid restrictions

LTA Youth implemented and rolled out to coaches in Scotland

72% **75**% Of all coaches Of volunteers directly engage are directly in support supported

Development Highlights

Safeguarding

100% compliance with Standards for Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport.





- 6 minimum standards in safeguarding were implemented. Every UKCC L₃ + club head coach requires to be fully accredited, with a qualified and nominated welfare officer in every club.
- Safeguarding and protecting children qualification mapped online with 16 courses delivered and over 300 welfare officers and coaches qualified.
- Over 60 clubs (cumulative) have received a safeguarding support visit.

Equality and Diversity

12 Disability specific Open court network programmes across 25 venues supported. Enabling over 600 people living with a disability to playing tennis a minimum of once per week.



OPEN COURT NETWORK PROGRAMMES

A DISABILITY PLAYING **TENNIS A MINIMUM OF ONCE PER WEEK**

- Female only Pre-level UKCC L1 course piloted, mentoring of candidates and female only UKCC L1 delivered.
- 5 new She Rallies girls and women's ambassadors trained and inspiring the next generation of female leaders and tennis participants.
- Mental health partnership with Accessible tennis to proactively help people suffering from poor mental health through tennis.
- Racketscubed partnership formed to support children with an integrated Sports, Education and Nutrition program.
- Continued compliance/achievement of **sport**scotland Equality standard.









Development Highlights

Facilities

Transforming Scottish indoor tennis — 12 projects directly supported through application process.



1 AWARD CONFIRMED

- 1 award confirmed
- 2 pending confirmation



10 GATE ACCESS SYSTEMS

Cumulatively 10 gate access systems installed



21 TENNIS CLUBS

21 tennis clubs supported with a LTA quick access facility development loan and support to enhance facilities



COVID Response Support

Tennis enabled through modification and guideline support throughout majority of restricted period.



PHASES OF GUIDELINES

8 phases of guidelines progressed and issued to enable venues/coaches to adopt and remain open



LTA COVID HARDSHIP RESPONSE PACKAGES

10 LTA COVID hardship response packages formed and delivered to coaches and clubs, including the Coach Hardship Fund and LTA venue fee reimbursement

- Further Tennis Scotland specific part time coaches hardship grant for coaches that did not qualify for centralised support.
- Enablement of over £1,000,000 in Scottish Government business support grants to tennis venues.
- Transition from in person to online webinars and support content — 16 themed content support packages delivered to over 1000 people.

Participation Development

Corstorphine Tennis Club

Case Study

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What is the clubs ethos/values/goals?

We are a private tennis club in the West of Edinburgh with a good, lively and friendly social tennis group. We have a clubhouse and three all weather, floodlit courts.

We cater for players of all standards and have a flourishing coaching programme for juniors.

Despite 2020 being a challenging year, it did present some opportunities for tennis. What challenges was your club faced with and did you adapt?

The biggest challenge was ensuring everyone was safe. We set up a COVID subcommittee group to ensure everyone's safety and comply with regulations and guidelines. The taps and water system in the clubhouse were upgraded to ensure compliance. We had regular communications with members and promotion to potential members, including a promotional video posted on our Facebook page.

Over the year we gained 73 new members and we set up a buddy system for them. A WhatsApp group was set up to enable easy playing arrangements which was especially useful for the new members.

Two virtual quiz nights were held, members encouraged each other to take part in the volley challenge when we were in total lockdown, and we had a socially distanced fancy dress throughout a day just before Christmas.

We managed to hold our club championships and photos were published in the Edinburgh Evening News.

A most successful 2021 opening day was held with three separate sessions of 12 people. Great feedback was received and we hope to hold more similar events. AGM was held virtually which was successful.



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Good to see a number of 2020 new members taking part and being able to participate in their first club event.

What positive impact in participation and activity did you experience in 2020?

It brought back some normality and gave a lot more social interaction via WhatsApp groups set up for organising tennis and general chat.

There was good opportunity to develop our singles play and our singles box leagues became very popular and proved a hit with the new members!

In 2020 how did you experience your tennis club contributing to individual and community needs in any way?

to ensure the smooth running of your club.

Yes. Exercise and social interaction was really beneficial both physically and mentally. There is a big community spirit throughout the club with members pitching in to help e.g. building a new fence, painting, weeding, grass cutting and court maintenance.

What would your top piece of advice be to any other club in the Country? Maximise the skills of your members and encourage them to participate

Gullane Tennis Club

What is the clubs ethos/values/goals?

Gullane Tennis Club aims to create an enjoyable environment for everyone who wishes to take part in tennis and social activities at the club. Our aim is to ensure that the club provides for the needs of all members through special programmes and safe practice. We place value on being inclusive, welcoming and with the emphasis on fun.

Despite 2020 being a challenging year, it did present some opportunities for tennis. What challenges was your club faced with and did you adapt?

The main challenge we faced was that the timing of most membership renewals was exactly at the same time as all facilities were forced to close due to the pandemic. The committee agreed that we would extend memberships for the time period that the courts were closed to all play, thus we did not have many members deciding not to renew their membership.

Another challenge was keeping on top of the Government regulations on what was allowed and not allowed, particularly as restrictions began to be lifted gradually. Tennis Scotland were very helpful at guiding us through this with their updates.

Ways we adapted when we began to open up included: only members could play and were given the gate access code on booking a court, courts had to be pre booked online and players listed for contact and trace purposes. To reduce the chance of contact between different 'household bubbles' we removed the net of the middle court of our 3 courts to take it out of action, and the timings of court bookings were altered to reduce overlap of players being at the courts. We bulk bought a hand sanitiser from local company 'NB Gin' and had dispensers positioned beside all touch points. The Club's first aid kit was placed in a waterproof container outside the clubhouse which remained locked and out of use for much of the lockdown.

Communication between committee members was a challenge initially — until we all became adept at Zoom meetings!



Communication with our members continued via email and the challenge was making sure everybody received the information and followed the restrictions.

What positive impact in participation and activity did you experience in 2021

There was a massive uptake of tennis in Gullane over 2020 with our membership almost doubling. We think this is attributed to a whole raft of reasons: people furloughed, or working from home with no commute, so more time available; very few other sports or activities, or anything else for that matter like shopping and going on holidays were possible, so again there was more spare time and possibly also a motivation to take part in something physical outside with others, rather than another online fitness session!

The club's social sessions and coach led sessions were all cancelled so we set up various WhatsApp groups for adult members to join so that they could arrange to have games with other members rusty rackets, social, competitive groups. These groups became so successful with engagement that we have continued to use them to arrange special adult club sessions — with players having to book a place so that numbers are controlled and so contact and trace is possible. With tennis being a non contact sport, and played outdoors at Gullane, our Club coach was able to set up group sessions for u12s sooner than the local clubs running football, rugby, hockey, swimming, gymnastics etc... which has possibly boosted family and junior membership numbers in Gullane.

In 2020 how did you experience your tennis club contributing to individual and community needs in any way?

Case Study

Members certainly expressed their gratitude that the committee at Gullane Tennis Club were ready and prepared to open up as soon as the Government restrictions allowed and we communicated regularly with them about what was happening with restrictions and what was possible. The WhatsApp groups seem to have fostered more playing partners and also friendships as a result, with 'chats' not always being strictly about tennis — and I think this will have helped some members feel less isolated. The combination of playing tennis and feeling connected to like minded people has likely brought positive mental health benefits during these extremely challenging times.

What would your top piece of advice be to any other club in the Country?

This is not advice, but my hope for the future is that we can continue to meet the needs of all these new members who have been drawn to play tennis in 2020 and that our sport can continue to grow and thrive in all the clubs in the Country.

Rutherglen Lawn Tennis Club

Case Study

What is the clubs ethos/values/goals?

Located just 3 miles south east of Glasgow city centre and benefiting from excellent public transport links, we are one of the most active and progressive Tennis Clubs in Scotland.

We have 7 all-weather courts which are floodlit for year-round play. These are split across two nearby venues. We have 4 Artficial Grass courts located off Viewpark Drive, our home for nearly 100 years, and 3 Artificial Clay courts located off Burnside Road, which formerly operated as Burnside Tennis Club, an affiliated section of Burnside Bowling Club, until they became derelict. We saved and expanded into these courts in summer 2017, leasing them from Burnside Bowling Club on a long-term basis, to give us the extra space we so badly needed given our rapid growth and expansion. Both venues are fully accessible.

We are big enough to offer great facilities and lots of tennis and social opportunities for everyone, but small enough to be run by members for members and retain the friendly, welcoming environment we pride ourselves on.

We offer loads of opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy the wonderful game of tennis any day of the week, any day of the year, whether this is; informally with friends and family; socially with like-minded club members through various weekly social play sessions and numerous special events throughout the year; competitively as a member of one of our many teams that play at all levels in the West of Scotland Leagues, various Regional and National Competitions, as well as our annual Club Championships; as part of our Coaching Programme led by the British Tennis Coach of the Year 2016, Jonny Willcox, giving kids and grown-ups the opportunity to fulfil their tennis ambitions whatever they may be, or; through numerous community outreach initiatives of which we are hugely proud.

Our commitment to provide a vibrant, high quality, affordable and welcoming club was recognised by Tennis Scotland who awarded us the accolade of "Club of the Year 2016" and then again in 2017. We are incredibly proud to have been the first club to win this award for two consecutive years.

But it's not just about tennis. We've worked hard to create a very active off-court social scene too, with our now-legendary Quiz Night, Grand Slam-themed tournaments, end-of-season Awards Night and many other events over the course of the year.

We are a tennis club but first and foremost we are a progressive, welcoming, supportive and inclusive community that works incredibly hard to make peoples' lives better.

We have 3 club values:
HARD WORK, RESPECT & TEAMWORK.



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We are a tennis club but first and foremost we are a progressive, welcoming, supportive and inclusive community that works incredibly hard to make peoples' lives better.





Despite 2020 being a challenging year, it did present some opportunities for tennis. What challenges was your club faced with and did you adapt?

The last year has clearly been dominated by COVID-19 which, like everything else in our lives, has impacted every facet of club life. However, amidst all of the turmoil, stress and upset of an incredibly tough year for everyone, there have been some really positive outcomes that I think will make our club stronger...

We kept the club open as long as was safely possible. We allowed members to take a payment holiday during Lockdown recognising the huge financial impact the pandemic has had. We supported all our Coaching Team financially throughout Lockdown. They are the heartbeat of our club and we must look after them for the long-term. We got members back playing as soon as it was safe and permitted to do so. We maintained as much continuity on our junior programme as we possibly could within restrictions. We welcomed over 100 new members into the club. We took the opportunity, when our facilities were closed, to improve our facilities for the future.

However, most importantly, it's incredibly humbling to see just how far members of our club have gone to look out for and help each other throughout the pandemic. Also, it's wonderful to see just how much of a positive impact the game of tennis can have on people's physical and mental health. This only goes to further highlight just how important we are to people's lives and the communities we serve.

As a club, we should be incredibly proud of what we've done during this very difficult and challenging period. One of the things I think we should be most proud of is being able to allow our members to get back on court as quickly and as safely as possible after lockdown eased, and allow the club to remain open during the second lockdown. Here we owe an incredible gratitude to two wonderful groups of people.

Our "Corona Court Crew" open and close the courts and clubhouses every day rain hail or shine. This is a huge commitment and avoids members touching keypads, locks etc. thereby minimising transmission. Our "Cludgie Cleaning Crew" clean the toilets at both our venues every day to allow these to be safely opened for members to use. Another incredible commitment and sacrifice.

COVID-19 has challenged our "for members, by members" ethos like never before. However, we're delighted to say that, thanks to the hard work and dedication of an incredible team of volunteers, our club has stepped-up and met this challenge head-on and we will be all the stronger for it.

What positive impact in participation and activity did you experience in 2020?

At a time when most other sports, activities, pursuits etc. have been put on-hold, outdoor tennis, due to its unique characteristics, has been able to thrive. The interest shown in our sport has been incredible and we've never been busier. Our courts are pretty much full all of the time. We're hugely proud of the role we've played to help Scottish tennis capitalise on these unique circumstances to grow the game and are totally committed to continuing all our hard work to retain all these new people in our sport.

In 2020 how did you experience your tennis club contributing to individual and community needs in any way?

Yes, our members tell us on a regular basis that having the opportunity to play regular tennis, getting fresh air, exercise and some (physically-distanced) social interaction, has helped them get through what has been an incredibly challenging year for everyone. Indeed some have said that tennis was their saviour!

We've had loads of messages of thanks from our members keen to recognise the team of volunteers who have helped keep us open as long as possible and as safely as possible throughout the pandemic. In turn, we want to thank everyone at Tennis Scotland for all their tireless work to give us the advice, tools and opportunities to stay open and offer a safe experience for everyone to enjoy.

COVID-19 has demonstrated just how important we are to people's lives and the wider communities we serve. More broadly, it's brought the Scottish tennis community together. It's wonderful to see clubs near and far working together to help solve the challenges COVID-19 has presented and we're hugely proud of the role we've played in this. We all face the same challenges and it's great we're now working closer together to help each other. Long may this continue.

What would your top piece of advice be to any other club in the Country?

Your facilities are a huge asset to the whole community. Do everything you possibly can to make them accessible and welcoming. Your club, the sport of tennis and the wider community will be all the richer for it.

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Participation Development

Giffnock Tennis Squash & Hockey Club

Case Studu

Giffnock Tennis Squash & Hockey Club is more than just One Club-Three Sports. We are a family who pull together in times of adversity. At the forefront of club activity is providing access to sport to all members and our local community, while maintaining a focus and commitment to safeguarding and equality & diversity. We believe that competition leads to coaching, in promoting a positive environment for competitive play. Our ultimate goal is to be the best version of ourselves possible!



Despite 2020 being a challenging year, it did present some with and did you adapt?

Covid-19 and the associated lockdown that started in March 2020 pretty much instantly destroyed all plans for our 125th Anniversary year. We used the time and energy available to us as a result of lockdown to focus efforts into adding value to our members, with a charity programme launched and widespread communication on a daily basis. The commitment of our committee to this process was exceptional, and a greater time commitment than has ever been demanded of any committee in our 125 year history. This started at a lockdown committee meeting held in the bar the day before lockdown in March 2020, where key decisions were taken, such as to invest into a Zoom facility to facilitate meetings.

Over the period of the first lockdown we did simple things like automated the back door and the doors to our toilets, enabling touch free (common surface free) access to areas of the club that are the greatest risk of virus transmission. We installed fire door holders to enable members to move through the clubhouse without touching door handles and we installed hand sanitiser dispensers in every room. We created a return to tennis video, and with over 4,100 views on our Giffnock YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/c/teamgiffnock), the video enabled us to educate politicians, clinicians and scientists who do not play tennis just how naturally physically distanced tennis players are.

What positive impact in participation and activity did you experience in 2020?

The Club benefited greatly from a full day of BBC Scotland and BBC Network news coverage providing great visibility of the measures in place to ensure Covid safety for all members looking to play. This provided members and a lot of people watching with confidence to get down and play tennis using strict procedures put in place by the club. Use of club facilities quickly grew, indeed they have only grown, even during winter and periods of snow cover. This was then supplemented by our analysis of the court booking system, which enabled us to guide members to specific tennis sessions, to court availability, to find opponents looking to play and to identify those shielding or in need of support. This impacted very positively on member use of the tennis courts, with over 85% of all those eligible to play being recorded on court on a regular basis, and court occupancy regularly exceeding 97% of availability (weather permitting).

The club hosted the first week long, and ultimately only, Grade 2 British Tour weeklong club tournament, on bio-secure protocols, which ran in September. This event stimulated a desire among members to watch tennis from our hospitality setting, helping to maximise bar revenues during the period this was permitted. Adding to the social scene at the club brought a feel good factor and camaraderie that continues to benefit the club today. This premium event is part of our commitment to competitive tennis, accessible to all Giffnock members. This compliments our club coaching ethos that "Competition Leads to Coaching", which is based on the principle that you find out what you need to work on by playing and our coaches can then help you improve your tennis before you compete again.

Over the past few years we have transformed our coaching, our communications and our clubhouse. This has been the launchpad to our largest ever membership, to financial security and to opportunities all members can benefit from. Part of what makes us different is the coaching team we have in place. Our Director of Tennis, Mark Openshaw, is now also providing all members with access to two 30 minute fitness sessions every week utilising our Zoom facility. This is free to all members who register to receive the Zoom link and will ensure everyone is fully fit when the various playing seasons are finally able to get underway in 2021. At the beginning of lockdown, membership numbers dropped, reflecting the inability of members to use club facilities. Each person resigning was contacted to see whether Covid circumstances (loss of job, furlough or other specific circumstances) had led to their decision, enabling specific dispensations and financial arrangements to be put in place, bespoke to each member. All these many initiatives, however large of small, have combined to grow Club membership by over 36% since the middle of lockdown, from around 850 to over 1156 today.

In 2020 how did you experience your tennis club contributing to individual and community needs in any way?

Giffnock makes great claim to being more than just a club, indeed we often brand ourselves as the Giffnock family. Families come into their own when faced with adversity, and it was with this in mind that we set up our Giffnock Community Outreach Project the day the UK went into lockdown, as a means to ensure every member, their families and friends did not face adversity alone and had a safety net, should they need it. We set out in the early part of the Coronavirus pandemic to reach out to every member to ensure they were not going without basic support.

A club of 850+ members at that time, we could never know the individual circumstances of every member, so we did not want to presume everyone was okay. We started out offering a basic food delivery service, including the most precious commodity of all toilet rolls. Our communication to members in these early stages was daily, with information and initiatives, where we felt we could add real value to our local community. So from food deliveries, we quickly added online social events, a telephone buddy system, mental health support, physical daily skills challenges, support on IT, ice cream deliveries and expert advice offered by several qualified professionals. We were also able to extend our support beyond our local area, providing Barnardo's with weekly deliveries of food, using our network of suppliers to ensure a regular supply of quality food to those families most in need.

- "Getting the weekly groceries really helped during the Pandemic as mum has PTSD and other anxiety related mental health issues and was scared to go to shops."
- "They've not just saved us money, it's one less time per week I've got to take the kids with me when I'm going shopping too!"
- "The food parcels were amazing alongside the food the weekly physical and emotional contact really helped".

We wanted to make life a little brighter and more bearable and to provide some moments of joy to those most likely to be suffering due to isolation. Our first attempt to brighten up peoples day came with our Easter Bunny drop to 300 local child members, each delivery managed within committee members daily exercise walking distance. The hundreds of lovely messages told a story of young people, cooped up in their houses with Mums and Dads, all of whom were delighted at something a little different and grateful to know their club was thinking of them.

It was this that gave rise to our slogan: "Alone, But Never Lonely"



What would your top piece of advice be to any other club in the Country?

No act of kindness will go unnoticed by your members and your local community. Take some risks, be bold and if you want any help then Giffnock is always here to help other clubs!

GB National Tennis Academy Highlights

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone with the pandemic and its impact on the world. In spite of lockdowns, regional restrictions and tour closures there are still a number of highlights to reflect upon, including:

- GB NTA players were strongly represented in the Great Britain Winter Cup team selections with 2 out of 3 players in both the boys and girls teams coming from the GB NTA.
- First British girl to reach the semi-finals at Tarbes, Le Petit As, since Maia Lumsden and Gabi Taylor in 2014.
- One player reached the final of the Teen Tennis in Bolton (Tennis Europe Category 1)
- 1 ITF Singles Winner 2nd youngest Brit ever after Emma Raducanu
- 3 ITF Doubles Titles
- 2 Tennis Europe Singles Titles
- 1 Tennis Europe Doubles Title
- Two wins on debut in a Professional Women's Event
- Three LTA Youth Series Event winners
- Two players ranked in top 15 in Tennis Europe Under14 Girls
- A week long training camp in February with Jose Higueras — one of the most successful coaches in the history of the game.
- Leon Smith, Head of Men's Tennis and GB Davis Cup Captain, a regular visitor to the GB NTA.







TENNIS EUROPE DOUBLES





Tennis Scotland and the GB NTA created opportunities for the tennis community in Scotland and all over the world to listen to and interact with Four ex World No.1's:

Juan Carlos Ferrero | Jamie Murray Bruno Soares | Gustavo Kuerten

MURRAY

TENNIS SCOTLAND **INSTAGRAM LIVE**

TONIGHT 6PM

- Gran Canaria Training Camp with guest coach David Marrero Santana, former ATP World Tour Finals Doubles Champion (partnering with Fernando Verdasco) and ATP Doubles
- Financial support for coach provision at home during lockdown.
- For over two months the GB NTA coaches travelled to support players at home during lockdown period and meet with parents.
- The GB NTA provided remote fitness and stretching sessions as well as providing and overseeing physical preparation programmes.
- Regular communication with players on individual and group basis.
- Tennis Scotland and the GB NTA created opportunities for the tennis community in Scotland and all over the world to listen to and interact with Four ex World No.1's: Juan Carlos Ferrero, Jamie Murray, Bruno Soares, and Gustavo Kuerten. There was also the chance to interact and listen to Patrick McEnroe, Cici Bellis, Maia Lumsden and Francis Roig long term coach to Rafa Nadal.
- We provided a Zoom session with our Biomechanical consultant
- The only programme in Europe with participation in a Zoom session with former French Open Champion Gustavo Kuerten.
- Online safeguarding workshop and quizzes.
- Establish return to indoor tennis training protocols under resumption of performance sport to provide continuous indoor training provision in Stirling.
- During the pandemic, once the respective tours reopened, the GB NTA provided optional opportunities to travel to international competition and training camps in Denmark, Germany and Gran Canaria.
- New academy coaching roles have also been created and recruited to add to the exciting team of coaches led by the world class coach Leo Azevedo supported by Scotlands
- University of Stirling completed £21m capital investment project on transformational sports facilities, hosting GB NTA physical preparation sessions in the new High Performance Gym.





Jonny O'Mara

Started the year very strongly reaching the quarter finals of the Australian Open with his partner Marcelo Arevalo and was runner-up in the Chile Open in Feb 2020 also with Marcelo. Jonny took part in World Team Tennis in the summer with the San Diego Aviators and was proactive during lockdown running a singles box league for local performance players outdoors at the Thistle TC in Edinburgh.

End of year Doubles World Ranking 58.



Jamie Murray

Jamie Murray was runner-up in the mixed doubles at the Australian Open with partner Bethanie Mattek-Sands and reached two Grand slam guarter-final at the US Open and French Open with Neal Skupski.

During lockdown he organised and also managed to play in the Battle of the Brits. Over the two events Scotland was represented by Andy Murray, Jamie Murray, Cameron Norrie, Aidan McHugh, Maia Lumsden and Jonny O'Mara.



Maia Lumsden

Made a successful return to competition in the summer winning the British Tour at Roehampton her first competition back after injury. Maia also played in the Battle of the Brits and reached quarter-final of singles in two W25 events in Portugal and was runner-up in doubles at a W25 event in Turkey.



Cameron Norrie

Reached the last 32 of the US Open beating top ten player Diego Schwartzman in the first round in 3 sets. Finished the year strongly reaching the quarter finals of the ATP 500 event in St Petersburg in singles and doubles as well as last 16 in singles in ATP 250 events in Delray Beach and Antwerp.

End of year Singles World Ranking 71.

Performance Successes

The junior competition schedule was stop and start but Scotland was very well represented in the LTA Youth National Series events an invitational event, which ran over the summer.



Charlie Robertson

Charlie Robertson qualified for the finals and finished 3rd in the U14's LTA Youth National Series. He was also runner-up in the U14 grade 2 at Bolton in November.

Lucas Nolte

Lucas Nolte finished 6th in the U11 grade 2 event in Bath and was invited to a British National Age Group Programme competitive and coaching weekend in Corby with his coach Derek Brown.



Ben Hudson

Ben Hudson won the U16 grade 2 in October at Bolton.

Ellie Robertson

Ellie Robertson was selected on to the National Age group Programme part of the LTA wheelchair tennis performance player pathway.

Regional Player Development Centre (RPDC) aimed at player 10-14yrs

Further investment to allow the upgrading of the RPDC programme to support the best 10 to 14-year-olds in Scotland has been put in place via the LTA to support Tennis Scotland ambitions at this level. This adds to the growing Performance Pathway of coaches and roles to support Scottish players across the age groups. New coach roles have been advertised and recruited and the RPDC and others will start in 2021 as soon as possible within Government easing of restrictions.

Local Player Development Centres (LPDCs)/ Wee Aces aimed at players 8–10 years Coaches continued to work hard with the U10 players supported

by the Tennis Scotland coach consultant. Kris Soutar. Player development coach resources are currently being developed to be rolled out in 2021. This area is currently being reviewed by the LTA and Tennis Scotland.



Competition and Events

Outcomes/Progress 2020

Below highlights some keys stats and achievements in 2020;

- Regular Competing Players increased by 10% (6+) 13% (1+)
- Tennis Scotland delivered 79 Scotland County Tour Events despite Pandemic
- Tennis Scotland delivered 17 Winter Regional Tour Events
- 179 Grade 5 and 6 Events delivered
- 208 players took part in a Tennis Scotland Super Matchplay Weekend to relaunch competitions after lockdown

- 128 County players took part in a Battle of the Scots County Events organised by Tennis Scotland
- Tennis Scotland delivered Online Webinars to Officials, Competition Organisers and Coaches to update on competition guidelines as well as plans and objectives going forward for competitions
- 10 National Player Programme players took part in the Tennis Scotland Box League Event
- Tennis Scotland ran LTA/Tennis Scotland Youth Box Leagues which had 212 players take part
- Tennis Scotland delivered in partnership with the LTA a World Tennis Tour 25K Event





Despite the pandemic, Tennis Scotland delivered:







ONLINE WEBINARS

Continue to showcase tennis via a range of events both domestic and International

Although most of Tennis Scotland National Events were cancelled in 2020 we were able to hold the following events on top of the domestic tournaments that Tennis Scotland support and coordinate. The events in bold were new events that were created in 2020.

Scottish Junior Indoors
Senior ITF International
World Tennis Tour 25K
LTA/Tennis Scotland Youth Box Leagues
Tennis Scotland Box League Event
Tennis Scotland Super Matchplay Weekend
Battle of the Scots County Event

Going forward into 2021 we have plans to increase the number of National and International Events we deliver, this includes more International Junior events.

Competition and Events

Outcomes/Progress 2020

Regular Competing Players

From January 2019 there has been an increase of 10% in regular comping players 6+ matches (5373–5914) and an increase of 13% in players that have played 1+ match (7784–8876). This figure will have dropped since the pandemic but this figure will recover in 2021.

Scotland County Tour — Grade 4 one day competitions

Despite the pandemic we have managed to deliver 79 Scotland County Tour Events. We managed to hold a few more events in a shorter space of time as well as utilise outdoor court space to allow events to take place, this resulted in nearly the same amount of events delivered in 2019, which was 86.

Winter Regional Tour — Grade 3 competitions

Despite the pandemic we have managed to deliver 17 Winter Regional Tour Events, these events are 2 day competitions held indoors.

Grade 5 and 6 Competitions

A total of 178 Grade 5 and 6 Events took place in 2020, this is a great achievement as this number is only down by 20 events compared with 2019. This was mainly down to working with a number of venues and organisers to create a lot of tournaments once restrictions allowed. One of the main initiatives Tennis Scotland coordinated was the Tennis Scotland Super Matchplay Weekend which saw 25 events across the Country take place over the last weekend in August, which involved 208 junior players.

District Competition Coordinators

We created a new project to support the increase in local matchplay competition and team events, we appointed 3 District Competition Coordinators which will help increase Grade 6 provision and deliver team competition for Juniors. These roles are in partnership with the District Associations.

Grade 5 Local Tour

We have worked with a number of organisers to develop a calendar of Grade 5 Local Tour Events; we have over 90 events planned for 2021 already, in 2019 we had 67 for the whole year.

TS Open Tour

The 1st Progressive Tour event was cut short due to Covid and we were only able to hold the TS 300s and TS 500s. The 2nd Progressive Tour Event was cancelled completely. However we managed to hold a total of 6 TS 1000 Series Events that were rearranged for later in the year due to them being cancelled in the summer.

The TS Open Tour will expand from 13 Events in 2019 to 19 in 2021, with 6 new 1 day Grade 3 Events being added to the calendar.

TS 100 Club Series Events

21 Events took place in 2020, which was a similar figure to 2019 (25) and we have plans to grow this number in 2021

Online Webinars for Officials and **Competition Organisers**

8 training/information sessions have been delivered via video conferencing to help with the following areas with a total of 85 people attending;

- General update on competition guidelines
- Competition updates World Tennis Number, Competition Management System, Age Group Changes
- Delivery and training for Grade 5 Events in Scotland
- Delivering TS 100 Club Series Events











Competitions

GB Pro-Series Glasgow \$25k
— Scottish Open Championships

Tennis Scotland, in partnership with the LTA and Glasgow Life, staged another very successful professional tournament at the Scotstoun Leisure Centre from 16th–23th February. The first combined men's and women's tournament in Great Britain's on the 2020 World Tennis Tour, the event attracted players from across the world.

19-year-old Scot Aidan McHugh was Scotland's highest ranked player in the men's main draw. Main draw wild cards were awarded to Ali Collins and Scott Duncan. A strong Women's draw consisting of players inside the top 100 in the world proved a tough task for Ali who lost in the first round. Scott also lost first round after putting up a good fight to eventually lose in three sets. Aidan went one step further, winning his first round against fellow Brit Arthur Fery but then losing in the last 16 to number 4 seed from the Netherlands Jesper De Jong.

In the Women's event 17-year-old Clara Tauson from Denmark and current Australian Open Junior Champion came through a strong field to beat Viktoriya Tomova from Bulgaria 6–4 6–0 in the women's singles.

The Men's final involved 18-year-old Brit Jack Draper against Lucas Poullain from France. After Draper won the first set 6-0 and pressing for a break of serve in the 1st game of the second set it looked all over for the French player but Poullain managed to hold serve and break Draper to go 2-0 up in the 2nd set. That was enough for Poullain to start to work his way back into the match, winning the second set 7-5 as well as the 3rd set 6-3 to win the match, the crowd gave a prolonged applause for what was a fantastic match.

Tennis Scotland Box League Event

With no competitions taking place over the summer due to restrictions Tennis Scotland invited all of the National Player Programme players and Scottish players that are currently on tennis scholarships in America or UK to take part in the three-day competition. The format followed a similar format to the ATP/WTA finals with three round-robin groups followed by a final round robin group of the winners from each box league. This was an excellent event and was put on to give our elite players some well needed match practice. Hamish Stewart, currently on scholarship in the US, came out on top and played excellently in all of his matches, beating Ewan Moore and Euan Lumsden in the finals box league.



Hamish Stewart

Competitions

Juniors

2020 Scottish Junior Indoor Championships

158 players participated in the Scottish Junior Indoor championships played during the first week of 2020. The Grade 3 event offered boys and girls singles events in six age groups — the 9 & Under and 10 & Under competitions being organised by Tennis Scotland for the first time. Matches were played indoors at Scotstoun Leisure Centre and at Newlands LTC.

Top performer over the three days of excellent competition was 14-year-old Ben Hudson from Monifieth who won both 16 and 18 & Under boys titles. Also enjoying a run of good form was Edinburgh player Luke McFarlane who reached the final in both these age groups.

17-year-old Chloe Compson from Cambuslang, Glasgow retained the girls 18 & Under title with a 6-2 6-3 final win over Gemma Filshill [Kirkcaldy].



Ben Hudson



Chloe Compson

Battle of the Scots

Tennis Scotland hosted a series of friendly Inter County Team Competitions that were run in partnership with ABTA Gleneagles and Craiglockhart Tennis Centre. As there was no County Cup team opportunities for the Junior County players this year (apart from the 18U team), it was a great opportunity to put on this event and to give some of those players the chance to compete for their County. We ran events for 9U, 10U, 12U and 14U over 3 days. Events consisted of doubles with a team of 8 players (4 boys and 4 girls).

The series of events was a huge success with 128 players taking part. West and North of Scotland ended up joint winners on 11 points each.



West of Scotland 12U team

Seniors

ITF Seniors Glasgow the Scottish Senior Players' Championships

The 2020 Scottish Seniors' Open took place at the Scotstoun Leisure Centre in Glasgow with Scottish players winning 7 out of the 12 singles events played.

The event, an ITF Grade 3 event, attracted over 200 competitors from 12 nations.



Finance Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Turnover for the year was £2,134,752 compared to £2,435,873 in the prior year, a decrease of £301,121. This drop in income recognises the material impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on our business and operations for the year to 31 December 2020.

Income from the LTA was comparable to prior year as we agreed a new core funding grant at the start of 2020 and the investment made by LTA into our GB National Tennis Academy in Stirling continued as we worked hard to continue training and support for our GB NTA players under remote conditions. Commercial income reduced by £197,823, this was wholly due to the drop in our sponsorship income which was as a direct impact of the pandemic through the cancellation of Wimbledon in the summer of 2020. Other income was reduced on prior year due to lack of activity in performance for trips and camps and drop in competitions activities. Our funding agreement with **sport**scotland continues until the end of March 2022.

Expenditure has decreased by £335,274 from £2,390,983 in the prior year to £2,055,709. This reflects the decrease in spend in all areas including staffing costs whereby any vacant positions at the start of 2020 were deferred for recruitment until 2021. Performance expenditure was the only exception showing an increase on prior year of £238,313 which aligns with our continued investment in the GB National Tennis Academy.

The balance sheet at 31 December 2020 shows a stable position with reserves of £543,221. Cash at bank is £1,012,336 compared to £853,828 in prior year and this increase driven by an increase in deferred income within creditors at the year end.

Overall the Tennis Scotland accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 show a profit of £81,315 compared to a prior year profit of £47,156. This surplus has been added to the brought forward reserves of the company. The company has worked hard to achieve this financial position for the year. This has

2020 TURNOVER

£2,134,752

2019 TURNOVER

£2,435,873

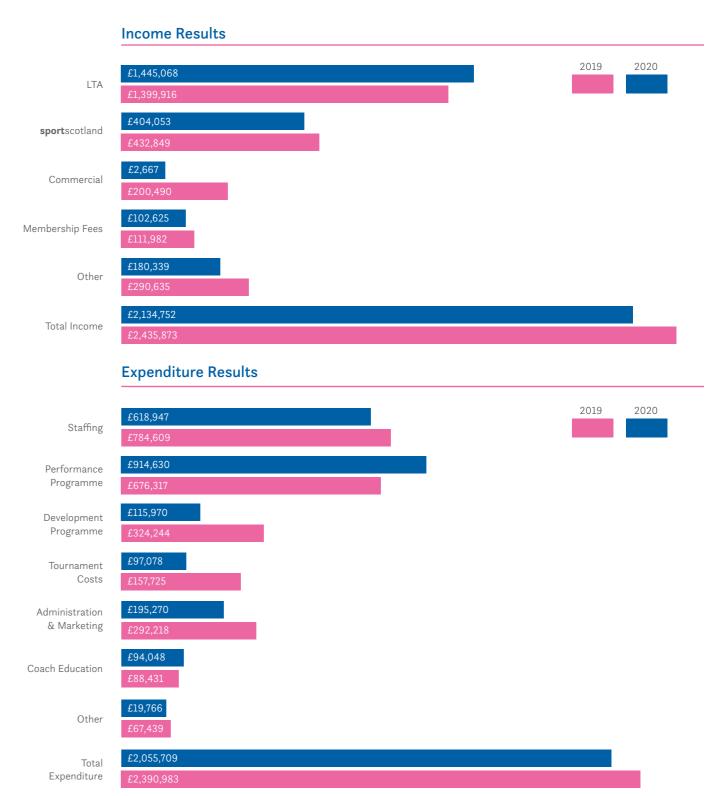
Overall the Tennis Scotland accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 show a profit of £81,315 compared to a prior year profit of £47,156.

been achieved through cashflow management and also restrictions on non-essential expenditure and close budgetary controls throughout the pandemic period. The Board in considering the reserves of the company are satisfied there are sufficient reserves and secured future funding in place to allow Tennis Scotland to continue operating for the foreseeable future. Post year end it is recognised that restrictions are still in place and continues to provide operational challenges, the executive and the Board 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 2020



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Profit and Loss Account

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Turnover	£2,134,752	£2,435,873
Competition costs	(£149,336)	(£249,452)
Tennis costs	(£1,460,857)	(£1,598,002)
Administrative and marketing costs	(£445,516)	(£543,529)
Operating profit/(loss)	£79,043	£44,890
Other interest receivable and similar income	£2,272	£2,266
Profit/(loss) before taxation	£81,315	£47,156
Taxation	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	£81,315	£47,156

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2020	2019	2019
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	-	£35,535	-	£21,349
Current assets				
Stock	-	_	£5,854	_
Debtors	£111,317	-	£115,994	_
Cash at bank and in hand	£1,012,336	-	£853,828	_
	£1,123,653		£975,676	-
Creditors: amounts falling due within one Year	(£615,967)	-	(£535,119)	-
Net current assets	-	£507,686	-	£440,557
Total assets less current liabilities	-	£543,221	-	£461,906
Capital and reserve Profit and loss reserves	-	£543,221	-	£461,906

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)

G Watson (Chair) **Director**















































