

Selection Policy – Junior County Training and Teams

Introduction

This document sets out the principles upon which players will be eligible to attend County Training and will be selected to play for a Shropshire Junior Team in an LTA recognized competition. It does not apply to ‘friendlies’ where teams will be selected by the relevant team captain using their judgement to determine which juniors, chosen from the County training squad, would benefit most from the experience of playing a ‘friendly’.

This policy will be displayed on the Tennis Shropshire website.

Eligibility to attend junior County training

To be considered eligible to be part of a county training squad all junior players must:

- Attend a minimum of 80% of County training sessions unless injured or participating in an LTA sanctioned competition as previously agreed. This requirement is intended to foster a team spirit amongst players. The only exception to this will be where a junior is also part of a regional performance programme where it is accepted that training at both County and Regional level may not be practical.
- Play (for red and orange ball players) a minimum of 3 separate LTA sanctioned tournaments within a rolling 6 months (excluding County Cup) and for green ball players and above, play a minimum of 3 separate LTA sanctioned tournaments (excluding County Cup) in a rolling 3 month period, unless prevented by injury.

Parents are asked to notify the captain of their child’s team of the tournaments in which their child is playing or has played. Junior team captains can advise parents on tournaments which would be suitable for their child if required; the child’s own coach will also be able to provide this advice.

Parents of any junior who does not meet the above requirements will be notified and given 2 months to comply with these eligibility requirements. If the eligibility criteria are not met after this time then the child will no longer be eligible for the County Squad and this will apply from the start of the next training bloc.

Players will generally be put forward for consideration for a county training squad by their own coach and may be required to undertake a technical assessment by the team captain before acceptance, which will be based on the team captain’s assessment of the player’s ability. On occasion players may be invited to attend a county training session as a result of their competition results or following their identification at a county competition or other County event.



Selection for Junior County teams

- In all cases players will be selected from those attending County training (unless they have been given exemption due to being part of a Regional performance squad). The majority of players in County teams will be selected strictly on the basis of their ranking at the time of team selection (with the exception of the County red team where players have no ratings and will therefore be selected on the same basis as wildcards as shown below). For all County Cup competitions each team captain can offer discretionary wildcards, with 1 wildcard permitted for every 4 players who travel to the competition (e.g. 1 wc for team of 4, 2 wc for team of 4+). The captain will take into consideration the following when selecting their wildcards:
 - Any injury which may have affected the player’s ranking
 - Any other issues which may have affected the players ranking eg family bereavement etc
 - Number of tournaments played
 - Effort and attitude at County Training
 - Potential
 - Distance to competition and expected cost of taking additional players above the minimum number required
- Team selection will be made 8 weeks before the first day of the competition for which the team is being selected.
- Players who are selected to represent Shropshire, and their supporters, are required to conduct themselves at all times in a way consistent with the principles of sportsmanship and fair play, to show respect for their teammates, opponents and officials, and to promote the reputation of the County.

Event and places available		
Event	Places based on rating	Discretionary places
U8 (mini red)	n/a	4 boys, 4 girls
U9 (mini orange) - mixed	6 (3 boys, 3 girls)	2 (1 boy, 1 girl)
U10 (mini green) - girls	3	1
U 10 (mini green) - boys	3	1
U11 girls	3	1
U11 boys	3	1
U 12 girls	3	1
U 12 boys	3	1
U14 girls	3	1
U14 boys	3	1
U 18 girls	5	1
U18 boys	5	1