

## **Bucks Venue Forum**

Thank you to all of those who attended our Venue Forum on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We've had excellent feedback from clubs and management committee members, so we would like to encourage more people to attend our Autumn Venue Forum later in the year. The slides from the evening are attached to the email and you can find information below that was discussed amongst our groups.

## **Bucks Shield and the World Tennis Number**

For this summer's Bucks Shield competition, all players will need a World Tennis Number. The majority of players at your club should already have a WTN, through their LTA Advantage Membership (previously BTM), but you will need to encourage anybody who doesn't have one to sign up asap. There is a resource pack with more information at the link below:

World Tennis Number Venue Resource Pack: <https://www.lta.org.uk/4ae001/siteassets/about-lta/file/venue-resource-pack-itf-world-tennis-number.pdf>

## **Funding Roundtable**

Bucks Tennis offer the following loans and grants for up to a third of a project. Club development loan of up to £15,000, club development grants of up to £1,500 and participation project grants of up to £750. We also have a coach education support scheme. For more information and application forms, please contact [admin@buckstennis.com](mailto:admin@buckstennis.com).

LTA funding streams can all be found at the following link: <https://www.lta.org.uk/roles-and-venues/venues/tennis-padel-facility-funding-advice/>. This includes their quick access loan scheme, indoor community tennis projects, gate access technology and external grant support.

Other funding streams discussed include:

HS2 Community funding: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/community-funding/>

Leap funding search: <https://www.leapwithus.org.uk/funding-search/>

Included within the search are landfill community funds, which offer grants to organisations within a certain vicinity of their landfill sites.

Buckinghamshire funding search <https://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/bucksfunding>

Section 106 funding is available from local councils, but can be difficult to obtain. Feedback was that the applications can take a long time and you may not want to wait for the funding. You are also more likely to gain funding if your project is ready to start.

## **Tennis Volunteer Community**

Thank you to Simon Spalter from the Tennis Volunteer Community on Facebook for attending and facilitating discussion around social media. We would recommend somebody from your venue joins the Facebook group, as it's a great way to benefit from the knowledge of other volunteers across the country. Alternatively, you can email Simon at [tennis@eceltd.co.uk](mailto:tennis@eceltd.co.uk), to find other ways to be involved.

For the Tennis Volunteers Community, volunteers should connect to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/517145319449375/>

For the Tennis Parents Community, volunteers should connect to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/476342577251252/>

### **Coaching Roundtable**

*Many clubs are in need of another coach*

- Grown from within current membership, mentor candidates, club to financially invest in them
- Bucks LTA will pay for a 1/3 and extra grants for females.
- Link up with nearby colleges. Stony Stratford currently doing this at Milton Keynes, apprenticeship type scheme with Level 1/2.
- Changing the model. Instead of a full-time coach perhaps look for coaches to cover a day, 4 hours etc
- Older adults, ex teachers etc would be great
- See if any members are willing to volunteer and they can run team training, drills etc
- New coaches to incentivise with LTA Youth lesson plans.

*Increase junior coaching programme/camp attendance*

- How to engage juniors to participate in more than just squads: weekly/bi-weekly/monthly junior club nights. Social, table tennis, bar, food etc. Form friendships. Parents welcome and to help. Doesn't have to be coach led.
- LTA Youth team challenge events, <https://www.lta.org.uk/roles-and-venues/coaches/products-and-programmes/team-challenge/>
- Help players to engage in playing the game rather than just training - mini ladders, fun tournaments, adult/child events