

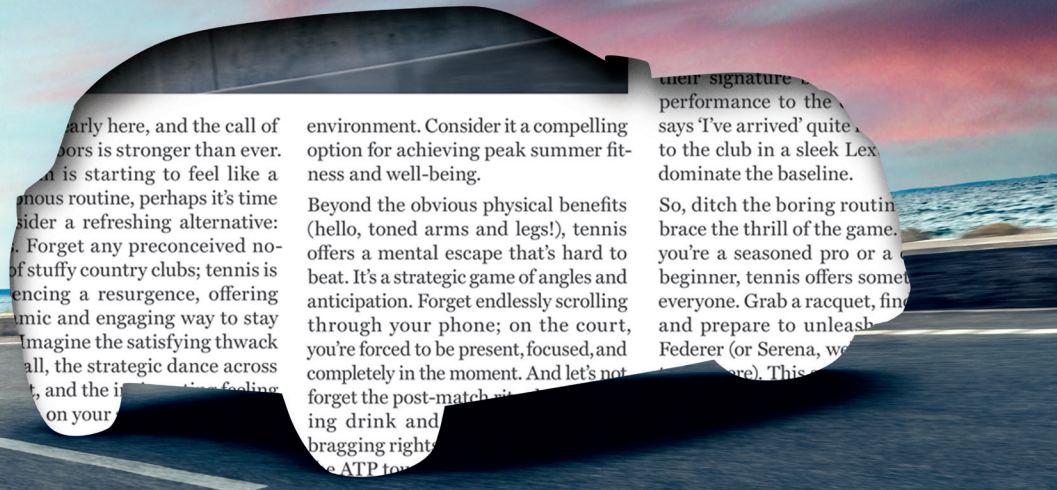
LEXUS

BIRMINGHAM

– OPEN –



SPENDS MORE TIME ON THE STAGE THAN THE ROAD
2X WHATCAR? WINNER



early here, and the call of
doors is stronger than ever.
is starting to feel like a
ous routine, perhaps it's time
sider a refreshing alternative:
Forget any preconceived no-
of stuffy country clubs; tennis is
encing a resurgence, offering
amic and engaging way to stay
Imagine the satisfying thwack
all, the strategic dance across
t, and the intense feeling
on your

environment. Consider it a compelling
option for achieving peak summer fit-
ness and well-being.
Beyond the obvious physical benefits
(hello, toned arms and legs!), tennis
offers a mental escape that's hard to
beat. It's a strategic game of angles and
anticipation. Forget endlessly scrolling
through your phone; on the court,
you're forced to be present, focused, and
completely in the moment. And let's not
forget the post-match ritual of celebrat-
ing drink and
bragging right
e ATP tou

their signature
performance to the
says 'I've arrived' quite
to the club in a sleek Lex
dominate the baseline.
So, ditch the boring routine
brace the thrill of the game.
you're a seasoned pro or a
beginner, tennis offers somet
everyone. Grab a racquet, find
and prepare to unleash
Federer (or Serena, we
ere). This

WHATCAR?
CAR OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2024
Best Small SUV
Lexus LBX

WHATCAR?
CAR OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2025
Best Small SUV
Lexus LBX

WELCOME



On behalf of the LTA, I'm delighted to welcome you to the Lexus Birmingham Open. This is a special year for this tournament as for the first time ever Birmingham will stage a professional men's event on grass. There has been a women's event staged at the Edgbaston Priory Club for many years and this year we have made changes to our calendar to ensure that every venue during the grass court season will stage men's and women's events. With players including Birmingham's own Dan Evans alongside Sonay Kartal, Billy Harris and Harriet Dart there will be plenty of opportunities to get behind our home-grown talent.

I would like to thank Lexus and all our commercial partners for their support of the event, along with all the players, officials, tournament staff, volunteers, and fans who make these events so welcoming. I would also like to thank the Edgbaston Priory Club for hosting the event and helping us stage what we all hope will be a memorable tournament.

Enjoy your visit,
SCOTT LLOYD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE | LTA



It is with huge excitement that I welcome you to the Lexus Birmingham Open, an event which forms part of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Grass Court Season, and a significant milestone in our partnership with the LTA.

As we gather at these iconic venues, we look forward to witnessing the passion and talent that define British tennis, and as lead partner to the LTA we continue to celebrate all aspects of the game; from emerging to established players, from those picking up a racket for the first time, to those lifting a trophy.

We wish all players and fans a spectacular summer filled with thrilling matches and unforgettable moments.

CHRIS HAYES
LEXUS UK DIRECTOR

WELCOME



DEAR TENNIS FANS,

On behalf of the Hologic WTA Tour, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Lexus Birmingham Open.

As the global leader in women's sport, the WTA is proud to once again showcase the very best of women's tennis here in Birmingham and at all our tournaments across the world.

The WTA continues to uphold the values of inclusivity, empowerment, and equality, and as one of sport's few truly global properties, the Hologic WTA Tour will travel to almost 30 nations and regions with over 70 tournaments across 2025, reaching a global audience of 1 billion fans.

The WTA boasts an incredibly diverse array of players and personalities, many of which you will see here at the Lexus Birmingham Open, from established athletes to emerging new talent eager to make their mark on the sport.

The dedicated tournament team at the Lexus Birmingham Open takes great pride in delivering an unforgettable experience for players and fans alike. I would like to thank all the partners, sponsors, staff and volunteers, who continually raise the bar in our collective mission of championing women's sport.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our loyal fans, for your tremendous support and passion for the WTA. Whether you've been a life-long supporter of women's tennis, are joining us for the first time this season, or somewhere in between, welcome to the 2025 Hologic WTA Tour.

All the best,

PORTIA ARCHER
CEO | WOMEN'S TENNIS ASSOCIATION

THIS IS MY STAGE

WTA

#WTARALLYTHEWORLD



ATP TOUR

IT ALL ADDS UP

ATP TOUR

ATP TOUR

It all adds up



EVERY DROP SHOT.
EVERY LOSS.
EVERY WIN.
EVERY POINT.



WELCOME



Welcome to Edgbaston Priory Club and to the Lexus Birmingham Open. The grass court tournament has been held at our club since 1982 and has become a major source of pride, especially this time as we host the tournament in a new format (with both female and male participants) and during the Club's 150th anniversary year. From our members to staff and volunteers, we're committed to ensuring that whether you're a first time or regular visitor, that you have an excellent experience with us today.

We are proud that Edgbaston is considered to be the birthplace of lawn tennis, with the first game believed to have been played in 1859 on a lawn in Ampton Road, Edgbaston, just around the corner from the Club. Wimbledon Champion, Billie Jean King, and Edgbaston Priory Club legend, Ann Jones, take credit for establishing the grass court

tournament here at Edgbaston Priory Club, with the goal to create an event to showcase international talent and put Birmingham, and our club, on the global tennis map.

There have been a number of top talents who have lifted the iconic Maud Watson trophy, including the likes of Ash Barty, Maria Sharapova, Martina Navratilova, and more recently, Yulia Putintseva.

We feel deeply privileged to be part of the 'road to Wimbledon' and we would like to thank you for coming to the Lexus Birmingham Open. We hope you have a great day out enjoying the tennis, soaking up the atmosphere and kicking off the British grass court season with us!

Sarah

SARAH ANN MOORE
CLUB CHAIR

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LEXUS BIRMINGHAM — OPEN —

FOR THE LATEST SCORES, RESULTS, DRAWS,
ORDER OF PLAY AND PLAYER ENTRY LISTS
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Throughout June, we'll be celebrating LGBTQ+ communities in tennis as part of Pride Month, including once again holding 'Friday Pride Day' at our events and telling stories from these communities, showing that tennis is a sport where everyone is welcome.

PLAYER PROFILES

WOMEN

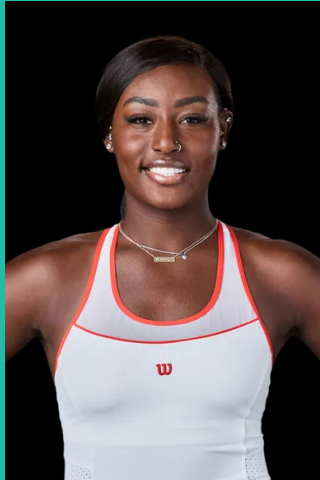


MAGDALENA FRECH

AGE: 27
NATIONALITY:
POLAND

Frech won the biggest title of her career last September as she lifted the WTA 500 title in Guadalajara, beating Australia's Olivia Gadecki in the final.

Her best performance on grass at Wimbledon came in 2022, when she reached the 3rd round at the All England Club, while she was a quarter-finalist in Birmingham a year later, losing against eventual champion Jelena Ostapenko.



ALYCIA PARKS

AGE: 24
NATIONALITY: USA

Parks started playing tennis at the age of seven and she won her first WTA Tour title at the Lyon Open in 2023, beating Caroline Garcia in the final.

She won a WTA 125 tournament on grass at the Veneto Open in Italy last year and her best run at a Grand Slam came at the 2023 Australian Open, where she reached the 3rd round.



SONAY KARTAL

AGE: 23
NATIONALITY:
GREAT BRITAIN

Brighton-born Kartal has been one of the stand-out performers in British tennis over the last year, breaking into the top 100 of the WTA rankings and winning her first WTA Tour title in Tunisia last September.

She is a fine grass court player and reached the third round at Wimbledon last year after coming through qualifying.

Kartal also made her Billie Jean King Cup debut for Great Britain in March, winning both of her matches as the team qualified for the finals.



KIMBERLY BIRRELL

AGE: 27
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

Birrell reached her first WTA Tour final last October at the Japan Women's Open, where she lost against Suzan Lamens from the Netherlands. She was also a mixed doubles finalist with partner John-Patrick Smith at this year's Australian Open.

She started playing tennis at the age of four and is a baseliner whose favourite shot is her forehand.



ALEXANDRA EALA

AGE: 20
NATIONALITY:
PHILIPPINES

Eala announced her arrival on the world stage when she reached the semi-finals of the WTA 1000 tournament in Miami in March, beating five-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek during that run.

This exciting player won the 2022 Junior US Open title and trains at the Rafael Nadal Academy in Mallorca.



AJLA TOMLJANOVIC

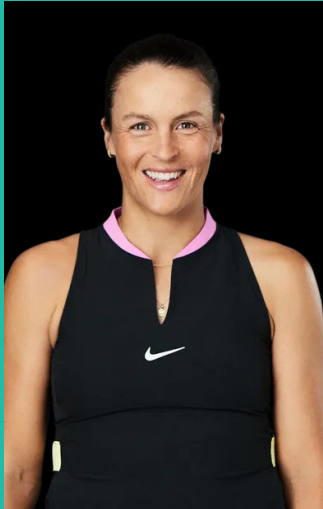
AGE: 32
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

The runner-up in last year's tournament in Birmingham, Tomljanovic's prowess on grass is highlighted by her two quarter-final appearances at Wimbledon in 2021 and 2022.

She achieved a career-high ranking of No.32 in April 2023 and has struggled with injuries that have restricted her progress.

PLAYER PROFILES

WOMEN



TATJANA MARIA

AGE: 37
NATIONALITY:
GERMANY

This experienced performer won her first WTA Tour final on a grass court as she lifted the Mallorca Open title in June 2018.

She also enjoyed an impressive run to the Wimbledon semi-finals in 2022, beating Maria Sakkari and Jelena Ostapenko at the All England Club in what was her best Grand Slam singles performance in her career.



VIKTORIJA GOLUBIC

AGE: 32
NATIONALITY:
SWITZERLAND

A quarter-finalist at Wimbledon in 2021, that run included fine wins against the American duo Danielle Collins and Madison Keys.

Golubic reached the fourth round at the WTA 1000 event at Indian Wells in 2022 and was a member of the Switzerland team that won the Billie Jean King Cup later in the same year.

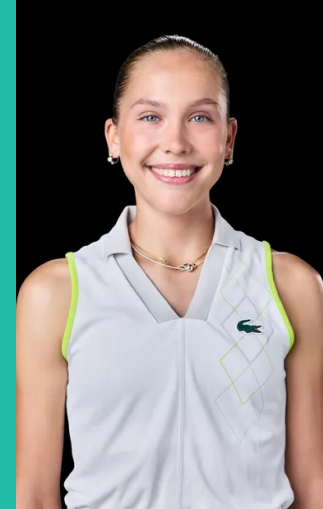


HARRIET DART

AGE: 28
NATIONALITY:
GREAT BRITAIN

A regular on the WTA Tour since her debut at the 2015 Aegon International, Dart broke into the top 100 of the WTA Rankings for the first time in 2022 and has established herself in the Great Britain Billie Jean King Cup team.

Dart matched her best performance on the grass at Wimbledon last summer as she reached the 3rd round, beating compatriot Katie Boulter during that run.



ERIKA ANDREEVA

AGE: 20

Andreeva was a highly promising junior player who played in the final of the 2021 Junior French Open, she has started her senior career impressively and reached a career-high ranking of No.65 last October.

Erika has emerged through the tennis ranks with her teenage sister Mirra, who has already broken into the top ten of the WTA Rankings.



OLIVIA GADECKI

AGE: 23
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

Gadecki started 2025 with a first Grand Slam title, as she teamed up with fellow Aussie John Peers to win the Australian Open mixed doubles title.

She has won three singles titles on the ITF's World Tennis Tour and won a WTA Tour doubles title alongside Britain's Olivia Nicholls in March 2024.



REBECCA MARINO

AGE: 34
NATIONALITY:
CANADA

A player who highlighted her prowess on grass as she lifted the LTA's Ilkley Trophy last June, beating France's Jessika Ponchet in the final.

Marino achieved a career-high ranking of No.38 in July 2011 and was part of the Canada team that won the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup.

PLAYER PROFILES

MEN



QUENTIN HALYS

AGE: 28
NATIONALITY:
FRANCE

Halys appeared in his first ATP Tour final last July, losing out against Italy's Matteo Berrettini in the Swiss Open on clay.

He has recorded wins against top 10 players Dominic Thiem and Alex de Minaur and has won seven ATP Challenger Tour titles.



NICOLAS JARRY

AGE: 29
NATIONALITY: CHILE

Jarry achieved a career-high ranking of No.16 in May 2024 after a fine run of form that included an appearance in the ATP Masters final against Alexander Zverev in Rome.

He beat reigning Wimbledon champion Carlos Alcaraz to reach the final of the 2024 Argentina Open and has won three titles on the ATP Tour.



ARTHUR RINDERKNECH

AGE: 29
NATIONALITY:
FRANCE

With six ATP Challenger title wins on his record, this experienced performer achieved a career-high ranking of No.42 in October 2022.

He began playing tennis at the age of six with his parents and his mother, Virginie, is a former player who reached a career-high of No.208 in the WTA rankings.

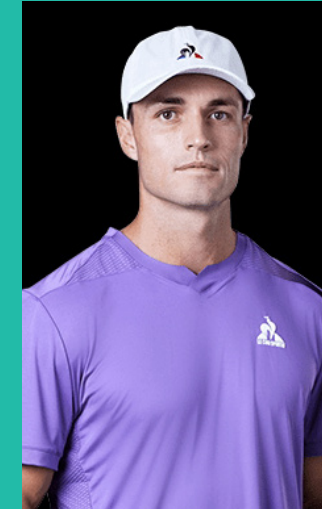


ALEKSANDAR VUKIC

AGE: 29
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

Vukic has two ATP Challenger wins on his record, with the most recent coming at the Busan Open in May 2023.

He reached the quarter-finals of an ATP Tour grass court event in the Netherlands last year and has reached the 2nd round at Wimbledon for the last two years.



CHRISTOPHER O'CONNELL

AGE: 30
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

O'Connell has won six ATP Challenger singles titles, with his most recent coming in China last September.

He highlighted his prowess on grass courts with a run to the 3rd round at Wimbledon in 2023 and he also reached 3rd round at last year's US Open before losing against eventual champion Jannik Sinner.



RINKY HIJIKATA

AGE: 24
NATIONALITY:
AUSTRALIA

Hijikata achieved his best result in a Grand Slam tournament with a run to the 4th round of the 2023 US Open and he also reached the quarter-finals at the LTA's Queen's Club tournament last year.

He won the 2023 Australian Open doubles title alongside his compatriot Jason Kubler and has won three titles on the ATP Challenger Tour.

PLAYER PROFILES

MEN



BILLY HARRIS

AGE: 30
NATIONALITY:
GREAT BRITAIN

Harris has enjoyed a thrilling rise up the ATP rankings in the last year, with his performances on grass courts last summer propelling his progress.

He reached the semi-finals of the LTA's Surbiton Trophy and also reached the last four in Nottingham, the quarterfinals at The Queen's Club and the semi-finals at Eastbourne. He also made a successful debut for Great Britain in the Davis Cup last September.



MACKENZIE MCDONALD

AGE: 30
NATIONALITY: USA

McDonald lost against world No.1 Jannik Sinner in his only ATP Tour final in August 2021, but he does have some impressive wins against top 10 players on his record.

He beat Rafael Nadal at the 2023 Australian Open and had a fine victory against America's Taylor Fritz at Eastbourne in the same year.



MARIN CILIC

AGE: 36
NATIONALITY:
CROATIA

The 2014 US Open champion has been one of the most dangerous players on a grass court throughout his career, with his run to the 2017 Wimbledon final highlighting his prowess on this surface.

This big server won the title at The Queen's Club in 2012 and 2018, with the second of those wins secured with a victory against Novak Djokovic in the final.

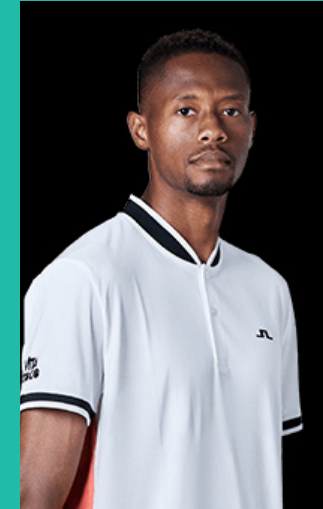


LLOYD HARRIS

AGE: 28
NATIONALITY:
SOUTH AFRICA

A US Open quarter-finalist in 2021, he has also appeared in two ATP Tour finals and has won six ATP Challenger titles.

Harris is at home on grass courts and won the title at the LTA's Surbiton Trophy last year in a run that included a win against Britain's Billy Harris in the semi-finals.



CHRISTOPHER EUBANKS

AGE: 29
NATIONALITY: USA

Eubanks has enjoyed a flourish later in his career, with his first ATP Tour title coming in Mallorca on a grass court in June 2023.

He also enjoyed his best run in a Grand Slam event on grass, as he reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon in 2023 in a run that saw him beat Britain's Cameron Norrie and Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas.



DAN EVANS

AGE: 35
NATIONALITY:
GREAT BRITAIN

Birmingham-born Evans has achieved some of his best results on grass courts, with his win at 2019 Surbiton Trophy backed up by a victory at the Nottingham Open that same summer. He went on to defend his Nottingham title a year later.

Evans reached a career-high ranking of No.21 and has won two ATP Tour titles, while also being a regular in the Great Britain Davis Cup team since making his debut in 2009.



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Futures without limits



OPEN FOR ALL

INCLUSION IS AT THE HEART OF
EVERYTHING THAT THE LTA DOES.

Wide ranging actions have been delivered as part of the LTA's Inclusion Strategy to drive participation and engagement with women and girls, underserved communities and people with an impairment.

The LTA's She Rallies ambition continues to lead the way towards tennis becoming a truly gender balanced sport with a focus on the areas where the LTA can make the most difference – participation, workforce and the visibility of tennis.

The LTA has also launched further initiatives to open tennis up to underserved groups through its Breaking Down Barriers plan and to open up tennis to more people with an impairment through targeted actions in its Open for All plan. Alongside this, it has continued to build on collaborations with organisations

such as Pride in Tennis.

The successful LTA SERVES programme, which helps young people who might not previously have had the opportunity to experience tennis, continues to see high numbers of players on court each month. There were 701 venues delivering the programme in 2024 in community centres, youth clubs, faith venues and other places for a record total of 33,676 children and young people.

More than 100 children across London came together at a tennis festival last summer as part of the LTA SERVES Level Up London project – funded by the LTA Tennis Foundation – which provides more opportunities for women and girls from underserved communities to get involved in tennis.

Alongside this, the number of players playing monthly in the LTA's Open Court Programme, a national scheme that actively promotes and delivers opportunities for disabled people to get involved in tennis, reached a peak of more than 16,000 in 2024. Both of these programmes are supported by Sport England.

Elsewhere, the LTA hosted the second Tennis Black List event at the National Tennis Centre last June to celebrate tennis role models from the black and mixed black heritage communities. It also hosted the inaugural meeting of the Black Tennis Collective where five pioneering organisations from the black tennis community came together in the start of a powerful collaboration with LTA.

Over the next year and beyond the LTA will continue to engage with these and other diverse and underserved communities across the board to ensure tennis is opened up to as many people as possible.



Scan here to read more on the LTA's Inclusion Strategy!

ACE-ING GENDER EQUALITY

ON AND OFF THE COURT, TENNIS HAS SET THE AGENDA FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORT FOR WELL OVER 100 YEARS. MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BUT THE LTA WANT TO DO EVEN MORE TO ENCOURAGE WOMEN AND GIRLS OF ALL AGES TO BE INVOLVED IN THE SPORT.

The LTA believes that sport can be one of the most powerful platforms for promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls. However, in an era when we're now seeing women's sport in general getting a greater, but not yet fair, share of the headlines and coverage, there's still work to be done, including in tennis.

That's why, in June 2022, the LTA launched *She Rallies*—the LTA's commitment to making British tennis fully gender-equal at every level. This initiative is a key part of the LTA's vision, *Tennis Opened Up*, and is at the heart of everything being done, looking deeper into the areas where positive change can be affected. To drive meaningful change, this summer, the LTA is refreshing the *She Rallies* plan with bold, targeted actions that will accelerate progress toward gender parity. The focus remains on delivering impactful initiatives that create lasting change, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable future for women and girls in tennis.



The core of *She Rallies* revolves around three pillars that together will help ensure tennis becomes even more relevant, accessible, welcoming, inspiring and enjoyable for women and girls:

- **Participation:** Targeted activity to increase participation in tennis among women and girls, to close the gender gap
- **Workforce:** Provide the support and

opportunities needed for more women to join and progress within the tennis workforce, and supporting the whole workforce to better understand and cater for female needs.

- **Visibility:** Inspiring women and girls through increased female representation, driving greater visibility of women's tennis reflective of its status as a leading women's sport.



At the elite level, women's tennis in Great Britain has gained momentum with the launch of a new WTA 500 tournament, the HSBC Championships at The Queen's Club which is set to showcase top-class women's tennis at one of the most iconic venues in the country. The HSBC Championships is the highest level of tournament in Great Britain outside of Wimbledon. These moments are crucial in inspiring more girls to see a future for themselves in the sport. Since 2022, the *She Rallies* initiative has seen major milestones, especially in boosting visibility. Hosting the Billie Jean King Cup

Finals in Glasgow was a standout moment, with Team GB reaching the semi-finals for the first time since 1981 — a feat they repeated last year in Malaga. British talent has also made a mark globally, with five players — Emma Raducanu, Katie Boulter, Harriet Dart, Sonay Kartal, and Jodie Burrage — breaking into the WTA top 100.

There has been a strong focus on supporting female coaches at all levels of the game, from championing the WTA Inclusion Programme to prepare female coaches for life on the WTA tour to the recruitment of female activators who deliver sessions in local parks.

Exciting progress has been made in breaking down barriers for girls thanks to programmes like *Prime Video LTA Youth Girls*— supported by Amazon. Following Emma Raducanu's inspiring US Open victory, 10,000 new girls have been inspired and introduced to tennis, sparking a new wave of enthusiasm.

The LTA is working closely in partnership with Women in Sport to build understanding and expertise on female participation in sport. In 2024 the LTA launched a groundbreaking new course for coaches which examines the psychosocial factors influencing girls' participation and supports coaches with practical ways to positively address barriers and build confidence and competence with young girls.

More women on committees, as coaches, as officials and on the courts will set the foundation for tennis to become truly gender equal at every level. Increasing the number of women playing regularly remains a key priority. There's still more to achieve, but with each step forward, the LTA is committed to making tennis in Britain a sport where women and girls can thrive.



You can find out more about LTA's *She Rallies* here.

READY TO SERVE IT UP



THICK, CREAMY, PROTEIN-RICH YOGHURT



LTA OPEN COURT: OPENING TENNIS UP TO THOUSANDS OF DISABLED PEOPLE

THE LTA HAS AN AMBITIOUS VISION OF TENNIS OPENED UP - FOCUSED ON MAKING THE SPORT MORE ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE REGARDLESS OF AGE, GENDER, BACKGROUND OR ABILITY. ENSURING DISABLED PEOPLE CAN ACCESS AND ENJOY TENNIS WITHOUT ANY BARRIERS IS CENTRAL TO THE LTA'S PLAN.

- **ONE IN FOUR PEOPLE IN THE UK REPORT BEING DISABLED**
- **DISABLED PEOPLE ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE PHYSICALLY INACTIVE COMPARED TO NON-DISABLED PEOPLE**

LTA Open Court is the national programme that actively promotes and delivers opportunities for disabled people to get involved in tennis and padel. Partnered with and jointly funded by Sport England and the LTA Tennis Foundation, the programme provides disability-specific sessions for tennis and padel – including learning disability, wheelchair, para-standing, visually impaired, deaf, walking and sensory tennis.

The LTA is also expanding the programme into other long-term health conditions and mental health. Through the LTA's national partnerships they are working to open the sport up to a wider range of audiences including Parkinson's UK, AOC Sport, Sense, Access Sport, Sport in Mind and Youth Sports Trust.



LTA Open Court is one of the largest disability programmes of its kind in any sport. Last year alone:

- **OVER 600 VENUES ACROSS BRITAIN DELIVERED LTA OPEN COURT**
- **16,000+ DISABLED PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH LONG TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS TOOK PART IN THE PROGRAMME**

Have you been inspired to pick up a racket? Whether you want to play, deliver or support, find out more about disability tennis by scanning the QR code.



ALL EYES ON BIRMINGHAM

THE LEXUS BIRMINGHAM OPEN WILL PROVIDE A THRILLING STAGE FOR THE OPENING TOURNAMENT OF THE 2025 GRASS COURT SEASON IN BRITAIN, WITH A COMBINED CHALLENGER LEVEL EVENT BEING STAGED HERE AT THE EDGBASTON PRIORY CLUB IN BIRMINGHAM.

It is the first male and female combined event in professional tennis history in Birmingham. Another momentous moment for British tennis also being marked next week as a new WTA 500 tournament at The Queen's Club will see tour level women's tennis return to London for the first time in over 50 years.

It is all part of an exciting new look to the LTA's grass court tournaments and will add new chapters to the thrilling history of this event in Birmingham.

This tournament already has a rich history and that will be added to this week, with the variety on offer with women's and men's matches ensuring this year's grass court festival of tennis in Birmingham has been re-energised.

The credit for establishing the LTA's Birmingham grass court tournament in 1982 goes to former Wimbledon Champions Billie Jean King and Edgbaston Priory Club's own Ann Jones.

The Birmingham Post's Leon Hickman hailed it as 'the end of the Midlands tennis



drought' because it restored a showcase in the region for international talent after the demise in the 1960s and '70s of the Midland Counties and John Player tournaments.

It was fitting that the trophy of the Classic would be the rose basket won by Maud Watson as Wimbledon's first female Champion, and whose first title had been won at Edgbaston a century earlier.

It also offered an opportunity for the LTA to respond to give effect to its campaign at the time to strengthen grass roots tennis in the UK, both recreationally and competitively.

The tournament was part of the Women's Tennis Association tour which King had developed in 1973

to promote opportunities for female professionals.

King and Jones persuaded an array of stars to contest the Birmingham title – initially called the Edgbaston Cup – and the first tournament saw Tracy Austin, Hana Mandlikova and Sue Barker join the order of play.

The tournament fulfilled its founders' aim of making Birmingham what four-time winner Pam Shriver called 'the perfect Wimbledon build-up'.

The title has been won ten times by Wimbledon singles champions, and often by rising stars.

In 1989, the great Martina Navratilova claimed her one and only singles title in Birmingham when she beat Zina Garrison in the final.

In 2004, Maria Sharapova was just 17 when she won the tournament at Birmingham, only weeks before taking Serena Williams's Wimbledon title from her.

Then in 2015, Germany's Angelique Kerber took the title in Birmingham before winning the US and Australian Opens and then becoming Wimbledon champion.

Two years later, two-time former Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova won the first of back-to-back titles in Birmingham and in 2019, Australia's Ashleigh Barty became world No.1 as she won the



title at Edgbaston Priory, beating Germany's Julia Görges in the final.

Other Wimbledon singles finalists who won the title here in Birmingham include Nathalie Tauziat, Sabine Lisicki, and Zina Jackson.

The Birmingham tournament has lived through changes and challenges including the increasing demands of the tour on competitors, the interruption of the pandemic and – regrettably, but only once – the cancellation of a final for rain.

Now fans in attendance this week can enjoy women's and men's tennis in the newly named Lexus Birmingham Open, with

"This new calendar is an important step in increasing the visibility of our sport, particularly the women's game. This will kick start interest in the sport at the beginning of the grass court season, meaning more public exposure for tennis in Britain, and more opportunities to inspire the next generation. We're committed to protecting the geographical spread of our grass court venues and every venue will now host both men's and women's tennis, meaning more chances for fans to watch British players in action closer to them."

CHRIS POLLARD
LTA Managing Director of
Commercial and Operations

new champions set to be crowned in a tournament about to go to the next level.



UNLEASHING TALENT

SONAY KARTAL COULD NOT HAVE IMAGINED THE JOURNEY SHE WAS ABOUT TO EMBARK ON AS SHE WAS RANKED JUST OUTSIDE THE TOP 300 OF THE WTA RANKINGS IN MAY 2024.

After a year that started with a health scare, her win in an ITF World Tennis Tour tournament in Monzón, Spain kick-started a thrilling summer for Kartal, as she reached the quarter-finals of the LTA's Ilkley Trophy before emerging through a tough qualifying tournament to book her place in the main draw at Wimbledon.

Victory against No.29 seed Sorana Cirstea gave her a first Grand Slam win and she backed up by a battling triumph against Clara Burel at the All England Club, which earned Kartal a shot at No.2 seed Coco Gauff.

Then reigning US Open champion Gauff proved to be too strong in a match played on No.1 Court at Wimbledon, but that was not the end of Kartal's ruse. She sealed a maiden WTA Tour title last September at the Jasmin Open in Tunisia and won another title at the W100 tournament at Shrewsbury in October,

with that win on home soil securing her a rise to the top 100 of the WTA rankings for the first time.

Kartal has kicked on again in 2025 by reaching the fourth round at the WTA 1000 event at Indian Wells, where she was beaten by world No.1 Aryna Sabalenka, with the top 50 of the WTA rankings now very much in her sights.

Kartal also made an impressive debut in the Billie Jean King Cup, as she won both of her singles matches to help Great Britain qualify for the Finals later this year.

As she looks back on her breakthrough year, she does so with real pride and also excitement for what is to come.

"I'm super proud of the last year and it's happened very fast for me," said Kartal, who is supported by the LTA's Pro Scholarship Programme, the elite programme for the game's top young players in Britain.



"For so long, I was doing things really well on the practice court and I was taking good care of things off the court, so it was trusting that it would come out on the match court.

"Each match I'm playing, I feel like a different person. I've got more experience and a lot more belief in my game now.

"The transition from ITF to WTA matches is tough.



I definitely took a lot of first round losses when I was making that transition. Your weaknesses get exposed when you are playing the higher-level matches, but I think it's also where you find your game, what works well, and what you need to work on.

"The biggest thing I noticed was that mentally, you can't switch off. Every point you need to be present and it can be a matter of points where you have a dip in focus and can lose the match."

Kartal's breakthrough 2024 successes confirmed she has the weapons required to compete at the highest level of the game, with her match against former US Open champion Gauff at Wimbledon

giving her a chance to appreciate the challenges of competing against a Grand Slam champion.

"Wimbledon was special," she continued. "Winning my first Grand Slam main draw match and doing it at your home Slam made the moment and experience so much more special.

"It was the first time that everything I was working on and all the things I was trying so hard to change came together on the match court and to do it on the biggest stage is something I was super proud of.

"I learned so much from that match against Coco. You go into it feeling like you have to bring your best game, you have to be

perfect. I feel like you almost have to overplay. That can sometimes overcomplicate things, and that's what I think I did in that match and I have learned from that.

"I'd been knocking on the door for quite some time, but not managing to pull through in those big matches.

"I always felt like my level was there despite having a lot of areas to work on, but now I am learning how to win these matches."

At the age of 23, the unassuming Kartal headed into this year's grass court season with a very different mindset, with her enhanced confidence ensuring she will be a player to watch in front of her home fans.



Haier

PLAY WITH
THE NUMBER ONES.



DISCOVER MORE



PROUD SPONSORS
OF BRITISH TENNIS



CELEBRATING THE 2025 LTA TENNIS AWARDS WINNERS, PRESENTED BY LEXUS

THE GREATS OF BRITISH TENNIS SHARE THE STAGE WITH THE GRASSROOT HEROES OF THE GAME IN THE ANNUAL LTA TENNIS AWARDS, PRESENTED BY LEXUS.



Now in their tenth year, the awards highlight the incredible hard work of some 14,700 schools, approximately 10,000 LTA-approved tournaments and more than 3,500 LTA registered venues.

While the professional players may grab the headlines and the glory, it is the volunteers at the LTA's network of parks, clubs and venues across the country who are the lifeblood of the game and drive participation. The awards celebrate innovation, community engagement and growth across venues and programmes.

This year's grassroot winners, selected from more than 2,000 nominations across 12 different categories, were honoured at a glittering ceremony at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton. Guest presenters such as Sue Barker, Laura Robson, Andrew Castle and Sir Trevor McDonald handed out the coveted trophies.

Nine British tennis and padel stars were also honoured in the elite player categories. Katie Boulter was named Female Player of the Year after a standout season including her first WTA 500 title in San Diego.



Jack Draper was named Male Player of the Year after winning his first ATP title, reaching the US Open semi-final, and becoming British No.1. Doubles Player of the Year went to Henry Patten. The sportsman swept up three ATP titles and a maiden Grand Slam title at Wimbledon.

Alfie Hewett won Wheelchair Player of the Year after completing a career Grand Slam with his first Wimbledon singles title.

Sandi Procter, as President of the LTA, oversees the awards. She believes that recognising champions at all levels of the game is very important.

She said: "I'm passionate about grassroots tennis and I'm always keen to recognise the dedication, hard work and achievements of our volunteers.

"The awards are an opportunity to celebrate the people that make our sport what it is. They are vital in helping us to encourage people to pick up a racket regardless of their age or ability, or who they are, or where they come from."



Scan the QR code to find out more about the 2025 LTA Awards.



GRASS COURT MAESTRO

WHEN A YOUNG DAN EVANS SET FOOT ON A TENNIS COURT FOR THE FIRST TIME AT WEST WARWICKS TENNIS CLUB IN SOLIHULL, HE COULD NOT HAVE IMAGINED THAT HE HAD TAKEN THE FIRST STEP INTO HIS FUTURE.

Evans grew up in the Hall Green area of Birmingham and with his father working as an electrician and his mother a nurse, the prospect of a career as a professional tennis player was not at the top of his agenda when he first picked up a racket. Now, at the age of 35, Evans can look back on a career that has seen him emerge as one of the leaders of the British game over the last 15 years and he is getting a chance to tick off another ambition this week

as he plays a tournament in Birmingham for the first time. "When I started playing, I never thought I would have a career in professional tennis," begins Evans. "I played every sport when I was growing up and I remember having my first lessons at West Warwicks Tennis Club. I must have been pretty decent because the coach encouraged me to carry on playing. "Those first impressions are so important when you try and sport and it clearly looks like a good



decision now to stick with tennis as it has given me a great career.

"At the start, I wanted to win matches. I didn't know if I was any good and when I started out in the juniors, I wasn't one of the best players.

"It was not until I was 16 or 17 that I started to realise I was quite good and going to the LTA's Academy in Loughborough changed my path to my improvement.

"Leighton Alfred and Mark Taylor were looking after me and at that point, tennis started to take on a different path for me."

Evans may have been a late bloomer from the Warwickshire stable of players, but he would go on to build a career that has included so many highlights.

Two ATP Tour titles have come late in his story, with a rise to world No.21 another impressive achievement that has also included 42 matches for Britain in the Davis Cup,

including a contribution to the triumphant run to victory in 2015 under captain Leon Smith. In a long and compelling journey in the sport, Evans has won a place in the hearts of British tennis fans with a passion that shines through on the court and now he is getting a chance to play in his home city for the first time on the Lexus Birmingham Open.

"It's going to be nice to play at home," added Evans, who played a Davis Cup tie here back in 2016. "Edgbaston Priory Club has always had some of the best grass courts in the country, so it's going to be great preparation for the rest of the grass court season.

"I practise there when I am at home. It's always been a really good club and from my perspective and the rest of the men who will get a chance to play there, we are so lucky to have this opportunity with the new tournament this year.

"A lot of the tournaments are set up on sites that are not tennis clubs. So it's great to be playing at an established club that has such a great track record for staging a historic women's event that has been won by so many great Wimbledon champions.

"Playing on the great grass courts they have at Edgbaston Priory Club is always fantastic and while we don't play on grass a lot, the British players tend to do well on it.

"The conditions have changed a little in my time playing on grass. The balls and the court have got a little slower, but it's always a good surface to play on and it's always amazing to play in front of the British fans.

"I have enjoyed some of the best moments of my career on grass and I've won titles in Nottingham and Surbiton in the past, so hopefully I can do well in Birmingham."

HOW BRITISH TENNIS HAS CHANGED

IN NOVEMBER 2024 THE INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION RELEASED THEIR GLOBAL TENNIS REPORT WHICH REPORTS ON TENNIS PARTICIPATION IN 199 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.

In that report, Britain ranks number one in the world for adult tennis participation per capita. Meaning more people are playing tennis here, per head of population, than nations such as the USA, Australia, France, Spain and Germany.

It's a powerful statement about the popularity of the sport and the turnaround in its fortunes in recent years.

Go back to 2019 and tennis participation had been falling for a number of years. The competition for people's leisure time was more intense than ever. Whilst Andy Murray had been an exceptional champion at the top of the game, Britain deserved more strength in depth in the professional game.

That year, following a review of the game, the LTA put in place a new vision for the organisation and a new strategy to grow tennis in Britain. The vision was 'Tennis Opened Up' and

the LTA's mission became growing tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable. This approach gave everyone involved in tennis, whether they be players, coaches, officials, volunteers or administrators a clear direction to get behind.

There has been lots of hard work since then, and challenges to overcome, not least the pandemic. But the game is now in a stronger place.

At grass-roots level there has been huge growth in participation with 5.6million British adults playing tennis every year, a growth of 43 per cent over the last six years. Notably there has been growth across all demographics. 3.8million children now pick up a racket and play every year with a record high of 1.6million playing at least once a month.

Tennis is getting into more schools, through the LTA

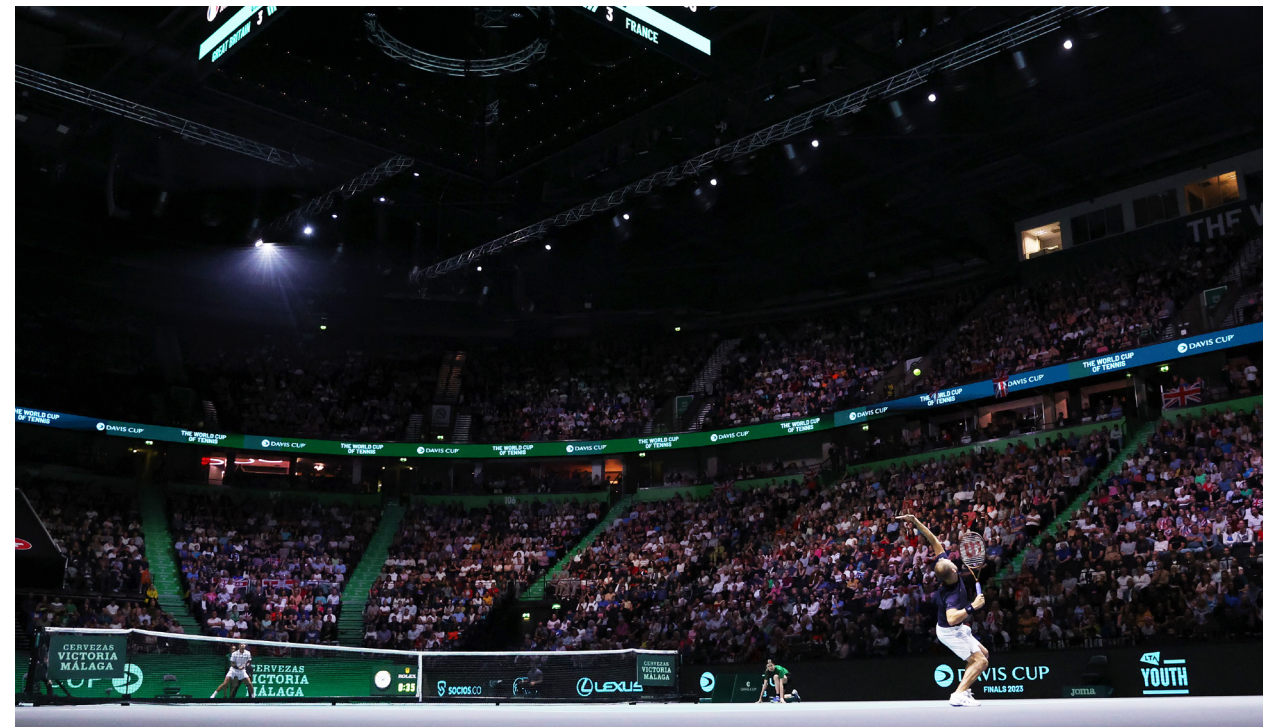


Tennis in the Community

Opposite:
Dan Evans serves at the Davis Cup in the AO Arena, Manchester
Emma Raducanu

Youth Schools programme, which delivers teacher training and vouchers for equipment. Over 50 per cent of schools in Great Britain have now signed up and the programme has trained over 28,000 teachers.

In 2023 the LTA launched a parks tennis programme with the UK Government designed to address the state of the nation's park courts, many of which had



fallen into disrepair and were in danger of being lost altogether. Using a combination of funding from Government, the LTA Tennis Foundation and local authorities, over 3,000 park tennis courts have been bought back to life and are now available for local communities for the long term.

At the elite level, performances on court continue to inspire the next generation. There have been outstanding performances in recent

years from the likes of Jack Draper, Emma Raducanu, Katie Boulter, Alfie

Hewett and many more. In 2024, Great Britain had 11 players in the top 100 – the highest number since 1978. British players are now

regularly enjoying strong runs at events around the world.

During the past six years the LTA also launched the LTA Tennis Foundation to help improve lives through

tennis, and became the national governing body for Padel, now one of the fastest growing sports in Britain. There are over 850 courts in Great Britain compared to 50 back in 2019 and annual participation has grown from 15,000 to 400,000.

The LTA is committed to continuing to grow padel and tennis at all levels and build on the on-court successes of recent years, whilst the sport is reaching more people and communities across the length and breadth of Britain. There is further to go but the future for British tennis looks bright.



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FUTURE TENNIS SUPERSTAR

ALEXANDRA EALA ANNOUNCED HER ARRIVAL IN THE WTA TOUR IN EMPHATIC FASHION WITH A RUN TO THE SEMI-FINAL OF THE MIAMI OPEN IN MARCH AND SHE IS RELISHING THE TASK OF CONTINUING HER DEVELOPMENT IN BIRMINGHAM THIS WEEK.

The 2022 Junior US Open champion has been talked about as a star in the making for some time and she backed up her credentials in stunning fashion with her run in Miami.

A win against world No.2 Iga Swiatek in the quarter-finals was a stand-out moment, but her wins against former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko and 2025 Australian Open champion Madison Keys were equally impressive.

She is already the highest-ranked female player to emerge from the Philippines and the question must be what comes next for this superstar in the making.

Eala has been honing her skills at the Rafael Nadal Academy in Mallorca in recent years and the presence of Toni Nadal, the uncle and former coach of

22-time Grand Slam-winning legend Rafa, in the coaching box during her run in Miami, highlighted the influence their set-up has had on her formative days as a professional.

A big fan of five-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova, who was also a champion here in Birmingham, Eala is eager to follow in her footsteps as she aims for the stars.

“My dreams have stayed the same, stayed constant,” she states. “I have always been a big dreamer. To win Grand Slams has always been one of the end goals. To become No.1 has always been one of the end goals.

“I think that this result came at the right time. Being a successful junior doesn’t mean that you’re going to be a successful professional, so I made it a point

to work hard every day and to trust that my time would come, and hopefully this is the time.

“I’m so happy that people in the Philippines are picking up rackets hopefully what I have done has had an impact on that.”

Eala admits she has needed some time to get used to new expectations after her run in Miami, but she is eager to keep her feet on the ground.

“To be in the top 100 of the rankings is something really special. This is all new to me and I’m trying to figure them out the best I can,” she said.

“My day-to-day has not changed too much as I still work as hard as ever, but the exposure is a lot more now and that takes some getting used to.

“You need to keep your feet on the ground. I have come a long way already, but there is still so much more I want to do.”

Eala’s experience playing on grass courts is limited, with her run to the third round of qualifying for Wimbledon last year halted by Lulu Sun, who went on to beat Britain’s Emma Raducanu and make it through to the quarter-finals in the main draw at the All England Club.

Now she is relishing the chance to continue her rise up the WTA rankings on a surface she is eager to master.



SERVING UP SUCCESS

OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS, THE LTA HAS BEEN DELIVERING AN INVESTMENT OF MORE THAN £30MILLION FROM THE UK GOVERNMENT AND LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION TO TRANSFORM THOUSANDS OF PARK TENNIS COURTS ACROSS BRITAIN.

This landmark investment is bringing over 3,000 park tennis courts across hundreds of local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales back to life for communities and into long-term sustainable use.

Parks are really important for tennis as they provide accessible and affordable opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to pick up a racket and play the sport locally. This is particularly vital for growing participation among underserved communities.

But back in 2021, 45 per cent of park tennis courts across Britain had fallen into disrepair, with poor playing surfaces, subsidence or vandalism causing damage to nets, courts or fencing.

To address this, the LTA's Park Tennis Project has been renovating the courts in the worst condition, to ensure that communities across the country have access to quality facilities in their local parks.

The project is also rolling out digital infrastructure in the form of gate access technology and online booking through the LTA website and Play Tennis app, to make it easier than ever to find, book and get on court, tackling one of the biggest barriers to participation.



But providing accessible, high-quality facilities is only part of the job, and so the LTA has been working with councils and tennis operators to ensure that the right programmes and community engagement are in place to grow participation on newly transformed park courts. This includes Barclays Free Park Tennis, a free weekly session led by local volunteers with equipment provided, opening up opportunities for people to play tennis for free no matter their age, background or ability.

The Park Tennis Project is aimed at getting over 500,000 more people playing tennis in parks every year, and has already made significant progress, delivering huge benefits to communities across the country.

Parks which have 12 months of data for pre- and post-refurbishment show an average uplift in bookings of 123 per cent, and many of those

playing on refurbished courts had not played tennis before, meaning the project is opening tennis up to new audiences.

The project will complete its final refurbishments this summer, leaving Britain's park courts in great shape to provide opportunities for people across the country to pick up a racket and play for many years to come.

Parks that have been transformed in collaboration with Birmingham City Council are:

- SUMMERFIELD PARK
- WARD END
- ROOKERY PARK
- GILBERTSTONE PARK
- CANNON HILL PARK
- LICKEY HILLS
- PYPE HAYES PARK
- BOURNVILLE PARK
- BROOKVALE



Scan the QR code to read more.



Funded by
UK Government



3000+ PARK TENNIS COURTS ACROSS GREAT BRITAIN

are being transformed by the LTA's
Park Tennis Project



Find and book your local court

BARCLAYS
LOCAL TENNIS
LEAGUES 



WHATEVER YOUR LEVEL

Beginner or advanced—meet new people, power up your game and compete at a park court near you with Barclays Local Tennis Leagues.

Over 200 mixed singles and doubles leagues are taking place at local parks and public courts across the country all year round for adults aged 18 and over, and we want you to get involved!



Scan to download the Barclays
Local Tennis Leagues app



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TENNIS 



FREE, SOCIAL TENNIS

Every weekend, coming to a park court near you.

No partner? No problem. Barclays Free Park Tennis gives you the chance to play with new people, enjoy free exercise and practice your skills.



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Barclays Free Park Tennis
session near you

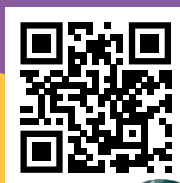
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BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS AND SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES ACROSS GREAT BRITAIN GET ACTIVE AND EXPERIENCE THE PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND MENTAL BENEFITS OF TENNIS IS WHAT THE LTA SERVES PROGRAMME IS ALL ABOUT.

LTA SERVES is the industry's leading sport for development programme, it takes tennis into the heart of local communities, to those who may never have had the opportunity to play before, or thought the sport wasn't for them. It's all about having fun with friends, keeping mentally and physically fit while learning new skills beyond the tennis court.

Through the power of tennis, the LTA helps more children, young people and adults build their self-confidence, expand knowledge around health and wellbeing and also support community cohesion.

The LTA empowers and equips over 2,000 trained community leaders in 880 venues throughout Britain. The LTA's support includes equipment and resources to deliver tennis in non-traditional venues. The LTA offer volunteers, leaders and youth workers the training and skills they need to run fun and engaging tennis sessions for children and young people in their communities.



"It doesn't matter if you've never picked up a racket before – if you want to help more children, young people and adults from communities get active playing our sport then you could become an Activator."

"You don't need any equipment or a tennis court – just bring enthusiasm and the LTA will help you with the rest."

KIRAN MATHARU
EDI Programme Manager – Underserved Communities

No court, no problem – LTA SERVES can be delivered anywhere including community centres, youth clubs, faith venues and other places.

Who can get involved?

LTA SERVES encourages any community venue, local, regional or national organisations to get involved in the programme and bring tennis and its benefits to their community.

If you look after a venue, a community group, or even if you're a parent or guardian of someone attending a local venue and want to find out how you can run LTA SERVES or become an Activator – contact the LTA via the QR code.



LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION

THE LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION'S MISSION IS TO IMPROVE LIVES THROUGH TENNIS, ENSURING THAT EVERY CHILD, YOUNG PERSON, AND ADULT CAN ACCESS THE UNIQUE AND LIFE-CHANGING BENEFITS THAT TENNIS OFFERS.

The LTA Tennis Foundation is committed to working in all parts of Great Britain with a particular focus on diverse and underserved communities where the game is less well established.

How the LTA Tennis Foundation makes an impact

Supporting organisations

- Financially supporting and collaborating with charities and organisations embedded within their communities, who use tennis as a force for good.

Enabling communities and schools

- Funding expertise and equipment to make tennis accessible to all.

Developing facilities

- Improving access to tennis by developing, often neglected, facilities and courts.

Since its launch in 2022, almost two million people have been positively impacted by the LTA Tennis Foundation.



"The LTA Tennis Foundation-funded programme, Raise My Game, has improved pupil health, wellbeing, confidence, social skills and helped them build new friendships; furthermore, by providing regular access to coaching, it has given them new lifelong skills and a passion for the sport of tennis."

AMMO TALWAR MBE
CORE & Co Foundation Trustee

Support the LTA Tennis Foundation today by entering the raffle for your chance to win tennis prizes! Just head to their gazebo in the Fan Village to purchase your tickets or look out for the team in pink t-shirts around the tournament.



Registered charity number: 1148421



LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION CHARITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:

SPORT LEGACY FOUNDATION

Support Legacy Foundation (SLF), a charity based in Birmingham, aims to provide opportunities to inspire and change the lives of children and young people by inviting them to take part in sport and educational programmes. SLF works closely with those who have not been successful either at school or, very often, in society, and uses the power of sport, especially cricket, football and tennis, to improve the self-esteem of young people by helping to improve their educational and sporting skills.

What the LTA Tennis Foundation funded:
Building Character Through Tennis

Building Character through Tennis (BCtT) is a unique project that aims to bring down barriers to entry into tennis that exist amongst



underserved communities in Birmingham. It uses the power of sport to create new opportunities for underrepresented groups to play tennis, increase fitness levels, build mental health and access quality tennis facilities.

The LTA Tennis Foundation grant will support the delivery of the programme for three years, and by the end, almost 1,400 children will have had the opportunity to take part and experience tennis.

"Over the years we have seen first-hand the positive impact sport has on young people. What's more interesting is the effect sport and especially tennis has on those young people, particularly those that are struggling at school or those that come from difficult backgrounds. We have found that in those instances sport is sometimes the only lifeline those young people have, and it changes them forever."

MOHAMMED NAEEM
SLF's Operations Director and Head Coach

RALLY FOR TOMORROW

TO DELIVER THE LTA'S VISION OF TENNIS OPENED UP AND ENSURE THAT TENNIS IS ACCESSIBLE AND THRIVING FOR GENERATIONS TO COME, IT'S VITAL THAT EVERYONE RALLIES TOGETHER TO PROTECT THE SPORT AND THE PLACES WE PLAY.

This is important for tennis at all levels, from grand slams to local park sessions. A greater number of tennis venues than ever are at risk of regular and more severe flooding, while more extreme temperatures are increasingly impacting delivery of events, and the wellbeing of players who participate at them.

The LTA's Environmental Sustainability Plan is focused on securing a lasting future for tennis in Britain, using the power of tennis to change attitudes

towards sustainability and bring about positive change.

The LTA has produced a range of resources for tennis venues to help them to be more sustainable, no matter their membership size or number of courts, such as by reducing energy usage, supporting biodiversity, or eliminating waste.

Through the LTA Buying Group, venues are able to secure preferential rates across areas like green energy tariffs, solar panel installation and electric vehicle

charging points, whilst the LTA Tennis Foundation's Quick-Access Loan Scheme offers funding to venues for transition to more energy-efficient floodlighting.

Most tennis balls will only be played with for 4-6 hours on court, but each ball can take up to 300 years to degrade in landfill. The LTA has been working with providers to roll out tennis ball recycling at venues across Great Britain to ensure that balls are recycled for use in other products.



Ben Shelton delivers leftover food to local community project to support the LTA's sustainability efforts

All tournament fleet vehicles used across LTA events are hybrid and nearly 50 per cent are fully electric models, thanks to the partnership with Lexus



Over 220,000 single-use bottles were saved last year, thanks to the BRITA partnership

The Grass Court Season

The LTA Grass Court Season attracts thousands of fans every year, and it is vital that the events put as many measures as possible in place to reduce any potential harmful environmental impact. The LTA has introduced a number of steps to make their events more environmentally friendly, including:

- Using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel to power temporary generators on-site, which results in 90 per cent less emissions than standard fuels
- All tournament fleet vehicles used across LTA events are hybrid and

nearly 50 per cent are fully electric models, thanks to a partnership with Lexus

- Donating more than two tonnes of food to local food charities to reduce food waste
- Water refill stations for spectators, players and officials to fill their water bottles for free and remove over 220,000 single use plastic bottles, thanks to a partnership with BRITA

Play Your Part

Whilst everyone in British tennis must pull together to play their part, as a fan and spectator there are some things you can do which can make a big difference:

- Use your own reusable bottle to fill up at one of BRITA's refill stations
- Choose a low carbon option from one of the menus onsite
- Use the right bin for your waste
- Use public transport to travel to and from events



Scan the QR code to find out more about the LTA's Sustainability practices across the Grass Court Season.

BUILDING THE PERFECT GRASS COURT CHAMPION

THE DEFINITION OF GREATNESS IS OFTEN SUBJECTIVE, BUT A HANDFUL OF TENNIS LEGENDS STAND OUT AS THE BEST PLAYERS TO SET FOOT ON A GRASS COURT.

All the great champions find a way to win on every surface and when it comes to the grass court season, that challenge can be the most demanding.

We only play on this surface for a few weeks each year, the icons who shine on the lush turf hold a special place in the hearts of tennis fans and here, we have built the ultimate grass court player using the best qualities of the game's ultimate champions.



THE SERVE SERENA WILLIAMS AND PETE SAMPRAS

A teenage Boris Becker changed the direction of tennis when he broke through and won The Queen's Club Championships and Wimbledon for the first time in 1985, with his booming serve bringing a new dimension to the sport.

Those who followed in his footsteps built on that blueprint and when the grass court champions who boasted the most effective serves are considered, Pete Sampras and Serena Williams have to be in the conversation.

Sampras dominated at Wimbledon as he won seven titles between 1993 and 2000, while he was also a two-time winner on the Queen's Club grass courts.



STEFFI GRAF
strikes a forehand

PETE SAMPRAS
serve

Williams also won seven Wimbledon singles titles and claimed an Olympic gold medal on the Wimbledon grass in 2012, with her power-packed serve at the heart of her aura in a career that included 23 Grand Slam singles titles.

THE FOREHAND STEFFI GRAF AND ROGER FEDERER

There was unique beauty in the forehands of German great Graf and Swiss maestro Federer.

Seven-time Wimbledon champion Graf struck this shot with an elegance and ferocity that intimidated her rivals, with the sound of the ball crunching onto her racket echoing around the great tennis arenas of the world in a career that saw her win 22 Grand Slam singles titles.

If Graf's forehand resembled a knife slicing through blades of grass, Federer's has the silky elegance of a master craftsman at work.

His grace on a tennis court somehow appeared to be elevated by the beauty of the green grass courts he loved more than any other, with his forehand winners drawing gasps of admiration from the crowd in every match he played.

THE BACKHAND MARTINA NAVRATILOVA AND ANDY MURRAY

Navratilova had a one-handed backhand that was loaded with pace and always delivered with wondrous accuracy.



MARTINA
NAVRATILOVA
- 9-time
Wimbledon queen
ANDY MURRAY
hits a backhand

One-handed backhands are now a rarity in the women's game, with the footage of Navratilova winning her nine Wimbledon singles titles and a remarkable 11 wins at the LTA tournament at Eastbourne a permanent reminder of the class she exuded when striking a backhand.

Britain's Andy Murray also excelled with this shot, as he claimed two Wimbledon titles on grass and five singles titles at The Queen's Club.



Murray's ability to stoop low and find what seemed to be impossible angles were at the heart of his triumphs on grass, while his fantastic lob was also a sumptuous option when the ball was fizzed into his backhand.

WINNING MINDSET BILLIE JEAN KING AND NOVAK DJOKOVIC

These two players overcame so many barriers to achieve greatness that will stand the test of time.

King's achievements off the court are probably more remarkable than her magnificent accomplishments on it, which included six Wimbledon singles titles and four in the Open Era.

She also changed face of the women's game forever as she was a prominent figure in the formation of the Women's Tennis Association and still continues to fight for equality in the sport with passion that has broken down so many barriers.

Djokovic has to overcome his own mission impossible, as he seemed destined to be the outsider in the battle between Federer and his great rival Rafael Nadal when he set his sights on Grand Slam glory.

Not only did Djokovic find a way to match his two great rivals, but he will finish his career with more major titles than both and will look to equal Federer's all-time record of eight Wimbledon titles this summer.

MEET THE LTA WORKFORCE

MADE UP OF COACHES, OFFICIALS, ACTIVATORS, AND VOLUNTEERS, THE LTA WORKFORCE IS INSPIRING COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS TO PICK UP A RACKET AND EMBRACE BOTH TENNIS AND PADEL.

COACHES

Coaches are at the very heart of tennis and padel in Britain. They are often responsible for the very first experience people have when they step on court and play a vital role in growing the sport. Coaches offer expert tactical and technical tuition and drills and help to set short, medium, and longer term goals to drive player improvement.

With a comprehensive qualification pathway and an industry-leading professional accreditation scheme, the LTA supports coaches throughout their career, giving them the guidance and resources to become the best coach they can be.

OFFICIALS

Almost all LTA events and competitions in Great Britain wouldn't be possible without the support of officials. There are multiple officiating roles, from Competition Organisers at local tournaments all the way up to Chair Umpires at Grand Slam events, the LTA supports each and every official to reach their aspirations in the game.

Similar to the LTA Coach Accreditation Scheme,

the LTA Officials License Scheme provides world-class continuous professional development opportunities as well as insurance, legal and tax advice and access to many more fantastic benefits.

ACTIVATORS

Activators play a vital role in helping take tennis to people and places it has never been before. These individuals are currently helping deliver a multitude of programmes, including LTA SERVES and Barclays Free Park Tennis sessions across communities in Great Britain. Activators are facilitators of play (as opposed to coaching), focus on creating a sense of belonging and community, and help to make the sport enjoyable and accessible to anyone starting out.

The LTA helps Activators in community groups and venues to facilitate tennis with easy to access training, extensive resources and lesson plans, as well as providing essential equipment.

VOLUNTEERS

Over 25,000 people choose to volunteer in tennis

across Britain, whether it be supporting at local courts and venues, or helping at the LTA Major Events in the summer.

There are a wide variety of ways to volunteer in tennis and the LTA offers guidance, training and support for people looking to get involved, as well as venues looking to recruit different roles.

“Getting involved in the delivery of tennis can be fantastically rewarding. Be that organising competitions, providing coaching, or getting people to play for the first time, tennis is an exciting industry where you get to keep fit, work with great people and learn lots of great skills for life - be that on or off the court.”

MERLIN VAN DE BRAAM
Head of Coach & Official Development & Support at the LTA

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the LTA Workforce, engagement and participation in Britain continues to grow.



Scan here to find out more.



MEET TYRA

TYRA IS AN LTA ACTIVATOR AT SAHELI HUB, A CHARITY WHICH ENCOURAGES WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES TO GET ACTIVE.

Over 50 per cent of Birmingham's population are from ethnically-diverse communities, and Saheli Hub's research shows that women from these communities in inner-city Birmingham want to take part in exercise, fitness, and sport – but a lack of accessible, affordable, and culturally sensitive activities means they cannot participate, which is affecting their physical and mental health.

“Sports have been a part of my life since I can remember,” said Tyra, “I used to always accompany my aunts and nan to watch them play, and as soon as I could, I played.” From participating to facilitating, Tyra has taught a range of sports from netball to athletics and, of course, tennis.

Alongside teaching sports in a local primary school, Tyra volunteers as an LTA Activator, when

discussing the process she said, “The training was engaging, very helpful and gives you the tools needed to become a tennis Activator.” Always looking to improve her knowledge and learn new skills, Tyra noted that she would love to continue along the coaching pathway and “hopefully become a LTA Level 2 Instructor or LTA Level 3 Coach.”

When asked if she would recommend becoming an Activator, Tyra said, “100 per cent yes. Volunteering makes me feel good because it makes others feel good. Particularly when participants come up to you and say, “what you do is amazing and really helps me.” Also, not only do you maintain your own fitness and health, but you do it while having fun and socialising!”

Saheli Hub, which last year received a grant from the LTA Tennis Foundation, to support the running of Saheli Tennis, holds a special place within the community and those who attend. “The joy it brings the people that use the service and the feedback given. It reminds me why I do what I do,” says Tyra.



If you have been inspired by Tyra's story, scan here to see how you can help support tennis to your community

DID YOU KNOW?

THE EDGBASTON PRIORY CLUB HAS BEEN AT THE HEART OF THE BRITISH GRASS COURT SUMMER FOR DECADES AND HERE ARE SOME KEY FACTS ABOUT THE VENUE PLAYING HOST TO THE ACTION THIS WEEK.

- One of the world's earliest lawn tennis tournaments was held at Edgbaston Priory Club from 1882 to the 1970s. Throughout nearly a century, the event attracted international talent whilst providing a stage for the most prominent British stars to shine.
- The Club as we know it today was formed in December 1964 as a result of a merger between two very long established clubs; Edgbaston Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club founded in 1878, and Priory Lawn Tennis Club founded in 1875. This merger came about in May 1963 when a disastrous fire completely destroyed Priory's clubhouse – hence the Club's logo is a phoenix rising from the ashes.
- The first Wimbledon Ladies singles winner, Maud Watson, was a member of Edgbaston Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club. She brought the Wimbledon trophy back to Birmingham with her name engraved on it in 1885. It is this trophy that winners of the WTA Tour event have held aloft ever since 1982.
- From 1902 to 1957, the Priory Lawn Tennis Club's Whitsun tournament rose from being a county players' testing ground to an event that attracted Wimbledon champions such as Helen Jacobs, Dorothy Round, Louise Brough, Margaret du Pont, Jaroslav Drobny, Alex Olmedo and Sven Davidson.



The club house in 1926

- King's Heath-born Ann Jones is a life member of the Club and she enjoyed a glittering tennis career, winning Wimbledon in 1969, two French Open singles titles, and reaching six other Grand Slam singles finals. Ann went on to play an active role in the Club, mentoring young players and refereeing tournaments. She played a key role in bringing this tournament to Edgbaston Priory Club.
- Ties in the Davis Cup have been held at this venue between 1924 and 1969. Visiting teams from the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa and Germany (twice) were all defeated.
- In 1974, rising star Bjorn Borg took part as a 17-year-old in the International Lawn Tennis Club Golden Jubilee celebrations at Edgbaston Priory, playing doubles as part of the Sweden team.

A RICH HISTORY OF CHAMPIONS

TWO VERY SPECIAL TROPHIES WILL BE PRESENTED TO OUR CHAMPIONS AT THIS YEAR'S LEXUS BIRMINGHAM OPEN.

The Maud Watson Trophy has been bestowed upon the winner of the WTA Tour event played at Edgbaston Priory Club since the tournament's first year in 1982, with the trophy fittingly named after the winner of the Ladies' Singles Championships at Wimbledon.

Watson learned to play tennis in the garden with her sister and at the age of 16, she played her first match at the Edgbaston Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club.

The silver rose basket design of the trophy given to the winner of this tournament is similar to the prize Watson received when she beat her sister Lilian to win the first women's title at Wimbledon in 1884.

Ladies' tournaments had been staged elsewhere since the Irish Championships paved the way in 1879, but it was only on 21st June 1884, a fortnight before The Championships were due to begin at the All England Club, that a ladies' event was included in the Wimbledon programme.

The final between Maud and Lilian Watson proved to be the last time two sisters would meet in the decisive match at Wimbledon until 2002, when Serena Williams beat her sister Venus in the first of four finals contested by the Americans at The Championships.

With such a rich history in British tennis and also at this club, the Maud Watson Trophy was unveiled for the

first Birmingham Classic and some iconic names have lifted the prize.

Jelena Ostapenko (2023), Ashleigh Barty (2019), Petra Kvitova (2017 and 2018), Madison Keys (2016), Angelique Kerber (2015) and Maria Sharapova (2004, 2005) are among the former Grand Slam champions with their names on the Maud Watson Trophy and a new champion will be crowned on Sunday.

With men's tennis added to the agenda at this year's Birmingham Open, the Edgbaston Priory Club decided to revive a trophy that was presented to the champions of the Midland Counties Championships, which was staged between 1882 and 1977 at this venue.

British legend Bunny Austin, along with Australian great Roy Emerson and Fred Stolle are among the stellar names who have lifted a trophy that has resided in the trophy cabinet at Edgbaston Priory Club since it was last presented to former French Open champion Michael Chang after he won the Birmingham Open in 1991.

The silverware is waiting for our Birmingham Open champions, with a thrilling week of tennis on the agenda before we get to the final trophy presentations.



BOOSTING PARTICIPATION



IN 2024:

£3.5M
TOTAL
INVESTMENT

17 NEW
COVERED
TENNIS AND PADEL COURTS

78 NEW
FLOODLIT
TENNIS AND PADEL COURTS

250,000
NEW HOURS
OF PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES



LTA AND LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION AT THE FOREFRONT OF BUMPER INVESTMENT IN GRASSROOTS TENNIS ACROSS THE UK

The LTA's Quick Access Loan scheme, funded by the LTA Tennis Foundation (LTA TF), aims to increase participation in tennis and padel while ensuring long-term sustainability for venues and the people who play at them.

The scheme aligns with the LTA and LTA TF's vision of "Tennis Opened Up" by requiring every approved application to include a community element, thereby enabling more people to enjoy the sport.



Since 2019, £11 million from the LTA TF has been invested across Great Britain, unlocking almost £16m of partnership funding, and revitalising courts and venues from the Channel Islands to Scotland. These venues offer more than just a place to play; they serve as communities where people can connect with friends and enjoy the game.

THE VENUE: MANOR PARK SPORTS CLUB

THE PROJECT

Manor Park Sports Club, located in Herefordshire & Worcestershire, is one of the largest venues in the area, with 17 courts, including four grass courts. While these grass courts were popular among members, their limited playing season led to heavy use of the

other courts during the winter and wetter periods.

To address this issue, the club applied for and was awarded a Quick Access Loan to replace the grass courts with four floodlit artificial grass courts. The venue already delivers community-facing programmes, and this development will allow the club to expand these initiatives, making tennis accessible to even more members of the community.

THE IMPACT

- Available playing hours have increased, especially during peak times.
- The coaching programme and competition calendar have been expanded.
- There has been an increase in Pay and Play sessions.

"To have our more floodlit astro courts will be a wonderful addition to our club both for members and for non-members enjoying our facilities from the surrounding catchment area. We much appreciate the support we have received from the LTA, LTA Tennis Foundation, and to our contractors, Courstall who have done a fantastic job. We can't wait for the courts to be up and running."

JANE POYNDR
Tennis Chair

- More community members are participating
- Sessions for visually impaired and wheelchair users have been increased.
- Extended sessions are now available for the club's local charity partner.



Find out more about the LTA Tennis Foundation Quick Access Loan Scheme





1884

The **Maud Watson Trophy** is awarded to the winner of the WTA Tour events in Birmingham, with the silverware named after the first Wimbledon ladies' singles champion. Watson won the first of her two Wimbledon titles in 1884.



16 

The number of times a player from the **United States** lifted the trophy in Birmingham.



🇺🇸 **Pam Shriver** from the United States has lifted the title in Birmingham more than any other player (1984–1987 consecutively).

1982

British duo **Jo Durie** and **Anne Hobbs** were doubles champions in the tournament's inaugural year, beating America's Rosie Casals and Australia's Andy Turnbull in the final.

FACTS & STATS

1982

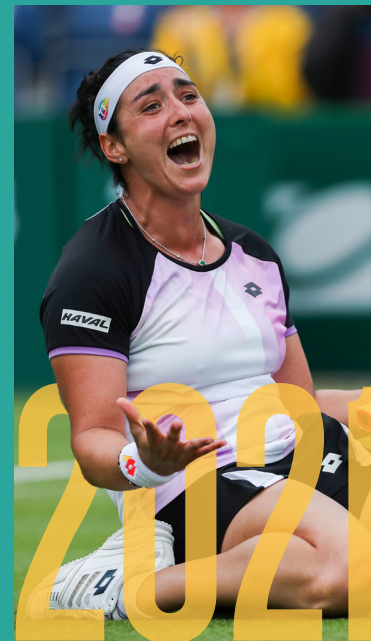
The first year of this tournament, with former Wimbledon champions **Billie Jean King** and **Ann Jones** credited with being instrumental in helping to bring the tournament to Birmingham.



17

Maria Sharapova was just 17 when she won the first of her two titles in Birmingham in 2004 and she backed that up by winning the Wimbledon title in the same summer.

The legendary **Billie Jean King** won the first two editions of the tournament in Birmingham; lifting the trophy in 1982 and 1983.



Ons Jabeur became the first Arab woman to win a WTA Tour title at the Birmingham Classic four years ago.

Kazakhstan's **Yulia Putintseva** won her third WTA Tour title when she lifted the trophy in Birmingham last year, beating Australia's Ajla Tomljanovic in the final. 🇰🇿



Australia's **Ashleigh Barty** did not drop a set as she won the title in Birmingham six years ago.



SMALLER COURT, BIG FUN

PADEL IS A FUN AND SOCIAL SPORT THAT'S EASY TO LEARN AND IS PLAYED ON A SMALLER, ENCLOSED COURT ROUGHLY ONE-THIRD THE SIZE OF A TENNIS COURT.

Its accessibility makes it suitable for players of all ages and skill levels. Beginners can get into the game quickly, even with no prior experience, players can serve, rally, and play points from their first session. This means you can start enjoying the physical benefits right away.

In 2019, the LTA became the national governing body for the sport in Great Britain. Significant investment has been directed towards developing and supporting padel in Britain from grassroots level. Becoming the national governing body for a sport that is still developing, presents several hugely exciting opportunities which could see padel become one of the country's most popular sports.

Between 2020 and 2024, the number of courts grew from 50 to more than 750, where in addition to private investment, the LTA and LTA Tennis Foundation have invested £6 million into the sport, including into 40 padel facility projects funding a total of 75 new courts. Alongside this, annual participation has grown from 6,000 to 235,000, and the LTA has launched new coaching courses, competition structures, and a performance pathway to support Britain's best players as they build their profile on the sport's global stage.

It has been an exciting year so far for the LTA Padel developments. In February, the LTA appointed Libby Fletcher as National Performance Pathway Manager



The LTA has been leading the growth of padel in Britain by focusing on three key areas:

GROWING THE GAME

Laying the foundation for padel by developing courts nationwide, attracting new players, and creating pathways for top talent through a national performance programme.

SPREADING THE WORD

Using its existing tennis network to promote padel, running marketing campaigns, and building partnerships to boost awareness and encourage more people to give it a try.

EXPANDING ACCESS

Working with operators, including private venues, to increase the number of courts and coaches, making padel more accessible for players of all ages and abilities.

These efforts are helping to make padel the fastest growing sport in Britain.



and Sandy Farquharson as National Performance Coach. These new appointments form a key part of the LTA's goal to create a pathway and support framework for British players at each age and stage of the performance pathway.

Back in December 2024, actor and comedian, Jason Manford, was named as the first LTA Padel Ambassador, aligning with the LTA's vision of opening the sport up to more children across Great Britain. Manford is on a mission to introduce a million children to padel over the next decade while identifying future Olympic padel players for Team GB.

More recently, the LTA has partnered with Team AD/vantage, the exclusive British team entry into the Hexagon Cup. In April the LTA announced a partnership with the Pro Am Padel Tour, the UK's leading pro-celebrity padel series. The LTA joined as official strategic partner to organise and host whole-day community-led sessions aimed at increasing padel's accessibility, visibility and diversity. These free sessions will be delivered to children from local schools in partnership

with the Jason Manford Padel Academy. Children will be provided with coaching, equipment and, importantly, follow-up opportunities to continue their participation in padel through vouchers, court time, products and programmes.

Performance wise, in total, there will be 30 weeks of international and domestic prize money and ranking point earning opportunities for British players in 2025, including four FIP tournaments, 11 British Tour Grade 1 tournaments and 15 British Tour Grade 2 tournaments, plus, for the first time, three FIP Promises for aspiring juniors. A record number of performance competitions in 2025.

The British national padel team, led by the country's number ones, Aimee Gibson and Christian Medina Murphy, will soon be heading out to Madrid, Spain to compete in the FIP Euro Cup, a team competition that sees the top four nations go through to the European finals that take place later in 2025. Subsequently the top eight nations qualify for the 2026 World Championships.

Tom Murray, LTA Head of Padel said: "Since becoming the national governing body for padel in 2019, our focus has been on laying strong foundations for sustainable growth. With participation rising, the LTA is building on this momentum and driving the sport forward. 2025 marks an exciting new chapter for padel in Britain—after years of groundwork, we are entering the next phase with a clear strategy and ambition.

"In the coming years, the LTA will remain committed to opening up padel, facilitating the growth of places for people to play and compete across Great Britain. Alongside this, the LTA is dedicated to supporting performance players by providing more domestic competitive opportunities. Our long-term vision is to host a major padel event in Britain, showcasing the nation's top talent on a bigger stage."

"The LTA is dedicated to making padel more accessible and exciting, inspiring the next generation of players to continue to grow participation. With over 400,000 people taking to the courts in 2024 and 8 million expressing interest in trying the sport, its momentum is undeniable, firmly establishing padel within Britain's sporting landscape."

There are now more than 850 courts across Britain, up from 350 at the end of 2023, with more opening every month.



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LTA TENNIS
FOR BRITAIN



moment in time

Petra Kvitová of the Czech Republic kisses the Trophy after defeating Magdalena Rybariková of Slovakia in the 2018 singles final



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moment in time

Heather Watson of Great Britain poses for a photo with a fan after practice during last year's event



PARTNERSHIP IN BLOOM

As excitement builds for the grass court season ahead, there's more than just elite tennis that unfolds behind the scenes at Edgbaston Priory Club. A unique and inspiring partnership with the Heart of Birmingham Vocational College (HBVC) plays a crucial role in preparing the Club's world class grounds and courts for the tournament, while also providing valuable work experience to young people with additional needs.

HBVC is a Birmingham-based specialist college for students aged 16-25 with special educational needs and/or autism. The college focuses on developing life skills, independence and employability through practical learning and tailored support. The partnership with the Club gives students the opportunity to work alongside the expert grounds team throughout the seasons, as well as during one of the busiest times of year in the lead-up to the tournament.

The placements offer students a meaningful opportunity to gain practical, hands-on experience in grounds and horticulture and their work is particularly vital in the weeks ahead of the Lexus Birmingham Open, when the grounds undergo meticulous preparation.

The collaboration is just one example of Edgbaston Priory Club's wider commitment to inclusion and community. By working with HBVC, the Club not only helps students build confidence and workplace readiness but also promotes the message that sport and its surrounding industries can be accessible to all.

As the first serve of the tournament arrives, the grounds at the Club not only reflect the expertise of the world-class grounds team but also the spirit of collaboration.

“MOST PLAYERS AT THE TOP OF THE GAME IN 40 YEARS”

SITTING DOWN WITH MICHAEL BOURNE, LTA PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR

I am very excited about this year's grass court season and the opportunities that lie ahead for all our players.

British tennis has seen strong results over recent years including Grand Slam singles, doubles, multiple grand slam wheelchair singles and doubles titles, semi-finals of the Billie Jean King Cup (twice in the last three years) and Davis Cup (2019), winners of the World Team Cup and last year more than 100 British players won international titles at different levels on the tours.

So far in 2025, Jack Draper has been in excellent form, improving his ranking from No.18, winning his first ATP Masters event at Indian Wells and cracking the top five after making the final in Madrid. Henry Patten followed on from his success at Wimbledon by winning the Australian Open Men's Doubles title, Alfie Hewett and Gordon Reid repeated in Melbourne, with Hewett also winning the singles in an exciting final.

On the women's side, the GB BJK Cup team are through to the Finals for the



second year in a row after coming through a three-team qualifying tie on clay in the Netherlands and are now the second place team on the ITF rankings. For the first time since 1986, we have three women inside the Top 60 in Katie Boulter, Emma Raducanu and Sonay Kartal, which is a great example to the younger players we have progressing through the pathway.

Last year we had seven Brits combined inside the WTA & ATP Tour Top 100 in a single week for the first time since 1985 and we now have more players in the top 200 than at any time in the past 40 years.

On the wheelchair side, last September we had four men ranked inside the Top 50 for the first time, Hewett was crowned ITF World Champion and finally won the one major to elude him, at Wimbledon. Earlier in the year the junior Lexus GB World Team Cup team were crowned champions out in Turkey, while both the men's and quad team brought home bronze respectively.

In juniors, Mika Stojsavljevic won the 2024 US Open, having finished runner up in the girls doubles with Mimi Xu at Wimbledon a few months earlier. Hannah Klugman was also a finalist in the girls doubles at the Australian Open this year. An interesting note from last year's US Open is that Britain had three



Jack Draper
BJK Cup

Katie Boulter

out of the eight semi-finalists across the boys and girls singles events

The grass court season always seems to bring out the best in our players whether it was the British title sweep in Nottingham (for the second year in a row) with Katie and Jacob Fearnley, Jack winning his first title on grass, Emma scoring her first

ever Top 10 victory at Eastbourne and reaching the last 16 at Wimbledon, and finally Henry capping the season off winning the men's doubles at The Championships in one of the most dramatic finals ever, saving three match points on the way to lifting the trophy.

2025 promises to be just as memorable.



ASHLEIGH BARTY AND CASEY DELLACQUA DOUBLES CHAMPION IN 2016
● JELENA DOKIC 2002



● BEATRIZ HADDAD MAIA IN 2022



MARIA SHARPOVA 2004 ●



● AUSTRALIA'S ASHLEIGH BARTY POSES FOR A PHOTOGRAPH WITH THE TROPHY AFTER HER STRAIGHT SETS VICTORY OVER GERMANY'S JULIA GORGES IN THEIR 2019 WOMEN'S SINGLES FINAL



PETRA KVITOVA IN 2017 ●



DANIELA HANTUCHOVA 2013 ●

WALL OF CHAMPIONS



● NATHALIE TAUZIAT IN 2001



NA LI OF CHINA IN 2010 ●



● KAZAKHSTAN'S YULIA PUTINTSEVA POSES WITH THE TROPHY IN 2024

JELENA OSTAPENKO CELEBRATES AFTER WINNING AGAINST CZECH REPUBLIC'S BARBORA KREJCIKOVA IN 2023 ●




SCAN TO TRY YOUR TENNIS TEKKERS

SMASH
THE COMBATIVE ONE

FAVOURITE SHOT VOLLEY
FAVOURITE PLAYER JACK DRAPER

Challenge yourself as much as you challenge others on the court. Smash loves to win.

SCAN TO MEET ME 

FIND OUT MORE
LTA.ORG.UK/TENNISABLES

Bounce
THE RESILIENT ONE

FAVOURITE SHOT FOREHAND
FAVOURITE PLAYER SONAY KARTAL

Failures will happen. It's how you bounce back that counts! Bounce knows a thing or two about overcoming adversity.


SCAN TO MEET ME 

FIND OUT MORE
LTA.ORG.UK/TENNISABLES

SPIN
THE TECHNICAL ONE

FAVOURITE SHOT DROP SHOT
FAVOURITE PLAYER EMMA RADUCANU

Graceful on and off the court. Spin is naturally gifted and inventive with her range of shots.


SCAN TO MEET ME 

FIND OUT MORE
LTA.ORG.UK/TENNISABLES

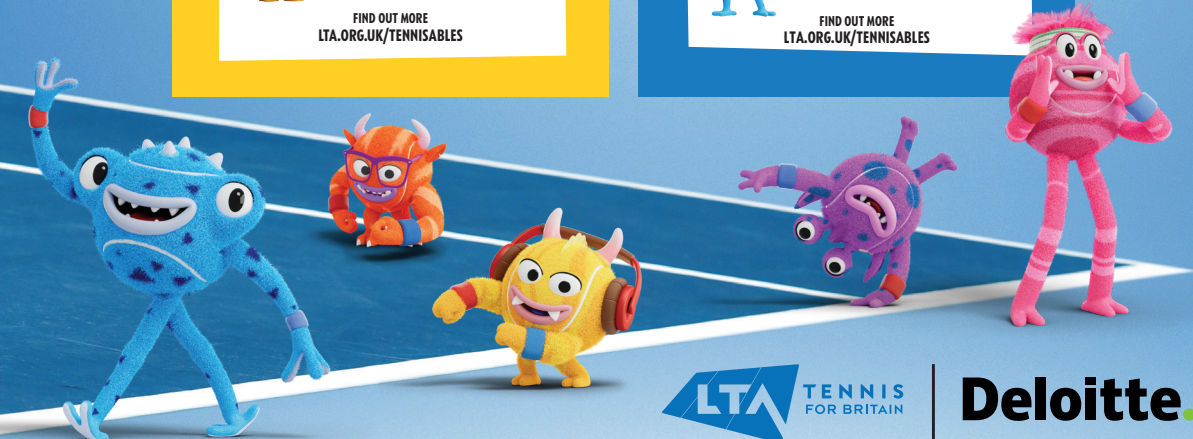
ACE
THE SMART ONE

FAVOURITE SHOT SERVE
FAVOURITE PLAYER KATIE BOULTER

Play smarter, not harder. Ace knows all the shots and when and how to play them.

SCAN TO MEET ME 

FIND OUT MORE
LTA.ORG.UK/TENNISABLES



LIVING THE TENNIS LOVER'S DREAM

LTA ADVANTAGE COMPETITION WINNERS TREATED TO ULTIMATE BILLIE JEAN KING CUP EXPERIENCE WITH LEXUS

Thanks to LTA partner Lexus, two lucky tennis fans were treated to the ultimate Billie Jean King Cup experience at the 2024 finals in Malaga.

Kyeron Yeung and Wai Yi Kwok won an exclusive Advantage competition for tickets, flights and hotel to go and cheer on the Lexus Billie Jean King Cup team in their first round match against Germany.

Kyreon and Wai Yi were flown out to Malaga, where they were put up in a luxury hotel ahead of GB's opening tie and had the chance to visit many of the city's amazing sights.

In the lead up to the match, they got an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour around the Palacio de Deportes Jose Maria Martin Carpena Arena in Malaga and got the chance to meet and chat with Captain Anne Keothavong's side during their training sessions.

On their tour, they even got the chance to meet with 22-time Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal ahead of his final ever match at the Davis Cup for Spain.

As the Brits walked out on court to face Germany,



Kyreon and Wai Yi were treated to hospitality tickets, where they got to watch GB's emphatic win from the best seats in the house.

"Overall, it was just an exceptional experience," the Advantage competition winners said. "All the arrangements were perfect. As tennis lovers, the tennis part was already special enough, what was also nice was that we had some time on the second day to explore the city of Malaga, which was very relaxing for us.

"The highlight has got to be the behind-the-scenes tour, where we had the chance to visit the team village and actually met the GB team in person, chatting with the

players and taking photos with them. It was a tennis lovers' dream, and we were fortunate enough to live it, thanks to the LTA and Lexus.

"We loved cheering the team on every single point with all the fans and witnessing victory over team Germany. The atmosphere in the stadium was absolutely rocking.

"We had a wonderful time in Malaga, the flights were nice, the hotel was great, and more importantly GB won the tie – everything was just perfect. It was just an unreal experience."

Scan here to see what other great benefits are available to LTA Advantage members.



ATP TOUR

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UPCOMING EVENTS



SPAIN JUN 22 GRASS

MALLORCA ATP 250



GREAT BRITAIN JUN 23 GRASS

EASTBOURNE ATP 250



MEXICO JUL 14 HARD

LOS CABOS ATP 250



SWITZERLAND JUL 14 CLAY

GSTAAD ATP 250



SWEDEN JUL 14 CLAY

BASTAD ATP 250



AUSTRIA JUL 20 CLAY

KITZBUHEL ATP 250



CROATIA JUL 20 CLAY

UMAG ATP 250



UNITED STATES JUL 21 HARD

WASHINGTON ATP 500



CANADA JUL 27 HARD

TORONTO ATP MASTER 1000

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PREMIER PARTNER



PLATINUM PARTNERS



moment in time

High-fives all round with Perry, the official mascot for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham



moment in time

Spin, one of the LTA Tennisables, strikes a pose with two young players from Sutton Coldfield Tennis Club



LTA YOUTH SCHOOLS CELEBRATES 28,000 TEACHERS TRAINED

THE LTA'S FREE PROGRAMME FOR TENNIS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, LTA YOUTH SCHOOLS, HAS REACHED A MAJOR MILESTONE IN ITS GOAL TO BOOST TENNIS PARTICIPATION IN BRITISH SCHOOLS, WITH OVER 28,000 TEACHERS NOW HAVING COMPLETED THE PROGRAMME'S TRAINING COURSE.

LTA Youth Schools is part of LTA Youth, the LTA's overarching junior programme, created to help many more children enjoy the benefits of playing and staying in tennis. LTA Youth Schools has been designed by teachers specifically for schools to support the curriculum and wider school outcomes, bringing together inclusive physical education (PE) lesson plans, personal development resources, and competition opportunities for schools that take part, all to help more children get and stay active through tennis.

Key to the programme getting more children engaged in tennis is giving teachers the confidence to deliver PE in school. Recent research from the Youth Sport Trust found that only 56 per cent of primary school teachers felt confident teaching PE, and according to Teacher Tapp, almost half of teachers feel they lack sufficient training to teach subjects



outside of their areas of expertise, such as PE.

A comprehensive training programme

The impact of the LTA Youth Schools programme is already evident. With over half of all schools in Britain signed up and more than 28,000 teachers having completed the free training course, the initiative is making a tangible difference.

For teachers, lesson plans for pupils throughout Key

Stages 1 to 5 are detailed and written as progressive schemes of work. For teachers of Key Stage 3 and above, LTA Youth Schools also provides a suite of drills and activities to help teachers and coaches assess tennis as part of the GCSE PE practical assessment, with supporting film clips showing students of different levels performing the drills. All teachers who register with the programme can take part



in free in-person or online CPD, to help boost their confidence delivering high-quality PE lessons.

The LTA's impact survey revealed overwhelmingly positive feedback from teachers who have completed the course, with 99 per cent of teachers believing their teaching has improved or will improve as a result of the training. Additionally, 90 per cent of teachers believe that tennis boosts pupils' confidence, 79 per cent see it enhancing pupil aspirations, and 63 per cent recognise its impact on academic achievement.

British women's wheelchair number one and three-time Paralympic medallist Lucy Shuker praised the programme, highlighting its role in making tennis accessible to children of all ages and abilities:

"The work of the LTA Youth Schools programme

to improve teachers' tennis delivery in schools is making a real impact. It's brilliant that kids of all ages, disabled and non-disabled, and from all over the country are getting the chance to try tennis where they might not have been able to before through their PE lessons. Hopefully, even more teachers can sign up and give even more kids the chance to give tennis a go."

Beyond the training itself, the LTA offers several unique benefits to teachers who complete the course. These include a £250 voucher for their school to spend on tennis equipment or 10 hours of team teaching with an LTA Accredited Coach, thanks to the LTA Tennis Foundation. Primary schools also receive resource packs including activity books and pupil rewards.

The need for professional development in teaching

"Since we became involved with the LTA Youth Schools programme our children have gone from strength to strength. Having not had tennis on the curriculum before it was a bit of a challenge for some teachers who have not taught it before. I have played and been on coaching courses at my previous school, but the online certificate and programme certainly helped in my delivery to the children and teachers.

"The knowledge, help and resources from the programme were brilliant, which enabled every class in the school, from Year 1 up to Year 6 to play and compete in the game. They have developed confidence, self-esteem and I can see a massive improvement in their technique and enjoyment of the game. Within the community, we also have a lot of children who play outside of school at the local tennis centre."

**JOHN OF ROLLESTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL,
BURTON-UPON-TRENT**

is pressing. In 2024, only 56 per cent of teachers participated in training provided by external organisations, according to a Department for Education report. Initiatives like LTA Youth Schools are crucial in addressing this gap, aligning with the LTA's aim to inspire a new generation of players while enhancing teachers' skills and confidence in the classroom.



Scan the QR code to find out more about the LTA Youth programme and how you can get involved.

PUZZLE PAGE

RAIN DELAY? CHANGE OF ENDS? SIMON RUNNING LATE AGAIN? KEEP YOURSELF ENTERTAINED WITH SOME TENNIS THEMED BRAIN TEASERS!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you find all seven differences between the two photos below?



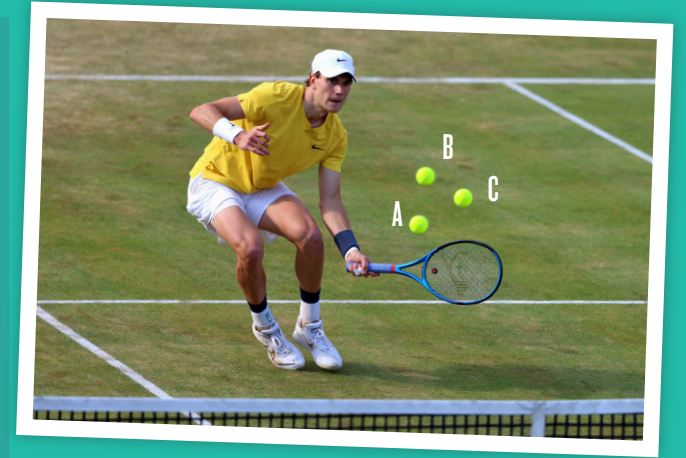
QUICK QUIZ

- How tall is Jack Draper in tennis balls?
a) 18 b) 28 c) 38
- THIRD EAR ART is an anagram of which British tennis player?
- Across the LTA Grass Court Season how many fully electric Lexus vehicles are being used? a) 5 b) 15 c) 35
- Which popular tennis brand is also the name of a hard cheese made in Scotland?
- BLUE KITE ROTA is an anagram of which British tennis player?
- Through working with BRITA, approximately how many single-use bottles were saved across last year's events?
a) 75,000 b) 100,000 c) 220,000
- What word links: chopper, continental and western?
- How many years can a tennis ball take to degrade in landfill?
a) 5 b) 175 c) 300
- PAY RENT THEN is an anagram of which British tennis player?
- Can you name all six Tennisables?

WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words listed in the word search below?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| Slice | Dash |
| Volley | Racket |
| Energy | Water |
| Recycle | Green |
| Bounce | Forehand |
| Backhand | Ball |
| Ace | Save |
| Court | Deuce |
| Smash | Reuse |
| Love | Solar |



HOT SHOT

Which ball is British No.1 Jack Draper volleying? A, B or C?

A O C A S O L A R E B S U N
Y R O E L E F O R E H A N D
B B U W A T E R O V S R E S
A A R E U S E E E E C R M
L C T E K C A R S C C O G A
L K Y C E V O L Y A O L R S
E H E S E R S C L C Y O E H
L A L L C E L H H E Y N E E
U N L I U E B S B G H D N E
S D O C S R A E R E L E H A
R A V E E D E E E C N U O B
R S C E U V N Y A E U C N S
R E C E A E A E H A B E L C
Y O R M M R C S L D B N L A



WORD SEARCH

- ANSWERS
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE Banana, reusable BRITA bottle, Dyuce ball recycling, unit, no plastic wrapping on restring rackets, different Dunlop rackets, small Tennisable balls swapped, blue triangle marking, 2. Harriet tennis balls, 2. Harriet Dart, 3. 35 fully electric (+ 40 hybrid vehicles), 4. Dunlop, 5. Katie Boulter, 6. 220,000, 7. Grip, 8. 300, 9. Henry Paten, 10. Smash and Spin.

THE NEXT GENERATION

BRITISH TENNIS IS THRIVING IN THE JUNIOR RANKS AND THE QUALITY OF THE PLAYERS EAGER TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE NATION'S BIGGEST NAMES WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE IMPRESSIVE STANDARD OF PLAY AT THIS YEAR'S LEXUS JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Staged at the LTA's National Tennis Centre in Roehampton, an enthusiastic crowd was in attendance on finals day in the 18 & Under tournament, with two outstanding prospects taking the titles.

Middlesex's Mika Stojsavljevic and Surrey's Oliver Bonding took the titles in those tournaments as they justified their status as top seeds after impressive achievements over the last 12 months.

Stojsavljevic captured plenty of headlines as she won the 2024 US Open Junior title in New York last September and Bonding won his first professional ITF World Tennis Tour singles title at the M15 Lannion tournament in France in February.

They are now looking to make the transition from the junior ranks to the seniors, with 16-year-old Stojsavljevic insisting her focus is on her studies as well as tennis.

"Fitting in school around tennis is tough," said Stojsavljevic, who trains at the LTA's National Academy at Loughborough.

"I have to stay really disciplined with my studies. Sometimes that is easier to do than others. I just need to find time every day to keep up with my school work.

"It was easy to keep my feet on the ground after the US Open win, as I was straight back to school and it's important



I make sure I get my school work in around the tennis."

Stojsavljevic's maturity on and off the court is so impressive and the same can be said of Hannah Klugman from Surrey, who is supported by the LTA's Pro Scholarship Programme.

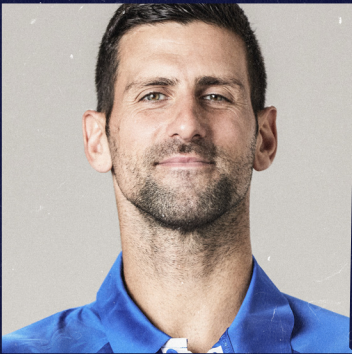
Klugman, a former 16 & Under Junior Nationals champion, turned in an impressive performance against Stojsavljevic, as she came up short after serving for the match in the deciding set.

Boys' champion Bonding has also enjoyed a breakthrough year and he is weighing up the prospect of continuing his development in the US college system, which is proving to be such a valuable stepping stone for players transitioning between the junior and senior ranks.

"I think going to college in America is a great option, as you can develop your game as you look to mature mentally and physically before going onto the senior tour, so I'm looking at it," said Bonding.

"It's all about the right fit for you. Winning a pro title this year gave me a massive boost and it means that even if I'm losing some matches, I feel good about my game as I know I can win at that level. It's all about doing that consistently."

In the 16 & Under tournament, Suffolk's Megan Knight and Cheshire's Aran Selvaraasan were crowned as singles champions, as they followed in the footsteps of Jack Draper, Dan Evans, Heather Watson, Harriet Dart, Paul Jubb and 2023 Junior Wimbledon champion Henry Searle by lifting that prestigious title.



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PREMIER PARTNER



PLATINUM PARTNERS



PIF



ATP TOUR

LEVEL UP YOUR TENNIS WITH 10% OFF



BIRMINGHAM10



AT CHECKOUT

GET YOUR 10% OFF

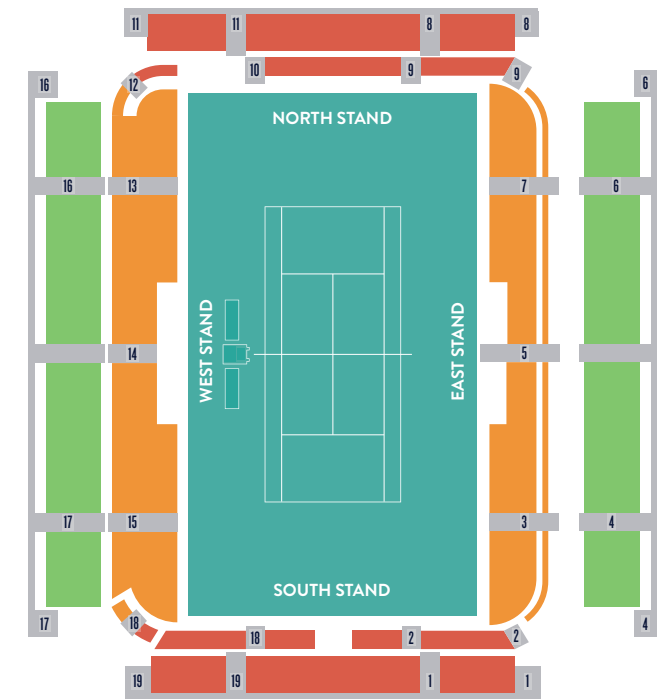
USE CODE: **BIRMINGHAM10**



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CENTRE COURT

- Restricted movement, you can only move at a change of ends or set breaks
- Limited movement, you can only move after each game (including after the first game of a set and before a tie break)
- Free movement, no restrictions. You can move at any time during a match



FAN MOVEMENT

New for 2025 – the ATP and WTA are introducing a new approach to Free Fan Movement across all their tour events around the world. Along with all other events the LTA’s Grass Court events need to follow these tour rules – so here is what you need to know:

Free Fan Movement gives you the freedom to enjoy the tennis with greater access in and out of certain areas of the stands while matches are being played.

Depending on where you’re sat, you will have either Restricted, Limited or Free movement during matches to enter and leave the stadium.

These regulations are subject to change depending on live feedback from players throughout the tournament, therefore please listen to the Stewards and follow their directions.

Every seat will have a coloured sticker on to help you identify which zone you’re in. There

will also be signs and further information around the grounds on the day to explain what this means and when you can move in and out of the stadium.

In all cases please be respectful to the players and those seated around you.

If you’re unsure of what area you are in, or what the rules are, you can also ask any of our event Stewards and Volunteers, who will be on hand to help you.

EDGBASTON PRIORY CLUB SITE MAP

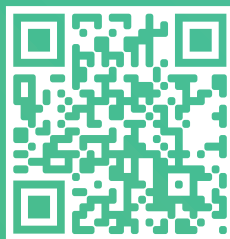
- 1 BOX OFFICE AND ACCREDITATION COLLECTION
- 2 MAIN ENTRANCE
- 3 PUBLIC CATERING MARQUEE
- 4 UNRESERVED COURT 1 SEATING
- 5 CLUB 1875 SUITE
- 6 CATERING OUTLETS
- 7 CLUB 1875 HOSPITALITY ENTRANCE
- 8 MULTI-FAITH/QUIET ROOM
- 9 BAR & PUBLIC STRETCH TENT
- 10 TENNIS FOUNDATION
- 11 LEXUS ACTIVATION
- 12 LIFESAVER BATTERY PACK UNITS
- + FIRST AID
- ♿ PUBLIC TOILETS
- i INFORMATION BOOTH
- 🚭 SMOKING AREA
- 🚰 BRITA HYDRATION STATION
- 🏠 BOX OFFICE/ACCREDITATION
- ↑ SPECTATOR ROUTE
- 📺 BIG SCREEN
- 🍽️ PUBLIC CATERING
- NO ACCESS (PEDESTRIANS)
- NO ACCESS (VEHICLES)





WTA

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