

MODIFIED GREEN COURT TRIAL: COUNTY TOUR & LOCAL TOUR JANUARY TO APRIL 2026 PARENT AND PLAYER INFORMATION

We are excited to inform you about an important development in the LTA's 10&U Competition Framework. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the tennis experience for young players, we will be trialling a modified green court at all 10U County Tour (Grade 4) and Local Tour (Grade 5) competitions taking place in the period from 5 January to 22 April 2026.

WHY THE TRIAL?

A key finding from an extensive competition was the need to attract more young players to the sport and support their progression. An area identified for further exploration was the competition framework - specifically court size, net height, and competition opportunities. Feedback highlighted that many players struggle with the transition from the orange court to the standard green court, particularly in skill development areas such as serving. To address this, we have been exploring a modified version of the green court that better aligns with players' age and stage of development. Our goal is to create an environment that supports player development and makes the transition from playing the game to competing smoother and more effective.

In response, a reduced length court (21m) with a lowered net height (0.8m) has been proposed as an alternative for the green stage. This modified court has already been successfully trialled in Belgium and France, as well as at LTA Staged National and Regional Tour competitions in 2025. The modification offers a more suitable ratio between the average players' height and court length, which could promote better development during this critical transition phase. We also believe that the modified court could have a positive impact on player experience and enjoyment, helping to retain players in the sport.

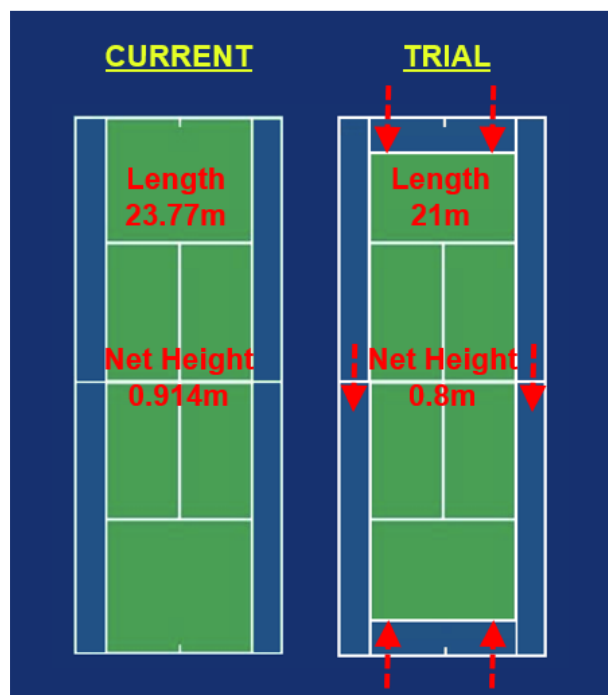
Feedback from stakeholders involved in the initial trial included:

- 100% of court supervisors thought that setting up the modified green court was 'Easy'
- 72% of players enjoyed playing on the modified green court either a little or a lot
- 86% of parents said it is a good fit for an orange-to-green transition
- 100% of national coaches recommended the modified green court as an effective transitional step

TRIAL DETAILS

As a result of the previous successful trials, we would like to trial the modified green court at a wider variety of competitions to enable a better understanding of the practical considerations and the potential impact beyond a performance environment. Therefore, a third phase of the trial is being delivered, and the modified 10U court will be used for all 10U County Tour (Grade 4) and Local Tour (Grade 5) events in the January – April 2026 competition period (specifically 5 January – 22 April 2026).

The key adjustments for the modified court are:



- **Court Length**

Reduced to 21m (from the standard 23.77m)

- **Net Height**

Lowered to 0.8m (from the standard 0.914m)

- **Court Width**

Remains unchanged at 8.23m

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

We are considering whether the modified court provides the following potential benefits:

- Create a smoother and more gradual transition from the orange court to the green court.
- Enhance your child's ability to develop key tennis skills, particularly in serving, in an environment more adequately tailored to their size and ability.
- Enable those players that are trying to be proactive in their play to have greater success
- Ensure your child enjoys a positive, age-appropriate competitive experience
- This court modification is being trialled at 10U County Tour (Grade 4) and Local Tour (Grade 5) competitions taking place from January - April 2026 (specifically from 5 January – 22 April 2026).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We'd love to hear your feedback! After the relevant events, you'll receive a short Microsoft form where you can share your child's experience. Your insights will help us shape the future of 10&U competitions. We will be asking for your insights in relation to the perceived impact of the modified court on player experience, confidence, enjoyment, and overall match quality.

We are committed to providing the best possible environment for your child's tennis development, and we believe these changes will help make that experience even better. We appreciate your support in this important trial.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the trial please contact the LTA Customer Support Team using the [online enquiry form](#).