



AVON TENNIS

LTA & AVON TENNIS AWARDS 2025

The WINNERS are



PRESENTED BY  LEXUS



Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations for the 2025 LTA Tennis Awards. The standard was again very high and we received a record amount of nominations too.

Volunteer of the Year



The Volunteer of the Year award went to **Sarah Bagnall** from Blagdon Tennis Club. Since stepping into the role of Chair, Sarah has transformed the club, securing funding to resurface the courts, increasing membership and building stronger community links.

Sue Grimes from Pensford was highly commended.

Club of the Year

Cotham Park was named Club of the Year. The Club is well managed and financially sound with growing membership across all abilities and age groups. It provides high quality adult coaching, a busy junior programme and disability-inclusive sessions in conjunction with Access Sport.



Westbury Park TC was highly commended.

Competition of the Year Award

The inaugural **Bristol Deaf & Hard of Hearing Padel tournament**, run by former Avon LTA Councillor Ian Alexander, won the Competition of the Year category. The LTA-sanctioned event attracted 54 entrants from a wide area and was an unqualified success, with positive feedback from participants, families and friends.

Sodbury Tennis Club was highly commended for its Play Your Way to Wimbledon competition.

Coach of the Year Award

Tom Fowler from Nailsea Tennis Club was named Coach of the Year. Tom is head coach at Nailsea and a key member of the coaching team at nearby Backwell Tennis Club. He has made an outstanding contribution to grassroots, junior and performance tennis, building thriving, inclusive coaching programmes at both clubs.

Claire Nutt from Iron Acton was highly commended.



Official of the Year Award

Nic Webber was named Official of the Year. Nic has made a huge contribution to the delivery of competitions in the Avon area as well as running junior events in neighbouring Wiltshire. Last year she was referee for the Avon County Padel Championships (Grade 3) held over two days with more than 90 entries.



Performance Coach of the Year Award



Tiarnan Brady from the University of Bath won the Performance Coach of the Year award. Tiarnan, who is a Level Four Senior Performance Coach, enjoyed a stand-out year with a number of players under his guidance tasting success in top-level competitions at home and abroad, elevating players to new heights.

Samuel Kiladejo from Backwell TC was highly commended.

Park Venue of the Year Award

The Park at Frampton Cotterell won the Park Venue of the Year award. The Park, which is run by the parish council, caters for all ages and abilities and has made tennis accessible and enjoyable for all. The venue has been fully refurbished and now operates with smart access technology, making it easy for players to book and use the courts.

Iron Acton Parish Meadows was highly commended.



University of the Year Award

The University of Bath was named University of the Year for its work to deliver opportunities for all levels while fostering leadership, life skills, and a strong tennis culture. The focus is on student development but embraces youth and adult classes and a strong community engagement programme.



Tennis Opened Up Award

The Tennis Opened Up award was won by Sodbury Tennis Club which runs a range of carefully-planned sessions for adults and juniors with special needs or disabilities in addition to a successful community outreach programme.

Tom Fowler, head coach at Nailsea Tennis Club, was highly commended.



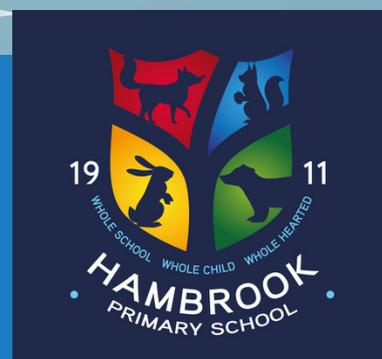
Young Person of the Year Award



The Young Person of the Year award went to **Grace Lieven** from the University of Bristol. Grace has turned her life around after a difficult childhood thanks in no small part to her love of tennis. She is now a Level 1 coach, one of the captains at the university club and closely involved in organising competitions and training sessions.

Leo Margetts from Sodbury, a Level 1 coach and qualified court supervisor, was highly commended.

School of the Year Award



The School of the Year was **Hambrook Primary**. Over the past two years, Hambrook has embedded tennis into the heart of the curriculum, providing children with the chance to develop their skills and confidence. Training led by local tennis coaches ensures teachers are equipped to deliver high-quality lessons.

Brimsham Green in Yate was highly commended.

LTA Presidents Award

The LTA President's Award was won by Ian Alexander, who has recently retired as LTA Councillor for Avon Tennis. Ian has been involved in tennis administration at national, regional and county level for many years across a range of disciplines including safeguarding, competitions, and finance. As a member of the Avon Tennis executive committee, he was a driving force behind the County's registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in 2020 and has led a number of major projects from governance to IT as well as managing our investments and partnership agreements. At his final council meeting earlier this year, Ian was presented with the LTA Councillor Award for Passion by Chief Executive Scott Lloyd and President Sandi Procter.



Services to Avon Tennis



Based at our office in Coombe Dingle, Debbie has been a valued member of Avon Tennis for many years, working part-time across a wide range of administrative roles.

In addition to managing the office, she has provided outstanding support to our coaches, players, parents, Executive Committee, and the many volunteers who give their time to the county. Debbie now oversees all day-to-day financial transactions, carrying out her responsibilities with dedication, efficiency, and professionalism.



AVON TENNIS

Awards



Team of the Year Award

The Avon Tennis Team of the Year is the **Women's Winter County Cup Open Team.**



Gabi Coglitore,
Olivia Adamska,
Ali Blackett,
Izzy Britton,
Hannah Davies,
Jess Gunter,
Eleanor Nobbs,
Nehir Tuna
Alice Zelley.

Tennis Player of the Year Award

The Olive Brown Trophy for the Avon Tennis Player of the Year was

Isabelle Britton

A remarkable unbeaten run at the final-ever Winter County Cup at David Lloyd Long Ashton was a standout achievement and a vital contribution to the team's fantastic Division 1 victory in 2025.

Padel Player of the Year Award

Chris Price was named as Padel Player of the Year. Chris is an accomplished player who is ranked number 20 in the LTA Men's 40+ age group and 25 in the 50+ category. He is also closely involved in development of the game off the court as Avon Tennis Padel Lead.

UNSUNG HEROES



Martin Dibsedale from Congresbury Tennis Club

Martin has given outstanding service to Congresbury Tennis Club over the last 21 years. His dedication – particularly during some challenging periods – has been instrumental in the current buoyant position of the club with increased participation, active teams, and a positive outlook for the future.

Matthew Whitworth from Cotham Park Tennis Club

Matthew is membership secretary at Cotham Park Tennis Club. His administration skills have proved invaluable and won him huge respect from members.



Steve Stephens from Backwell Tennis Club



Steve has shown dedication and commitment to Backwell Tennis Club during a period of change and is a driving force within the club.

Milo George from Downend & Frenchay Tennis Club

Milo has worked tirelessly at Downend and Frenchay Tennis Club, putting in countless hours both on and off the court to help create a successful, thriving club.



SAT 21ST MARCH
2026
7 - 11:30PM
COUNTY CRICKET
GROUND, BRISTOL

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR
WINNERS AT THE LTA AND
AVON TENNIS ANNUAL
AWARDS!

DRINKS, 2 COURSE MEAL, AWARDS,
RAFFLE

BIG NIGHT OUT



Scan the QR code to book your tickets

or use this link <https://forms.gle/c5ocngKMTFxq9oDx5>