

BUCS TENNIS LMC - MINUTES

Date 05/03/2026
Time 10:00 – 12:00
Location Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Dan Roberts (DR)
Sophie Kitson (SK)
Alistair Higham (AH)
Richard Joyner (RJ)
Matt Wildt (MW)
Tom Kisiel (TK)
Gareth Weaver-Tyler (GWT)
Amy Lees (AL)
Scott MacAulay (SMA)
Ian MacDonald (IM)
Paul Johnson (PJ)
Luke Degun (LD)

APOLOGIES

David Bond (DB)

ORGANISATION

BUCS
BUCS
LTA
LTA
Nottingham
Loughborough
Durham
Durham
Stirling
Bath
Leeds Beckett
Imperial

ORGANISATION

Stirling

Item	Action*
1. Welcome Dan Roberts chaired the meeting. <u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from David Bond. <u>Minutes from the previous meeting</u> • Student Representatives ○ Student rep roles are now live on the BUCS website. ○ Institutions asked again to nominate suitable men's and women's student reps. • WTN & International Student Linking ○ Ongoing issues with linking international players' WTNs. ○ Some LTA feedback indicated adjustments can only be made if players have an active IPIN, which is affecting several universities. ○ Action: PJ to forward email responses to RJ, who will escalate with LTA. ○ Several institutions reported similar problems; others reported inconsistencies in league result visibility for WTN and UTR. • League Results on LTA / UTR Systems ○ Results from BUCS leagues are still not appearing on tournament software, affecting WTN/UTR updates. ○ SK explained the remaining technical barrier relating to cup draws in the LTA system. ○ Strong feedback from coaches emphasised the need for results to appear weekly as this directly affects player development and entry into other competitions. • Previous minutes were approved with no objections.	PJ

2. 2026-27 Calendar • Review of Current Season's Changes ○ League start was pushed back to avoid pro event clashes; overall well received. ○ Several universities noted: ▪ More players accessed pro events as intended – also viewed as a good recruitment tool. ▪ New students benefited from additional settling-in time, although some wanted to get going as they saw the rest of the teams get going much earlier. ▪ First term felt very congested for some teams (e.g. 7 matches before Christmas) - easier to keep calendar as released for some universities rather than rearranging. Those who rearranged fixtures though had a more event split pre- & post- Christmas. • Suggested Improvements ○ More even split (e.g., 5 pre-Christmas, 5 post-Christmas) preferred by multiple institutions. ○ Need to consider uncertainty of Second Super Weekend dates, which affects scheduling. ○ Discussion raised about potential venue change for Second Super Weekend due to late scheduling issues, but recognition of benefits of staying at the NTC. • BUCS Doubles Timing and Format ○ Questions raised about restoring the “kudos” of BUCS Doubles. ○ Observations included: ▪ Event has lost prestige partly due to coach absence and mismatched first round standards. ▪ Consideration of A/B draws, qualifying events, or WTN based entry cutoffs. ▪ Need to balance opportunities for smaller institutions with competitive integrity. ▪ SAG to review format options. • LTA Calendar Notes from RJ ○ RJ outlined relevant Q4 and Q1 pro event dates (e.g. Tennis Scotland Open Tour, January Challenger weeks). ○ BUCS to consider these while drafting next season's calendar. ○ Action: BUCS to produce a draft 2026–27 calendar, incorporating feedback and minimising clashes.	BUCS
3. LTA Update • Partner university funding applications ongoing; funding decisions expected to be released for 2026-29 w/c 15 June 2026. • New promotional videos launched (performance pathways, Super Weekend footage). • Updated partner university web listings – institutions asked to check their information here. • Master U event sponsorship withdrawn; week to be held free in case an alternative event/friendly can be arranged. • Encouragement for students to apply for grass court hitting opportunities.	

4. BUCS Update • National Championships underway; institutions reminded to upload results promptly for media coverage. • Final individuals qualifying event taking place this weekend. • Audits will be sent once the season concludes. • Reminder to promote student rep roles.	
5. SAG Update • Two ranking review meetings held; main themes: ○ Discussion of using one consistent ranking system (WTN or UTR) across all teams. ○ Doubles ranking rules widely agreed to require simplification; support for “any order” pairing. ○ Recognition that WTN reliability depends on fixing BUCS to LTA result uploads. • Concerns raised about potential gaming of ranking lists under current system. • Strong pressure from institutions to resolve technical issues so BUCS results feed directly into WTN/UTR.	
6. Super Weekend Feedback • Overall very positive: ○ Tetris scheduling model considered a major improvement. ○ Live streaming, player briefings, increased social content, and youth engagement all added value. ○ Event viewed as more professional with court supervisors without requiring full chair umpire team. • Some desire to increase officiating levels if budgets allow. • Very strong social media growth: over 1.2 million views in the past month and multiple reels exceeding 200–350k views. • Action: Institutions asked to circulate Super Weekend feedback form to players. • Big Wednesday ○ Tetris model will be used again. ○ Aim is chair umpires on all matches, but dependent on national availability; vase and champs guaranteed.	All
7. Rules and Regs & MOS Review • Next LMC (April) will focus on proposed BUCS Tennis rules & regs and MOS changes for 2026–27 season. • Institutions asked to prepare any suggested amendments.	
8. AOB • No additional items raised. • DR thanked attendees and wished teams well for the remainder of knockout competitions and Big Wednesday preparations.	

9. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 16 April 2026 – 10:00am-12:00pm