



KENT TENNIS OPEN COURT LEAD - ROLE DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The Open Court programme is a national scheme overseen by the LTA that actively promotes and delivers opportunities for people with disabilities to get involved in tennis and padel. Partnered with and jointly funded by [Sport England](#), the programme provides disability specific sessions for tennis and padel – including adaptations for learning disability, wheelchair, visually impaired and deaf. The programme is also expanding into other long-term health conditions such as mental health and dementia.

Kent Tennis is looking for someone to become the Open Court Lead for the County and work with tennis and padel venues across the County, encouraging them to put on a range of activities to improve mental and physical health through increasing opportunities to play, socialise and compete with similar people in the sport. Whilst the role is intended for a volunteer, there is opportunity to share the role with 2 or more volunteers covering the whole county. Expenses will be reimbursed.

Purpose of the role

Kent Tennis's Open Court lead will support venues, volunteers, coaches and officials in conjunction with the LTA Regional Delivery Team and LTA EDI team, through venue forums, coach networking events and via online tools and resources. They will also assist the Kent Tennis's Board of Trustees in key tasks linked to the core role of the County, including EDI objectives related to the Open Court programme. The overall aim is to increase the number and range of tennis and padel opportunities on offer to people with disabilities and other target groups. This also includes encouraging venues to report factual data about their inclusive programmes when requested at key dates during the year.

Key Relationships

As well as directly supporting Kent Tennis to deliver the Open Court programme effectively, this role will also work closely with various LTA teams such as LTA National Delivery Team, Central EDI team, Central Competition team, Central Participation Team, Customer Support Team, and the Wheelchair Performance Team as appropriate.

Role

- To work with Kent Tennis , LTA, key tennis venues and other local and national partner organisations such as charities like Mencap, to develop and deliver the County Open Court plan and a clear communication strategy throughout the county.
- To further develop and co-ordinate the County Open Court programme to retain and grow the number of Open Court programme venues and players within their Open Court activities.

- To work with Kent Tennis's inclusive mentors to help assist coaches, volunteers, tennis venues and external organisations to deliver inclusive and impairment specific opportunities in clubs, parks, and other community settings.
- To identify and support Kent Tennis and local delivery partners to access funding and sponsorship for disability tennis to ensure its long-term sustainability.
- To promote and communicate all relevant LTA Open Court programme activity and opportunities within the County.
- To ensure all LTA Open Court programme venues complete the required LTA monitoring and evaluation (January, May, September) as set out in the funding criteria to secure ongoing success of the LTA Open Court programme and inform future planning of resources.
- To work collaboratively with Kent Tennis and LTA National Delivery team providing regular updates on activity levels, participation, opportunities, and budget requirements as and when requested.

Skills and understanding

- Demonstrate a passion for and knowledge of people with disabilities and/or tennis
- Have a basic understanding and knowledge of community and volunteer run clubs and venues
- Be able to work independently at an operational level
- Be conscientious and methodical with sound administrative skills
- Hold an Enhanced DBS check for working with children and vulnerable adults
- Have the ability to network effectively with local contacts, including coaches, volunteers, disability organisations, the Active Partnership and funding partners
- Willing and able to generate your own ideas and work as part of a team
- Able to communicate with people at all levels
- A full driving licence is desirable but not essential

If you are interested in the role or would like to find out more about it, please email info@kenttennis.org.uk