

LTA CHAIR UMPIRE GRADING STRUCTURE 2024

1. **All chair umpires must be an LTA Licensed Official and have LTA Officiating endorsement to retain their current grade and be considered for promotion.**
2. **All chair umpires graded U1 to U3 should complete the appropriate online test(s) by 15 November 2024.**
3. Any official who feels they no longer wish to fulfil the duties commensurate with their grade should contact LTA Officiating at any time to inform them of their desire to be re-graded.
4. If an official cannot meet the requirements for retention of their grade because of circumstances affecting their ability to work, they should notify LTA Officiating. Such notification should be received as soon as practicable but by 1 December 2024. LTA Officiating will review all records for the official, carefully consider the circumstances, and decide whether to waive the requirements for 2024.
5. Officials may receive one warning letter if they are within 10% below each retention requirement for their grade in a three year period before being considered for a re-grade to a lower grade. For the avoidance of doubt, a re-grade to a lower grade would be considered if the official fails to meet a retention requirement for which a warning letter has already been issued within the last three years.
6. In order to be considered for promotion, officials must have met the retention requirement for their existing grade.
7. Temporary promotion of one chair umpire grade is permissible at the discretion of the Chief Umpire. This would not normally apply to U3 Chair Umpires at category 1 and 2 tournaments.
8. Matches chaired overseas will not count towards the required chairs for retention or promotion of grade. For the avoidance of doubt, for a match chaired to be counted for retention and promotion requirements, it must take place at a tournament listed on the calendar published by LTA Officiating.
9. U1 or U2 chair umpires refusing to chair matches at Category 2 professional events may be re-graded to a lower grade.
10. Experienced officials with zero chairs in a calendar year may be re-graded as UZ (Inactive Chair Umpire). It should be noted that officials with this chair grade will have the lowest priority for selection at all non- professional tournaments. To reactivate their grade they will need to contact LTA Officiating who will decide on their revised grade.
11. In the event that the number of available professional tournaments in 2024 is significantly lower than in previous years, the LTA at its absolute discretion reserves the right to reduce the professional chairs retention requirements for U1 and U2 chair umpires.
12. For U1 and U2 chair umpires “professional chairs” includes matches, where applicable (subject to Note 6 above), chaired at the following events:
 - The Championships, Wimbledon (including Wimbledon Wild-Card Playoff)
 - Davis / Billie Jean King Cup ties
 - ATP / WTA Tour events (including ATP Challenger Tour & WTA125 events)
 - ITF World Tennis Tour events (W15, M15 and above)
 - ITF Junior Masters, Grade A, Grade 1
 - ITF Junior Team Competition
 - ITF Senior World Individual Championships
 - ITF Senior World Team Championships
 - ITF Wheelchair Circuit (Masters Series, Super Series, ITF 1)
 - British Tour events
 - LTA National League Open Finals

LTA CHAIR UMPIRE GRADING STRUCTURE 2024

Grade	Definition	Assignment eligibility	Minimum requirements for retention	Minimum requirements for promotion
U1	National chair umpires whose work rate and performance indicate they are working at the required standard for professional tennis	Category 1 – Qualifying Category 2 – 2 nd Round Category 3 – All	15 chairs in 2024, including a minimum of 10 professional chairs Satisfactory performance as measured through coaching and/or evaluations in 2024	Pass ITF White Badge School as a Chair Umpire to become an ITF White Badge Chair Umpire
U2	Chair umpires who have passed the LTA Pro Tennis Course	Category 2 – 1 st Round Category 3 - All	10 chairs in 2024, including a minimum of 3 professional chairs Satisfactory performance as measured through coaching and/or evaluations in 2024	15 chairs in 2024, including a minimum of 10 professional chairs Satisfactory evaluations and relevant experience in professional tennis LTA Officiating recommendation
U3	Chair umpires who have passed the LTA Chair Umpire Accreditation Course	Category 3 – All	5 chairs in 2024	Pass the LTA Pro Tennis Course
ZT	Trainee umpires who have passed the LTA Line Umpire Course	Assignments as a Line Umpire only	N/A	Pass the LTA Chair Umpire Accreditation Course

Tournament Categories	
Category 1	ATP Challenger, ITF World Tennis Tour W100, W75 & W50
Category 2	ITF World Tennis Tour W35, M25, W15 & M15
Category 3	All other tournaments