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WELCOME



On behalf of the LTA, I am delighted to welcome you to the cinch Championships here at The Queen's Club.

As ever, our thanks go to The Queen's Club for hosting this event once again. We're pleased that next year we'll be able to extend our partnership as we bring a week of women's tour level tennis back to London, and The Queen's Club, for the first time in 50 years. You can find out about the plans for the WTA 500 event in this programme.

I'd like to thank the ATP for their help along with the ongoing support of our partners at cinch, who have done much to support this event over the past four years.

Returning to this year, we are looking forward to world-class tennis from the British and international competitors battling it out. This year we will also be showcasing learning disability tennis for the first time as well as wheelchair tennis. Best of luck to all the players.

Finally, it's important to recognise the contribution of all the officials, volunteers, staff, and of course fans who do so much to make this such a welcoming event.

If you enjoy today and want to guarantee your seat to more world-class tennis, the Davis Cup is returning to Manchester in September, and tickets are now available via the LTA website.

Best wishes

Scott Lloyd
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, LTA

Welcome to the 2024 cinch Championships at The Queen's Club!

The cinch Championships really is one of the UK's best sporting events of the Summer; it is great to see Carlos Alcaraz back to defend his title, plus Britain's biggest tennis stars are here – Cam Norrie, Jack Draper, Andy Murray and Dan Evans to name a few – all wanting to lift the prestigious cinch Championships trophy!

The striking purple of the cinch Championships is a sight not to be missed, so be sure to share your snaps with us @cinchuk across social channels – whether that be the cinch cars you see out and about providing a transport service for the players or here within the grounds at The Queen's Club.

Make sure you pop to the cinch stand too (outside the South Pavilion), to enter our competition for your chance to win a tennis clinic for six people, with a former British Player! Plus, if you need to charge your phone, we can help with that – our way of making your time at the cinch Championships as faff-free as possible.

Enjoy a great week of tennis and making memories with friends and family!

Avril Palmer-Baunack
CHAIR OF CONSTELLATION
AUTOMOTIVE GROUP,
OWNER OF CINCH



WELCOME



Dear Tennis Fans,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 cinch Championships at the historic Queen's Club. We're so excited that you can join us for the action.

Tennis is unmatched when it comes to year-round action, played out on the world's biggest stages. This season, we're seeing the continuation of an intergenerational battle at the top of the PIF ATP Rankings and exciting new rivalries develop. Global destinations, a cast of diverse characters, and millions of passionate fans, combine to create an entertainment spectacle like no other.

This week, fans can look forward to seeing a blockbuster list of the Tour's biggest stars competing for the title. The 500 PIF ATP Rankings points up for grabs will play a big role in building momentum for the grass court season. Adding to the atmosphere will be the Queen's crowd – known for their deep knowledge and respect of the game.

I extend my gratitude to Jamie Murray in his first year as Tournament Director, and his dedicated team. Players always love returning to this event, voted ATP 500 Tournament of the Year for a fifth time in 2023, and it's the team's hard work behind the scenes that ensures a memorable experience year after year.

I would also like to thank you, our fans. Your passion for tennis motivates the players and inspires us to drive the game forward. We thank you for your support and invite you to follow the ATP Tour at www.ATPTour.com and via social media.

Andrea Gaudenzi
ATP CHAIRMAN



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WELCOME



I am proud to welcome you to the 2024 cinch Championships at Queen's and delighted to be hosting the event for cinch, the title sponsor, and the Lawn Tennis Association.

Sport is at the heart of The Queen's Club with a rich sporting history. Initially a true multipurpose sports club, Queen's played host to rugby, football and cricket matches as well as athletics on our famous lawns. Over time those sports began to be played at nearby London stadiums and the Club developed into the rackets club we are known for today.

The summer Championships binds that history with an impressive roll call of Lawn Tennis champions who have lifted the iconic singles trophy on Finals Day - we can't wait to

welcome back Carlos Alcaraz to defend his title and to see who our 2024 Champions will be!

I am also delighted that our Club's official charity, The Queen's Club Foundation (QCF), will once again be represented at the Championships. We are enormously proud of our charity which delivers local community tennis and squash programmes, improving the lives of children and adults in need across the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. To find out more about the valuable work of the

QCF, please visit their website, www.queensclubfoundation.co.uk or make a donation.

I wish to thank Graham Kimpton, our Grounds Manager, and his team who have once again worked incredibly hard to prepare our grass courts so superbly. I hope you will also forgive me for taking the time to thank our Members for their forbearance; building the stadium and facilities for such an important event does disrupt their day-to-day use of the Club. But it is all worth it! We hope that you enjoy your day at the cinch Championships at Queen's and wish you a great day of tennis.

SIMON GREENWELL
CHAIRMAN
THE QUEEN'S CLUB

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CHAMPIONSHIPS

LIVE SCORING



ORDER OF PLAY



PLAYER ENTRY LIST



For all the latest scores, results, draws, the daily order of play and the updated player entry list from this year's cinch Championships scan the QR codes above.

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ALL LTA PROGRAMMES FOR THE SUMMER EVENT SEASON HAVE BEEN PRODUCED USING CARBON NEUTRAL PAPER.



Throughout June, we'll be celebrating LGBTQ+ communities in tennis as part of Pride Month, including once again holding 'Friday Pride Days' at our events and telling stories from these communities, showing that tennis is a sport where everyone is welcome, whatever their sexuality or gender identity.

CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS PEN PORTRAITS 2024



CARLOS ALCARAZ 🇪🇸

BORN: 5 MAY 2003

Won the 2023 cinch Championships to claim his first grass court title, followed by his first Wimbledon title, beating Novak Djokovic in an epic five-setter.

Youngest and first teenage world No.1 and year-end No.1 in PIF ATP Rankings history, making record rise from No.32 at end of 2021 to No.1 at age 19 in September 2022.

Became the youngest player in tennis history to win Grand Slams on all three surfaces as he added this French Open title to his US Open and Wimbledon victories as he beat Alexander Zverev in the Roland Garros final earlier this month.



HOLGER RUNE 🇩🇰

BORN: 29 APRIL 2003

A former world No.1 junior who broke into the top 100 in January 2022.

He is the highest-ranked Dane in ATP Rankings history, reaching career-high No.4 in August 2023.

At just age 19, won the 2022 ATP Masters 1000 title in Paris, coming from a set down to beat Novak Djokovic.



TAYLOR FRITZ 🇺🇸

BORN: 28 OCT 1997

A former world No.1 junior won his fifth ATP Tour title at 2023 Delray Beach to achieve a career-high No.5 and become first American in top 5 since Roddick in September 2009.

Beat Rafael Nadal in 2022 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells final to become that event's first American men's champion since Agassi in 2001.

He is a two-time champion at the LTA's Rothesay International Eastbourne (2019 and 2022).



TOMMY PAUL 🇺🇸

BORN: 17 MAY 1997

Former World No.3 junior achieved career-high No.12 in October 2023 after becoming first American man to reach the Australian Open semi-final since Andy Roddick in 2009.

Reached the quarter-finals at the cinch Championships in 2022, losing to eventual champion Matteo Berrettini.

Made it through to the semi-finals of ATP Masters 1000 events at Indian Wells and Rome this year and won his second ATP Tour title at the Dallas Open in February.



ALEX DE MINAUR 🇦🇺

BORN: 17 FEB 1999

Runner-up in last year's cinch Championships, beating Andy Murray and Holger Rune before losing to Carlos Alcaraz in the final

De Minaur was a runner-up at the 2016 Junior Wimbledon Championships, losing to Denis Shapovalov in the final.

Reached a career-high ranking of No.9 in February this year after defeating world No. 1 Djokovic at the 2024 United Cup, the biggest win of his career.



BEN SHELTON 🇺🇸

BORN: 9 OCT 2002

Made his Grand Slam breakthrough with a run to the quarter-finals of the 2023 Australian Open, going one better at last year's US Open as he reached the semi-finals.

Won his first ATP Tour title at the Japan Open last October and claimed his second title at the US Men's Clay Court Championships in Houston in April, beating compatriot Frances Tiafoe in the final.

This is his second appearance at the cinch Championships, after he secured his first win here against J.J. Wolf in the opening round last year.



UGO HUMBERT 🇫🇷

BORN: 26 JUNE 1998

Broke into Top 20 in November 2023, then earned career-high No.13 in April 2024 after winning in Dubai.

Highlighted his grass court prowess with a win at Halle in 2021, beating Alexander Zverev and Andrey Rublev en-route to the title.

He won his 4th and 5th ATP Tour titles on French soil, winning at 2023 Metz, his hometown, and 2024 Marseille.



CAMERON NORRIE 🇬🇧

BORN: 23 AUG 1995

Reached the semi-finals of Wimbledon in 2022 and was a cinch Championships runner-up in 2021.

Broke into top 10 in April 2022 and achieved a career-high No. 8 in September 2022, joining Tim Henman, Andy Murray and Greg Rusedski as fourth top-10 British man in ATP Rankings history (since 1973).

Advanced to 13 ATP Tour finals from May 2021-February 2023, including the 2021 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells title to become first British champion in 46-year tournament history.



FRANCES TIAFOE 🇺🇸

BORN: 20 JAN 1998

A former world junior No.2, Tiafoe won his first ATP Tour title as 20-year-old at the 2018 Delray Beach event

He reached the semi-finals at the 2023 Indian Wells Masters, losing to Daniil Medvedev.

Beat Rafael Nadal en-route to 2022 US Open semi-final, becoming that event's first American men's semi-finalist since Andy Roddick in 2006.



LORENZO MUSETTI 🇮🇹

BORN: 3 MAR 2002

A former world junior No.1 who broke into top 20 of the ATP rankings and achieved a career-high No.18 in January 2023 after recording 4-1 singles record at the inaugural United Cup in Australia.

He beat then-19-year-old Carlos Alcaraz in 2022 Hamburg final at age 20, marking the youngest ATP Tour final since 2005 Bastad (when 19-year-old Rafael Nadal beat 19-year-old Thomas Berdych).

Beat Novak Djokovic at the 2023 Monte Carlo Masters event to record his first win against a world No.1.



DAN EVANS 🇬🇧

BORN: 23 MAY 1990

Claimed second and biggest ATP title of his career, winning the Mubadala Citi DC Open in August 2023, and rose to a career-high ranking of 21.

Earned his maiden ATP title at 30-years-old at the 2021 Melbourne-2, not dropping a set en-route to the title.

He is a two-time Rothesay Open winner, reaching the final in Nottingham on three occasions, as well as winning the Surbiton title in 2019.



ANDY MURRAY 🇬🇧

BORN: 15 MAY 1987

A five-time former singles champion at Queen's Club, more than any player in the history of this tournament, also winning the doubles title with Feliciano Lopez in 2019.

A two-time Wimbledon champion (2013 and 2016), Murray also won the 2012 US Open, two Olympic gold medals (2012 and 2016) and helped his nation win the 2015 Davis Cup

Recipient of a Knighthood for his services to tennis and charity.



FRANCISCO CERUNDOLO 🇦🇷

BORN: 13 AUGUST 1998

Broke into top 100 of the ATP rankings and achieved a new career-high ranking 11 times in 2022. He then reached career-high No. 23 on 29 May 2023 after finishing runner-up in Lyon.

As World No.103 at Miami in 2022, he became the lowest-ranked semi-finalist in the tournament's 37-year history and the first player to reach the last four in his ATP Masters 1000 main draw debut since Jerzy Janowicz in Paris in 2012.

His father, Alejandro, also played pro tennis while his younger brother, Juan Manuel, won 2021 Cordoba title. His sister, Constanza, played for the Argentine hockey team that won gold at the 2018 Youth Olympics.



JACK DRAPER 🇬🇧

BORN: 22 DECEMBER 2001

Played in his first ATP Tour final in Sofia last year and reached his second final at Adelaide in January.

Draper secured his first ATP Tour wins here at The Queen's Club in 2021, as he beat Jannik Sinner and Alexander Bublik to reach the cinch Championships quarter-finals.

He enjoyed a stellar junior career, including a run to the 2018 Wimbledon Boys Singles final.



SEBASTIAN KORDA 🇺🇸

BORN: 5 JULY 2000

Achieved career-high No.23 in October 2023 after reaching his first ATP Masters 1000 semi-final in Shanghai.

Best run at a Grand Slam came at the 2023 Australian Open, where he reached the 4th round.

Returning to the cinch Championships after a run to the semi-finals last year, as he beat Britain's Dan Evans and Cameron Norrie before losing to eventual champion Carlos Alcaraz.



ADRIAN MANARINO 🇫🇷

BORN: 29 JUNE 1988

Achieved a career-high ranking of No.17 in January of this year.

At home on grass courts after his runs to the 4th round at Wimbledon in 2013, 2017 and 2018.

This is his fifth tournament at The Queen's Club, with his best run coming as he made the quarter-finals in 2011.

Enjoys playing on all surfaces and considers volley his best shot.



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CHANGES FOR THE 2025 GRASS COURT SEASON

During the past two years the LTA in consultation with the All England Club have been reviewing the entire grass court season with the intention of improving the experience for fans and players.

The purpose of the review has been to raise the profile and visibility of tennis in Britain during the run up to The Championships at Wimbledon.

The plans the LTA have unveiled will offer more fans the opportunity to watch professional tennis, particularly women's tennis, both live and on television, whilst ensuring that there are the same number of playing opportunities for British and overseas players across the four-week period.

The new calendar of professional events for 2025 will:

- See high profile events at the start of the season to ensure maximum visibility for tennis
- Promote women's tennis to a larger audience and raise its profile
- Ensure every tournament venue will host both male and female events

While there are a number of changes to the calendar, in summary:

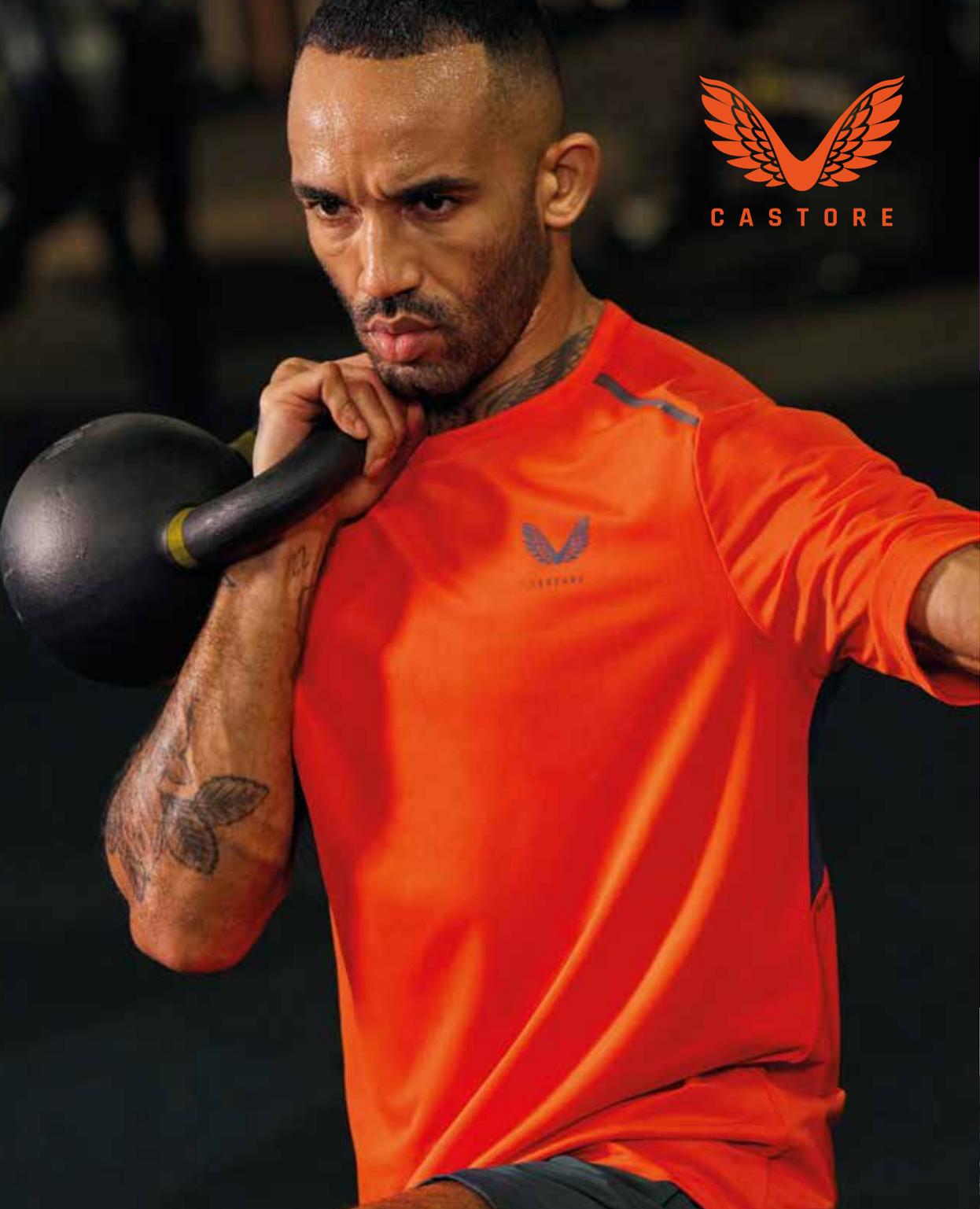
- A WTA event will return to London at The Queen's Club for the first time in over 50 years
- New combined event at Birmingham will be staged in the first week of the grass court swing
- Every tournament venue, Queen's, Eastbourne, Nottingham, Birmingham and Ilkley all now host men's and women's events

The changes are an important step in increasing the visibility of our sport, particularly the women's game. The staging of a high-profile women's tour event in London for the first time in half a century 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.

The LTA is 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.

Bringing women's tennis back to Queen's will showcase the very best of women's tennis earlier in the grass court season, taking advantage of the market and visibility being the capital, and making Queens a two-week destination for tennis, outside of Wimbledon.

Meanwhile, through a combination of research undertaken into the quality of the grass during an exclusive WTA week in Birmingham, and an existing knowledge of the exemplary work of the Queen's grounds team led by Graham Kimpton, we know the impact on the courts at Queen's from an additional week of play will be minimal.



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DID YOU KNOW?



1 Established in 1886, The Queen's Club was the first multipurpose sports complex ever to be built anywhere in the world.

2 The Club has hosted as many as twenty-five different sporting activities and has been the scene for such varied sports as ice-skating, baseball, athletics and rugby.

3 This tournament was initially known as the London Athletic Club Open Tournament and it was first played in 1881 at Stamford Bridge, Fulham.

4 In 1890, the tournament moved to its current location, the Queen's Club and consisted of a men's and women's singles event.

5 By the late 1920s, annual Oxford v Cambridge challenges at rugby, football and athletics had taken place at the Club for over thirty years and, at times, as many as 10,000 spectators were attracted to the grounds. As these events outgrew the Club's facilities, they were transferred to their new homes at Twickenham, Wembley and White City.

8 Great Britain's Andy Murray is the most successful player in this tournament, winning five singles titles (2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2016) and one doubles title with Spain's Feliciano Lopez (2019).

9 Feliciano Lopez was the lowest-ranked player to win the singles title, as he lifted the trophy in 2019 when he was No.113 in the ATP Rankings.

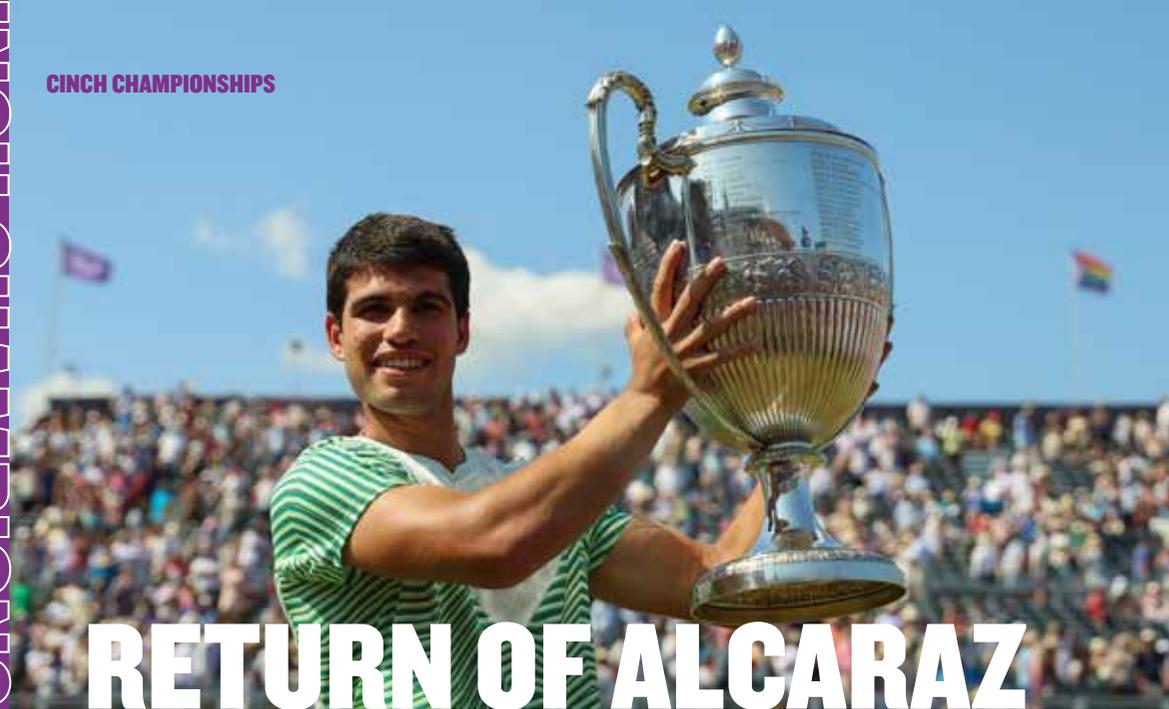
6 The women's tournament at The Queen's Club was discontinued after 1973, yet a WTA Tour event will return in 2025 and will take place a week before the men's tournament.

10 Italy's Laurence Tieleman is the lowest ranked player to reach the final at The Queen's Club, as he was ranked at No.253 in the world when he lost the 1998 final against Australian Scott Draper.

7 The last women's singles champion here was Olga Morozova from the Soviet Union, who beat Australia's Evonne Goolagong in the 1973 final.



CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS



RETURN OF ALCARAZ

As Carlos Alcaraz took his first steps on a grass court at The Queen's Club last summer, he could not have imagined what was about to unfold.

A defeat against Novak Djokovic in the semi-finals of the French Open was the prelude to summer that would propel Alcaraz to a tennis platform that he would not have expected to clamber onto so soon in his career.

After a challenging three-set win in his opening match against Frenchman Arthur Rinderknech in his opening match at the cinch Championships, Alcaraz slowly began to find his feet in what was only the third grass court tournament and a few days later, he found himself lifting the famous silver trophy presented to the champion at the cinch Championships.

It was a triumph Alcaraz had not been expecting and it paved the way for his remarkable Wimbledon triumph three weeks later, as he beat Djokovic in an epic final on the Centre Court at the All England Club.

As Alcaraz looked back on his unsteady first practice session at The Queen's Club and the script he then proceeded to write, the young Spaniard admitted he surprised himself by the magnitude of his success.

Honestly my expectations were not too high for Queen's," begins Alcaraz, who added the French Open title to his list of achievements earlier this month.

"You know, I played two tournaments on grass in my career. I'm not going to count the juniors obviously. It was two times at Wimbledon. I played just five or six matches in my career.

"So I have not played too much on grass. So I have to play on grass, put hours on grass on my back and have more experience than that.



"I surprised myself honestly with the level that I played at. I didn't expect to feel that on grass in just six days

"I came here just to get experience, to get out on the court and practising and playing with this kind of players, you know, and I'm going to say is a good preparation for Wimbledon, but I didn't expect at the beginning of the week that I'm going to win the title.

"My target when I joined the tournament it was to gain more experience, keep training on grass with good players, and then play some tennis.

"In my head, I wasn't thinking about winning the tournament. Obviously, every time I am playing in a tournament, I want to win it, but my main target was to keep feeling better and continue gaining experience towards Wimbledon."



DID YOU KNOW

- Born 5th May 2003 in Murcia, Spain
- Alcaraz won his first ATP Tour title at the 2021 Croatian Open.
- He won his first ATP 1000 title at the Miami Open in March 2022.
- Alcaraz claimed a first Grand Slam title at the 2022 US Open.
- His first grass court title came at the cinch Championships last year and he won the Wimbledon title three weeks later.
- Grass court win loss record heading into this tournament was an impressive 16-2.

Alcaraz confirmed he watched footage of former Wimbledon champions Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray as he looked to understand grass court movement prior to his run at the cinch Championship and swept along by enthusiastic support from his fans at the Queen's Club fans, Alcaraz's sparkling win against Alex De Minaur in the final cemented his confidence on a surface that was something of a mystery at the start of the week.

"I have a lot of time to watch videos, to learn from the

best players in the world on grass. Andy, Roger, Djokovic," stated Alcaraz. "On grass, Roger and Andy for me are the best players that are moving great on grass. So, I want to be like them. I would say Federer put elegance into play on grass.

"Now I enjoy playing on grass. The surface is beautiful and I would say the game becomes more beautiful for every player. Serve and volley, return, slices. You need variety.

"I see myself with a lot of weapons on grass. I try to hit

big shots all the time. I think I improved my serve really well. With the forehand, I try to dominate all the time. You need to be aggressive on grass and that suits my game."

Alcaraz, who won his first Grand Slam tournament at the 2022 US Open, jumped at the opportunity to return to The Queen's Club this summer and he is relishing the chance to reacquire himself with an arena that will forever be important in his development as a player after last year's triumph.

"I'm excited to be heading back to the LTA's cinch Championships this year," added Alcaraz. "Winning the title in 2023 was very special for me and the perfect preparation for Wimbledon. I really enjoyed playing on the British grass courts and look forward to competing again this summer."

Engaging, dynamic and a fans' favourite at every tournament he competes in, Alcaraz is a superstar for a new generation of tennis fans. This sport is lucky to have him. ■



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ANDY MURRAY



2005



Murray's first win at Queen's Club in 2009



Looking at the trophy 2011



Andy Murray and partner Feliciano Lopez in the doubles in 2019



With coach Ivan Lendl in 2016



2016



With David Beckham and son Romeo in 2016

- Won his first ATP Tour match at this tournament, beating world No.110 Santiago Ventura Bertomeu 6-1 6-2 in 2005.
- Claimed his first Queen's Club title in 2009, beating America's James Blake 7-5, 6-4 to become the first Brit to win the title in 74 years and the first since Bunny Austin.
- Between 2011 and 2016, Murray went on an incredible run in winning four out of six Queen's singles tournaments to become the all-time leading champion.
- In 2011, he beat Andy Roddick 6-3 6-1 in the semi-finals to reach his second final where he faced a familiar rival in Jo Wilfried Tsonga.
- Beat Marin Cilic in the 2013 final here before going on to lift his first Wimbledon title the same summer.
- Overcame Kevin Anderson to win the 2015 Queen's Club title and retained the crown a year later, beating big-serving Milos Raonic in the final.
- After undergoing hip surgery in early 2019, Murray made an unexpectedly swift return to The Queen's Club to play in the doubles with Spain's Feliciano Lopez and the duo won the event, beating Joe Salisbury and Rajeev Ram 7-6(6) 5-7 10-5 in the final.



2013

2015

Q&A: CAMERON NORRIE

Cameron Norrie confirmed he is one of the best grass court players in the world after reaching the 2021 cinch Championships final at The Queen's Club and he backed that up with a run to the Wimbledon semi-finals a year later. Here, Norrie looks back at his story so far, with his ambitions for more success burning brightly.

What were your ambitions when you started your tennis career?

I just wanted to play and see where it took me. Then I turned professional and I was winning a lot of matches and you think, okay I'm not too far away from where I need to be here. Then you get into the top 100 and top 50, then top ten. That's when I thought I could be world No 1. It has gone well for me, but I want more. To get to the semi-finals at Wimbledon (in 2021) and not get through means there is a long way for me to go to win that title, but it's what I want.

Have you achieved more than you expected in tennis?

I am a guy who always wants to do more, always wants that little bit extra. That's my game style as well and if you are not fresh, it can be tough to do that. My game does not knock guys off the court with massive serving, so I need to be 100 per-cent fresh. Maybe not playing one week and prioritising a bigger tournament will be something I look at.

What was the best and worst moment of your career so far?

Probably winning the Wimbledon quarter-final against David Goffin in 2022. I knew it was a big opportunity for me, but Goffin is a top player and it was never going to be easy. You finish that match and don't really realise what you have just done. It was an amazing moment. The worst moment? I remember losing to an absolute bunny at the French Open one year and that was annoying. Also, when I was at college, I lost to a guy who was at a middle Tennessee state and he beat me 6-1 6-1. It was a terrible match. That was in 2014. It's tough. I sometimes see the guy. He coaches people now and I can imagine he goes around telling everyone he beat me. I don't know his name so I can't tell you who is he!

Is fame important to you?

It's never been a goal of mine, I have no interest in it. But it comes when you win a lot of matches. Where it is good is when you have a day with kids in a



local park and they are happy to see you because of what you have done on the court. I was one of those kids not so long ago and if younger kids recognising me and inspire them, that's more important than someone in the street asking me for a selfie! I'd much rather be No 1 in the world than be the most famous tennis player and ranked at No 12.

Are you looking forward to the Olympic Games this summer?

I've never played an Olympics before so I'm excited to be a part of that. I love playing for Great Britain and it will be really cool to be in Paris. Speaking to the other athletes will be fascinating and it will be great to represent my country there.

What is the bond like between the British players in the Davis Cup team?

It's fantastic. I think we can win the Davis Cup. We were close last year, but we got a strong Serbia team. Jack (Draper) lost a tight match and then I lost a close one against Djokovic. The other half of the draw was a lot weaker and we could have been in there and got to the Final, but it wasn't to be. We also got unlucky with injuries as Andy (Murray) and Dan (Evans) couldn't play, but we will be back next year.

Have you changed your diet since you became a professional athlete?

I am gluten-free now. That was more to do with my stomach not being able to deal with what I was putting into it as much as it was for my job. I turned 20 and I couldn't eat gluten. It was crazy. It's tough at times because you want to have a burger or a pizza, but you have to look around for something you can have. I miss the simplicity of going sports game, walking up to the vendor and having what I want. You need to be a little more selective, but it is something you get used to. ●

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HOLGER RUNE: THE GREAT DANE



Holger Rune is undoubtedly one of the brightest stars on the ATP tour.

With four tour-level titles to his name, including a Masters 1000 crown in Paris and quarter-final appearances at Roland Garros and Wimbledon, the young Dane is fast establishing himself as one of the world's best tennis players.

Last year's tournament marked the 21-year-old's debut at The Queen's Club, where he enjoyed a stellar run to the final four – eventually losing out to runner-up Alex de Minaur 6-3, 7-6(2)

Heading into the 2023 cinch Championships, Rune was yet to win an ATP tour-level match on the grass after going 0-3 on the surface in 2022. However, the Dane turned the tide during his run at Queen's last year – recording his first tour-level grass win against Maxime Cressy before going on to defeat Britain's Ryan Peniston and Lorenzo Musetti en route to the semi-finals.

Speaking on his feelings of returning to the cinch Championships again this year, Rune said "I'm so excited, it's an amazing tournament.

"I played it for the first time last year, I think it's a very historical place. The grass courts are really good, and I think it's very similar to Wimbledon, so for me it's the perfect preparation.

"I did quite well last year, I got some grass under my feet and hopefully I can do the same this year.

The tournament, which has been crowned ATP 500 tournament of the year five times in the last eight years, proves to be a special stop on the ATP Tour for a number of British and international players.

Despite last year being his first full grass court swing on British soil, Rune showed that he has a game that can succeed on the surface after he backed-up his

form at the cinch Championships with a quarter-final run at The Championships, Wimbledon.

Although the grass court swing might not have ended the way the 21-year-old had hoped with his name etched on a trophy, he's taken many lessons that he'll bring with him this summer.

"Winning the first round at Queen's, I got broken early and was thinking 'I don't even like grass'.

"I managed to stay in there, fight and eventually got my first win on the grass and built from there. You always have to play until the end, that's key."

The conclusion of this year's grass court swing at The Championships, Wimbledon will welcome the start of the Paris 2024 Olympics, which will see some of the world's best ATP and WTA stars return to the iconic red clay at Roland Garros.

Like many other players on tour, Rune is relishing the opportunity to represent his country for the first time at an Olympic games this summer and will be hopeful to guide Denmark to their second Olympic medal in tennis history alongside compatriot Caroline Wozniacki.

"It would be massive; I've always wanted to compete at the Olympics" Rune said. "It's one of those things that you watch when you're a kid - I really wanted to play and to win. To be able to play that for the first time is going to be an amazing experience.

"It would be amazing" Rune added on the potential prospect of playing mixed doubles with Wozniacki. "She's done so much for Danish tennis and Danish sports in general. I had the chance to play mixed doubles with her in Indian Wells.

"It'd be cool, I want it and hopefully she does as well - to represent Denmark together would be an amazing feeling." ■



JACK'S BACK

The summer of 2023 was a story of frustration for Jack Draper.

After breaking into the top 50 of the ATP Rankings following a sparkling start to his senior career, Sutton-born Draper was struck down by a shoulder problem that halted his progress.

He missed the entire grass court season last summer and fell out of the top 100 as a result, but the 22-year-old is getting back to his best and is relishing the chance to make up for lost time in front of the British fans.

"I had to learn a lot about myself last year after I dropped outside the top 100," said Draper, who beat new world No.1 Jannik Sinner for his debut win here at The Queen's Club in 2021.

"My arm was too sore to think about playing last summer, but missing the grass court season was tough.

"Watching Wimbledon on TV and seeing all the hype around it was tough. Not being able to play at Queen's and Eastbourne before that was also frustrating.

"I had to grind myself back. I feel like I'm just a lot stronger mentally and I have a lot more perspective of being in a good position. In terms of my tennis, I feel like I'm improving."

Draper is part of a new generation of tennis stars who are aiming to step into the spotlight after an era dominated by Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, with the rise of Sinner and Queen's Club champion Carlos Alcaraz inspiring Draper.

"I'm a competitor and watching guys like Sinner and Alcaraz playing in the latter stages of the big events fires me up," continued Draper.

"They are young players and they are achieving incredible things, but I want to be where they are and I want to be competing for the biggest titles.

"I think I can take a lot of inspiration and learn from a lot of things that these guys are doing, and really

that fuels my fire to be in that position as well.

"If I wasn't feeling that way, I would be worried as I need that ambition to get to that point.

"It's going to be interesting in the next couple of years if I can stay injury-free and do all the right things to see if I can get up there with those guys.

"I appreciate the grind and effort you need to put in to get there, but that is where I want to be."

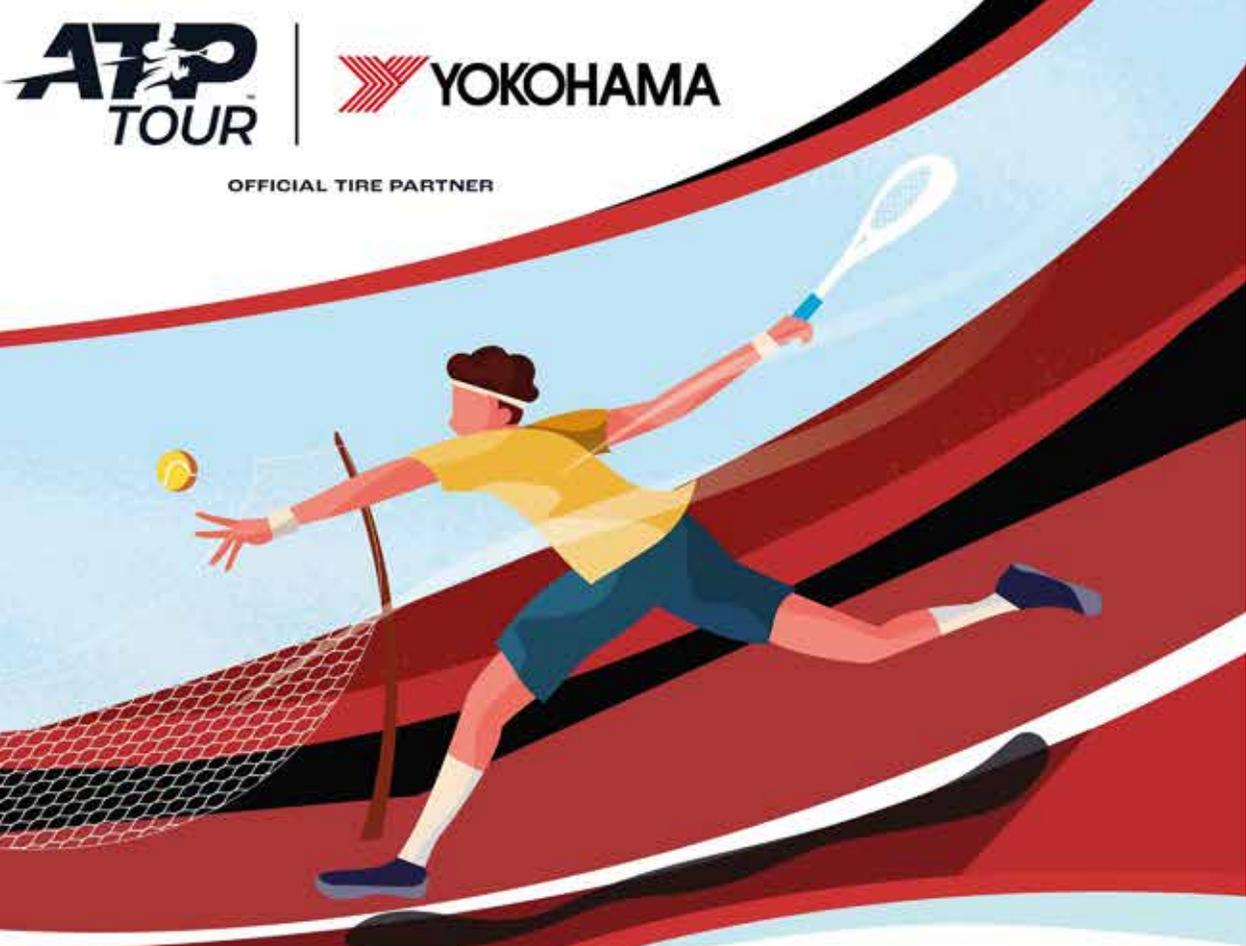
From his run to the final of the Junior Wimbledon in 2018, to his success on the ATP Challenger Tour and then his breakthrough into the senior ranks, Draper's career trajectory was always on an upward curve.

Draper's setbacks over the last year have been a stumbling block in that progress, but they have also served to fire his ambitions for more as he looks to join the young guns setting their sights on the biggest prizes in tennis. ●

"I'M A COMPETITOR AND WATCHING GUYS LIKE SINNER AND ALCARAZ PLAYING IN THE LATTER STAGES OF THE BIG EVENTS FIRES ME UP"

DID YOU KNOW...

- He picked up a racket for the first time as just a toddler in his home county of Surrey and took his first steps in the game alongside his brother Ben at the Sutton Tennis & Squash Club.
- Jack writes with his right hand, but is a left-handed player on court.
- He reached the final of the 2018 Wimbledon Boys's Singles, losing against Tseng Chun-hsin.
- Won his first ITF World Tour title in November 2018 in Nottingham.
- Enjoyed his best run at a Grand Slam when he reached the fourth round at the US Open last year.
- Reached his first two ATP Tour finals in Sofia last November and Adelaide in January.



PERFORMING ON DIFFERENT SURFACES



ALFIE'S BIG DREAM

When Alfie Hewett started out on his tennis journey, he never imagined the story that lay ahead.

Interest in wheelchair tennis was modest when Hewett emerged as the shining star of the game, but that story has changed dramatically over the past decade.

With Hewett's matches taking centre stage in front of huge crowds on No.1 Court at Wimbledon during The Championships over the last couple of years, the wheelchair game has been propelled to heights that have pushed Hewett to global stardom.

World No 1 wheelchair tennis player Hewett this year was singles champion at both the Australian Open and US Open and runner-up in the French Open and Wimbledon tournaments, while in doubles, he claimed three out of the Grand Slam titles alongside Gordon Reid.

Here, Alfie looks back on his story so far and what he hopes is still to come.

How do you reflect on the growth of wheelchair tennis?

It's in a very different place compared to where it was when

I started. In the last three to four years, we have seen the biggest growth in terms of publicity and profile of the wheelchair game. I feel like we have been given more opportunities in terms of the court we are playing on and also from a media perspective. It's so important to have that limelight and exposure and the impact it can have of seeing me playing at Wimbledon in a wheelchair can be massive for people who may not have thought of playing this sport. I've spoken to a lot of people who have seen my Wimbledon matches on TV and decided to give tennis a go, which is fantastic to see.

What were your ambitions when you started?

It wasn't to become a Grand Slam champion or anything that huge. I just wanted to get back involved with sport and it has given me an amazing career. When you are at these big tournaments alongside the able-bodied players, you get to know them on a personal level and it does so much for the sport when they speak about what we

do and how much they enjoy watching us. We are trying to create as many opportunities as possible and the people running tennis have opened doors for us.

You have played matches on no.1 Court at Wimbledon - do you want to be on Centre Court next year?

I'm happy that we are on No.1 Court, so I'm not going to complain. A few years ago we were scrapping to get onto outside courts and we are making a lot of progress. I don't want to put pressure on Wimbledon to give us a chance to play on Centre Court because we've had great crowds on No.1 Court and it has been huge for us to reach out to a wider audience and raise the profile of our sport. That's why I train so hard and why I play tennis. Maybe one day we will be on Centre Court and that would be a dream, but we are grateful for the opportunities coming our way.

The Wimbledon singles title is the one Grand Slam you have yet to win. Is that the goal for 2024?

Of course I think about it. Only about ten times a day! It is a goal of mine and everyone knows I want to win it. I have been so close to winning it and I've got to take the confidence and belief that I have built up on grass to try and get over the line. The focus is to make sure you are fit and ready when Wimbledon comes around. ▣

Alfie Hewett is taking part in a wheelchair tennis exhibition at the cinch Championships on Saturday June 22, partnering with Gordon Reid against Joachim Gerard and Tom Egberink, to kick off a huge summer of wheelchair tennis ahead of the Paris 2024 Paralympics.



TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES AND INSPIRING FUTURES: THE HEART OF TENNIS IN LONDON

With the cinch Championships swinging into action at The Queen's Club, and a growing demand for access to tennis courts, communities across Britain are witnessing a transformation of their local park tennis courts.

What were once overlooked spaces are being revitalised and providing opportunities for people to pick up a racket and play, with many situated in London.

The Park Tennis Project, a landmark £30million investment supported by the LTA Tennis Foundation, delivered by the LTA, is making a significant impact by rejuvenating public tennis courts and supporting a renewed passion for tennis within communities. With a substantial investment, 3,000 courts will be transformed, ensuring welcoming and accessible facilities for people to play, no matter their age, gender, background, or ability.

A primary focus of the project is to engage people of all backgrounds and allow them to pick up a racket and embrace tennis as a fun and active lifestyle choice. Prior to this investment, 45% of park courts across Britain were in a very poor or unplayable condition.

This unprecedented investment is ensuring the courts in the worst condition are refurbished to bring them back to life, with the introduction of gate access technology and online booking to make it easier for everyone to pick up a racket and get on court. This helps to tackle one of the main barriers to people playing tennis, which is finding and booking somewhere to play.

Huge progress has been made. 2000 courts have now been transformed, bringing them back to a high standard for the enjoyment of local communities up and down the country.



The LTA is on track to complete the project by the end of the summer, working with local authorities from Eastbourne to Inverness to help provide opportunities for many more people to pick up a racket. The aim is to get over 500,000 more people playing tennis in their local park every year.

This is a key way in which the LTA is delivering its vision of 'Tennis Opened Up', transforming communities through tennis by making the sport welcoming, enjoyable and inspiring to everyone – regardless of their age, background, or ability.

In Greater London alone, we've transformed hundreds of park courts, bringing them back to life and making tennis more accessible to communities across the capital. From Barking to Hounslow, Enfield to Croydon, Londoners from all walks of life will have the opportunity to pick up a racket and get into tennis and there is no better time to get on court than during the sunshine months of summer.

BOOK A COURT



Included as part of the project is Barclays Free Park Tennis, a free, weekly session in parks led by local volunteers, giving you the chance to meet new people and practice your skills. For competitive players who would like to be challenged, there is Barclays Local Tennis Leagues, whether you are a beginner or advanced, you can meet new people, power up your game and compete in a park court nearby. [▶](#)

Scan the QR code to book your local court.



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RISING STARS

Tennis has lived through a glorious two decades dominated by a handful of legendary champions and now we are stepping into an exciting new era that will serve up fresh set of champions.

Roger Federer, Serena Williams, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic became sporting giants who transcended tennis, with the longevity of their success adding to their auras.

Their enduring presence in the final stages of Grand Slam events allowed them to build a global presence that will be hard to match, but tennis is fortunate to fresh batch of players ready to take centre stage.

Carlos Alcaraz, Iga Swiatek, Coco Gauff and Jannik Sinner have painted enchanting stories on tennis courts around the world in the last year, with the inspiration that has inspired more to follow in their footsteps.

A golden era in tennis may have reached a natural conclusion, but what comes next could be even more thrilling.

CLASS OF THE 2000s

“I feel like the new generation is definitely dominating. It’s a strong generation. We knew the group in 2002 was strong, and I think part of it helped us push each other growing up in juniors. We all had to compete with each other and strive on.”

The words of Britain’s Emma Raducanu highlighted the impressive collection of young stars making their mark in the women’s game, with her iconic victory at the 2021 US Open one of many moments that symbolised a changing of the guard in the women’s game.

Raducanu’s 2021 US Open final against fellow teenager Leylah Fernandez captured huge global television audiences, with the emergence of two young superstars of tennis a story that enchanted and fascinated sports fans in equal measure.

Injuries have hampered Raducanu’s progress over the last year, when world No.1 Iga Swiatek from Poland has grown into her role as the leading player in the women’s game.

Still only 22, the player who has topped the WTA Rankings with impressive consistency since Ashleigh Barty’s retirement in March 2022, Swiatek took on the mantle of becoming world No.1 and her success at the top level of the game confirms she has embraced the challenge.

It has also been a breakthrough 12 months for America’s Coco Gauff, who has got used to dealing with the glare of the spotlight since she beat her idol Venus Williams on Wimbledon’s Centre Court at the age of 15.

Gauff’s US Open win last September had an impact that revived memories of Raducanu’s success in the same tournament two years earlier, with the 20-year-old American one to watch during this summer’s British grass court season.

Emma Raducanu, 2021 US Open winner



ALCARAZ AND SINNER MAKE THEIR MARK

“I was never worried about what would happen when the ‘Big 3’ went. People said the same things before Roger Federer came along and then we had Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic soon after. There is always a new champion. Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner are so exciting to watch. They seem to enjoy playing as much as we enjoy watching them.”

The views of former British No.1 Laura Robson’s are echoed by tennis fans around the world who have witnessed some sensational sporting moments from the two most talked about young players in the men’s game over the last 12 months.

Alcaraz arrived at The Queen’s Club in London last June admitting his expectations on grass courts were limited, yet he finished the summer as a winner of the LTA’s cinch Championships and, famously, as Wimbledon champion after a thrilling win against Novak Djokovic in the final.

Alcaraz has backed up that success with some thrilling performances in 2024, with his thrilling win at the French Open earlier this month giving him a third Grand Slam title on a third different surface at the age of just 21.

Sinner’s rise has been even more meteoric, as his pivotal contribution to Italy’s Davis Cup win last November was backed up by his first Grand Slam triumph at the Australian Open in January.

“A new generation is here already,” believes Djokovic. “We’ve been saying this for years that we can expect that moment to come when you have a kind of shift of generations and it is happening now.”



YOUNG GUNS FIRING

Teenage stars have created some of the most captivating stories in tennis over the last year, with Mirra Andreeva leading the way as she made it through to the last-16 of last year’s Wimbledon Championship with some dynamic performances.

Czech teenager Linda Noskova has also caught the eye in 2024, with her memorable win against world No.1 Swiatek at the Australian Open in January highlighting her potential.

In the men’s game, Ben Shelton’s emergence was amplified when he became America’s No.1 player earlier this year, while Brazil’s Joao Fonseca and France’s Arthur Fils are being tipped to be champions of the future.

Britain also has high hopes of new stars emerging, with Jack Draper eager to make up for his absence from last year’s grass court season due to injury and 2023 Wimbledon Boys’ Singles champion Henry Searle striving to make his mark after impressive performances at junior level.





ADVANTAGE, PLANET

This summer, we're making history as the first ever non-single-use water brand to sponsor British tennis. We're serving the same BRITA water you love at home here on-site and, with your help, we're removing a whopping 100,000 single-use plastic water bottles from LTA tournaments.

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THE COACHING PATHWAY

Olivia Smart first played tennis at the Falkirk Lawn Tennis Club aged seven - and now she is inspiring the next generation to find their passion for tennis.

Fast forward little more than twelve years and the Edinburgh University fresher is the youngest LTA Tennis Coach (Level 3) qualified coach in Scotland, running a coaching programme at the newly-refurbished Zetland Park and Dollar Park tennis courts and other venues alongside managing her Business and Enterprise degree.

Smart's journey in coaching started in 2019 at 15, but for the 19-year-old it wasn't until after the Covid pandemic hit that she admits having "really got the bug for it."

"It wasn't until I was finishing my LTA Instructor (Level 2) that it really hit me that I'd be able to begin delivering my own group coaching sessions," added Smart. "After that I applied and started to deliver sessions through Falkirk Council, which was a great opportunity that gave me the opportunity to coach independently."

Following a fully competitive tender process, Falkirk Council appointed Olivia Smart Tennis Coaching as the official coaching provider at Dollar Park, which along with Zetland Park, is benefitting from a £32,500 transformation as part of the Park Tennis Project, a £30 million investment supported by the LTA Tennis Foundation, delivered by the LTA, to rejuvenate public tennis courts.

For Smart, who markets her tennis coaching enterprise on Facebook and Instagram, the last few years have been about grabbing opportunities to both further her skills and grow her coaching credentials.



"Tennis Scotland have been a great help, making sure I have access to all of the professional development programmes and sessions they are running, linking me to local clubs and tennis venues, and helping me access grants that make it cheaper for me to further my education as a coach."

Olivia's example highlights the exciting career and part-time roles on offer if you sign up for a qualification within the LTA's coach education pathway. There is an award for every type of coaching role, and the pathway spans tennis and Padel.

The LTA Assistant Course (Level 1) is ideal for tennis parents, enthusiasts or keen players looking for the knowledge and skills to support group coaching sessions, alongside a lead coach.

The next stage of the coaching pathway, the LTA Instructor (Level 2) course, is just a five-day qualification, with online study on top. This course is the gateway to a role or career in coaching, with learners getting access to tactical development methods, and technical development tools, as well as being introduced to fundamental coaching frameworks to ensure they are ready to run quality group-based coaching. This award is available in both tennis and Padel specialisms.

With tennis participation booming, there has never been a more exciting time to get involved.

For more information on how you can get into coaching, scan the QR code



LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION



The LTA Tennis Foundation's mission is to improve lives through tennis. We want to ensure that every child, young person, and adult can access the unique and life-changing benefits that tennis offers.

Working throughout Great Britain, we focus on underserved communities and under-represented groups, ensuring we reach those who face the biggest barriers to sport and who can benefit the most.

We partner and work with experts who are embedded within communities, ensuring the biggest impact is achieved for beneficiaries.

How we make 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, over half a million people have been positively impacted by the LTA Tennis Foundation.

"The grant from the LTA Tennis Foundation will prove transformational for so many lives in our local area. We want to make sure everybody has access to quality tennis provision, and healthy meals during school holidays" Founder, Playpoint Sports, funded by the LTA Tennis Foundation

Join the LTA Tennis Foundation community to keep up with the life-changing work taking place.

Registered Charity Number: 1148421



"THE GRANT FROM THE LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION WILL PROVE TRANSFORMATIONAL FOR SO MANY LIVES IN OUR LOCAL AREA. WE WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYBODY HAS ACCESS TO QUALITY TENNIS PROVISION, AND HEALTHY MEALS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS"

FOUNDER, PLAYPOINT SPORTS,
FUNDED BY THE LTA TENNIS
FOUNDATION

PROGRAMME SPOTLIGHT:

THE QUEEN'S CLUB FOUNDATION

The Queen's Club Foundation was awarded a grant from the LTA Tennis Foundation to deliver a Community Hub Tennis project in Hammersmith.

The Queen's Club Foundation makes racket sports more inclusive and accessible to people, whatever their background or circumstances. The community tennis programmes focus on those with Special Educational Needs, those from Lower Socio-Economic groups and other minority groups within the local community and beyond

One of these sessions, the Seniors Tennis Group, which is Dementia friendly, is already having a huge impact. One couple who have been attending these sessions are Pauline and Vito, this is their story.

Meet Pauline & Vito

They are married, Vito is living with Alzheimer's and Pauline is his primary carer. Pauline is always looking for activities for them to attend, but has found a lack of opportunities, especially active or sporting ones. So, when the Seniors Tennis session started in a park local to them, she was keen for her and Vito to try them out.

Neither had played tennis since school but wanted to give the sessions a go as they had been told they were inclusive for people living with Alzheimer's.

When asked what her husband most enjoys about the sessions, Pauline said: "He really enjoys talking to people. It can be very isolating when someone has Alzheimer's, so he doesn't tend to interact with a lot of people, so he likes to chat a lot when we are here!"

Pauline went on to say "He really looks forward to the sessions, and afterwards he's in a much better mood. When he's doing something and having to engage his brain, it helps, and as I said, he loves to chat, and when it is the just



the two of us at home, it can be quite intense, but you know, we come here and he chats to everyone, which also gives me a break."

Kate Maurici, Head of The Queen's Club Foundation said: "If people are living with someone with dementia it can be just as isolating for them. So, the sessions are also a chance for them (the carer) to have some respite and meet other people who are caring for others. There is a real social and emotional benefit as well as the physical benefits that tennis brings."

Scan the QR code to find out more about the Seniors Tennis sessions.





SUPPORT THE LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION TODAY!

Did you know that last year, the LTA Tennis Foundation impacted the lives of over 500,000 individuals through their support. That is enough to fill the Queens centre court more than 55 times!

To help us to reach more people and improve more lives through tennis, the Foundation needs to raise the funds that enable us to support the great charities, organisations and programmes that we partner with. You can support the Foundation today by:

Entering the raffle: Visit the LTA Tennis Foundation booth or keep an eye out for our roaming raffle sellers, to buy a ticket to our event raffle with all money raised going to the LTA Tennis Foundation. Tickets cost £5 and prizes include tickets to the 2025 championships, signed shirts by GB tennis stars and a Dunlop FX Team racket.

Donating: Text **LTATF** to **70450** to donate £5 to the LTA Tennis Foundation, or you can make a donation of any size at the LTA Tennis Foundation booth. Just £5 could purchase vital equipment for an inclusive tennis session, helping to enable disabled children and young people to play tennis.

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text **LTATFNOINFO** to **70450** instead.



Want to stay in touch after today?

If you are feeling inspired by the Foundation, we would love to talk to you about how you can get involved. Whether you are an individual who would like to support, a club who would like to hold a fundraiser, or a company thinking about a corporate partnership – contact us at fundraising@ltafoundation.org.uk to discuss how to get involved

PROGRAMME SPOTLIGHT:

TIM HENMAN FOUNDATION

The LTA Tennis Foundation awarded a grant to the Tim Henman Foundation to deliver their Community Tennis Programme in local schools.

The programme is delivered in multiple locations, one of which is Raynes Park. The sessions are free to schools, who are chosen based on the percentage of students accessing free school meals, and the level of deprivation in the area, ensuring the delivery is in the highest area of need, and therefore having the biggest impact.

Did you know, there are currently 4.3m children are growing up into poverty in the UK, that's 9 (30%) of children in a classroom of 30.



What do the sessions look like?

Each year group in the school takes part in a session every week for 6 weeks, delivered by an LTA Accredited Tennis Coach. They start with the basics, as many of the students will never have picked up a tennis racket and ball before, and slowly progress to mini rallies. At the end of the 6 weeks, the students are then offered subsidised/funded holidays camps at a local club and get to experience what it is like in a real tennis venue.

The impact of these sessions reaches far beyond the tennis skills. Students develop essential life skills through the sessions such as confidence, teamwork and problem solving. Elsie, from Year 3 said "I felt a bit nervous at the start, and then I got a lot of confidence and got better".

And Penny, from year 2 said: "I have not played tennis before. I really like it. I like that I get to play with a racket, I have not played with a racket before. I had not seen one of these (tennis) balls before and I am really interested in that. It makes me feel happy inside and excited when I am playing".

If you want to support the LTA Tennis Foundation's life-changing work, scan the QR code to donate.



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EMIRATES BUSINESS



The padel boom is continuing to gather momentum across Great Britain, with up to 150,000 active players now playing the sport regularly.

Padel is a sport that is easy to learn and very sociable, allowing players of all ages and skill levels to play together on an enclosed court that is roughly one-third the size of a tennis court.

You don't need any prior experience playing tennis or any other sport; all you need is a bat and a doubles partner to get started!

The LTA took over governance of padel in 2019 and has since then embarked on a journey to integrate, build, grow and upscale the sport across Great Britain.

In that time the LTA has invested £6million to develop infrastructure and increase participation in this country.

Over the past five years, we have seen a surge in new padel courts around the country with the 50 courts that were in place in 2019 now boosted to over 350, with participation growing from 6,000 players up to 150,000 in 2024.

In addition, the LTA hosted a record number of competitions in 2023, with over 200 events being delivered across Great Britain.

As the sport has continued to grow in Britain and infrastructure continues to improve, heads are starting to turn to the elite level of the game and the British stars competing on the world stage.

The top male and female players from Great Britain, including number one players Tia Norton and Christian Medina Murphy, will be vying for the title at the

FIP European Padel Championships, which will take place in Italy later this summer.

In October, the World Championships will be played, which is a great opportunity for our GB teams to compete against the top teams in the world.

Tom Murray, LTA Head of Padel said "It's great to see padel continue to grow in this country. British players are winning titles both domestically at events sanctioned by the LTA across Great Britain, as well as internationally.

"It's an exciting time for the sport as it's set to grow to new heights over the coming years, with even greater infrastructure investment, a growing workforce and a major boost in participation. We'll do all we can to drive this change and drive the sport to the next level."

Over the next three years, the LTA will maintain its focus on facilitating the growth of places to play, actions to grow and diversify the padel coaching workforce, and implementing a performance pathway that supports current players and paves the way for the next generation.

The LTA will also look to invest in increasing the visibility of padel, driving greater awareness of the sport and explore opportunities for professional events in Great Britain. □

To find your nearest court, check out our court directory, or to get involved in one of the fastest growing sports in the world, visit www.lta.org.uk/play/ways-to-play/padel/ or scan the QR code.



LEVELLING UP LONDON PROJECT: ENHANCING THE WORKFORCE, ONE COACH AT A TIME

London is a melting pot, with people from all backgrounds living together in one of the world's great cities, and through the LTA SERVES programme, tennis is being taken into many of the underserved communities across the capital, giving children and young people the opportunity to give tennis a go.

In 2023, through funding from the LTA Tennis Foundation with money raised at the 2022 Laver Cup, an opportunity was presented to take the programme even further in London and, through the LTA SERVES Level Up London (LUL) project, to empower and encourage greater female engagement in tennis.

The project worked to strengthen the LTA SERVES programme, providing an inspirational launch day of coaching and mentoring combined with comprehensive coaching and mentoring at LTA SERVES venues, with the project culminating in a festival event held at Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre.

Overall, the project sought to engage and empower both female and male LTA SERVES activators to deliver sessions to girls, increase the number of female LTA SERVES

mentors in the workforce, and explore ways to establish LTA SERVES pathways.

By the end of 2023, the LUL project had surpassed all expectations, delivering huge impact for those who took part. Through 40 hours of mentoring from 10 mentors, of whom six were women, every single one of the 20 activators who took part in the scheme – of whom 16 were women – felt their quality of delivery and knowledge of delivering to sport to girls had improved, while 77% felt more confident delivering tennis to girls in their community.

The project was recognised at the London Sport Awards in March, receiving the 'Enhancing the Sporting Workforce' Award, and while the overall project has received acclaim, it's in the progress and development that has evolved beyond the project where the greatest success can be found.



ISSY'S STORY

Isabelle Stanley from the London Sport Trust (LST) is one of the 20 LTA SERVES activators who took part in the LUL project in 2023. Based at the Phoenix Academy in Hammersmith, she, along with many the activators who lead LTA SERVES sessions, works and delivers in communities with many deprived families, working to build relationships and then break down those barriers between them and sport.

As part of the programme, Issy was paired with Kate Maurici Head of The Queen's Club Foundation as her mentor, and she found the experience of being mentored hugely beneficial.

"I really like the idea of having a mentor and an activator. It's just someone who's so full of knowledge who's able to come into your setting, see how you deliver your session and take it to a whole new level.

"We've had a fantastic relationship... we were always WhatsApping each other and she's always saying 'give me a call if you need any equipment or any ideas for sessions or any extra help'. She's always on hand and, honestly, it's taken our tennis delivery to a whole new level. It's been incredible."

While having the mentor-mentee system in place gives the opportunity to boost confidence in delivery, does Issy feel it's helped boost her confidence? Absolutely.

"It's improved my confidence massively. I could deliver a session fine but if they came back next week, I was a bit stuck for something new. So this course has taught me how I can take one game and change it the next week so the kids are still engaged, so I could sit there and confidently deliver an interesting session."

Thanks to the LTA SERVES LUL project, having started off her tennis journey as an LTA SERVES activator, Issy has now finished her Level 1 coaching course, and is looking to take the next steps and progress even further into coaching and working with young people.

While developing her own coaching career is an exciting prospect for Issy, there's one thing that drives her the most, and ultimately, is what developing coaches like her and others through the Level Up London project is all about.

"Working at LST means we work with every walk of life in just one day, and tennis is just one sport that has a lot of barriers to it in these communities. Our hope is we can break down some of these physical and mental barriers for children, more specifically with girls. Moving forward we are beginning to introduce an ongoing girl's tennis session in one of the local schools, if this is successful we can roll this out across the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea as well as here in Hammersmith." ●



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CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

CELEBRATING THE LTA TENNIS AWARD WINNERS PRESENTED BY LEXUS

The greats of British tennis share the stage with the grassroots heroes of our game in the annual LTA Tennis Awards, presented by Lexus.

Nine British tennis and padel stars have triumphed in the elite player categories in this year's awards. Women's Singles Player of the Year Katie Boulter became British No.1 for the first time in her career and also lifted her first career WTA title at the Rothsay Open Nottingham. Cameron Norrie was named as Men's Singles Player of the Year, while Doubles Player of the Year was Joe Salisbury. Joe won the US Open doubles title for the third time. Alfie Hewett took the honours in the Wheelchair category.

Padel Men's Padel Player of the Year Award was Sam Jones while the Women's Padel Player of the Year Award winner was Aimee Gibson.

While the professional players may grab the headlines and the glory, it is the volunteers at the network of clubs and venues across the country who are the lifeblood of the game and support and drive participation.

This year's winners, selected from 2,200 nominations across 12 different categories, have been honoured for their outstanding contributions to tennis in 2023.

Now in their ninth year, the LTA Tennis Awards, presented by Lexus, celebrate the thousands of individuals – volunteers, coaches and officials – involved in the game.

They also highlight the incredible achievements of some 17,000 LTA registered venues and more than 9,000 LTA-approved tournaments.

The nominees are judged at county, regional and finally national level. The ultimate winners will be revealed at a ceremony at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton in July, alongside presentations to the elite players too.

Scott Lloyd, Chief Executive of the LTA, said: "The LTA Tennis Awards acknowledge the extraordinary contribution of the individuals and venues that help deliver our vision of 'tennis opened up.'"



"The contributions the nominees have made are incredible and we are delighted to celebrate their amazing dedication to tennis and acknowledge all that they do for their communities."

Sandi Procter as President of the LTA has overseen the awards, and she believes that recognising champions at all levels of the game is so important for the sport.

"I'm passionate about grassroots tennis and am always very keen to support and recognise the huge contribution of volunteers."

"The LTA Tennis Awards are a wonderful celebration of the people that make our sport what it is. They are all vital in helping us to encourage people to pick up a racket regardless of their ability or who they are, or where they come from." □



Read more
about LTA
Tennis Awards

CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS



KIDS ON COURT: THE IMPACT OF LTA YOUTH

Every player that graces the courts this summer, from the Lexus Surbiton Trophy all the way through to The Championships, Wimbledon, started their journey as a young boy or girl picking up a racket for the first time. Given the opportunity, those children have gone on to star on the biggest stage in the sport and inspire millions of others.

It is our job to ensure that every child across Britain, no matter their background, has the opportunity to get on court and experience everything our sport has to offer. That is where LTA Youth comes in.

LTA Youth is the 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 the 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.

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

March this year marked one year since the LTA teamed up with Prime Video to launch Prime Video LTA Youth Girls, a new coaching programme to inspire thousands of girls to pick up a racket and start playing tennis. To date, the programme has seen over 6000 girls start to play tennis, and 500 coaches have been trained to deliver Prime Video LTA Youth Girls sessions – addressing some of the barriers girls face when coming into sport and creating the best environments to help girls thrive on the tennis court.

Across the country there are now 20 clubs and venues that have achieved LTA Youth ‘Recognised Venue’ status. These venues have demonstrated that they are committed to delivering an excellent junior programme that offers high quality coaching and regular competitive opportunities for young players. The recognition is not only a reward for all their efforts, but can be used as a key tool to promote their venue, attract more players and grow even further.

For those young players looking for competition, 2023 was a bumper year for more than 71,000 children across 841 venues taking part in the LTA Youth Team Challenge, the fun competition designed

SO FAR, OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAMME HAS HAD A MAJOR IMPACT:

- 13,566** SCHOOLS REGISTERED
- 23,122** REGISTERED TEACHERS
- 21,048** TEACHERS HAVE COMPLETED TRAINING
- 8,103** SCHOOLS HAVE RECEIVED A £250 VOUCHER FROM THE LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION

for junior tennis players. More widely, there were more events than ever for juniors to get involved in, with more than 6,000 LTA Youth Local Tour events in 2023, and over 4000 teams entered in LTA Youth leagues for summer 2023.

Taken together, the impact of LTA Youth has been huge for junior participation in Britain. Weekly participation among four to 15-year-olds is at its highest level since records began, with just over 600,000 taking to Britain’s courts every week, while insight from teachers registered to our schools programme tells us that almost 90,000 pupils are playing more tennis than they would otherwise.

Jo-Anne Downing, Product and Programme Manager at the LTA, is excited not just about the success LTA Youth has already seen, but about what the programme could achieve in the near future. “Over the last 12 months,

we’ve seen fantastic growth in the number of children playing tennis. Whether they’re picking up a racket for the first time or becoming more competitive, there are more opportunities than ever for kids to get on court. We’re hopeful that this summer and beyond, even more kids can enjoy the benefits of playing and staying in tennis, whatever their age, gender, ability, disability or background.”

Not every child that picks up a racket will go on to become a tennis champion, but through LTA Youth we can make sure that any child can enjoy their journey in the sport, and we can ensure that children from across the country can develop life skills, get active and most importantly, have fun. ■

Find an LTA Youth course near you on the LTA website:



EMERGING TALENT

It has been a stellar year for British juniors around the world, with the 2024 Lexus Junior National Championships at the National Tennis Centre in April providing a stage to showcase an impressive array of talent emerging through the domestic tennis system.

Mimi Xu from South Wales was crowned as British champion in the 18U Girls event and Surrey's Oliver Bonding backed up his solid 12 months of success by becoming national champion in the 18U Boys tournament, with both players now set to play in Wimbledon Qualifying later this month.

The quality of the tennis on show highlighted the depth of talent among our young players, with ten British players making their mark in the top 100 of the ITF's Junior rankings and many of our hopefuls achieving notable achievements on the global stage.

The victory for Staffordshire's Henry Searle in last summer's Junior Wimbledon Boys' Singles Championship was a headline-grabbing moment that has been complemented by some notable results for British junior players over the last 12 months.

Searle, who won the 2022 16U Junior National Championships title and is a graduate of our National Tennis Academy at Loughborough University, is one of five British boys in the top 100 of the ITF

junior rankings, with his triumph on the All England Club's grass courts last July inspiring others to follow in his footsteps.

"What Henry did definitely created a positive mentality amongst our boys," said Martin Weston, LTA Men's National Coach.

"His success at Wimbledon would have been very relatable to our other junior players and they would be looking to match it or better it.

"Hopefully that has a knock-on effect on the younger players because they feel they are in touching distance with a player who has achieved something extraordinary.

"With the competition structure we now have in place in Britain, these players have opportunities to compete in high-level competitions regularly.

"We are constantly looking for depth of talent because when you have that depth, the top players grow. When they need to fight hard in their domestic matches, that helps when they play in the big wide world."



Bonding's success at the Junior National Championships added to his growing collection of titles after he achieved a notable victory when he won the J500 Blumenau title – also known as the Banana Bowl – in March.

Welshman Viktor Frydrych and Kent's Benjamin Gusic-Wan, who won last year's 16U Junior National Championships with a win against Bonding in the Final, are also prominent in the ITF Junior Rankings, with so many of our players are benefitting from the access to high-level competitive tournaments being staged in Britain as part of our Performance Competitions Calendar (PCC).

The PCC is designed to support the LTA Performance strategy, with several British juniors gaining valuable experience at the pro level following promising junior results.

Welsh No.1 and two-time 18U Junior National champion Xu reached the semi-finals at W60 Glasgow, while Surrey's Hannah Klugman reached the quarter-finals at W60 Glasgow and W100 Shrewsbury.

It's not just Xu and Klugman who are showing real promise among British junior girls, with Katie O'Brien, LTA Women's National Coach, optimistic about what lies ahead.

"We have really good depth of talent amongst our junior girls," said O'Brien. "Our girls all get along so well and it feels like they are driving each other on, while also inspiring the generation just behind them.

"These players are still very much at a developmental stage, but they are progressing quickly as they have played in some high profile and also have Junior Grand Slam experience.



Pictured: Mimi Xu (top left), Hannah Klugman, Charlie Robertson (left), Oliver Bonding (right)

"Our domestic Competitions Calendar has been so important as we have been able to give our players a chance to test themselves against some of the best players in the world, which has helped to ensure our junior game is in a healthy state."

The transition from the junior ranks to the senior tour is always challenging, yet our brightest young starlets are being given every opportunity to go to the next level. ●



DAVIS CUP RETURNS TO MANCHESTER

The Brits have been drawn in Group D, which will once again return to Manchester's AO Arena later this year.

The team will compete across the week in a round-robin group with Canada, Finland and Argentina. The top two nations in the group will progress to the final 8 in Malaga between 19-24 November.

Lexus GB Davis Cup captain and Head of Men's Tennis at the LTA Leon Smith said: "We were expecting a tough challenge whatever group we were drawn in. With Canada as 2022 champs, Finland made semis last year and Argentina won the title in 2016 and have good depth in their team. But we also have very good players and have proven time and again we can deliver as a team. So it's a fairly even group on paper.

"Our team are really excited to be going back to Manchester where we had such amazing support and this makes a massive difference when it comes to getting GB over the line."

Last year, the Brits defeated Australia, Switzerland and France to finish top of

Group B but eventually lost out in the quarter-finals to Serbia.

The Lexus GB Davis Cup team are one of two wild card teams to gain automatic qualification for the Finals Group Stage.

Canada were crowned Davis Cup champions for the first time back in 2022 and come into this year's event as the third seeded nation. They reached the Final 8 again last season but narrowly lost to Finland 2-1 in the quarter-finals. The Canadian side defeated Korea Republic 3-1 in their qualifying tie earlier this year to secure a spot in the Finals.

Finland head to Manchester off the back of its best Davis Cup performance in 2023 after reaching the semi-finals for the first time. They beat former champions Croatia, USA and Canada en route to the semis, where they lost to Australia. Off the back of a 3-1 win over Portugal in their Qualifier, the Finnish side will be ones to watch again.

Four-time champions Argentina complete Group D having missed out on a place in the Finals last year. In February, they clinched a 3-2 victory over Kazakhstan to reestablish themselves among the top sides in the world. Argentina and Great Britain last faced each other in the semi-finals back in 2016 where the South Americans won 3-2 in Glasgow. 



Tickets and hospitality packages on sale now: scan the QR code



The Lexus Great Britain Billie Jean King Cup team will take on two-time former champions Germany in the opening round of the 2024 Finals, with captain Anne Keothavong relishing the chance to lead her team at La Cartuja Stadium in Seville, Spain, from Tuesday 12 to Wednesday 20 November.

Great Britain secured their place in the Finals after a thrilling win against France in April, as Emma Raducanu won two singles matches and Katie Boulter added the other win to seal a memorable 3-1 victory at Le Chaudron in Le Portel.

"It's going to take a lot of work to try and wipe that smile off my face," said captain Anne Keothavong after the win in France. "The atmosphere was just rocking, but Katie and Emma came to play and put in some fantastic performances against tough opposition.

"I'm just so chuffed for the team. We came here and we knew it was going to be difficult. But we came, we performed, and we're all leaving with a big smile.

"It's incredible because two years ago we were the host nation of the Finals. We were the wildcard entry but we still made the semifinals and that was a fantastic week for the team, but on this occasion, we've qualified ourselves.

"The players have done it, the team have worked together really well, and we deserve our spot there.

"That's where I believe this team belongs. The girls are all hungry to go out there and perform. They've got a lot of things to do before then, but why not, it's all to play for."

A straight knock-out format will be in place for the finals, with a match against top seeds and defending champions Canada awaiting

in the quarter-finals for Great Britain if they can get past Germany.

"Germany are an experienced team with players we're all familiar with and who our British players have had matches and wins against," added Keothavong. "No matches will be straightforward but we're excited as a team to be involved in the Finals and we'll give it our all as always."

Great Britain and Germany have faced each other six times in the competition, with the Brits leading the head-to-head 4-2.

Their last meeting was in 1985 where Great Britain ran out 3-0 winners thanks to victories from Jo Durie, Annabelle Croft and Anne Hobbs. 

For information on how you can cheer on the Great Britain team in Seville in November, visit www.lta.org.uk/fan-zone/gb-teams/billie-jean-king-cup/match-centre/ or click on the QR code here:





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SHE RALLIES

2023 saw a record number of women and girls picking up a racket and getting on court.

With tennis participation overall in good health, 5.6 million adults were reported to have played tennis in 2023, 42% of which were female – more women than we’ve ever recorded playing in a year, making tennis one of the most gender balanced sports in the country.

Similar positive trends were recorded amongst the 4-15 age group with girls representing 49% of the 3.6 million children picking up a racket in 2023, many of them on the LTA Youth Schools programme.

As many sports experience a boom in female participation and investment into the women’s game, it’s important to remember that tennis has long led the way at both the grassroots and elite level. Women have been competing on the highest stage in tennis for well over 100 years, female tennis players have been pioneers on and off-court for social change and have been the most visible and marketable female athletes in sports for decades.

It is equally important however to remain alert to the areas where the sport can still make progress towards true gender balance. In June 2022, the LTA launched She Rallies to ensure that we are challenging ourselves and looking deeper into the areas where we can effect positive change.

Despite significant growth in female participation in recent years, there is still work to do to get an equal number of men and women playing the sport, and in particular getting more women playing more frequently.

Understanding women’s playing habits allows us to make targeted interventions that we believe will have the most positive impact, raising the number of women and girls picking up a racket and encouraging more frequent play.



Success is being seen in programmes being rolled out across venues nationwide that provide different options for players who are time poor, want to improve their basic skills, or who don’t have anyone to play with. This includes Tennis Xpress, an adults beginners programme, our Prime Video LTA Youth Girls programme to inspire thousands of young girls, and Walking Tennis, for those with fitness, injury or health concerns.

Crucially, the LTA are also investing in facilities which we know are popular venues for women to play – most notably through the Park Tennis Project, a £30 million investment by the UK Government and the LTA Tennis Foundation, which has already seen nearly 1,800 public courts refurbished and counting.

The aim is to substantially increase annual participation in parks by over 500,000, and through a programme of free, social sessions at weekends suitable for all abilities with equipment provided, address a number of the barriers that prevent women in particular from playing more regularly. ■

Find out more about the LTA’s women and girls work here: [She Rallies \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk)



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FACILITY INVESTMENT

Tennis venues offer more than just a place to practice, they are a community, a place to catch up with friends, and get on court. The LTA's Quick Access Loan scheme, funded by the LTA Tennis Foundation, provides interest free loans. They help deliver projects that will grow the number of people playing tennis and padel, ensuring long term sustainability for the venue and its members.

The loan scheme supports the LTA's and the LTA Tennis Foundation's vision of 'tennis opened up' by ensuring every approved application includes a community element to their proposal, enabling more people to access tennis.

The Venue:

Sundridge Park is a thriving tennis, padel and squash club on the London/Kent border. A club where players of every age and ability level are welcomed and can play to their potential. The club is an integral part of the local community and shares their facilities with local schools, businesses and charities.

The Project:

Sundridge Park saw such great success for their club with their first LTA Tennis Foundation Quick Access Loan, that they applied for and were awarded a second.

Across the two projects they have:

- Initially installed two floodlit Padel courts
- Converted four existing grass courts to three floodlit tiger turf courts.
- Installed a further third Padel court



The Impact

- The Club has experienced a huge growth in usage, both through increased membership and pay and play.
- Increased court utilisation because of floodlighting
- Due to increased revenue the club has invested in its clubhouse, improving facilities for their members further.
- Increased coaching and competitions schedule
- The club runs regular community sessions with local groups including inclusive Padel sessions.

Scan the QR code to find out more



Jo Powlson, Club Manager, said: "The loan scheme has allowed us to invest in expanding our facilities to firstly bring the new sport of Padel to our venue and secondly to add more floodlit courts. Padel has without a doubt been a game changer for the Club, helping attract a new community of players, and a new revenue stream which will be re-invested, enabling us to open our doors to more members of Bromley and the surrounding areas through disability and community programmes."

Since the Quick Access Loan scheme was launched in 2019, 99 loan applications have been approved across Great Britain, which equates to an investment of £10.2 million. ▣



BUILDING THE CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

It takes a huge amount of work to put together the cinch Championships, transforming the Queen's Club from a quiet part of West London into the host of one of the world's most exciting tennis tournaments.

While initial planning begins well before the tournament, work on-site begins in earnest in late April/early May each year, with a strict timetable to follow to make sure everything is ready.



🕒🕒🕒 5 Weeks to go – Building commences on the South Pavilion, incorporating some tournament offices and hospitality suites.



🕒 6 Weeks to go – The LTA's Queen's operations team moves to the site and building starts with the Centre Court seating bowl.



🕒 3 Weeks to go – The building of the Court 1 Pavilion starts, looking out over Court 1 and the practice courts.



🕒 1 Week to go – All other tournament internal spaces are handed over to the LTA and the final build takes place, adding the finishing touches ready for the start of the cinch Championships.



🕒 2 Weeks to go – Work moves to the internal areas of the Queen's Club Clubhouse – what are normally indoor tennis courts become the player lounge, the event office is formed from the racquets court, and the squash courts are turned into areas for officials and groundskeeping.



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Helping people from underserved communities across Great Britain get active and experience the physical, social and mental benefits of tennis – this is the LTA SERVES programme.

WHO CAN GET INVOLVED?

LTA SERVES encourages any community venue, local regional or national organisation to get involved.

Kiran Matharu is the LTA's EDI Programme Manager – Underserved Communities and leads on LTA SERVES. She said: "Tennis is for everyone, no matter who you are or where you're from."

"We want to support many local communities to engage in tennis for the longer term and support all individuals to reap the benefits and development of being active, mentally and physically healthy."

If you look after a youth venue, are a community group, or even if you're a parent or guardian of someone attending a local venue and want to find out more about the programme and how you can run LTA SERVES, visit www.lta.org.uk/roles-and-venues/community-tennis/serves/ or scan the QR code



LTA SERVES is the industry leading sport for development programme. It takes tennis into the heart of local communities and to those who may have never picked up a racket or thought that tennis was a sport for them.

Through our Game, Set Empower Toolkit we aim to increase self-confidence, health and wellbeing and bring communities together. It's all about having fun with friends, keeping mentally and physically fit, all the while learning new skills beyond the tennis court.

LTA SERVES empower and equip over 2,000 community leaders trained as Tennis Activators in 600 venues around the country, proving provide all the resources that are needed to engage underserved communities



to play and enjoy tennis for the longer-term for **FREE**.

LTA SERVES is delivered in a variety of places ranging from youth clubs, faith venues, to community centres and housing estates. ■





PERFORMANCE MATTERS

WITH MICHAEL BOURNE

Over the last year, performances from British players at the highest levels of the sport – professional and junior, tennis and wheelchair tennis – have been among the strongest we have seen for a long time.

As a national governing body, there are two ongoing aims for our performance programme:

Firstly, we're always trying to support more players to go on the performance journey towards playing elite level tennis. We want as many young people as we can, from all corners of the country, enjoying the game and aspiring to reach the elite end of tour tennis and representing their country.

Second, for players already at the elite end of the professional game, we want to continually improve the support we offer to enable them to occupy that elite level for as long as possible.

For our first goal, we've taken the time to examine our junior pathway from the national academies right down to looking at the 10 and under level. How we support those players to progress from county and 10U programme engagement through to our Regional Player Development Centres and onto the International Junior stage is something we're continually focused on making annual improvements, as we look bring through the next generation of pro players.

What's promising is we're starting to see more and more British junior success. In 2023, Henry Searle won the boys' singles at Wimbledon, the first winner in more than 50 years; Mark Ceban won the prestigious Les Petits As event in Tarbes; and Hannah Klugman won the 18U girls' singles at the Orange Bowl in Florida. We've also had real success in junior team competitions, including winning two Tennis Europe Winter Cups at Boys U14 and Girls U12 level and finishing third at the Junior Billie Jean King Cup. Great Britain also won the junior title at the Wheelchair Tennis World Team Cup, and Dahnon Ward won

the US Open wheelchair junior boys title, the second British player to do so in succession.

For our second goal, we continue to identify how we can add value to the programmes of our existing elite players.

We have further developed our female athlete support offer to include pre-season female athlete health-specific screening opportunities such as breast and bone health, sports gynaecology and we are introducing sports bra fitting. In 2024 we will also be communicating our first performance player pregnancy policy.

We are investing further in the Lexus National Tennis Centre in Roehampton. Working with Hawkeye for the past year, we are developing a game insights support service for coaches and players and are in the process of installing a full Hawkeye system, optimising our technical development service offer to players and coaches including the ability to compare between training and match performances. This will be one of only three permanent Hawkeye installations in the world.

Not to forget the basics, we are going to be adding a new Red Plus clay court to the centre this summer to complement the four clay surfaces already in place and provide more capacity to our players in a year when the Olympics and Paralympics are on clay. This will also give us the opportunity to further stress test the new court technology and its suitability for optimal clay court practice in Great Britain.

Whatever we do behind the scenes, our primary focus is to support British players to maximise their potential and be as well prepared as they can be on the match courts. ■



British Junior Hannah Klugman

PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS CALENDAR: A CHANCE TO SHINE

Across Britain, rising stars of British tennis have once again had the opportunity to progress on both the domestic and international stage thanks to the LTA Performance Competitions Calendar.

Designed to give players of all ages more opportunities to progress, the calendar features a total of 40 weeks of ranking competition, from 10U junior tournaments to an expanded Lexus LTA British Tour all the way up to ITF World Tour events, staged across the country.

Among these events, the biggest women's tennis tournament in Britain outside of the grass court season will be staged in October, with the Lexus GB Pro Series returning to Shrewsbury.

The tournament, an ITF W100 event, has featured a host of established and burgeoning British players and some of the biggest names in the game over the last two years.

Last year alone, teenager Hannah Klugman became the youngest player to come through qualifying at an event of this level – taking that record off Coco Gauff – before going on to reach the quarter-finals, and Amarni Banks went on a captivating run to the final. While Billie Jean King Cup winner and an Olympic silver medallist Viktorija Golubic pipped Amarni Banks to the title in front of a sell-out crowd, and Marketa Vondrousova won the title in 2022 before going on to lift the singles' title at Wimbledon last summer.

Dave Courteen, The Shrewsbury Club's managing director, said: "It's fantastic for the town and the county that the LTA and ITF want to continue to bring an event of this stature to a relatively small town compared to others that host this level of event on the worldwide tennis circuit.

"The DMOS People Arena was sold out for Finals Day and it was the biggest crowd we've ever had, so it was wonderful to see so many people here. The support proves there is a real demand in Shropshire from people wanting to watch high-quality tennis."

Tournaments such as that held in Shrewsbury, that not only take world class tennis to new locations but also give players more opportunities to play more often on home soil outside of the British summer, are vital for helping to bring through the next generation of British talent. 2023 saw 134 British players lift titles across pro and junior level events held as part of the Performance Competitions Calendar, and with Brits already lifting silverware so far in 2024, players are taking the opportunity when given the chance to shine. ■



To find out more and to secure your seats at this year's Lexus GB Pro Series Shrewsbury, scan the QR code or visit worldtennistourshrewsbury.com

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An LTA Advantage membership is your key to the 2025 British grass court season.



UNLOCK MORE ADVANTAGE BENEFITS

Advantage is the LTA's membership for tennis and padel fans and players – giving you everything you need to follow, play and compete.

As an Advantage member, you get access to a whole host of benefits in addition to the LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot and priority ticket access to LTA tournaments – including:

- Exclusive player interviews, behind-the-scenes videos and match analysis
- Book and view your court and course bookings
- Share and track all your match stats with My Game technology
- Exclusive discounts on LTA partners, including Dunlop and Castore
- Enter prize draws and giveaways to win money-can't-buy experiences

Find out more about Advantage, the different types of membership and how you can make the most of the exclusive benefits – visit www.lta.org.uk/advantage/ or scan the QR code

Scan the QR code to Upgrade



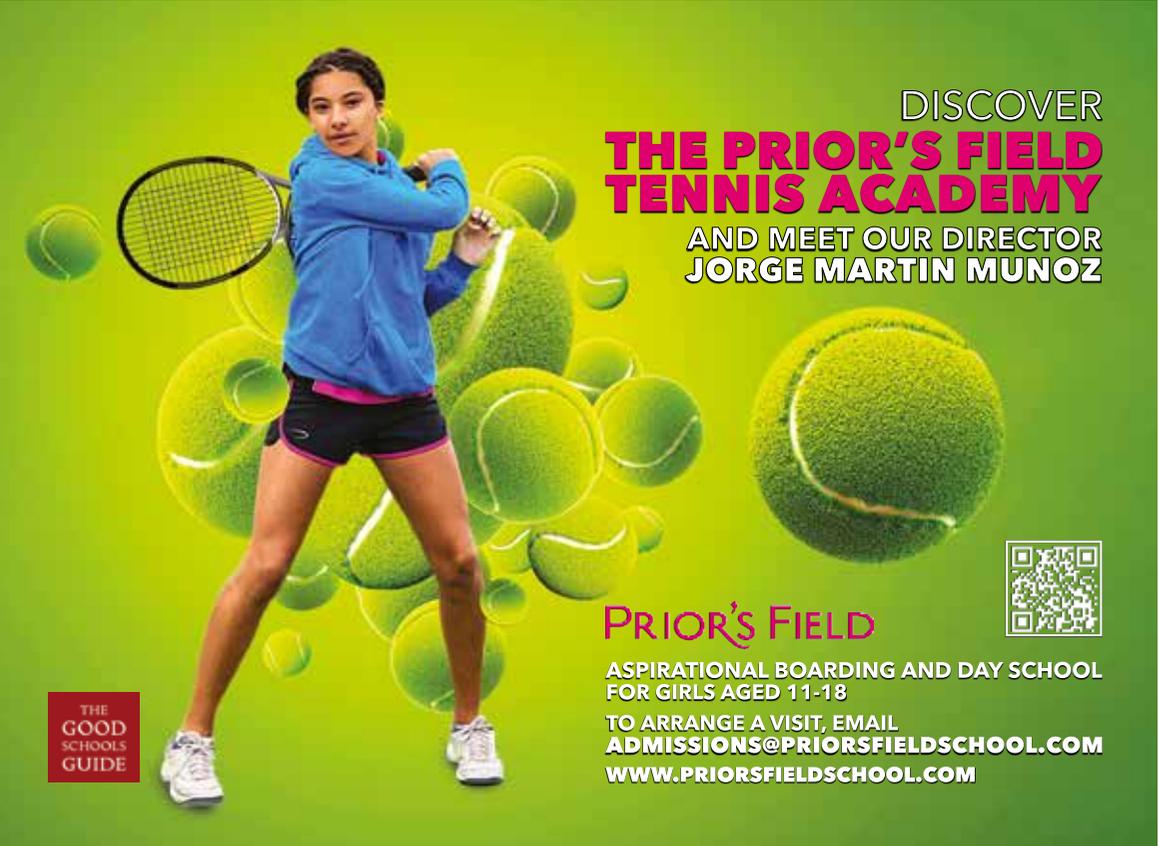
With an Advantage Fan+ or Compete membership you will get exclusive entry to the LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot as well as priority ticket access to all the biggest tournaments taking place in Great Britain as part of our new calendar for 2025.

Ever dreamt of seats on Centre Court? Soaking up the atmosphere on Henman Hill? Or being a part of history at The Championships, Wimbledon? Fan+ and Compete members can opt in to the LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot for a chance to buy tickets for Wimbledon 2025.

You can also secure the best seats to The LTA London Championships at the Queens Club, Rothesay International Eastbourne, Rothesay Classic Birmingham, Rothesay Open Nottingham, Lexus Ilkley Trophy, Lexus British Open Wheelchair Championships and even home ties at the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup. Your membership will give you the chance to purchase tickets to all LTA tournaments before they go on general sale.

Upgrade your Advantage membership to find out more about the LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot and priority ticket access.

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MIKE DICKSON: A TRIBUTE

The presence of Mike Dickson will be sorely missed during this grass-court season, not just in the media centre but across the whole tournament site at the various events on our shores in the coming weeks. The long-time Daily Mail tennis correspondent was deeply respected by journalists, players, coaches, staff and fans alike.



Known to most of his acquaintances as "Dicko", he was affectionately considered part of the furniture on the British tennis scene. His insightful coverage of the sport began in the late 1980s when he started sitting courtside as a freelancer, before joining the Daily Mail in 1990.

Throughout his 34 years with the Mail - eight of which were spent as the cricket correspondent during a sabbatical from tennis - he witnessed many of the greatest British tennis achievements, including Andy Murray's three grand-slam titles and two Olympic gold medals, Emma Raducanu's fairytale run to the 2021 US Open title and Great Britain's Davis Cup triumph in 2015.

It is testament to Mike's dedication in following tennis that any rare absence from a tournament was always noticed, even by those on the court. A memorable example of this came in 2021 when he

arrived a few days late at the US Open after being deemed a close contact under Covid-19 protocols. When he eventually took his seat in the front row of Arthur Ashe Stadium behind the umpire's chair, Dan Evans looked up from sorting out his ice packs ahead of a match and said: "Alright Dicko, where on earth have you been?"

Mike's articles were always a must-read for anyone keen to follow the latest goings-on in British tennis. Any criticism had fair foundations, borne from an urge to encourage improvements for the better of the sport. In 2016 he was honoured with the LTA Media Services to British Tennis Award and the ATP's Ron Bookman Media Excellence award, and in 2022 the ITF's Billie Jean King Cup media award.

Colleagues will remember Mike for his polite generosity towards others in the media centre. I can personally confirm from experience

Mike Dickson after being awarded the ATP's Ron Bookman Media Excellence Award in London in 2016 (Credit: Pacific Press/Getty Images)

that he was particularly helpful to younger journalists making their early steps in the industry.

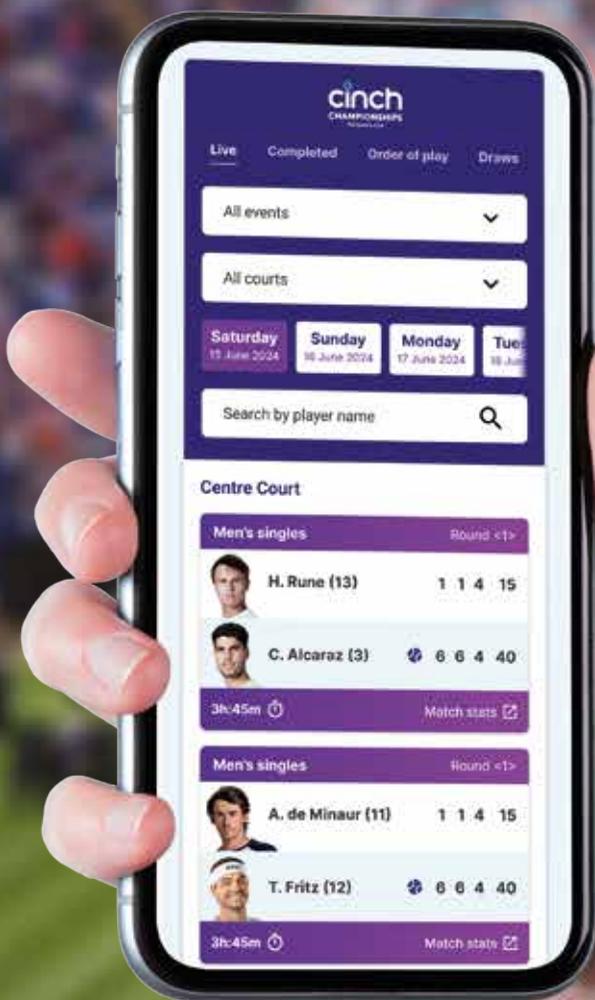
The last working day of Mike's life sums up his professionalism. Not only did he make a point of watching in person all five British players in action on a busy day-three schedule at the Australian Open - often it can be tempting on such a whirlwind day to settle for the televisions in the media centre - but he also took a few minutes to reserve his accommodation for the upcoming Miami Open. It is still hard to fully comprehend now that he passed away in Melbourne the following morning aged 59.

Stuart Fraser
Tennis correspondent,
The Times



If you would like to make a donation in Mike's name to The Shewsy - Shrewsbury House Youth & Community Centre in Everton, please do so using QR code above.

DON'T MISS A MINUTE OF THE ACTION



Track all the latest scores, results, stats, draws and order of play.

Matches shown are for illustrative purposes only

LTA OPEN COURT

The LTA has an ambitious vision of Tennis Opened Up - focussed 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 our plan.

- One in five people in the UK are 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 adaptations for learning disability, physical - wheelchair and para-standing, visually impaired and deaf. The LTA have also expanded the programme into other long-term health conditions such as mental health and Parkinson's.

Launched following the 2012 Paralympic Games, LTA Open Court has grown to become one of the largest disability programmes of its kind in any sport. As we approach the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games, we take a look at what the programme has achieved over the past year:

- Over 600 venues across Britain deliver LTA Open Court
- Over 15,000 disabled people took part in the programme last year.



- We have also developed partnerships with 6 national organisations to open our sport up to a wider range of audiences including: Parkinson's UK, AOC Sport, Sense, Access Sport, Sport in Mind and Youth Sports Trust.

ACROSS TENNIS IN BRITAIN:

- 16% of annual tennis participation report a disability or a long-term health condition, with that figure rising to 23% amongst monthly participants - representative of the wider population when benchmarked against census data.
- 23% of our performance pathway are also disabled people or those with a long-term health condition

Whether you want to play, deliver or support, find out more about LTA Open Court and disability tennis on the LTA website: www.lta.org.uk/play/inclusion-disability/



CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Mastering grass courts is one of the ultimate challenges in this sport, with the greatest names in the history of the sport cementing their legacy on a surface that has provided a stage for so many legends.

The last two decades have seen the tennis record books rewritten by icons of tennis such as Roger Federer, Serena Williams, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic and here, we salute the greats who have reigned supreme on grass in the Open Era of the sport.

FEDERER'S GENIUS

Roger Federer is the most prolific male champion on grass courts with eight Wimbledon titles on his record, with Novak Djokovic just one behind him in the race to win the most titles at the All England Club.



Yet Djokovic will not get close to matching Federer's total haul of grass court titles, with the Swiss maestro's relentless success winning in the pre-Wimbledon event at Halle in Germany helping the Swiss maestro to win a total of 19 tournaments on grass courts over the course of his decorated career.

Yet he will not get close to matching Federer's total haul of grass court titles, with his relentless success winning in the pre-Wimbledon event at Halle in Germany helping the Swiss maestro to win a total of 19 tournaments on grass courts over the course of his decorated career.

American Pete Sampras is the second most successful player on grass with 10 titles and America's Stan Smith is next on that list with nine.

Federer also holds the record for the best winning run on grass, as he claimed a remarkable 65 consecutive wins on the surface between 2003 and his defeat against Rafael Nadal in the 2008 Wimbledon final.

Finally, Federer has the most career wins on grass, with his 192 victories seven more than American great Jimmy Connors.



MARTINA THE GREAT

Nine-time Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova dominates the record books in women's grass court tennis after her remarkable career that saw her collect a record 167 singles titles on all surfaces.

Grass was where she played some of her best tennis, with his dominance at Wimbledon matched by a magnificent 11 titles in Eastbourne.

In total, Navratilova won 309 and lost just 40 matches on grass, winning 32 titles on the surface.

Australian great Margaret Court holds the record for the most grass court title wins with 42, just ahead of her compatriot Evonne Goolagong, who won 38 at a time when there were a lot more grass court events on the tennis calendar.



THE BRITISH HEROES

British tennis fans waited 77 years for a homegrown men's singles champion at Wimbledon, with Andy Murray emerging as the hero the nation had been waiting for.

His 2013 Wimbledon win in the final against Novak Djokovic is one of the great moments in the nation's recent sporting folklore, with Murray backing up his win at the All England Club by lifting the trophy again three years later.

Murray also won Olympic gold on Wimbledon's Centre Court in 2012 and is a five-time winner of the cinch Championships at The Queen's Club, which is a record for that tournament.

Other British players who have won titles on grass include 1977 Wimbledon champion Virginia Wade, who claimed eight titles on grass, while Sue Barker won ten times on the surface.

MOST MATCH WINS ON GRASS - WOMEN

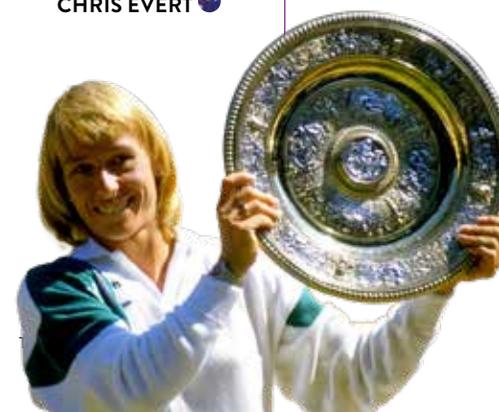
- 309** MARTINA NAVRATILOVA 🇨🇪🇺🇸
- 285** EVONNE GOOLAGONG 🇦🇺
- 264** MARGARET COURT 🇦🇺
- 212** VIRGINIA WADE 🇬🇧
- 208** CHRIS EVERT 🇺🇸

MOST MATCH WINS ON GRASS - MEN

- 192** ROGER FEDERER 🇨🇮
- 185** JIMMY CONNORS 🇺🇸
- 164** JOHN NEWCOMBE 🇬🇧
- 157** PHIL DENT 🇬🇧
- 157** JOHN ALEXANDER 🇬🇧

TOP TEN MATCH WIN PERCENTAGES ON GRASS

- 92.63%** MARGARET COURT 🇦🇺 (264-21)
- 90%** PETE SAMPRAS 🇺🇸 (63-7)
- 89.3%** NOVAK DJOKOVIC 🇷🇸 (92-11)
- 88.54%** MARTINA NAVRATILOVA 🇨🇪🇺🇸 (309-40)
- 88.2%** ROGER FEDERER 🇨🇮 (105-14)
- 87.5%** BJORN BORG 🇸🇪 (56-8)
- 87.39%** CHRIS EVERT 🇺🇸 (208-30)
- 86.99%** SERENA WILLIAMS 🇺🇸 (107-16)
- 85.59%** BILLIE JEAN KING 🇺🇸 (190-32)
- 85%** STEFFI GRAF 🇩🇪 (85-15)





To deliver their vision of 'Tennis Opened Up', the LTA have an important role to play in contributing to a healthier and a more sustainable society.

LTA SUSTAINABILITY

The climate crisis, and the way our environment is being altered, has the potential to inflict significant and irreversible damage on tennis in this country, with flooding threatening hundreds of venues and all sizes, and increasing temperatures presenting a challenge for participating in tennis and maintaining grass surfaces.

Through the LTA Environmental Sustainability Plan, the power of tennis can be used to change attitudes towards sustainability and bring about positive changes.

What have the LTA been doing?

For clubs and venues big and small, they have produced more resources to enable sustainable transformations of facilities, no matter their membership size or number of courts. Through the LTA buying group and their Quick-Access Loan Scheme, venues are able to secure preferential rates on work such as solar panel installation, electric vehicle charging points and other developments to reduce their energy usage.

The LTA's own operations based at the Lexus National Tennis Centre in Roehampton and the Nottingham Tennis Centre have been a key focus point. They have moved to green energy suppliers and are looking at even more opportunities to generate renewable energy on site to reduce their carbon emissions, as well as taking steps to support biodiversity locally

and reduce their waste and use of single-use products. At Nottingham Tennis Centre, solar panels contributed 21% to the facility's overall energy use, and there's potential to go even further across their sites. Meanwhile at the National Tennis Centre, through a range of efficiency measures – transitioning to LED and movement recognition lighting for example – they've reduced their electricity usage by 20% and gas usage by 33%.

As some of the biggest events on the British tennis calendar, the LTA's major events throughout June each year attract thousands of people, and it is vital that these events put as many measures as possible in place to reduce any potential harmful environmental impact. They have introduced a number of steps to make their events greener, including:

- Using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel to power temporary generators on-site, with 90% less emissions than standard fuels
- A fleet of over 50 vehicles, including hybrid and fully electric models, across their events thanks to their partnership with Lexus
- Donating more than two tonnes of food to local food charities to reduce food waste

Find out more about the LTA's ongoing work to secure a lasting future for tennis in Britain.



What's happening in 2024?

In 2024, the LTA have gone even further, as they are proud to partner with Brita to ensure they can reduce the presence of single-use plastic at their events. Across their events in Nottingham, Birmingham, Eastbourne and the Queen's Club in London, Brita are providing water refill stations for spectators, players and officials to fill their water bottles for free, eliminating the need to buy bottled water and removing more than 100,000 single-use bottles from this year's tournaments.



What can you do?

Whilst everyone in British tennis must pull together to play their part, as a fan attending the LTA's events this year, there are little things you can do which can make a big difference:

- Bring your own reusable bottle to fill up at one of Brita's refill stations
- Choose a low carbon 'eco' option for your lunch – these are clearly marked at all our food kiosks
- Using the right bin for your waste
- Use public transport to travel to and from our events
- Return your reusable cup if you've had a drink
- Make your pledge! The LTA Pledgeball League is back

Last year saw the launch of the LTA Pledgeball League, giving clubs, venues and their members the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to environmental sustainability.

After a brilliant first year which saw clubs across the country taking part, the LTA Pledgeball League is back, and we want even more people to get involved, taking little actions in their daily lives that will have a positive environmental impact.

ATP TOUR

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UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>GERMANY JULY 15 CLAY</p> <p>HAMBURG ATP 500</p>	<p>UNITED STATES JULY 15 GRASS</p> <p>NEWPORT ATP 250</p>	<p>SWITZERLAND JULY 15 CLAY</p> <p>GSTAAD ATP 250</p>
<p>SWEDEN JULY 15 CLAY</p> <p>BASTAD ATP 250</p>	<p>AUSTRIA JULY 21 CLAY</p> <p>KITZBUHEL ATP 250</p>	<p>CROATIA JULY 21 CLAY</p> <p>UMAG ATP 250</p>
<p>UNITED STATES JUL 29 HARD</p> <p>WASHINGTON ATP 500</p>	<p>CANADA AUG 06 HARD</p> <p>MONTREAL ATP 1000</p>	<p>UNITED STATES AUG 12 HARD</p> <p>CINCINNATI ATP 1000</p>

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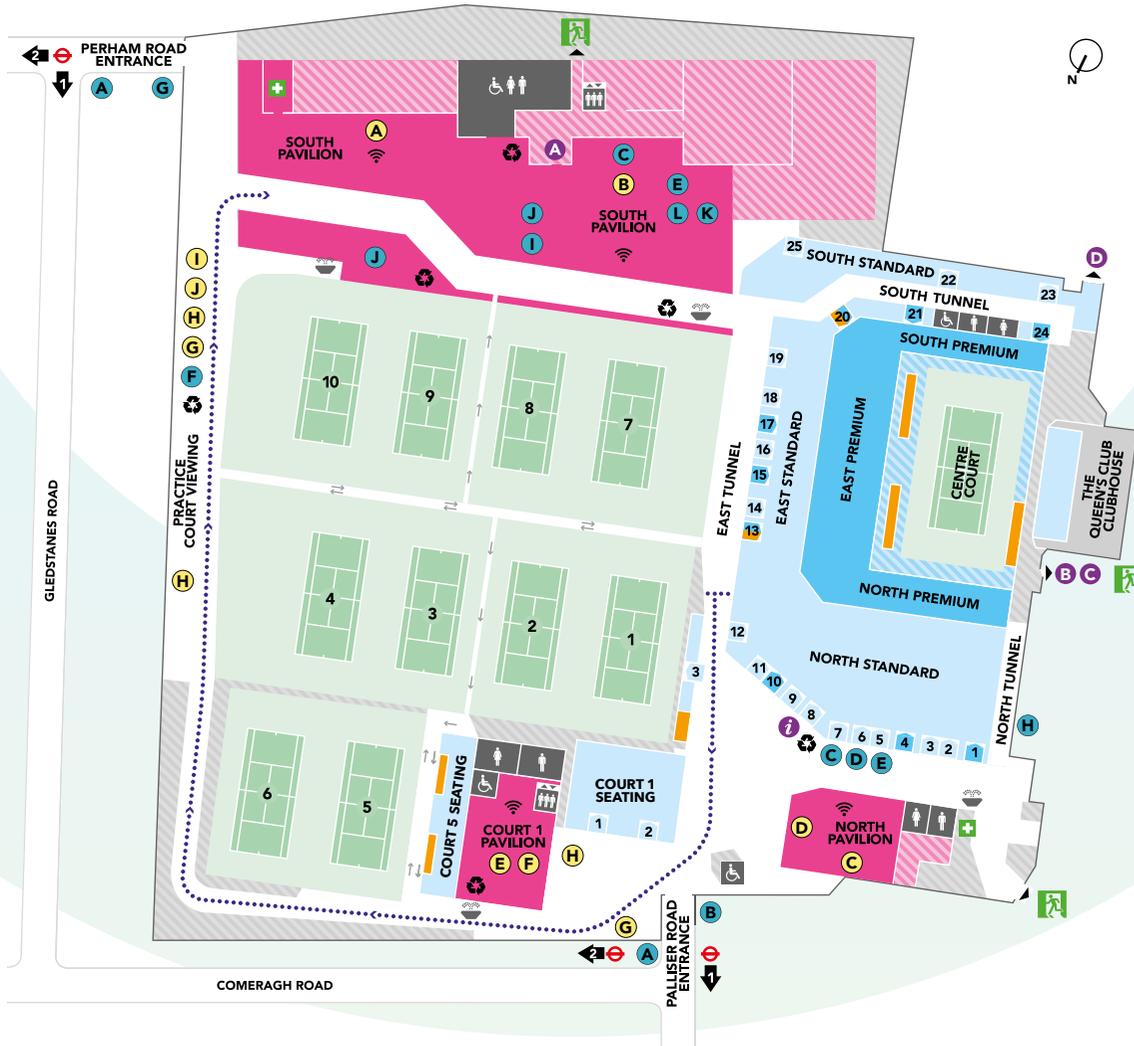
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- Recycling Station

- A Ticket Support
- B QC Members
- C Video Screen
- D Cushion Hire
- E Official Merchandise
- F Ticket Resale
- G Accreditation Collection
- H The Queen's Club Shop
- I Scores & Draws
- J Official Partner Showcases
- K Quiet Room
- L Multi-Faith Room

FOOD & DRINK

- A South Pavilion Café
- B South Pavilion Courtyard
- C North Pavilion Café
- D The Nyetimber Garden
- E Court 1 Pavilion Café (Ground Floor)
- F Cambio de Tercio Bar, Tapas & Terrace (First Floor)
- G Coffee
- H Outdoor Seating Area
- I Ice Cream
- J Crêpes

HOSPITALITY

- A Hospitality Reception (Ground Floor)
- B The President's Room (Second Floor)
- C The Real Tennis Museum & Dedans
- D Members' Enclosure

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- To Barons Court Underground Station
- To West Kensington Underground Station
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THE GROUNDS

SOUTH PAVILION

Our largest Pavilion has it all, catch the action on the Courtyard screen, enjoy a tasty lunch in the South Pavilion Café including dishes from Club Asia and The Italian Court, purchase Official Merchandise and discover what the Official Partner Showcases have to offer. Our exquisite Hospitality lounges are also located here.

NORTH PAVILION

At the heart of the Grounds, you will find The Deli Box with an excellent offering of grab and go food and drinks, combined with The Nyetimber Garden, a beautifully curated space with lounge seating, views of the big screen and the famous bus.

COURT 1 PAVILION

New for 2024, Cambio de Tercio Bar, Tapas & Terrace is an exciting collaboration serving up a delicious taste of Spain. Located on the first floor overlooking the courts with no booking required. The ground floor offers a wide selection of drinks, sandwiches, salads and snacks at The Deli Box, plus indoor and outdoor seating.

PRACTICE COURT VIEWING

This is your chance to get up close to your favourite players by watching them warm-up and practice on Courts 4, 6 & 10. Here you will also find the Ticket Resale Booth as well as tasty sweet treats including ice cream and crêpes.





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ALEX DE MINAUR

Alex de Minaur on life in London, the British grass court season and playing mixed doubles with Katie Boulter

Australian tennis star and 2023 cinch championships runner-up Alex de Minaur is gearing up for a return to West London, as he seeks to go one further this summer.

Almost 12 months ago, de Minaur – a former Rothesay International Eastbourne winner – arrived at the Queen's Club ranked world No.17 and with a strong grass court game in his locker.

Just days later he went on to reach the final of the ATP 500 event having defeated five-time cinch Championships titlist Andy Murray, Diego Schwartzman and Holger Rune before eventually losing out to Carlos Alcaraz 6-4, 6-4 in the final.

Since then, the Australian No.1 has gone on to break into the world's top 10 for the first time in his career, recorded a career-first win over a world No.1 when he defeated Novak Djokovic at the United Cup and successfully defended his ATP 500 crown in Acapulco.

On top of playing some of the best tennis of his career on the ATP circuit, off-court de Minaur has been spending more time than ever on British soil. Thanks to long-term girlfriend and British No.1 Katie Boulter, London has begun to feel like a home away from home for de Minaur, who is eagerly awaiting the 2024 grass court swing

"I'm enjoying London a lot at the moment. I'm obviously spending a lot of time there with Katie (Boulter) and it's the home of the grass courts. I love playing on the grass and am looking forward to coming back this year.

"I definitely felt the love from the British crowd last year, it's always been a very special place for me to play and I've always loved going back to Queen's – it's just special."

De Minaur first showcased his grass-court talents back at the Rothesay International in 2021 when he lifted the fifth ATP title of his career. Facing Italian Lorenzo Sonego



“I DEFINITELY FELT THE LOVE FROM THE BRITISH CROWD LAST YEAR, IT’S ALWAYS BEEN A VERY SPECIAL PLACE FOR ME TO PLAY AND I’VE ALWAYS LOVED GOING BACK TO QUEEN’S – IT’S JUST SPECIAL”

“I’ve got quite a flat stroke so I’ve always enjoyed the grass courts from a very young age, and it seems to bring out some of my best tennis so hopefully I can go one better this year.”

The 2023 grass court season saw the 25-year-old join forces with Boulter for the mixed doubles draw at The Championships, Wimbledon. Competing alongside each other for the first time in their careers, the couple cruised through to the round of 16 in SW19 - admitting it was some of the most fun moments they’d had on a tennis court.

With both Boulter and de Minaur having enjoyed a stellar 12 months, they could be set for another standout summer on the grass in the singles event, but could we be expecting more doubles action from the duo over the coming months?

“I think I’m playing the best tennis of my career so far. I’m playing confident tennis and I’m enjoying myself and hopefully I can keep it going and pushing myself and who knows where I can get to.

“It could be a chance (to play doubles with Katie) maybe at Wimbledon. It was a super fun time for both of us – one of those moments that I’ve enjoyed the most on a tennis court.

“We kind of forgot we were even playing a tennis match, we got to have a good old time and we actually played some decent doubles together so who knows, we might bring it back this year.”

You can watch de Minaur in action at the cinch Championships, alongside fellow ATP top 20 players Carlos Alcaraz, Holger Rune, Taylor Fritz, Ben Shelton, getting underway from 15-23 June. 

in the final, he came back from a set down to earn a 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(5) victory and secure a maiden title on the grass.

Since then, the grass court swing has held a special place for the Aussie, who will be looking to join an elite club of Australians who’ve been crowned champion at the Queen’s Club, including Rod Laver and four-time champion Lleyton Hewett.

“Probably the most recent memory I have of Lleyton is watching him play doubles on centre court (at the Queen’s Club).

“Just walking by the hallway and seeing him win it four times - it’s not easy at all and not many people have done it. It’s special, it’s always been a special tournament and the goal is to hopefully put my name on that trophy at least once.

“It’s one of the swings of the year that I enjoy the most. You don’t get the chance to play on the grass courts that often and the whole swing is beautiful.

