Evolving Constitution

The WSF Annual General Meeting held in France last November accepted a proposal that a working group comprising a number of member nations would look at possible improvements to the constitution and structure – a process that is necessary as a sport and its’ governance evolves.

Their deliberations during the first months of this year have led to a set of eighteen motions being brought forward to a WSF Extraordinary General Meeting which will be held on 3rd June in London.

They range from constitutional details such as the number of Vice presidents, creating possible new positions, term of office allowable, setting age limits for Board members, national eligibility to attend and vote, together with possible alignment to the IOC intentions for member Federations.

EGM in London

By bringing them forward at an EGM it allows for those of the eighteen motions that are passed to be in place and in use at the 2016 AGM later this year onwards.

Member nations now have been sent a full set of the motions and will be evaluating them in advance of attending the meeting, and the discussion and voting that will take place at it.

China is Next for WSF Ambassadors Programme

The 2016 WSF Ambassador Programme will focus on China this summer when Malaysians Low Wee Wern and Ong Beng Hee lead the latest World Squash Federation initiative into the Chinese city of Dalian, together with Macau, in June.

Launched in 2011, the WSF international promotional initiative takes two leading squash players, together with an international coach and referee, into younger squash nations to help raise the sport’s profile – through clinics, exhibition matches, refereeing and coaching seminars, and media presentations.

Low Wee Wern and Ong Beng Hee (pictured above) both hail from Penang. Women's world top five player Wee Wern is fighting back to full fitness after knee surgery, while former world No.7 Beng Hee is the highest-ranked Malaysian man of all-time, who won four Asian Championship titles and two Asian Games gold medals in an illustrious 20-year career as a professional.

Refereeing & Coaching Workshops

Also joining the 2016 Programme, run in conjunction with the Chinese and Macau Squash Associations, will be Asian Federation Regional Referee Robert Arrffan, from Singapore, and Dick Leung, the Assistant Head Coach at Hong Kong Squash.

Sixth Year

The WSF Ambassador Programme first visited the Baltic country of Latvia in 2011, followed by a trip to the African countries of Malawi and Namibia, then Panama and Venezuela in 2013, Papua New Guinea in 2014, before focussing on the Balkan region last year with appearances in Serbia, Romania and Croatia.
WOMEN’S WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP BACK IN FRANCE

Four years after being held in France for the first time, the 2016 WSF Women’s World Team Squash Championship will return to the European country to be staged in Issy-les-Moulineaux and the capital Paris from 28 November to 3 December.

Hosted by the Fédération Française de Squash, the 20th edition of the World Squash Federation event will take place at St Cloud Squash club and the historic Jeu De Paume Club, with final stages being held on an all-glass court at the Palais Des Sports Robert Charpentier.

"We look forward to welcoming the world’s top women squash players to one of the world’s greatest cities," said FFS President Jacques Fontaine.

Growing strength

"Our women’s team is growing in strength each year and we are hoping that the home advantage will give us the opportunity to improve on our sixth place finish in two of the last three championships."

The French team is expected to be led by British Open Champion Camille Serme, the world No.4 who has represented her country in the five previous World Team Championships, including the 2012 event in Nimes.

WORLD SERIES FINALS IN FRONT OF WORLD’S TALLEST BUILDING

The PSA Dubai World Series Finals will be staged in Downtown Dubai, with Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest building, and The Dubai Fountain, the world’s tallest performing fountain, in the background.

The tournament will take place from 24 - 28 May in a state-of-the-art squash court and innovative spectator venue to be constructed in Burj Park, Dubai.

Commenting on the venue announcement, PSA Chairman, Ziad Al-Turki said:”The PSA World Series Finals is the most high-profile stage of the tour and we are delighted to have partnered with Dubai to host the 2016 season-finale in Burj Park. With fantastic views of Burj Khalifa, this tournament is set to be an exhilarating occasion and the perfect close to months of elite competition.”

MARIA TELLS HER STORY

It is a story that has inspired people around the world. Maria Toorpakai grew up in the tribal Pakistani region of Waziristan where girls and sport didn’t go together. To play squash she had to pretend to be a boy. At other times she had to stay inside and practice against her bedroom wall.

Her uplifting story took her from these scarcely believeable squash beginnings to become a fully fledged Tour player.

The story of her life, culminating in former World Champion Jonathon power taking her under his wing is called A Different Kind of Daughter. For information go to www.bluebirdbooksforlife.com

SQUASH PLAYER

Official WSF Magazine
American prodigy Amanda Sobhy gives her reaction to breaking into the world’s top 10. Former world no.10 Azlan Iskandar explains how he helped rescue the 2015 PSA Women’s World Championship.

For these features and more, please click here: http://www.squashplayer.co.uk/features/features.htm
28 years after staging the third edition of the biennial event in 1989, New Zealand will host the 17th WSF Women’s World Junior Team Squash Championship in Tauranga in July next year.

The 2017 World Squash Federation event, which will also feature the Men’s & Women’s World Junior Individual Championships, will take place at Devoy Squash & Fitness Centre in Tauranga, the fifth largest city in New Zealand, from 19-28 July.

"It is with great pleasure that Squash New Zealand will once again host another major international squash event in the city of Tauranga," said Squash NZ CEO Jim O’Grady. "Attracting the very best athletes from around the world, the World Junior Championships will create huge opportunities to market and promote Tauranga to a worldwide audience and at the same time boost the profile of squash in New Zealand and the Oceania region."

Wayne Werder, Chair of the Organising Committee, added: "The organising committee are absolutely delighted to have been granted the hosting rights for the 2017 World Junior Women's Championships. Tauranga is willing, able and excited by the opportunity to host this event, and are looking forward to welcoming the world's best juniors to New Zealand."

Devoy and Norman

Two former World Champions and New Zealand squash legends have a strong affiliation with Tauranga: Dame Susan Devoy, the former world number one and four-time world champion, said: "As a resident of Tauranga for many years now, I am delighted that Tauranga has been granted the rights to host this event. Squash is thriving here in Tauranga with great facilities, passionate volunteers, and a number of experienced past international players who know what is required to host an event of this scale."

Ross Norman, World Champion in 1986 (pictured above alongside Dame Devoy with the iconic Mt Maunganui in the background), added: "Tauranga is a city that is close to my heart, and one that I visit regularly when I am back in New Zealand."

Unbeaten since 2005, Egypt will no doubt be looking to extend their record five successive Championship triumphs in New Zealand after clinching the title for the fifth time in a row - and seventh time overall - in 2015 in the Netherlands.

WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT


Forthcoming events on the World Junior Circuit:

**May '16**
- 14 – 15 Liechtenstein Junior Open
- 28 – 29 Ukraine Junior Open

**June '16**
- 17 – 19 Italian Junior Open
- 24 – 26 Portuguese Junior Open

**July '16**
- 13 – 17 Dutch Junior Open
- 16 – 23 Caribbean Junior Open
- 21 – 24 Argentina Junior Open
- 27 – 31 Hong Kong Junior Open

WSF ACCREDITED COMPANIES 2016

Any company that can demonstrate relevant experience and expertise in providing squash courts - using only WSF Accredited Products - is eligible to apply to become a WSF Accredited Company.

WSF Accredited Companies

- Provide a five-year guarantee that covers both materials and workmanship.
- Ensure that they have and maintain the capability to provide complete courts using only Accredited Products.
- Construct courts using only Accredited Products and have the right to register these courts for competition play without inspection (subject to the payment of the relevant registration fee).

Current WSF Accredited Companies are:
SEVEN IN THE DOUBLES FRAME

Hosts Australia will head a list of seven nations who will compete in the 2016 WSF World International Doubles Squash Championships which will take place in the Northern Territory capital city Darwin from 15-18 August. The Championships, featuring Men's, Women's and Mixed events, will take place at the Darwin Squash Centre.

Australia, winners of the Men's & Mixed gold medals in the 2014 Commonwealth Games, will field two pairings in all three events, while India, the reigning Commonwealth Games Women's Doubles Champions, will also compete in the three categories. (Australian 2014 Commonwealth Games Mixed Doubles Gold medallists Rachael Grinham & David Palmer pictured)

Other participants include India, the reigning Commonwealth Games Women’s Doubles Champions, who will also compete in all three categories. (Indian 2014 Commonwealth Games Women’s Doubles gold medallists Dipika Pallikal & Joshna Chinappa pictured below)

The 2016 championships will provide ideal preparation for the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast, as well as the 2019 Pan-American Games.

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

Australia names squad

Commonwealth Games gold medalists Cameron Pilley, David Palmer and Rachael Grinham will form the backbone of Australia’s teams at the World Doubles Championships.

Pilley, currently Australia’s top-ranked player, will team up with 20th ranked Grinham in the mixed doubles and Australia’s other top 20 player, Ryan Cuskelley, in the men’s doubles. Palmer, a two-time gold medalist in Glasgow, will partner world number 21 Donna Urquhart in the mixed doubles and number 56 Rex Hedrick in the men’s doubles.

In the women’s doubles Grinham and Urquhart will form one combination, while leading Australian-based players Christine Nunn and Sarah Cardwell will make up Australia’s other team.

“We are very excited about the teams we have been able to put together for this prestigious event,” Squash Australia High Performance Manager, Stewart Carson, said. We had such a successful Glasgow Commonwealth Games campaign, and it’s fantastic that all of our gold medalists will be playing on home soil against the world’s best.

India hopeful

Colombia, Men’s Doubles gold medallists in the 2015 Pan American Games, will be represented by a single pairing in each of the events, whilst both Malaysia and New Zealand will be represented by two pairings in each. Scotland and Wales make up the entry list. (Indian 2014 Commonwealth Games Women’s Doubles gold medallists Dipika Pallikal & Joshna Chinappa pictured below)
World No.2 Nour El Sherbini produced one of the greatest comebacks in World Championship history as she overturned a 2-0 deficit to defeat World No.1 Laura Massaro in the final of the Women’s World Championship in Bukit Jalil. The 20 year old whose win meant that she has also overtaken Massaro to become the new World No.1 in the May World Rankings, looked down and out after falling two games behind to a dominant Massaro. The Egyptian mounted an incredible fightback to earn a 6-11, 4-11, 11-3, 11-5, 11-8 victory to avenge her 2013 final defeat to the Englishwoman and become the first female Egyptian to become World Champion.

"I’m dreaming right now, I didn’t imagine I could win this match,” said El Sherbini. “At 2-0 down I though it was over, Shabana just kept telling me to focus and play squash and forget about the score and start again. "Massaro was full of praise for the new World Champion. "It’s an honour and privilege to play in a World Championship final, it’s the pinnacle of our year,” she said. "I’m obviously disappointed to lose but she played an amazing match from 2-0 down. I have to take it on the chin and come back again”.

Semi-final victories over Raneem El Welily and Nouran Gohar, respectively, in Bukit Jalil, Malaysia set up the repeat of the 2013 World Championship final - where Massaro won her maiden World Championship title.

Massaro’s clash with El Welily saw the lead change hands multiple times throughout a tightly-contested fixture, with neither player being able to maintain their momentum when they were on top. After the fourth in which El Welily brought the match back to all square, Massaro again took the reins in the fifth to amass four match balls. El Welily fought back to send the match to a tie-break, but Massaro held out, a fine boast evading her opponent to give the Englishwoman an 11-2, 7-11, 11-9, 6-11, 12-10 victory.

Egypt’s El Sherbini followed up her superb quarter-final victory over eight-time World Champion Nicol David with a dominant display against compatriot and World Junior Champion Nouran Gohar. Pushed all the way by Gohar in the Allam British Open final the 20-year-old was on fire this time around and in control, preventing Gohar from building any rhythm.

Afterwards she predicted the five game final, saying: "Me and Laura have played a lot against each other and she is playing really well this tournament. We always play out five games, but I’m going to keep going the way I am. I am going to give it everything and I’m sure it is going to be a good match.

**Women’s World Championship**
Final: [5] Nour El Sherbini (EGY) bt [1] Laura Massaro (ENG) 6-11, 4-11, 11-3, 11-5, 11-8 (63m)

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**WSF APPROVED BALLS**

Squash balls which have been tested and approved as meeting WSF Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ball Brand</th>
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<tr>
<td>Artengo</td>
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<td>Prince Rebel Pro Ball</td>
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<td>Teqball Yellow Dot Ball</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor / VICTEC Doppell Gelb Squash Ball</td>
<td>Victor / VICTEC Doppell Gelb Squash Ball</td>
</tr>
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</table>
El Sherbini Is New Women's World No.1

After becoming the first Egyptian woman ever to win the prestigious Women’s World Championship, 20-year-old Nour El Sherbini has been confirmed as the new Women's World No.1, overtaking England's Laura Massaro, whom she beat to take the crown in Kuala Lumpur, to top the official PSA World Rankings.

Since securing her first ever PSA World Series title at the J.P. Morgan Tournament of Champions in January the Alexandria-native has been the dominant force on the Women's Tour, reaching the Windy that now sees her leapfrog Massaro, who held the No.1 position unopposed since January 1st, 2016.

"I'm extremely happy to become World No.1. To win the World Championship and become World No.1 at the same time - that is huge for me. I didn't think it would happen this early in my career", she said.

Nouran Gohar, the 18-year-old World Junior champion who lost out to El Sherbini in the British Open final, is the other mover inside the top ten, moving up one position to her highest ever ranking of World No.6.

Elsewhere inside the top twenty England's Sarah-Jane Perry and India's Joshna Chinappa are the only other upward movers, both rising one place to World No.12 and No.13, respectively.

Elshorbagy Re-writes Ranking Points Record

World No.1 Mohamed Elshorbagy has broken his own record for the highest ever points average as he extended his reign atop the PSA Men's World Rankings to a fifth consecutive month courtesy of victory at the recent El Gouna International - his sixth consecutive PSA World Series title.

The 25-year-old Egyptian has dominated the PSA World Tour during the 2015/16 season, taking six of seven possible World Series crowns, to record a points average of 2,240,000 - eclipsing the previous record of 2,150,000 he set just last month - and remain number one amongst a top ten that contains an unprecedented six Egyptian players.

Joining Elshorbagy inside the top ten are Omar Mosaad (4), younger brother Marwan ElShorbagy (7), Tarek Momen (8), Karim Abdel Gawad (9) and Ali Farag (10), the 24-year-old Harvard graduate who joins the world’s elite top ten for the first time in his career after a breakthrough season.

While Farag moves into the top ten three-time World Champion and former World No.1 Ramy Ashour has dropped out of the top ten for the first time since 2006, to World No.12, after his El Gouna International campaign ended prematurely due to injury.

PSA Women's Rankings - May 2016

1. Nour El Sherbini  EGY
2. Laura Massaro  ENG
3. Raneen El Welily  EGY
4. Camille Serme  FRA
5. Nicol David  MAS
6. Nouran Gohar  EGY
7. Omneya Abdel Kawy  EGY
8. Amanda Sobhy  USA
9. Joelle King  NZL
10. Annie Au  HKG
11. Alison Waters  ENG
12. Sarah-Jane Perry  ENG
13. Joshana Chinappa  IND
14. Nour El Tayeb  EGY
15. Delia Arnold  MAS
16. Jenny Duncafer  ENG
17. Emily Whitlock  ENG
18. Victoria Lust  ENG
19. Dipika Pallikal  IND
20. Rachael Grinham  AUS

PSA Men's Rankings: May 2016

1. Mohamed Elshorbagy  EGY
2. Gregory Gaultier  FRA
3. Nick Matthew  ENG
4. Omar Mosaad  EGY
5. Miguel Angel Rodriguez  COL
6. Mathieu Castagnet  FRA
7. Marwan Elshorbagy  EGY
8. Tarek Momen  EGY
9. Karim Abdel Gawad  EGY
10. Ali Farag  EGY
11. Simon Rösner  GER
12. Ramy Ashour  EGY
13. Cameron Pilley  AUS
14. Borja Golan  ESP
15. Fares Dessouki  EGY
16. Max Lee  HKG
17. Mazen Hesham  EGY
18. Saurav Ghosal  IND
19. Ryan Cuskelly  AUS
20. James Willstrop  ENG
The 2018 WSF World Masters Squash Championships - which attract more competitors than any other event in World Squash - will take place in Charlottesville, Virginia, following the World Squash Federation's decision to stage the biennial event in the USA.

The 15th edition of the Championships - but the first to be held in the USA - will feature men's and women's events in categories ranging from Over-35 to Over-80, and will take place at the McArthur Squash Center at the Boar's Head Sports Club (pictured, below) in Charlottesville from 29 July to 4 August 2018, under the auspices of US Squash.

"On behalf of everyone at Boar's Head, we are delighted to serve as the host for the 2018 World Masters and truly grateful for the confidence the World Squash Federation has placed in us," said Matt Harris, Boar's Head General Manager.

Boar's Head is one hour west of the Virginia state capital Richmond and only two hours south of US capital Washington, D.C. Boar's Head lies at the foot of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and is in close proximity to Monticello and the University of Virginia's Academical Village, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, museums, local shops, numerous restaurants, breweries and wineries.

James Neiderer, Club Manager for the Boar's Head Sports Club, added: "Our team will work diligently to ensure that the competitors and their guests have an enjoyable and memorable experience during their time in Charlottesville ."

Mark Allen, Director of Squash (pictured left) at the McArthur Squash Center, which boasts eight conventional courts as well as an all-glass showcourt, said: "Personally, I'm also looking forward to welcoming so many squash playing friends from around the world, the United Kingdom, South Africa and other parts of the United States, to Charlottesville."

**CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2016**

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. Brands that become certified will be added to the WSF website and featured here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAND NAME</th>
<th>APPROVED MODEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Black Knight | Turbo (AC 114)  
Turbo Jnr (AC 114 Jr)  
Lasers (AC 111)  
Sight Guard (AC 112)  
Kona (AC 119)  
Kona Junior (AC 119 Jr)  
Lynx (AC 122)  
Stiletto (AC 620)  
Air Frame Small (AC 641SM)  
Guardian AV (AC 660) |
| Dunlop | Dunlop I-ARMOR (R-07)  
Dunlop Junior (9903 Jr)  
Dunlop Vision (R-16) |
| Grays | Grays GT Eyewear |
| Harrow | Shield Pro R16  
Covet R615  
Radar R43  
Radar Jr R717JR |
| i-Mask | i-Mask |
| Karakal | 2500 (9903 Jnr)  
Pro 3000 (R43) |
| Reydon (Mantis) | Mantis Protective Eyewear |
| Oliver | Rage (9903V)  
Rage Junior (9903JR)  
Prolite (RB10C)  
Speed (R601)  
Attitude (PRO2)  
Shark (R43)  
Marvel (SE-7) |
| Prince | Rage (9903V)  
Rage Junior (9903JR)  
Prolite (RB10C)  
Speed (R601)  
Attitude (Pro2) |
| Salming | ASTM F803 |
| Tecnifibre | R615 |
SPIN INFORMATION

For players, all players who wish to play in all World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Events and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels will need to be registered. Their SPIN (Squash Personal Identification Number) 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 in World and Regional Championships, Member Nations will enter their teams into the event using the on-line system. Squad and Team submissions can 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 one time only lifetime fee of GBP10.00 (not annual).

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

Tournament Planner software is used to take entries for National Junior Opens, with players at U19 level able to claim World Junior 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 WSF individual events.

NAME OF NATION NEEDED

In all WSF World Individual and Team Championships - with the sole exception of World Masters, shirts or tops must carry a national identification title as defined below.

(i) National Identification / Player name.
   a) A national identification title, the whole to be contained within an area at least 200 square centimetres and not exceeding 300 square centimetres on the back of the shirt or dress.
   b) The player’s name may also be displayed within an additional area not exceeding 150 square centimetres.
   c) Lettering must be in one colour that strongly contrasts with the shirt colour.

(ii) Specifications.
   a) National identification / player names must be strongly visible and in Anglicised alphabet capital letters.
   b) Players’ names shall be their family name. Forenames may be added above or alongside the family name, and initials may be used in front of family names. Size may be smaller or same size as the family name.
   c) The minimum lettering width for national and player names will be 20cms and height 5cms, except in the case of names with fewer than five letters for which the following minimums widths will apply, four letters 16cms, three letters 13cms two letters 11cms.

(iii) Country names flags may be added at the discretion of the player/nation. Examples of actual size dimensions may be found at Appendix L in the WSF Championship Regulations.

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S 2017 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TO MANCHESTER

The 2017 PSA Men’s and Women’s World Championships will be held side by side in Manchester, England from December 9 -17, 2017 when record equal prize money will be on offer across both draws.

For the first time ever the prize purse for the pinnacle event on both the Men’s and Women’s Tours will be equal, with the winners set to take home over $45,000 each.

The event will see almost 200 of the world’s best squash players descend on Manchester for the week-long tournament, which will be staged at The National Squash Centre before moving to Manchester Central from the quarter-final stage onwards.

Manchester will be the second destination ever, and the first since Rotterdam in 2011, to host concurrent Men’s and Women’s World Championships.

22 NATIONS IN POLAND

After the allowable period for the full list of nations competing in the WSF Men’s World Junior Team Championship in Bielsko-Biała in Poland in August is: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Egypt, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hong Kong China, India, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait (provisionally), Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, USA and Zimbabwe.

Entries for the Men’s and Women’s Junior Championships close on 23rd June.
OVER 500 ALREADY

Entries for the WSF World Masters in Johannesburg, South Africa (24 – 30 September), may not close until 12th August, but entry numbers for the age bands of Over 35 to 80+ have already broken through the 500 barrier.

If you would like to join them you can enter at: http://wsfworldmasters.com/

CALENDAR UPLOADED

The WSF World Calendar featuring World, Regional, PSA and National Open Championships is updated monthly is at: www.worldsquash.org/ws/wsf-calendar. To add your national championships to the WSF World Calendar please go to: www.worldsquash.org/ws/national-event-registration

SNIPPETS

50 up for Freddie

Fredrik Johnson won his landmark 50th Swedish national title in the Swedish National Masters Championships recently, taking the Men’s Over 40 and Over 50 crowns. His fifty include a selection of National Senior titles, Masters and Team Championships. Impressive!

Turkish Initiative

The Turkish Squash Federation have produced an open-air introductory court that may of interest to other Federations too.

Durable and resilient, it may provide a good option for schools and other facilities elsewhere as well as in Turkey. The contact for information is Guven Karakus (guvenkarakus@gmail.com)

Gold Coast Goes Koala

A bright blue koala called Borobi was unveiled as the official mascot for the Commonwealth Games 2018 at Australia’s Gold Coast.

Borobi - the indigenous Yugambeh language word for koala - will play a key role in welcoming the athletes of the world and bringing to life the true spirit of the Games.

Mike’s Hat trick

Uganda’s top squash player Micheal Kawooya was crowned the Uspa Squash Player of the year at an awards gala at the Serena Hotel in Uganda’s capital city Kampala in April. 32 year old Kawooya has won the award three times now.