

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

IOC DECISION IS 'HEART-BREAKING' SAID WSF PRESIDENT

WSF President N Ramachandran, who led the Squash presentation at the IOC Session in Buenos Aires on 8th September admitted that he was heart-broken at the decision.

"Today's decision is heart-breaking for the millions of Squash players around the world, particularly given the 10-year journey we have been on to join the Olympic Games Sports Programme," said President Ramachandran.



"As the only new Olympic sport on today's shortlist, we believed Squash offered something for the future and I still hope that our inclusion may still be possible.

"The feedback we have received from many IOC members for our campaign and our presentation has been very positive and I am encouraged by the vote we received today. We have much to offer the Olympic Movement and I am hopeful that today is not the end of our Olympic journey."

The squash presentation to the IOC Congress was the culmination of a two year campaign following squash being included in the initial shortlist in July 2011.

The Olympic Bid Steering Group of WSF, PSA, WSA and our consultants Vero Communications piloted us through phases that saw us answering long questionnaires dissecting the sport, being evaluated at the Hong Kong Open, presenting to the IOC Programme Commission in Lausanne, making our case to the IOC Executive Board in St Petersburg. We produced a bid brochure, made films, developed PowerPoint presentations and of course met, networked, encouraged interest and support, programmed media output. We were relentlessly busy in pursuit of the major prize under the leadership of WSF President Ramachandran in what was a very expensive process for WSF.

Powerful Films

Our bid film, seen by over 150,000 viewers, powerfully showed just how important an Olympic medal would be to squash players – as made clear by World Champions Nicol David and Ramy Ashour, the stars of the film. This film, and especially the newer 'broadcast' film, emphasised that squash has been on a journey of innovation, with dramatically improved broadcast at the core. SquashTV has filmed nearly a thousand matches using the bespoke production kit and team that travel to each major Tour event to ensure highest quality and consistency.

Linked to this has been the strides made in match presentation. Not simply enhancing the spectator experience in the seating but so importantly in the courts themselves. Side door entry to clear the back wall of a door, cooling through tin ducts, glass floors with under-floor lighting were just a few examples shown to the IOC.

"Sport for Life"

We stressed that squash is a sport that is played by both genders, young and old, it is a 'sport for life', it is athletic, is 'clean' and of course is universal with us having had both male and female world champions from every continent.

Of course the ability to be able to easily integrate squash into the Games and our track record of showcasing cities by building courts at stunning locations were cited two of our greatest strengths.

Unfortunately, we did not win the day.

Mike Lee, Vero's Chairman, said: "There are reasons still to believe that not all is lost. We have had some very positive feedback from the IOC about our campaign and the final presentation. The actual campaign itself is formally closed, but under a new president there are signs that the sports programme review may be continuing and that gives us reason for hope. However, nothing is confirmed. We have to see what the IOC are thinking and it is on this basis we are moving forward."



WSF Presentation party in Buenos Aires (L to R): Andrew Shelley, Sarah Fitz-Gerald, Diego Elias, N Ramachandran, Andreina Benedith, Ramy Ashour

WSF LAUNCHES SPIN

Squash Player Identification Number (SPIN) a worldwide player registration Programme that requires players competing internationally to be registered has now gone live.



With effect from 1st January 2014, all players who wish to play in all WSF World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Championships, and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels, will need to have a SPIN.

The system will enable national federations to

enter their players for events online using their SPINs. Similarly, in those events where players enter themselves – e.g. World Masters Championships - they will do so using their SPIN. Federations will also enter their national teams in events using the Programme, and then submit their squads and actual selected team for ties on it too.

There is a small once-only SPIN registration payment, half of which will be fed back into regions to help them with their arrangements and towards general development costs.

One of the principal benefits of the scheme will be the elimination of player name confusion and duplications. It will also ensure ease and accuracy of entries as well as seamlessly link each phase of championships from entry through to seeding, draw and results, and link in the WSF World Junior Circuit.

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, 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 will 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.

CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2013

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
	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 I-ARMOR
	Grays GT Eyewear
	i-Mask
	2500 (9903 Jnr) Pro 3000 (R43)
	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (Pro2)
	R615

NEW ZEALAND DOES WSF PROUD



When Mayor of the City of Christchurch Lianne Dalziel opened the 43rd WSF AGM and Conference she said 'The WSF Conference and AGM is the first world event of any kind held in Christchurch since the earthquakes and we are delighted to welcome you. Christchurch is open for business'.

A second earthquake had devastated the city three years ago and there is so much in the centre that needs to be rebuilt, but there was so much optimism about what would be created.

Hosted superbly by Squash New Zealand, the Conference featured a keynote speech from International World Games Association President Ron Froehlich who had travelled over from USA to not only give the fifty attendees background on the World Games but his views on the squash Olympic bid - which he thought was excellent – and his views on the future structure of the Games.

Of course the Olympic bid was a central feature to proceedings, with President Ramachandran who led it running through the stages, how it played out and how he hopes to have a meeting soon with new IOC President Thomas Bach which will help clarify squash's position going forward.

The full presentation that took place in Buenos Aires was shown.

Team Effort

Mr Ramachandran was keen to emphasise that the bid had been a great team effort in which the member nations had played their part alongside the unstinting support of the Tours. Meanwhile delegates felt that little more could have been done and even while it had not succeeded the bid had really raised the profile of squash as well as bringing it together in a unified thrust for 2020.

There were a number of presentations both from within the sport and from outside during the Conference period.

Mieras Stands Down



The 43rd AGM itself did not feature major decisions nor was it an election year. However, after a period of international squash involvement spanning four decades George Mieras stood down as Secretary General of

WSF after four years in the latest and last of his many roles in squash. These have included being a past Secretary / Treasurer of the world body, heading up several committees and championship involvement too. He was warmly praised by President Ramachandran, a presentation made to him and acclaimed by the delegates. His knowledge and even his waspish wit will be missed!

SWEATING BLOOD: MY LIFE IN SQUASH



This is the title of new World Champion Nick Matthew's autobiography which was published last week.

Matthew reached the top of the PSA World Rankings, has won 25 World Tour titles, including being crowned world champion on two occasions and British Open champion three times, holds the record

of five British National titles in addition to being crowned Men's Singles and Men's Doubles Gold Medallist at the 2010 Commonwealth.

A great record, but what makes him tick? Nick psychoanalyses his own obsessive-compulsive personality and explains how it helps him win. He remembers how, as a late developer, he was constantly told he lacked the talent to succeed yet went on to become one of the most successful English players of all time;

He gives an amazing behind-the-scenes access to the sport: the prize money, the anti-doping, the gruesome training, the post-match celebrations, the crazy players on the PSA World Tour and the far-flung corners of the globe where he competes;

He remembers the career-threatening shoulder operation that eventually put him on the road to World Championship and Commonwealth Games glory;

He tries to understand how his relationship with another top British player went so horribly wrong;

He digs back into his Yorkshire upbringing and remembers the colourful characters who turned him into the champion he is today;

And he pinpoints the most crucial moments in his career – the moments when he really felt like he was sweating blood.

A great read.

RACKETS REACH ZAMBIA

Zambia Squash Association have started a *Donate A Racket* campaign, the intention being to secure 500 Squash rackets and many balls by the end of this year. These will be distributed to all the clubs in the country to help foster growth, especially amongst youngsters.



The final fifty rackets from the *Rackets For Africa* WSF stock initiated by Riley Waterous in Canada have arrived in Lusaka to contribute to the collection.

REFEREES CONVENE IN AMMAN



The 12th WSF Refereeing Conference was held on October 4-5 hosted by Jordanian Squash Federation and its President, Dr. Ramzi Tabbalat. The Co-Conveners were Dr. Rod Symington (Canada), Director, WSF Referees' Committee, and Munir Shah (Singapore), Asian Director of Referees. They were joined as presenters by Chris Sinclair (Australia), WSF Referee and Senior Assessor.

The theme of the Conference was "The Next Step: Becoming an Elite Referee", and was specifically aimed at those referees who are currently at the National or Regional level and who want to rise to become WSF Referees.

Thirty five referees from a wide range of countries attended: from Brazil to Nigeria, and from Spain to Kuwait. Several referees from the Jordanian Squash Federation were also in attendance.

The programme of the Conference covered a variety of topics that were intended to educate referees in, for example, how to control conduct on court, keeping the play flowing, and dealing with injuries and bleeding, as well as the general principles of being an elite referee and using the Three-Referee System.

ENTRIES FOR THE WORLD MASTERS OPENING

Entries for WM'14 will open in November. As in previous World Masters Championships there will be tournament draws for men and women in the following age groups: 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+.



HONG KONG 2014

To enter:

- Get your SPIN by registering at www.worldsquash.org
- From the entry start date, log on to www.worldmasterssquash.com.hk and click "Enter WM'14"

Having secured your SPIN you will then be able to enter on-line via the WM'14 website.

- Get in early as the entry fees will increase by US\$20 from 1 March, 2014

Entries will close at midnight (GMT) on Friday 6th June, 2014.

FIVE YEAR DEALS

Hong Kong Squash had reason to celebrate last month as joint title sponsors of the Hong Kong Open signed a five-year deal securing the well-being of the tournament until 2017.

Cathay Pacific and Sun Hung Kai Financial agreed to continue their commitment to the event, which this year boasts total prize money of HK\$1.6 million.



"While other sports are scrambling around looking for sponsors, we are lucky to have two committed blue-chip sponsors who have backed us for a long time and are now continuing to do so for the next five years," said an elated David Mui Ying-yuen, chairman of Hong Kong Squash.

"This financial commitment is a major breakthrough. We won't have to worry every year about where the money will come from and we can go ahead with the tournament. This is great news for squash and for Hong Kong as our tournament is one of the top five in the world," Mui said.

The Men's and Women's Hong Kong Open (December 1-8) will once again have its last two days showcased on an outdoor court in Tsim Sha Tsui. All the world's top men and women are confirmed for the event.

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

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>

WORLD SQUASH DAY 2013

World Squash Day continues to energise clubs and communities all over the globe. This year the theme of reaching out encouraged worldwide clubs and federations to look outside the confines of their own courts and engage with other sports or youth groups.



In Pakistan, one of the great squash powerhouses with many great champions over a span lasting more than 50 years, events took place across the country. Leading players joined enthusiastic youngsters on court as the nation began the process of unearthing a future world champion to follow in the footsteps of so many illustrious players.

Several clubs in the UK travelled long distances to play each other, and many enjoyed opening their courts to invite groups including police, firefighters, scouts and brownies. A number of clubs staged 24-hour marathons to mark the occasion and others simply held open days to introduce this enormously popular sport to newcomers.

Squash is growing steadily in Eastern Europe and Poland hosted several events designed to attract more newcomers to the sport. The Krakow squash club celebrated their fourth birthday with on-court events and a massive party, and an open day in Gdansk welcomed more newcomers to the game.

In Egypt, several star players joined in the World Squash Day celebrations, while further south, a team from Tanzania travelled to Mombasa for an international friendly with Kenya.

While in Jamaica local schools were invited to come and join the Jamaica SRA junior and senior players



for a day of fun and fitness; (see photo) and it saw many new players and their parents attend and showcased how Jamaican juniors train and play.

HONG KONG DOMINATE

The 6th East Asian Games held in Tianjin, China in October saw Hong Kong dominate but Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei and China medalling too.

The results:

WOMEN'S TEAM Gold: Hong Kong, Silver: Korea, Bronze: China

MEN'S TEAM: Gold: Hong Kong, Silver: Japan, Bronze: Korea

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL FINAL: Chan Ho Ling(HKG) (2) bt Li Dongjin (CHN) (5) 12/10, 11/5, 6/11, 11/9

MEN'S INDIVIDUAL FINAL: Lee Ho Yin (HKG) (1) bt Huang Cheng Yao (TPE) (3) 11/6 11/5 11/8



REGIONAL AND 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 that will begin in 2014.

(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.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TENDERING DEADLINES

Member federations who would like to host a future WSF World Championship should be aware that the deadline for receipt is now fixed as 31st December, two full years ahead of the scheduled year of the championship e.g. 31st December 2013 for events held in 2016. The WSF Board will evaluate applications with a view to finalising agreements subject to inspection at their next meeting after the respective deadlines.

If you would like tender information on any available championship please contact the WSF office.

Tenders to be received by 31st December 2013:

World Junior Individuals + Women's Junior Team 2015

Women's World Team Championship 2016

World Junior Individuals + Men's Junior Team 2016

World Cup 2016

World Doubles 2016

Tenders to be received by 31st December 2014:

World Junior Individuals + Women's Junior Team 2017

Men's World Team Championship 2017

COLOMBIA RULES IN SOUTH AMERICA

The Colombian team dominated the South American Championships which were held in Cali, Colombia,



which had hosted the World Games in August.

They took six of the seven golds played for.

The performance of all the players was phenomenal winning 6 of the 7 possible gold medals on offer.

Colombians Miguel Angel Rodriguez and Laura Tovar each took individual gold, they led their country in the teams, and it was only the Peruvian men's pairing of Diego Elias and Alonso Escudero who prevented a clean sweep.

The medals table:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Colombia	6	2	2
Peru	1	0	5
Argentina	0	5	1
Brazil	0	0	6
Paraguay	0	0	0

WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT RANKINGS

The WSF World Junior Circuit Rankings – for under-19s age grouping - are issued quarterly, based on results achieved in national junior opens, regional championships and WSF World Junior Individual Championships.

Men's top 10:

1	Karim El Hammamy (EGY)	125.00
2	Abdulla Mohd Al Tamimi (QAT)	93.33
3	Diego Elias (PER)	83.33
4	Richie Fallows (ENG)	77.67
5	Edgar Zayas (MEX)	77.00
6	Tomotaka Endo (JAP)	76.00
7	Claudio Pinto (POR)	54.33
8	Ma Tsz Hei (HKG)	50.00
9	Ashley Davies (ENG)	46.00
10	Daniel Poleshchuk (ISR)	45.00

Women's top 10:

1	Nele Gillis (BEL)Ho Ka Po (HKG)	76.00
2	Cristina Gomez Jimenez (ESP)	66.67
3	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	66.67
4	Jacqueline Peychar (AUT)	65.00
5	Sabrina Sobhy (USA)	63.33
6	Mariam Ibrahim Metwally (EGY)	63.33
7	Tze Lok Ho (HKG)	60.33
8	Marie Stephan (FRA)	52.00
9	Laura Viviana Tovar Perez (COL)	51.00
10	Sue Ann Yong (MAS)	50.00

SQUASH
PLAYER



Official WSF Magazine

After the brave experiment of holding the Allam British Open outdoors in 2013, Richard Eaton looks back at squash's innovative attempts at finding new venues for events.

Also, British Open champion Laura Massaro talks to Vanessa Atkinson about her bid to end Nicol David's seven-year reign at the head of the world rankings.

For these features and more, please click here:
<http://www.squashplayer.co.uk/features/features.htm>

WSF APPROVED BALLS



WORLD RANKINGS



Golan & Rodriguez Hit World Ranking Heights

Whilst Egypt's Ramy Ashour extends his 2013 run into an 11th month at the top of the Dunlop PSA Men's World Squash Rankings, it is Spaniard Borja Golan and Colombian Miguel Angel Rodriguez who steal the limelight after reaching career-high positions in the November listing.

Ashour collected his ninth successive PSA World Tour title at the NetSuite Open in San Francisco last month - and second-placed Frenchman Gregory Gaultier also added to his Tour title tally in October, winning the PSA World Series Delaware Investments US Open without dropping a single game.

Englishmen James Willstrop and Nick Matthew hold onto third and fourth places, respectively, with Egypt's Karim Darwish at No5.

But the new rankings have a strong Hispanic flavour: It was after making the world top 10 in 2009 and becoming Spain's highest-ranked player of all-time that Borja Golan suffered a career-threatening knee injury which took him out of the game for nine months.



From an eight-year-low 103 ranking in May 2010, the determined Spaniard was back in the top 30 within nine months. After winning the Montreal Open last month - his 29th Tour title - Golan now celebrates a new best-ever world No8 ranking.

After overtaking Argentina's 1990's star Federico Usandizaga two months ago to become the highest-ranked South American ever, Miguel Angel Rodriguez makes further progress this month with a two-place rise to a career-high No14.

November 2013 top 20 (inc. points average):

1	Ramy Ashour	EGY	1,559
2	Gregory Gaultier	FRA	1,195
3	James Willstrop	ENG	921
4	Nick Matthew	ENG	825
5	Karim Darwish	EGY	679
6	Mohamed Elshorbagy	EGY	675
7	Peter Barker	ENG	597
8	Borja Golan	ESP	523
9	Omar Mosaad	EGY	460
10	Amr Shabana	EGY	416
11	Daryl Selby	ENG	389
12	Tarek Momen	EGY	378
13	Simon Rosner	GER	352
14	Miguel Angel Rodriguez	COL	324
15	Alister Walker	BOT	316
16	Cameron Pilley	AUS	298
17	Saurav Ghosal	IND	293
18	Laurens Jan Anjema	NED	274
19	Stephen Copping	RSA	268
20	Adrian Grant	ENG	250



Nicol David Makes It 88

November's WSA rankings see Nicol David make it an 88th consecutive month at the top after capturing three titles in October at the Carol Weymuller Open, US Open and China Open. The rest of the top five remain unchanged with US Open finalist Laura Massaro at no.2, China Open finalist Raneem El Weleily at no.3, Alison Waters at no.4 and Joelle King at no.5.

A surprise semi final finish at the China Open sees Natalie Grinham move to no.6, her highest ranking for over three years since she took time out to have her first child. Camille Serme equals her highest ranking at no.7 after knocking out three seeds on the way to the Carol Weymuller Open final.

Dipika Pallikal won the biggest title of her career at the Macau Open in October as well as reaching the quarter finals at the China Open, this leap saw the Indian star move up five places to no.12. Also in the top 20, US number one Amanda Sobhy



moved up three places to no.20, her first time in the top 20 since the beginning of the year.

November 2013 top 20

1	Nicol David	MAS	3499.38
2	Laura Massaro	ENG	2205.62
3	Raneem El Weleily	EGY	1656.25
4	Alison Waters	ENG	1185.94
5	Joelle King	NZL	1040.29
6	Natalie Grinham	NED	965.294
7	Camille Serme	FRA	960.312
8	Jenny Duncalf	ENG	952.941
9	Low Wee Wern	MAS	904.706
10	Madeline Perry	IRL	882.85
11	Kasey Brown	AUS	715.158
12	Dipika Pallikal	IND	670.833
13	Omneya Abdel Kawy	EGY	636.706
14	Rachael Grinham	AUS	544.7
15	Nour El Sherbini	EGY	500.625
16	Sarah-Jane Perry	ENG	489.0
17	Annie Au	HKG	466.529
18	Line Hansen	DEN	400.333
19	Nicolette Fernandes	GUY	386.706
20	Amanda Sobhy	USA	376.594

MATTHEW WINS THIRD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP



England's Nick Matthew survived a dramatic AJ Bell PSA World Squash Championship final at Manchester Central in England, beating French rival Gregory Gaultier 11-9, 11-9, 11-13, 7-11, 11-2 in 111 minutes to claim the trophy for the third time.

The triumph, fittingly the longest match of the championship, means that the 33-year-old world number four from Sheffield joins a select and distinguished group of players - Australian Geoff Hunt; Pakistanis Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan; and Egyptian Amr Shabana - who have three titles to their name.

Gaultier, the world number two from Aix-en-Provence, also becomes a member of a notable trio of fellow former world number ones - including Pakistan's Qamar Zaman and Australian Chris Dittmar - who have been finalists four times but have never won the title!



Before a capacity and partisan crowd Matthew fought back from 4-7 and 6-9 down in the opening game to take the lead after 26 minutes. The second game followed a remarkably similar pattern, with Gaultier again leading 7-4, then 8-6, before a series of winners from the Yorkshireman's racket took Matthew to game ball - and an almost identical shot to the one at the end of the first game which again led to a stroke for Matthew.

The third game saw a revival of fortunes for the in-form Frenchman. In a sequence of incredible rallies, Gaultier went from 6-7 down to game-ball at 10-7.

Incredibly, Matthew reclaimed the advantage, winning four points in a row - the first of which Gaultier commendably called down - to reach match-

ball. With the audience on the edges of their seats, Gaultier levelled with a winning drop shot, then took the next two to clinch the game.

Gaultier was on fire in the fourth, winning six points in succession from two-all before sending a service return into the nick at 7-10 to level the match.

The decider saw a noticeably focussed Matthew come into the court alongside a weary-looking Frenchman. As the game developed, it became increasingly clear that Gaultier had little more to give - and Matthew, urged on by the excited crowd, scored winner after winner before a tinned response from the Frenchman on championship point gave the Englishman the title.

Matthew becomes the oldest world champion since 1980, when Australia's Geoff Hunt won the title for the fourth time in a row, aged 33 years and six months.

Gaultier had reached the last day after a tough semi where he beat Egyptian Mohamed Elshorbagy 6-11, 11-3, 11-8, 12-10 while fellow Egyptian and world number one Ramy was forced to retire with a leg injury against Matthew at 6-11, 11-2, 2-0.



WSF Referees (L to R) on the Manchester Show court: Roy Gingell, Nasser Zahran, John Massarella, Championship Referee Jason Foster, Ralf Harenberg, Mike Riley

SQUASH RULES 2014

The 2013 WSF AGM approved a revised version of the Rules of Squash. The 2014 Rules will come into effect on 1 January 2014.

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. In addition, the new Rules have tried to simplify the English as an aid to better 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>

WSF APPROVED RACKETS



SNIPPETS

WSF World Junior Circuit enables players at Under 19 age level to earn ranking points that count towards the World Junior rankings.



To register a National Junior Open please go to:

<http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/athletes/wsf-world-junior-circuit-rankings/wsf-world-junior-circuit-registration-20112012>

Squash Canada have released their new Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Website <http://beyondthenick.ca> in English and <http://fr.beyondthenick.ca> in French



Romania has hosted its first ever Tour event. The Courtwall Romanian Open, a PSA Challenger 5 event, took place at the new Aero Squash Club in the Romanian capital Bucharest.

Fry Elected Chairman

of the Board of US SQUASH. John A. Fry, the man who brought the U.S. Open Squash Championships to Drexel University three years ago will now serve as the leader of the US national governing body. He will be the 45th chairman in the association's 109-year history following the end of Peter Lasusa's term.



Meanwhile, Swedish Squash also has an incoming President, Bjorn Strandberg, replacing Ulf Karlsson who was in post for ten years.



PSA have expanded their executive team with the appointment of Nathan Clarke as their new PR and Communications Manager. Clarke, 24, joins The PSA having spent the last three and a quarter years as Media Executive for The RFL, governing body of rugby league, and will work to help increase the profile and visibility of the PSA World Tour.



Inverness perhaps? Inverness Tennis and Squash Club are inviting any visiting team to use their club as a training base for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland next year. The contact there is David Humpage: humpagedavid@yahoo.co.uk

ASB SquashCourts has created of a new service for professional court rental in Europe: ASB / Harlequin is a professional court installation service for the company's All-Glass showcourts.

The WSF Handbook, a directory featuring member nation details, WSF contacts, committee / commission members and more, is regularly updated and can be found on the WSF website at http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/130910_Handbook-2013-September-Edition.pdf

Former World Champion Peter Nicol and Jessica Winstanley are now the proud parents of Bode Lyon Nicol. Congratulations to them both.

Logan James Willstrop is the name of the baby boy who arrived last weekend – a first child for James Willstrop and Vanessa Atkinson. Congratulations to them too!



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