

Hospitality at International Events

This document sets out the protocol for coaches, parents and supervising adults receiving hospitality on behalf of an official team or an individual player and guidance on safeguarding issues for players and coaches.

At some international events hospitality is provided to an 'official coach' by the tournament organisers. This may include accommodation, food and other items whilst players remain in the tournament.

Where the LTA are sending an official trip that coach shall receive the nomination for hospitality. If the LTA are not sending an official trip, the official coach status can be awarded to the coach/parent/supervising adult of a British player in the draw who requests it. The order of merit will be determined as follows:

- The coach of the highest ranked GB player in the draw, who requests it*
- If the highest ranked player is not travelling with a coach then the official coach status will go to the coach of the highest ranked British player in the draw who is travelling with a coach and requests it.
- If no British players in the draw have a coach travelling with them then the parent or supervising adult of the highest ranked British player, who requests the hospitality will be given the official coach status.
- Priority will be given to Main Draw players over qualifying players as the list shows at the freeze deadline, even if the Qualifying player is higher ranked.

All nominations need to be requested they are not done automatically. Usually there is **one** official coach status at each event across both girls and boys for each nation.

*The highest ranked player follows the same order as the National Squad status (which can be found in the players section of this policy). Where 2 players have the same Tennis Europe ranking, then the GB ranking for the relevant age group would be used. Where there is the same, or no Tennis Europe ranking and the players have the same GB ranking for that age group, the coach nomination status will be selected at random by the LTA. This will be witnessed by a member of the Performance Team to ensure it has been drawn fairly and at random.

Anyone accepting official coach status and hospitality on behalf of the LTA will be expected to create a positive impression of British tennis and must abide by the Official Coach Hospitality Code of Conduct. For all ITF events the coach/parent must have an ITF ID.

From 2024, any coach/accompanying person traveling with a Junior player to a Tennis Europe Junior Tour event must be registered in the Tennis Europe system by creating an Account. Please find the form that Coaches/accompanying persons must complete here:

<https://te.tournamentsoftware.com/user/signup/organization/>

For a coach to be recognised over a parent the coach must be an LTA Accredited Coach and hold a LTA Coach Code (or overseas equivalent) and adhere to the code of conduct in order to gain the official coach status.

Where a parent is an LTA Accredited Coach, they must also be one of the primary coaches of the player when at base in order to gain the official coach status. Therefore, if a parent who is an LTA Accredited Coach receives the official coach status, the expectation would be for them to be there in a coaching capacity.

To request the official coach status please contact Imogen Woodham (imogen.woodham@lta.org.uk) for ITF coach nominations or Mary Joyner (mary.joyner@lta.org.uk) for TE coach nominations. The deadline for nominating coaches is the freeze deadline so no nominations can be guaranteed if requested after this time.

Players:

National Squad status is also awarded for players in Tennis Europe events. This is done automatically following the entry deadline. The priority awarded to players is based on:

- Tennis Europe ranking (where and when available)
- GB Ranking for the relevant age group where no TE ranking is available
- It is based on the rankings the week of entry closing

For most TE events there are 2 national squad places per gender per age group. If a member of the national squad withdraws then this will be updated with the next in line based on acceptance list.

LTA Coach Hospitality Code of Conduct

The individual given the official coach status is deemed the 'Official Coach' for the purposes of this document.

As the Official Coach receiving hospitality at any tournament under the International Endorsement System, the individual is representing British tennis and the LTA at all times and the highest standards are expected in conduct and behaviour. The Official Coach is therefore committed to conducting themselves in a proper manner at all times. In particular, as a condition of receipt of hospitality, the Official Coach will:

- i. Respect the Tournament Director, Tournament Referee and the Organising Committee of the tournament at all times. Hospitality is awarded by the Organising Committee and therefore the Tournament Director can supply or withdraw hospitality at any time.
- ii. Abide by all the rules, policies and procedures currently adopted by the LTA, ITF and ATP/WTA (as appropriate) (including but not limited to the rules, policies and procedures of those bodies regarding anti-doping and match fixing, financial speculation and/or betting) and accept the jurisdiction of those bodies to discipline the player for a breach of those rules, policies and procedures.
- iii. Abide by the LTA Safeguarding and Child Protection policies and procedures, whereby he/she must ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people in his/her care at all times.
- iv. Conduct himself/herself at all times in a correct and proper manner at all tournaments and at all times with the Tournament Director, Tournament Referee and the Organising Committee so that you do not bring the LTA, British tennis, any commercial partner of the LTA or the player himself/herself into disrepute which includes not making any public statement (whether made as part of a formal interview or not and inclusive of comments made on social networking sites, blogs or any other online or print media) which is defamatory or derogatory in relation to the LTA, the commercial partners of the LTA (or their affiliates or their products or services) or any of the LTA's other partners (including, but not limited to, The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Limited) nor make any public statement which constitutes a "personal attack" upon another sporting competitor or any member of the LTA's staff or any contractor or volunteer associated with the LTA.
- v. Always have regard to the best interests of British tennis when publicly expressing an opinion of any match or incident and always show respect for others involved in British tennis when expressing an opinion.
- vi. Behave reasonably and in a manner that shows proper respect for players and colleagues in the sport at all times. The LTA maintains a strong anti-bullying stance and will take disciplinary action against any player/parent/coach who behaves in a way towards players or colleagues which is intended to isolate, intimidate or bully them, whether verbally, in writing, via a social networking or other internet site or by using a mobile phone or other electronic device.
- vii. Refrain from the excessive consumption of alcohol at all times by remaining within legal limits (under .05) at all times.

Any failure to follow the this Code of Conduct by an Official Coach may result in disciplinary action being taken and no further hospitality be awarded to the Official Coach at future tournaments.

The LTA reserves the right to make changes to this Code of Conduct from time to time and will publish any amended version on the LTA website.