

LTA 8U COUNTY CUP EVENT 2023

Competition Pack

Information updated 13 October 2023

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TENNIS
FOR BRITAIN

Introduction and Important Dates

Welcome to the Competition Pack for the LTA 8U County Cup Event. It is hoped the following information will help answer any questions you may have about the Event.

The response we have received for this year's 8U County Cup Event has been really positive with 38 out of 44 counties wanting to be involved, with some counties wanting to enter 2 separate teams which is fantastic! Your support of this exciting addition to the schedule of County Cup Events is much appreciated.

Counties are reminded the purpose of the 8U County Cup Event is to act as an 'introduction to County Cup tennis' and our preference would be that players representing their county have not previously played County Cup tennis.

LTA County Cup Events gives players the opportunity of representing their county in a competitive team environment and the age groups range from 8U through to open age groups and we hope that this Event will be the first step for many players on their County Cup journey!

Event Dates	Nominations Open	Nominations Close
LTA 8U County Cup Event For players born in 2015 or later Saturday 4 November 2023 or Sunday 5 November 2023 Counties to decide between themselves which date they opt for – only one date should be chosen. If a date cannot be agreed the LTA Competitions Team reserve the right to say which date the Event should take place.	Monday 16 October 2023	Thursday 26 October 2023

Details of Host County and Venue

Group	Hosting County (HC)	Venue & Personnel Details
Group A Sunday 5 November	A. Buckinghamshire (HC) B. Hampshire & IOW C. Wiltshire D. Sussex E. South Wales	Jemima King Bucks Indoor Tennis Centre Holmers Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4UD Tel: 07970 815 893 Email: cpo@buckstennis.com
Group B Sunday 5 November	A. Cambridgeshire (HC) B. Norfolk C. Suffolk D. Bedfordshire	Sue Rich Huntingdon Tennis Club King George V Playing Fields, St Peters Road, PE29 7DA Tel: 07903 722 511 Email: srich_tennis@yahoo.co.uk
NB: Change in date and venue Group C Sunday 5 November	NB: Change in date and venue A. D & C (HC) B. North Wales C. Northumberland	NB: Change in date and venue Sarah Lowes The Northumberland Club, Jesmond Avenue, Newcastle, Tel: 07985 252 363 Email: sarahtennisref@gmail.com
Group D Sunday 5 November	A. South of Scotland (HC) B. West of Scotland C. Cumbria D. North of Scotland	Janice Rogerson Prestwick Tennis and Fitness 1 Whinfield Pl, Ayrshire, Prestwick KA9 2TS Tel: 01292 474 700 Email: janice.rogerson@prestwicktennis.org
Group E Saturday 4 November	A. Oxfordshire (HC) B. Gloucestershire C. Berkshire D. Hertfordshire	Alison Jackson White Horse Tennis Centre Audlett Drive, Abingdon OX14 3PJ Tel: 07969 201 527 Email: alisonhm.jackson@btinternet.com
Group F Sunday 5 November	A. Leicestershire (HC) B. Lincolnshire C. Derbyshire D. Nottinghamshire	Kate de Fraja Knighton Tennis Centre Knighton Lane East, Leicester, LE2 6FU Tel: 07748 654 521 Email: admin@tennisleicestershire.co.uk
Group G Sunday 5 November	A. Shropshire (HC) B. H & W C. Staffordshire D. Warwickshire	Simon Haddleton The Shrewsbury Club Sundorne Road, Shropshire, SY6 7DD Tel: 07748 654 521 Email: simon.haddleton@theshrewsburyclub.co.uk
Group H Sunday 5 November	A. Middlesex (HC) B. Kent C. Essex D. Surrey	Sangeeta Arora Virgin Active Chiswick Riverside Riverside Drive, Chiswick, W4 2SX Tel: 07513 416 097 Email: sangeeta.arora@middlesextennis.org.uk



LTA 8U COUNTY CUP EVENT 2023
Saturday 4 or Sunday 5 November 2023

(Counties decide between themselves which date they opt for – only one date should be chosen)

TEAM CAPTAINS FACT SHEET

Event Personnel	Event Director – Julie Piper E-Mail – countycup@LTA.org.uk
Team Captains, Players & Parents Meeting	<p>To be held no later than 60 mins before the start of play to include LTA Licensed Official or Coach overseeing day's proceedings, all Team Captains, venue representative, players, scorers and parents. This should last no longer than 30 minutes. This time also allows for a 'group' warm-up on court for all players + pre-event team photos.</p> <p>Venue Rep to explain arrangements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency evacuation procedures and any potential health & safety issues • Catering – to be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm • Gym not to be used <p>Referee to explain the Rules & Regulations, start times of play and anything else relevant to the Event plus, reminder about safeguarding and Fair Play values</p> <p>Team Captains, players & parents to be reminded about the necessity for teams to keep the Tennis Venue tidy. All cups, crockery, glasses, etc. should be returned to the catering area</p>
Provisional Nominations	<p>It is a county's responsibility to check the eligibility of all team players. The use of an ineligible player may result in a county forfeiting all rubber(s) in which that player competed and/or relegation. Please refer to LTA Rule 66 Area Qualification ruling.</p> <p>Provisional nominations have been entered into the LP file. However, it is the Referee's responsibility to check all players are Advantage members. If a player is not listed and the player does not have an Advantage number, then the player in question must join Advantage prior to play commencing.</p>
Final & Match Nominations	<p>Please refer to Points 2 and 4 of the Rules & Regulations.</p> <p>By signing the appropriate line on the nomination form, the Team Captain is accepting responsibility and acknowledging confirmation of final / daily nominated players and all players' have been nominated in the correct order.</p> <p>Counties can enter a maximum of 2 teams (ie) A and B per gender.</p>
Warm-up	<p>Whilst most venues open at 9.00am counties are advised to check with venue regarding availability of courts. If there is any charge, the county using these courts is responsible for the payment of them + the provision of practice balls. Counties are responsible for booking and paying for any courts prior to the Event starting.</p>
Start Time of Play	<p>Matches should start as quickly as possible, so court time is not wasted – no later than 10.00am.</p> <p>Boys & Girls events to take place at separate times.</p> <p>Host county to confirm timings (ie) Boys – 10.00 am -12.30 pm and Girls – 1.00 pm - 3.30 pm</p>
Order of Play	<p>ORDER OF PLAY FOR GROUPS COMPRISING 4 COUNTY TEAMS:</p> <p>Round 1 – A v B and C v D Round 2 – A v C and B v D Round 3 – A v D and B v C</p> <p>ORDER OF PLAY FOR GROUPS COMPRISING 3 COUNTY TEAMS:</p> <p>Round 1 – A v B Round 2 – A v C Round 3 – B v C</p> <p>We would suggest all singles matches are played first, followed by doubles matches</p>

Match Format	<p>Please refer to Points 3, 4 and 14 of the Rules & Regulations</p> <p>Each match to consist of 1 x Match Tie Break (to 10 points, with 2 clear)</p> <p>Each county to provide one or two scorers, who should be willing and able to oversee matches for duration of the event as requested by the Referee</p>
Match Scorecards	<p>Once match nominations have been submitted the Referee will produce a match scorecard to give to each Team Captain and scorer.</p> <p>The Referee to keep a master copy which will be updated during the day and following agreement with both Team Captains will be used to update the LP file.</p>
Match Results	The Referee to update and publish the results on the LTA website.
Tennis Balls	Red (sponge) ball will be used.
Catering	Hot & cold refreshments may be limited; counties are advised to check with the relevant venue.
Changing Facilities	Apart from toilets, access to changing facilities may vary from venue to venue and counties are advised to check with the relevant venue.
Scoreboards	Available on-site at the venue. Please ensure players keep scoreboards updated.
Noticeboard	<p>The Referee will have access to a noticeboard and the following information will be posted:</p> <p>Updated daily and overall group results as they progress</p> <p>Copies of Team Captains Fact Sheet, LTA Code of Conduct + Event Rules & Regulations</p>
Safeguarding Information	<p>There have been some important updates to the various safeguarding documents. It is a county / Team Captains responsibility to ensure they have read and understood these and, if required, signed acknowledgement of the contents. Where necessary copies should also be given to parents / players and they too read and understand these and, if required, sign acknowledgement of the contents.</p> <p>Team Captains should ensure they have been given copies of completed & signed emergency contact details for all players.</p> <p>If you or anyone in your county requires a copy of the venue risk assessment where your team(s) will be playing you can view all venue risk assessments here.</p>
Discipline & Code Violations	Your attention is drawn to Rules 12, 12.1, 12.2 & 12.3 of the Rules & Regulations regarding discipline of all players, both on and off-site, during the Event. All players must abide by the LTA Code of Conduct.
Miscellaneous	<p>Players should wear recognised tennis clothing as per the County Cup Regulations. We encourage players to wear County team kit or the same coloured tops if possible</p> <p>Medals will be given to Group Winners, Finalists, 3rd/4th placed counties and certificates to all players</p>

General Rules & Regulations – applicable for all Events County Cup Events 2023

1. The management of the County Cup Events shall be entrusted to the LTA Competitions Team, with power to suspend or modify any of these Regulations to meet exceptional circumstances (including adaptation of scoring format(s)) and to decide any question of eligibility, qualifications of competitors and interpretation of the Regulations. The LTA Competitions Team's decision shall be final.
2. For the purpose of the County Cup Events, which shall be area competitions subject to the Lawn Tennis Associations Limited Rules 64 and 66 (including appendix 1), the following shall be regarded as Counties: East of Scotland, North of Scotland, South of Scotland, West of Scotland, North Wales, South Wales, Channel Islands, Isle of Man.
3. Although it is not compulsory to compete, all Counties shall be entered in the relevant County Cup Event. Any County intending not to compete in an Event must email notification to the Event Director (countycup@LTA.org.uk) 9 months before the relevant event. Where appropriate, any County that withdraws from an Event shall be placed in the lowest group for the following year and will have any applicable funding for that Event withdrawn.
4. A player is qualified to represent an area in any County Cup Event if they meet the criteria outlined in the Lawn Tennis Association Limited Rule 66. No player may represent more than one County in any Event.
5. Referee(s) shall be appointed for each venue by the LTA Competitions Team. The Referee shall decide any point that relates to the interpretation of the Rules of Tennis, County Cup Rules & Regulations and / or LTA Code of Conduct which may be referred to him/her. He/she shall decide whether or not the match shall be stopped owing to the state of the courts, the state of the weather, darkness, or other unavoidable hindrance. After consulting with the Event Director and / or Event Referee if necessary, the Referee shall have the final say in all on-site matters. Including adaptation of scoring formats.
6. Once final nominations have been submitted no other player may represent the County during the Event except in exceptional circumstances (such as illness, injury or bereavement) which reduces the number of available nominated players for a County to less than the minimum required for the relevant County Cup Event. In this case the Referee shall consult the Event Director, who may authorise the nomination of the necessary number of substitutes for the remainder of the Event.

If any County fails to field at least two singles players on any day, or, in the case of the Summer County Cup Event, 2 pairs, (unless for exceptional circumstances, as decided by the Event Director), all their matches in the competition shall be declared null and void and they shall finish bottom of the group.

Any County failing to show, report to the referee or nominate a full team on any day, (unless for exceptional circumstances, as decided by the Event Director), will have all their matches in the Event declared null and void and they shall finish bottom of the group. Furthermore, subject to investigation, they may be precluded from the following year's Event and will be placed in the bottom group of the relevant Event.

7. A County shall not be bound to play the same team throughout the Event but no change shall be made in the composition of the teams engaged in a match after daily nominations have been submitted. If any player, team or doubles pairing play out of order, those rubbers they competed in and below shall be declared null and void. If a match is postponed to the next day before any play has taken place the composition of the competing teams may be changed.
8. If a player(s) is / are defaulted, except in cases of punctuality, then that player(s) is no longer allowed to take any further part in that competition.
9. If a match in progress cannot be finished or a scheduled match has been unable to start on any day, it shall be completed on the following day before the start of the scheduled match for that day. In order to complete all matches, the use of abbreviated scoring should be considered for complete rounds of unfinished matches and, if necessary, the scheduled matches for that day.
10. If there are still unfinished matches at the close of play on the final day, the result of the matches shall be determined by the rubbers that have been completed providing one or two rounds of the day's programme have been completed in all matches of the group or section at that venue. Second round rubbers will only count if all second round rubbers of all matches at that venue have been completed. If no play is possible or fewer than 3 rubbers have been completed in any match at any venue, the results of all the matches for that day at that venue shall be declared null and void.
11. For Events being played outdoors, indoor courts must not be used unless the courts are on-site and any additional cost to the LTA or a County Association has been authorised in advance by the Event Director.
12. The County Association via its appointed captain (or other designated person accompanying the Team) is responsible for the behaviour of its Team on and off the site for the duration of the event which includes but is not limited to travelling to, staying at accommodation and returning to the County.

Any incident shall be dealt with in accordance with these Regulations and the Lawn Tennis Association Limited Rules (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Appendices). Entry into the County Cup Events constitutes acceptance, by both the County and its individual members of the team, of the LTA's jurisdiction to deal with any disciplinary matter in accordance with these Regulations (including the Code of Conduct) and the Lawn Tennis Association Limited Rules (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Appendices). In particular, the following shall apply:

- a) Any disciplinary matter relating to an incident occurring on site shall be referred to the Referee for decision and any appeal against his / her decision shall be referred to the LTA Competitions Team and will be dealt with in accordance to the LTA Disciplinary & Dispute Resolution Procedures as set out at Appendix 3 to the Lawn Tennis Association Limited Rules.

- b) Any disciplinary matter relating to an incident off site shall be referred to the LTA Competitions Team and will be dealt with in accordance with the LTA Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Procedures as set out at Appendix 3 to the Lawn Tennis Association Limited Rules.
 - c) Any disciplinary matter relating to match fixing, financial speculation and betting, as set out in the Disciplinary Code, shall be referred to the LTA Competitions Team and will be dealt with in accordance with the LTA Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Procedures as set out in Appendix 3 to the Lawn Tennis Association Limited rules.
13. Any complaint relating to eligibility of players and / or nominations must be lodged, in writing, with the Event Director within 48 hours after the end of the Event.
14. No complaint in connection with any LTA County Cup Event can be entertained by the LTA unless lodged with the LTA at countycup@lta.org.uk within 48 hours of the occurrence of the cause of the complaint

**LTA 8U County Cup Event 2023
Special Regulations**

1. The Event shall be played over one day and will be played using indoor venues. The red sponge ball will be used.
The match format for the day will be each county playing all other counties in their group as a round robin to determine the winner of that group.
2. Final nominations to be submitted to the Referee 30 minutes before the start of play. Final nominations of all eligible players shall be nominated in order of merit as determined by the team captain.
The nominated order must be maintained throughout the day.
Counties can nominate a maximum of 2 teams (ie) A and B per gender.
3. Counties should nominate a minimum of 4 boys / girls and maximum of 5 boys / girls.
4. Each match shall consist of 10 rubbers – eight singles rubbers and two doubles rubbers. In singles, No 1 shall play No 1 of the opposing team, No 2 shall play No 2 and so on, followed by the reverse singles rubbers No 1 against No 2 from the opposing team, No 2 shall play No 1 and so on as outlined in the order of play below. Players will play three rubbers per match. Each match can be played across 4 courts, or 2 courts using the example below:

	Court 1	Court 2
Round 1	Singles 4 v 4	Singles 3 v 3
Round 2	Singles 1 v 1	Singles 2 v 2
Round 3	Singles 4 v 3	Singles 3 v 4
Round 4	Singles 2 v 1	Singles 1 v 2
Round 5	Doubles 1	Doubles 2

Doubles Pairings:

- Pair 1: Singles players 1 & 2
- Pair 2: Singles players 3 & 4

5. All rubbers shall be the best of 1 Match Tie-Break to 10 points.
6. Match nominations must be submitted to the Referee 15 minutes before the start of each match. The team shall be nominated in singles order according to the final nominations (Reg 2).
7. If any player is absent when called upon to play by the Referee, that rubber and all rubbers below shall be awarded to the opponent(s) This shall apply separately to singles and doubles. If in any rubber one or more player(s) is absent from each side the rubber shall be void.
8. If a player or doubles pair play out of order, the opponent(s) shall be awarded the match
9. A team is awarded 1 point for each rubber won.
10. The team with most rubber points shall win the match. A team will receive 2 match points on the league table for a match win.
11. Under no circumstances should rubbers be conceded. If a match in progress cannot be finished on the day, and less than ten rubbers have been completed, the result of the match shall be determined by the rubbers that have been completed as follows:
- a) By the majority of rubbers won; or
 - b) If there is equality of rubbers, by the majority of tiebreaks won; or
 - c) If there is equality of rubbers and tiebreaks, by the majority of points won
12. The final standings for the Group shall be determined by the following:
- a) The team with the greatest number of match points
 - b) If match points are equal, the team with the greatest number of rubber points
 - c) If only two teams are level on match points and rubber points; their head to head result
 - d) If more than two teams are level, the percentage of games won out of games played (if, after this calculation, only two teams remain level, their head to head result will be used to break the tie)