



Press Release

26th November 2024

Laura Robson appointed Tournament Director of the LTA's WTA 500 event at the Queen's Club

- *Former British Number 1 takes up TD role at new WTA 500 event in London*
- *Appointment means over 70% of the LTA's grass court major events have female Tournament Directors*
- *Hospitality packages for Women's WTA 500 event at The Queen's Club go on sale today*

The LTA have today announced that Laura Robson has been appointed as the Tournament Director of the new Women's WTA 500 event at The Queen's Club in London.

The former British No 1 and Olympic Silver medallist will take the reins of the new event, which will bring women's tour level tennis back to London for the first time in over 50 years.

Laura was previously Tournament Director of the Nottingham Open WTA 250 / ATP Challenger Event, taking up the post in 2023 as part of the LTA's work with former players who wish to move into other tennis roles after their retirement.

Another player working on LTA events is Jamie Murray, who will return in his role as Tournament Director of the ATP 500 event at the Queen's Club.

Following Laura's appointment, Amy Hitchinson has been chosen as the new Tournament Director at Nottingham, having undertaken the same role at Birmingham in 2024, which means that over 70% of LTA grass court major events will have female tournament directors.

Rebecca James, Rik Smith and Kirsty Thomson will continue in their Tournament Director roles at the LTA's events in Eastbourne, Ilkley and Roehampton respectively, with Kirsty also taking on the new combined event at Birmingham.

Hospitality for the women's WTA 500 event at The Queen's Club is now on sale. Hospitality packages can be purchased via the LTA's partner Keith Prowse at www.keithprowse.co.uk General admission tickets for the women's event will go on sale early in 2025.

Tickets for the ATP 500 event at The Queen's Club are now on sale to LTA Advantage Members via the LTA website and go on general sale on 28th November 2024.

Laura Robson said: *"I'm delighted to be taking up this role next summer. It's very exciting that women's tennis is returning to the Queen's Club for the first time in over 50 years. It's an iconic*

venue and has been voted Tournament of the Year by the men many times. I'm confident that the women's event will be just as thrilling and I can't wait to get started."

Chris Pollard, the LTA's Managing Director, Commercial and Operations, said "Laura did a fantastic job at Nottingham and received a lot of plaudits from the players. We're very pleased she will now be taking on this important role at Queens next year. We have worked hard to ensure British players such as Laura and Jamie can continue to use their knowledge and experience for the benefit of the game in this country, and it's great news they will both be part of our experienced cohort of Tournament Directors."

Date	Venue	Event	Tournament Director
w/c 2 June	Birmingham – Edgbaston Priory Club	Men's and women's Challenger level events	Kirsty Thomson
w/c 9 June	London – The Queen's Club	WTA 500	Laura Robson
	Ilkley – Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club	Men's and women's Challenger level events	Rik Smith
w/c 16 June	London – The Queen's Club	ATP 500	Jamie Murray
	Nottingham – Lexus Nottingham Tennis Centre	WTA 250 & ATP 125	Amy Hitchinson
w/c 23 June	Eastbourne – Devonshire Park	WTA 250 & ATP 250	Rebecca James
w/c 30 June	Roehampton – Wimbledon Qualifying and Community Sports Centre	Wheelchair ITF1 & J300	Kirsty Thomson

For LTA media enquiries please contact:

Media@lta.org.uk

ABOUT THE LTA:

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The LTA is the National Governing Body of tennis for Great Britain. We are here to govern and grow tennis, from grassroots participation through to the professional game. Our vision is "Tennis Opened Up" and we're on a mission to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable. We work with schools, with volunteers, with coaches and with venues across the whole country. We also represent the interests of over 1,000,000 Members, men and women, girls and boys, playing on more than 23,000 courts. The LTA runs and supports a network of 11,500 approved tournaments for players of all ages, the four corner-stones of which are the

premier grass-court events leading up to The Championships, Wimbledon: the Rothesay Open Nottingham, the Rothesay Classic Birmingham, the cinch Championships (at The Queen's Club, London) and the Rothesay International Eastbourne. For further information about the LTA and tennis in Britain, visit www.lta.org.uk or follow us on Twitter @the_LTA.