



SHE RALLIES SUMMIT- SPEAKERS

Speaker Programme subject to change



KATE HANNON

DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S SPORT COLLECTIVE

Kate has spent 15 years working in sport marketing and PR, championing greater parity and visibility for women in sport. A trustee of Cymru Women's Sport, former trustee of the Women's Sport Trust, and co-founder of the Women's Sport Collective, she is a committed advocate for equity across the sector. She also contributes to England Netball's NetballHER Advisory Panel. Originally a qualified engineer, Kate began her career with major telecommunications companies including Ericsson, Bell South, France Telecom, and BT. A natural problem-solver, she thrives on turning ideas into action and driving meaningful change.

ANNE-MARIE BATSON

SPORTS BROADCASTER, PRODUCER AND HOST

Anne-Marie Batson is a broadcaster, host and interviewer across tennis, padel and football.

Her experience spans live TV and streaming (WTA, UK Padel, Premier League and WSL), hosting events and panels for the FA, Arsenal, Chelsea FC, Wimbledon, Barclays, LTA, Viagogo and Three.

She's interviewed some of the biggest names in sport on stage, including tennis legend Billie Jean King, Laura Robson, England managers Dame Sarina Weigman, Sir Gareth Southgate, Thomas Tuchel and former Lionesses Fran Kirby, Karen Carney And Jill Scott. Anne-Marie is also the co-founder of the Tennis Black List alongside Richard Sackey-Addo, celebrating black and mixed-black heritage in tennis.





YASMIN CLARKE

LTA BOARD MEMBER

Yasmin is a consultant at Women In Sport, specialising in coaching and digital learning with a focus on turning research and insight into practical tools that support the sport workforce. She is an LTA level 5 Master Performance Coach with extensive experience developing players across the pathway. A former professional tennis player, British junior number one and national champion, Yasmin has remained closely connected to the sport by coaching and mentoring. She is passionate about the LTA's vision of 'Tennis Opened Up' and the role it plays in making tennis more accessible and inclusive for all, and in January 2026 she joined the LTA board to help steer the LTA towards its goals.

JO DOWNING, LTA

Jo is Programme Strategy Manager at the LTA, where she leads national initiatives to grow tennis participation. With over 16 years of experience in sports development, she has spearheaded programmes like the Prime Video LTA Youth Girls initiative which encouraged thousands of new girls to engage with tennis. Collaborating with Judy Murray, Jo has also worked to grow and empower the female coaching workforce. As a Level 3 coach and lifelong county player, she is passionate about breaking down barriers and creating opportunities for women and girls in tennis.



ISLA SMITH, LTA

Isla is the Qualification Operations Manager at the LTA and manages the delivery of LTA coaching qualifications, officiating qualifications, and in-person workshops. She has over 20 years of coaching experience and has been a Coach Tutor for 13 years. She has been a keynote speaker at conferences including the ITF World Coaches Conference, Australian Open Coaches Conference and the LTA National Coaches Conference. Outside of her involvement with tennis and padel, Isla has been a fitness instructor and yoga teacher for 25 years. She is a national fitness presenter and global lead assessor. She is hugely passionate about the wellbeing of coaches, and keeping coaches in the game for as long as possible.



SASHA BADROCK, LTA

Sasha has been supporting coaches through her role at the LTA for 10 years. She joined the organisation after time out of work to have children and has remained in the Coach & Official Development & Support team ever since. She previously spent 15 years working in consumer public relations devising campaigns for clients including Levi's, Umbro, Audi, Smirnoff, and Missing People Charity. As Engagement & Accreditation Manager at the LTA, Sasha has been responsible for implementing a strategy to engage coaches with LTA support, benefits and resources; including overseeing the launch of a more personalised Coach Hub, and improved email communications tailored to coaches' individual interests and needs.



PANEL 1: ROUGH OR SMOOTH?

Emily Handyside

Emily is Head Coach of the Welsh Feathers, and Coaching Lead at UK Coaching. With over 20 years' experience in high-performance sport, she has led teams to international success and is recognised for her leadership across the wider sport and physical activity sector - strengthening coaching, supporting organisations, shaping workforce development, developing leaders, and influencing coaching culture nationally. A committed advocate for women in coaching and leadership, she contributes to learning initiatives, research, policy discussions and public conversations across radio, television and the press.



Tracy Whittaker-Smith MBE

Tracy is a high-performance consultant, leadership strategist, and former Olympic Performance Director and Head National Coach with over 40 years' experience across elite sport, coaching, and leadership. She has led teams to World, European, and Olympic success, and is recognised for her expertise in performance planning, leadership culture, coach development, and creating high-performing environments. Tracy has worked with UK Sport, Olympic and Paralympic programmes, coaches, and senior leaders across sport and the public sector. She is passionate about supporting people-centred leadership, advancing women in coaching and leadership, and helping organisations build healthy, ambitious, and sustainable performance environments.



Nicole Pratt

Nicole transitioned from Australia's No.1 professional player into a respected leader and coach. She has worked with top athletes including Ashleigh Barty and Alicia Molik. A former Junior Australian Open champion, she won 10 WTA titles, became an Olympian, and reached No.1 in Australia. Her career reflects resilience, growth, and a strong connection with peers, making her a sought-after mentor. Now a leader in advocating for women and girls in sport, she helped Tennis Australia increase female coaches by 45% and achieve its highest number of top 250 WTA players in over 40 years.



PANEL 2: SHE CALLS IT OUT



Anita Asante

Anita earned 71 international caps over a 19-year career, winning league titles in England, the USA, and Sweden. She was part of Arsenal's historic 2007 quadruple-winning team, including the Champions League—a feat unmatched by any English side since. Retiring in 2022, she amassed a UEFA Women's Cup, five league titles, four FA Cups, and two League Cups, and was inducted into the WSL Hall of Fame in 2023. Now a leading pundit for BBC, Sky Sports, and ITV, she also champions diversity in sport through advocacy as an Ambassador for Show Racism the Red Card and Amnesty International.



Phoebe Graham

Phoebe is a former professional cricketer turned broadcaster and advocate for women's sport. Having experienced the game from the inside as both an athlete and commentator, she brings a rare, 360-degree perspective to how sport is shaped and understood. With six years in marketing and commercial roles at Johnson & Johnson and Sky Sports, Phoebe bridges the gap between fans, athletes, and organisations. She now uses her platform to champion equality, visibility, and performance in women's sport, delivering sharp insight and compelling storytelling.



Garnet Mackinder

Garnet Mackinder is Head of Equality at Sport England who's passionate about creating fairer, more inclusive spaces where people can be themselves and thrive. With a career focused on driving meaningful change, Garnet works with organisations to challenge inequality, shift culture, and make inclusion part of everyday practice, not just policy. Garnet has a strong sporting background, having played rugby at a competitive level for England 7s and in the PWR, and is now enjoying playing grassroots at her local club, whilst serving as an RFU Council member.