



TENNIS  
FOR BRITAIN



PARK SUCCESS STORIES:

# HOW FLOODLIGHTS CAN TRANSFORM TENNIS IN PARKS



## IMPROVING PARK TENNIS FACILITIES

Adding floodlights to park courts can significantly impact the:

- Number of court hours available
- Scope of operations
- Type of activities that can be delivered
- Type of workforce that a park can sustain

Combined, these factors can result in greatly improved opportunities for all players in parks, helping to transform communities through increased tennis participation, contributing to increased physical and mental health, and financially sustainable facilities.





## THE BUSINESS CASE

Adding floodlights to your courts can help to make tennis an all year-round sporting offer, unhindered by limited daylight hours – especially in the winter. By adding floodlights to a 4 court block, you could achieve

- A growth in annual court capacity from 14,000 hours to 18,928 - an increase of 4,928 hours or c35%.\*
- A growth available peak usage hours from 7,980 to 12,688, an increase of 4,708 or c.59%.\*
- If a £6 per hour charge was applied, and 50% occupancy achieved, £14,784 could be generated per annum in additional court booking revenue.
- A £600 per floodlit court per year repair and maintenance budget will need to be factored in, plus £1 per hour running costs for LED lights.
- Installation costs can vary - c£15,000 per court, plus £5,000 power supply and £3,000 planning costs, give a £68,000 indicative total cost.
- In less than 6 years the cost of installation could have been generated and re-paid.\*\*

*\*Based on court operating times of 9am-10pm, and peak court hours of 5pm-10pm on weekdays and all-day Saturday & Sunday*

*\*\*Actual income generated will depend on court utilisation*



## HOW THE LTA IS SUPPORTING

Through the LTA Tennis Foundation Quick Access Loan scheme, venues can apply for a £25,000 loan, over three years, to contribute towards the cost of floodlight installation.

A fixed rate of 5% of interest is applied to loans with a discretionary 50% reduction for schemes where the venue is in IMD 1-4.

Applications are open all year round with no submission deadlines.

For further information please visit – [Quick Access Loan Scheme for Tennis Facilities](#)

### Additional benefits that floodlighting park courts offer:

- More inclusive facilities, supporting public health goals of year-round activity
- Increased opportunity for a year-round coaching programme – helping to create a financially sustainable facility
- Improved park safety through reduction of dark spaces
- Supports national and local sport strategies – aligns with Sport England's goal of widening access to sport

# 59%

INCREASE IN ANNUAL PEAK-TIME COURT HOURS WHEN FLOODLIGHTS ARE ADDED

# CASE STUDY

Finsbury Park in Haringey, London, has 8 tennis courts, 6 of which are floodlit, offering an all year round opportunity to book courts, take part in coaching and organised play sessions, and compete with others.

Sitting in an area of high inequality, and average population density does not stop the operators of Finsbury Park (Access to Sports – a charity and park operator) from achieving incredible, all year round participation in tennis, facilitated and assisted by having 6 floodlit courts.

In the past 12 months, over 28,000 court hours have been booked in total, 4,500 of which utilised the floodlights, achieving well over 50% of capacity during hours of darkness.

The floodlights have proven to be a sound financial decision, players pay an additional £5 per hour to utilise the floodlights, which contributes to the costs of electricity, upkeep and maintenance, and repaying the original costs of installation. More importantly, the floodlights allow a coaching programme to be delivered all year round at the park, enabling a team of full-time coaches to offer a range of sessions that are aimed at engaging with a wide cross section of the local community. This includes delivering regular sessions for LGBTQ+, black and Afro-Caribbean, and team players. It also helps to fund opportunities for free court time, meaning tennis is accessible to everyone.

Following the success of installing floodlights at Finsbury Park, Haringey Council have been granted planning permission for court lighting at 3 further parks, aiming to offer enhanced tennis opportunities that keep people active across the whole borough.



*Having lighting at our park courts has enabled us to greatly increase our offer to the community. We can now provide high-quality, low-cost sessions all year round, helping players stay active and connected even during the darker months.*

*The floodlights have also made the courts more financially sustainable by extending our operating hours, attracting new players, and supporting the growth of our coaching and community programmes.*

**Calum Manby,**  
Tennis for All Manager

