



BUCS TENNIS IMPACT REPORT

2025-26 Season

FOREWORD

The 2025–26 season has been another landmark year for university tennis, reflecting the continued strength and evolution of the sport across our member institutions. More students than ever have represented their universities, with growth in team entries demonstrating that tennis continues to thrive. The introduction of Padel into the BUCS programme has also marked an exciting milestone, creating new opportunities for students to engage with one of the world’s fastest-growing racket sports.

This season has also showcased the quality of university tennis both domestically and internationally. Outstanding performances across our competitions, alongside GB Students reclaiming the Master’U World University Team Championship, highlight the important role university tennis plays within the wider player pathway. The continued growth of the @BritUniTennis Instagram has further helped celebrate our competitions, athletes and institutions while increasing the sport’s profile.

Looking ahead, expanding Padel opportunities, investing in our workforce and volunteers, and ensuring competitions remain accessible and engaging will be key priorities as we continue to grow the programme.

Neal Kington, BUCS Head of Competitions

The BUCS Tennis leagues are unique and very valuable in the British Tennis competition landscape. In no other competition are there weekly team fixtures for both singles and doubles matches across a six month period. It’s great to see the number of teams entering continuing to rise.

Alistair Higham, LTA Universities Manager



LEAGUES & KNOCKOUTS - IN NUMBERS



81 INSTITUTIONS

391 TEAMS

232 MEN'S TEAMS **159** WOMEN'S TEAMS
INCREASE OF **12 TEAMS** FROM 2024-25 SEASON

85 LEAGUES &
KNOCKOUTS

INCLUDING **17** FAST4 LEAGUES & KNOCKOUTS

2031 SCHEDULED
BUCS FIXTURES

93.5% FIXTURE
COMPLETION RATE



British Universities
and Colleges Sport

2845 STUDENTS
REPRESENTED THEIR
UNIVERSITY

152 LUSL
SCHEDULED
FIXTURES

(LONDON UNIVERSITIES SPORTS LEAGUES)
WITH **14** DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS COMPETING



EVENTS - IN NUMBERS

15 EVENTS

INCLUDING LUSL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS, LUSL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, LUSL FEST, 2 SUPER WEEKENDS, BUCS DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS, BUCS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (WITH 5 REGIONAL QUALIFIERS), BUCS WHEELCHAIR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS, BUCS BIG WEDNESDAY AND BUCS PADEL CHAMPIONSHIPS

475 UNIQUE ENTRIES

FROM 64 DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS*

*ACROSS BUCS DOUBLES, INDIVIDUAL, WHEELCHAIR & PADEL CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY



54.2% INCREASE IN FEMALE ENTRIES

AT BUCS DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS FROM 2024-25 SEASON

CONSOLATION DRAW INTRODUCED

AT BUCS DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS TO IMPROVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

FIRST EVER BUCS PADEL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HELD AT SLAZENGER PADEL LEEDS, RUN BY UK PADEL

79 STUDENTS IN 37 TEAMS FROM 20 UNIVERSITIES COMPETED



GB STUDENTS

GB STUDENTS WON MASTER'U GOLD

BEATING THE USA AT WORLD UNIVERSITY TENNIS
CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CLAIMING THE TITLE FOR
THE **FIRST TIME SINCE 2017**



8TH MEDAL IN A ROW

AT **MASTER'U BNP PARIBAS** WORLD UNIVERSITY TENNIS
CHAMPIONSHIPS

17 CONSECUTIVE MEDALS

AT **MAJOR INTERNATIONAL** UNIVERSITY EVENTS INCLUDING
THE **SUMMER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES**

NOTABLE ALUMNI

TOBY SAMUEL

SILVER MEN'S SINGLES (2025) IN RHINE-RUHR

SILVER MEN'S TEAM (2025) IN RHINE RUHR

ATP CAREER HIGH SINGLES RANKING: 95

DAVIS CUP TIES: 1

MAIA LUMSDEN

GOLD MASTER'U BNP PARIBAS 2017

SILVER MASTER'U BNP PARIBAS 2018 & 2019

WTA CAREER HIGH DOUBLES RANKING: 38

UNIVERSITY: STIRLING



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - CASE STUDIES

Whilst being at Loughborough University, I have been able to take advantage of the strong connection they have with the LTA, BUCS, and British University Tennis. For me, this has been through completing LTA courses such as the competition organisers course and coaching qualifications. As well as this, I have been able to volunteer at BUCS national competitions and national tennis competitions, enabling me to be around and watch an extremely high level of tennis. Not only has this provided me with a breadth of experience in this sector but has also encouraged me to get involved with other opportunities such as working at The Championship qualifiers at Roehampton. Frederick Brunning - Loughborough University

Volunteering at the BUCS Tennis Super Weekend was a great opportunity to see behind the scenes of a high-level sporting event and experience what it takes to ensure everything runs smoothly. It gave me valuable insight into the tennis industry, while helping me gain further experience and open up new opportunities within the sports world. The BUCS team, alongside the LTA, provided amazing support throughout the event and created a great atmosphere to work in.

Joseph Grant - Roehampton University

It was a great honour to support the BUCS Tennis Championship, Vase and Trophy finals as a volunteer manager at BUCS Big Wednesday. I enjoyed setting up the venue and helping with the medal presentation, which strengthened my volunteering experience and understanding of the behind-the-scenes work in a major sporting event. I could also see how much effort the players have made, since I'm a beginner in tennis. I would highly recommend engaging with BUCS Tennis through volunteering if you are eager to contribute to a sporting event or simply enjoy tennis. Changjoon Yoon - Loughborough University

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT - BRITUNITENNIS

36.4% INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS

FROM **2292** (06/08/2026)
TO **3126** (06/08/2026)

679,298 VIEWS

ACROSS **SUPER WEEKEND 2** ALONE THROUGH
COLLABORATION WITH **@JUSTBALLTENNIS**

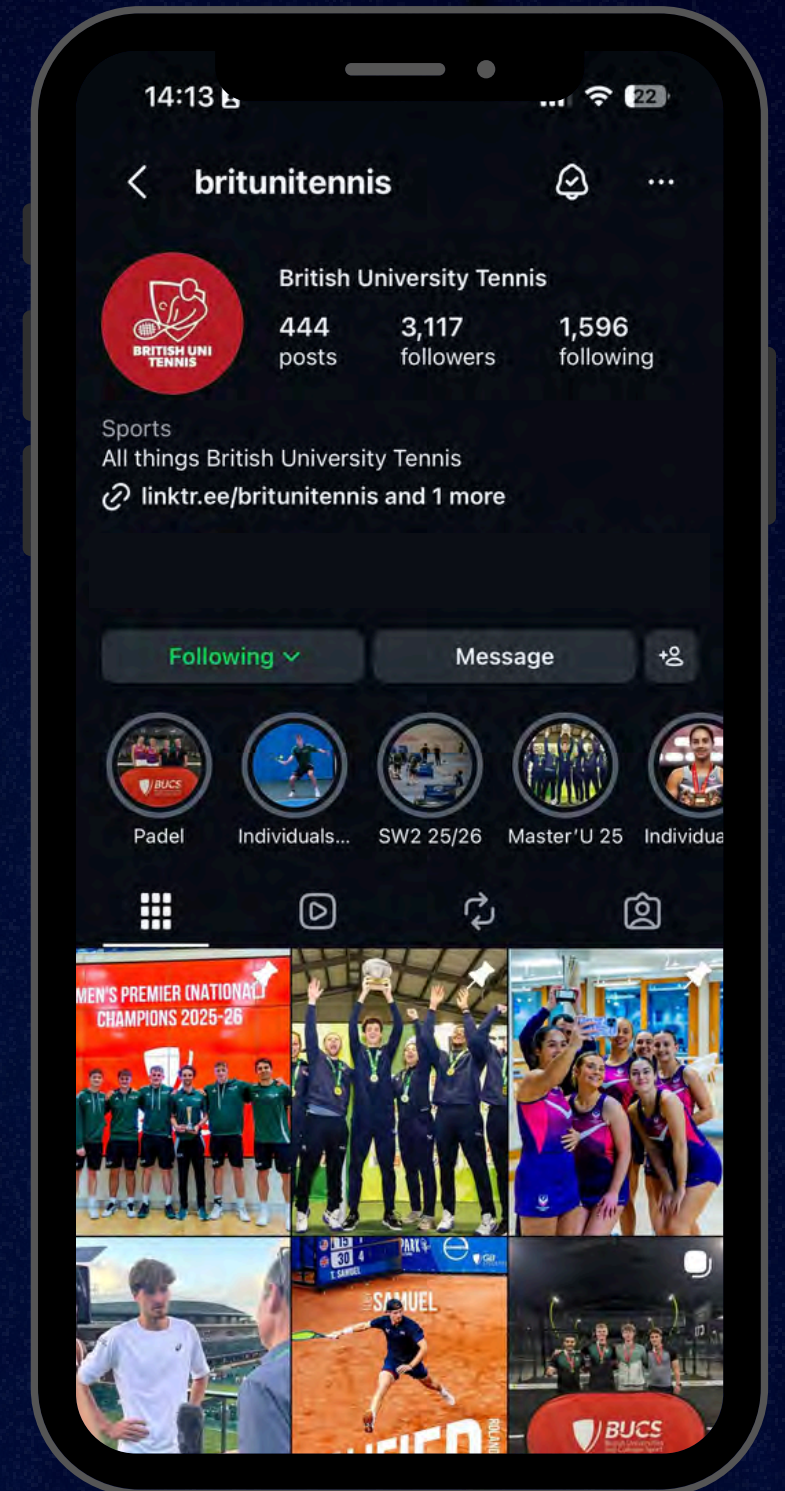


3.5M TOTAL VIEWS

FROM SEPTEMBER TO AUGUST 2026

150,936 UNIQUE ACCOUNTS REACHED

51.2% INCREASE COMPARED TO 2024-25 SEASON



All data extracted from Instagram & Meta Business Suite,
Top 3 data relates to the period of the 2025-26 Season only
from content posted from the BritUniTennis account only



DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

66/81 UNIVERSITIES
COMPETING IN BUCS
TENNIS FEATURED ON
BRITUNITENNIS
INSTAGRAM

83% UNIVERSITIES COMPETING IN BUCS TENNIS REPRESENTED



Manchester



Gloucestershire



Reading



Hull



City St George's



Swansea



Essex

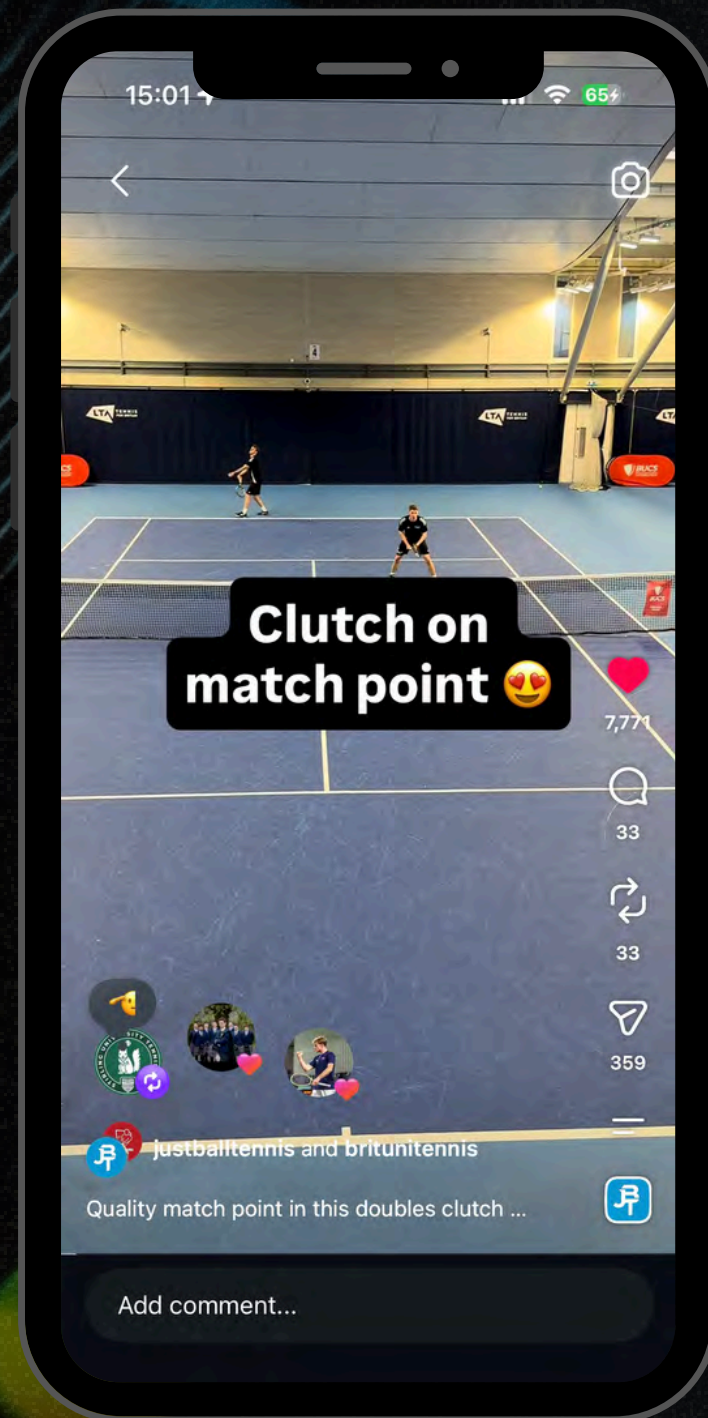


Heriot-Watt

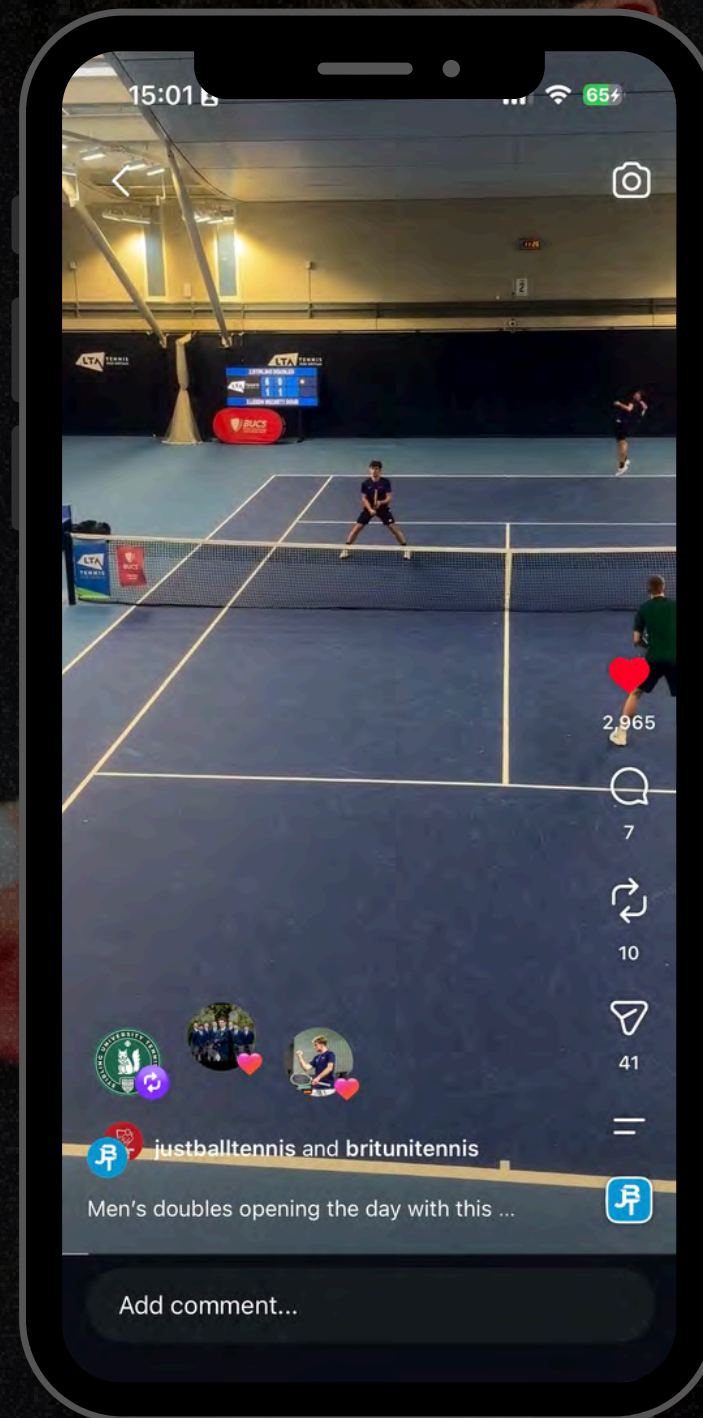


Leicester

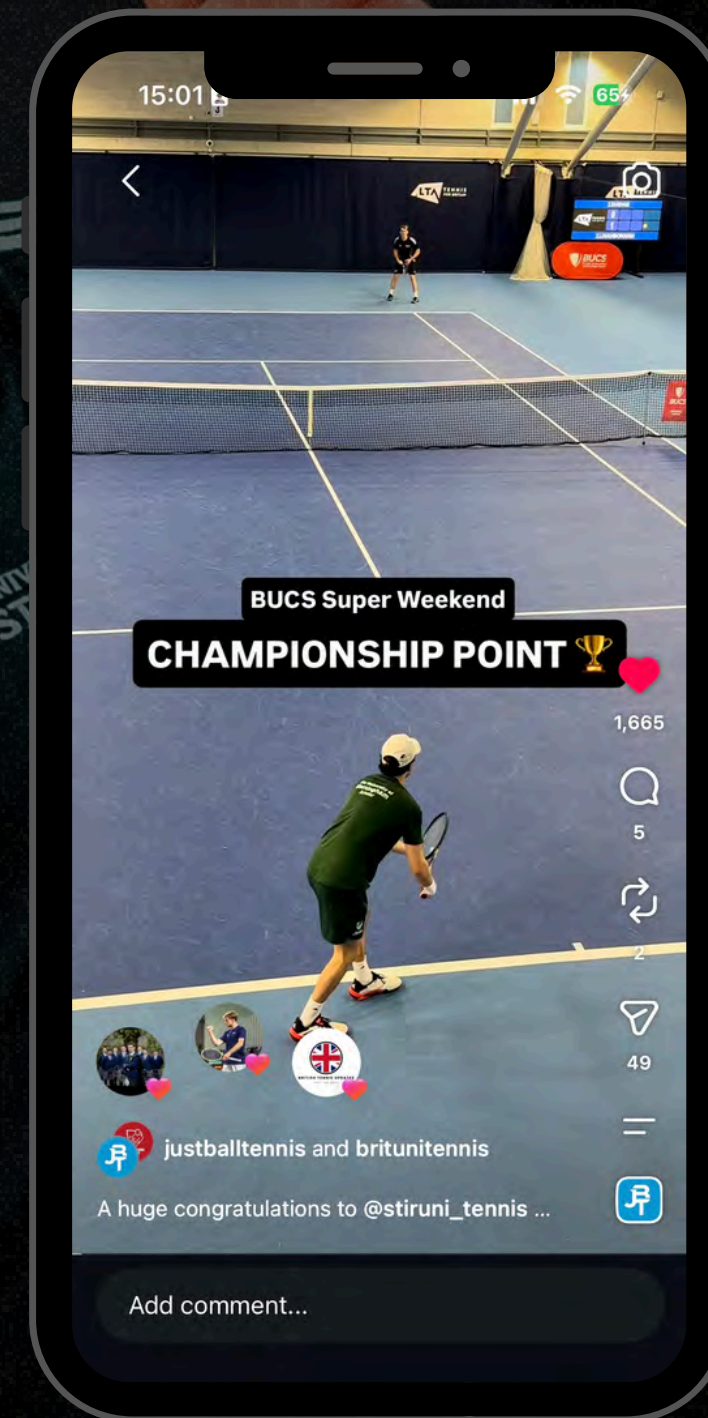
TOP PERFORMING CONTENT - BY ENGAGEMENTS



Stirling Match Point, SW2
Total Views: 308,075
Interactions: 7,118
Accounts Reached: 217,191



Stirling v Leeds Beckett, SW2
Total Views: 143,198
Interactions: 2,298
Accounts Reached: 107,632



Stirling win National League
Total Views: 92,257
Interactions: 1,688
Accounts Reached: 70,685

LIVE ON BUGS YOUTUBE



Women's National Championship Final
Teams: Loughborough v Stirling
Total Views: 1,577



Super Weekend 2
Teams: Loughborough, Bath, Stirling,
Nottingham, Leeds Beckett & Durham
Total Views: 4,017



Men's National Championship Final
Teams: Stirling v Nottingham
Total Views: 2,214

OUR 2026-27 PRIORITIES

PREMIER (NATIONAL) LEAGUE

Having completed the first year of National League audits, we will continue to develop the MOS alongside the League Management Committee (LMC) with the aim of strengthening the standards of the Premier (National) League both on an institutional and competition level.

Continue collaborative work with the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) and LTA to provide anti-doping and anti-corruption education for students, promoting integrity and safeguarding the sport.

Through the use of social media channels such as Instagram, increase visibility of the league by creating engaging content throughout the season and highlight major events such as Super Weekends & BUCS Big Wednesday. We will continue to engage with external accounts to highlight the standards and players competing within the British University Tennis system.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Support the delivery of LTA subsidised and free training opportunities for Competition Organisers, University Tennis Activators, Student Referees and Line/Chair Umpires, helping to increase the number of trained individuals available to support university tennis competitions. Work in partnership with LTA Workforce Development Centres (WDCs) across the UK to establish a clear workforce development pathway for students.

Alongside this, continue to recruit, develop and recognise student volunteers in key roles across BUCS Tennis events, including media and communications, event operations, competition support and officiating. By creating meaningful volunteering opportunities and progression routes, we aim to strengthen the student workforce, enhance event delivery, and build a sustainable pipeline of future tennis volunteers, officials and workforce leaders who can contribute to both the university and wider tennis landscape.

RECORDED RESULTS

Work with the LTA to ensure BUCS Tennis results are accurately recorded on both BUCS Play and the LTA's Online League Planner (OLP), enabling results to contribute to each student's World Tennis Number (WTN). By improving the accuracy, consistency and volume of result submissions, we will support the LTA's objective of increasing the number of results feeding into WTN, helping to create more representative player ratings and providing students with greater opportunities to access appropriate levels of competition.

Ensure all international students with existing World Tennis Numbers (WTNs) from their home countries are correctly aligned with their LTA profiles, allowing their playing history and results to be accurately reflected within the WTN system.



CONTACT US

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 @britunitennis