

Instant Update

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WORLD
SQUASH

WSF

To: ALL WSF MEMBER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

cc: WSF Regional Vice-Presidents, WSF Committee Members, WSA, PSA, Accredited Companies, SPIN players

PRESIDENTS MEET



WSF continues to use every opportunity to press the case for squash to be included on the Programme of the Olympic Games. Last month in Lausanne, Switzerland this included the President of WSF, N. Ramachandran (left in photo), meeting IOC President Thomas Bach.

President Thomas Bach has made it clear that he has a flexible approach towards the number of sports and disciplines moving forward.

This has encouraged the efforts of WSF President Ramachandran still further. He stresses that there is no certainty that there will be any slots in 2020 or indeed 2024 at this stage but has ensured that we have appropriate relationships set up should there be one.

So, while the formal bid is over, diplomatic approaches continue to ensure that if the door becomes open we will be standing ready to walk through it!

action gets underway in Namibian capital Windhoek from 16 – 21 August.

The twenty four entered nations will be competing for the title held by squash powerhouse Egypt (pictured below) who won it in Qatar two years ago.



The full list of entered nations is:

Argentina, Botswana, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Namibia, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, USA, Zimbabwe.

The Men's Junior Team Championship is preceded on 10 – 15 August by male and female individual events, both of which could include some players who will have competed in the Commonwealth Games. Entry forms will be published in early March.

Both holders, Egyptians Karim El Hammamy and Nour El Sherbini don't turn 19 until November 2014 so can defend their titles – and in the case of El Sherbini, she has already won it three times!



TWENTY FOUR TO NAMIBIA

All continents will be represented at the 18th WSF Men's World Junior Team Championship when the

WSF APPROVED BALLS



TRAGIC DEATHS

In the space of a couple in November two young lives were lost when hit by cars while they rode bicycles.



Rising Canadian squash star **Adrian Dudzicki** died from massive head injuries when a vehicle struck him as he cycled to the National Squash Academy (NSA) on his way to training there.

Dudzicki, 23, brought up in the Ottawa area had moved to Toronto to train at NSA and had reached a career high of 136 on the PSA Rankings.

Squash Canada President, Lolly Gillen said, "words alone can not sincerely express the condolences Squash Canada wishes to share with the Dudzicki family and the multitude of Adrian's friends. Losing a popular aspiring athlete at such a tender age with so much potential, dedication and commitment to fulfilling his dreams of becoming one of our top players has left a huge hole in us all. The entire Canadian squash community is totally numb and it will take considerable time to recover from the effects of this tragedy".

Gaetane Hitchins had represented Belgium in European Junior Championships between 2007 and 2009 and in the city of Ghent lost her life on a bicycle after being hit by a drunk car driver while on her way to work.

Kim Hannes of the Belgian Federation commented, "Not only was she a great squash player, she was also a great and lovable person. She will be deeply missed".



There was further tragic news to follow from Canada with the untimely death of Squash Ontario President, **Mark Sachvie** who died suddenly of a heart attack while attending Adrian Dudzicki's memorial service at the National

Squash Academy.

"Words will never be eloquent enough to voice the warmth the Canadian squash community had towards Mark. He was forthright, outspoken, and passionate all at the same time, he was genuine, warm, loyal and caring" commented Lolly Gillen, whose Canadian squash world had suffered such an awful double blow.

Mark started working at White Oaks, an outstanding facility close to the Niagara Falls 32 years ago and in addition to his coaching output which saw thousands of youngsters improve and progress; he was one of Canada's premier event organisers and builders of squash. He hosted over 220 squash tournaments during his illustrious career including: 10 Canadian Junior Opens (International Jr. Event), 2 Canadian Junior Squash Championships, 2 Canadian Squash Championships and 43 Provincial Championships. He was also to be the Championship Director for the Women's World Team Squash Championships which are being held in December 2014 at White Oaks.

His coaching successes include the three children, daughter Lauren and sons Nicholas and Chris, whom he leaves behind with wife Cindy.

The thoughts of squash are with the families of Adrian, Gaetane and Mark at this terrible time.

SPIN GENERAL INFORMATION



For players, from the start of next year all players who wish to play in all World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Championships and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels will need to be registered. They will then be provided with their SPIN

(Squash Player Identification Number), which stays with them for life.

For individual events where national federations enter their players they will do so using the SPIN of the players. Similarly, in those events where players enter themselves e.g. World Masters, they will do so using their SPIN.

For team events of all ages competing in World and Regional Championships, member Nations will enter their teams into the event using the on-line system. Squad and Team submissions would also be made on-line.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

Any player, irrespective of age, can register themselves or their federation can do so on their behalf by completing the on-line registration form. They should also let their national federation know that they are doing so.

The current SPIN registration fee - paid on-line - is a once only lifetime fee of GBP10.00 (not annual).

Notes:

Half of all the fees paid by the players (or Member Nations on their behalf) will be split equally between the five Regional Federations to help fund development initiatives.

Tournament Planner software is used to take entries for National Junior Open events, with players at Under-19 level able to claim World Junior Circuit ranking points.

WHERE DO PLAYERS REGISTER?

Simply go to www.worldsquash.org/spin

MEMBER NATION LOGIN

Separately, all WSF member nations have their login so that they can view all registrations from their country, enter WSF Championships and do so for forthcoming WSF individual events in due course.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

As agreed in early 2013 with the cooperation and understanding of PSA and WSA, the protected date system has been expanded in a trial beginning this year. (For a number of years the WSA and PSA Tour Rules have restricted events in certain periods so that World, Regional and National Championships can be protected from conflicting events - allowing promoters, federations and players to have more certainty when arranging and participating in them.)

Essentially, there are designated periods during which it is highly recommended that regional and national championships are held so that regions and nations can have certainty about player participation that is not possible at other times. Players can also commit knowing that there will be no conflicting events.

In outline, in 2014 using the protected weeks that are:

National Championships: 7 days from second Monday in February and June

Regional Championships: 7 days from the last Monday in April*

*Where there is regional agreement that one of the designated National Championship weeks is not used then an additional Regional Championship can be held then, of course.

SOCIAL MEDIA, CAUTION NEEDED

Whether you are a player, organiser, referee, coach, administrator or volunteer you will need to balance the benefits of instant and wide communication afforded by social media with the care of use needed with the medium.

This guideline will help you avoid issues.

Social media communications are public statements at all times — even if created with private intentions. If you are going to use social media in any form, remember that your communication may be read by anyone at anytime.

Once you have put something online, there is almost no taking it back and it is almost impossible to delete.

Your personal reputation and those you mention can be affected by what you say. Be respectful to others, organisations, companies and the sport.

Always remember that anything said that is untrue could result in legal action at its most serious, in addition to breaching the WSF Code of Conduct (Article 2. General Behaviour. B. Disrepute).

Be aware that uploaded photos may be taken out of context and used by other people or the media so if you are not happy for the image to be shared publicly, don't put it online.

Be careful in sharing any personal information. Adjust your security settings accordingly.

Be mindful that communications and links made need to be considered appropriate by others. This is especially true in all 'friending' actions.

If you are a player, referee or coach (and also generally for others):

- Promote playing and officiating in a positive manner in a way that does not reflect badly or impugn others.
- The same ethical restrictions that apply to any form of public speech also apply to social media. It is inappropriate to communicate specifics about your matches played, coached or officiated where they may cause issues for opponents, referees, coaches or any related personnel.
- Communications between yourselves as players, coaches or referees should be done privately and not through the use of social media. Be mindful that emails and other forms of direct communication can be transmitted onwards.

General Suggestions for Usage:

Respect secrecy and privacy. Think how you will feel if private information about you is published and take care with the rights of others.

Use humour to amuse, not offend.

Remember that there are young and old using social media so foul or abusive language should be avoided.

If you make a mistake, admit it quickly and apologise.

Take a moment to consider whether you will create issues for others or yourself before you press 'send'.



The CHILD-FRIENDLY BAT for future RACQUET CHAMPIONS

EzeeBat is a new, innovative, technically sound pre-racquet sports development product, helping to make learning and playing racquet sports accessible and safe for children aged 2 –7 years.

EzeeBat is ready to launch with your help!

Please visit www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-ezeebat to back the project and receive rewards.

Deadline 10 January.



For more information contact

Peter Crossman on
(+44) 7717 721231

www.ezeesport.com

RULES UPDATE

The 2013 WSF AGM approved an updated version of the Rules of Squash which came into effect on 1 January.

They contain very few changes compared to the current Rules, so that squash players, referees and spectators will need to make very few adjustments. However, the Rules have been restructured and the number of Rules has been reduced from 20 to 15. Additionally the wording in the Rules has been simplified as an aid to easier understanding.

The 2014 version of the Rules of Squash together with explanatory notes can be found on the WSF website at: <http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/rules>

If you are translating the Rules into another language, we would be delighted to receive them for inclusion on the website alongside the initial English version.

BUMPER YEAR FOR DUNLOP

Dunlop, the WSF Adopted Championship Ball, will not only be used in the World Juniors in Namibia and Women's World Team Championship in Canada, but so many other events besides.

There may be a thousand players competing in the World Masters in Hong Kong, there will be the World University Championship in India and the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games too.

This is in addition to the Regional Championships and PSA and WSA Tour events, all of which designate Dunlop too.



WORLD MASTERS ENTRIES OPEN

If you are one of the several hundred, maybe even a thousand, players who plan to compete in the World Masters 2014 in Hong Kong then don't delay as the 'early bird' entry fee only lasts until the end of February. There are five year bands right through from Over-35 to Over-80, and the enter the event which runs from 4 – 11 July you can do so at: <http://www.worldmasterssquash.com.hk/>

Hong Kong, a memorable place for what will surely be a memorable week of squash!

WSF APPROVED RACKETS



ROMANIA JOINS THE PSA TOUR



Aero Squash club in the Romanian capital Bucharest is, as its name suggests linked to the flight industry. It has been built in a helicopter hanger close to Bucharest International Airport, and the new five Courtwall courts have already hosted a PSA Tour event – the Courtwall Romanian Open. With more courts due to be added early next year the centre will become the largest in South and East Europe.

PRE-RACKET DEVELOPMENT

EzeeBat will help make learning and playing racquet sports accessible and safe for children aged 2-6. Peter Crossman, the co-founder of EzeeSquash www.ezeesquash.com has developed a new paddle bat (no handle) for children to develop racket sport skills. After using various pieces of racket equipment available on the market, finding that they were too heavy, unsafe, expensive and uncomfortable; so his solution to the problems he was experiencing was the EzeeBat.

EzeeBat consists of inner foam padding, and adjustable stretchy Velcro straps which are more child friendly and comfortable. It is 8.5" in length, weighs no more than 120g, provides comfort, is easy to use and will be available in various bright colours.

They are using the industry leading crowd-funding platform, Indiegogo to raise money to get the first production of the EzeeBat to the retail consumer.

Photographs: *Many with thanks from SquashSite.co.uk and squashpics.com*



Official WSF Magazine

James Willstrop examines the current debate on equal prize money from both historical and sporting perspectives.

Also, Ramy Ashour talks exclusively to Squash Player about the hamstring problems which have blighted his recent tournaments. For these features and more, please click here:

<http://www.squashplayer.co.uk/features/features.htm>

WORLD RANKINGS



Matthew back on top

2013 World Squash Champion Nick Matthew has leapfrogged Egypt's Ramy Ashour and Frenchman Gregory Gaultier to top the first Dunlop PSA Men's World Squash Rankings of 2014.



The Englishman followed up November's World Championship triumph with a maiden Hong Kong Open title in December to cap an impressive end-of-year run and leap from third to first in the rankings, ending Ashour's 12-month grip on top spot.

"I'm playing the best squash of my career at the moment and that's something I want to carry through into 2014 with the Commonwealth Games coming to the UK," said Matthew.

"2013 was a really special year for me. Winning the World Championships in Manchester was amazing and winning in Hong Kong after so many years of trying was a great way to end the year."

Matthew's ascendancy from third to first sees Ashour, who ended 2013 plagued by injury, drop to third in the rankings while Gaultier maintains his No.2 ranking.

Elsewhere in the top 20, Egypt's Tarek Momen has overtaken countryman Omar Mossad to 11th spot with Germany's Simon Rosner rising from 16th to 13th and Egyptian Karim Abdel Gawad moving from 19th to 16th.

January 2014 Dunlop PSA Men's World Rankings (inc points average)

Pos	Player	Country	Average
1	Nick Matthew	ENG	1329.000
2	Gregory Gaultier	FRA	1297.500
3	Ramy Ashour	EGY	1187.500
4	Mohamed Elshorbagy	EGY	904.500
5	James Willstrop	ENG	845.500
6	Karim Darwish	EGY	678.000
7	Borja Golan	ESP	668.500
8	Peter Barker	ENG	531.500
9	Amr Shabana	EGY	462.500
10	Daryl Selby	ENG	446.500
11	Tarek Momen	EGY	439.000
12	Omar Mosaad	EGY	438.500
13	Simon Rosner	GER	429.500
14	Miguel Angel Rodriguez	COL	363.500
15	Saurav Ghosal	IND	324.000
16	Karim Abdel Gawad	EGY	307.500
17	Laurens Jan Anjema	NED	306.818
18	Cameron Pilley	AUS	302.500
19	Alister Walker	BOT	280.500
20	Stephen Copping	RSA	266.818



Nicol David Maintains Dominance

January's WSA Rankings see Nicol David make it an 89th consecutive month at the top of the 'world' after ending the year with another Hong Kong Open win. Her first month as number one was January 2006 and except for a few months during the first year her reign has been unbroken. After a shaky start to the year she has taken the last five titles she has competed in, as well as winning the World Games title.

The remainder of the top four remain unchanged with English players bracketing an Egyptian - Laura Massaro at two, Raneem El Welily at three and Alison Waters at four.

New Zealander Joelle King (pictured) aged 25 equals her highest ranking at five having recorded semi final slots in both the US and China opens; and Malaysian Low Wee Wern moves up two places to six to also equal her best ranking. Meanwhile, experienced



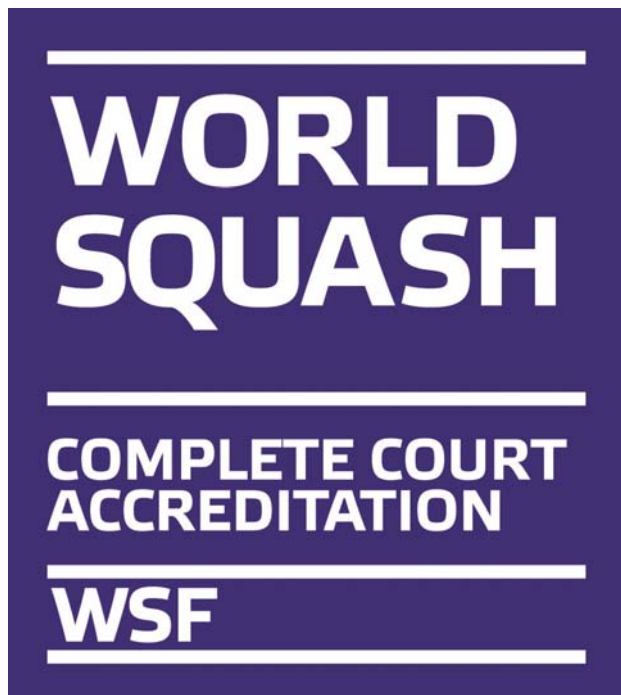
Madeline Perry has had her resurgence rewarded with a rise of three places to find her back at number five.

The only first-timer in the top twenty is 27 year old Indian Joshana Chinappa, the Mumbai player buoyed by a

quarter-final slot in Hong Kong in December.

RANK	NAME	COUNTRY
1	Nicol David	MAS
2	Laura Massaro	ENG
3	Raneem El Welily	EGY
4	Alison Waters	ENG
5	Joelle King	NZL
6	Low Wee Wern	MAS
7	Madeline Perry	IRL
8	Camille Serme	FRA
9	Jenny Duncalf	ENG
10	Natalie Grinham	NED
11	Kasey Brown	AUS
12	Dipika Pallikal	IND
13	Annie Au	HKG
14	Omneya Abdel Kawy	EGY
15	Rachael Grinham	AUS
16	Nour El Sherbini	EGY
17	Sarah-Jane Perry	ENG
18	Amanda Sobhy	USA
19	Line Hansen	DEN
20	Joshana Chinappa	IND

COMPLETE COURT ACCREDITATION



As announced in 2011, new courts built after 1 January 2013 are required to register for Complete Court Accreditation (CCA) in order for them to be eligible for use at international events, such as PSA and WSA tournaments and WSF World Championships. Regional and national federations have been altering their regulations so that they also only play their events on courts that are CCA registered, thus all competition on new courts will take place with a high standard of playing conditions assured.

Of course this regulation does not apply to courts that are already built. Once registered, a certificate will be sent to the court operator and the courts are listed in the worldwide directory.

Accredited Companies that manufacture the full range of major court components can become WSF Complete Court Accredited Companies (CCAC); all new courts built by these companies using their components can be registered as CCA courts. Accredited Companies that manufacture only some of the major components can register the courts they build as CCA providing other components used are separately accredited.

[An installer that only uses WSF Accredited products can register the courts they build as CCA courts; they do not need their own accreditation.]

Already completed courts can be registered too, and for all registrations please go to:

<http://www.worldsquashcourts.org/addAccredited.aspx>

ZIMBABWE SCHOOL SQUASH

Schools squash is thriving in Zimbabwe. There are six leagues ranked by ability with elite teams in the first league and developing sides in the sixth league.

The first league was won by Prince Edward School who went through the year unbeaten, a record achieved after waiting for nine years for the title. Second were St John's College with St Georges College also of Harare third. In fourth place were

Peterhouse Boys School of Marondera who had hitherto dominated the league.



The Zimbabwe Schools Squash is made up of 26 schools with both the League and individual tournaments. Chair Michael Chingwaro explained that the league is set to expand to include primary schools and the Zimbabwe Squash Academy for boys and girls.

CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2014

The following brands have passed national safety standards and, having applied for WSF Certified listing, are the only brands permitted for use in WSF, Regional and many national junior events.

When buying new products look for the WSF Certified Tested logo on them. Brands that become certified will be added to the WSF website and featured in Instant Updates.

BRAND NAME	APPROVED MODEL
Black Knight 	Turbo (AC 114) Turbo Junior (AC 114 Jr) Lasers (AC 111) Sight Guard (AC 112) Kona (AC 119) Kona Junior (AC 119 Jr) Lynx (AC 122) Stiletto (AC 620)
Dunlop 	Dunlop I-ARMOR
Grays 	Grays GT Eyewear
i-Mask 	i-Mask
Karakal 	2500 (9903 Jnr) Pro 3000 (R43)
Prince 	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (Pro2)
Tecnifibre 	R615

CALORIE BURN ILLUSTRATED

Get fit, stay fit..
Without the gym?
It's **EASY**
Play **SQUASH!**
The numbers for you...

Squash burns 920 calories per hour

Running burns 720 calories per hour

Cycling burns 600 calories per hour

Swimming burns 500 calories per hour

Source - Men's Health Magazine June 2013

In 2003, Forbes created a ranking of the ten healthiest sports - SQUASH came out on top! In 2011, LA Times took a look at the sport also sung its healthy praises, reporting that it can burn between 600 and 1,000 calories an hour and improve strength, flexibility, and balance. "Squash offers an aerobic workout due to the steady endurance required to sustain a game, but it's also an anaerobic workout because of moments of high-intensity play," the Times reported.

www.wsrb.co.uk @sqwales

Here is how Squash Wales show just how good squash is to use energy. For players who have over-indulged over the holidays what better way to get back on track? What better way to show schools, and sporting partners generally what a healthy sport squash is?

SNIPPETS



The Banque Misr Sky Open, a PSA International 50 squash event at the Sky Resort in New Cairo, Egypt saw top level squash returning to the country in November. The final saw Mohamed Elshorbagy upset top-seeded Egyptian compatriot Karim Darwish, winning 3/0.

The World University Squash Championship 2016 has been awarded to Malaysia. Dates will be announced in due course for the ninth edition of this individual and mixed team championship. Meanwhile, preparations are underway for the 2014 edition which will be staged in Chennai, India, from 1 – 7 September, managed by the Squash Rackets Federation of India.

240,700. That's the number of over 16 year old regular players in England playing our sport, according to a new survey; 10th place nationally; ahead of rugby for example, but well behind the number one – swimming.

Nick Matthew was a guest on British station BBC TV sports quiz shortly after winning his third World Championship; also Digital magazine SportsWk illustrated a feature on him with this stylish caricature.

His memorable year continued when he was presented with the Sports Journalists' Association Committee Award at a glittering ceremony at the



Tower of London, England. The 33-year-old Yorkshireman was awarded the trophy for "winning the squash world title for the third time in four years".

Also recognised recently were Spanish number one Borja Golan who was awarded the 2013 Sportsman of the Year Award in his home

region of Santiago de Compostela in recognition of a year which saw him reach his first ever PSA World Series Final in the recent Hong Kong Open following a first ever appearance in a PSA World Series semi-final in the Qatar Classic.

Meanwhile Columbian star Miguel Angel Rodriguez picked up the Bogota Sportsman of the Year Award after he ended the calendar year as the highest ranked South American squash player of all-time at 13. Rodriguez also picked up two PSA World Tour titles in 2013, winning the Bluenose Classic and VI Toreno Internacional PSA Sporta events.

Illingworth is inaugural Champion. American squash No.1 Julian Illingworth, the highest ranked American squash player of all-time, topped the 2013 US Pro Squash Series. The eight-time US National Champion from Portland edged New Zealand's Campbell Grayson and Pakistan's Farham Zahman, who finished second and third, respectively, to the title as a result of picking up 545 points from six events.

10,000.....and counting! Peter Nicol was the first player on the www.squashinfo.com database and now Ireland's Darren Waring is the ten thousandth on squash's definitive source of results and player information, developed by World Squash Media Director Howard Harding.

When Nicol David won the Cathay Pacific Sun Hung Kai Financial Hong Kong Open on an all-glass showcourt at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on the spectacular Tsim Sha Tsui harbour front, it was the 30-year-old's sixth WSA World Tour title of the year. But not only that, her 11-7, 11-7, 12-10 final win against Egyptian Raneem El Welily (pictured) is her



9th consecutive title in Hong Kong after winning the first of her record seven World Open titles in the special administrative region of China in 2005. It was the Penangite's 45th successive match win in Hong Kong; the 71st WSA World Tour of her career; and a record-equalling 90th Tour final appearance, now shared with Australian Sarah Fitz-Gerald. This month also sees David into her 9th decade at the top of the world rankings. The girl is doing quite well!

Habiba Mohamed became the youngest ever player to win a WSA Tour event when she beat Hong Kong's Tong Tsz-Wing in the final of the Malaysian Tour circuit – aged 14. The Egyptian, the current British Junior Open U15 champion, took over from countrywoman Nour El Sherbini.



WORLD SERIES FINALS GOES STATESIDE. The PSA 2013 World Series Finals will take place in Richmond, Virginia, USA from March 15 – 19, 2014.

One of the pinnacle events in the squash calendar, the World Series Finals have been staged at London's Queens Club for the past four years but the PSA have decided to take the event 'on the road' to help increase global awareness of the Men's PSA World Series and World Tour.

Sponsored by Power Courts, the 2013 World Series Finals will be the first ever held on American soil with Richmond extending their already long-standing association with world class squash, having staged the North American Open for the past five years.

Shabana's Ten Years



An unbroken run as a top 10 ranked player on the PSA World Tour arrived for Egyptian Amr Shabana when the December PSA rankings were published. The 34-year-old four-time World Champion joins modern day icons such as David Palmer, Thierry Lincou and Peter Nicol as one of just a handful of players who have maintained 10-year top-10 presences.







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