

National Coaches' Conference 2025: From Tots to Tour

1–2 March 2025

University of Stirling National Tennis Centre & Stirling Court Hotel

A full weekend of informative presentations and workshops features:

A strong field of experienced speakers, coaches and players

Packages include Saturday night accommodation & networking dinner

Racket demonstrations from our partner Dunlop

Packages	Cost	Early bird before 7 Feb
2-day conference with dinner, bed and breakfast	£240	£22
2-day conference*	£180	£160
1 day conference*	£100	£90

*Add Saturday evening dinner without accommodation for £35



[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

SATURDAY 1 MARCH | EVENTS SCHEDULE

Saturday	Speaker	Topic
09:00	REGISTRATION & TEA/COFFEE	
09:15	Blane Dodds Tennis Scotland Chief Executive	Welcome
09:30	David Wilson	Why Coaching Matters - Recognising Your Influence & Building Your Impact
BREAK		
11:30	Ruben Neyens	The Tennis Playground
LUNCH		
14:00	Tennis Scotland Performance Team	Tour Standards
15:30	Anne Keothavong, GB Billie Jean King Cup captain	Q&A Session
17:00	CLOSE	

Saturday Evening

19:00	DINNER	
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SUNDAY 2 MARCH | EVENTS SCHEDULE

Saturday	Speaker	Topic
09:15	REGISTRATION & TEA/COFFEE	
09:30	Ruben Neyens	Starting the Point
BREAK		
11:15	Ruben Neyens	Smarter Players
LUNCH		
13:30	Ruben Neyens	Motor Skills for Under 12s
BREAK		
14:45	Sam Macneil	Padel Update
15:15	Kris Soutar	Adult Team Training
16:45	CLOSE	

SPEAKERS LIST



David Wilson

Performance Coach & Educator

David Wilson is a Performance Tennis Coach and Educator from Ireland, and has been awarded a Ph.D in the field of Education from Trinity College Dublin.

David has spoken at several international events, including the ITF Worldwide Conference and the Tennis Europe Coaches Conference.

His articles have appeared in publications such as the ITF 'Coaching and Sport Science Review' and the PTR 'Tennis Pro'.

David combines his joint backgrounds in tennis and pedagogy to create engaging and practical presentations for coaches.



Kris Soutar

Coach Development Consultant for Tennis Scotland

Kris is an LTA Master Performance Coach, the lead tutor on the LTA Level 4 Senior Performance Qualification and head tutor on The Progress Tour Academy three-year coaching diploma and four-year coaching degree in Haikou City, China.

He also consults and mentors with coaches and players around the world, including in his role as Coach Development Consultant at Tennis Scotland. This makes Kris unique as he works with players and coaches from grassroots to the high-performance end of tennis.

A full-time professional tennis coach for 32 years, Kris has developed Scottish and British tennis champions and players with Tennis Europe, ITF, ATP and WTA rankings.

He also works as a high-performance coaching consultant in the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Netherlands, Germany and Ireland and has presented at Scottish, Welsh, Irish and British national coaches' conferences. He also works as an HR consultant for two global oil companies, with graduate assessment procedures and graduate training programmes.

SPEAKERS LIST



Ruben Neyens

Tennis & physical development consultant

Ruben is a Belgian consultant for tennis and physical development. He works with players, coaches, academies and federations. You can call him a globetrotter.

He has given more than 100 workshops in more than 25 different countries such as Belgium, Australia, Great Britain, Switzerland, China, India, United States, Hong Kong and many more.

He is well known for his practical way of working and presenting.

Key areas of expertise: include 12u tennis, motor skills development, tennis specific physical conditioning and long-term coach development.

Ruben describes himself in four words as creative, energetic, passionate and positive.



Isla Smith

Coach Education & Qualifications Lead at LTA

Isla has been a coach for more than 25 years, including roles as a head coach, managing coaches and developing club programmes as well as physical conditioning for performance athletes.

As a coach education tutor, she has been delivering qualifications, CPDs and workshops for 12 years, while also developing content, presenting conferences and undertaking work as a global trainer for Cardio Tennis.

International conference appearances include the World Coaches Conference in Colombia, the Caribbean Conference 2024 and Australian Open Conference.

Alongside her work in tennis, she is also an assessor of fitness instructors, while also teaching fitness and yoga classes.

She was recently appointed a Global Lead Assessor, responsible for grading the highest-level fitness instructors in the world.

SPEAKERS LIST



Toby Smith

Tennis Scotland Performance Team

Toby helps deliver the Tennis Scotland performance pathway, including the Scottish Player Development Centre, which aims to provide a high-quality environment for Scottish players aged 11-16 to maximise their development as individuals and tennis players.

With more than 30 years' experience in tennis, Toby has worked with players of all ages from U8 mini tennis through to Grand Slam level and made a significant contribution to the development of a host of Scottish professional players, including Jacob Fearnley, Aidan McHugh, Maia Lumsden, Ali Collins and Hamish Stewart.



Jonny O'Mara

Tennis Scotland Performance Team

As part of the Tennis Scotland performance pathway, Jonny helps deliver the National Player Programme, which aims to support Scotland's highest ranked and most promising junior and senior players aged 16+ to achieve their goals on the national and international stages.

Players in the NPP are typically competing at ATP, WTA or ITF level, with some involved at junior and senior Grand Slams.

The former Scottish professional who reached number 44 in the men's doubles world rankings joined Tennis Scotland in summer 2024 having spent the previous year in Sir Andy Murray's coaching team.

With 11 professional titles to his name, among Jonny's career highlights is reaching the semi-finals of mixed doubles at Wimbledon in 2023.