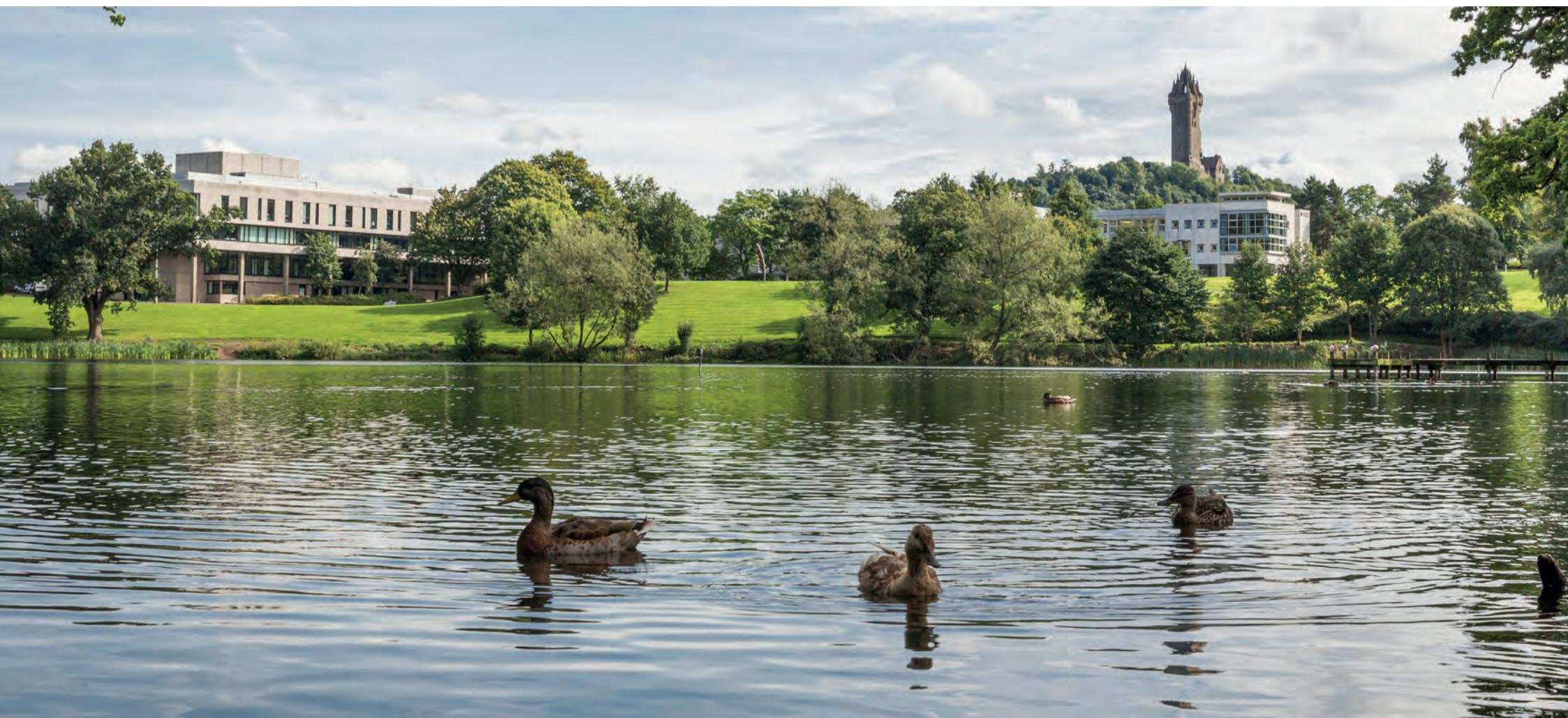


GB NATIONAL TENNIS ACADEMY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING





A WORLD-CLASS ENVIRONMENT,
SETTING NEW STANDARDS AND
TRANSFORMING PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

University of Stirling,
Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence

WELCOME

Hello and welcome – I am Leo Azevedo, the newly appointed head coach for the GB National Tennis Academy at the University of Stirling. You can find out more about me and my coaching dream team within these pages.

Scotland has established an enviable track record of delivering success on the world stage in tennis and the pinnacle of British tennis success has been achieved by the Murray family over the past decade and more.

Andy has won three Grand Slams, two Olympic Gold Medals, and 47 ATP Tour Titles; Jamie has won 23 ATP Tour Titles and is six-time Grand Slam champion; while their mother, Judy, is a former Tennis Scotland National Coach and Fed Cup captain.

Only recently, Scotland was rightly proud to possess three world No.1s at the same time: Sir Andy Murray OBE, Jamie Murray OBE and the Paralympic gold medallist and winner of multiple Grand Slams, Gordon Reid MBE. Leon Smith, Britain's successful Davis Cup captain and current Head of Men's Tennis at the LTA, and Colin Fleming, the National Academy Lead Performance Coach and former Davis Cup player, ATP Tour title winner, and Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist, have also been at the vanguard of this tennis rejuvenation. I'm delighted that both Leon and Colin – along with Esteban Carril – will complete my coaching team.

I am also excited there is a strong next generation to cultivate, with young Aidan McHugh reaching the Australian Junior Open semi-final under the tutelage of Scottish coach Toby Smith. This GB National Tennis Academy, funded by the LTA, will be boosted by significant contributions from partners, noticeably the University of Stirling, through facility provision, and tennis scholars training with National Academy players replicating a key aspect of Andy's successful formula.

The **sportscotland** institute of sport will help us deliver world-class sport science and medicine, while Dollar Academy offers an excellent track record of attainment as well as boarding, pastoral care and welfare provision. The GB National Tennis Academy is set amongst Scotland's most spectacular and awe-inspiring scenery: it is against this backdrop that me and my coaching strive to develop future champions. We can't wait to start working with some of the most talented young players in Britain.



WHY STIRLING?

SCOTTISH TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

Accounting for approximately 10% of the UK population, Scotland consistently punches above its weight and this is particularly the case in performance tennis. For almost 20 years Scotland has been a significant strength within British tennis, producing unrivalled success at elite level, mainly through brothers Andy and Jamie Murray, both reaching world No 1 in their respective fields, alongside Wimbledon champion Gordon Reid MBE. Double Olympic singles champion, twice Wimbledon Champion and US Open Champion in 2012, Sir Andy Murray OBE became a Doctor of the University of Stirling in recognition of his services to tennis in 2014, for more information [CLICK HERE](#)

The current crop of young Scottish tennis players performing on the international stages includes Jonny O'Mara, Maia Lumsden, Aidan McHugh, Ali Collins, Jacob Fearnley and Connor Thomson to name a few. One full-time professional player and ATP title winner who reached the last 32 in his first Grand Slam, one Pro Scholarship Programme player and three National Age Group Programme players – a terrific return that can be increased significantly with the infrastructure and opportunities surrounding the National Academy.

OUR SUCCESS IN NUMBERS

80
ATP
TITLES

SIR ANDY MURRAY OBE
47

JAMIE MURRAY OBE
23

COLIN FLEMING
8

JONNY O'MARA
2

20
GRAND
SLAMS

SIR ANDY MURRAY OBE
3

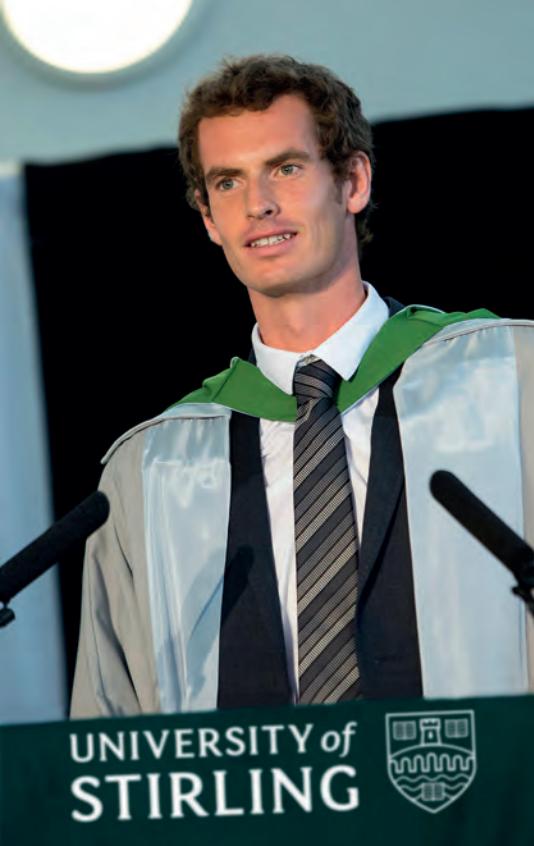
JAMIE MURRAY OBE
6

GORDON REID MBE
11

03
OLYMPIC
PARALYMPIC GOLDS

SIR ANDY MURRAY OBE
2

GORDON REID MBE
1



Sir Andy Murray OBE became a Doctor of the University of Stirling in recognition of his services to tennis in 2014





COACHING TEAM

GB NATIONAL TENNIS ACADEMY HEAD COACH LEONARDO AZEVEDO

Renowned as a world-class coach - including for his work with former world No.1 Juan Carlos Ferrero - Leonardo Azevedo brings vast experience at the highest level of both male and female professional tennis, with a particularly strong record in developing juniors.

The 42-year-old has coached across the world for almost 20 years, from junior level to Grand Slam, Davis Cup and Olympic Games preparation, and has worked with some of the world's most promising players such as Ferrero, Marion Bartoli and Guillermo Garcia Lopez.

Leo Azevedo, GB National Tennis Academy Head Coach: "It is an honour to be appointed the first Head Coach of the new GB National Tennis Academy at the University of Stirling. Tennis in Britain and Scotland has been on a fantastic journey over the last two decades and we don't need to look far from Stirling to be inspired by just what is possible."

"I'm very passionate about the development of young talent and this will be the perfect environment to achieve that – everything is in place to allow young players to thrive. I could not wish for a better team to work alongside, with Colin, Esteban and Leon all bringing different strengths and experiences to the programme which will help provide young players with a truly world-class tennis education."

As the head of USTA PD I could always count on coach Leo, whether as a leader of a particular programme or as a coach and mentor to a particular programme. Leo is a coach's coach – he loves to work with others and always tries to make the players that he works with more accountable to themselves as players and as individuals. Tennis Scotland and the LTA have hired a great coach, and an even better person in Leo Azevedo.

Patrick McEnroe

I have known and worked with Leo for the past ten years, he was instrumental in the success of our (USTA) programme in Carson and helped develop a very good crop of juniors, including some that achieved top world rankings. I truly believe Leo will be an asset to any serious developmental programme

*José Higueras,
Former coach of Roger Federer*

NATIONAL ACADEMY LEAD PERFORMANCE COACH COLIN FLEMING

Colin Fleming is the Lead Performance Coach at GB National Tennis Academy. Colin will bring all his experience in professional tennis as winner of 8 ATP World Tour Doubles titles, as a double Olympian competing at London 2012 and Rio 2016, member of GB Davis Cup Squad, Gold medallist in The Commonwealth Games in Delhi 2010 and Grand Slam Quarter-finalist of Men's Doubles (Wimbledon and twice in the US Open). Colin is currently a member of the GB Fed Cup Coaching Team and Tennis Scotland Performance Consultant.

Colin was previously Tennis Scotland National Coach where he supported Lead Individual coaches in the development of young Scottish talent including Jonny O'Mara, Aidan McHugh, Gordon Reid MBE, Maia Lumsden, Jacob Fearnley, Connor Thomson and Ali Collins. Colin also coached the GB Age Group Teams in the European Summer Cup 2017.

“Colin Fleming in my opinion is one of the best coaches in Britain. I wouldn't change my training base of Stirling for anywhere else in the world. I am looking to push into the ATP top 30 and GB Davis Cup team, so it is obviously a pretty good tennis centre.”

Jonny O'Mara

NATIONAL ACADEMY PERFORMANCE ADVISOR ESTEBAN CARRIL

Esteban Carril is a highly sought after, world renowned coach who will bring vast experience and genuine world class quality to the GB National Tennis Academy. Esteban has been an LTA Performance Advisor since October 2018, he works together with the Performance Team to help in the development of young British tennis players.

Previous to this appointment, Esteban was coach of Johanna Konta who reached the Top 10 of the WTA rankings under his guidance. Esteban also coached Spanish Roberto Bautista, consolidated for many years now as a Top 30 ATP player.



I can say without hesitation I have learnt more in those weeks being with Esteban than at any other stage of my tennis life. A lot of people can coach but very few can communicate the changes needed in a players game in a way that not only makes those changes happen but does not diminish a players self confidence in his/her game. Esteban has a fine eye for details and his ability to develop a player in their formative years is second to none, whoever has the opportunity to work with Esteban has an incredible opportunity.

*Mark Petchey,
Former coach of Sir Andy Murray OBE*



Working with Esteban had some of the most profound effect on my career, and life. He coaches with compassion, detail, professionalism, and is nurturing of both the tennis player and the human being. It was a pleasure to work with him.

Johanna Konta, GB number 1





PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE

The coaching team at the GB National Tennis Academy will adopt a holistic approach to player development.

- Multidisciplinary recruitment process
- Developing players with ID
- Players from the Stirling will be recognised for the values they demonstrate rather than the tracksuit they wear
- Respectful, hard workers, team approach, open minded, integrity, tough competitors and passion
- Highly communicative between coaches, science and medicine practitioners, players and parents
- Independent players who problem solve and make decisions
- Monitoring and tracking progress through IDPs embedded in tennis science and medicine
- Matching their tennis game style to their physicality and personality
- Commitment to academic education
- All staff making the commitment to the same process
- Committed to supporting and encouraging academic programmes
- Wider social development of young people
- Daily and weekly meetings to discuss player by player so the day to day activity links to the longer term IDP

“The team that has been assembled is unique and I do believe we will complement each other well which in turn will be a real asset for the academy. I look forward to working with Leo and Esteban and I am sure I will be learning from them as well. This together with the support of Tennis Scotland and LTA teams behind us, makes me confident we can create something special that will have positive results.”

Colin Fleming

“It's a genuine coup for tennis in Scotland and Great Britain to attract a coach of Leonardo's calibre, bringing with him a truly world-class reputation. Our recruitment process for this key role was thorough and we have excellent references from some of the most respected coaches in the game, including Ivan Lendl and José Higueras.”

*Blane Dodds,
Tennis Scotland Chief Executive*

“I am highly motivated to nurture young players, using my coaching methodology to help shape future professionals. I am excited to work with aspiring juniors at the GB National Tennis Academy at the University of Stirling with the vision of developing players to fulfil potential and enjoy careers in tennis.”

*Esteban Carril,
LTA Performance Advisor*

SPORTSCOTLAND INSTITUTE OF SPORT

The sportscotland institute of sport the national agency for high performance sport, will through world-class practitioners, provide sport science and medicine support to the GB National Tennis Academy. SIS provides high performance leadership and expertise to sports and athletes throughout Scotland and the UK.

Sport science and medicine support aims to consistently optimise performance level providing a holistic co-ordination of support:

Strength and Conditioning

- Passionate and professional in pursuit of the best possible physical performance
 - Integration; Innovation; Knowledge; Culture

Performance Analysis

- Providing specialised services in biomechanics, data management, notational analysis, skill acquisition and special projects and innovation
- Working with measurement-based processes and provide evidence-based support

Physiotherapy

- Musculoskeletal health to help players train and compete without physical restriction
- Development of efficient and effective movement
- Developing players who are robust and resistant to injury
- Management of injury risk as well assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of any injuries

Sport Psychology

- Train players to regulate their thoughts, emotions and actions;
- Specialised work in the area of visual routines, self-regulation & mindfulness;
- Cutting edge delivery in special projects including neuroscience.

Performance Lifestyle

- Dual career & Transition management
- Professional and personal development
- Lifestyle management
- Preparation for a successful life after sport

Performance Nutrition

- Helping players select the right foods and fluids, in the right quantity and at the right time.
 - Maximise training gains
 - Enhance recovery
 - Reduce risk of illness
 - Optimum body morphology for tennis



“

I think we are very lucky because we get to use the sportscotland institute of sport, for me they are the best I have ever come across. We get to use the physios, the nutritionist, the physical trainers and that's unbelievable.

Jonny O'Mara

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We will bring together the best players of South of Spain to train and compete against the GB National Tennis Academy Players

*Juan Arispon
Andalusian Federation CEO*

I am truly grateful for the support Tennis Scotland and Merchiston Castle School have given to me, which has helped me on my tennis journey. My coach, David Brewer, has been terrific in helping me to develop all aspects of my game and enabling me take it to the next level and more recently, I've received great coaching support from Colin Fleming as well. Last year I won an ITF Grade 1 event in Russia, a trip that was supported by Tennis Scotland. I regularly train at Stirling with the University Tennis Scholars. This helps provide a variety of practice partners, further testing my game. The support from the **sportscotland** institute of sport is fantastic, providing cutting edge sport science and medicine support.

Jacob Fearnley

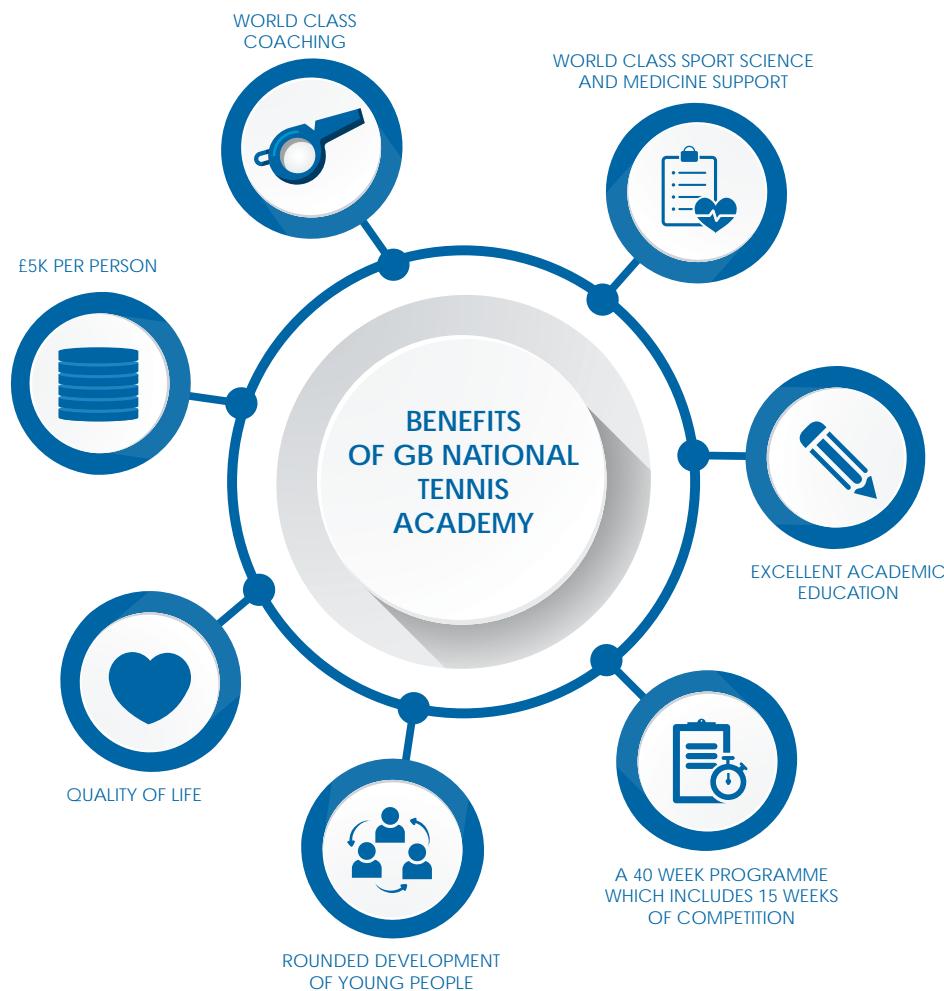
WARM WEATHER TRAINING VENUES

GB National Tennis Academy has established a partnership with two overseas tennis academies in Seville and Jerez, South of Spain. Andalusian Tennis Federation in Seville and Club Nazaret in Jerez boast extensive, quality European red clay and acrylic hard court facilities with the climate advantage of having more than 3,000 hours of sun and 300 days of dry conditions per year.

The purpose of these training camps will be to train with Spanish players with perhaps different game styles in a new environment, to familiarise players with training in hot conditions on red clay, to experience a different tennis culture with a long track record of success in professional tennis and to prepare for tournaments.



BENEFITS



“

Stirling is one of two National Academies that will play a critical role in the implementation of our Player Pathway, which sits at the heart of our performance strategy. The LTA is opening tennis up to provide more opportunities to young talent and make Britain one of the most respected nations in the world for tennis player development and Tennis Scotland's fantastic appointment of Leonardo represents a big milestone in our plans. I am confident that with Colin, Esteban and Leon, we have exactly the right team in place.

Scott Lloyd, LTA CEO

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DOLLAR ACADEMY

DOLLAR ACADEMY EDUCATION

GB National Tennis Academy at the University of Stirling is proud to partner with Dollar Academy. Founded in 1818, Dollar has its roots firmly in Scottish education, but its provision knows no boundaries. Pupils are offered an education that covers an unrivalled range of academic and co-curricular activities designed to nurture individual talents, interests and ambitions.

In 2018, Dollar was named The Sunday Times' Scottish Independent Secondary School of the Year after reaching its highest ever position in the rankings with more than 85% of Higher and Advanced Higher pupils securing top A or B grades.

Like most schools in Scotland, Dollar Academy follows the Scottish Curriculum, administered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). These qualifications are highly valued by universities across the UK, Europe and the US. The system is similar, in many respects, to the English system with a broad range of subjects being studied up until age 14, followed by National 5s (similar to the English GCSE), Higher (similar to the old English AS level) and then Advanced Higher (equivalent to the English A level) examinations.

Breadth of choice is a recurring theme at Dollar and pupils can choose from the largest range of Highers available anywhere in Scotland. Given their training requirements, GB National Academy students will work to a reduced timetable of 15-16 classroom hours per week. As a guide, National Academy pupils would aim to study for five National 5s and then three Highers. The school will work with each pupil on subject choices based on their own academic ability. For any children who experience barriers to learning during their time at school, the Support for Learning Department can help meet each individual set of needs.

BOARDING

There are approximately 1275 pupils at Dollar Academy, and just under 10% are boarders. Around half of the boarding community is from the UK, while the other half is international. Boarders are a defining feature of life at the school and the boarding accommodation is of the highest standard. Dollar's three boarding houses replicate a family environment where children come to learn new skills, make lifelong friendships and do as much 'growing up' as they would at home.

Following an unannounced inspection visit by the Care Inspectorate in January 2017, the official rating on Dollar's boarding was graded at the highest Level 6 "Excellent" for the quality of care and support pupils receive. The report observed, "We saw highly sensitive and caring attitudes from boarding house staff, which helped them to clearly establish the ethos of home from home in a family atmosphere in the houses."



1,275

Total number
of Pupils at
Dollar Academy



10%

of Pupils at
Dollar Academy
are boarders



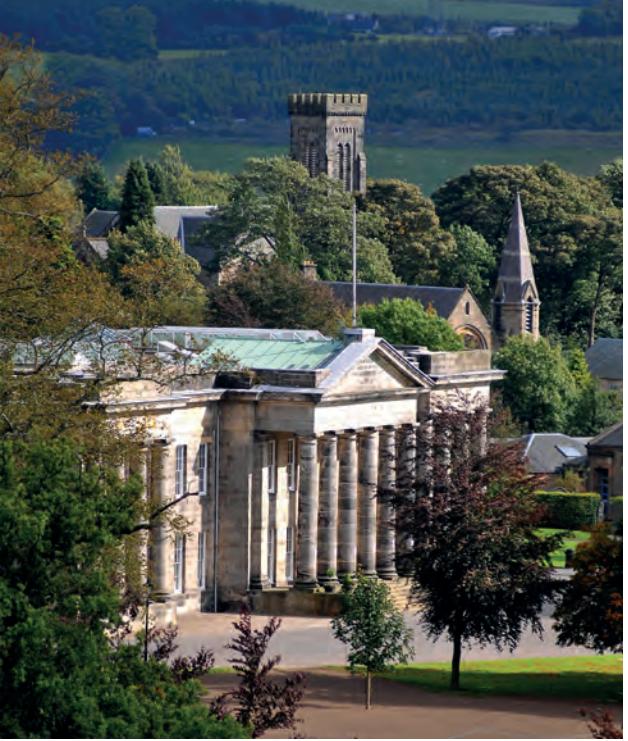
50%

of the boarding
community is from
the UK



Level 6

Excellent for
quality and care
pupils receive



In 2018, Dollar
was named
The Sunday
Times' Scottish
Independent
Secondary School
of the Year





Dollar Academy will provide a bespoke and safe national academy transport service to take players between the school and the university. The run takes 21 minutes and is a door to door service.

WELFARE/PASTORAL

Dollar Academy recognises that, in order for every young person to succeed to the best of their abilities, they must do so in a caring and secure environment; one which will encourage them to develop self-confidence and social skills, one where the relationship between all members of the community is based on trust and respect. In order to foster this trusting relationship, Dollar has a well-developed pastoral and guidance system. Guidance staff also have a role in curricular guidance and in discipline.

In essence, they have a complete overview of each child's progress and development - social, emotional and academic. A survey held in 2017 involving more than 1000 pupils, teachers, former pupils and parents indicated that families choose Dollar Academy for reasons of excellence, opportunity and community. The values the pupils ascribed to the school converted into three imperatives which were: "work hard, be kind and get involved". These are central to the ethos of the school and all staff recognise that excellent pastoral care makes a vital contribution to the intellectual and social development of each individual pupil.

DOLLAR ACADEMY SCHOOL VALUES



WORK HARD



BE KIND



GET INVOLVED

MEDICAL PROVISION

Dollar Academy has a well-resourced Medical Centre, which is staffed Monday to Friday during term time by a team of nurses led by Mrs Dunnet.

The school nurses attend to incidents of injury or illness amongst pupils and staff on site, and are responsible for the provision of health screening, medical examinations and vaccination programmes as appropriate in line with national School Health Service guidelines. They work in close conjunction with senior management and guidance staff with regard to pupil welfare, participate in the delivery of health-related topics in the school's PSE programme, and support Dollar Academy's health and wellbeing programme.

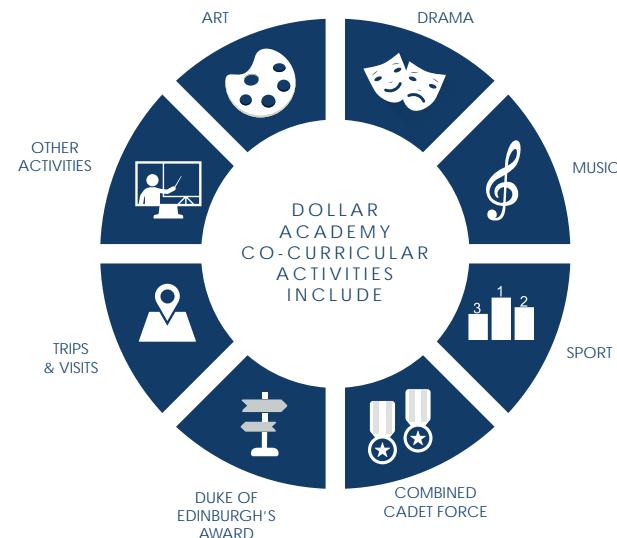


CO-CURRICULAR

Encouraging children to get involved is central to the Dollar ethos. The school has a great academic reputation but a truly excellent education is about far more than that. Activities out of class time are just as significant in the development of young people.

Dollar prides itself on offering pupils more than 70 different clubs and activities. From sports as diverse as skiing, yoga and ultimate frisbee to a multitude of art, drama and music clubs there is something for everyone. There are also a number of service activities including charity work, CCF and The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. All options allow pupils to broaden their minds and learn how to commit themselves to a cause.

A full list of the activities can be viewed on the Dollar Academy website [CLICK HERE](#)



DOLLAR ACADEMY FACILITIES

Dollar Academy is situated in stunning countryside on a beautiful 70-acre campus in Central Scotland. All academic departments, sports facilities and boarding houses are located within the school grounds. Sport is deeply rooted in life at Dollar and the school benefits from excellent facilities including:

- **A swimming pool**
- **Two large indoor sports halls**
- **A fitness suite (including spinning area)**
- **A strength and conditioning room**
- **A physiotherapy room**
- **A range of grass and artificial pitches**

The Dollar Golf Club is adjacent to the school campus and Dollar Tennis Club is just a five minute walk from the school. Despite being surrounded by wide green spaces, Scotland's major cities and their airports are within easy reach. Dollar is only a 20 minute drive from Stirling, 30 minutes from Perth and under an hour from Edinburgh and Glasgow.



UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

SCOTLAND'S UNIVERSITY FOR SPORTING EXCELLENCE,
A NATIONAL TITLE AWARDED BY GOVERNMENT

RESEARCH

Research at the University of Stirling is conducted to the highest standards of quality and integrity to support and improve life across the world. Almost ¾ of our research activity is rated world-leading or internationally excellent (REF 2014).

TEACHING

The University of Stirling offers an education based on innovation and excellence. The teaching at the University of Stirling was rated five-star in the QS World University Rankings 2018.



“

University of Stirling an institution which is recognised internationally for its sports research and facilities *Sir Andy Murray OBE*

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The University's International Sports Scholarship Programme is one of the largest high-performance sports programmes in the UK. We've supported more than 1,000 UK and overseas student athletes since its inception in 1981. We've produced some of the finest British and Scottish talents in history across a range of sports. Our student athletes have successfully competed at the Olympic games, the Commonwealth Games and the Walker Cup, to name a few.

TENNIS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Tennis Programme has an excellent track record of success in BUCS and mainstream sport over the last 20 years. A holistic player development programme operates year round, providing excellent coaching, S & C, physiotherapy and sport psychology. Integrating aspects of training between University of Stirling Scholar athletes and National Academy players will be mutually beneficial and create opportunities similar to those experienced by former junior players including Sir Andy Murray OBE, Jonny O'Mara and Maia Lumsden.

SPORTS FACILITIES

The University of Stirling is the training base for some of the UK's top Olympic and Paralympic athletes and is home of Scotland's National Swimming Academy, the Scottish National Tennis Centre and Triathlon Scotland. Our extensive sports facilities allow you to play and train alongside Olympic athletes.

A £20million transformation of the University of Stirling's sports facilities will see Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence create an iconic new sports complex that will be integrated with existing world-class facilities. **The redevelopment has already started and is due for completion in summer 2020. We are rated first in Scotland and second in the UK for sports facilities (International Student Barometer 2016).**

TENNIS COURTS

The tennis facilities include six acrylic hard indoor courts (4 until 2020) – Access to four outdoor red clay courts (BoASC).

GYM AND SPORTS SCIENCE LAB

The University of Stirling operates a high-performance gym, currently used by the University's own performance athletes, as well as sportscotland Institute of Sport. The facility redevelopment will create unrivalled high-performance suite designed with input from sportscotland Institute of Sport colleagues, including a 40m sprint straight, strength and conditioning areas, assessment area, sports science testing and physiotherapy/treatment rooms.

GOLF COURSE

The University golf course is a nine-hole, par three course ideal for golfers of all abilities. There is also a putting green nearby, located in front of Airthrey Castle.

SWIMMING POOL

The University has a reputation as one of the UK's leading high-performance swimming centres as it hosts the National Swimming Academy, a partnership between the University, Scottish Swimming and British Swimming. Our athlete swimmers have enjoyed medal success at the Olympics, the World Championships, Deaflympics and British Summer Championships.

SPORTS HALL

Ideal for a wide variety of sports, including badminton, table tennis, short tennis and basketball.

PLAYER'S LOUNGE

GB National Tennis Academy players will enjoy of an exclusive Players Lounge within the tennis facilities at the University of Stirling. The 55m² Lounge will include relaxing spaces with sofas, TV and video games as well as a study area with desks and access to internet. There will be small kitchen facilities where prepared or cooked food can be reheated.

“

I trained on the courts at the Scottish National Tennis Centre at the University of Stirling when I was growing up.

It's recognised internationally for its sporting facilities and I know there are some talented junior players practising there every day.

Sir Andy Murray OBE

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“

The unique feature of sport at the University of Stirling is the environment within which Olympic medallists train and compete alongside students, staff and the wider community. This development will mark the beginning of another exciting chapter for sport at the University and within the Stirling area.

Cathy Gallagher, Director of Sport

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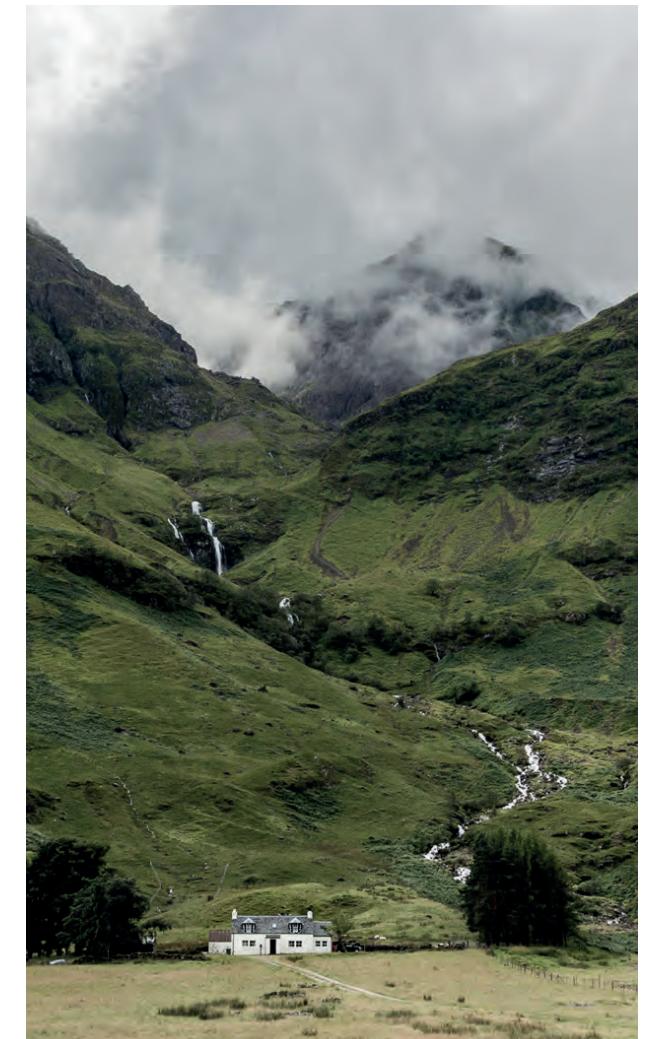
QUALITY OF LIFE

STIRLING AND DOLLAR

Stirling is known as the Gateway to the Highlands and there are considerable quality of life benefits to experience through life in central Scotland. The University of Stirling is situated between the stunning Ochil Hills, the famous Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle, next to Bridge of Allan, a picturesque village between Dunblane and Stirling.

The Aithrey Loch and Aithrey Castle are at the heart of the idyllic 330-acre parkland university campus, which is regularly described as one of the most beautiful locations in the world.

Parts of Stirling, Dunblane, Bridge of Allan and much of the rural area are some of the most affluent and successful communities in the country with good health and excellent quality of life. Dollar town in particular offers quaint shops and eateries and most of the businesses can be found on the main street, Bridge Street. It provides the perfect backdrop for academic achievement and sporting excellence.

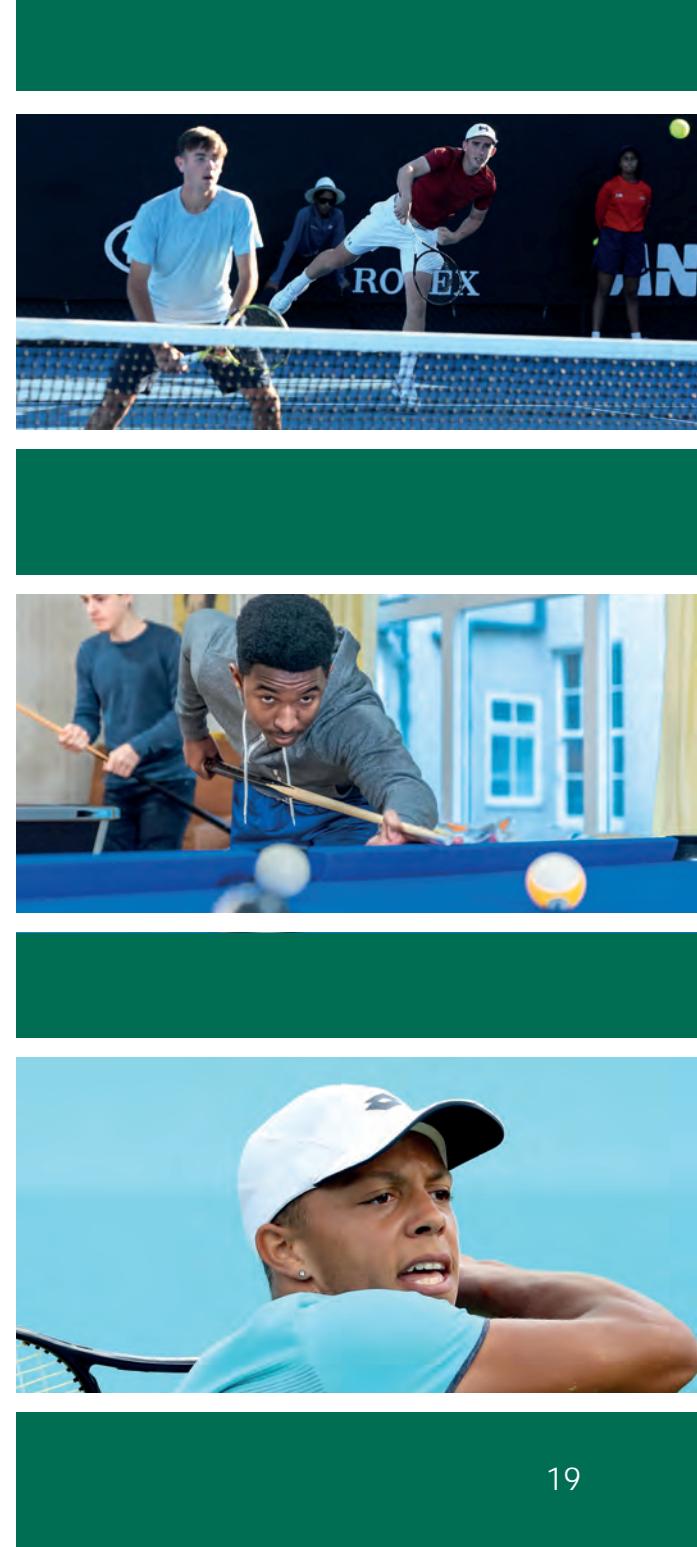


TIMETABLE

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NATIONAL ACADEMY PLAYER



Hypothetical timetable indicative of time on task.





“Stirling has been a fundamental stepping stone for my development as a tennis player. Together with my coach Toby Smith who was part of the Tennis Scotland Performance Team, I have been coming to Stirling from Glasgow in a regular basis since I was 12. Stirling gave the opportunity to have a tennis centre where I could practice with older and more experienced players, mainly University of Stirling Scholars, who added value to my tennis programme. This was possible thanks to the links and co-ordination between Tennis Scotland and the University of Stirling. I’m sure the GB National Tennis Academy will be excellent for young players to grow and develop their tennis.

Aidan McHugh

”

PROGRESSION ROUTES

PROFESSIONAL TENNIS

The main goal of the GB National Tennis Academy is to produce elite players reaching the top 100 positions of professional tennis. This is the route that we want to instil in all our players the moment they become part of the Academy.

PSP

The Pro Scholarship Programme would be a natural step forward for those players 16+ with strong potential to become Top 100 within five years, the perfect link between the National Academy and the Elite support of the LTA National Player Pathway.



UK / US UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

There are no risks or compromises within the GB National Tennis Academy, only opportunities. The University tennis exit has proved to be an excellent choice for those players wanting to combine an academic education with tennis at the highest level.

The University of Stirling is well positioned to support players graduating from the National Academy. Stirling has numerous examples of student athletes enjoying the university environment, support and sense of being part of a team which has helped their progression into professional tennis, including Colin Fleming, Jonny O’Mara and Gordon Reid MBE.

EMPLOYMENT (PROFESSIONAL LIFE SKILLS)

The benefits of a dual career pathway of a student athlete are well established. The University of Stirling and the tennis programme has contributed to the tennis workforce, to the point where all of the national coaching team were graduates and a high percentage of the Tennis Scotland Senior Management Team are graduates.

WORLD CLASS STIRLING WHAT THE PLAYERS SAY



SIR ANDY MURRAY OBE

Growing up I was fortunate, Dunblane Sports Club gave me opportunities to train and compete from a young age and we had indoor courts at the University of Stirling on the door step. In addition to the facilities, I was lucky to have my mother, as the National Coach, my older brother Jamie, and Leon Smith, who worked as my coach for a time.

There was a talented group of Scottish juniors, as well as older University tennis scholars to train alongside. This variety definitely helped develop my game early on.



GORDON REID MBE

I have trained at the University of Stirling for 10 years now so this place has been a great part of my life and my career as a tennis player. At Stirling there is a lot of variety of players to train and hit with.

There are players of different age who are suitable for training, many squads where I can join and have a good session, players with different game styles to adapt to and to figure out how to play against them.



COLIN FLEMING

The Scottish National Tennis Centre at the University of Stirling has been a big part of my tennis career as I played there from its opening in 1991 right through until I retired from professional tennis in 2016. As a junior I trained with the likes of Andy and Jamie Murray, Jamie Baker, Karen Paterson and Keith Meisner and it was great to train with the University's tennis scholars who added further variety and competition. I then attended the University as a tennis scholar myself before continuing to train there throughout my whole professional career.



MAIA LUMSDEN

Since returning to Stirling my tennis has improved to the point where I have won WTA titles, achieved a ranking of around 300 WTA and been selected for various scholarship programmes. Now I receive support from the NAGP, University of Stirling, Winning Students and the Tennis Scotland National Player Programme which help me combine the dual career of a student-athlete and chase my dream of becoming a full-time professional tennis player whilst preparing for a life after elite tennis.



BOOK YOUR OPEN DAY PLACE

To book your Open Day place on either: Saturday 9 March or Friday 15 March
Please e-mail: Jason.Atkins@tennisscotland.org

[OPEN DAYS \(TERM DATES 2019-2020\)](#)

GB National Tennis Academy will host two Open Days to give shortlisted players and parents/guardians the opportunity to tour the facilities at the University of Stirling and Dollar Academy, meet with Performance staff and experience a taste of what life will be like at the National Academy and specifically within the tennis environment.

[SELECTION PROCESS](#)

Player selection process is available [HERE](#)

[DAY PLAN](#)

- Welcome and presentation from National Academy Head Coach
- Meet the National Academy staff team
- 2 hours Tennis Session + S & C session
- Visit and tour Dollar Academy including Welcome from David Knapman
- Tour on University of Stirling Campus
- Q&A with National Academy Head Coach, LTA Representative (Iain Bates/Leon Smith) and National Academy Manager

KEY CONTACTS

JASON ATKINS NATIONAL ACADEMY MANAGER

Jason Atkins has an excellent track record in leading sport programmes. At the University of Stirling he led Scotland's National Sport Scholarship Programme 'Winning Students'. Jason is a former Scottish Universities Internationalist and GB Universities Golf Team Manager.

jason.atkins@tennisscotland.org

BRUNO ARGUDO NATIONAL ACADEMY PERFORMANCE CO-ORDINATOR

Bruno Argudo is a former tennis scholar at the University of Stirling gaining an MSc in Sports Management, whilst combining work as a Graduate Assistant Tennis Coach. Bruno then set up his own academy in Spain and worked part-time for Soto Tennis Academy.

bruno.argudo@tennisscotland.org

WEBSITE

www.lta.org.uk/tennis-scotland-national-academy

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

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