



Tennis West of Scotland Junior County Vision

The Vision

1. To develop great **PEOPLE**, great **COMPETITORS** and great tennis **PLAYERS!**
2. To create a performance environment/pathway that enables as many athletes and coaches as possible to perform and succeed on a County, Regional, National and International level.
3. West of Scotland County to finish in the top 10 in the UK on the junior County leader board.
4. To establish a coaching pathway from Club Coach to County Assistant Coach to County Training Coach to County Cup Captain.

The How (To support, acknowledge and appreciate athletes, coaches, parents)

1. **Athletes:** Provide a well-balanced holistic athlete-centred training programme that develops all areas of the athlete for 7–18-year-olds. Support athletes throughout the County Cup programme. Create a booklet on the standards of behaviour.
2. **Coaches:** Constant communication regarding opportunities to get involved in the county training programme (especially for less experienced coaches). Emails to club presidents to inform them about the status of their club coach and encourage recognition in club newsletter and noticeboards. A clear pathway for coaches to develop.
3. **Parents:** Create "Parent Appreciation Meeting" combining information with appreciation. Create a booklet for parents to read/follow about the standards of behaviour.
4. **Clubs:** Constant communication to complement club programmes whilst working together to get the standards in the West of Scotland higher. Appreciation for those clubs that produce County level athletes.



Tennis West of Scotland Junior County Training Selection Information

County Training and Selection Identification

The aim of this document is to provide clear information on the existing county training programme within Tennis West of Scotland, as well as providing insight into 'Selection ID' and what to do if you feel as a coach/parent you have an athlete who is of the level to access county training.

What is County Training?

County training within the West of Scotland is a wide-ranging programme of squads planned and run by Tennis West of Scotland, for the county's best and most promising junior athletes. The age range for these sessions is from 8U through to 18U. Sessions are running each week except for July and August. The sessions are all held at Scotstoun indoor courts with the programme of squads being organised by the 'County Training Programme Manager-Nathan Lundy' & '11U Lead Jonny Wilcox'. Sessions are led by age group captains and vice captains chosen from local coaches who have specialised training and a track record of working with county performance athletes.

Is there any more information on this?

Yes, the following (<https://www.lta.org.uk/compete/performance/player-pathway/>) gives further information regarding county training.



What's the purpose of this programme?

- To provide regular opportunities for the best athletes in the county to train and compete with one another.
- To prepare squads for County Cups.
- To accelerate the development of players aged 7-14 to create competition for places at Regional Training & the NAGP (national age group programme).
- To retain more young athletes in regular training and competition through to age 18.

Who's it for?

The best junior players in the county who have the potential (now or in the near future) to compete for the county in county cup competitions.

What will this programme be like?

- Players may get opportunities to represent their county as part of a county team.
- County training will be delivered by age group captains and vice captains chosen from local coaches who have specialised training and a track record of working with county performance athletes.
- The programme will be supported by Tennis Scotland Player Pathway Team.



How does your athlete get selected for county training?

Selection for county training is made by the 'County Training Programme Manager-Nathan Lundy' and approved by the Executive and Board of Tennis West of Scotland. To qualify for consideration for selection for county training, athletes should as a minimum, be eligible to represent the West of Scotland and be regularly competing in local tournaments. Following this, the factors that influence selections vary between age groups but are summarised below:

11U, 12U, 14U and 18U

- **Player results and rankings:** They will play a **small** part guiding selection but will **NOT** dictate selection. There will be opportunities for players of lower ranking to be selected if the County Training Programme Manager, captain and the trusted coaching network across the West feel there are mitigating circumstances for the low ranking.
- **Player performance and attitude in events, at the annual West of Scotland Championships:** Good performances, and signs that an athlete has the game or attitude to succeed in the future (even if not directly leading to winning in the present), will be considered. There is no better event to see this, than at the West of Scotland Championships, which gives every junior athlete in the West of Scotland the chance to compete in an event with all their peers.
- **Feedback/recommendation** from coaches within the strong and trusted network across the West of Scotland, opinions of age group captains, alongside other senior Coaches will be considered.
- **Concentration, Attitude, Respect, Energy** as well as Coach Rate of Perceived Exertion Feedback at previous county training activity.



9U and 10U

• **Selection at these age groups** starts with LTA Recent Form, in that we would like to see players involved and active in local competition; it's a great initial stage to find out if a younger athlete enjoys playing tennis matches, in addition to simply attending lessons at their club. We will always have an 'open door' approach to player selection at these younger age groups, especially where athlete recommendations come to us from coaches within the strong and trusted network across the West of Scotland with a track record of developing strong County Standard juniors.

• **Player performance and attitude in events, at the annual West of Scotland Championships:** Good performances, and signs that an athlete has the game or attitude to succeed in the future (even if not directly leading to winning in the present), will be considered. There is no better event to see this, than at the West of Scotland Championships, which gives every junior athlete in the West of Scotland the chance to compete in an event with all their peers.

• **Attitude and performance** at previous county training activity.



8U

The 8&Under County training activity is designed to bring together the best young tennis players in the county for development-focused training. This will be in the form of weekend camp activity. This initiative complements the existing Red Ball competitive schedule and offers players, clubs, and coaches a valuable introduction into the county pathway.

Player Selection

- Primary selection will be based on **performance and participation** in West of Scotland hosted **Red Ball match events** taking place in September, October, and November.
- **West of Scotland League matches** will also be used to identify promising players.
- **Clubs are encouraged to nominate players** who may not yet be actively competing but demonstrate potential and strong engagement during training.
- The aim is to recognise both a player's desire to compete and their development at club level.



Using our very strong and trusted coaching network across the West of Scotland, the County Team can give County Training opportunities to ANY athletes at ANY time, meaning that we will never miss the chance to support a great young prospect just as soon as they are ready and need us!

*Please note that athletes are enrolled on a termly basis (Sept 2025-Dec 2025, Jan 2026-Mar 2026 etc) At the end of each term there will be a review of each athlete as to whether they will continue in the next block of coaching.

*Parents must acknowledge that the county training programme cannot operate on a 'pay as you play' basis.

Who runs the County Performance Team?

Nathan Lundy: Nathan is the County Training Programme Manager who oversees and monitors the County Performance Team.

Jonny Wilcox: Jonny is lead 11U coach for Tennis West of Scotland

Elizabeth Stevenson: Info needed Elizabeth



Tennis West of Scotland Junior County Teams (9U-18U) Selection Information

Selections for West of Scotland County teams will be made with as much objectivity as possible; we will attempt to use our information to make informed decisions.

Our process for selections is as follows and start with this context:

All athletes are expected to support the County tennis programme through their consistent participation of training (minimum one session per week) and competing regularly (Tennis Scotland tournaments and West of Scotland leagues). Athletes who don't fully engage in the programme are at risk of non-selection for County Cup events when the coaching team makes decisions. **Rankings will not be the sole measurement used for selection of county teams.**

Following this a five-step approach will be taken:

1. The coaching team, which consists of the County Training Programme Manager, 11U Lead Coach, Age-Group Captains and coaches within the strong and trusted network across the West of Scotland will discuss selections. We will always refer to the coaches first as they have the experience and knowledge of the athletes having seen the athletes and worked with them throughout the year.
2. Approach to training, including:
 - Squad attendance (minimum 70%)
 - Concentration, **Attitude**, **Respect**, **Energy** as well as Coach Rate of Perceived Exertion Feedback at training activity.
3. Competitive Profile, including:
 - **Participation in West of Scotland league matches (athlete's age group)**
 - Participation in tournaments, level of events will be noted.



4. Role modelling behaviours, including:
 - Player of the month
 - Coachable attitude
 - Time management/organisation/Equipment

5. Captain's Pick
 - Players returning from injury or illness may be selected

Tennis West of Scotland will **only** select athletes for County Cup events who have participated in our county training programme unless it is logistically impossible for that athlete to attend. The county asks that an athlete attends **one** session per week and appreciates that most of each athlete's weekly programme will be within his or her club.

West of Scotland athletes who are invited to train weekly with a Tennis Scotland squad (SRPC) are excused from the above if there is a **direct clash** of sessions. Such athletes will be expected to attend **four** county sessions immediately prior to that athlete's County Cup event and will be welcome to join the squad for any session if a Tennis Scotland squad is either cancelled or not running.

The above does not apply to athletes who are invited to occasional development camps run by Tennis Scotland. Such athletes will be required to attend **one** West of Scotland County training session per week to be eligible for selection.

***Please note that if an athlete does not compete in his/her age group then he/she cannot compete in an older age group at County Cup events.**

Tennis West of Scotland recognizes that, because of injury or illness (evidence required), an athlete may not be able to commit to a programme place at the start of the training block. Parents of such athletes should discuss options with the programme manager. Any agreed arrangement will not exclude a player from being considered for team selection.



1. Dates and venues of events will be published at County Teams - Tennis West of Scotland (tenniswos.co.uk) once advised by either the LTA or Tennis Scotland.
2. As far as is possible, teams will be selected 5-6 weeks before the start date of the competition and athletes/parents advised. All team lists are posted, once selections are confirmed, at the same link for information to all athletes.
3. The number of athletes selected for each team can vary depending on the format of the competition, the venue and following discussion with the team captain. Selection to a team does not mean participation, athletes must be prepared to attend County Cup events with the chance that they may not participate in the event.
4. The coaching team, which consists of the County Training Programme Manager, 11U Lead Coach, Age-Group Captains and coaches within the strong and trusted network across the West of Scotland will discuss selections. We will always refer to the coaches first as they have the experience and knowledge of the athletes having seen the athletes and worked with them throughout the year.
5. Current policy is that for the 8U-14U competitions inclusive, parents travel with athletes to the venue and arrange their own accommodation. When possible, the accommodation booked for the team captain will be advised so that parents may choose the same accommodation.
6. 18U teams will travel to a venue with the selected team captain(s) unless there are reasons not to do this.
7. Athletes in any team qualifying for a national final will be given a grant towards the cost of a second event.
8. Team athletes will be requested to wear the current West of Scotland kit at an event.