

To: ALL WSF MEMBER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

cc: WSF Regional Vice-Presidents, WSF Commission Members, PSA members, Accredited Products and Companies

EL SHERBINI RETAINS WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

Egypt's first ever female squash World Champion Nour El Sherbini successfully defended her Women's World Championship title after defeating compatriot Raneem El Welily to take the honours in El Gouna, Egypt.

Held at the New Marina against the backdrop of Egypt's Red Sea, El Sherbini - who defeated Laura Massaro 12 months ago to become the youngest Women's World Champion of all time - was in spell-binding form to dispatch a slightly nervy El Welily, who was appearing in her second World Championship final.

The 21-year-old never allowed fellow Alexandrian El Welily to get into her game, with El Sherbini closing the win out 3/0 to etch her name into the history books once more.

El Sherbini's victory brought a six-month title drought to an end with her first major title since she lifted her first World Championship title in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia a year ago. "I'm over the moon, two or three months ago I wouldn't have imagined that I would have won because I haven't won a [major] title this season," said El Sherbini.

"It felt like I wasn't going to win this season anymore, but once I knew that it was going to be in Egypt, I was so excited and wanted to come to play in El Gouna.



There was guaranteed to be an Egyptian winner for a second year in succession after World No.1 Nour El Sherbini and World No.4 Raneem El Welily prevailed on semi-finals day. El Sherbini was in cruise control in the opening two games against World No.5 Nouran Gohar, nullifying the 19-year-old's hard-hitting brand of squash to go 2-0 up. Gohar overturned five match balls in the third game to take the match into a fourth, but got herself back in front in the fourth to complete the win.

Serme Toppled

Meanwhile, El Welily would appear in a second World Championship final after she overcame French World No.3 Camille Serme in four games. 2014 runner-up El Welily and the in-form Serme – met for the 12th time on the PSA World Tour – played out a high-quality 47-minute encounter, with El Welily triumphing in four games.

The 28-year-old from Alexandria squandered four match balls against Malaysian icon Nicol David in the final three years ago in Cairo, but she said that she had learned from that disappointment. "[Losing the last World Championship] has been out of my mind for so long," she said. "It really doesn't bother me anymore. I'm past it, I'm over it and I've learnt so much from it. I've become a much better player since then."

Results

Semi-Finals: [1] Nour El Sherbini (EGY) bt [4] Nouran Gohar (EGY) 3-1: 11-4, 11-4, 13-15, 11-9 (57m),

[3] Raneem El Welily (EGY) bt [2] Camille Serme (FRA) 3-1: 11-6, 2-11, 12-10, 11-5 (47m)

Final: [1] Nour El Sherbini (EGY) bt [3] Raneem El Welily (EGY) 3-0: 11-8, 11-9, 11-9 (40m)

COLOMBIA HOSTS WSF COACHING CONFERENCE 2017

The World Squash Federation has confirmed that Colombia will host the WSF Coaching Conference this year.

The annual event will take place from 14-16 September at Club Campestre de Bucaramanga in Bucaramanga, a rapidly expanding Colombian city.



"We have taken a conscious decision to move our Coaching Conference from biennial to annual and rotate around the world regions to give more and more coaches the chance to hear from specialists in so many areas," explained WSF CEO Andrew Shelley.

"After the success of Malaysia in 2016, we are certain that

Colombia will more than match it this year. Coupled with the continuing expansion of the WSF Coach Education Programme, which is providing internationally-recognised qualification standards, it is an exciting time for both coaches and coaching."

Former world number ones David Palmer (pictured above) and Sarah Fitz-Gerald (below), both from Australia, are confirmed as leaders - whilst sessions will also be led by a number of other highly-experienced tutors and teachers.



Conference organiser Sergio Becerra added: "Colombia is one of the most beautiful places in the world and 5-star resort Bucaramanga, with its beautiful parks and warm weather, will welcome the world of squash for a fantastic few days.

"Come to the 'Beautiful City' and marvel at the 'Chicamocha Canon' or the 'Cerro del

Santisimo' - and do not forget to eat the famous Colombian dessert Oblea after lunch; or play some golf in perfect weather in your free time. Come and enjoy the best squash coaches in the world in a fantastic atmosphere ... you won't regret it!"

For registration details and booking information, visit www.wsfcoachconference.com

There are now WSF Registered coaches in over 60 countries.

WOMEN'S TIN HEIGHT DROPS

Following on from the PSA moving to a 17" tin for all \$25,000+ events and accepting it for lower prize band events too, the WSF Championships Committee has reviewed the situation for our Championships. This resulted in them unanimously recommending to the WSF Board that for the World Games this year and for Women's Championships 2018 and other events held under our auspices (e.g. multi-sports championships), we should use a 17" tin too.

This recommendation was accepted by the WSF Board.

This means that the Commonwealth, Asian and PanAm Games will be asked to use a 17" tin for women's singles events, and Regions may consider aligning for future senior Regional Championships too, after notice has been given by Regions to nations so that their players are prepared.

The tins for Junior and Masters Events will remain at 19" height, as this alteration is only applicable for Women's events.

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 seven 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.

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

SQUASH CLASSROOM LAUNCHED IN PAKISTAN

The Squash Classroom project, initiated by Squash Australia with the support of the Australian Government through the Asian Sports Partnership Program, has been launched in Islamabad.

It is a development project supported by the Australian Government in collaboration with the Pakistan Squash Federation, Squash Australia and Sport Matters that will use squash to promote health, gender equality and education for youth in Pakistan.



Australia's Acting High Commissioner in Pakistan, Mr Jurek Juszczyk joined the program's official launch at the Mushaf Squash Complex in Islamabad together with Jackie Lauff, CEO of Sport Matters from Australia, Group Captain Amir Nawaz, former Secretary of the Pakistan Squash Federation, and Wing Commander Tahir Sultan, Secretary of the Pakistan Squash Federation.

Youth & Primary students

Seventeen youth leaders and mentors were on hand to introduce basic skills of squash and demonstrate fun learning activities that will be delivered to youth and primary school students around the country.

"It is my pleasure to launch the Squash Classroom project in Pakistan. The Government of Australia is very proud to support this new initiative which aims to build on the strong legacy of squash in Pakistan and create new opportunities for young people. The Australian Government's sports diplomacy policy provides an opportunity to inform, engage and influence youth, particularly emerging leaders and women and girls. More than 600 young Pakistanis will participate in the project this year." the Acting Australian High Commissioner, Jurek Juszczyk said.

Four city start

The program will begin in April in four cities; Islamabad, Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi and reach over 600 young people aged between 18 and 25 this year. This is the first initiative of its kind in Pakistan using squash to deliver key messages to children and youth on health, gender equality and education.

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.

| 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) Air Frame Small (AC641SM) Guardian AV (AC 660) |
|  | Baller Coverage Crunch Dominance Swag |
|  | Dunlop I-ARMOR (R-07) Dunlop Junior (9903 Jr) Dunlop Vision (R-16) |
|  | Grays GT Eyewear |
|  | Shield Pro R16 Covet R615 Radar R43 Radar Jr R717JR |
|  | i-Mask |
|  | 2500 (9903Jnr) Pro 3000 (R43) |
|  | Mantis Protective Eyewear |
|  | Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (PRO2) Shark (R43) Marvel (SE-7) |
|  | Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (Pro2) |
|  | ASTM F803 |
|  | R615 |

WSF DIRECTORY

The current edition of the WSF Directory with updated National Federation addresses, WSF Committee /Commission details, and much more besides is on the WSF website [here](#).

REGIONAL JUNIORS EXCEL IN NZ & PORTUGAL

Seeding predictions were fulfilled in both the Oceania and European Junior U19 Squash Championships when youngsters from the two World Squash Federation regions came together to do battle in New Zealand and Portugal, respectively.



There were home successes in both the men's and women's Championships where Finn Trimble prevailed in an all-New Zealand men's final to beat third seed Quinn Udy 3/0 and Kaitlyn Watts (pictured left) beat Australian Alexandra Haydon 3/0 to take the other title.

The European individual Championships in Lisbon saw England lose their grip on the two titles.

Victor Crouin battled for 56 minutes to see off England's No.2 seed Kyle Finch 3/1 in the men's final at Lisboa Racket Centre to become the first French winner for seven years. The other final produced the first ever Spanish women's Champion when Madrid-based Cristina Gomez despatched England's Elise Lazarus 11-9, 12-10, 11-1 to come through the event without dropping a game.

However, it was an eighth triumph in a row for the top seeds in the European U19 Team Championship final where England defeated surprise finalists Spain 2/0. Czech Republic celebrated bronze medal success to achieve their best finish since 2011, while Norway recorded a best-ever 14th-place finish.

Oceania Junior U19 Squash Championships, Auckland, New Zealand

Men's quarter-finals: [1] Finn Trimble (NZL) bt [6] Lwamba Chileshe (NZL) 11-8, 7-11, 11-8, 8-11, 11-6, [5] Mitchell Kempton (NZL) bt [4] Lachlan Coxsedg (AUS) 8-11, 12-10, 6-11, 11-8, 15-13, [3] Quinn Udy (NZL) bt [7] Nicholas Calvert (AUS) 11-9, 11-9, 2-11, 11-7, [2] Caleb Johnson (AUS) bt [8] Rafa Yam (NZL) 11-4, 11-4, 11-5. **Semi-finals:** [1] Finn Trimble (NZL) bt [5] Mitchell Kempton (NZL) 11-5, 11-7, 11-6 [3] Quinn Udy (NZL) bt [2] Caleb Johnson (AUS) 9-11, 11-7, 11-6, 8-11, 14-12. **Final:** [1] Finn Trimble (NZL) bt [3] Quinn Udy (NZL) 11-1, 11-8, 11-0.

Women's quarter-finals: [1] Kaitlyn Watts (NZL) bt Winona-Jo Joyce (NZL) 11-2, 11-4, 11-3, [4] Nadia Hubbard (NZL) bt [5] Ellie Jones (AUS) 11-2, 11-13, 11-9, 3-11, 11-8, [3] Anika Jackson (NZL) bt [7] Camden Te Kani-Mcqueen (NZL) 9-11, 12-10, 11-9, 11-7, [2] Alexandra Haydon (AUS) bt [8] Courtney Mather (AUS) 11-6, 11-1, 11-2. **Semi-finals:** [1] Kaitlyn Watts (NZL) bt [4] Nadia Hubbard (NZL) 11-7, 11-2, 11-7, [2] Alexandra Haydon (AUS) bt [3] Anika Jackson (NZL) 11-7, 11-8, 11-9. **Final:** [1] Kaitlyn Watts (NZL) bt [2] Alexandra Haydon (AUS) 11-8, 11-8, 11-4.

European Junior U19 Squash Championships, Lisbon, Portugal.

Men's quarter-finals: [1] Victor Crouin (FRA) bt [9/16] Harry Falconer (ENG) 8-11, 11-3, 16-14, 11-2, [5/8] Roman Allinckx (SUI) bt [3/4] Charlie Lee (ENG) 11-7, 4-11, 11-7, 3-11, 11-9, [5/8] Tom Walsh (ENG) bt [3/4] David Zeman (CZE) 11-8, 11-2, 11-5, [2] Kyle Finch (ENG) bt [5/8] Nilo Vidal (ESP) 11-5, 11-9, 11-6

Semi-finals: [1] Victor Crouin (FRA) bt [5/8] Roman Allinckx (SUI) 12-10, 11-3, 11-7, [2] Kyle Finch (ENG) bt [5/8] Tom Walsh (ENG) 11-7, 11-7, 9-11, 10-12, 11-5.

Final: [1] Victor Crouin (FRA) bt [2] Kyle Finch (ENG) 8-11, 13-11, 11-9, 11-8.

Women's quarter-finals: [1] Lucy Turmel (ENG) bt [5/8] Fanny Segers (FRA) 11-5, 11-3, 11-2, [3/4] Elise Lazarus (ENG) bt [9/16] Jasmine Hutton (ENG) 11-4, 11-8, 11-8, [3/4] Céline Walser (SUI) bt [5/8] Kristýna Fialová (CZE) 11-8, 11-5, 11-5, [2] Cristina Gomez (ESP) bt [9/16] Grace Gear (ENG) 11-2, 11-4, 11-3.

Semi-finals: [3/4] Elise Lazarus (ENG) bt [1] Lucy Turmel (ENG) 11-9, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9, [2] Cristina Gomez (ESP) bt [3/4] Céline Walser (SUI) 11-3, 11-6, 11-1.

Final: [2] Cristina Gomez (ESP) bt [3/4] Elise Lazarus (ENG) 11-9, 12-10, 11-1 (36m)

Mixed Team Championship semi-finals: ENGLAND bt [4] CZECH REPUBLIC 2/0, [5] SPAIN bt [2] SWITZERLAND 2/1. **Final:** [1] ENGLAND bt [5] SPAIN 2/0 (Kyle Finch bt Nilo Vidal 11-6, 11-6, 11-5; Charlie Lee bt Sergio Garcia Pollan 11-8, 11-4, 11-4).

Bronze medal play-off: [4] CZECH REPUBLIC bt [2] SWITZERLAND 2/0 (Viktor Byrtus bt Roman Allinckx 11-6, 11-5, 11-4; David Zeman bt Nils Roesch 12-10, 13-11, 11-9).

OTHER REGIONAL JUNIORS TO FOLLOW

Squash's National Federations will be making full use of the WSF Regional Federation management of their regional junior championships - not only to compete for the titles but also to select and prepare squads for the 2017 WSF World Junior Squash Championships in New Zealand in July.

Already this year there has been the European and Oceania U19 Junior Individual & Team Championships, as reported above, three months ahead of the World Championships in the nearby city of Tauranga.

Paraguay will host the Pan-American Junior Championships in Asuncion from 24-30 June - which will feature players from the breadth of North, Central and South America, plus the Caribbean.

But it will be after the World Championships in New Zealand that the Asian Junior Individual Championships will take in the Jordan capital Amman from 15-19 August at the El Hassan Squash Complex.

Also in August, the African Junior Open will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, from 18-20 August.

WSF MEET IN HELSINKI

The WSF Executive Board, led by President Jacques Fontaine, met at the end of April in Helsinki, Finland with an extensive agenda on the first day, followed by a second day when they were joined by Regional Vice presidents and a PSA representative for the Executive Committee meeting.

Included in the range of matters discussed and progressed were:

- Deciding upon the composition of the full range of WSF Commissions so that invitations can be sent to prospective members of them.
- Progressing details of the formal agreement that PSA and WSF are developing, taken forward from the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Reporting on attendance, meetings and interaction in relation to Olympic and other international Championships / Games, including at SportAccord in Denmark.
- Initiating a review of WSF Articles so that a revised version can be prepared for 2017 AGM consideration.
- Further development of an updated WSF strategy.
- Discussion on planning for the bid to achieve a place at the 2024 Olympic Games for which the host city (Paris or Los Angeles) will be announced in September.
- Hearing progress towards an agreement for a new World Refereeing Programme in collaboration with PSA.
- Other specific activity areas included Championships (reports and forward planning), Coaching (featuring the forthcoming conference), Court products (Accreditation, new interactive court diagrams, website detail listing and wall-panel testing) and improving social and other media output both internationally and regionally.
- Reviewing accounts, anti-doping measures, progress on the Independent Review recommendations, the matters arising from the AGM 2016, plans for the next AGM that will be announced shortly, commercial facets and representation were amongst other areas covered.



Official WSF Magazine

World No. 7 Amanda Sobhy promises to come back stronger than ever from her Achilles tendon operation and veteran three-time world Champion Nick Matthew has a new goal.

For these stories and more, please click here:

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

FRANCE FLOURISH IN EUROPE WHILE INDIA MAKE HISTORY IN ASIA

Squash players throughout Asia and Europe converged on Chennai in India and the Finnish capital Helsinki, respectively, in a bid for supremacy in the 19th Asian Championships and the top two divisions of the European Team Championships.

The partisan crowd surrounding the all-glass showcourt at the Express Avenue Mall in Chennai could not have hoped for a better local spectacle on finals day - with the hosts boasting a men's finalist for the first time in the event's history and the historic women's final being an all-Indian affair for the first time.



Both from Chennai and both boasting a career-high No.10 world ranking, second seed Joshna Chinappa and 4th seed Dipika Pallikal Karthik (*seen in final action here*) kept the crowd on the edge of their seats for 78 minutes before 14-time Indian champion Chinappa

emerged triumphant 13-15, 12-10, 11-13, 11-4, 11-4 to avenge her loss to Pallikal in the 2016 National Championship!

"It's an unbelievable feeling to win such a prestigious title here in India in front of such a great crowd," said 30-year-old Chinappa.



Saurav Ghosal, India's highest world-ranked player of all-time, was unable to make it a home double. The 30-year-old second seed from Kolkata took the opening game against favourite Max Lee - but the world No.18 from Hong Kong (*pictured above flanked by Ghosal, left, and bronze medallist Leo Au*) soon regained control of the match before winning 5-11, 11-4, 11-8, 11-7 - thus keeping the title in Hong Kong hands.

For the fourth successive year, the European Team Championships brought together England and France in both the men's and women's finals - but this year honours were shared at Talihalli in Helsinki.



England (*pictured above*) triumphed in the women's final for the seventh year in a row - and for the 39th time since the inaugural event in 1978 - after Sarah-Jane Perry beat France's world No.3 Camille Serme for only the second time in her career, and England debutante Fiona Moverley then overcame Laura Pomportes. Both matches went the full distance.

Wales beat third seeds Netherlands to win the bronze medal and record their highest finish since 1983.

France (*pictured over*) upset the top seeds and defending champions in the men's final to win the title for the second time in three years. The second seeds were in commanding form - Gregoire Marche beating higher-ranked Englishman Daryl Selby 13-11, 9-11, 11-7, 11-9, then world champion Gregory Gaultier and team-mate Mathieu Castagnet overcoming former world number ones Nick Matthew and James Willstrop, respectively.

RESULTS: Asian Squash Championships, Chennai, India

Men's quarter-finals:[1] Max Lee (HKG) bt [15] Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu (IND) 11-8, 11-9, 11-8 (42m), [3] Nafiizwan Adnan (MAS) bt [7] Ivan Yuen (MAS) 11-9, 11-6, 6-11, 16-14 (70m), [5] Leo Au (HKG) bt [4] Yip Tsz Fung (HKG) 10-12, 12-10, 11-6, 11-4 (80m), [2] Saurav Ghosal (IND) bt [10] Vikram Malhotra (IND) 11-7, 11-7, 11-7 (35m). **Semi-finals:**[1] Max Lee (HKG) bt [3] Nafiizwan Adnan (MAS) 12-10, 11-6, 11-5 (51m), [2] Saurav Ghosal



(IND) bt [5] Leo Au (HKG) 11-6, 11-7, 11-3 (37m). **Final:**[1] Max Lee (HKG) bt [2] Saurav Ghosal (IND) 5-11, 11-4, 11-8, 11-7 (62m).

Women's quarter-finals:[1] Annie Au (HKG) bt [16] Satomi Watanabe (JPN) 11-5, 11-6, 11-3 (28m), [4] Dipika Pallikal Karthik (IND) bt [5] Liu Tsz-Ling (HKG) 11-3, 11-6, 11-6 (27m), [6] Tong Tsz-Wing (HKG) bt [3] Joey Chan (HKG) 6-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-7 (39m), [2] Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt [7] Misaki Kobayashi (JPN) 11-7, 11-3, 9-11, 12-10 (35m).

Semi-finals:[4] Dipika Pallikal Karthik (IND) bt [1] Annie Au (HKG) 11-9, 7-11, 11-7, 11-9 (50m), [2] Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt [6] Tong Tsz-Wing (HKG) 11-6, 11-4, 11-8 (29m), **Final:**[2] Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt [4] Dipika Pallikal Karthik (IND) 13-15, 12-10, 11-13, 11-4, 11-4 (78m).

European Team Squash Championships, Helsinki, Finland

Men's Final: [2] FRANCE bt [1] ENGLAND 3/0 Gregoire Marche bt Daryl Selby 13-11, 9-11, 11-7, 11-9 (78m), Gregory Gaultier bt Nick Matthew 12-10, 11-4, 10-12, 11-6 (60m), Mathieu Castagnet bt James Willstrop 11-6, 5-11, 11-5, 11-4 (45m). **3rd place play-off:** [4] GERMANY bt [3] SCOTLAND 2/2 (Germany win 133-127 on points countback) **5th place** SPAIN; 6th CZECH REPUBLIC; 7th FINLAND; 8th SWITZERLAND

Women's Final:[1] ENGLAND bt [2] FRANCE 2/0 Sarah-Jane Perry bt Camille Serme 11-8, 8-11, 9-11, 14-12, 11-7 (70m), Fiona Moverley bt Laura Pomportes 14-12, 11-5, 4-11, 7-11, 11-8 (48m)

3rd place play-off:[4] WALES bt [3] NETHERLANDS 2/1
5th CZECH REPUBLIC; 6th BELGIUM; 7th SPAIN; 8th DENMARK.

PUBLIC COURTS IN BOLIVIA



There are already squash courts in five Bolivian cities, but there are now public courts too. Rene Cervantes Mendez who is a driving force reports that two courts have been built in the Bolivian city of Santa Cruz. They are outdoor courts with concrete floors and have been built next to Fronton courts.

(Fronton is a local sport which started as a form

of pelota played against church walls).

The local government gave the site and supported the project by giving \$6,000. The progress can be seen in the photos.



SOUTH AMERICAN GAMES

Meanwhile, the government in the city of Cochabamba will be the Bolivian host of ODESUR on 9 – 14 May next year – and squash will be included. ODESUR is the South American Games, and will feature Women's and Men's Singles, Doubles and Team events.



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.

WORLD JUNIORS TEAMS CONFIRMED



Hosts New Zealand will lead a select group of six nations that have competed in each WSF

Women's World Junior Team Squash Championship since the inaugural event in 1985 when they do so again in the 2017 championship on home soil in July.

The 17th biennial World Squash Federation Championship will take place at Devoy Squash & Fitness Centre in Tauranga, the fifth largest city in New Zealand, from 25-29 July - following the Men's & Women's World Junior Individual Championships, which will be held from 19-24 July.



Team title Holders Egypt.

Australia, the first Champions, together with Canada, England, Germany, USA and New Zealand have battled in all 16 previous events - sharing eight titles between them.

A total of 14 nations will take part in the 2017 Championship - with seven-time Champions Egypt, who began their Women's World Junior Team campaign in 1993, bidding to defend their 2015 title. The complete list of national teams competing in Tauranga is: Australia, Canada, Egypt, England, France, Germany, Hong Kong China, India, Ireland, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and USA.

Further nations are expected to be represented by their top male and female juniors for the Individual Championships by the entry deadline of 1st June.

WORLD GAMES IN JULY



Entries for the World Games have closed, with full 32 men's and women's draws. Seedings will be done based upon the June PSA ranking lists and the entry lists announced then with the draws for the 25 - 28 July event in the Polish city of Wroclaw.

the 25 - 28 July event in the Polish city of Wroclaw.

WSF Accredited Products available from these companies mean assured standards when building or renovating squash courts.

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For a full list of all Accredited Products please click [here](#)



NEW ZEALAND GOLD RUSH

Hosts New Zealand claimed the lion's share of the Squash titles in the 2017 World Masters Games, described by International Masters Games Association President Kai Holm at the Closing Ceremony in Auckland as "the best Games ever!".

The Games featured 28 sports (including 45 disciplines) across 48 venues - with squash boasting almost 600 competitors taking part in 18 events, from Over-35 to Over-80 championships, at North Shore Squash Club.

Former world No.36 Kashif Shuja led the haul of Kiwi titles, the 36-year-old from Palmerston North winning the Over-35 gold medal after beating fellow countryman Sam Atkins in the final. Squash New Zealand's recently-appointed High Performance Programme Manager Shelley Kitchen, a former world No.6 and Commonwealth Games bronze medallist, clinched the women's O35 title.

New Zealand's least-expected title arguably came in the Men's Over-65 competition where sixth seed Ross Wells overcame favourite Hongi Laing 11-6, 7-11, 11-8, 7-11, 13-11 in a dramatic final.

Australia success was led by legend Sarah Fitz-Gerald, the five-time World Champion and former world No.1 from Melbourne who secured the Women's Over-45 title after beating local hope Lisa Cowlard in the final.



On receiving her gold medal, the 2002 Commonwealth Games gold medallist and reigning World O45 champion [pictured above, centre, with 3rd-placed Amanda Kennedy (NZL, left) and runner-up Lisa Cowlard (NZL)] immediately jetted to Finland where, as a recently elected WSF Vice President, she attended a Federation board meeting.

South African success came in the Men's Over-50 event where record six-time World Masters champion Craig van der Wath [pictured below flanked by 3rd-placed Gary Duberly (NZL, left) and runner-up Steven Wren (CAN)] fulfilled his seeding by winning gold.

Canada claimed gold in both the Men's Over-70 event, courtesy of Gerald Poulton, and in the Women's Over-

65 event after Laura Ramsay upset Australian favourite Sue Volzke in the final.



The most senior title was won by one of two gold medallists from England. Ultimately only two players competed in the Men's Over-80 championship - and, after two victories over New Zealand rival Trevor Coulter, it was 82-year-old Englishman Malcolm Gilham who was declared the undisputed winner - adding to the World O80 Masters title the Suffolk octogenarian won last year in South Africa.

Men's Finals:

Over-35: [1] **Kashif Shuja** (NZL) bt [2] **Sam Atkins** (NZL) 11-8, 11-4, 14-12. Over-40: [3] **Allan Crome** (NZL) bt [1] **Corey Love** (NZL) 11-5, 11-13, 6-11, 11-4, 11-9. Over-45: [2] **Paul Bedford** (NZL) bt [5] **Robert Clark** (NZL) 11-7, 11-6, 11-9. Over-50: [1] **Craig van der Wath** (RSA) bt [2] **Steven Wren** (CAN) 11-6, 11-7, 18-16. Over-55: [1] **Peter Gilbee** (AUS) bt [2] **Dale Robbins** (AUS) 11-9, 11-6, 11-9. Over-60: [1] **Mark Waldin** (NZL) bt [2] **Roy Ollier** (AUS) 11-8, 11-8, 11-4. Over-65: [6] **Ross Wells** (NZL) bt [1] **Hongi Laing** (NZL) 11-6, 7-11, 11-8, 7-11, 13-11. Over-70: [1] **Gerald Poulton** (CAN) bt **Graeme Richardson** (NZL) 11-2, 11-7, 8-11, 7-11, 11-4. Over-75: Champion: **Richard Purser** (NZL); Runner-up: **Tom Slattery** (AUS). Over-80: Champion: **Malcolm Gilham** (ENG); Runner-up: **Trevor Coulter** (NZL).

Women's

Over-35: [1] **Shelley Kitchen** (NZL) bt [2] **Joanna Shanks** (NZL) 11-8, 2-11, 11-5, 6-11, 11-5. Over-40: [1] **Suk Hee Kim** (NZL) bt [3] **Trina Moore** (NZL) 7-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-8. Over-45: [1] **Sarah Fitz-Gerald** (AUS) bt [2] **Lisa Cowlard** (NZL) 11-4, 11-8, 11-2. Over-50: [1] **Sue Hillier** (AUS) bt [2] **Angelique Clifton-Parks** (RSA) 19-17, 8-11, 12-10, 11-8. Over-55: [2] **Pippa Green** (ENG) bt [1] **Susan Lawrence** (JAM) 11-4, 11-7, 16-14. Over-60: [1] **Anne Richards** (AUS) bt [3] **Sarah Wilson** (AUS) 11-2, 11-8, 11-3. Over-65: [2] **Laura Ramsay** (CAN) bt [1] **Sue Volzke** (AUS) 11-3, 11-5, 11-6. Over-70: [1] **Kaye Jackson** (NZL) bt [2] **Patricia Taylor** (NZL) 11-8, 11-4, 11-3

finals:

WOOLDRIDGE RE-ELECTED



Zena Wooldridge was re-elected for a final term of 2 years at the European Federation AGM in Helsinki on 29th April, beating Netherland's Marcel Borst.

Englishwoman Wooldridge said "I am delighted to be re-elected for a third term as ESF President. With much stronger finances, a new office team and a strong board, ESF can now invest more resources into support of our Member Federations and Championships, and Europe can continue to play a strong and influential role within World Squash."

WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT

**WORLD
SQUASH**

WORLD JUNIOR
CIRCUIT
WSF

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](#).

May '17

05 – 07 Croatia Junior Open
20 – 21 Liechtenstein Junior Open
26 – 28 Spanish Junior Open

June '17

02 – 04 Ukraine Junior Open
16 – 18 Italian Junior Open
26 – 30 Paraguay Junior Open
30 – 05 Malaysian Junior Open

July '17

13 – 15 Brazil Junior Open
19 – 24 WSF Men's & Women's World Juniors
25 – 28 Japan Junior Open

INTERACTION AT MUNICH AIRPORT!

German squash company interactiveSquash and partner ASB have been offering squash players the at Munich Airport the opportunity to compete on an all-glass show court – complete with an ASB's glass floor technology and interactiveSquash's innovative driving interface.

For ten days in April the company, which earlier this year were winners of an ISPO Brand New Fitness technology award for their immersive graphic based product that transforms a squash court into an interactive playground, offered public the chance to play on the court.

Located in the Munich Airport Center between Terminals 1 and 2, it marked a worldwide first for an interactiveSquash court to be made publicly available to play for on. A variety of events including mini-tournaments, games and training tutorials also featured on it.



"We don't want Airport Squash to be a one-time occurrence. We're looking forward to bringing this experience to

other cities as well", an interactiveSquash Founder Markos Kern (*pictured, centre*) said.

Current stars Gregory Gaultier, Simon Rösner and Paul Coll were among the top players who visited the court over the period.

Utilizing a projector and several cameras, interactiveSquash is a platform that consists of over 20 games and training modules. The goal is to introduce the game to a brand new generation of players and help improve the way seasoned veterans train. Markos Kern states "Our main objective is to help grow the sport. By integrating technology into the traditional squash court, we're adapting squash for the 21st century."

WSF 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



WORLD DOUBLES IN AUGUST

Four days after the World Games in Poland, so a double entry for some nations, there will be a number of countries already preparing pairs to take part in the WSF World Doubles in Manchester, England, which take place 1 – 5 August.

Play is at the National Squash Centre where titles won at last year's event in Darwin Australia will be defended or see new winners.

Events are Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles.

Entries close on 23 May.



PSA RANKINGS

May 2017



El Welily Returns to World No.2



Egyptian shot-making sensation Raneem El Welily's runner-up finish at last month's Orascom Development PSA Women's World Championship has seen her rise two places to sit at World No.2 on the latest PSA Women's World Rankings.

El Welily, the 28-year-old based in Cairo, became the first Egyptian female World No.1 in any sport back in September 2015 when she ended eight-time World Champion Nicol David's unprecedented nine-year reign atop the Rankings.

She moved back into the world's top two for the first time this year courtesy of her run to the World Championship final three weeks ago in El Gouna, where she lost out to current World No.1 Nour El Sherbini, who lifted the biggest prize on the Women's Tour for the second time in her career.

El Welily defeated France's Camille Serme in the semi-final stage, with Serme staying at World No.3, one place ahead of British Open champion Laura Massaro, who fell to El Welily in the last eight, and two places ahead of the other semi-finalist, Nouran Gohar.

Malaysia's David remains at No.6, while England's Sarah-Jane Perry rises a spot to a career-high No.7 ranking. United States No.1 Amanda Sobhy - who is currently out with an achilles injury - Alison Waters and New Zealand's Joelle King round off the top 10.

PSA Women's Rankings – May 2017

| | | |
|----|--------------------|-----|
| 1 | Nour El Sherbini | EGY |
| 2 | Raneem El Welily | 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 | Joelle King | NZL |
| 11 | Annie Au | HKG |
| 12 | Nour El Tayeb | EGY |
| 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 |

Gawad takes over



World Champion Karim Abdel Gawad has overtaken Frenchman Gregory Gaultier to become just the fifth Egyptian player ever to top the PSA Men's World Rankings.

Gawad began the season ranked at No.8 but his stunning form over the past eight months has seen him claim five PSA World Tour titles, including major titles at the PSA Men's World Championship, J.P. Morgan Tournament of Champions and Qatar Classic.

The 25-year-old from Giza claimed top spot by reaching the final of last month's El Gouna International Squash Open and, despite losing the title-decider to Gaultier, follows in the footsteps of compatriots Amr Shabana, Karim Darwish, Ramy Ashour and Mohamed ElShorbagy, who have all topped the World Rankings over the past 11 years.

Gaultier slips down to No.2, ahead of ElShorbagy and England's Nick Matthew, while the younger ElShorbagy brother, Marwan, completes the top five.

Former World No.1 James Willstrop and three-time World Champion Ramy Ashour both move up a spot to No.6 and No.7, respectively, with Ali Farag dropping two places to No.8. Fares Dessouky retains his No.9 ranking and his compatriot, Tarek Momen, moves up one place to No.10, switching places with Germany's Simon Rösner.

PSA Men's Rankings – May 2017

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

IWGA ATHLETE OF THE MONTH, APRIL



Congratulations to IWGA Athlete of the Month, Squash World Champion Nour El Sherbini (EGY). In April 2017, El Sherbini successfully retained her World Championship title - 12 months after becoming the youngest, and first Egyptian, winner of the most prestigious women's title in Squash. In May last year, then 20 years and 6 months old, El Sherbini became the second youngest women's World No. 1 of all-time.

"I'm over the moon, two or three months ago I wouldn't have imagined that I would have won because I haven't won a [major] title this season," said El Sherbini. "It felt like I wasn't going to win this season anymore, but once I knew that it was going to be in Egypt, I was so excited and I wanted to come and play here. I'm really happy to win in front of my home crowd"

MARIA TOORPAKAI ELECTED



Pakistani squash player Maria ToorPakai, whose recent book 'A Different Kind of Daughter' described her travails growing up in the Waziristan region of Pakistan has been invited to join the IOC Women in Sport Commission.

The members of the IOC Women in Sport Commission constitute a diverse group of

men and women representing different areas of the Olympic Movement. The IOC relies on their expertise, networks and influence to mainstream gender equality measures or promote specific policies on the international sports agenda. The Commission members are elected for a period of four years, and meet once per year.

Under Chair Lydia Nsekera from Burundi she looks forward to promoting opportunities for women and girls as well as showing how squash can play a role in shaping lives, as it did for her.

WSF WORLD CALENDAR

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

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:

| | |
|--|---|
|  | Artengo SB 990 Squash Ball |
|  | Black Knight Ball |
|  | Dunlop XX Yellow Dot Championship Ball |
|  | Eye Ball Squash Ball |
|  | HEAD Sport AG Yellow Dot Ball |
|  | Huashen Double & Single Yellow Dot Balls |
|  | Karakal Squash Ball |
|  | MR Price Sport Maxed Squash Ball |
|  | Prince Rebel Pro Ball |
|  | Taiball Yellow Dot Ball |
|  | Tecnifibre Squash Ball |
|  | Victor/VICTEC Doppel-Gelb Squash Ball |

SNIPPETS

PSA SQUASHTV REACHES 50m ON YOUTUBE

PSA SQUASHTV has passed the 50 million views mark on video-sharing website YouTube - representing a 100 per cent increase since April 2015.

The channel - created in July 2011 - showcases professional squash at its highest level and offers fans the opportunity to enjoy match highlights, event previews, event roundups and interviews with the stars of the PSA World Tour.

It boasts an average of 1.3M views per month and over 65,000 subscribers, the growth of the PSA's YouTube presence is part of a 65% increase year-on-year across the PSA's social media channels.

NEW SQUASH RALLY RECORD

According to an Excelsior Sports Correspondent, at Jammu in India on April 10:

History was created in squash at Jammu as Superpositivity Movement Founder, Vickrant Mahajan and Jammu Club squash coach Krishan Sharma played the longest ever squash rally in the world. The world record rally started at 8.50 am and went on continuously for 33 minutes and 4 seconds. A total of 1,098 shots was played in the rally by the two players, as they went past the previous Guinness World Record of 1,003 shots played by Ron Matthews and Andrew Pearce in London in July 2014. According to guidelines, neither of the players could hit the ball twice and the ball had to be in legitimate play throughout the rally, implying that it had to be within the out lines and above the tin line. Also, as per standard game rules, the ball could not bounce on the floor twice before coming in contact with either player's racket.

Speaking after the event, Vickrant said, "This was my 80th Guinness World Record within a year, and also the one that entailed the maximum number of tries. All my previous records were usually accomplished in my first or second try, but for this one, I had to perform 11 different attempts on 3 different days with 4 different players before we got it right."

WINDY CITY BLOWS STRONGLY

During the presentation ceremony for the Windy City Open in Chicago recently it was announced that the 2018 event intends to be the most lucrative ever on the PSA Tour, boasting a \$500,000 prize fund to be split equally between men and women.

SQUASHBOND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

SquashBond Israel – Sport and Beyond, is a people-to-people organization that teaches life-skills and leadership through the game of squash.



SquashBond's unique approach to building relationships across diverse sectors of Israeli society leverages the game of squash to help children grow into confident, mature adults who can venture beyond their niche communities, pursue educational achievements and ultimately jointly promote a shared community in Israel.

They spread peace between people in Israel, one stroke at a time, they say. (www.squashbond.org) See how SquashBond is bringing together Palestinian and Israeli youngsters:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zkMGdWuquc>

HANSCOM HONOURED

Recently Bob Hanscom was honoured with the United State Olympic Committee's Developmental Coach of the Year Award.

The ceremony took place at the Jonathan Club in downtown Los Angeles. Kevin Klipstein, the President and CEO of US Squash, presented the award to Hanscom during a squash doubles league night at the Jonathan Club.

Hanscom (centre) is in his eighties, but still very involved in promoting squash. Squash is booming in southern California, and Hanscom is behind one of the brightest spots, the Arroyo Seco Racquet Club in South Pasadena.



Hanscom is a strong believer in making squash more accessible. The Arroyo Seco Racquet Club, with nine lighted tennis courts in addition to the four squash courts, is a part of the City of South Pasadena's recreation

department and is open-to-the-public.

A native of New England, Hanscom was a top junior figure skater and later an elite gymnastics coach.

Three decades ago he relocated to Los Angeles and has helped spur the development of squash in southern California ever since. He worked as a teaching professional at the University Club of LA for seven years and the LA Athletic Club for fifteen years. He is a nationally certified referee, instructor, assessor and tournament promoter.

It is difficult to think of a more deserving person for such an award.



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