Instant Update

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WSF

To: ALL WSF MEMBER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

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

WSF AMBASSADORS LOW AND PILLEY HEAD FOR PNG

Papua New Guinea will host the 2014 WSF Ambassador Programme when the region's top squash player Cameron Pilley leads the World Squash Federation initiative there at the end of May.

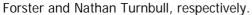


Pilley, the Australian No1, will be joined by Malaysian Low Wee Wern, the women's world No7, for the latest Ambassador Programme international promotional initiative which was launched by the WSF three years ago.

With two of the sport's leading international players, plus an international coach and

referee, the WSF Ambassadors first visited the Baltic country of Latvia, followed in 2012 by a trip to the African countries of Malawi and Namibia, before last year taking in Panama and Venezuela.

This year, between Friday 30 May and Sunday 1 June, the players will integrate with the local squash community in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, providing clinics and exhibition matches. Meanwhile coaching and refereeing workshops will be hosted by Australians Marc



"We are pleased to have the presence of two of the top international squash stars coming to Papua New Guinea," said Papua New Guinea Squash Federation President Edmond Pereira. "It will not only bring great media interest here, but give our squash community an exciting opportunity to interact with them.

"It is hoped that it will also rekindle the growth and development of squash as a sport in the country, bringing new and young players to our wonderful sport."

WSF Chief Executive Andrew Shelley, who will lead the group, explained: "Squash is played in 185 countries so we can only scratch the surface with this initiative, but taken alongside the work done by our regions and stronger countries we have a very strong support network in place."

SQUASH TAKES TO THE BEACH



The 4th Asian Beach Games, which takes place in Phuket, Thailand in November this year, will boast an exciting spectacle: An all-glass squash showcourt.

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has added Squash for the first time, with individual singles events taking place from 11-16 November. Each draw will feature sixteen of the best players from the region - with best-of-three game matches, played from sunset.

Welcoming the initiative, WSF President N. Ramachandran said: "The Asian Beach Games feature a great selection of exciting and colourful sports, and we are delighted that OCA see that our versatility and vibrancy can be a genuine addition to the Programme. We are very grateful to OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah and H.E. Kanokphand Chulakasem, Governor, Thailand Sports Authority, whose vision has made our inclusion possible".

"One key facet of our case towards securing a place in the Olympic Games has been that squash has a great ability to use many types of arenas and showcase the host city," added Ramachandran. "And squash on the beach really highlights this!"

The Games, which feature many sports that take place on the beach or in the water, will see many countries competing in Squash, the maximum of two players per nation in each event ensuring breadth.

SQUASH RULES TRANSLATED

Go to the WSF website, www.worldsquash.org, and you will not only find the 2014 version of the Rules of Squash in English, but in other languages too. These include Dutch, French, Polish and Spanish.

If you have them formally translated into another language we would be delighted to receive them in pdf version so that we can share them with the squash community too.

Photographs:

Many with thanks from SquashSite.co.uk and squashpics.com

LAURA MASSARO TAKES WOMEN'S WORLD TITLE



World No2 Laura Massaro fought off a courageous attack by teenage Egyptian giant-killer Nour El Sherbini in the final of the Penang CIMB Women's World Squash Championship in Malaysia.

Massaro came into the climax of the event at the SPICE Arena in Penang as the strong favourite after unseeded El Sherbini stunned Malaysian Nicol David, Penang's world No1, in the semi-finals.

El Sherbini had become the first unseeded player to reach the final in more than 18 years. The 18 year-old had despatched Australian Kasey Brown, England's Alison Waters and Kiwi Joelle King - the 12th, 4th and 5th seeds, respectively - to make the semis, and silenced the home crowd with the 4-11, 11-9, 11-6, 2-11, 11-9 win over David in 61 minutes.

There was to be no all-Egyptian final, however, as world No2 Massaro had beaten Raneem El Welily, the world No3 from Cairo, 11-9, 11-7, 6-11, 11-7 in the other semi-final.

Nerves Abound

The triumph – 11/7 6/11 11/9 5/11 11/9 - makes Massaro only the third Englishwoman to lift the world title - since Martine le Moignan in 1989 and Cassie Jackman in 1999.

"To be honest I was really nervous," admitted the jubilant Champion after the match. "I've never really felt this nervous even though I



made the final of the 2012 worlds. It was probably because I didn't want the opportunity to slip away.

"I think knowing that I had to play Sherbini instead of Nicol in the final threw me off my game and it made me a lot more nervous because it was a really good opportunity for me. But it's been a really amazing win - and it's massive to have both the World and British Open titles".

Meanwhile El Sherbini, who was thrilled just to be in the final, admitted that she was just as nervous and had too many things running through her mind before the match. "It's just so close isn't it? But I was just too nervous. I was thinking a lot before the match and I just didn't have that focus," said the teenager who missed out on the opportunity to become the only player in history to hold both the junior and senior world titles simultaneously.

ASHOUR WINS SECOND WORLD SERIES FINALS TITLE



Egyptian Ramy Ashour claimed his second Power Courts World Series Finals crown after emerging a 3-1 victor in an electrifying final against compatriot Mohamed Elshorbagy in Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Ashour, Champion in 2007, came through 15-17, 11-7, 11-4, 11-5 in a titanic 63-minute tussle.

Cairo-based Ashour, whose past 4 months have been injury plagued, said he was privileged to take on his Alexandrian compatriot with the title on the line.

"I'm really, really proud to win such a prestigious event," said Ashour. "Everyone would love to win this event and I really pushed myself and focused from the first point of the week until the last point of the week which gives me a lot of confidence mentally.

"It's been a great week overall and I think my performances were good and I was really proud that both of us were in the final today. It's the first time that there's been two Egyptian in the World Series Finals final and this kind of success can help uplift spirits back home in Egypt".

"We've gone through a lot of turmoil in recent years. It's still not over but it's getting better and better. We do what we can to raise the flag through squash and doing our best and we have faith that very soon things will be in a much better state than they were before."

Brutal Match

It was Elshorbagy who took the opening game in a nail-biting 17-15 tie-break but that challenge forced Ashour to raise his and game the former World No1 and two-time World Champion responded produce some of



his best squash to see off his younger challenger.

"It was a brutal match and both of us were really hungry to win that opening game and it's a credit to him that it went his way," he said. "He deserved to win that game and I had to come back with a different plan from the second game and thankfully it worked. It definitely wasn't easy. He's very explosive and catches you off guard so you have to be on your toes and you have to really dig-in and make sure that every point counts and I'm happy to have won."



10 - 21 AUGUST 2014 | WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Entries for the World Junior Individual events close on 29 June, with entries in both the stand-alone women's championship and the men's which precedes the World Junior Team Championship, which will be contested by 20 countries.

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

From the attractions of metropolitan Windhoek to the nearby game reserves, there will be a great deal to do and see.

The full list of entered nations is:

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

At the recent national launch, the chairperson of the local organising committee, Jason Kasuto, said that "Sport is not just about entertainment, but also a critical contributor in business, health and education, while it's an important tool to accelerate development," he explained.



Dr Nelson Herunga (Namibia Squash Association, Chairperson), Vivienne Katjioungua (Namibia Sport Commission, Chairperson) and Jason Kasutio (Local Organizing Committee, Chairperson) at the launch of the World Junior Squash Championships.

He added that the LOC was determined to stage a world class event and had acquired a mobile glass court, courtesy of a N\$1,5 million sponsorship from the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture.

"The local organising committee is determined to leave a lasting legacy and we will now have a mobile class court that can be taken to the regions to promote squash. The Ministry of Sport will also involve volunteers from all the regions and we want to make Namibia a destination of choice for future sport events," he said.

The Championships Director Tyc Kakehongo said the Championships would nurture sport tourism and promote Namibia, while inspiring a new generation of squash players in Namibia.

The Championships will be staged at the Wanderers and Klein Windhoek squash courts, while the glass

court will be set up at Unam, which will 'place the sport on a world class platform.'



Holders Karim El Hammamy & Nour El Sherbini can defend their titles

Trustco are the title sponsor for the Championships. "It pleases us dearly to confirm that we have committed to being the title sponsor for the World Junior Squash Championships with an amount of N\$700,000 to enable the NSA to successfully host this international event," Trustco MD Quinton van Rooyen said in a statement.

WSF WORLD COACHING CONFERENCE



Registration is still open for the WSF Coaching Conference 2014, being held in the beautiful Polish city of Krakow from 25 – 28 June and featuring a great international group of presenters.

Included: James and Malcolm Willstrop, Michelle Martin, John Milton, Ashraf Hanafi, Patterson. Brvan Hadrian Stiff amongst others in a very full and varied four day programme headed 'From Talent to Excellence.

For full details and to participate go to: http://worldsquashcoachingconference2014.com/



CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2014

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

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

BRAND NAME	APPROVED MODEL		
Black Knight black knicht	Turbo (AC 114) Turbo Junior (AC 114 Jr) Lasers (AC 111) Sight Guard (AC 112) Kona (AC 119) Kona Junior (AC 119 Jr) Lynx (AC 122) Stiletto (AC 620)		
Dunlop DUNLOP	Dunlop I-ARMOR		
Grays Grays Grays	Grays GT Eyewear		
i-Mask	i-Mask		
KARAKAL	2500 (9903 Jnr) Pro 3000 (R43)		
Oliver OLIVER®	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (PRO2) Shark (R43) Marvel (SE-7)		
Reydon (Mantis)	Mantis Protective Eyewear		
Prince Prince who's next.	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (Pro2)		
Tecnifibre*	R615		

WSF EYEWEAR POSTERS

To help promote awareness of eye protection, don't forget that the scalable-poster is available 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

SPIN INFORMATION

For players, all players who wish to play in all World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Championships and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels will need to be registered. They will then be provided with their SPIN (Squash Player



Identification Number), which stays with them for life.

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

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

PLAYER REGISTRATION

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

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

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

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

WHERE DO PLAYERS REGISTER?

Simply go to www.worldsquash.org/spin

MEMBER NATION LOGIN

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



Official WSF Magazine

Lee Drew talks about his new role as PSA director of referees and the issues he needs to tackle.

Also, leading coaches Liz Irving and Omar El Borolossy give their views on possible future challengers for the Women's World No1 ranking.

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

WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP NEWS

The WSF Championship will take place from 1-6 December 2014 at White Oaks Conference Resort & Spa at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Government Backing Gained

Canadian Minister of State (Sport) Bal Gosal announced that the Government of Canada will provide up to \$150,000 to Squash Canada, through Sport Canada's Hosting Program, for the 2014 WSF Women's World Team Squash Championship.



Squash Canada President Lolly (left) commented: Gillen to the "Thanks incredible foresight and financial support of the Government of Canada, together with the dynamic team of experts in event planning and hospitality at White Oaks, Squash Canada is confident that the

Women's World Team Championship will inspire many more people into the game, attract a multitude of new visitors to the Niagara region, and send a clear message to the rest of the world of Canada's position on excellence in sport."

Logo Unveiled

Squash Canada has unveiled the Women's World Team Squash Championship 2014 logo.



It is a pictogram of a maple leaf comprised of 31 silhouettes of the leading female squash professionals from around the world. These silhouettes are based on the photography of Steve Cubbins of SquashSite and include Nicol David,

Laura Massaro and Raneem El Welily, all of whom are expected to be participating.

Squash Canada Executive Director, Danny Da Costa, said of the logo produced by Pacey + Pacey Design, "This Championship logo symbolizes national pride and illustrates female competitive excellence, the essence of the World Team Championship".

World Squash Federation Chief Executive, Andrew Shelley said, "Championship logos are necessary, but can be very creative too – and this one is! These Canadian hosted Championships are going to raise the bar in many elements, and their event identity has just provided another example of the vitality and innovation that Squash Canada is bringing to the table".

Squash Canada has also unveiled social media pages for the Championships:

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/pages/2014-Womens-World-Team-Squash-Championship www.facebook.com/pages/Championnat-du-Mondede-Squash-Féminin-par-Équipe-2014

IOC FOCUS ON AGENDA 2020

International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach recently called on individual members from National Olympic Committees and International Federations to make a direct contribution to the debate on the future of the Olympic Movement, termed Agenda 2020.

It followed a wide-ranging debate at the 126th IOC Session in Sochi, where members discussed a strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement.

The debate is centred around three overarching themes of sustainability, credibility and youth, and is structured into five themes:

- 1. Uniqueness of the Olympic Games
- 2. Athletes at the heart of the Olympic Movement
- 3. Olympism in action: keeping Olympism alive 365 days a year
- 4. The IOC's role: unity in diversity
- 5. IOC structure and organisation Working Groups are currently being set up to bring together the contributions. The process will culminate in Monaco on 6 and 7 December 2014 when proposals for Olympic Agenda 2020 will be presented for approval to an IOC Extraordinary Session.



(WSF President Ramachandran is pictured, right, with IOC President Thomas Bach and Russian President Vladimir at the Winter Olympics in Sochi)

From a squash perspective we hope that this increasing consideration of movement and flexibility will help us in our aim to gain a place on the Games Programme.

WSF President N Ramachandran has continued pressing the case for squash and in his capacity as President of the Indian Olympic Committee had the opportunity to have lunch with IOC President Bach recently, alongside others liaising.

WSF APPROVED RACKETS





THE AWARDS SEASON



Three times World Squash Champion Nick Matthew has been named the PSA Player of the Year for 2013.

The 33-year-old from England capped off a triumphant year by claiming his third world title in November, beating Frenchman Gregory Gaultier in the final of the AJ Bell World Championship.

Alongside recapturing the World Championship trophy, Matthew also won his first ever Hong Kong Open in December to add to runner-up berths at the 2013 US Open, Swedish Open, North American Open and Qatar Classic.

"It's an amazing honour and a privilege to win the Player of the Year award," said Matthew, who was presented with the award at the Canary Wharf Classic at London's East Wintergarden.

"I've had some great battles with most of the players so it's very humbling to have been voted as the player of the year by them.

"If you'd stopped 2013 half-way through, you would have said I had an OK year but hadn't pulled up any trees. Then I ended the year very strong, starting with the World Championships, and it shows how your year can change on one week or one result.

Laura Massaro not only became the first English



woman for 15 be years to crowned World Squash Champion, but Massaro was also voted Heather McKay Player of the **Year 2013** at the WSA Awards staged during the Penang CIMB Women's World Championship.

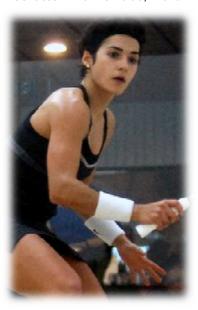
"I'm really pleased and honoured to win the Player of the Year award for 2013," said the 30-year-old from Preston in Lancashire after the presentation by Australian Sarah Fitz-Gerald, the former world number-one and a five-time world champion. "I won it in 2011, which was amazing at the time, but 2013 was such a fantastic year for me that it's up there as one of my best achievements to win this award for the second time! "It was fantastic to be presented with the award by Sarah, who is a legend of the game and also a friend; a special moment!"

Australia's **Lisa Camilleri** won the *Vicki Cardwell Comeback Player of the Year* award. "I am very proud and honoured to win the 2013 comeback player of the year award," said the 31-year-old former world No28 from Queensland. "It is so nice to be recognized for such a hard slog back it's been".

The WSA Breakthrough Player of the Year award was won by England's Sarah-Jane Perry. "I knew I had a good year in 2013 - but so did a lot of other people, so I wasn't expecting to win the award at all! I am so pleased to receive the award and it was an honour in itself that it was presented by Sarah, who achieved so much during her illustrious career. I'm looking forward to the rest of 2014 and hope to keep making strides in my game", she said.

A special *WSA Platinum Service* award was given to **Nicol David**. "I am truly honoured to be recognised with the 2013 WSA Platinum Service Award by the panel," said the illustrious Malaysian who has topped the women's world rankings unopposed since August 2006. "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give back to women's squash, I hope to do more in future to represent our women's tour."

The *WSA Sportsmanship Award* was presented to **Nicolette Fernandes**, the world No20 from



Guyana. The 30-year-old said later: "This award was such a huge surprise for me and even though it's been a few days I'm still feeling pretty humbled by it!

I wholeheartedly believe that we are a product of our environment and I have been extremely blessed to be surrounded by amazing people so even if

I did try and take all the credit those amazing people would know otherwise."

WSA President **Kasey Brown** accepted the **Tournament of the Year** award for **Delaware Investments US Open**, the first major event offering equal prize money to both women and men.

The **Asian Squash Federation** also announced regional awards recently:

Men's Player of the Year - **Saurav Ghosal** (IND) Asian Women's Player of the Year - **Annie Au** (HKG) Boy's Player of the Year - **Abdulla Mohammed Al-Tamimi** (QAT)

Junior Girl's Player of the Year - Ho Ka Po (HKG).



GAULTIER KEEPS TOP SPOT

French star Gregory Gaultier has remained on top of the PSA World Tour Rankings for the second consecutive month, maintaining a slender advantage over English World No2 Nick Matthew in the May rankings.

Gaultier, who was joint World No1 with Matthew in February, regained outright control of the top spot in April and remains the No1 ranked squash player in the world following his semi-final finish at the recent El Gouna International World Series event.



The biggest mover inside the top ten is 34-year-old four-time World Champion Amr Shabana (pictured), as the Egyptian continues his recent resurgence by climbing three places to World No5.

Shabana began 2014 ranked World No9 but victory in January's Tournament of Champions, semi-final

finishes at the Motor City Open, Case Swedish Open and El Gouna International and honours at the recent Grasshopper Cup have seen him claim his highest ranking since 2011.

Elsewhere in the top 20, Egypt's Marwan Elshorbagy climbs to a career-high World No19, breaking into the top 20 for the first time in his career thanks to claiming the runner-up berth at April's Northern Ontario Open.

"To be in the top 20 players in the world means a lot to me," said Elshorbagy.

May 2014 Dunlop PSA Men's World Rankings (including points average)

(including points average)					
Pos	Player	Country	Average		
1	Gregory Gaultier	FRA	1350.500		
2	Nick Matthew	ENG	1301.000		
3	Mohamed Elshorbagy	EGY	1075.000		
4	Ramy Ashour	EGY	979.000		
5	Amr Shabana	EGY	694.500		
6	James Willstrop	ENG	669.000		
7	Borja Golan	ESP	650.500		
8	Peter Barker	ENG	554.000		
9	Karim Darwish	EGY	483.000		
10	Daryl Selby	ENG	451.000		
11	Tarek Momen	EGY	437.500		
12	Simon Rösner	GER	431.000		
13	Omar Mosaad	EGY	395.000		
14	Miguel Angel Rodriguez	COL	369.500		
15	Saurav Ghosal	IND	326.000		
16	Laurens Jan Anjema	NED	324.500		
17	Cameron Pilley	AUS	321.000		
18	Karim Abdel Gawad	EGY	304.000		
19	Marwan Elshorbagy	EGY	267.000		
20	Stephen Coppinger	KSA	257.727		



PERRY MAKES RANKING HISTORY

While Malaysian Nicol David surges on to a 94th successive month as world number one in the May Women's World Squash Rankings, it is Ireland's Madeline Perry who stole the headlines by becoming the oldest player in history to retain a place in the women's world top ten.

Perry joined the WSA World Tour in July 1998. After securing a career-high world No3 ranking in April 2011, and reaching 27 WSA World Tour finals and winning 11, Perry celebrated her 37th birthday in February.



"I think what I am proud of is that I'm still competing at such a high level and competing with the best in the world," said Perry (pictured) on hearing the news of her unique achievement. "I think I'm playing so well at an older age firstly because I trained very little as a kid, went to university and,

only after that, trained seriously as a professional!

England's World Champion Laura Massaro holds onto second place in the May rankings, ahead of Egypt's third-placed Raneem El Welily and New Zealander Joelle King at No4.

France's Camille Serme returns to a career-equallinghigh No5, with England's Alison Waters at No6.

The impressive recent run by Nour El Sherbini has seen the Egyptian teenager follow her 14-place rise in the April rankings by jumping a further six positions to No7 in the latest list.

May 2014 Dunlop WSA Women's World Rankings (including points average)

	3. (
Pos	Player	Country	Average
1	Nicol David	MAS	3346.25
2	Laura Massaro	ENG	2555.47
3	Raneem El Welily	EGY	1754.71
4	Joelle King	NZL	1176.67
5	Camille Serme	FRA	1082.78
6	Alison Waters	ENG	1036.18
7	Nour El Sherbini	EGY	934.188
8	Low Wee Wern	MAS	916.316
9	Madeline Perry	IRL	804.053
10	Dipika Pallikal	IND	775.278
11	Annie Au	HKG	760.316
12	Jenny Duncalf	ENG	722.353
13	Omneya Abdel Kawy	EGY	637.789
14	Kasey Brown	AUS	577.895
15	Rachael Grinham	AUS	574.238
16	Amanda Sobhy	USA	532.611
17	Sarah-Jane Perry	ENG	516.5
18	Natalie Grinham	NED	482.75
19	Nicolette Fernandes	GUY	425.605
20	Emma Beddoes	ENG	423.222

GETTING STARTED



Following on from the production of a WSF eye protection poster, WSF has now developed a 'Getting Started' poster with support from Oliver that we are sure that centres will find useful when placed on court doors, notice boards or in changing rooms. It will be a reference that players who are 'getting started' can use for their playing and general rule uncertainties.

To download it, go to the link on the WSF website: http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Getting-Started-Poster.pdf.

It can also be produced in other languages. If you wish to translate it and add a national federation logo, please email Jasmine at the WSF office (jasmine@worldsquash.org) who can send the amendable version – this requires the inDesign programme to open it, which is widely used by designers and printers.

TWO WSF RESOURCES

Doubles Guidelines

A new resource on the WSF website is a set of guidelines for doubles referees, players and organisers. To download go to:

www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-

<u>content/uploads/2014/03/140325_Doubles-Rules-Notes-to-Match-Officials-General.pdf</u>

The World Championship Regulations 2014

The latest version is also available for viewing and downloading at the WSF website:

http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-

<u>content/uploads/2014/03/Championship-Regulations-</u>V6.2.pdf

HASTA LA VISTA KIDS

The Hasta La Vista Club in Wroclaw, venue for the squash event for the World Games in 2017, has followed up their hosting of the WSF World Juniors last year with extensive schools links to build up the young player population in their Polish city.

Based on cooperation with Social and Education Departments of the city, club coordinator Barbara Jaworowska reports that since the start 'Over 1500 children and almost 200 teachers took in the hand the squash racket for the first time. In January we organized the first tournament for teachers. 25 teachers took part in there!'



The club is part of a city project called "School in the city". The idea is that the children attend lessons in different institutions in the city such as

theatres, banks, museums, sports facilities and others. 'There are 21 schools in the project and most of them send classes to Hasta La Vista. We have almost 200 pupils a week on board' she says.

'The other project is to support the children who have a talent for squash but the parents don't have the resources to pay for the training' she adds. 'We found already the foundation who wants to pay for that. But the greatest achievement is that we did convince the Education Department to open squash class which is the first such phenomenon in Poland'.



WORLD MASTERS ENTRIES FLOOD IN



HONG KONG 2014

Over six hundred players are already entered for the World Masters 2014 in the five year bands that run right through from Over-35 to Over-80, and you can do so too. To enter the event

which is played from 4 – 11 July go to: www.worldmasterssquash.com.hk/.

The deadline for entry receipt is 23 May.

Entries already come from 45 countries embracing every continent. Too many to list! Entrants may play a competitive opponent, a 'Master' master, or just possibly a player who reached the very top of the tree in their prime.

First time entrant, for example, is former World number two Brett Martin. How will his opponents in the Over 50s handle the player with the best wrist of his time!



(Brett, left, with brother Rodney.....a few years back!)

Brett's wife Melissa (formerly Vacca) is also competing, and she is no slouch either, having been a top 30 player on the women's Tour.

Another player who needs no introduction is Sarah Fitz-Gerald – the five times World Champion will provide the great thrill of opposing



her, but a win against her in the Over 45s may be hard to come by!

If you want a tilt at a title, to enjoy competing, or to combine the event with a holiday then get your entry in now!



You may be the star or play against one, but you can be sure that Hong Kong – just look at the facilities of one host venue, the Hong Kong Football Club - is a memorable

place for what will surely be a memorable week!

WSA APPOINT TOMMY BERDEN

The Women's Squash Association (WSA) has appointed former Dutch Champion Tommy Berden as its acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with immediate effect.

Berden is a familiar face within the global squash community. As a player, the 1998 European Junior Champion was forced to retire early from the PSA World Tour after undergoing multiple surgery on his playing hand to repair snapped tendons.



Already during his playing career, which saw him conquer PSA World eight Tour titles and reach a career high ranking of 22, Berden turned his attention event management. Amongst many PSA and WSA events, the 35-year old promoter was responsible for staging the Women's World Open 2009 in Amsterdam and the highly successful combined Men's and Women's World Opens 2011 in the spectacular New

Luxor Theater in Rotterdam.

WSA President Kasey Brown is delighted to have secured Berden as CEO of the association: "Tommy is a proven entity. He has excellent communication skills, is highly respected by promoters and players, has a wealth of squash knowledge and an extensive network within the squash community. Equally important, he also knows exactly how our association operates after conducting an assessment of our organisation earlier this year," said the world No14 from Australia.

Berden is also very excited with his new role: "After a disappointing 2013, the WSA World Tour is growing again with already 48 events registered on the calendar. We are looking at an increase of over 30% in 2014, which would be a fantastic achievement in these challenging times," said the newly-appointed leader of the WSA who is married to four-time World Championship runner-up Natalie Grinham.

7th World Deaf Squash Championship

The event will take place from 6 – 12 October this year at Ede Squash Centre, Netherlands. For information go to www.wds2014.nl/welcome.htm

WSF WORLD CUP HOSTS ANNOUNCED



The WSF has awarded the rights to host the 2014 WSF World Cup to Egypt.

The next staging of the unique two-man-one-woman team event will take place at Soho Square in the Red Sea holiday resort of Sharm El Sheikh from

11–15 December. It was at the same Sharm El Sheikh venue that the Women's World Championship took place in September 2010.

"The WSF World Cup features a mixed team format that allows us to showcase the best male and female players competing together for their country," said WSF President N Ramachandran. "For us to be able to do so this year in Egypt, a squash powerhouse, is especially pleasing."

A prize fund of \$75,000 will be distributed amongst competing nations, all of whom have already received entry details for the Championship. The location will give hosts Egypt the chance to defend the 2011 title they won for the first time in Chennai, India, on home soil.

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.

The next listing will be published on 6 May.

WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT: May / June:



May 29 – 01 *June*

Argentinean Junior Open

07 – 06 20 – 22

Malaysian Junior Open Italian Junior Open Asian Junior Individual

22 – 26 27 – 29

Portuguese Junior Open

SNIPPETS

News in Spanish

<u>www.zonasquash.com</u> is a new Spanish language squash site with an emphasis on South American news started by Peruvian Charles Houlton Robles.

Squash in Sochi



Two squash courts, built by Courtwall, were in place for the athletes in Sochi for the Winter Olympic Games. They were part of a new sports complex – Zapoljarye – featuring a gym, aquapark, and a multifunctional sports hall.

Courtwall were also behind the rebuilding of the Hamr club in Prague, the largest club in the Czech Republic with 12 courts, which was hit by flooding last year. The whole club was under water, the water level in the court area was above the glass back wall! Eight new courts were built in just two months in time to be ready for the European Masters Championship.

Kit on its' way

There are two consignments of rackets and clothing on their way to the national federations of Bangladesh and Jamaica as a result of collections arranged in England by charity KitAid, who WSF support in their superb efforts to help communities with the squash essentials.

Cali at capacity

The audience figures for last year's World Games in Cali Colombia have been released, and squash was right up there with there being a 97% capacity audience.

Hosts Feature Asiatic Cheetah

The poster for next month's Asian Junior Individual Championships that are being held 22-26 June in Kish Island, Iran feature a photo of an Asiatic Cheetah. The intention is that the Iranian hosts supporting plans to avoid the extinction of the Asiatic Cheetah which now only survives in Iran where its population is estimated at fewer than 70 individuals.



(This is also the symbol of the Iranian football FIFA World Cup team, and will be on their playing shirts).

The busiest month in PSA World Tour history

A record 20 tournaments take place around the world during May, including five brand new events making their debut on the international calendar. The international flavour of squash will be seen in countries such as Hong Kong, Guatemala, Australia, South Africa, France and the USA, all of which will be headlined by the Allam British Open, the flagship PSA World Series events taking place in the UK.

Region receive SPIN funding

Half of all SPIN registration fees are rebated to WSF regions to assist with development work. The income flow has already started so the benefits are percolating across the squash board.







Executive Office: Maison du Sport International, Avenue de Rhodanie 54, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland

Administrative Office: 25 Russell Street, Hastings, East Sussex, UK TN34 1QU

Tel: +44 1424 447440 Fax: +44 1424 430737 Website: worldsquash.org

Chief Executive – Andrew Shelley: andrew@worldsquash.org
Operations Manager – Lorraine Harding: lorraine@worldsquash.org
Operations Assistant – Jasmine Pascoe: Jasmine@worldsquash.org

