Squad Selection Process

Objectives

- Select the strongest possible squad.
- Support player development.

Selection Panel

- The panel consists of club coaches and tennis club captains (currently Dan, Caitlin, James, and Aynsley).

Squad Composition

- Squads are limited to 8–10 players (5 female and 5 male for mixed squads; 8 for men's/ladies' squads).
- Selection is based on performance, availability, and commitment.
- Limits prevent holding players in reserve, ensuring more frequent play and development opportunities for all.

Selection Procedure

- Captains provide player information to the panel, following the outlined criteria.
- Squads are selected sequentially (Squad 1, then Squad 2, etc.), allowing those not chosen for higher squads to be considered for lower squads.
- Selection ideally occurs in a meeting; if not feasible, consultation is conducted via email.
- The process promotes fairness and impartiality.

Player Pool

- Members not assigned to a squad are added to a player pool.
- Members wishing to be considered for future selection may express interest via email, twice yearly.

Replacement Policy

- If a squad cannot field a team, replacements are sought from the next lower squad, then from the player pool or general membership. Higher squad members are only considered if no alternatives are available.
- This ensures development opportunities for lower squad members and those in the pool.

Eligibility

- Players may not participate in both Dorset open and vets squads, except when no suitable replacements are available within the vets squad or player pool.

Updated 09/01/2026

Squad Selection Process

Mid-Season Additions

- New members of appropriate level may be added mid-season if there is a vacancy, either due to a departing member or a captain's decision to leave a spot open.

Timeline

- Selection occurs every February (for summer season starting 1 April) and July/August (for winter season starting 1 October).
- The panel confirms captain appointments, captains poll players' interest, and results are submitted to the panel.
- The panel reviews information and drafts preliminary squads.
- Captains are consulted in sequence for confirmation and adjustments.
- Members moving squads or not selected are informed, with rationale, at least 24 hours before the final list is published.

Updated 09/01/2026