

**A MATTER OF TACTICS**  
**by Peter Farrell**

Playing Standard: ITN 2 to 6

Long Term Player Development Pathway: Phase 4

**QUESTION:** I love to go to the net in singles and play volleys and smashes. But I find that a lot of the time my opponent hits clean winners off my approach shots. What could be causing this problem?

**ANSWER:** Work on your approach shots so that they **put your opponent under pressure**. If they are not good enough, your opponents passing shot will put your volley under pressure. Make sure that most of your approach shots are played **down the line** rather than crosscourt. Down the line means you have less distance to move to get to the best volleying position.

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For individual advice on this or any aspect of tennis, please contact your local Tennis Coach Ireland coach –

see [www.tenniscoachireland.ie](http://www.tenniscoachireland.ie)

For more information on the ITN:

[http://www.tennisireland.ie/player\\_database/what\\_is\\_the\\_itn](http://www.tennisireland.ie/player_database/what_is_the_itn)

For more information on the Long Term Player Development Pathway:

[http://www.tennisireland.ie/coaches/player\\_development\\_pathway](http://www.tennisireland.ie/coaches/player_development_pathway)