



2026

**LTA GRASS
COURT EVENTS
MEDIA GUIDE**



CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE

Meet the LTA Team	4
LTA Media Events Team	5
Tournament Media Managers	6
Tournament Media Managers (continued)	7
Broadcast Manager	8
LTA Grass court Events	9
Lexus Birmingham Open	10
WTA 500 - HSBC Championships Queens	11
Lexus Ilkley Open	12
ATP 500 - HSBC Championships Queens	13
Lexus Nottingham Open	14
Lexus Eastbourne Open	15
Lexus British Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships	16
Interviews	17
Interviews (continued)	18

CONTENTS

Photography	19
Filming	20
LTA News Service	21
Player Information Links	22
Fan Movement Regulations	23
Pride Days	24
Tennis Opened Up	25
SERVES	26
LTA Youth	27
Open Court	28
Sustainability	29
Women & Girls	30
LTA Tennis Foundation	31
Padel	32
LTA Support	33
LTA Performance	34
LTA Performance	35
LTA Partners	36
Useful LTA Links	37

MEET THE LTA TEAM

For information about the LTA and its policies and events, local participation initiatives or any LTA projects, British Players, requests or to speak to an LTA representative



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LTA MEDIA EVENTS TEAM

The LTA works with the Emilia Group and its highly experienced team of Tournament Media Managers and Broadcast Managers across all of its grass court tournaments. Contact the LTA media events team for accreditation, access onsite, requests to speak to the Tournament Director or Grounds team during the tournament, press conferences or interview timings or any other event-specific information.

To contact the LTA Media Events Team at any time, please email: LTAMediaEvents@LTA.org.uk or LTABroadcastOps@lta.org.uk



FAYE ANDREWS

**LTA Media Events Lead for the Emilia Group
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TOURNAMENT MEDIA MANAGERS



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ALEX HYMAN

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TOURNAMENT MEDIA MANAGERS



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EMILY FORDER-WHITE

Tournament Media Manager, WTA 500
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HSBC Championships

Telephone: +44 7714 505285

For emails regarding Queens
LTAmediaQueens@LTA.org.uk

BROADCAST MANAGER

There to support rights-holding and host broadcast partners onsite at the HSBC Championships

KEVIN CONNER



**Broadcast Manager – onsite at
HSBC Championships**

LTABroadcastOps@lta.org.uk
(please put QUEENS in subject
line)

+44 7867 392893

LTA GRASSCOURT EVENTS

TOURNAMENT DATES

Lexus Birmingham Open Qualifying: 30th May – 1st June
Main Draw: 1st – 7th June

HSBC Championships, WTA 500 Qualifying: 6th – 7th June
Main Draw: 8th – 14th June

Lexus Ilkley Open Qualifying: 7th - 8th June
Main Draw: 8th – 14th June

HSBC Championships, ATP 500 Qualifying: 13th - 14th June
Main Draw: 15th – 21st June

Lexus Nottingham Open Qualifying: 13th - 14th June
Main Draw: 15th – 21st June

Lexus Eastbourne Open Qualifying: 20th – 21st June
Main Draw: 22nd – 27th June

Lexus British Open Main Draw: 28th June – 3rd July
Roehampton

LEXUS BIRMINGHAM OPEN

The Lexus Birmingham Open marks the start of the 2026 grass court season, and for the first time will host both men's and women's draws. As a women's only event, it has been won by a host of legendary players, from Martina Navratilova and Billie Jean King to Ash Barty.

Venue: Edgbaston Priory Club

First held: 1982

Tournament Level:

Women: WTA 125

Men: ATP Challenger 125

Draw: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Prizemoney:

Women: \$225,000

Men: €203,900

2025 Singles Champions:

Women: Greet Minnen (BEL)

Men: Otto Virtanen (FIN)

Honour Roll: [Lexus Birmingham Open roll of honour \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk/lexus-birmingham-open-roll-of-honour)

Tournament Website: [Lexus Birmingham Open Tennis Tournament Edgbaston | LTA](https://lta.org.uk/lexus-birmingham-open-tennis-tournament-edgbaston)

Tournament Director: Kirsty Thomson

ATP Supervisor: Jorge Mandl

WTA Supervisor: Chen Shu

ATP/WTA Referee: Philip Evans (ATP)/Kelly Rask (WTA)

Tournament Media Manager:

Neil Robinson

+44 7930 576344

LTAMediaBirmingham@LTA.org.uk

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



HSBC CHAMPIONSHIPS – WTA 500

One of the most prestigious and celebrated grass court tournaments in the world, the HSBC Championships became a two-week event last year with a WTA 500 bringing the world's best female players to the grass courts of West London.

Venue: The Queen's Club

First held: 1884, but ATP Tour-only event 1977-2024.

Tournament Level: WTA Tour 500

Draw: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Prizemoney: \$1,915,000 (winner, \$294,445)

2025 Champion: Tatjana Maria (GER)

Honour Roll: [HSBC Championships Tennis Tournament History \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.lta.org.uk/tournaments/hsbc-championships-tennis-tournament-history)

Tournament Website: [HSBC Championships | Queen's Club Championships | LTA](https://www.lta.org.uk/tournaments/hsbc-championships)

Tournament Director: Laura Robson

WTA Supervisor: Mariana Alves

Tournament Referee: Jane Harvey

Tournament Media Managers:

Faye Andrews

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Kevin Conner

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LTABroadcastOps@lta.org.uk - use QUEENS in the subject line

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



LEXUS ILKLEY OPEN

This tournament has been described as one of the most picturesque tennis events in the world, thanks to being played with a backdrop provided by the beautiful Yorkshire landscape, including the famous Ilkley Moor.

Venue: Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club

Tournament Level

Women: WTA 125

Men: ATP Challenger 125

Draw:

Women: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Men: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Prizemoney:

Women: \$225,000

Men: €203,900

2025 Singles Champions:

Women: Iva Jovic (USA)

Men: Tristan Schoolkate (AUS)

Tournament Website: [Lexus Ilkley Open Tennis Tournament Event Guide \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk)

Tournament Director: Rik Smith

WTA Supervisor: Kerrilyn Cramer

ATP Supervisors: Ali Katebi

WTA/ATP Referee: Lucy Davies

Tournament Media Manager (event time only):

Claire Gray

+44 7720 869714

LTAMediaIlkley@LTA.org.uk

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



HSBC CHAMPIONSHIPS – ATP 500

One of the most prestigious and celebrated grass court tournaments in the world, the HSBC Championships has a rich history and glittering list of former champions.

Venue: The Queen's Club

First held: 1884, but ATP Tour-only event 1977-2024.

Tournament Level: ATP Tour 500

Draw: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Prizemoney: €2,583,330

2025 Champion: Carlos Alcaraz (ESP)

Honour Roll: [HSBC Championships Tennis Tournament History \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.lta.org.uk/tournaments/hsbc-championships)

Tournament Website: [HSBC Championships | Queen's Club Championships | LTA](https://www.lta.org.uk/tournaments/hsbc-championships)

Tournament Director: Jamie Murray

ATP Supervisors: Cedric Mourier and Nacho Forcadell

Tournament Referee: Denise Parnell

Tournament Media Managers:

Eleanor Preston

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LTABroadcastOps@lta.org.uk - use QUEENS in the subject line

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



LEXUS NOTTINGHAM OPEN

The impressive Lexus Nottingham Tennis Centre has hosted world class tennis events since 1970 and is the first of the LTA's four major WTA and ATP events to be played on grass each season.

Venue: Lexus Nottingham Tennis Centre

First held: 1970

Tournament Level:

Women: WTA 250

Men: ATP Challenger 125

Draw:

Women: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Men: 32 singles; 16 doubles

Prize money:

Women: \$283,347

Men: €203,900

2025 Singles Champions:

Women: McCartney Kessler (USA)

Men: Marin Cilic (CRO)

Honour Roll: [Lexus Nottingham Open roll of honour \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk)

Tournament Website: [Lexus Nottingham Open Tennis Tournament](https://lta.org.uk)

Tournament Director: Amy Hitchinson

WTA Supervisor: Madison Shoemaker

ATP Supervisor: Ahmed Abdel-Azim

WTA/ATP Referees: Chris Mann/Kath Lovell

Tournament Media Manager (event time only):

Alex Hyman

+44 7704 022549

LTAMediaNottingham@LTA.org.uk

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



LEXUS EASTBOURNE OPEN

The unique seaside grass court event is famous for its seagulls and sunshine and for attracting consistently strong player fields and hosting world class grass court matches on the pristine lawns of Devonshire Park.

Venue: Devonshire Park

First held: 1974 as a WTA event with the men joining in 2009.

Tournament Level:

Women: WTA 250

Men: ATP 250

Women - 32 singles/16 doubles

Men - 28 singles/16 doubles

Prizemoney:

Women – \$499,000

Men – €773,645

2025 Champions:

Women – Maya Joint (AUS)

Men – Taylor Fritz (USA)

Honour Roll: [Lexus Eastbourne Open roll of honour \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk)

Tournament Website: [Lexus Eastbourne Open Tennis Tournament | LTA](https://lta.org.uk)

Tournament Director: Rebecca James

WTA Supervisor: Anne Bees

ATP Supervisor: Chen Shu

Tournament Referees: Jane Harvey (WTA)/Gerry Armstrong (ATP)

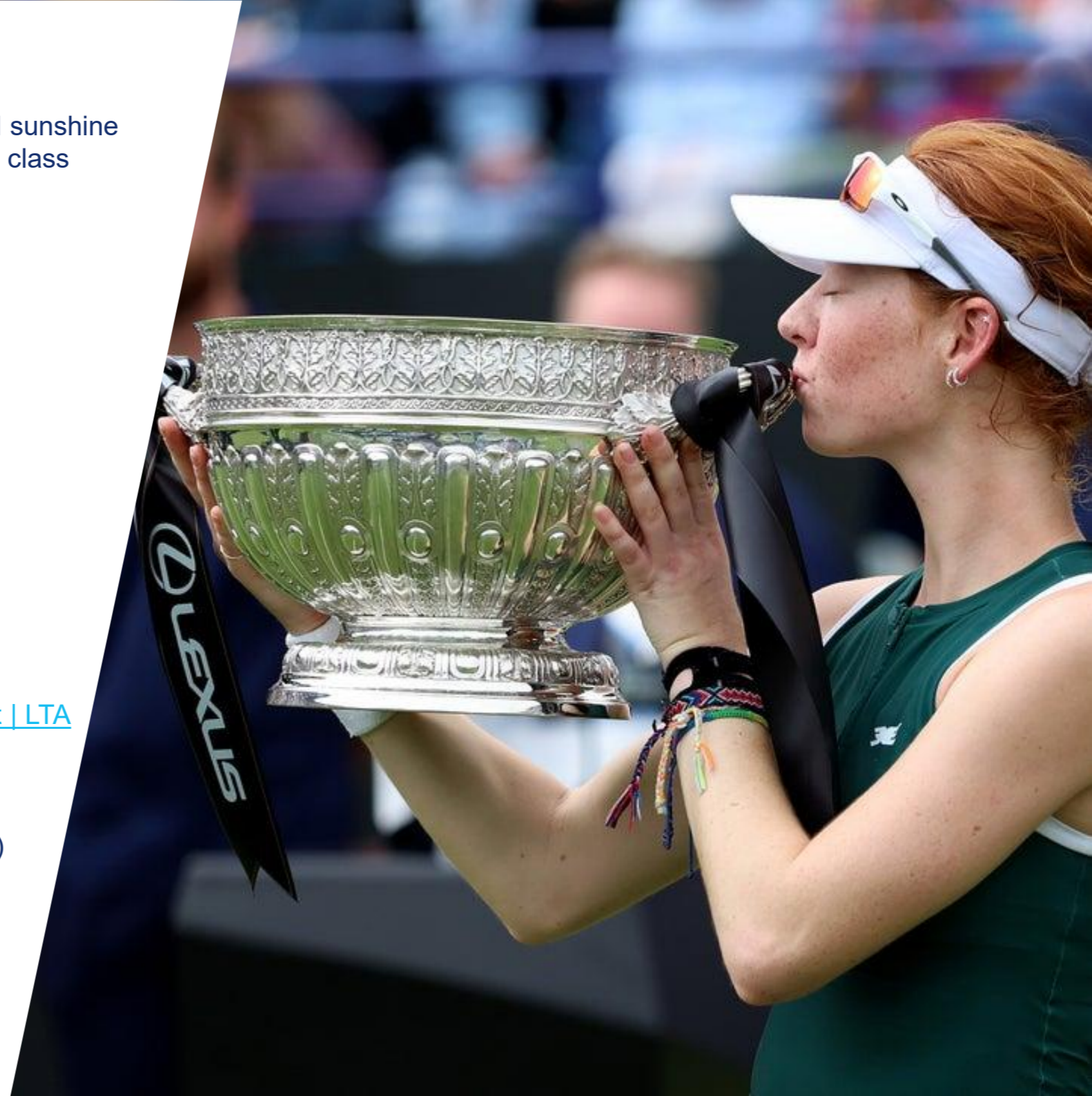
Tournament Media Manager:

Claire Gray

+44 7720 869714

LTAmediaEastbourne@LTA.org.uk

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



LEXUS BRITISH OPEN ROEHAMPTON

The Lexus British Open Roehampton will see top wheelchair athletes and junior players take to the grass courts at the Wimbledon Qualifying and Community Sports Centre, Roehampton for the first time.

Venue: Wimbledon Qualifying and Community Sports Centre, Roehampton.

First held: 1990 at Bishops Park in Fulham, London before moving to Sheffield in 1992. In 1993, the British Open moved to the Nottingham Tennis Centre, before moving to its current position in the calendar in 2024.

2025 Champions:

Women – Yui Kamiji

Men – Alfie Hewett

Quad – Niels Vink

Junior Boys – Oliver Bonding

Junior Girls – Julieta Pareja

Honour Roll: [History \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.lta.org.uk/history)

Tournament Website: [British Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.lta.org.uk/british-open-wheelchair-tennis-championships)

Tournament Director: Kirsty Thomson

Tournament Media Manager:

Sam Herd/Amy Grant

LTAMediaBritishOpen@LTA.org.uk

Pre-event/accreditation enquiries – LTAMediaEvents@lta.org.uk



INTERVIEWS

All interview requests for players need to be directed via the ATP/WTA Communications Manager or the via LTA Tournament Media Manager

Players and coaches: If you would like to speak to a player or a coach please contact the ATP or WTA Communications manager assigned to the tournament. If the player is competing that day, please ensure that you get your request in on the same day, before the end of the match. Players will not be brought to press automatically unless requested.

To speak to WTA or ATP Officials or staff: Please contact the ATP or WTA Communications manager assigned to your tournament. The Tournament Media Manager can introduce you if needed.
All post-match requests must be sent before the end of the match

To speak to LTA senior staff or LTA coaches: Please contact media@lta.org.uk or speak to the LTA Media team members working onsite at each tournament.

To speak to the Tournament Director, Grounds Team or other event staff: Please contact the Tournament Media Manager assigned to the tournament you are covering.

Please do not approach players, coaches, LTA senior staff, Tournament team or officials directly for interviews. Taking photos or video of players or player areas without prior permission is also against tournament rules.

INTERVIEWS

Interview Request Contacts:

Lexus Birmingham Open

To speak to players, email: LTAMediaBirmingham@lta.org.uk

HSBC Championships

To speak to female players during the WTA 500 event, email: aprior@wtatennis.com

To speak to male players during the ATP 500 event, email: zhensu.xiao@atptour.com

Lexus Ilkley Open

To speak to players, email: LTAMediaIlkley@lta.org.uk

Lexus Nottingham Open

To speak to female players, email: NHargreaves@wtatennis.com

To speak to male players, email: LTAMediaNottingham@lta.org.uk

Lexus Eastbourne Open

To speak to female players, email: CSneddon@wtatennis.com

To speak to male players, email: melissa.caouki@atptour.com

Lexus British Open Roehampton

To speak to players, email: LTAMediaBritishOpen@lta.org.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY

All photographers are requested to wear a bib when working on the main show courts and to remain in designated photo areas unless by prior arrangement. Bibs can be collected from the Tournament Media Centre and must be signed in and out and returned at the end of each day.

If you wish to access other areas, for example to gain a higher position or panoramic view of the court, please let the Tournament Media Manager know and they will facilitate.

Please avoid walking onto the court at any time (unless directed during ceremonies by the Tournament Media Manager) and be conscious of obstructing views of spectators sitting courtside.

For busy matches, limits may be placed on the number of places in photography pits. Priority will be given to international agencies and members of the International Tennis Photographers Association. This process will be managed by the LTA Tournament Media Manager.

FILMING

FILMING GUIDELINES FOR 2026 LTA SUMMER GRASS COURT TOURNAMENTS

RIGHTSHOLDERS, OFFICIAL CONTENT TEAMS*, NON-RIGHTSHOLDERS, EXTERNAL SOCIAL MEDIA TEAMS CAN:

- Request pre-event interviews - rightsholders/official content teams have priority
- Film practice from designated positions on or by practice courts - please notify Broadcast Manager when you want to film practice
- Film Press Conferences (a maximum of three minutes can be shared online within the first 24 hours of the press conference taking place)
 - Film around the grounds - spectators, retail areas etc
- Request post-match interviews to happen after the press conference - make requests to ATP/WTA Communications Manager, interviews are not guaranteed
- Request an interview from someone from the tournament or LTA - make request to Tournament Media Manager or LTA Media team member
 - Watch from the Media Seats - no filming allowed
- Record selfie videos only when the court is empty - not while players are on court

ONLY RIGHTSHOLDERS AND OFFICIAL CONTENT TEAMS* CAN:

- Film courtside during matches - but only in a designated ENG position. *Please request position from Broadcast Manager - ARMBAND required*
- Request post-match interviews to happen either on court (after the MC's interview) or courtside or in the flash zone (if available) - *request through ATP/WTA Media*

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- NON-RIGHTSHOLDERS (including TV News crews and external content/social media teams) are NOT PERMITTED to film match action
 - Host broadcast cameras ALWAYS have priority in position and line of shot
 - Only film from designated ENG positions when courtside
 - Always wear your armband

ARMBANDS REQUIRED - Please request from Broadcast Manager or Tournament Media Manager

BLUE - Host broadcast

RED - Rightsholder

GREEN - Official Content (Official Content Teams = ATP/WTA/LTA content teams)

LTA NEWS SERVICE

The LTA News Service is a way for media covering our grass court events to access information, statistics and quotes quickly, easily and sustainably. It is an easy-to-use, secure online platform which will be updated through the day, containing:

- Up-to-date and accurate information from all our events
- Match notes and previews for British players' matches
 - Profiles of British players,
 - Flash quotes
- Results, orders of play, historical draws from all events
- And a daily news story from each tournament with useful stats and facts

In order to protect the work of media onsite, the flash quotes on the news service will either be taken from on-court interviews or be limited to one quote about the match, one quote looking ahead and a brief update on an injury (where relevant). ASAP Transcripts (from Queen's and Eastbourne only) will not be posted on the LTA News Service until the following morning.

The LTA News Service has been created following helpful discussions with and feedback from media covering our events and is being managed by Kevin Palmer, an experienced working journalist. The LTA News Service will replace the separate press releases from each event that we sent out in previous years and should therefore ease pressure on your email inboxes at what we know is a busy time of year. Instead, anyone on our media mailing list will receive a daily recap email with headlines from each event and links to more info.

The LTA News Service will be ready to use from Monday 1st June. For those of you accredited, you will receive your own secure login details separately and this will be of use all the way through the grass court season concluding after the British Wheelchair Open. We very much welcome your feedback in input so that we can keep improving the platform and its content and tailor it to your needs. We do hope you find it useful in your coverage of our LTA events as we continually strive to improve our service to you.

PLAYER INFORMATION LINKS

Both the ATP and WTA produce daily match notes for ATP Tour and WTA Tour events as well as an edition of notes which serves as a tournament preview. Daily Media Notes will usually be available overnight prior to matches.

For rankings, to check a player's recent form or find player profiles and interviews, check the ATP, WTA and ITF websites:

Birmingham, Ilkley, Nottingham events:

Women: <https://www.wtatennis.com>

Men: <https://www.atptour.com/en/atp-challenger-tour>

HSBC Championships:

Men: <https://www.atptour.com>

Women: <https://www.wtatennis.com/>

Lexus British Open:

Wheelchair + Juniors: <https://www.itftennis.com/en/players/>

Lexus Eastbourne Open:

Men: <https://www.atptour.com>

Women: <https://www.wtatennis.com>

ATP Media Notes - including archive notes - can be downloaded here:

<https://www.atptour.com/en/media/daily-media-notes>

WTA Media Notes - including archived notes - can be downloaded here:

<https://www.wtatennis.com/press-center>

Need information on British players?

<https://www.lta.org.uk/fan-zone/british-tennis-players/>

ABOUT THE LTA AND WHAT WE'RE DOING TO PROMOTE AND GROW TENNIS IN BRITAIN

TENNIS OPENED UP

Our vision is 'Tennis opened up', and our mission is to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable. We're here to govern and develop tennis in Britain, from grassroots participation through to the professional game.

Tennis is an amazing sport. Anyone can play; whatever their motivation or ability, from all communities and backgrounds. At any age and for a whole lifetime, tennis provides physical, social and mental rewards both on and off the court.

We want tennis to be open to as many people as possible, across the whole of Britain. Volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and venues all play an essential role in the future of our sport; without them, tennis can't exist. We're committed to providing them with the right investment and support, and celebrating their wonderful work. We want to engage with thousands of fans so that we can bring them closer to the sport, offering new ways for them to enjoy and get the most out of tennis.

We will continue to deliver a standout calendar of major tennis events; from Billie Jean King Cup and Davis Cup ties, to grass court tournaments. We want to take tennis to new areas, so as many people as possible can watch world-class tennis action.

We are here to help many more people pick up a racket, whether it's for the first time, or the first time in a while. We want to enable men and women of all ages and abilities to play more often, year round.



COVERED TENNIS, PADEL AND MULTISPORT HUB PROPOSAL

The LTA wants to build on the success of the Park Tennis Project to invest alongside Government into a network of Community Tennis, Padel and Multisport Hubs. As a 'court-based' sports proposal, this would complement investment through the Football Foundation into pitch-based sports, help open up access to tennis and padel to communities where provision is lacking, and help tackle inactivity.

Despite c150 days of rain a year, Britain lags far behind our European counterparts when it comes to indoor or covered courts. France, with an equivalent population to Britain, has five times more covered courts.

Likewise, there is a huge opportunity to grow physical activity across a range of demographics through padel, with the number of public padel courts remaining far lower than other nations. Britain has around 850 courts and annual participation of 400,000, whereas Spain has closer to 20,000 padel courts and over 6million people playing every year.

The LTA has mapped 96 target locations across Britain where covered tennis is currently not accessible to the local community in a 20minute drive time (30minutes in rural communities), based on national insight and engagement at a local level including with councils and communities. These locations are disproportionately in areas of high social deprivation, which have traditionally lacked access to quality community facilities.

The LTA's proposal is to develop 40 hubs across the country over four years, transforming community accessible provision across the country and significantly growing participation. The total cost of this proposal would be c£80million, with Government investment unlocking funding from the LTA and local partners.



HSBC CHAMPIONSHIPS AND LEXUS EASTBOURNE OPEN PRIZE MONEY UPLIFT

The LTA has confirmed further increases in the prize money levels for the WTA 500 event at The HSBC Championships at the Queen's Club and the WTA 250 event at the Lexus Eastbourne Open.

The total prize pot will be \$1,915,000 for the HSBC Championships WTA 500 event and \$499,000 for the Lexus Eastbourne Open WTA 250 event.

These increases take the prize money at the HSBC Championships to the second highest for a WTA 500 event anywhere in the world this year, whilst the Lexus Eastbourne Open will once again have the highest prize money for a WTA 250 event anywhere in the world. These increases in prize money are part of the LTA's ongoing commitment to equalising the men's and women's prize money at these events no later than 2029.

There are currently material differences between the prize money levels on the women's WTA and men's ATP tours. Whilst the minimum prize money levels are set by the tours themselves, the LTA, with the full support of the WTA, has chosen to significantly uplift the WTA prize money at Queen's and Eastbourne and will continue to do so, to close the gap between WTA and ATP prize money at these events no later than 2029.

The introduction of a WTA 500 event at the HSBC Championships in 2025 was a significant investment in women's tennis that has increased the visibility of the sport in Britain. There were over 62,000 spectators on site during the 2025 event – one of the highest attendances for a standalone WTA event anywhere on the tour. Already over 90% of tickets for the 2026 event have been sold.

The 2025 event also saw a dramatic growth in both TV and digital audiences. Across the fortnight of the HSBC event the average audience (on the BBC and Tennis Channel) was 651,000 – which was up 51% on 2024. The share of TV audience also increased by over 60% year on year.



LTA SERVES

Taking tennis into the local community

The SERVES programme is the LTA's leading sport for development programme, which takes tennis into the heart of local communities to people who may have never picked up a racket or thought tennis was for them.

LTA SERVES venues are located across England, Scotland and Wales and tennis is delivered in a variety of venues including; Community Centres, Youth Clubs, Mosques, Gurdwaras, Mandirs, Church Halls, Housing Associations and others.

We encourage and engage young people aged 8 – 18 years to get active and involved in tennis – having fun with friends, keeping mentally and physically fit all while learning new skills and increasing their self-confidence. In turn this supports and empowers young people to develop both as an individual and in tennis learning life skills beyond the tennis court.

LTA SERVES Tennis Activators are from the communities that they deliver tennis in and are from a diversity of backgrounds. Volunteers, Leaders, Youth Workers and others (16+) are provided with training and skills required to become a Tennis Activator, enabling them to lead and facilitate tennis sessions confidently to the young people that attend.

Tennis is a sport that everyone can get involved in; we aim to encourage as many communities to participate in playing tennis. We offer opportunities for SERVES Venues to meet and play tennis together and access tennis provision outside of their own community venue.



LTA YOUTH

Getting more children and young people into tennis

LTA Youth is our flagship junior programme, bringing together all of our expertise and drive to help children get involved in tennis, whether they want to try it in school or want to push themselves in competition. It connects all tennis activity for juniors so that the offer looks and feels the same, whether a child is playing in a school, park or club, helping create a simple and clear route into tennis for players and their parents.

LTA Youth Schools is our programme to help more schools deliver more tennis to more children, designed to be as impactful as possible both for students and their teachers. The programme offers free teacher training, PE activities and content specifically created to develop traits like perseverance, resilience and respect which complement the PSHE curriculum, whilst helping to deal with the challenge of how to boost physical activity among children and young people. Thanks to the LTA Tennis Foundation, each school that completes training receives a £250 voucher, which can be used either for 10 hours of LTA accredited coaching or tennis equipment.

So far, our schools programme has had a major impact:

- 15,962 schools registered
- 45,158 registered teachers
- 33,741 teachers have completed training
- 10,358 schools have received a £250 voucher from the LTA Tennis Foundation

LTA Youth Schools is just one of several success stories from the wider LTA Youth programme.



OPEN COURT

Getting people with disabilities into tennis

The LTA Open Court Programme is a national scheme that actively promotes and delivers opportunities for disabled people to get involved in tennis and padel. Partnered with and jointly funded by [Sport England](#), the programme provides disability specific sessions for tennis and padel – including adaptations for learning disability, wheelchair, visually impaired and deaf. We're also expanding our programme into other long-term health conditions such as mental health and dementia.

The LTA works with tennis and padel venues across the country, putting on a range of activities to improve mental and physical health through increasing opportunities to play, socialise and compete with similar people in the sport.

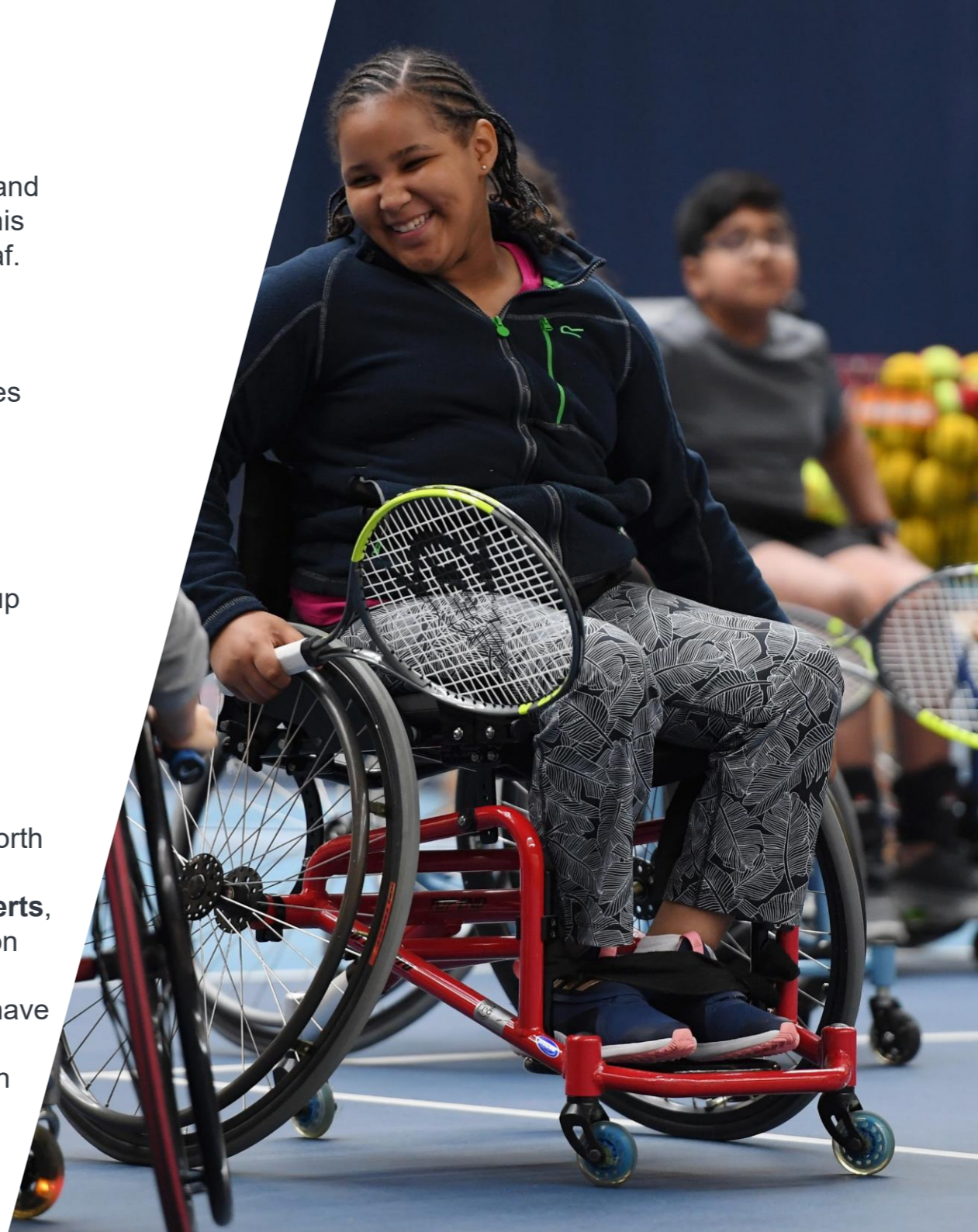
Who does it support?

We support people in clubs, parks, community and education as well as everyone involved in tennis and padel, including coaches with a similar interest and who share our vision to open up tennis to people from all backgrounds.

Our offer to tennis & padel venues

We've developed a package of equipment and support to enable venues to increase opportunities for disabled people through being a part of our Open Court programme. This includes:

- Provision of an **adaptive equipment bag** with rackets, balls, net and range of equipment (worth £350) to help make sessions flexible and fun.
- 'Flying visits' with your coaches, volunteers and venue staff by **disability development experts**, providing disability awareness training so that they may assess their accessibility and inclusion offer.
- Funding support** to cover start-up costs and get your activities up and running so that you have time to make them sustainable in the long term.
- Support with **marketing and communications**, enabling you to effectively communicate with your local disability community.
- Invitation to **networking** events.
- Access to our specialist [Disability Development Partners](#) as ongoing support to help overcome any barriers you may face in your quest to be more inclusive.



50 YEARS OF WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

From the 25th to the 27th of June, the Lexus Eastbourne Open will host an ITF WC500 tournament at Devonshire Park. Whilst tournaments have been held on the south coast since 2023, this year's occasion will be extra special, as the Lexus Eastbourne Open will play host to celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of wheelchair tennis.

The LTA is hosting an induction ceremony for British individuals and organisations being inducted into the ITF's Wheelchair Tennis Hall of Champions, half a century on from when American Brad Parks first developed the sport in California. Players, coaches and contributors who have played a pivotal role in the growth of the sport in Britain are being inducted, and the Lexus Eastbourne Open will hold a ceremony on centre court on Friday the 26th of June, before play begins for the day at 11am, to recognise their mark on the sport.

In addition to the ceremony in Eastbourne, the LTA is partnering with Getty Images to celebrate 50 years of wheelchair tennis, with a digital exhibition of 50 images - some published for the first time, selected with the help of key figures from the wheelchair tennis community. The exhibition can be found on the LTA website.

Exhibition wheelchair events will also be held at the Lexus Nottingham Open and the HSBC Championships on the weekend of 20th and 21st June.



SUSTAINABILITY

To deliver the LTA's vision of Tennis Opened Up and ensure that tennis and the places it is played are 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 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% less emissions than standard fuels
- All tournament fleet vehicles used across LTA events are hybrid and nearly 50% are fully electric models, thanks to a partnership with Lexus
- Donating more than three tonnes of food to local food charities to reduce food waste, representing more than 7500 meals
- Water refill stations for spectators, players and officials to fill their water bottles for free and remove over 480,000 single use plastic bottles, thanks to a partnership with BRITA



WOMEN AND GIRLS

Tennis has always been a pioneer for women's sport and women in sport. On court and off court, it has set the agenda in so many ways for almost 150 years, paving the way for others to follow

In spite of the progress we have made, and tennis' position as a leader on gender equity in sport in this country and internationally, there is still further to go to meet our ambition to make tennis and padel truly gender balanced in every respect. Fewer women than men play the game; there are fewer women than men in the on-court workforce; and women in tennis are sometimes less visible in leadership roles, and in broadcast and social media.

We also know that women are more likely to have caring responsibilities, they are more likely to be subjected to negative stereotypes, and they are more likely to be inactive resulting in poorer health outcomes.

To continue to drive meaningful change and progress towards our ambition, we have refreshed the She Rallies plan and our commitment to the ambition of gender parity in our sport. Our focus remains on delivering impactful initiatives that create lasting systemic change, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable future for women and girls in tennis and padel.

We will continue to focus on our three key themes:

VISIBILITY - Continue to improve the profile of women's tennis and padel on and off court, including in leadership roles, ensuring women are valued and celebrated across all levels of the game.

PARTICIPATION - Continue to reduce the gender gap across all frequencies of play for adults and juniors.

WORKFORCE - Inspire and enable a growing workforce of women, and educate allies, to empower women in all roles across our sport.



LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION

The LTA Tennis Foundation is the LTA's official charity that partners with people and organisations to fulfil its mission of improving lives through tennis. It shares the LTA's vision of 'tennis opened up' and aims to use tennis to make a real difference to people across Great Britain with a focus on underserved communities and under-represented groups.

The LTA Tennis Foundation's ambition is that every child, young person, and adult can have access to the unique and life-changing benefits that tennis offers.

The LTA Tennis Foundation improves lives by:

- Enhancing physical health
- Promoting mental wellbeing
- Developing essential life skills
- Promoting social connection and building communities

The LTA Tennis Foundation achieves this by:

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.

Quotes about the impact of funding

"We are incredibly grateful to the LTA Tennis Foundation for supporting the 'Game On: Reawakening Tennis in South Wales Coalfield Communities' project. This funding gives us the chance to bring tennis back to the heart of historic miners' welfare parks – places built by local people, for local people, to improve health, happiness and community life."

Ryan Jones, Development Manager, Coalfields Regeneration Trust

"My mood has always improved after the session. Even if I'm dragging myself there, I leave feeling lighter."

Sport In Mind participant



LEVELLING THE COURT

LTA Tennis Foundation has launched Levelling the Court, a new initiative to help talented young players from low-income backgrounds access the opportunities they need to progress in tennis.

The programme is all about opening doors. It will fund projects that identify and support emerging talent in underserved communities, while also offering grants to young players already on the LTA pathway who need help with the costs of training, travel and competition.

Delivered by the LTA's Performance Team and backed by an initial £100,000 investment, Levelling the Court aims to make a real, lasting difference. The first round of Levelling the Court grants – worth up to £2,500 – will open in July for players aged 10–14 who meet the eligibility criteria, including those connected to Regional Player Development Centres or the Wheelchair 14U pathway.

Alongside individual support, the programme will build on a pilot in Manchester – the Manchester Aces Development Squad, delivered with Manchester City Council. This work is already helping uncover talent in community spaces like parks, where ability often goes unseen. The ambition is to learn from this pilot and expand it across Great Britain, creating new pathways for players wherever they start.

LTA Performance Director Michael Bourne said, “This initiative was never about finding the next British No.1. It’s about creating more equal access to our sport and removing the financial barriers that hold talented players back. LTA Tennis Foundation’s mission is to improve lives through tennis, and this fund brings that to life in a really tangible way.”

Tim Lawler MBE, Chair of Trustees for LTA Tennis Foundation, added, “For too many young people, access to our sport is still shaped by socio-economic barriers. This funding stream is about changing that. By targeting support where it’s needed most, we’re removing barriers and opening up opportunities, ensuring that a young person’s future in tennis is defined by their passion and potential, not their financial circumstances.”

Levelling the Court is part of LTA Tennis Foundation’s wider mission to improve lives through tennis, with more than 34,000 people positively impacted through the grants awarded.



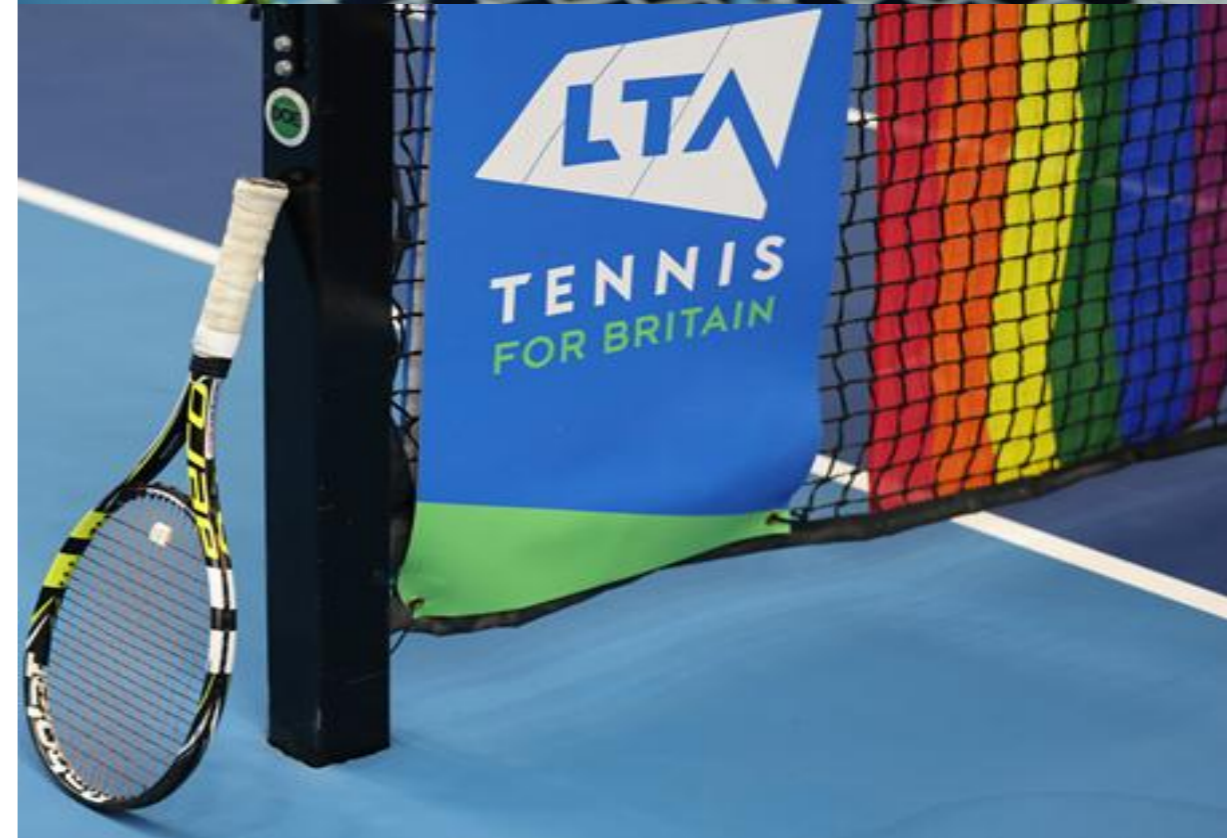
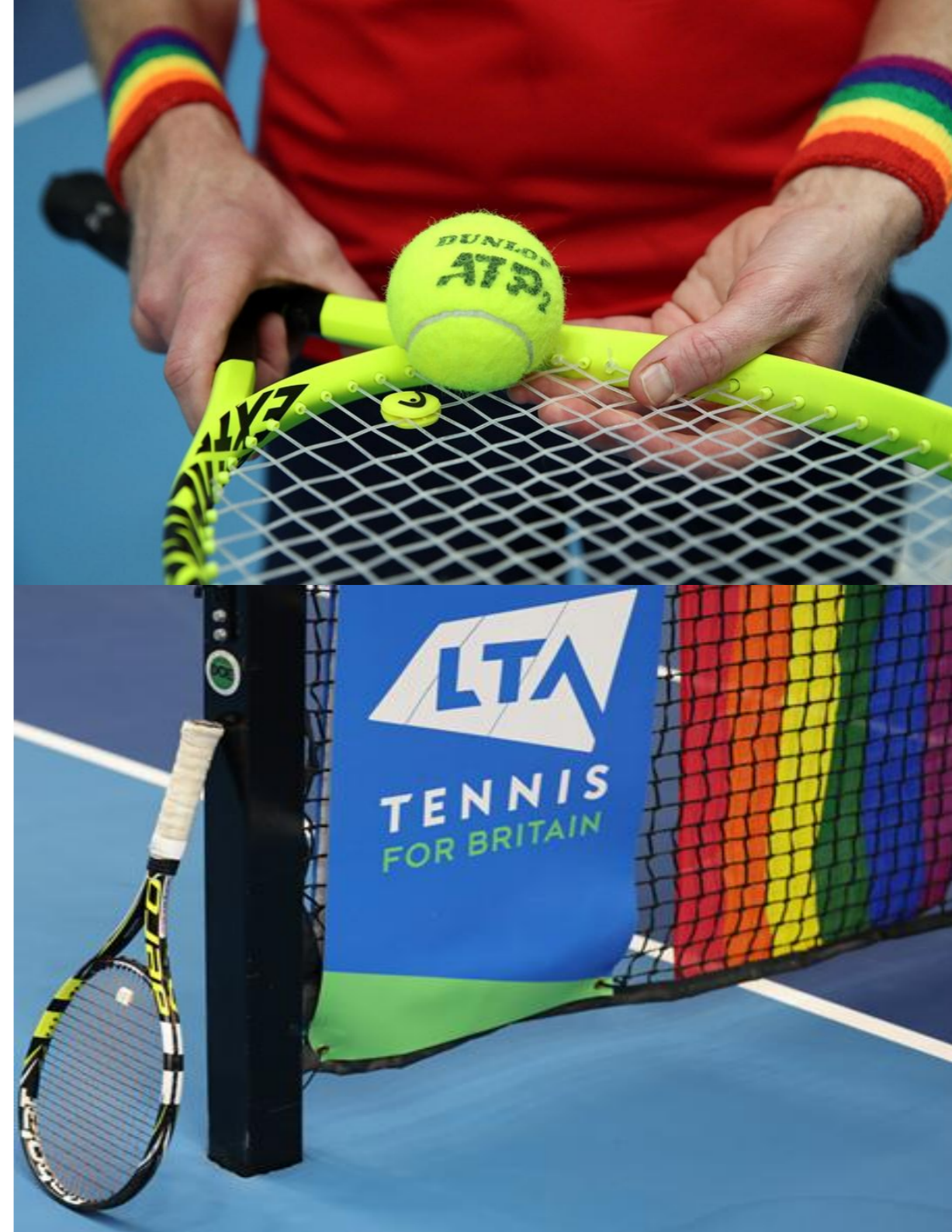
FRIDAY PRIDE DAYS

Having been a staple of LTA events since making their debut in 2022, 'Friday Pride Days' will be a key component of the summer grass court tournaments once again this month.

With June marking Pride Month, tennis is eager to encourage all those who attend our major events to join in those celebrations.

Tennis has a proud record of leading the way on LGBTQ+ inclusion and advocacy and through a partnership with the Pride in Tennis organisation, Friday Pride Days will help to further build relations with LGBTQ+ communities across the country and show that tennis as a sport is a safe space for people in those communities.

As part of the days, on-court furniture will receive a glow-up while Pride progress flags will fly proudly above the stands of all major events.



PADEL

Padel is one of the fastest growing sports in Britain, with new figures released by the LTA showing that there are now 1,000,000 adults and juniors playing padel across the country at 1825 courts across 551 venues.

Our data shows that by the end of 2025, 860,000 adults and juniors had played padel at least once in the previous year, more than doubling participation compared to 2024. This growth has continued through 2026 and the number of individual participants has now hit seven figures.

This growth builds on a sharp upward trend, with participation increasing from 400,000 players at the end of 2024, 129,000 in 2023, and just 15,000 in 2019. Together, these figures underline padel's extraordinary growth trajectory in Britain.

Padel's rapid growth has meant that it is now entering a more mature phase of its development. There are demands for high-quality qualified coaches and activators, a strong competition framework, and a strong culture of safeguarding and inclusion; all of which the LTA is working to develop and deliver across Britain.

Through these initiatives, the LTA is supporting not only the growth of padel venues but also the long-term sustainability, accessibility, and positive community impact of the sport. We are committed to making padel accessible to a broader and more diverse audience, particularly individuals from underserved communities across Britain, so more people can enjoy the physical and mental health benefits of staying active.

As the national governing body for both tennis and padel, we are seeing both sports growing together and complementing each other, and the choice of opportunity they provide to help more people enjoy the benefits of being physically active. An estimated two-thirds of the one million people playing padel also participate in tennis, highlighting the strong crossover between the two sports.



HEALTH BENEFITS OF TENNIS

Tennis is often cited as the healthiest sport in the world, and from a scientific perspective this is undeniable. It offers a unique combination of physical conditioning and mental health benefits that few other activities can match.

Evidence comes from the Copenhagen City Heart Study, which suggests that whilst various sports increased life expectancy tennis players live an average of 9.7 years longer than sedentary individuals, topping other sports by quite a margin, including cycling (3.7 years) and swimming (3.4 years).

The physical benefits of the game are rooted in its interval-based nature, requiring short bursts of energy followed by brief periods of recovery which is widely regarded as the most effective way to improve cardiovascular health. But beyond your heart health it is also a full body workout that improves balance, coordination, and bone density.

The mental health benefits are equally compelling. It requires tactical thinking, split-second decision-making, and constant problem-solving that keeps the brain sharp.

Beyond the game, tennis builds meaningful connections, particularly for people who feel lonely or isolated. Whether playing doubles with friends or family, or joining a local club to meet new people, the smiles on the court say it all.

Perhaps tennis' main advantage is its adaptability, a lifelong sport that evolves with you, from the LTA's colour coded youth system, to walking tennis for those seeking a slower pace.

It is also widely regarded as one of the most inclusive sports. The LTA is committed to ensuring the game remains assessable to all, staging a year round disability tennis competitions calendar to give disabled people, and those with long term health conditions, a chance to compete.



LTA SUPPORT

The LTA provides a range of kinds of support to British players to help them fulfil their potential, with the primary ones being:

Elite: For the highest performing players who are targeting major tournament success

NTC Pro Access: Providing cost-free access to the National Tennis Centre at Roehampton and the facilities there. This includes the hard, clay and grass courts, the specialist gym and strength and conditioning areas as well as other support on site, with players also eligible for the LTA's tournament bonus scheme

Pro-Scholarship Programme: The highest level of support offered to developing players aged between 16 and 24 with the best chance of reaching the ATP/WTA top 100 singles

Men's & Women's Programme: For the very best 16- to 21-year-old players in the country who are not currently on the Pro Scholarship Programme (the programme is also available to 14- and 15-year-olds in exceptional circumstances)

Elite Wheelchair: For our highest performing players who are achieving major tournament success and have the potential to consistently win Grand Slam titles and Paralympic medals.



WHAT OTHER EVENTS ARE HAPPENING IN JUNE?

Throughout June, there will be a number of special events taking place both on and off-court, as the LTA looks to engage more people in the summer of grass court tennis:

5th – 6th June – HSBC Championships takes over Trafalgar Square, including the women's draw on Saturday 6th

7th June – HSBC Championships Opened Up, including:

- a live practice session with top women's tennis players
- a fun doubles exhibition with very special guests
- the stars competing in a set of tennis challenges

13th – 14th June – Lexus Nottingham Open Family Fun Weekend - Grab a tennis or padel racket and enjoy a hit with friends and family. Take advantage of coaching clinics and have-a-go sessions

19th – 21st June – Virtus Learning Disability Tennis Tournament at the Lexus Nottingham Open

20th – 21st June – Men's Wheelchair Exhibition at the HSBC Championships

20th – 21st June – Women's and Quad Wheelchair Exhibition at the Lexus Nottingham Open

26th June – ITF Hall of Champions induction ceremony at the Lexus Eastbourne Open

28th June – Lexus Eastbourne Open Community Day - Have a go on court, jump into family and junior coaching sessions, or brush up your skills on the Devonshire Park grass courts.

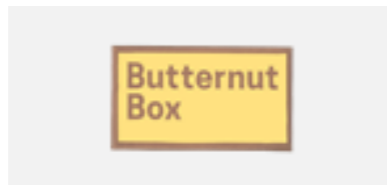


LTA PARTNER FAMILY

Lead Partners



Official Partners



Official Supporters



OTHER USEFUL LTA LINKS

Inclusion and disability

<https://www.lta.org.uk/play/inclusion-disability/>

LTA Governance and Structure

<https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/governance-and-structure/>

Our key national training facilities

National Tennis Centre

<https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/national-tennis-centre/>

Lexus Nottingham Tennis Centre

<https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/nottingham-tennis-centre/>