

INTRODUCTION

The County Training programme provides for the best and most committed players in the County with the opportunity to train and compete with one another. The purpose of the programme in Wiltshire is to add to a player's programme, accelerate the development of players, help retain players in regular training and to make selections for County Cup competitions. We aim to develop a culture of players wanting to and being proud to represent Wiltshire.

The Programme will be delivered by local highly qualified coaches who all have specialised training and a track record of working with county performance players. All Lead Coaches delivering the session are LTA Level 4 Accredited + coaches and the Assistant Captains are minimum LTA Level 3 Accredited coaches.

County Training is a part of the LTA Player Pathway. Players need to be invited to attend and there are a limited number of spaces available to players in each age-group. This document outlines the criteria for players to achieve and maintain selection for County Training. The selection process is led by the County Performance Co-ordinators, in consultation with the Performance Committee.

Any queries regarding selections should be emailed to: performance.8u-14u@wiltshiretennis.org.uk for the 8U – 14U age groups and to neilcwatts@yahoo.co.uk for the 18U age group.

ELIGIBILITY

- Players will predominantly be selected for their own age group, but there may be exceptional circumstances where players are too strong for their current age group (based on captains and co-ordinator's decision) and will be invited to attend training at an older age group.
- Players must be eligible to represent Wiltshire Tennis according to the current LTA guidelines or be able to demonstrate that they will be eligible within the next six months. The LTA rules governing a player's eligibility to represent the County are:
 - Born in Wiltshire
 - Lived in Wiltshire for at least the past six months
 - At any time the place of permanent residence has been Wiltshire for a period of five consecutive years
 - Not represented another County for at least six months

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Players must have an LTA membership number.
- The selection process will consider any rankings / ITF World Tennis Number / Recent Form points a player has.
- Performance and application in previous county training camps and county cup events is important.
- Account may also be taken of a player's strength of commitment to County tennis in the previous year.
- Competitive Profile - Players of County standard and above would usually already be competing to the extent described below, although some players may be working towards this:
 - 8U Red – competing internally in their club, externally at other clubs and at LTA graded events
 - 9U Orange – competing internally in their club, externally at other clubs and at LTA graded events
 - 10U Green – competing at LTA graded events in their county and at regional level events
 - 12U – competing on a monthly basis in LTA graded county and regional level events
 - 14U – competing accordingly to an annual plan which includes regional and national events
 - 16U – competing accordingly to an annual plan which includes regional and national events
 - 18U - competing accordingly to an annual plan which includes regional and national events
- The weekly training programme to which a player is committed to will be considered (although in some cases this will be an area of development during the County training programme). Players attending County Training would ideally be training regularly on a weekly programme overseen by an individual coach at their club. As a guide:
 - 8U Red – Two tennis sessions a week
 - 9U Orange – Two tennis sessions per week including one individual lesson with a coach
 - 10U Green – Two tennis sessions per week including one individual session with a coach
 - 11U – 18U – Three tennis sessions per week including one lesson with a coach
 - For the 8U – 10U players, we would encourage players to play other sports
 - For the 11U+ players, they should be considering an appropriate strength and conditioning programme

NOMINATION FOR SELECTION

Players can be considered for selection through a coach nomination from their individual coach, a County Captain, or the County Performance Co-ordinators. This can happen at any time during the year.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Performance Committee will meet to select the county training squads and will consist of the following:

- County Performance Co-ordinators
- Age-group Captains
- Wiltshire Tennis Management Representative
- County Administrator

COMMUNICATION OF SELECTIONS

- Players will receive an email from Wiltshire Tennis notifying them of their selection for County Training. The email will detail the age group a player has been selected for, dates and venues.
- Players will be notified in the Autumn/Winter ahead of the year of the county training programme

SELECTION REVIEWS

- The attendance and attitude of players will be monitored by the County Captains during the training sessions. The County Captains will have the opportunity to review the selections of players twice a year, if they feel there is a need to do so. Following these reviews, players may be warned about the potential for de-selection or de-selected.