

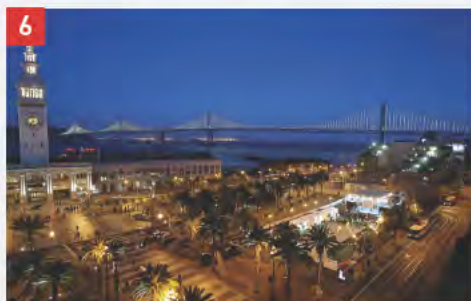
SQUASH PHOTO OF THE YEAR

PLAYER



EYE OF THE CAMERA MAN

Squash Player's globetrotting photographer, Steve Line, has put together his top 10 photos from events covered around the world in 2016. Fans voted on social media throughout December for their favourite and the winning photo is shown overleaf.



1. September: Nour El Tayeb (Egy) v Nouran Gohar (Egy) - Al-Ahram Open, Cairo, 1st round. Unseeded El Tayeb shows amazing determination to beat her fourth-seeded compatriot with this body launch in the fifth game.

2. March: Ryan Cuskelly (Aus) v Ramy Ashour (Egy) - British Open, Hull, 2nd round. Cuskelly is wrong-footed and bounces off the back of Ashour. A great example of the split-second ability of photography to capture such a dramatic moment.

3. September: Giza pyramids - Al-Ahram Open, Cairo. After many years of being away from squash in the desert, it was great to be back in the sport's most eye-catching setting, with the floodlit pyramids once again providing a fantastic backdrop.

4. October: Nick Matthew (Eng) v Ali Farag (Egy) - U.S. Open, Philadelphia, quarter-final. The last stages of his career? Not a bit of it as Matthew shows how much it means to beat Farag, the new kid on the block and 12 years his junior.

5. March: Nicol David (Mas) - British Open, Hull, quarter-final. The eight-times world champion shows her determination to carry on winning against Egyptian Omneya El Kawy. A great stretch and capturing the ball so close to the face is a real bonus!

6. September: NetSuite Open, San Francisco. The beautiful Ferry Building and the stunning Bay Bridge combine to give a wonderful view above the outdoor venue on the US west coast.

7. November: Gregoire Marche (Fra) v Nick Matthew (Eng) - Qatar Classic, Doha, quarter-final. Extraordinary dexterity and athleticism shown by Marche in his 3/2 loss to Matthew... watch that ball Nick!

8. October: Kanzy Emad El Defrawy (Egy) v Laura Massaro (Eng) - U.S. Open, Philadelphia, 1st round. Qualifier Defrawy shows total commitment against second seed Massaro. In what other sport would you be able to take a shot like this?!

9. February: Marwan ElShorbagy (Egy) v Karim Abdel Gawad (Egy) - Windy City Open, Chicago, 2nd round. The court is sited on the ninth floor of the University Club in an imposing room with beautiful stained glass windows called the Cathedral Hall, captured here in this fish-eye shot.

10. November: Ramy Ashour (Egy) - World Championship, Cairo, quarter-final. Ashour, totally off the ground in his contentious match against fellow Egyptian Fares Dessouky, shows great effort and focus in retrieving an otherwise impossible ball.