



Tennis Cornwall – County Cup selection criteria 2025

Revisions for 2025 are in **Red**

The Tennis Cornwall team selection criteria are open and transparent and give everyone a chance to prove their current performance level in competition as a basis for team selection.

County Cup is a unique **team** competition and Cornwall aims to prepare the best teams to represent the county. County cup is the pinnacle of county tennis and supports the rest of the county's work.

We will use Cornwall County closed events (plus Newquay ITF) as qualifying events to be eligible for selection. This approach strengthens in county competition by providing opportunities for local players to compete against each other.

All teams

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that players who represent Cornwall at tennis will do so with pride and demonstrate;

- An ability to be a supportive and cooperative team player and a positive ambassador for Tennis Cornwall;
- A commitment to Cornwall Tennis. This is reflected by the players attitude to training **and competition**, team spirit, respect to players, coaches, county and other officials, with a real willingness to learn and develop
- The highest standards of behaviour both on and off the court. Players behaviour not only at training but, at all tournaments and events will be taken into consideration when making selections to represent the county.
- **Selected players agree to purchase and play in Tennis Cornwall approved county kit. Kit is available to order online from Whirlwind Sports.**
- **The selection panel will apply the selection criteria fairly and consistently, without bias. On rare occasions were the selection criteria fails to provide a suitable qualifying squad of players, the selection panel will use its judgement to reach a final decision. In all cases the selection panel will provide the reasons behind such decisions.**

Junior Teams (all ages up to under 18s)

In all age groups to initially be considered for a place in any junior County Cup **squad**, a player needs to demonstrate first that they meet some basic criteria: -

- **Competing in one or more of available county closed competitions in the preceding 12 months to qualify for selection**

- All players are expected to attend county training **regularly** if they wish to be considered for County Cup unless there are exceptional circumstances which needs to be communicated to the relevant coach in advance. **Less than 80% attendance at training, is likely to put a players selection in doubt.**
- **Competing regularly e.g. at least once per month**
- The only exception to this will be top ranked national players (top 20) and players who are at a tennis school or academy outside the county.
- Selection is based on a number of factors , including performance in competition, **commitment to improvement**, reliability, foreseeable physical fitness, conduct, and a player's ability to work within a team.

Once the basic criteria have been met selection will be based upon the following: -

o Current level of performance. **Automatic selection for winning an appropriate age group competition at a county closed event, then;**

1) WTN 2) LTA rankings 3) recent form

o Doubles level / experience

o Approach, attitude, competitiveness, bounce-back-ability etc

To ensure that each selection is as objective as possible, each team will be selected by the age group **coach** (boys and girls) the Coaching Lead **and at least one member of the selection committee**. In all cases the decision made will be final and will announced at least four weeks before the relevant competition.

Teams for County Cup will consist of the first two players by ranking in that age group who meet the selection criteria plus further selected players

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

1. Players will be selected firstly for their own age group. Players may on occasion be invited to additionally play in another age group and will be expected to attend that training session as well, in order that we build strong cohesive teams.

2. It is normal for the County to take more players than is required for that day's play at each event. The composition of the team each day is totally at the discretion of the County Team Captain and Vice-Captain (if another coach has travelled with the team), in order to field the best team possible against the opposition to achieve the best outcome for the County. Therefore, there is NO GUARANTEE that all players taken will play.

3. Red/Orange/Green ball. As the players are in an their early development stages, competitive results are NOT the sole factor taken into consideration when selecting squads and teams.

4. See below for County Cup dates and team selection dates

Adult and Senior Teams

The aim of Adult and Senior Teams is to give regularly competing players the opportunity to represent the county.

There will be an annual call for interested players to represent Cornwall Adult and Senior Teams, to ensure that representing the county is an open and transparent process.

- From January 2024 eligibility to **qualify to compete** for Cornwall **includes** having competed in one or more of County Closed (winter), James Webster County Championships (summer) or the ITF Masters Tournament (Newquay) in the previous 12 months.
- **Players living out of county can be considered available for selection if they have competed in any Cornwall tournament in the preceding 12 months.**
- **Automatic selection for county squad by winning an appropriate age group competition at a county closed or other qualifying event.**
- The aim will be for all teams to be made up of a majority of players resident in the county as part of supporting the growth of local tennis **competition** and the opportunities it can provide.
- Where there are home and away fixtures, preference in selection for home fixtures will be given to players who have first committed to away fixtures.
- Team selection will be made by the team captain and one member of the Tennis Cornwall committee. Where a coach has been engaged in the preparation for the event then they shall be included in the selection process.
- Players will be selected for their age group, and will only be considered to play in a different age group where it is believed that the age group is short of qualifying players of a standard to benefit from the county cup experience.
- **Team captaincy – team captains are appointed for a period of three years and may continue for a further three years by mutual agreement. There is no limit to the time a person can serve as captain, though regular review is in the best interests of captains and Tennis Cornwall.**

County Cup dates and team selection dates

8U – 18U

Age	Venue	Competition dates	Team selection confirm by date	Lead Coach	Player nominations Open/Close
9U	Girls - Taunton	2 nd March	Sun 2 Feb	Inga	27/1-17/2
9U	Boys - Taunton	2 nd March	Sun 2 Feb	Inga	27/1-17/2
18U	Girls – Shrewsbury	21-23 March	Sun 23 Feb	Holly	10/2 – 3/3
18U	Boys – Ellesmere, Shropshire	21-23 March	Sun 23 Feb	Tim	10/2 – 3/3
8U	Girls and Boys – at same venue	26 or 27 April	Sun 30 Mar	Claudio	24/3-14/4
14U	Girls - tbc	3 and 4 May	Sun 30 Mar	Holly	24/3-14/4
14U	Boys - tbc	3 and 4 May	Sun 30 Mar	Tim	24/3-14/4
10U	Girls - tbc	10 and 11 May	Sun 13 April	Inga	21/4-5/5
10U	Boys - tbc	10 and 11 May	Sun 13 April	Inga	21/4-5/5
11U	Girls - tbc	14 and 15 June	Sun 11 May	Holly	12/5-2/6
11U	Boys - tbc	14 and 15 June	Sun 11 May	Tim	12/5-2/6
12U	Girls - tbc	13 and 14 September	Sun 17 Aug	Holly	11/8-1/9
12U	Boys - tbc	13 and 14 September	Sun 17 Aug	Tim	11/8-1/9

Adults and Seniors - County Cup competition and selection dates

Category	Venue	Competition dates	Team selection confirm by date	Captain
Summer County Cup	Ladies	21- 25 July	Sun 22 June	Holly
Summer County Cup	Men	21 - 25 July	Sun 22 June	Chris
Over 35s	Ladies Eastbourne	Tbc – due to airshow	Sun 22 June	Hannah
Over 35s	Men Eastbourne	Tbc – due to airshow	Sun 22 June	Robin
Winter County Cup	Ladies	21 - 23 Nov	Sun 19 Oct	Holly
	Men			Chris
Seniors	Ladies and Men Various – home and away fixtures	1 April – 7 Oct	Four weeks before each match	Dave Forrest – O50 Alastair Anderson - O60s Julie Chappell – O55s? Sallyann - O60s Lynn Heckford - O65s

				Others tbc
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Adopted: November2024

Review: November 2025