



### **The world's top juniors on way to USN Bolton Arena**

For 2019 The Junior International Bolton, which is played at the USN Bolton Arena will take place Friday 11 – Friday 18 January, with junior's aged 14&under from all over the world converging on the north-west.

The event, which is steeped in history, regularly attracts stars of the future. 2017 saw tennis legend Bjorn Borg in Bolton, overseeing his son Leo progress to the consolation singles finals. 2017 also saw a 12 year old Cori Gauff, capture the title, before remarkably going on to reach the final of the US Open Junior event 8 months later. Whilst Whitney Osuigwe, who played Bolton in 2015 became world junior number 1 2 years later.

On the boy's side as 13 year olds the 2012 finalists, Francis Tiafoe and Michael Mmoh, are now ranked 44 and 102 in the ATP men's pro ranking's, whilst top seed in 2015 was Britain's Jack Draper, who reached the Junior Wimbledon Boy's Singles final this year, and is already inside the world's top 500 at pro level aged only 16

Since the inaugural event as Teen Tennis in 1995, it has attracted a very strong field of rising stars from across the globe. A number of previous players having gone on to reach the world's top 10 including Eugenie Bouchard, Caroline Wozniacki, Justine Henin, Kim Clijsters, Sir Andy Murray, Marcos Baghdatis, and Tomas Berdych. In addition, Bolton runner up in 2011 Jelena Ostapenko, sensationally won the French Open in 2017, to become the world number 7.

Richard Joyner, Tournament Director, commented 'This event really is where history and the future meet. The number of players who have gone on to reach the higher echelons of the pro game is seriously impressive. As well as the wealth of players from across the globe, it's a great opportunity for player's from the north-west, including some who train at the USN Bolton Arena, to compete against some of the world's best 14&under players'.

Qualifying is Friday 11 and Saturday 12 January, with main draw Sunday 13 to Friday 18 January.

Entry for spectators is free of charge throughout the week.

As well as coming along to watch, the scores can be followed through live scoring on

[www.lta.org.uk](http://www.lta.org.uk)

[www.tenniseurope.org](http://www.tenniseurope.org)

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