

Kent Wheelchair Tennis Development Plan 2011-2020



INTRODUCTION

Development Plan

The purpose of this plan is to give a structure to the continued development of Wheelchair Tennis in Kent. A number of initiatives and opportunities are already in place, but this plan builds on the new level of interest that the London 2012 Paralympic Games will generate and takes Wheelchair Tennis development through the next two cycles, to the 2020 Paralympic Games.

Wheelchair Tennis can be played indoor or outdoor and the rules where written so a wheelchair tennis player could enjoy a games against a non-disabled person. This Plan exists to promote the sport from a recreational level, through to elite competition and to make everyone more aware of the game.

Current Wheelchair Tennis opportunities in Kent as at 2011:

- 2 monthly training sessions are available – 1 in West Kent, 1 in East Kent**
- 2 tennis wheelchairs are available at each venue (Tunbridge Wells Indoor Tennis Centre and Polo Farm Indoor Tennis Centre**
- A number of Kent players have already been supported to compete a national level or above**

MAIN OBJECTIVES

1. **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**
2. **RECREATION & ENJOYMENT**
3. **COMPETITION**
4. **DEVELOPING EXCELLANCE**
5. **BUSINESS AND MARKETING/PR**

1) **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT** - To enable all participants to fulfil their full potential

Objective	How	Target	When	Resources	
				Description	Total
1. To increase the number of qualified Wheelchair Tennis coaches, and officials in Kent.	To get more tennis coaches to attend Tennis Foundation Disability Awareness courses and Wheelchair Tennis Coaching module	All Kent Clubs	During 2012		
2. Increase the Knowledge and awareness of Wheelchair Tennis to the existing Tennis workforce in the County	Distribute Disability Tennis resources to all clubs and places to play	All Kent Clubs and Places to play	To be provided by Tennis Foundation		

2) RECREATION & ENJOYMENT - To provide the community with access to Wheelchair Tennis

Objective	How	Target	When	Resources	
				Description	Total
1. To promote Wheelchair Tennis as a recreational, physical activity to disabled people as doubles game as well as singles game, as well as other versions of Disability Tennis	To work with tennis facilities across Kent to improve accessibility and recreational enjoyment of wheelchair tennis	Wheelchair users and other disabled people across the County	On-going		
	To work with Kent LTA and local authorities to promote local opportunities	Wheelchair users and other disabled people across the County	On-going		
2. To ensure availability of equipment and facilities across Kent.	Increase the number and variety of tennis wheelchair's available in the County, plus other basic equipment on site – balls, rackets, serving machines, etc	New players	On-going		

3) COMPETITION - To provide the opportunity and venues for Wheelchair Tennis players to progress through a clear pathway from entry level to elite

Objective	How	Target	When	Resources	
				Description	Total
1. To provide competitive opportunities for young disabled people in singles and doubles wheelchair tennis	To establish an annual Kent Wheelchair Tennis tournament for junior's	Under 18's	2013		
2. To provide competitive opportunities for disabled adults in singles and doubles wheelchair tennis	To establish an annual Kent Wheelchair Tennis tournament for adults, with singles, doubles and quad competitions	Adults	2013		

4) DEVELOPING EXCELLENCE - To provision of pathways to identify and develop talent

Objective	How	Target	When	Resources	
				Description	Total
1. Development of a County Squad for Wheelchair Tennis	As we establish more venues and regular sessions for players we intent to establish a County Squad to develop those wishing to go on to higher level competition, including national and international tournaments	Current Kent players	2013		
2. By 2020 to have secured at least two Kent players into the GB Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis Squad.	The County Squad would link directly with the GB Paralympic Squad	Kent County Squad players	2020		

5) BUSINESS AND MARKETING/PR – To ensure the business & marketing aims are achieved

Objective	How	Target	When	Resources		
				Description		Total
1. To ensure partners & potential users are aware of Wheelchair Tennis opportunities in Kent.	Through KentSport.org website	Already in place	On-going			
	Through partners websites		2013			
	Through Tennis Foundation website	Already in place	On-going			
2. Communicate regularly with customers	Via email, and other forms of social networking					
3. Encourage all providers to respond to feedback received from customers	Through appropriate meetings, emails and other forms of contact					
5. Monitor, evaluate & report on the Wheelchair Tennis development performance	Through the Kent Disability Sports Strategy		In 2012 and 2016			