

LTA Performance support for non-British National junior players

The LTA provides support for the most promising British junior tennis players to help develop those players who may become our Davis or Fed Cup players of the future. Whilst support is therefore primarily restricted to British nationals, the LTA may make exceptions, in certain circumstances, and support nationals of other countries who are resident in the UK and are committed to becoming British nationals.

This document states the policy followed by the LTA's Performance Team in doing so.

Please note this document is solely concerned with the eligibility of junior players to receive performance support from the LTA as laid out below, and is separate from the rules regarding entry into National Championships, the representation of Great Britain in team events and the performance support funding streams available to established professional players.

There is a distinction between the performance tennis support provided by the LTA to develop junior players and the support provided to established professional players through the Tournament Bonus Scheme. In order to be eligible to make a claim on the Tournament Bonus Scheme, players must meet the ITF eligibility criteria to represent Great Britain at the Davis or Fed Cup in accordance with the Tournament Bonus Scheme Policy.

The support offered by the LTA can include (but is not limited to) the following:

- Selection for County, Regional and National Talent Identification days;
- Selection for National Trips and Tours;
- National Camps and National Training Days;
- Wildcards into British domestic or international tournaments;
- Matrix funding and International Travel Assistance;
- LTA Sports Science and Sports Medicine Support;
- Selection for a LTA Player Funding Contract;
- Talent Team resources and support.

If you are a player who is playing at the level of, or approaching the level of, a matrix funded player and you are not a British national, then the LTA can only provide support to you if you confirm that you are committed to obtaining British nationality and that you have, so far as is possible, begun the process of obtaining it.

Prior to providing any performance support funding, the LTA will require you and your parent/guardian to sign and return to us a British Nationality Confirmation Form (available on request from the LTA) confirming your commitment, together with a letter confirming your age, your intention to become British, your country of birth, the length of time you have been living in Great Britain, and your progress to date in obtaining British nationality. You and your parent/guardian will also be required to comply with all other necessary procedures in place for all players receiving performance support from the LTA. You or your parent/guardian will also be expected to update the LTA should there be any significant developments in your application for British nationality.

Both the completed form and/or the explanatory letter must be sent to Kate Meakin, Performance Coordinator by e-mail to kate.meakin@lta.org.uk or by post to the LTA, National Tennis Centre, 100 Priory Lane, London, SW15 5JQ

The provision of support to non-British nationals is entirely at the discretion of the LTA.

When considering approving support for a non-British national player, the LTA will take into account the age of the player and the progress made in obtaining British nationality, for example, a player aged 15 who has lived in the country for 10 years would be expected to be further along in the process than a player aged 8 or a player who had lived in the country less than a year.

The LTA reserves the right to ask for evidence of nationality or progress in the process of obtaining British nationality, from players and may withhold or request payback of funding should British nationality not be obtained within a specified period or sufficient evidence not be provided.