

Dear Chairperson,

Good evening all, my name is Conor O Callaghan and I am the Regional Development Officer for the Munster Branch of Tennis Ireland. As you are probably aware we are in the process of constructing a National Player Database (NPD) incorporating the International Tennis Number (ITN).

NATIONAL PLAYER DATABASE

The National Player Database (NPD) is a database of the combined memberships of the tennis clubs across Ireland which are affiliated to Tennis Ireland. The database has been created by Tennis Ireland to deliver on two key objectives which are dedicated to providing an enhanced level of membership services for the Irish Tennis community.

"The ability of the Governing Body to communicate direct with the people who play the sport in Ireland and thereby provide information and other benefits to a sporting community with up to 80,000 members"

"The provision of a Ranking and Grading system for all Club members and the wider tennis community through the introduction of the International Tennis Number (ITN) to the sport of tennis in Ireland."

Spring 2010 saw the commencement of the testing of the process in a live sense through the co-operation of eight clubs spread across the provinces. The Clubs who participated in this test phase are as follows:

Munster:

- Ballinlough Tennis Club and Limerick Lawn Tennis Club

Connaught:

- Castlebar Tennis Club and Galway Tennis Club

Leinster:

- Malahide Tennis Club and Brookfield Tennis Club

Ulster:

- Downshire Hillsborough Tennis Club and Windsor Tennis Club

Recently Added Clubs to NPD Project in Munster:

- Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Presentations recently held in:

- Kinsale Tennis Club
- Sundays Well Boating and Tennis Club
- Bishopstown Tennis Club (26th May)
- Carrigaline Tennis Club (7th June)

The completion of this test phase in recent weeks confirmed the availability of the participating clubs to load details of their memberships into the National Player Database. Furthermore, the members of these clubs have been allocated unique Tennis Ireland identity codes. Most of the eight clubs have by now begun the process of allocating an International Tennis Number (ITN 1 - 10) to all of their players and this information will be loaded into the National Player Database over the coming weeks.

Also any players that are currently on the Munster Branch Directory have been converted, please go to www.munstertennis.com to view.

The Next Steps

Tennis Ireland and Munster Branch now wishes to broaden out the base of clubs participating in this project from the original eight test clubs so we would love to hear from your club with an expression of interest . If interested I will get in touch as soon as possible and provide all of the information you require to move forward with us in this exciting new project. I would also be more than happy to make a presentation to your committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact me whenever is appropriate for you,

Yours in Tennis,
Conor O Callaghan, Munster Regional Development Officer