

County Team Policy

Junior Teams

Introduction

County Cup teams offer the strongest players in Kent an opportunity to represent their county and compete against other counties in various competitions. There are many different age bands in junior, senior and veteran categories. It is imperative that a clear structure is in place to enable all interested parties to see the responsibilities that the captains have, how a player goes about being selected and what support is available. The following document clarifies these processes and it will be updated annually.

Other policies include:

- Men's and Ladies Teams
- Senior Teams
- Volunteer and Office support for County Teams
- 2013/14 Event dates, Training dates, Selection dates, Captains' contact details

JUNIOR TEAMS

**18's, 14's, 12's, 10's, separate boy's and girl's
9's mixed team**

Appointment of Captains:

1. Each team will have an age group Captain, appointed by the Kent TDM and the Board of Management (BoM) representative of County Teams
2. Captaincy has no fixed term but an annual review of age group Captains will be carried out by the Kent TDM and the Board of Management representative as required.
3. Where appropriate (e.g. Captain chooses/male Captain for girls' team/no parents travelling) a team will have a Vice-Captain or team manager. Girls teams must have an accompanying female adult.

Responsibilities of Captains:

1. Attend annual Kent Captains' meeting
2. To ensure that they have an up to date CRB and/or Coach Licence/Registration.
3. Check dates for selection, training and event. See section **Event dates, Training dates, Selection dates**
4. Research player competition history, i.e. head-to-head and doubles results
5. Lead the team selection process following the process in **Team Selection**
6. Lead training sessions

7. Book accommodation. For 12's, 10's & 9's only if more than 90 minutes travel time from Bromley Tennis Centre, BR6 9SA to the competition venue (based on AA Route Planner). Premier Inn, Travel Lodge or equivalent accommodation should be used.
8. Arrange transport: For 18's and 14's teams book mini-buses. All team members should travel with the team unless written permission is given from parent/guardian to do otherwise. For 12's, 10's, 9's parent/guardian must accompany players throughout event.
9. Cover all expenditure for the players (i.e. food & drink) up to the level that Kent Tennis has confirmed they are willing to contribute. (Check with County Office prior to event).
10. Liaise with parent/guardian prior to, during and after event as necessary (i.e. costs and arrangements etc).
11. Ensure team clothing has been distributed to the final selected team.
12. Check and utilise the 'guidelines for travelling or staying away with people under the age of 18 - [see here](#)
13. Check the relevant LTA competition pack –[see here](#)
14. Book practice courts at event venue, run warm-up sessions, team talk and match feedback daily at the event.
15. Delegate and manage the responsibilities of the Vice-Captain/team manager if applicable.
16. Use Twitter appropriately during the event in order to update our followers on your progress.
17. Send email report and team photo of the event within 7 days after the completion of the event to kent@lta.org.uk If you are successful in progressing to the National Finals – stage 2 we require an additional report and team photo.
18. Invoice Kent Tennis for all expenses within two weeks of the event using Kent invoice (including all receipts). Payment will only be made upon receipt of report and photo (see point 17).

Team Selection – 18's, 14's & 12's

This is an impartial process led by the Team Captain and supported by a selection panel of the Kent TDM and relevant coaches from Performances Centres are also invited to attend.

Once a team has been selected Kent Tennis will send out invitation letters.

Wildcards can be selected at any time, (i.e. at selection meetings, invited to attend training sessions, asked to participate in a play-off match(es) or be selected as a result of training sessions). The Team Captain will make final decisions with the support of Selection Panel

When selecting players for the Kent Teams, the Team Captain and the Selection Panel will have a residual discretion on selection, which includes such matters as reliability, foreseeable physical fitness, conduct, and a player's ability to work within the team. Subject to this, the following process will be used:

18's

Selection is based on a combination of direct entry players and wildcards as follows:

Age Group	Direct Entry Places	Wildcard(s)	Team
18	At least 4	2-6	Team of 6 – 10 players

1. Direct Entry
 - a. Rating and Ranking on a given date
 - b. U18 ATP/WTA Ranking
 - c. ITF up to 1000
2. If the Captain chooses not to utilise the wildcard option, the remainder of the team will be selected on the given date based on player rating and ranking on the given date. The selection panel also reserves the right to use a play-off system
3. If a player has not played 8 singles matches in the previous season they are automatically discounted regardless of rating. The next player will be selected based on the Direct Entry criteria
4. If a nominated player is unavailable to represent the county the next player(s), if required will be selected based on the Direct Entry criteria
5. Decision of the selection panel is final
6. The Captain reserves the right to change the team if a player does not attend any of the arranged practice sessions.

14's & 12's

Selection is based on a combination of direct entry players and wildcards as follows:

Age Group	Direct Entry Places	Wildcard(s)	Team
14	At least 4	0-2	Team of 4 – 6 players
12	At least 4	0-1	Team of 4 – 5 players

1. Direct entry is by rating and ranking on a given date. For dates see section **Event dates, Training dates, Selection dates**
2. If the Captain chooses not to utilise the wildcard option, the remainder of the team will be selected on the given date based on player rating and ranking on the given date. The selection panel also reserves the right to use a playoff system
3. If a player has not played 8 singles matches in the previous season they are automatically discounted regardless of rating. The next player will be selected based on rating and ranking on the given date
4. If a nominated player is unavailable to represent the county the next player(s), if required will be selected based on player rating and ranking on the given date
5. Decision of the selection panel is final
6. The Captain reserves the right to change the team if a player does not attend any of the arranged practice sessions.

Squad and Team Selection – 10's & 9's

This is an impartial process led by the team selection panel, the panel comprises of the Team Captain, Kent TDM and relevant coaches from Performances Centres who are also invited to attend.

Squad selection will be based mainly on:

1. Rating
2. Results (current and over the previous season)

Team Selection will be based on:

1. Performance at selection squads by agreement of the Team Captain and Kent TDM - their decision is final

10's

Age Group	Team
10's	4 – 5 players

1. Up to 6 players (of each gender) will be invited to attend selection squads
2. 4 – 5 players of each gender will be selected based on how players competed over the current and over the previous season. For dates see section **Event dates, Training dates, Selection dates**
3. Decision of selection panel is final

9's

Age Group	Team
9's	6 – 8 players

1. Up to 8 players (boys and girls combined) will be invited to attend selection squads
2. Boys and girls will be selected based on how players competed over the current and over the previous season. For dates see section **Event dates, Training dates, Selection dates**
3. Decision of selection panel is final

Team Clothing

All players selected to represent Kent at one of the AEGON Junior County Cup Events will receive the following items of clothing free of charge:

- 18's, 14's & 12's will receive a Kent tracksuit top and 2 t-shirts
- 10's, will receive a Kent hooded sweatshirt and 2 t-shirts
- 9's will receive a Kent hooded sweatshirt and 1 t-shirt
- Replacement or additional items will be charged at cost price