



Press Release

For immediate release

Thursday May 17th 2018

MERVYN DAVIES APPOINTED NEW LTA CHAIRMAN

The Lawn Tennis Association today announces that Mervyn Davies will take over as Chairman at the end of September. He will succeed current Chairman, David Gregson, who has held the role since December 2012 and whose six year term is coming to an end.

Lord Davies is an experienced Chairman, leading Boards in the commercial, not-for-profit, charitable and communications sectors. He is also a keen tennis enthusiast, with broad experience in the sports industry as a current Non-Executive Director of World Rugby and former member of the board of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

Davies is currently partner and Chairman of private equity firm Corsair Capital, Chairman of investment business LetterOne and Senior Independent Director at Diageo as well as being the Chairman of the Trustees of the Royal Academy Trust. He was the former CEO and Chairman of Standard Chartered plc, former Chair of Chime Communications plc and the Garden Bridge Trust. Davies was awarded a CBE in 2002 for his services to the financial sector and made a peer in 2009. He has also held a number of ministerial positions including Trade Minister.

Mervyn Davies commented, *“To be appointed as the Chair of the LTA is a great honour. I have huge shoes to fill and will do my best to make the sport accessible to all, whilst assisting the Board, Executive and Council in their endeavours. I am very excited about the role, since I love many different sports and am a passionate tennis player.”*

“Clare Hollingsworth LTA Board Senior Independent Director said, *“We are delighted to have found a successor of Mervyn’s calibre following a robust search process. He brings a wealth of leadership and governance experience to the role, from both the sporting and corporate worlds, and we are very excited that he will be leading the LTA Board.”*

LTA Chief Executive Scott Lloyd added, *“We would also like to acknowledge the very significant contribution David Gregson has made as the LTA’s first independent Chairman during the last five and half years. Key among these has included developing a new mission to arrest the long-term decline of the sport, helping craft a new values for the organisation, and most critically, playing a lead role in building ever stronger relationships across the sport, its funders and government.”*

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT THE LTA:

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the National Governing Body for tennis in Great Britain, responsible for developing and promoting the sport, with a mission to get more people playing tennis more often. It does this under the consumer brand of **British Tennis**, by working with a broad range of partners and over 25,000 volunteers, to grow the game in communities, clubs and schools. The LTA represents the interests of over 590,000 British Tennis Members, men and women, girls and boys across the country, playing on more than 23,000 courts. The LTA runs and supports a network of 11,500 approved tournaments for players of all ages, the corner-stones of which are the premier grass court events leading up to Wimbledon: the Nature Valley Open (at Nottingham), the Nature Valley Classic (at Birmingham), the Fever-Tree Championships (at Queen's Club-London) and the Nature Valley International (at Eastbourne). The LTA works with many delivery partners to grow the sport across the country. One of these is its charitable entity, the Tennis Foundation, to provide a tennis provision for more than 20,000 schools, disadvantaged youth as well as promoting tennis as an inclusive sport for anyone with a disability. For further information about the LTA and British Tennis, and to review the British Tennis strategy for 2015 – 2019 visit www.lta.org.uk or follow us on Twitter @BritishTennis.