

Avon Tennis
March 2026
Newsletter



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This Newsletter is sent to the Club Main Contact of Avon Tennis Clubs.

Please ensure this is distributed across your tennis club community. If you can't see images, please right click if asked to do so in the pop up box. We hope the new email system is working and this newsletter reaches you.

A NOTE FROM AVON TENNIS

We're delighted to unveil our refreshed Avon Tennis logo alongside our brand-new Avon Padel identity.



The circular icon remains the same familiar shape but has been streamlined to create a bolder, cleaner, and more modern feel. It retains its two distinctive elements: the optimistic, sunny yellow above the flowing blue water - a nod to the River Avon. The icon also cleverly reflects the shape of a tennis or Padel ball, with the crest of the wave echoing the curved seam you see on a tennis ball.

Alongside this, the updated typography brings a bright, contemporary look, reinforcing the energy and positivity at the heart of Avon Tennis.

You'll begin to see the new branding across our communications, competitions, and events in the coming weeks. We hope you love it as much as we do.

CLUBS & VENUES

**Avon Tennis Small
Grant Scheme**

**Other Agencies
Grants**

**Coffee & Chat
March 2026**

Need a little boost of funding to run something small at your club/venue, like an open day or new activity? Click on the link below and get the form filled in.

<https://www.avontennis.org.uk/files/avon-tennis-small-grant-...>

Already used your Avon Tennis Small Grant this year? Don't worry! Click the link below to discover other ways to secure funding and support for your club or venue.

<https://www.avontennis.org.uk/files/funding-opportunities-fo...>

Missed the last Coffee & Chat? It's now all on our website! Click the link below to catch up on what was discussed, key outcomes, and ideas shared at the meeting.

<https://www.avontennis.org.uk/coffee-chats/>

WIMBLEDON COMES TO SALT FORD

Join Saltford Tennis Club and their members on Saturday 18th April for a special fundraising event featuring former British no.1s Lucie Ahl and Danny Sapsford.

With sessions for all ages and abilities, plus exhibition matches, challenges and lots of fun - there's something for everyone.

Book your spot now.



WIMBLEDON COMES TO SALT FORD

Saturday 18th April 2026 from 1230

Fundraiser

Lucie Ahl (former British No.1) and **Danny Sapsford** (ex Wimbledon & Davis Cup) will provide Coaching Masterclasses

All proceeds in support of Inclusive Tennis and our outreach work

- 1300 Children aged 4 to 10
- 1345 Juniors aged 11 to 16
- 1430 Adult Beginners & Intermediates
- 1530 Advanced & League Players
- 1630 Fastest Serve Challenge
- 1700 Exhibition Match [Mixed Doubles Pros & Club Players]
- 1730 Pros vs Club Players Tie Break Showdown

Places Limited

Plus

- taster sessions of Inclusive Tennis at 1230
- Walking Tennis at 1630
- Fun activities on the field
- Refreshments and a raffle

SALT FORD
LAWN TENNIS CLUB

EVENTS/COMPETITIONS



BNO Photos are on their way!

**Our talented photographer, Eglá, has captured the night beautifully.
We'll be sharing them with you very soon - stay tuned!**

COACHES



Inspiring Coaching Session On and Off the Court

Avon coaches recently enjoyed a highly informative and engaging session, both on and off the court, led by David Collins. The session was packed with inspiration, as David shared a range of excellent doubles drills and activities that can be adapted for players of all levels.

A big thank you to Kay Gilbert for organising such a valuable event, to Julie Jones for providing LTA updates (even on her birthday!), and to Mandy Stonier for keeping coaches informed with the latest news from across the county.

A fantastic opportunity to learn, connect, and continue developing coaching excellence across Avon.



ROCKET PADEL WDC

Don't forget to check out the Rocket Padel Workforce Development Centre website - your one-stop hub for all training and CPD opportunities. Whether you're looking to upskill or stay up to date, everything you need is here.

Visit: <https://wdc.rocketpadel.com/>

JUNIOR PERFORMANCE

County Cup Success for our 9U & 18U squads

It's been an outstanding start to the County Cup for our junior squads, with fantastic performances across the board.

Our **9U boys and girls** got off to a flying start in Taunton, both winning their qualifying rounds in style. The finals in Southampton proved a tougher test, but both teams showed great passion and enthusiasm

throughout. A special mention to the girls, who secured an **outstanding 3rd place finish**—a brilliant achievement against strong competition.

Meanwhile, our **18U squads** enjoyed the rare bonus of home support, with fixtures held at DL Long Ashton and Bath University. It's not often both teams get to play on home turf, and they certainly made the most of it.

The **18U boys** delivered a strong campaign, finishing **2nd in Division 2** and securing their place in the division for next year - an excellent result.

And the **18U girls**... simply incredible. A dominant performance saw them crowned **Division 1 winners and County Cup champions**. An exceptional achievement and a moment to be hugely proud of!

A massive congratulations to all players and coaches for their hard work, determination, and team spirit. And to the supporters, parents, family members and friends, thank you for your support, it was invaluable.

Click the button below to read the Captain's reports.

County Cup 2026 Captain's Reports

SAFEGUARDING



Emily Churchill, our county safeguarding lead, has created a dedicated WhatsApp group for clubs and venues welfare officers. If you are in this role at your club or venue please scan the QR code to request to join.

This is a great way to connect with one another, share general advice, discuss good practice, and feel part of a wider network.

You can also join the group by clicking on the link below:

[Join group](#)

OPEN COURT



DISABILITY ACTIVITY

SUPPORT PACKAGE

We've developed a package of equipment and support to enable venues to increase opportunities for disabled people through being a part of our Open Court programme, this includes:

- Provision of adaptive equipment
- Support with marketing and communications
- Funding support to cover start-up costs and outreach
- Support sessions available for your coaches and volunteers by disability tennis experts
- Invitation to networking events
- Access to our specialist LTA regional and county staff

For further information visit lta.org.uk



GET STARTED

EDI

IGNITE WOMEN & GIRLS FESTIVAL

A huge thank you to everyone who helped, coach, support and play at the Ignite Bristol Women & Girls Festival on Sunday 8 March, marking International Women's Day. It was fantastic to see so many people coming together to move, try something new, and celebrate the power of women and girls in our city.

You can now view photos from the day here: [Ignite Women and Girls](#)



Shape the Future of Inclusive Sport

A new and exciting opportunity is here for young women and girls ready to make a real difference.

Access Sport, supported by the Sweaty Betty Foundation, is recruiting **disabled and neurodivergent young women and girls (14–25)** to join a new **youth-led panel**.

You'll help co-design, influence and lead change across access sport's programmes, and make sport more inclusive.

We especially welcome applications from women and girls who do not see themselves as "sporty"; are from lower income families; are Black or of South Asian heritage; refugees or seeking asylum; are LGBTQIA+; have personal experience of the care system; or are young carers.

Key details:

- Monthly online meetings + quarterly in-person meetups
- Join in with sports events & take part in training
- Work on inclusion focused projects

[Interested? Click the button below to find out more and apply.](#)

Join the Panel

IMPORTANT DATES

*** 12 April - Avon Spring Tournament, David Lloyd Long Ashton**

* 17 - 19 April - Over 50s National County Padel Championships, Rocket Padel

* 8 May - Avon Summer League Begins (Good luck to all players)

* 31 May - Walking Sports Festival, Redmaids High School for Girls, 1 - 3pm

2026 - NEW FEATURE

AVON TENNIS TIP OF THE MONTH

You don't spend enough time on this!

This tennis tip focuses on a crucial, often-overlooked element: **the serve toss**. Patrick Mouratoglou details the ideal toss height, depth, and laterality, explaining how a consistent toss dramatically improves accuracy and power. Learn the technical aspects for maximum control and a more effective serve.

Click here
for the video
tip from
Patrick
Mouratoglou

Avon Tennis

Coombe Dingle Sports Centre, Bristol
United Kingdom

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[Sorry to see you go.](#)

