

LTA TENNIS AWARDS 2021 JUDGING CRITERIA

Nominations are for contributions and achievements made in 2020, with the exception of the Lifetime Achievement award. Nominations are judged against the criteria below:

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – THE NOMINEE:

1. Has made an exceptional contribution to their tennis club(s) or community for more than 30 years
2. Has opened up tennis to enable more people to play and enjoy tennis
3. Has shown excellent teamwork or leadership
4. Has shown consideration of diversity, inclusion and safeguarding
5. Has shown an open mind-set and a willingness to adapt as tennis has changed

The individual's contributions can be in any capacity including (but not limited to) within a club, community, school, university or park venue. Their contributions will likely have been largely in a voluntary capacity but may include some paid work. Examples may include (but not limited to) within club leadership or administration, coaching, competitions, events.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - THE NOMINEE:

1. Has volunteered in tennis in 2020 in any capacity for the benefit of others
2. Has directly or indirectly helped or inspired people to play tennis, being responsive and showing initiative during Covid-19 restrictions
3. Has shown excellent teamwork and leadership with consideration of diversity, inclusion and safeguarding

The award is for an exceptional individual who will have made contributions in any voluntary capacity including (but not limited to) within their club, County, community, school, university or park venue. They may have volunteered at any level including "behind the scenes".

YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR - THE NOMINEE:

1. Is aged 13 to 18 on 31st December 2020
2. Has made an exceptional contribution to tennis in 2020 on or off court, helping others to enjoy tennis
3. Has been creative during Covid-19 restrictions for the benefit of others, perhaps making use of technology or social media
4. Has shown great teamwork and developed their skills in some way

The individual's contributions will have been largely voluntary but might include some paid work (for example as a Tennis Leader). Contributions might include (but are not limited to) as a club volunteer, tennis leader, assistant coach, competition organiser, or administrative helper. This could be in any setting including in a club, community, school or park venue.

DEVELOPMENT COACH OF THE YEAR – THE NOMINEE:

1. Is a club or community coach holding LTA Accreditation or Accreditation +
2. Has delivered a successful coaching programme in 2020, showing innovative on-court delivery and customer service
3. Has shown creativity and initiative during Covid-19 restrictions to help tennis bounce back, with activities online or on social media
4. Has made tennis welcoming and accessible to those returning or new to tennis, with consideration of diversity, inclusion and safeguarding
5. Has shown great teamwork and leadership skills with a commitment to their own personal development, whilst developing other coaches or leaders

PERFORMANCE COACH OF THE YEAR – THE NOMINEE:

1. Is a performance coach holding LTA Accreditation or Accreditation +
2. Has delivered a successful coaching programme and/or developed a performance player or group of players in 2020, showing innovative on-court delivery
3. Has shown creativity and initiative during Covid-19 restrictions to help tennis bounce back, with activities online or on social media
4. Has made tennis welcoming and accessible to those returning or new to tennis, with consideration of diversity, inclusion and safeguarding
5. Has shown great teamwork and leadership skills with a commitment to their own personal development, developing other coaches or leaders

CLUB OF THE YEAR - THE NOMINEE:

1. Is an LTA registered venue which has achieved something of note in 2020*
2. Has responded positively during Covid-19 restrictions, demonstrating support and engagement with members and the wider community
3. Reopened the club after lockdown, providing quality tennis opportunities to existing and new members, being innovative in approach
4. Provided a welcoming, accessible and inclusive environment adhering to all safeguarding standards

The club could be a traditional members club, a commercial club, a community tennis centre or a club on a park site. The key is that it has a membership and behaves and feels like a club.

* examples of achievements might include (but not limited to): facility improvements, more members, more non-member players, better financial position, raising funds, opening up to the community, additional activities, leadership in safeguarding practices.

COMMUNITIES AND PARKS AWARD - THE NOMINEE:

1. Is a venue, group, organisation, programme or individual that has provided tennis opportunities within a community or park setting, achieving something of note in 2020*
2. Has responded positively during Covid-19 restrictions for the benefit of the community and players
3. Has been creative in order to welcome existing and new players safely back to tennis after lockdown, and adapting to ongoing challenges
4. Has provided a safe playing environment, making tennis welcoming, accessible and inclusive, demonstrating excellent safeguarding standards

The delivery of tennis could be within any setting including (but not limited to) a Community Indoor Tennis Centre, community social or leisure centre, an educational or religious establishment, a SERVES site, a park or recreational ground, or across a number of sites or venues.

* examples could include (but not limited to): facility improvement, more players or members, player success, new links with local groups, clubs or schools, raising funds, additional activities, new ways of making tennis more accessible.

EDUCATION AWARD – THE NOMINEE:

1. Is an educational establishment or school sport network
2. Has shown creativity to ensure the continuation of tennis in some form during Covid-19 restrictions
3. Has found innovative ways for students/pupils to keep developing their own skills through tennis
4. Has shown great teamwork and leadership, especially during Covid-19 restrictions

The nominee can be any educational establishment including schools (primary or secondary), colleges or universities, or a school sport network

DISABILITY AWARD – THE NOMINEE:

1. Any venue, group, organisation or programme that has provided disability tennis*, achieving something of note in 2020**
2. Has responded positively during Covid-19 restrictions for the benefit of people with an impairment or long-term health condition
3. Has shown innovation and creativity in order to support existing and new players safely back to tennis after the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, ensuring tennis remains relevant and accessible
4. Has demonstrated inclusion and excellent teamwork

*this could be a pan-disability approach or an impairment specific one, or for people with a long-term-health condition.

** examples could include (but not limited to): facility improvement, more players or members, player success, new links with local groups, clubs or schools, raising funds, additional activities.

OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR – THE NOMINEE:

1. Is an LTA Licensed Official (Referee, Umpire or Court Supervisor)
2. Has shown an outstanding contribution to tennis, going above and beyond their role
3. Is a role model who showed quality delivery and/or customer service in 2020
4. Has shown innovation and initiative during Covid-19 restrictions
5. Has shown consideration of diversity, inclusion and safeguarding
6. Has shown an interest in ongoing learning during Covid-19 restrictions

COMPETITION OF THE YEAR - THE NOMINEE:

1. Is any type of tournament or competition of any level that has been outstanding in its organisation and delivery in 2020
2. Has been welcoming and enjoyable for players, spectators, and/or fans, whilst demonstrating excellent safeguarding and safety practices
3. Has been well organised, with strong leadership and teamwork
4. Has shown creativity to respond to any Covid-19 restrictions, adhering to all guidelines and ensuring the safety of players and spectators
5. Has shown innovation with good promotion, off court ideas and activities, and linked up well with local clubs, groups, coaches and communities

The competition could be an event or series of events for players of any age or ability including (but not limited to): Team Challenge, Quorn Cup or inter-club leagues; club or park-based competitions such as Local Tennis Leagues; higher level junior or adult events including County Championships, a seniors tennis competition or a professional event.