



Honorary Secretary's Report 2026

The Tennis Ulster Committee has continued to meet regularly throughout the year, working to strengthen and grow membership under our refreshed branding. Engagement with both existing and newly affiliated clubs remains a priority, and we have encouraged clubs to pursue available awards and grants to support club development, coaching initiatives, and fun sessions for players of all ages and abilities.

All Junior, Senior, and Veteran tournaments were once again well supported and keenly contested. It is particularly encouraging to see the growing number of volunteers—players, parents, and supporters—who generously give their time to help run events at their clubs. To all clubs who continue to organise tournaments, we extend our sincere thanks, and we encourage the wider tennis community to support these clubs and their sponsors.

A number of notable highlights marked the past year. Ulster proudly hosted the several Junior, Senior, and Masters Interprovincials, where our players were competitive across every age group. Congratulations are extended to all who represented the province. Ulster players also enjoyed strong representation at national level in both Junior and Masters categories, and victories at the Junior and Senior Irish Indoors provided a fitting conclusion to the competitive calendar. These events, along with the many tournaments held annually, are about far more than results—they foster friendships, community, and a lifelong love of the game.

In 2025 we were delighted to welcome our new Tennis Ulster Development Officer, Caitlin Kelly, and we look forward to working closely with her in the year ahead.

We also acknowledge the dedicated work of the Tennis Ulster staff across their various roles. This year we bid farewell to a valued colleague, Anna McCartan, who has served tirelessly in Finance and Administration. Anna has been a stalwart of the Branch and a tremendous support to us all. We wish her every happiness in her well-deserved retirement and thank her sincerely for her many years of service. In her typically

professional manner, she has kindly agreed to remain with us until a suitable successor is appointed.

We would also like to acknowledge that Letty Lucas will be finishing her two-year term as President of Tennis Ireland in February 2026. Congratulations to Letty on a highly successful term, and sincere thanks for all the hard work, leadership, and dedication she has shown in representing Tennis Ireland. Her commitment and contribution to the organisation have been greatly appreciated.

The Tennis Ireland Tournament Software continues to develop as a robust database of results, greatly assisting Ulster Committees in the selection of provincial teams throughout the year. With the increasing number of tournaments across all age groups, the system has become an invaluable tool for officials, enabling results to be posted online immediately for those following player progress.

The Belfast and District League also enjoyed another successful year in 2025, with strong participation across singles and doubles competitions. The integration of B&D results into the Tournament Software is now well established. The annual B&D dinner, held at Royal Belfast, Craigavad, was once again well attended and remains a highlight of the social calendar. The leagues are an integral part of the Tennis Ulster landscape, and we extend our thanks to the B&D Committee for their continued hard work and commitment.

As we look ahead to 2026, we again encourage all players to support their club committees. The dedication of volunteers, players, and coaches—who give their time so generously—underpins the success of tennis across Ulster. Without them, the achievements we celebrate today would simply not be possible.

With the days already growing brighter, I wish you all a successful and enjoyable 2026 season. May you continue to find joy in the beautiful game, wherever you play.

Tennis uses the language of life: advantage, service, fault, break, love — the basic elements of tennis mirror those of everyday existence, because every match is a life in miniature.

Tennis Ulster – January 2026

Wendy Cree, Honorary Secretary