

BUCS TENNIS LMC - MINUTES

Date 18/09/2025
Time 10:00 – 12:00
Location Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Dan Roberts (DR)
Sophie Kitson (SK)
Neal Kington (NK)
Richard Joyner (RJ)
Alex Perry (AP)
Matt Wildt (MW)
Tom Kisiel (TK)
Gareth Weaver-Tyler (GWT)
Amy Lees (AL)
David Bond (DB)
Charles Nichols (CN)
Steve McLoughlin (SML)
Paul Johnson (PJ)

APOLOGIES

Alistair Higham (AH)
Luke Degun (LD)
Scott MacAulay (SMA)
Ian MacDonald (IM)

ORGANISATION

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

ORGANISATION

LTA
Imperial
Stirling
Bath

Item	Action*
1. Welcome Dan Roberts chaired the meeting. <u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Alistair Higham, Luke Degun, Scott MacAulay and Ian MacDonald. Charles Nichols was welcomed to the group as a stand in for Bath in Ian's absence. <u>Minutes from the previous meeting</u> SK reviewed the actions arising from the previous meeting. SK noted that that the Student Rep role recruitment had been unsuccessful since the last meeting, the suggested format change to the schedule of Super Weekend's would be discussed later in the meeting, AH will share the Dual Career Pathway resource once public, the SAG had addressed the issue with Premier (North/South) dates which now work well with the introduction of the National Vase, SK noted that it was not possible to split the Individual Qualifiers pre- & post-Christmas and that the MOS will be discussed later in the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record.	

2. BUCS Update

SK provided an update from BUCS:

- SK confirmed that the National Vase has now be introduced for the 2025/26 Season, this means that Premier (North/South) teams will not currently appear in any of the cup draws on BUCS Play. The National Vase, like the National Championship, draw will be done upon completion of the league in February ahead of the run up to BUCS Big Wednesday. This will mean the National Championship will include Premier (National) teams only, the National Vase will include Premier (North/South) teams only and the National Trophy will include Tier 1 teams only.
- As noted in the previous meeting, BUCS opened recruitment for several additional LMC roles. Recruitment has so far has been unsuccessful. The Job Descriptions for these roles are currently being updated but will be shared in due course. Institutions are reminded to share the Men's and Women's Student Representative roles with their students. These positions aim to ensure student voices and perspectives are represented during LMC meetings and are also a great opportunity for students to have a voice in a national competition.
- SK provided an update on the Doubles Championships. Entries for which are now open and close for students on Tuesday 28 October. SK also informed the group that with the change of venue BUCS had been able to secure more court time which means for the first time a consolation draw will also be played, ensuring all students are guaranteed 2 matches. This addition will hopefully improve student experience.
- SK thanked the group for submitting their contacts for the 2025/26 Season. SK noted that several institutions noted on the form that they could not submit their captain or social media rep contacts over the summer as they had not yet been decided. If institutions now know who their captains and social media reps will be, they are encouraged to submit these through the same form which SK will re-share.
- Super Weekend 2 has now been confirmed and will take place on 14-15 February 2026 at the National Tennis Centre. TK requested that the schedule is shared as soon as possible as the earlier teams can book accommodation the cheaper it is likely to be. SK will look to share this as soon as possible, taking into consideration the new format, but also noting that professional training at the NTC is not always confirmed until the week of event. SK will also look to confirm the potential cost of accommodation at the NTC.
- SK shared that the GB University Tennis Network WhatsApp community has now been setup. The purpose of the community is to allow for easy distribution of information relating to BUCS and wider University Tennis matters.

Action: SK to share Student Representative job descriptions with the group.

Action: SK to re-share contacts submission form.

Action: SK to share link to WhatsApp community.

BUCS

BUCS/All

BUCS

3. LTA Update No major update as AH currently on leave. RJ noted that the pro calendar for Q1 is nearly finalised. Once finalised, RJ will share with SK to update the group. Action: RJ to share Q1 pro calendar with SK once finalised.	RJ
4. Sport Specific Affiliations BUCS will be bringing in mandatory Sport Specific Affiliations for the 2025/26 Season. These will include: • LTA Venue Registration • LTA Advantage Membership (all students competing BUCS must have a current membership before being listed on a ranking list, this also must be listed beneath their name on the ranking list) These are unlikely to cause any issues for this group as all will already be registered venues, and most students will hold current (minimum Advantage Play) LTA Advantage Membership. It will be important for international students to be aware of this and a previous WTN will be able to be linked to their LTA account by contacting the LTA. The LTA will contact those submitted as Web Admins as soon as the LTA Venue Registration window is open.	
5. SAG Update MW informed the group that the SAG meetings would be the week following each LMC, therefore if anyone would like anything to be raised, they should contact MW or SK. Recruitment is now also live for several roles on the SAG, so if any institution has any students or staff that would suit any of the roles, they should share these with them. MW shared that the Ace The Start Campaign is now live and was launched at the National University Training Day. The purpose of the campaign is to improve the student experience, reduce wasted court time (& therefore institution money) and allow for tracking of data relating to lateness. Action: SK to share SAG roles with the group for recruitment. Action: SK to share Ace The Start campaign with the group, teams are encouraged to sign up to the scheme.	BUCS BUCS

6. Super Weekend Schedule SK shared the proposed Super Weekend schedule for Super Weekend 1 following feedback from the group about playing matches in 2 rounds rather than 3. This was well received, however, teams felt that it could be improved further by having both Men's & Women's teams from the same institution playing at the same time on 6 courts, rather than having a gap between rounds. Action: SK to send out holding email to teams to let them know that the schedule will be changing. Action: SK to share updated Super Weekend 1 schedule.	BUCS BUCS
7. Minimum Operating Standards (MOS) DR shared the 2025/26 MOS document. There will be a few additional points to be added including confirmation of the ITIA Training and Ace The Start campaign. DR confirmed that the ITIA will not hold a webinar-style training this year but will instead provide training through the ITIA's TIPP programme for anti-doping & anti-corruption training. This means that for all those who already compete in professional events, they will not have to redo this training as this is already a requirement ahead of competition. This also will act as a bridge between BUCS and pro-tennis, meaning those who have not yet competed but are likely to compete in pro-tennis events soon will already have completed the training ahead of competition. Action: BUCS to share MOS document once finalised.	BUCS

8. AOB TK highlighted the need for establishing behaviour expectations early in the season. This was well received by the group, who agreed that the tone for the year should be set at Super Weekend, as this is now the start of the season for teams. SK/DR confirmed that there will be a referee and 2 court supervisors at the first Super Weekend. SML highlighted that teams should also be proactive in dealing with any issues of behaviour within their teams and that this should be dealt with internally first before any sanctions etc. are brought to them by BUCS. He also shared an example from last season, where a player's behaviour was below standard and was dealt with internally. RJ suggested that a mechanism for reporting code violations during BUCS events such as Super Weekend's should be explored as these work differently to events that are run through TTP. Code violations can impact a player significantly in some cases as they can lead to potential suspensions. MW highlighted the need for teams to be aware of and to follow the LTA's Code of Conduct. SK suggested that a captains/coaches briefing could be held ahead of each teams matches starting to set the standards of behaviour from the start of the match/day/season. TK suggested that this could also be implemented across regular BUCS Wednesday fixtures and would mean teams could hold each other to account. MW suggested that discipline could be a standing item on the agenda to re-visit each meeting. Action: SK to explore possibility of code violation reporting through the LTA's systems. Action: Captains/Coaches briefing to be held before each match at Super Weekend 1 and teams to trial this at regular BUCS Wednesday fixtures.	BUCS BUCS/All
9. Date of Next Meeting Thursday 04 December 2025 – 10:00-12:00	