

LTA Operations Ltd

LTA Nominations for Wild Cards into The Championships, Wimbledon

This policy concerns Wild Card recommendations for The Championships, Wimbledon (hereafter referred to as 'The Championships'), including the Qualifying and Play-off events. The LTA has a separate policy concerning the Wild Card process for The Junior Championships, Wimbledon, which can be found on its website.

All Wild Card decisions for Wimbledon Main Draw and Qualifying are made by the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Limited (the **AELTC**). However, the LTA as the National Governing Body are invited, by the AELTC to make recommendations based on their knowledge of the British players. The Wild Cards for the Wild Card Play-off event are allocated by the LTA.

Decisions on nominations will be made by a panel consisting of the LTA Performance Director, the Head of Men's Tennis and the Head of Women's Tennis (the LTA Panel) after consultation with the Men's Team and Women's Team respectively. The LTA Panel will meet to discuss and agree the LTA's recommendations shortly before the date of the AELTC Wild Card Committee.

The recommendations of the LTA Panel will be considered by the AELTC Wild Card Committee at The Championships Wild Card selection meeting.

This policy sets out the basis on which LTA recommendations will be made.

1. Men's and Women's Main Draw and Qualifying Singles

The LTA Panel will normally recommend to the AELTC a list of up to 8 players to be considered for either a Main Draw or Qualifying place.

The LTA has agreed with the AELTC Wild Card Committee that a ranking threshold will not be used as the basis for recommendation of players for Wild Cards.

The criteria used to determine who will be recommended for a Wild Card are explained in Section 4 below

2. Wild Card Play-Offs

Normally, singles players not included in these recommendations may be able to compete in a 16 draw Playoff event held at Aorangi Park, Wimbledon on the Thursday & Friday the week prior to the qualifying event based on the criteria for that event. The two finalists will be awarded Wild Cards into the Wimbledon Qualifying tournament.

Six Wild Cards are available for entry into the each of the Men's and Women's Play-off events. Four Wild Cards for each gender will be allocated in accordance with the criteria set out in Section 4 below. Two of the Wild Cards for each of the Men's and Women's events are allocated to players competing in the British Tour as per the criteria set out in this [link](#). If,

pursuant to the criteria governing the Wild Cards gained through the British Tour, any of those Wild Cards are released, they will be allocated in accordance with the criteria set out in Section 4 below.

Please note for 2021 the Wild Card Play-off event will not take place due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic so all Qualifying Wild cards will be awarded by the AELTC and the LTA recommendations will be as per outlined in this document.

3. **Doubles**

In line with Singles the LTA will not use a ranking threshold as the basis for recommendation to the AELTC. The criteria used to determine who will be recommended for a Wild Card are explained in Section 4 below.

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4. **Criteria for Wild Card Recommendation into the Main Draw, Qualifying and Play-off Events**

When selecting which players should be recommended for a Wild Card, the LTA Panel will use its expert knowledge to analyse which players are likely to progress in the tournament, including consideration of the following criteria:

(i) **Professional commitment:**

The LTA will take into account the player's demonstration of the highest level of commitment, professionalism and dedication towards their tennis throughout the whole preceding year. This includes competitive performances and a commitment in training to continual improvement.

(ii) **Ranking:**

- a. **Singles:** significant weight will be placed on the ATP/WTA rankings of players and, in the case of younger players, ITF junior rankings may be considered;
- b. **Doubles:** the combined (singles or doubles) ranking will be considered (for the avoidance of doubt the combined doubles ranking is that of the individual player as opposed to the doubles pair's ranking as a team).

(iii) **Recent results:**

The quality of recent results (or those prior to a recent injury) in other events will be considered. This will usually mean ATP/WTA or ITF Men's or Women's World Tennis Tour events or ITF World Tennis Tour Junior events and will be considered in particular where players have made progress within grass-court events. As a guide, results from the last three months will be the most relevant.

For doubles, consideration will be given to the previous playing record of a proposed doubles team, with particular consideration given to performance in Davis Cup / Billie Jean King Cup ties, Grand Slams and main ATP/WTA tour events.

(iv) Previous Wild Cards:

A player's Wild Card history at The Championships, including both the number of Wild Cards and the quality of performances will be considered.

(v) Development opportunities:

Consideration will be given as to whether specific players will gain a particular benefit from playing in The Championships Main Draw, Qualifying or Playoff events. This will normally be based on player potential assessments (normally younger players) and recent results.

For doubles, the LTA Panel will also consider the combination of the players proposed and whether they have complementary playing styles such that they are likely to progress in the draw.

(vi) Representing Great Britain:

Consideration will be given as to whether the player is eligible and makes themselves available, if selected, to play for Great Britain in the Davis Cup / Billie Jean King Cup and how they perform in those ties.

(vii) Conduct:

The conduct of the player may be taken into consideration, including if the player has been in breach of any LTA rules, regulations or codes of conduct or those of the ATP/WTA/ITF tour or The Championships.

(viii) Fitness:

The player's medical fitness to perform at their best at The Championships will be considered.

(ix) Recent injury or illness:

The LTA Panel will consider cases where a player has suffered from injury, illness or exceptional circumstances which may have prevented a player from achieving a high enough ranking or results to warrant consideration.

5. Junior Recommendations

As well as the above factors for junior recommendation the below will also be taken into consideration:

- Competing in the Junior Nationals (unless competing in the Junior event at the French Open or there are other exceptional circumstances as to why it is not possible to do so)

6. Recording of Wild Card Recommendations

The LTA will maintain written records of the wild card recommendations that it makes and the reasons for them by reference to the factors stated at point 4 above.

7. Amendments to this Policy

The LTA may amend this Policy from time to time. Any amended Policy shall be published on the LTA website.