



Re: Club & Player Affiliation in 2022.

A Chairde,

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Munster Branch Council to formally **thank you** as a club for substantially contributing to the sport of tennis in 2022 by paying your Club Affiliation and collecting the Player & Tournament Capitation fees on our behalf. In Munster half of all the monies received go directly into activities in the province. The other half goes to Tennis Ireland to help at a national level and also again in Munster such as through our Performance Development Officer Cian Blake.

Tennis Ireland itself has five broad areas of responsibility as follows:

1. Administering and regulating the game at all levels.
2. Organising competition at various levels, from Wheelchair Tennis through to the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup, the latter being the biggest annual international team events in sport.
3. Developing the sport through the provision of technical, coaching and financial support for a variety of National and Provincial Programmes which impact at both the elite and recreational levels of the game. Tennis Ireland also has responsibility for coaches' education.
4. The management and development of the National Tennis Academy at DCU together with the various National and Provincial development programmes which support this initiative.
5. Promoting the game in the widest possible sense and specifically to the various key constituencies such as Government and media.

Munster Tennis, Munster Tennis Hub, Fota Island Resort, Co. Cork
Email: admin@munstertennis.ie
Phone: 087-7061230 (Office Hours Only)

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Munster Tennis is tasked with further administrating the Sport of Tennis across Munster and running Leagues & Competitions at all levels. It also runs many other activities and through its Administration Manager Triona Buckley & Development Officer Liz Clifford supports Clubs and players in many ways. With the *additional monies* received this year we have been able to expand the Leagues and competitions we run and we intend to further expand in the coming year. We have also been able to better support all the Munster Teams this year in 2022 even though it has been a difficult one.

World Tennis Number (A reminder)

The new **World Tennis Number (WTN)** <https://worldtennisnumber.com> that was launched last year by the ITF (International Tennis Federation) and Ireland was one of the first 10 nations to launch with them. The WTN for each player is going to be monitored for all Teams in Phase 1 of the Munster Tennis Winter League along with our normal Munster grading and we are hoping to utilise the WTN system for Phase 2 of the Munster Tennis Winter League next year. We hope to do a seminar or two about this and other related competition matters and details for those will be announced in due course. It is a very exciting development as it will mean that the power of modern computer technology (and associated algorithms) are utilised and it is this which will be what calculates your Rating (Grade) based on your results and the strength of the players you faced. It will no longer be a manual exercise. It will also take the score of each particular match and set into account. If you do well and win matches your rating will get better, if you have a bad run and lose a series of matches against weaker players your rating may drop back. It will also help highlight players that are too strong for a particular grade or division. Exciting times are upon us.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh

Is mise le meas

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Cummins".

Robert M Cummins

President Munster Tennis : Uachtarán Leadóige na Mumhan