

Bermuda Lawn Tennis Association
Junior International
Representation Policies

2025



Table of Contents

BLTA Junior National Training Program:	3
BLTA Junior Player Ticket Compensation	4
BLTA Ticket, Hotel, and Transportation Policy	5
BLTA Uniform Policy	6
Coaches Selection	7

BLTA Junior National Training Program:

BLTA Junior National Training Program: The BLTA Junior National Training Program is designed for juniors who currently represent, or have the potential to represent, Bermuda in tennis at the highest national and international levels.

Program Overview: To join this program, players must demonstrate strong technical and tactical skills and the ability to commit to an intense training regimen. The program caters to juniors aged 11-18 and is offered free of charge. Once selected, attendance is mandatory.

Players are recommended for the program by their private coaches, after which the BLTA Junior National Training Program Coaches and the National Tennis Director will evaluate the players to confirm their readiness.

The program focuses on enhancing technical and tactical abilities while improving endurance, speed, agility, mental resilience, and overall fitness. Nutrition guidance is also provided to support players' development.

Note: Participants must continue taking private lessons with their individual coaches while engaged in this program and other BLTA initiatives.

Eligibility Criteria: To qualify for the BLTA Junior National Training Program, players must meet the following requirements:

1. *Be in good standing with the BLTA and a current member.*
2. *Must possess a Bermuda passport or have documents to show Bermuda Status or parents can possess a Permanent Residence Certificate. (PRC Holder).*
3. *Must participate in at least one BLTA sanctioned Tournament.*
4. *Must participate in match play organized by the BLTA. Example: Trial matches, or Tournaments.*
5. *Must participate in organized fundraising if required by the BLTA.*
6. *Local ranking is taken into consideration but does not necessarily translate to automatic selection.*
7. *Must pass the evaluation led by the BLTA Junior National Training Program Coaches and the National Tennis Director.*

Any Juniors with ITF World Junior Tour Ranking points, or players with ATP or WTA Tour Ranking points, are exempt from the above criteria #4 and #5.

BLTA Junior Player Ticket Compensation

To offset the rising cost of BLTA participation in international competitions, the BLTA will be introducing a Ticket Compensation System based on the current ranking. Historically, the BLTA has largely fully supported the travel costs of players and teams to international competitions. However, we are no longer able to sustain such costs at the current level. The following system will be implemented as of the 2025 season.

1. Tiered Compensation Structure:

- **Highest ranked player:** 100% ticket cost covered
- **Second Highest ranked player:** 75% ticket cost covered
- **Third Highest ranked player:** 50% ticket cost covered
- **Notes** Ticket costs are calculated based on flights from Bermuda. When multiple players from a family are participating, various additional factors will be taken into account when calculating compensation.

2. Ranking Period:

- Player's tournament participation is used to determine the player's rankings and may be a result of the current or past season.

3. Communication and Transparency:

- Clearly communicate the compensation structure to all players at the beginning of each season.
- Publish a transparent ranking system on the BLTA website or app.
- Provide regular updates on player rankings and compensation eligibility.

4. Review and Adjustment:

- Regularly review and adjust the compensation system based on player feedback and season performance will be performed.

5. Benefits of this Improved System:

- **Increased Player Value:** Rewards top performers and incentivizes consistent high-level play.
- **Improved Player Satisfaction:** Provides tangible benefits to players for their contributions.
- **Increased League Visibility:** Attracts top talent and creates a more competitive and exciting season play.
- **Helps the BLTA** to provide a sustainable path to continued competition.

BLTA Ticket, Hotel, and Transportation Policy

BLTA Ticket and Policy

The BLTA will arrange travel for p[layers and coaches.

- **Ticket Purchase:** The BLTA will purchase all player and coach tickets.
- **Timing:** Ticket purchases will commence as soon as all players have been selected for the required team.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** The BLTA will prioritize the most effective and cost-efficient ticket options.
- **Parent Visibility:** Parents will have full access to ticket information as soon as it becomes available.

BLTA Hotel and Accommodation Policy

- **International Competitions:**
 - The ITF provides all accommodations for players and coaches during international tournaments.
 - Players will receive a travel list for each event.
 - Players will share rooms with other players.
 - Coaches will typically share rooms with coaches from other nations.
- **In Transit:**
 - If necessary, the BLTA will arrange hotel accommodations when a team is in transit.
 - Players and coaches will be provided with separate rooms.
 - The BLTA will allow players to stay in rooms with traveling parents under certain circumstances.

BLTA Transportation Policy

- **Departure:** The BLTA will provide transportation for players once we leave Bermuda in conjunction with the ITF.
- **Arrival in Bermuda:** Players are generally responsible for arranging their transportation to the Bermuda International Airport. Exceptions may be made upon arrangement with the BLTA.
- **Return to Bermuda:** The BLTA requests that all players be collected from the Bermuda International Airport upon their return.

BLTA Uniform Policy

The BLTA will be implementing the following Uniform Policy effective from the 2025 Tennis Season.:

- **Uniform Provision:** All participating players will be provided with 2 uniforms.
- **Uniform Issuance:** Players will be issued these uniforms at their first opportunity to participate in an international competition representing Bermuda.
- **Uniform Usage:** These uniforms will be used for the duration of the tennis competition season.
- **Additional Uniforms:** Additional uniforms will be available for purchase from the BLTA at the current market cost.

Coaches Selection

National Training

The BLTA seeks to provide qualified and suitable coaches for the National Training Program. Coaches are selected based on expressed interest in the program and their alignment with the National Tennis Director's vision. All coaches must possess an ITF Level 1 certification or higher.

International Competitions

Objective:

To ensure that BLTA teams are accompanied by qualified and suitable coaches for international travel, in accordance with International Tennis Federation (ITF) requirements.

Coach Selection:

- **Priority:** The BLTA will endeavor to provide ITF-certified coaches to travel with each team.
- **Diversity:** Where possible, the BLTA will strive to allocate a female coach to travel with any female team.
- **Selection Process:**
 - Coaches interested in traveling with a team must submit a formal request.
 - A selection committee comprised of non-executive BLTA members will review all applications.
- **Selection Criteria:**
 - **Qualifications:** Coaches must possess a minimum ITF Level coaching certification.
 - **Standing:** Coaches must be in good standing with the BLTA.
 - **Experience:** Coaches should have a history of active involvement in BLTA programs or activities.
 - **Familiarity:** Coaches should have familiarity with the participating juniors (e.g., through coaching experience with them).
 - **Age Requirement:** Coaches must meet the ITF minimum age requirement of 24 years old

ITF Requirements:

This policy aligns with the International Tennis Federation's requirements regarding the provision of qualified coaches for international junior teams.