

# LTA TENNIS AWARDS: TIPS FOR WRITING A GOOD NOMINATION

The below guidance is put together to support you in writing a good nomination. There is no “one way” to write a nomination, and creativity is encouraged, but it’s worth reading through the below before submitting the information. You will find top tips and examples of nominations that have gone on to win an award.

## TOP TIPS

- Use specific examples to illustrate how your nominee meets each of the criteria
- Provide evidence of what they have done
- Describe as vividly and precisely as possible the difference the nominee’s contribution has made. Whether you are nominating an individual or a club/venue think about the following:
  - How were things before they began?
  - How are they now?
  - What makes your nominee different from others doing the same thing?
- Show how the nominee has:
  - Contributed in a distinctive way to improve things for the benefit of others
  - Dedicated themselves to voluntary service and/or has made a significant impact in tennis
  - Shown innovation or creativity in delivering lasting results
- Show how your nominee has:
  - Earned the respect of their peers and become a role model
  - Produced sustained achievement through vision and hard work
- Try and avoid statements like “they’ve had a widespread effect” or “they’re an excellent coach” without describing what they’ve done: describe what that effect has been and show why it has been important
- Include a clear, direct and specific statement of why the nominee deserves recognition
- Keep it simple – remember that longer doesn’t necessarily mean better. When presenting your nominee, keep your explanations clear and to the point.

### Effective nominations often include nouns such as:

- Determination
- Drive
- Innovation
- Impact
- Ambassador
- Commitment
- Sustainability
- Creativity
- Zeal
- Respect
- Recognition
- Selflessness
- Performance

### Adjectives such as:

- Trusted
- Persuasive
- Resourceful
- Tenacious

- Dedicated
- Inspirational
- Passionate
- Enthusiastic
- Supportive
- Admired

#### And phrases such as:

- Making a difference
- Going the extra mile
- Role model
- Overcoming obstacles
- Above and beyond

## SOME EXAMPLES OF PREVIOUS WINNERS - EXTRACTS

### Lifetime achievement

[ ] joined the club in [ ], and since then has taken on [xxx] role on the committee.

Before [ ], the club had around [ ] members, but [ ] supported a relocation project which saw the club double its membership. It now has [ ] adult and junior teams, with an active club night and diverse coaching programme for all ages and abilities.

As Chair for [ ], she was the major driver behind securing a [£xxx] grant and gained loans and sponsorship to fund the development on the current site. As a result, she leaves a legacy that means the club features [ ] floodlit courts and a sociable clubhouse.

A true advocate for getting the younger generation into tennis, she was responsible for starting up a coaching programme for [ ] local schools. This has been rolling for over [ ] years and means [ ] primary school children can enjoy free coaching from qualified coaches for [ ] each year. On top of this, she captains the ladies team.

#### Comment:

*This nominee has been volunteering over many years for the benefit of others. It's very clear that she is a key person at the club and the nomination also makes clear the number of people who have benefited from her work and the legacy she will leave behind.*

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### Volunteer of the Year

Raising [ ] to resurface park courts is no mean feat, but [ ] proved that where there's a will there's a way! Working closely with a small team of volunteers, the local council, schools, sponsors and businesses, [ ] liaised with the Council to match fund [ ] through generous donations and local fundraising initiatives for the whole community to engage with!

On top of her campaign, Elaine also raised funds to deliver low-cost 'pay as you go' tennis at the same park courts. Thanks to a partnership established with [ ] Tennis Club, the coaching sessions are priced at [ ] per person with all equipment provided, resulting to [ ] new people taking up tennis – and many of them for the first time. She has also liaised with the local press to really drive awareness of the sessions so that more and more locals can get on court!

#### Comment:

*This nominee has made a huge voluntary contribution over a 12 month period and has used her own initiative to do something that benefits a whole community and enables lots of people to play tennis.*

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### **Coach of the Year**

[ ] dedication to developing coach progression is unprecedented. Alongside his full time role as head coach at [ ], he set up and is now lead mentor for a coach development scheme which was designed to mentor young coaches through the start of their tennis career. [ ] wrote and delivered a coaching programme building from [ ] to [ ] players playing week in, week out in.

Praised for his inclusivity, [ ] has had a great impact on grass roots tennis and on top of this he has been recognised as one of the youngest coaches to become a qualified tutor [ ].

### **Comment:**

*This nominee has gone above and beyond to develop a mentoring programme for young coaches. The numbers provided show the impact he has made at the grass roots level of the sport.*

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### **Club of the Year**

10 years ago [ ] did not exist, but after much hard work and incredible commitment from those around it, the [ ] court club has a thriving membership of over [ ] players and a weekly coaching programme of [ ] children. The driving force and inspiration for the club, [ ], had a dream to build a tennis club that could service the whole of [ ] with a membership base, coaching programme and strong community links. After negotiating the lease and a [ ] loan from the LTA the dream started to become a reality.

[ ] TC work very closely with the [ ] and the local council to set up school tennis activities. Over the past year they have delivered the following:

- Weekly lessons for [ ] primary schools.
- Tennis open days for another [ ] primary schools.
- Secondary school enrichment weeks /days for years 7-11.
- A work experience programme for the local secondary schools and colleges

They also provide a range of offers to invite players to attend the club, including 6 week coaching sessions at an introductory rate and free Friday's tennis for all in July. They offer a weekly disability programme led by a coach every Thursday morning and the local council, sports centre and schools help to promote this. Their school partnerships and disability programme really helps raise the club's profile within the local community, and helps foster the community-feel that is at the heart of everything they do. The club and initiatives have allowed over [ ] people to experience the sport over the past decade.

### **Comment:**

*This nominee has taken the initiative to do something to help the community. They identified a need and started something from scratch to make things better for others. The club has been very successful: the figures in the nomination make clear the level of the impact he has had.*

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## **Competition of the Year**

The tournament provides Grade [ ] competitive tennis for [ ] Under 8's to Over 70's players on [ ] courts, including grass courts prepared on the [ ] cricket pitch.

The tournament includes the [ ] events. Learning Disability events have been introduced in recent years.

Fundraising from more than [ ] patrons and local sponsors cover the running costs of [ ]. [ ] is a real Festival of Tennis. Many players return with their children and grandchildren to compete. There are entries from all parts of Britain, incorporating family holidays to [ ].

To support this nomination, a video message was also included.

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