ELSHORBAGY & MASSARO TRIUMPH AT WORLD SERIES FINALS

Egypt's Mohamed ElShorbagy and defending Champion Laura Massaro claimed the Men's and Women's titles, respectively, at the 2016/17 PSA Dubai World Series Finals after prevailing in their final clashes inside the stunning Dubai Opera.

The World Series Finals was the first sporting event ever to take place in Dubai Opera and saw the winners claim over $40,000 each after respective wins over England's former World No.1 James Willstrop and Egyptian World Champion Nour El Sherbini.

ElShorbagy ended a difficult season on a high to lift his first ever World Series Finals crown and his first Tour title since November after beating Willstrop 12-10, 11-9, 11-8 in 57 minutes. "To win this tournament has been a dream for so long," said ElShorbagy after lifting his 25th Tour title. "It's a very emotional win. I lost some confidence in myself during the season but I feel like I bounced back this week.

I hate losing
"I don't want to lose. I hate losing. This season I didn't play with my spirit, but I'm really proud I got that back this week. It was my best squash since being World No.1."

Meanwhile, Massaro has become only the second woman ever after Malaysian legend Nicol David to win two World Series Finals titles after she overcame El Sherbini in straight games. Massaro was appearing in the final of the World Series Finals for a third time in a row and had won one and lost one of her final appearances against Egypt's Raneem El Welily and Malaysia's David, respectively.
The pair had met earlier on in the tournament - with El Sherbini winning the best-of-three games contest to qualify second in Group B - but in the best-of-five games final, it was Massaro who emerged the victor after claiming an 11-8, 12-10, 11-5 victory to capture her 22nd Tour crown.

"I'm really happy with my performance overall," said Massaro. "It took a lot of focus, discipline, hard work and I had to keep pushing throughout the whole match. The first two games were really tight and I managed to get that good lead in the third.

EGYPT TAKE TOP WORLD JUNIOR SEEDINGS

Egyptians are seeded to win both individual titles in the WSF World Junior Squash Championships next month in New Zealand - claiming a seventh successive women's title and reclaiming the men's trophy after three years in Peruvian or Malaysian hands. The annual World Squash Federation event will take place at Devoy Squash & Fitness Centre in the city of Tauranga from 19-24 July - followed by the Women's World Junior Team Championship from 25-29 July.

Youssef Ibrahim and Hania El Hammamy are top seeds in the men's and women's events, respectively - and both reached the Semi-finals of the 2016 Championships in Poland. Ibrahim, an 18-year-old left-hander from Cairo, is ranked 119 in the world and is expected to face second seed Mohammad Al Sarraj in the final. The 18-year-old from Amman would be the first Jordanian to reach the event's final.

El Hammamy, also from Cairo but only 16 years old, will arrive in New Zealand as the reigning British Junior U19 Open Champion. The world No.36 is predicted to line up against compatriot Zeina Mickawy in the final. From Alexandria, the 18-year-old was runner-up to El Hammamy in the British Junior Open final in January.

Men's 1st round:

1] Youssef Ibrahim (EGY) bye (right)
Eid Alotaibi (KSA) v Salaheldin Eltorgman (CAN)
Ronald Palomino (COL) bye
Aryaman Adik (IND) bye
Ahmed Elmarshad (EGY) bye
Nils Schwab (GER) bye
Glenn Yates (RSA) bye
[9/16] Ong Sai Hung (MAS) bye
[9/16] Tom Walsh (ENG) bye
Blaine Verhage (RSA) v Nicolas Serna (COL)
Dylan Tymkiw (ARG) bye
Nicholas Calvert (AUS) bye
Sanjay Jeeva (BEL) bye
Siow Yee Xian (MAS) bye
Lwamba Chileshe (NRL) v Zeeshan Zeb (PAK)
[5/8] Andrew Douglas (USA) bye
[5/8] Abhay Singh (IND) bye
Gabe Yam (NZL) v Jacob Ford (AUS)
Martin Rios (COL) bye
Harrison Gill (USA) bye
Cole Becker (USA) bye
Maksymilian Wielgus (POL) bye
Keanu Langford (RSA) v Jeremias Azaña (ARG)
[9/16] Mohamed Elshamy (EGY) bye
[9/16] Adam Corcoran (ENG) bye
Maaz Jamal Khatri (AUS) bye
Abdulmajeeed Boureggah (KSA) bye
Finn Trimble (NZL) bye
Abdul Malik Imran (PAK) bye
Yash Fadte (IND) bye
Jesper Phillips (NOR) v Matías Kupferberg (ARG)
Juan Cortés (ARG) v Mohammad Almwied (KSA)
Shahrul Izham Nurhajieri (MAS) bye
Lachlan Coxedge (AUS) bye
Mansoor Zaman (Jnr) (PAK) bye
Tobias Weggen (GER) bye
Eric Kim (USA) bye
[9/16] Darren Rahul Pragasar (MAS) bye
[9/16] Roman Allinckx (SUI) bye
Rafa Yam (NZL) v Murray Schepers (RSA)
Luis Alejandro Manicilla (COL) bye
Aly Hussein (EGY) bye
In Woo Lee (KOR) bye
Juan Barreyro (ARG) bye
Tiber Worth (USA) v Matthew Lucente (NZL)
[5/8] Kyle Finch (ENG) bye
Mikael Ismail (RSA) v Ethan Eyles (AUS)
Tushar Shahani (IND) bye
Hafiz Zafri (MAS) bye
Quinn Udy (NZL) bye
Inaki de Larrauri (COL) bye
Nasser Alhazmi (KSA) v Miguel Gonzalez Pujol (ARG)
[9/16] Mostafa Asal (EGY) bye
[9/16] Jorge Gomez (MEX) bye
Matias Knudsen (COL) bye
Veer Chotrani (IND) bye
Abbas Zeb (PAK) bye
Salim Khan (USA) bye
William Curtis (AUS) bye
Luke van Vuuren (RSA) v Mitchell Kempton (NZL)
Women’s 1st round:

[1] Hania El Hammamy (EGY) bye (right)
Emma Lundy (IRL) v Ashita Bhengra (IND)
Emme Leonard (USA) bye
Ka Wing Ho (HKG) bye
Kaitlyn Watts (NZL) bye
Courtney Mather (AUS) bye
Danielle Shone (RSA) bye
[9/16] Chan Yiwen (MAS) bye
[9/16] Zoe Foo Yuk Han (MAS) bye
Samita Sivakumar (IND) v Eva Nistler (GER)
Charlotte Orcutt (CAN) by
Fanny Segers (FRA) bye
Anika Jackson (NZL) bye
Sarah Lüdin (SUI) bye
Dong Ju Song (KOR) v Izane Louw (RSA)
[5/8] Sivasangari Subramaniam (MAS) bye
[5/8] Satomi Watanabe (JPN) bye
Elle Ruggiero (USA) v Andrea Toth (CAN)
Saskia Beinhard (GER) bye
Alexandra Haydon (AUS) bye
Alice Green (ENG) bye
Ellie McVeigh (IRL) bye
Amalia Rios (COL) bye
[9/16] Lucy Turmel (ENG) bye
[9/16] Marina Stefanoni (USA) bye
Teagan Roux (RSA) bye
Maelle Fuhrer (FRA) bye
Jasmine Hutton (ENG) bye
Hyoju Seo (KOR) bye
Ashwarya Bhattacharya (IND) bye
Jessica Osborne (AUS) v Camden Te Kani-McQueen (NZL)
[3/4] Nada Abbas (EGY) bye
[3/4] Rowan Reda Araby (EGY) bye
Grace Pattison (AUS) v Alice Kramer (GER)
Laila Sedky (USA) bye
Nicole Kendall (CAN) bye
Jana Shihai (EGY) bye
Chae Won Song (KOR) bye
Lauriane Maingot (FRA) bye
[9/16] Akanksha Salunkhe (IND) bye
[9/16] Elise Lazarus (ENG) bye
Rhiarne Talapa (NZL) bye
Lujan Palacios (PAR) bye
Chan Sin Yuk (HKG) bye
Grace Doyle (USA) bye
Lauren Aspinall (AUS) bye
Lily Lloyd (IRL) v Helena Coetzee (RSA)
[5/8] Andrea Lee (MAS) bye
[5/8] Amina Yousry (EGY) bye
Jennifer Preece (RSA) v Laura Neill (IRL)
Shehana Vithana (AUS) bye
Kristýna Fialová (CZE) bye
Cheng Nga Ching (HKG) bye
Kacenka Tycova (GER) bye
Anna Hughes (NZL) bye
[9/16] Lui Hiu Lam (HKG) bye
[9/16] Aifa Azman (MAS) bye
Emma Jinks (CAN) bye
Chloé Mourier (FRA) bye
Sunayna Kuruvilla (IND) bye
Faith Sithole (RSA) bye
Nadia Hubbard (NZL) bye
Sanya Vats (IND) v Elisabeth Ross (USA)
[2] Zeina Mickawy (EGY) bye

OLYMPIC GAMES 2024

In Lima, Peru this September the members of the International Olympic Committee will decide which city will be awarded the 2024 Summer Games. The fight is between Los Angeles and Paris.

While there are a few months before we know the result, what we know for certain now is that the winning city will be able to nominate additional sports beyond the 28 core sports for their edition. The IOC have confirmed that this option will continue following its introduction for Tokyo.

So, the aim for squash will be to persuade LA or Paris what we passionately believe – that squash would be a great addition to the Games Programme and our players really deserve the opportunity to take part.

We know that we must present squash in a different way to succeed, and our re-branded approach is top of the agenda at present. An Olympic Games Commission is in place, and in close collaboration with PSA plans, strategic partners and budget are all being considered.

While no timeline for bidding has been announced (as this will wait until the winning city has got an OC (Organising Committee) together, we want to be prepared. We will be prepared. We are prepared to win!

DAVID IN RECORD WORLD GAMES GOLD BID

Malaysia’s eight-time women’s world squash Champion Nicol David is bidding to win a record fourth World Games gold medal when the 2017 event takes place in Poland later this month.

Squash’s fifth appearance in the World Games, the multi-sport event for non-Olympic sports, will take place at the 33-court Hasta la Vista club in Wroclaw from 25-28 July.

Nicol David won gold in the 2005 Games in Duisburg, Germany, then the 2009 event in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, before retaining the title in the Cali Games in 2013 in Colombia.

The 33-year-old from Penang who topped the world rankings for an unprecedented 112 months until August 2015, is the No.2 seed - and expected to face French favourite Camille Serme, the world No.3, in the final.

A new gold medallist is assured in the men’s Championship where 2013 runner-up Simon Rösner, the world No.11 from Germany, is the top seed. The 29-year-old from Paderborn is predicted to line up against Max Lee, the No.2 seed from Hong Kong, in the final.

The 2017 Games has attracted squash players from 27 nations.
WSF COMMISSIONS

The development of a full range of WSF Commissions, chaired by specialists is now nearly complete, with the list here, for information. Each have specific roles and responsibilities, details of which can be found here.

Anti-Doping
Chair: Dr. Anne Smith (Canada)
Programme Manager: Lorraine Harding (WSF)
Members: Dr Ellen Hamborg-Petersen (Denmark), Dr Bharatinder Singh (India)

Championships
Chair: Tony Choi (Hong Kong)
Board Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Hardball Liaison: Graham Bassett (USA)
Members: Tommy Berden (PSA), Marcel Borst (Netherlands), Madeline Perry (Ireland), Cyrus Poncha (India), Yvon Provencal (Canada), Wayne Werder (New Zealand)

Coaching
Chair: Maniam Singaraveloo (Malaysia)
Board Liaison: Sarah Fitz-Gerald (WSF VP, Australia)
WSF Coach Education Programme Coordinator: Michael Khan (Austria)
Members: Zac Alexander (Australia), Esteban Casarino (Paraguay), Graham Prior (South Africa)

Commercial
Chair: Pablo Serna (WSF VP, Colombia)
WSF Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Members: Otto Kalva (Norway), Guven Karakus (Turkey), Kevin Klipstein (USA), Julie Marks (Australia), Matthew Osmon (Switzerland)

Courts & Equipment
Chair: Chris Herridge (England)
Board Liaison: Huang Ying How (WSF VP, Malaysia)
Members: Craig Archer (Barbados), John Holland (Australia), Jim O’Grady (New Zealand)

Development
Chair: Emily Mak (Hong Kong)
Board Liaison: Huang Ying How (WSF VP, Malaysia)
Members: Karen Anderson (Jamaica), John Milton (England), Luke Morriss (New Zealand), Chris Peach (England), Tim Wyant (USA)

Disciplinary
Chair: Gerard DeCourcy (New Zealand)
Board Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Members: Volker Bernardi (Germany), Hany Hamouda (Egypt), Ken Stillman (USA), Cedric Tyen (Hong Kong)

Ethics
To be elected.

Governance & Audit
Chair: David Mandel (Australia)
Board Liaison: Jacques Fontaine (WSF President, France)
Members: Peta Murphy (Australia), Janet Sairsingh (Cayman Islands)

Junior
Chair: Jackie Robinson England
Board Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Members: Andrew Cross Malaysia, Kay Kendall (Australia), Mustafa Assem Khalifa (Egypt), Vedran Režić (Croatia), Harry Smith (USA)

Major Games
Chair: Natalie Grainger (USA)
Board Liaison: Sarah Fitz-Gerald (WSF VP, Australia)
Members: Zena Wooldridge (England), Hany Hamouda (Egypt), David Mui (Hong Kong), Jim O’Grady (New Zealand), Federico Serna (Mexico)

Masters
Chair: Malcolm Kerr (Hong Kong)
Board Liaison: Sarah Fitz-Gerald (WSF VP, Australia)
Members: Angelique Clifton-Parks (South Africa), Richard Millman (USA), Wayne Seebeck (New Zealand), Pavel Sladacek (Czech Republic), Nick Taylor (England)

Medical
Chair: Dr. Anne Smith (Canada)
Board Liaison: Lorraine Harding (WSF)
Members: Derek Ryan (Ireland), Dr. Bharatinder Singh (India)

Olympic Games
Chair: Jacques Fontaine (WSF President, France)
WSF Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Members: Tommy Berden (PSA), Sarah Fitz-Gerald (WSF VP, Australia), Alex Gough (PSA), Peter Lasusa (USA), David Mui (Hong Kong), Camille Serme (France), Pablo Serna (WSF VP, Colombia)

Para-Squash
Chair: Volker Bernardi (Germany)
Members to be advised.

Refereeing Management
Programme being finalised.

Rules
Chair: Mike Collins (South Africa)
Members: Lee Drew (PSA), Srikanth Seshadri (India), Chris Sinclair (Australia)

Squad 57
Chair: Zena Wooldridge (England)
WSF Liaison: Andrew Shelley (WSF)
Members: Ken Chee (Malaysia)
Further members to be advised.

Therapeutic Use Exemption
Chair: Dr. Anne Smith
Members: Dr. Deborah Dudgeon (Canada), Dr. Charlotte Elgood (England), Dr. Connie Lebrun (Canada), Dr. Bharatinder Singh (India)
FRENCH DOUBLE AT PSA AWARDS

There was double delight for France at the 2016/17 PSA Awards as Men's World No.1 Gregory Gaultier and Women's World No.3 Camille Serme collected the Player of the Year the Awards during a gala dinner at the Vida Hotel, Dubai.

On the eve of the PSA Dubai World Series Finals, Gaultier was presented with the Men’s trophy following a run of form that saw him collect six consecutive titles and 27 matches unbeaten in 2017.

Gaultier narrowly edged Karim Abdel Gawad - the World Champion and former World No.1 - to the award which was chosen by the PSA Awards Committee, a group consisting of selected influential former players, members of the media, tournament promoters and PSA Board representatives and a social media vote.

Serme was honoured with the Women’s Award after a breakthrough season saw her become the first Frenchwoman to win the U.S. Open and Tournament of Champions - making her the only Women's player to win two World Series titles this season.

Gaultier also collected the Men's Shot of the Season and Men's Match of the Season awards while his opponent this evening, Farag, collected the Male Spirit of Squash Award. Chosen by his fellow players, the prize goes to the player who best demonstrated sportsmanship throughout the season both on and off court. Compatriot Raneem El Welily collected the Women's award.

El Welily also picked up the Women's Shot of the Season Award and was one half of the Women's Match of the Season combination with England’s Sarah-Jane Perry while another Egyptian, Nouran Gohar, collected the Women's Young Player of the Year Award for the second year running. Peruvian Diego Elias, the former World Junior Champion, was named Men's Young Player of the Year.

The final prize of the evening went to England’s Nick Matthew who was presented with the PSA Services to Squash Award in recognition of his contribution to the sport during the past twelve months. Amongst other community initiatives, he donated his prize money from the Canary Wharf Classic to aid young squash player Sumner Malik in his battle with cancer.

PSA Men’s Player of the Year
Winner: Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
Runner-up: Karim Abdel Gawad (EGY)

PSA Women’s Player of the Year
Winner: Camille Serme (FRA)
Runner-up: Nour El Sherbini (EGY)

PSA Men’s Young Player of the Year
Winner: Diego Elias (PER)
Runner-up: Fares Dessouky (EGY)

PSA Women’s Young Player of the Year
Winner: Nouran Gohar (EGY)
Runner-up: Zenia Mickawy (EGY)

Spirit Of Squash – Men’s
Winner: Ali Farag (EGY)

Spirit Of Squash – Women’s
Winner: Raneem El Welily (EGY)

Services to Squash
Awarded to: Nick Matthew (ENG)

Match of the Season – Men
Winner: Gregory Gaultier (FRA) 3-2 Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY) - 2017 Tournament of Champions

Match of the Year – Women
Winner: Sarah-Jane Perry (ENG) 3-2 Raneem El Welily (EGY) - 2017 Tournament of Champions

IRAQ & JAMAICA MAKE DEBUTS

Iraq and Jamaica will make their debuts in the 2017 WSF Men’s World Team Squash Championship in France where a final 24 nations will contest the biennial WSF event. Israel had hoped to complete a first entry too, but have had to defer this time.

The Championship will be held in Marseille, from 27 November to 3 December, at Modern Squash and Salle Vallier, where the final stages will be presented on two all-glass show-courts.

2013 Champions England will defend the title after the 2015 Championship, which was due to be staged in Egypt, was postponed.

Hosts contend

However hosts France, having beaten England to win the men's title at the European Team Championships last month, will be strong contenders if Egypt falter in their bid to reclaim the title. France have yet to win the World title, being runners-up in 2003 and 2009.

The 2017 Championship entry list features Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Egypt, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong China, India, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, USA and Wales.
TWELVE FOR MANCHESTER

Hosts England will lead 12 nations that have confirmed entry for the 2017 WSF World Doubles Squash Championships which will take place at the National Squash Centre in Manchester between 1-5 August.

The 5th World Doubles Championships, which will feature Men’s, Women’s and Mixed events and will be hosted by England Squash, come just a year after the Australian city of Darwin staged the 2016 Championships - in which medals were shared between the hosts, New Zealand, Scotland, India and Malaysia.

A record 51 pairs will participate - comprising 17 Men’s, 21 Mixed and 13 Women’s - representing Australia, Canada, Colombia, England, India, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, South Africa and Wales.

Draw this month

Pairing details will be confirmed in July after the deadline for final nominations, but 13 players from the current men’s and women’s top 20 ranking lists are expected to compete - with England likely to be led by Laura Massaro, James Willstrop, Alison Waters, Daryl Selby and Sarah-Jane Perry; while Wales have Tesni Evans and Scotland Alan Clyne as probable spearheads. Meanwhile New Zealand appear strong with Joelle King and Paul Coll; Australia with Cameron Pilley and double Glasgow Commonwealth Games gold medallist David Palmer; India including 2014 Commonwealth Games gold medal pairing Dipika Pallikal and Joshua Chinappa; and Malaysia with superstar Nicol David.

Preparation

The 5th World Doubles Championships will provide ideal preparation both for the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Australia - where doubles squash will be a feature of the Games for the sixth time since 1998 - and also the for Pan American Games the following year.

JACQUES FONTAINE RE-ELECTED

WSF President Jacques Fontaine has been re-elected for a further four year term as a Board member of the French National Olympic Committee (CNOSF), having been a member of it since 2013.

His involvement with the French NOC began in 2008, including being Chef de Mission at the World games in Cali 2013, Co-Director of the Club France at the London Olympic Games in 2012.

RONALD FAUVEL PASSES AWAY

Squash lost a popular and major influence on the career of Nicol David and other players when National Sports Institute of Malaysia Sports Therapist Ronald Fauvel the 56-year-old sadly passed away.

The personal therapist for eight-time World Champion Nicol David since 1997, Ronald was a respected member of the squash community and his presence on the PSA World Tour will be sorely missed. Ronald, from Montreal, Canada, leaves behind a wife and two children.

WSF Chief Executive commented “To hear of Ronnie’s passing just reminds us all that our hope of a full life can be so easily dashed – and so unfairly. Ronnie was so proud of his young family, so eager to show shots of them on his phone, would have made a great father to his two children as they grew up. His wife has lost somebody special too.”

Ronnie was a ‘giving’ person. Giving treatments of course, but giving of his time, knowledge and personality to anybody who asked him for it.

Naturally, it has been his work in keeping Nicol David in such good order that we know him most for. That and his shouts of ‘Go girl’ as she played! There was so much more besides that has been taken from us.

His family, Nicol, Malaysian Squash and all of us who had the pleasure of knowing Ronnie have lost somebody very special indeed.

Official WSF Magazine

British Open finalist Sarah-Jane Perry tells Rod Gilmour how she has silenced the doubters by marching into the world’s top 10.

For these stories and more, please click here: http://www.squashplayer.co.uk
A FIRST FOR ST. LOUIS

For the first time, St. Louis, Missouri, will host the 2017 World Squash Doubles Championships, September 21-24, at the Racquet Club of St. Louis and Missouri Athletic Club.

Open and age divisions registration is now open on www.worlddoubles.com.

The event will feature the best professional teams from around the world competing in Men’s, Women’s, and Mixed divisions. Additionally, all amateur players are encouraged to get in on the fun. Men’s A, Women’s B, a full slate of age groups and Mixed 35+ are all open for play. All teams must represent the same country.

The twelfth biennial edition of the Championships, featuring Men’s, Women’s and Mixed events is organised by the Squash Doubles Association (SDA) and Women’s Squash Doubles Association (WSDA) Pro Tours under the auspices of the World Squash Federation.

England’s John Russell & Clive Leach are expected to defend the Men’s title they won in 2015. It was also an English pair, Suzie Puerta & Carrie Hastings (pictured), who claimed the Women’s title in the same Championships, while Canadians Viktor Berg & Stephanie Hewitt are the defending Mixed Champions.


CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2017

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.

<table>
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<th>BRAND NAME</th>
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EYEWEAR POSTERS

To help promote awareness of eye protection, don’t forget the scalable poster that can be downloaded by centres and placed on court doors, notice boards or in changing rooms.

It can be found at: www.worldsquash.org/ws/resources/eyewear-poster

WSF DIRECTORY

The current edition of the WSF Directory with updated National Federation addresses, WSF Commission details and much more besides is on the WSF website here.
WSF HIGHLIGHTS SQUASH TIMELINE

The WSF has published a new history of our sport.

The two new additions to the WSF website have been produced by respected U.S. journalist James Zug. The first is a 6,000 word essay on the history of the game at www.worldsquash.org/ws/a-sport-with-history.

Zug connects the parents of squash - real tennis, racquets and fives - with the origins of squash at Harrow School in England in the 1850s. He goes on to show how the game spread around the world; the emergence of a professional tour; the development of doubles; and the game’s global sport position now.

History of Squash Timeline, which is on the WSF website at www.worldsquash.org/ws/WSF-timeline begins at Harrow in the 1850s and identifies the first court built in USA in 1884 - making it the second of the current 185 countries where squash is now played. The first book on squash is listed (1901), as is the formation of various national federations - including South Africa in 1910, Canada in 1913 and Egypt in 1931, for example.

In 1965 the first window in a solid court wall appeared; the viewing revolution in the 1980s is detailed and, later, scoring and tin height changes are also covered.

“There was a time when squash rackets were made of wood, there was no such thing as a glass back wall, never mind an all-glass show-court - and even further back there were no standard rules of the game nor defined court dimensions.”

“Squash has a long history that began in the 1850s and to be able to scroll through the many dates helps us remember the game’s key milestones. James Zug has ensured that while we look to the future the past is not lost,” said Andrew Shelley, WSF Chief Executive.

James Zug is the executive editor of Squash Magazine, the New York-based publication; he blogs at SquashWord.com; tweets at SquashWord; leads the squash podcast “Outside The Glass”; and is the author of six books, including two on the game: “Squash: A History of the Game” (2003) and “Run to the Roar: Coaching to Overcome Fear” (2010).

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 once only lifetime fee of GBP15.00 (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

TEAM OFFICIALS

All designated team officials attending with teams or individual players must be WSF Registered with a SPIN at the time of attendance. (This Regulation covers anybody with access to the playing area, so, primarily, managers, coaches, physios).

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.

Keep up with World Squash on Twitter: click here
WSF ACCREDITATION
WSF Accredited Products available from these companies mean assured standards when building or renovating squash courts.

For a full list of all Accredited Products please click here.

WSF APPROVED BALLS

Dunlop provide the WSF Adopted Ball, which is used for all WSF World Championships, along with all Regional events.

A number of manufacturers make balls that have been tested to conform to the WSF Squash Ball Specifications and so are quality assured.

They are all listed here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artengo SB 990 Squash Ball</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Knight Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunlop XX Yellow Dot Championship Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye Ball Squash Ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEAD Sport AG Yellow Dot Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huashen Double &amp; Single Yellow Dot Balls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karakal Squash Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR Price Sport Maxed Squash Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Rebel Pro Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiball Yellow Dot Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tecnifibre Squash Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor/VICTEC Doppel-Gelb Squash Ball</td>
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</tbody>
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WSF EGM

The agenda for the WSF EGM scheduled in order to deal with Ethics Commission membership was sent to member nations last week. If you did not receive this please let us know.

Details can be found here.

...... and WSF AGM & CONFERENCE 2017

Details were circulated to National Federations recently, confirming that it will take place at Hotel Mercure Vieux Port, in Marseille, France; the Conference on 2 December and the Annual General Meeting and Men’s World Team Championship Final on the 3 December.

For registration details click here.
EL SHERBINI’S 15th MONTH AT NUMBER 1

El Sherbini Makes it 15th Months at World No.1 in Unchanged Women’s Top 20

Egypt’s Nour El Sherbini has remained at World No.1 for a 15th month in succession after the two-time World Champion topped an unchanged top 20 in the July PSA Women’s Rankings.

The 21-year-old - whose reign atop the World Rankings is just one month shy of the likes of former World No.1s Rachael Grinham and Cassie Jackman - is followed in the top five by compatriot Raneem El Welil, France’s Camille Serme, PSA Dubai World Series Finals winner Laura Massaro and World Junior Champion Nouran Gohar.

Malaysian icon Nicol David sits at No.6, while Sarah-Jane Perry, Amanda Sobhy, Alison Waters and Annie Au complete the top 10.

The rest of the top 20 is also unchanged, with the likes of Nour El Tayeb sitting at No.11 and Victoria Lust remaining at No.15.

Hong Kong’s Joey Chan and Egypt’s Salma Hany Ibrahim take up the final two spots in the top 20 at No.19 and No.20, respectively.

GUALTIER HEADS UNCHANGED RANKINGS

Frenchman Gregory Gaultier has retained his World No.1 spot for the second month in succession after the release of the PSA Men’s World Rankings for July, featured an unchanged top 20.

Gaultier is joined by former World No.1s Karim Abdel Gawad, Mohamed ElShorbagy and Nick Matthew in the top five, with Egypt’s Ali Farag staying in the No.5 spot.

England’s James Willstrop - a finalist at last month’s Men’s PSA Dubai World Series Finals - remains at No.6, while an Egyptian quartet of Marwan ElShorbagy, Ramy Ashour, Tarek Momen and Fares Dessouky round off the top 10.

Germany’s Simon Rösner, who reached the last four in Dubai, stays at No.11, with Mohamed Abouelghar taking the last place inside the top 15. Diego Elias of Peru and South Africa’s Stephen Coppinger round off the top 20.

The biggest risers were El Salvador’s Abrego Aguilar and Costa Rica’s Sebastian Jimenez Benavides, who both enjoyed an increase of 172 places from joint No.513 to equal No.341 after they made their PSA World Tour debuts at the Costa Rica Open.

PSA Women’s Rankings – July 2017

1. Nour El Sherbini (EGY)
2. Raneem El Welil (EGY)
3. Camille Serme (FRA)
4. Laura Massaro (ENG)
5. Nouran Gohar (EGY)
6. Nicol David (MAS)
7. Sarah-Jane Perry (ENG)
8. Amanda Sobhy (USA)
9. Alison Waters (ENG)
10. Annie Au (HKG)
11. Nour El Tayeb (EGY)
12. Joelle King (NZL)
13. Emily Whitlock (ENG)
14. Joshna Chinappa (IND)
15. Victoria Lust (ENG)
16. Tesni Evans (WAL)
17. Olivia Blatchford (USA)
18. Donna Urquhart (AUS)
19. Joey Chan (HKG)
20. Salma Hany Ibrahim (EGY)

PSA Men’s Rankings – July 2017

1. Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
2. Karim Abdel Gawad (EGY)
3. Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)
4. Nick Matthew (ENG)
5. Ali Farag (EGY)
6. James Willstrop (ENG)
7. Marwan ElShorbagy (EGY)
8. Ramy Ashour (EGY)
9. Tarek Momen (EGY)
10. Fares Dessouky (EGY)
11. Simon Rösner (GER)
12. Paul Coll (NZL)
13. Daryl Selby (ENG)
14. Ryan Cuskelly (AUS)
15. Mohamed Abouelghar (EGY)
16. Borja Golan (ESP)
17. Max Lee (HKG)
18. Cameron Pilley (AUS)
19. Diego Elias (PER)
20. Stephen Coppinger (RSA)
WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT

Events that are part of the WSF World Junior Circuit take place throughout the year. Here are the forthcoming ones.

View the current WSF World Junior rankings click here.

July '17
01-09 Caribbean Junior Open
13–15 Brazil Junior Open
13–16 Dutch Junior Open
19–24 WSF Men’s & Women’s World Juniors
25–28 Japan Junior Open

August '17
01–05 Hong Kong Junior Open
11–13 South African Junior Open
15–19 Asian Junior Individual
18–20 African Junior Open
21–27 Cairo Arab Regional Junior Open

September '17
05–08 Iran Junior Open
08–09 Welsh Junior Open
27–29 Argentinian Junior Open

NATIONAL & REGIONAL DATES 2018

As Regions will be aware, PSA provide protected dates in the calendar to support Regional and National Championships that want to avoid Tour event conflict for their players. PSA have confirmed those applicable for 2018 to enable you to plan. As previously PSA set aside dates as follows:

Regional Championships

Protection for a period of 7 days, following from the last Monday in April, from all PSA tournaments in the same region and from PSA 15 and above elsewhere.

Regional/National Championships.

Protection for a period of seven days, following from the second Monday in February and second Monday in June, from all PSA tournaments in the same country, if requested to the PSA a minimum of six months before the respective Monday of the denoted week, and from tournaments of PSA 35 and above in the same region and from tournaments of PSA 50 and above elsewhere.

Next year using the formula the weeks will be:
12 - 18 February 2018
30 April - 6 May 2018
11 - 17 June 2018

Regions and nations are encouraged to use these dates for events.

WSF COACHING CONFERENCE REMINDER

Colombia are hosting the WSF Coaching Conference 2017 from 14-16 September at Club Campestre de Bucaramanga in Bucaramanga.

For registration details, visit: www.wsfoachconference.com

Meanwhile,
The 5th ESF Coaching Conference has been held at Meersquash in Hoofddorf near Amsterdam. The overall theme was “Training to compete – preparing your players for competition” and attracted 29 coaches from 16 nations. A highlight of the conference was the attendance of Ashraf Hanafi, former Egyptian Junior National Coach, who gave an insight of why Egypt now is so successful in squash.

GENDER PRIZE MONEY GAP REDUCING

A BBC (British Broadcasting Company) study into prize money levels within professional sport has shown that the gender prize money gap in sport is closing, with squash highlighted as a sport making impressive strides in recent years to achieve parity.

The 2017 AJ Bell PSA World Championship in Manchester this December is set to be a landmark moment when equal prize money will be on offer at the sport’s biggest event for the first time.

This season alone the total level of funds available across the PSA Women’s Tour rose by over $162,000 year-on-year, representing a nine percent increase, to reach a total prize fund in excess of $1,986,000 – while the average prize fund per event on the Women’s Tour also rose by four percent this season.

“It frustrated me that we played the same number of games and put in the same amount of training and effort as the men but, because we may have been perceived as playing at a slightly lower level to the men, we weren’t paid the same,” 33-year-old Laura Massaro told BBC Sport.

“To see that come good now after pushing for the women to be a part of the Professional Squash Association and growing the sport together as equals has been a real bonus.”

WSF WORLD CALENDAR

The WSF World Calendar of events is updated monthly and can be found at http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wsf-calendar
WORLDWIDE REFEREEING MANAGEMENT

WSF is prioritising the recruitment of more referees, resourcing training materials and setting a clear pathway for referees. A worldwide, integrated and resource led programme is needed, and we are in the midst of the development of a completely new refereeing training, qualification and active management programme in partnership with PSA. This is intended to lead to the pool being widened, quality standardised and raised at the higher level, with increased numbers too. Also, importantly, giving team players the means to learn about how to manage a match, player conduct control and the rules is key to making team squash even more enjoyable and less acrimonious.

This is ongoing and updates will follow.

FINGERS CROSSED IN PHILIPPINES

Philippine Squash Academy President Bob Bachmann is keeping his fingers crossed that within two months, the country’s first public squash courts will be inaugurated at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex. Since the Manila Boat Club built the first squash courts here in the early 1970s, the game has been accessible only to members of exclusive sports facilities.

Bachmann commented that it is time that the Philippines joins the world growth bandwagon in a big way. “The construction of two singles courts and a doubles court at Rizal is ongoing,” he said. “I’m hoping it will be completed by July or August”

WOMEN’S SHOWPIECE FOR SAUDI ARABIA

This October Saudi Arabia hosts the 2017 Saudi PSA Women's Squash Masters at the Princess Nora bint Abdul Rahman University in Riyadh.

Following recent initiatives from the General Authority of Sports in Saudi Arabia to increase sporting participation and awareness across the country, the $165,000 tournament - due to take place from October 29 - November 2, 2017 - will play a crucial role in inspiring a new generation of Saudis to become active within sport.

Joining the likes of the iconic British Open, U.S. Open and Hong Kong Open, the 2017 Saudi PSA Women's Masters will be one of seven key Women's PSA World Series Tournaments to take place during the 2017/18 season - seeing the likes of Nicol David and Nour El Sherbini compete there for the first time.

"We are very pleased to be taking a Women's PSA World Series event to Saudi later this year." said PSA Chairman and Saudi businessman Ziad Al-Turki.

First time since 2010

"Bringing professional squash back to Saudi Arabia for the first time since 2010 has been an ambition of mine and I am grateful for the support of the Department of the Saudi General Authority for Sport to see this come to fruition."