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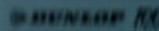
2022-23  
SQUASH WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
3-11 MAY 2023

PRESENTED BY

**The Walter Family**

**CHICAGO**

**UNION STATION**



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2022-23  
SQUASH WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRESENTED BY  
The Walter Family



WELCOME

## 2022-23 PSA World Championships

Professional squash has a rich history in Chicago, with the Windy City Open hosting the world's best players since 1994, while two previous instalments of the PSA World Championships have been held here - one at Union Station and one at the University Club of Chicago.

We are pleased that both venues will be playing a part in this year's championships, with the spectacular all-glass show court at Union Station hosting matches from round two onwards, while the University Club will stage matches in the early rounds.

I want to thank John Flanigan and his team at the University Club of Chicago for their tireless hard work behind the scenes, while I'd also like to thank the management team at Union Station.

This will be the third time that squash's pinnacle event has been backed by the Walter Family and each time the tournament has offered up \$1,000,000 in total player compensation. Mark and Kimbra Walter have been incredible supporters of the sport, and to have

them involved in the most prestigious tournament on the PSA World Tour is fantastic.

128 players will compete in Chicago, but only two will lift the famous trophy after nine exciting days of competition. Becoming World Champion is an honour that very few players experience, and our winners this week will write their names into the history books.

I wish all players the best of luck, and I hope our fans, both in Chicago and around the world, look forward to watching the drama unfold.

Enjoy the squash.

**Alex Gough**  
PSA Chief Executive





2022-23  
SQUASH WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
3-11 MAY 2023

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**Steve Urban | Philip Yarrow | John Zabriskie**

BRONZE

**Nicholas W. Alexos | Sam Sisodia**



**WELCOME**

**2022-23 PSA World Championships**  
presented by the Walter Family!

**It's an honor to chair this spectacular tournament. The pro tour continues to delight and surprise squash fans. On the men's side over the past year, we've seen players jockeying for the World No.1 ranking. They range in age from 22 to 32 and represent Egypt, New Zealand, Peru and England. The women's game has Americans pushing upwards in the rankings and challenging the world's best. Could this be the year an American wins the World Championships for the first time in history? One exciting thing about sports is that the outcome of the competition is unknown.**

I do know that we're going to see an incredible display of athleticism, speed, power, and strategy that rivals any sport. I encourage you to cheer the players on during the games. Like any performer, the players feed off the crowd's energy. They love hearing the crowd roar at their athletic feats.

Chicago has many avid fans who support squash. My thanks to the Walter Family for recognizing the potential of Chicago's pro squash tournaments when they first got involved in 2014. Their support has elevated the sport's prize money and exposure. Chicago is lucky to have a core group of corporate sponsors and patrons who annually support pro squash. If you have the opportunity, you can thank them by using their services or products.

People are the greatest resource, and I'm rich in resources! The Tournament Committee has guided decisions and provided support along the way. We have a wonderful group of volunteers to assist with the tournament as well. Please thank them if you have the opportunity.

The Professional Squash Association (PSA) team, from the senior leadership to the staff managing the details, bring a positive energy to the table to solve any challenges and plan a great experience for everyone.

Thanks to our other key partners, Union Station and the University Club of Chicago. This is the second time we've hosted the tournament in Union Station. They are welcoming and share our excitement around the tournament. The University Club hosts the early round matches and its membership provides broad support for the tournament.

The tournament is pleased to continue its relationship with MetroSquash, Chicago's urban education and squash program and the PSA Foundation which helps support the pros and promote the game to be inclusive.

I trust you will enjoy the superlative competition as much as I do!

**John Flanigan**  
University Club of Chicago  
Athletic Director



## Tournament Committee

### John Flanigan

Chair

### Tim Garner

Tournament Director

### Tommy Berden

PSA Chief Commercial Officer

### Yoni Ellous

University Club Site Manager

### Rachel Kaut

Volunteer Manager

### Eigo Okada

Volunteer Coordinator

### Elyse Ogletree

Volunteer Coordinator

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Danny Dolan

Arnie Dratt

Jim Farrell

Jake Oher

Janae Meyer

Jennifer Pruett

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# NOUR EL SHERBINI

## The World Championship Specialist

El Sherbini has six World Championship titles to her name at the age of just 27, with two of those triumphs coming in Chicago.

Here's what the Egyptian had to say when we spoke to her ahead of this year's tournament.

**Q: Nour, you beat the current World No.1 Nouran Gohar in last season's final on home soil in Egypt. Can you take us through your memories of that tournament?**

**Nour:** "The last World Champs was amazing for me. It's always the tournament that I wait all year for and the one where I want to play my best squash.

"Nouran and I have been battling for a long time, so it's good to be in this rivalry with her. It's tough for the both of us but I like this challenge. I don't think that we're the only two challenging, there are many players that are really good and we have many tough matches from the first round.

"Winning the World Championships in Egypt, at one of the best venues we've ever had (the Egyptian National Museum of Civilization), was amazing.

**Q: How does it feel to be the defending champion for the sixth time?**

**Nour:** "It means a lot. It's every

player's dream to win the World Champs. Winning three of them in Egypt is a pleasure for me, it makes it extra special.

"Having six World Championships is huge. I always wanted to win the World Championships, but I never thought I would win six. They are the best memories I'm ever going to have in my life.

"I'm going to look back on them and be very proud. I'm now going into another one, I hope I'm going to be ready and will be preparing the same way I do at other tournaments. I don't do anything different for the World Champs, I just go out as if it's a regular Platinum event."

**Q: Nicol David holds the women's record with eight World Championship titles - is breaking her record one of your goals?**

**Nour:** "It's in my mind but I don't think about it too much. I don't know how I'll be performing in the next few years.

"I take every year and every tournament step-by-step, I don't look that far into the future, I'm going to focus on the one we have this year. I hope that I can reach the record of Nicol, it's another dream, but for me it's not the next step, I want to focus on the seventh first.

"I don't know if I will win it or not, I will try and do my best, but I'm not looking ahead to the eighth, ninth or 10th. It's more comfortable for me to go step-by-step, there is no pressure or stress on me, I just try to relax a little bit."

**Q: You always seem to peak when it comes around to the World Championships - why is that?**

**Nour:** "I don't change things in training because it's normally the middle of the season, you don't have a month or two specifically training for the World Champs. At the beginning of the season I look at when the World Champs is and I try to peak at this time.

Nour El Sherbini is something of a World Championship specialist, with only the legendary duo of Nicol David and Jahangir Khan winning the sport's premier event more times than 'The Warrior Princess'.

"My body is okay, there is nothing wrong, my training is going well and there is nothing in my mind. I try to be mentally ready and clear-minded."

**Q: You've already won two World Championship titles in Chicago, what is it about The Windy City that seems to bring out the best of you?**

**Nour:** "I lost a lot of finals [at the Windy City Open] before winning the first! I think they were all against Raneem [El Welily].

"I failed a lot in Chicago, so I think it's time to rise now! I'm happy that I've won twice in Chicago, and I think I'm playing well now. I like the venue, and the vibe of the people here is amazing."

**Q: Last year you were struggling with injuries and you had to pull out of the British Open before the World Championships - how are you feeling physically and mentally this time around?**

**Nour:** "I feel a huge difference compared to last season. I wasn't happy with my results last season as I only won the World Championships.

"I'm feeling really good and I've reached almost every final this season. I'm happy with my performance and I want to push hard in the last three tournaments. My body is good and I feel mentally and physically in a good place."

# 2022-23 PSA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

## TOP 8 SEEDS: WOMEN

### #1 Nouran GOHAR



Age: 25

Titles: 21



Nicknamed 'The Terminator,' Nouran Gohar combines speed, power and accuracy to deadly effect on court.

The 25-year-old celebrated a calendar year at World No.1 last month and has captured four titles already this season, including the U.S. Open.

Gohar was runner-up at the two previous World Championships and will be hoping to finally get her hands on the coveted trophy this week.

### #3 Hania EL HAMMAMY



Age: 22

Titles: 22



World No.3 at just 22 years of age, Hania El Hammamy goes into this year's World Championships aiming to become the fourth youngest woman ever to win the sport's pinnacle event.

Despite her tender age, the Egyptian has already played over 200 matches on the PSA Tour and has won six major trophies. El Hammamy has already captured the Egyptian Open and Hong Kong Open titles this season and will be one of the favourites coming into Chicago.

### #5 Amanda SOBHY



Age: 29

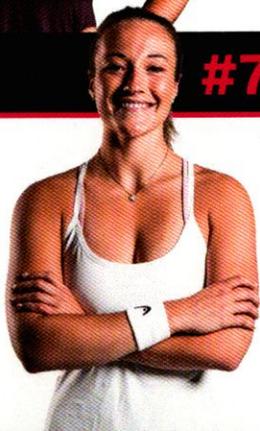
Titles: 20



United States No.1 Amanda Sobhy heads to Chicago with the home crowd behind her as she hopes to claim her first major trophy.

Sobhy was a semi-finalist at both the 2020-21 and 2021-22 editions of the World Championships and if she can recapture the kind of form that saw her win both the Oracle NetSuite Open and Canadian Open earlier this season, the American could be a dark horse for silverware this time around.

### #7 Olivia FIECHTER



Age: 27

Titles: 5



USA's Olivia Fiechter will look to advance beyond the last 16 of the World Championships for the first time and will come into the tournament as an established member of the world's top 10.

Fiechter has enjoyed a fruitful season to date, winning titles at the DAC Pro Classic and Chestnut Hill Classic already in 2023. While Sobhy has traditionally been the sole American competing in the latter stages of the sport's major events, Fiechter definitely has the quality to join her there in Chicago.

### #2 Nour EL SHERBINI



Age: 27

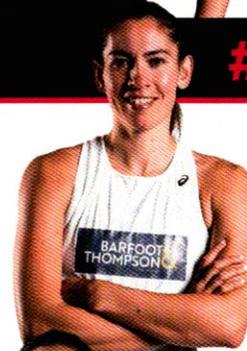
Titles: 33



Six-time World Champion Nour El Sherbini is the youngest Egyptian ever to lift the famous trophy.

El Sherbini won her third and fifth World Championship titles in Chicago and will look to make it a three-peat this week. The 27-year-old is also aiming to become only the second player - alongside Malaysian legend Nicol David - to win five World Championships in a row.

### #4 Joelle KING



Age: 34

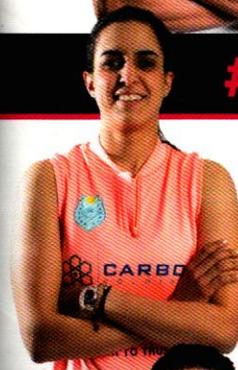
Titles: 20



Former World No.3 Joelle King comes into the World Championships with a wealth of experience behind her. Making her debut at the 2010 edition of the event, King has appeared at 10 World Championships and is a dangerous opponent with impressive accuracy and reach.

Having suffered a disappointing last 16 exit last year, King will be hoping she can kick on and become the first female Kiwi winner since Carol Owens in 2003.

### #6 Nour EL TAYEB



Age: 30

Titles: 12



Nour El Tayeb is a flamboyant crowd favourite, known for her acrobatic diving abilities, and she has returned to her brilliant best following the birth of her baby daughter in 2021.

Despite stepping away from the sport for 14 months between October 2020 and December 2021, El Tayeb's return has been nothing short of sensational. The Egyptian was runner-up at this tournament the first time it was held in Chicago, in 2019. El Tayeb has the skills to challenge any of her competitors and will be one to watch this week.

### #8 Rowan ELARABY



Age: 22

Titles: 7



One of the game's brightest young stars, Rowan Elaraby has quickly risen through the ranks and has spent most of the season at a career-best position of World No.7. Appearing in her seventh World Championship, Elaraby will be hoping to improve on a quarter-final exit last year.

Quick and graceful on court, Elaraby can be a handful for any opponent and will be out to cause an upset this week.



2022-23  
SQUASH WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRESENTED BY  
**The Walter Family**

QUARTER  
FINAL  
8 MAY 2023

QUARTER  
FINAL  
9 MAY 2023

SEMI  
FINALS  
10 MAY 2023

17:30 (GLASS COURT)

FINALS  
11 MAY 2023

19:00 (GLASS COURT)

WOMENS  
DRAW



SCAN FOR  
UPDATED  
DRAWS

ROUND 1  
3 MAY 2023

ROUND 2  
5 MAY 2023

ROUND 3  
6 MAY 2023

ROUND 3  
7 MAY 2023

ROUND 2  
5 MAY 2023

ROUND 1  
4 MAY 2023

- [1] NOURAN GOHAR (EGY)  
18:00 (COURT 1)  
NOUR ABOULMAKARIM (EGY)
- FAYROUZ ABOELKHEIR (EGY)  
14:45 (COURT 3)  
MARTA DOMINGUEZ FERNANDEZ (ESP)
- SALMA ELTAYEB (EGY)  
11:00 (COURT 2)  
SATOMI WATANABE (JPN)
- CRISTINA GOMEZ (ESP)  
11:45 (COURT 2)  
[12] TINNE GILIS (BEL)
- [16] SABRINA SOBHY (USA)  
11:45 (COURT 1)  
TSZ-WING TONG (HKG)
- HANA RAMADAN (EGY)  
11:00 (COURT 1)  
RACHEL ARNOLD (MAS)
- JASMINE HUTTON (ENG)  
11:45 (COURT 3)  
ALEXANDRA FULLER (RSA)
- SANA IBRAHIM (EGY)  
12:30 (COURT 3)  
[6] NOUR EL TAYEB (EGY)
- [5] AMANDA SOBHY (USA)  
18:45 (COURT 3)  
TOMATO HO (HKG)
- HOLLIE NAUGHTON (CAN)  
16:30 (COURT 3)  
JANA SHIHA (EGY)
- CHAN SIN YUK (HKG)  
14:00 (COURT 2)  
GEORGIA ADDERLEY (SCO)
- MALAK KHAFAGY (EGY)  
14:45 (COURT 2)  
[14] SALMA HANY (EGY)
- [13] OLIVIA CLYNE (USA)  
19:30 (COURT 2)  
JOSHNA CHINAPPA (IND)
- INETA MACKEVICA (LAT)  
18:45 (COURT 2)  
[1] AMINA ORFI (EGY)
- FARIDA MOHAMED (EGY)  
14:45 (COURT 1)  
AINAA AMANI (MAS)
- KENZY AYMAN (EGY)  
14:00 (COURT 1)  
[3] HANIA EL HAMMAMY (EGY)

- 14:00 (GLASS COURT)
- 12:00 (COURT 2)
- 12:00 (COURT 1)
- 12:00 (COURT 3)
- 17:30 (GLASS COURT)
- 17:30 (GLASS COURT)
- 12:45 (COURT 2)
- 20:00 (GLASS COURT)
- 20:00 (GLASS COURT)
- 12:45 (COURT 1)

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- 16:30 (GLASS COURT)
- 19:00 (GLASS COURT)
- 12:00 (GLASS COURT)
- 14:00 (GLASS COURT)

- 16:00 (COURT 1)
- 16:00 (COURT 3)
- 16:45 (COURT 2)
- 16:45 (COURT 1)
- 16:45 (COURT 3)
- 16:00 (COURT 2)
- 12:45 (COURT 3)
- 12:00 (GLASS COURT)

- [4] JOELLE KING (NZL)  
11:45 (COURT 1)  
ENORA VILLARD (FRA)
- ZEINA MICKAWY (EGY)  
11:00 (COURT 1)  
LUCY BEECROFT (ENG)
- AIFA AZMAN (MAS)  
12:30 (COURT 3)  
[WC] CAROLINE FOUTS (USA)
- KATIE MALLIFF (ENG)  
14:45 (COURT 3)  
[15] TESNI EVANS (WAL)
- [11] NELE GILIS (BEL)  
19:30 (COURT 2)  
ZEINA ZEIN (EGY)
- MELISSA ALVES (FRA)  
18:45 (COURT 2)  
AIRA AZMAN (MAS)
- KA YI LEE (HKG)  
14:00 (COURT 1)  
YATHREB ADEL (EGY)
- NADA ABBAS (EGY)  
18:00 (COURT 1)  
[7] OLIVIA FIECHTER (USA)
- [8] ROWAN ELARABY (EGY)  
16:30 (COURT 3)  
GRACE GEAR (ENG)
- MARINA STEFANONI (USA)  
18:45 (COURT 3)  
SIVASANGARI SUBRAMANIAM (MAS)
- LUCY TURMEL (ENG)  
14:45 (COURT 2)  
MARIAM METWALLY (EGY)
- EMILY WHITLOCK (WAL)  
11:45 (COURT 2)  
[10] GEORGINA KENNEDY (ENG)
- [9] SARAH-JANE PERRY (ENG)  
11:45 (COURT 3)  
NADINE SHAHIN (EGY)
- MILLIE TOMLINSON (ENG)  
11:00 (COURT 2)  
NICOLE BUNYAN (CAN)
- MARIE STEPHAN (FRA)  
14:00 (COURT 2)  
YASSHMITA JADISHKUMAR (MAS)
- HANA MOATAZ (EGY)  
14:45 (COURT 1)  
[2] NOUR EL SHERBINI (EGY)



2022-23 SQUASH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRESENTED BY The Walter Family

QUARTER FINAL 8 MAY 2023

QUARTER FINAL 9 MAY 2023

SEMI FINALS 10 MAY 2023 (FOLLOW ON) (GLASS COURT)

FINALS 11 MAY 2023 19:00 (GLASS COURT)

MENS DRAW

**ROUND 1 3 MAY 2023**

[1] MOSTAFA ASAL (EGY) 18:45 (COURT 1) LEANDRO ROMIGLIO (ARG)
BALAZS FARKAS (HUN) 18:00 (COURT 3) OMAR MOSAAD (EGY)
RORY STEWART (SCO) 17:15 (COURT 3) EDWIN CLAIN (FRA)
CESAR SALAZAR (MEX) 19:30 (COURT 3) [11] JOEL MAKIN (WAL)
[9] MAZEN HESHAM (EGY) 13:15 (COURT 2) LUCAS SERME (FRA)
TSZ KWAN LAU (HKG) 12:30 (COURT 2) KARIM EL HAMMAMY (EGY)
NICK WALL (ENG) 14:00 (COURT 3) ALY ABOU ELEINEN (EGY)
BERNAT JAUME (ESP) 13:15 (COURT 3) [8] VICTOR CROUIN (FRA)
[5] PAUL COLL (NZL) 17:15 (COURT 1) FARAZ KHAN (USA)
JUAN CAMILO VARGAS (COL) 16:30 (COURT 1) MAHESH MANGAONKAR (IND)
PATRICK ROONEY (ENG) 17:15 (COURT 2) IVAN YUEN (MAS)
TODD HARRITY (USA) 16:30 (COURT 2) [13] MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ (COL)
[15] GREGOIRE MARCHE (FRA) 12:30 (COURT 1) MOHAMED ELSHERBINI (EGY)
NATHAN LAKE (ENG) 13:15 (COURT 1) CURTIS MALIK (ENG)
[1] ROWAN DAMMING (NED) 18:00 (COURT 2) ADRIAN WALLER (ENG)
RAMIT TANDON (IND) 19:30 (COURT 1) [4] ALI FARAG (EGY)

**ROUND 2 5 MAY 2023**

18:30 (GLASS COURT)
17:30 (COURT 3)
17:30 (COURT 2)
17:30 (COURT 1)
18:15 (COURT 1)
18:15 (COURT 3)
18:15 (COURT 2)
12:45 (GLASS COURT)
12:45 (GLASS COURT)

**ROUND 3 6 MAY 2023**

18:30 (GLASS COURT)
21:00 (GLASS COURT)
14:45 (GLASS COURT)
21:00 (GLASS COURT)
12:45 (GLASS COURT)

**ROUND 3 7 MAY 2023**

12:45 (GLASS COURT)
14:45 (GLASS COURT)
20:00 (GLASS COURT)
17:30 (GLASS COURT)

**ROUND 2 5 MAY 2023**

21:00 (GLASS COURT)
13:30 (COURT 3)
14:15 (COURT 2)
14:15 (COURT 3)
14:15 (COURT 1)
13:30 (COURT 2)
13:30 (COURT 1)
14:45 (GLASS COURT)

**ROUND 1 4 MAY 2023**

[3] MOHAMED ELSHORBAGY (ENG) 19:30 (COURT 1) TIMOTHY BROWNELL (USA)
EAIN YOW NG (MAS) 19:30 (COURT 3) ABHAY SINGH (IND)
YOUSSEF IBRAHIM (EGY) 13:15 (COURT 3) SIMON HERBERT (ENG)
GREG LOBBAN (SCO) 14:00 (COURT 3) [14] NICOLAS MUELLER (SUI)
[10] FARES DESSOUKY (EGY) 13:15 (COURT 2) DAVID BAILLARGEON (CAN)
GEORGE PARKER (ENG) 12:30 (COURT 2) MOHAMED ABOUELGHAR (EGY)
SEBASTIEN BONMALAIS (FRA) 12:30 (COURT 1) LEONEL CARDENAS (MEX)
CHARLIE LEE (ENG) 13:15 (COURT 1) [7] TAREK MOMEN (EGY)
[6] MARWAN ELSHORBAGY (EGY) 18:45 (COURT 1) SHAHJAHAN KHAN (USA)
RUI SOARES (POR) 16:30 (COURT 1) AUGUSTE DUSSOURD (FRA)
IKER PAJARES BERNABEU (ESP) 17:15 (COURT 3) DIMITRI STEINMANN (SUI)
KARIM ABDEL GAWAD (EGY) 18:00 (COURT 3) [12] YOUSSEF SOLIMAN (EGY)
[16] SAURAV GHOSAL (IND) 17:15 (COURT 2) YAHYA ELNAWASANY (EGY)
HENRY LEUNG (HKG) 18:00 (COURT 2) JAMES WILLSTROP (ENG)
[WC] ANDREW DOUGLAS (USA) 16:30 (COURT 2) BAPTISTE MASOTTI (FRA)
RAPHAEL KANDRA (GER) 17:15 (COURT 1) [2] DIEGO ELIAS (PER)



SCAN FOR UPDATED DRAWS

# 2022-23 PSA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

## TOP 8 SEEDS: MEN

### #1 Mostafa ASAL

Age: 21

Titles: 11

 EGY

Egyptian star Mostafa Asal has emerged as one of the deadliest players on the PSA World Tour and reached the semi-finals last year. Since then, Asal has captured three major titles and became the sport's third youngest World No.1 in January of this year behind only the legendary Khans, Jahangir and Jansher.

Boasting a powerful physique and incredible racket skills, Asal is a handful for any opponent on the tour and his at-times controversial on-court antics have proven as unmissable as they have divisive.

### #3 Mohamed ELSHORBAGY

Age: 32

Titles: 49

 ENG

The 2017 World Champion, Mohamed ElShorbagy is one of the modern game's most decorated players and comes into this year's tournament representing England following his switch of allegiance from Egypt last summer.

Do not be fooled by his nickname of 'The Beast.' While ElShorbagy's game is famed for its brutal power, he is also one of the most intelligent and accurate players on court, and he will look to finally get his hands back on the iconic trophy after defeats to arch-rival Ali Farag in both the 2020-21 final and the 2021-22 title decider.

### #5 Paul COLL

Age: 30

Titles: 20

 NZL

'Superman' Paul Coll is aiming to become the first male New Zealander to win the World Championships since Ross Norman toppled the great Jahangir Khan in 1986.

Coll came close at the 2019-20 event - eventually falling to Egypt's Tarek Momen in the title decider - and will be out to make amends in Chicago. The only male Kiwi to ever reach World No.1, Coll has shown signs that he is getting back to his best after victory at the Canary Wharf Classic in March.

### #7 Tarek MOMEN

Age: 35

Titles: 8

 EGY

Tarek Momen is an elder statesman of the game these days and became World Champion in 2019 when he defeated Paul Coll in Qatar to win his first major PSA title.

Despite his advancing years, Momen is still one of the most explosive players on tour and possesses a delicate touch and a bag full of unorthodox shots. Nicknamed 'The Viper', Momen is a truly lethal player when in top form and is capable of beating any opponent on the tour.

### #2 Diego ELIAS

Age: 26

Titles: 15

 PER

Diego Elias made history last month when he became the first South American in the history of the sport to become World No.1

Now, the Peruvian will look to become the first man from South America to lift the World Championship trophy.

Blessed with an ability to hit winners from around the court and famed for his languid style of movement that has seen him compared to the great Jansher Khan, Elias will be difficult to beat in Chicago.

### #4 Ali FARAG

Age: 31

Titles: 30

 EGY

Three-time World Champion Ali Farag has an affinity for the Windy City. Not only did the Harvard graduate win two of his World Championship titles in Chicago, the second of those titles came just after the birth of his daughter, with Farag capping a special week in style.

Farag has struggled with a knee issue this season but looks back to full fitness following his British Open triumph and will be one of the favourites to lift the famous trophy this week.

### #6 Marwan ELSHORBAGY

Age: 29

Titles: 13

 EGY

Famed for his on-court tactical acumen, Marwan ElShorbagy will be relying on his trademark court craft if he is to get his hands on the World Championship trophy for the first time.

Having won one title and reached a further five finals this season, ElShorbagy is unlikely to be underestimated in Chicago. The 29-year-old lost to older brother Mohamed in the 2017 final in Manchester, but has the ability to go one better this year.

### #8 Victor CROUIN

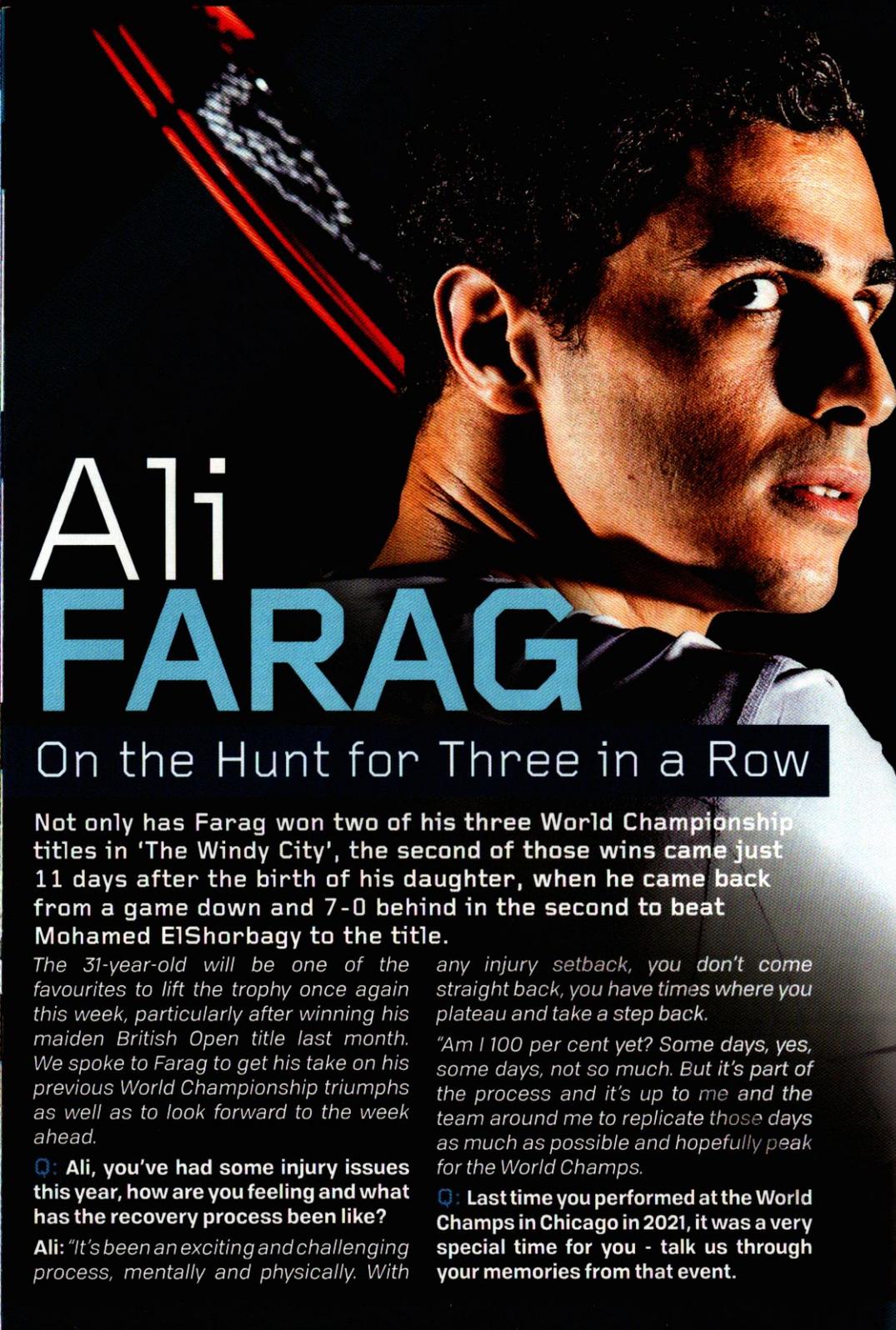
Age: 23

Titles: 19

 FRA

The 2022-23 season has been Victor Crouin's best yet on the PSA Tour, with the Frenchman breaking into the world's top 10 and winning three titles along the way.

The Harvard graduate also reached his first major final at the Qatar Classic in September and will look to further cement his position as a contender at the world's biggest events this week.



# Ali FARAG

## On the Hunt for Three in a Row

Not only has Farag won two of his three World Championship titles in 'The Windy City', the second of those wins came just 11 days after the birth of his daughter, when he came back from a game down and 7-0 behind in the second to beat Mohamed ElShorbagy to the title.

The 31-year-old will be one of the favourites to lift the trophy once again this week, particularly after winning his maiden British Open title last month. We spoke to Farag to get his take on his previous World Championship triumphs as well as to look forward to the week ahead.

**Q:** Ali, you've had some injury issues this year, how are you feeling and what has the recovery process been like?

**Ali:** "It's been an exciting and challenging process, mentally and physically. With

any injury setback, you don't come straight back, you have times where you plateau and take a step back.

"Am I 100 per cent yet? Some days, yes, some days, not so much. But it's part of the process and it's up to me and the team around me to replicate those days as much as possible and hopefully peak for the World Champs.

**Q:** Last time you performed at the World Champs in Chicago in 2021, it was a very special time for you - talk us through your memories from that event.

**Ali:** "I've spoken about it so many times but I've never been able to do it justice. The birth of your first child is always going to be the most special memory of your life. Nour [El Tayeb, Farag's wife] was extremely supportive, she travelled out two months earlier to give birth there so I had the opportunity to play the World Champs.

"It was during COVID, so our parents couldn't get in. It was just Nour and I, and I probably shouldn't say this, but it made it more sweet because it was more intimate. It was so much fun and then all of a sudden you have to flip a switch.

"Literally the next day I had to go to the hotel room and because of the COVID situation I had to stay on my own. It was strange and I guess it took some pressure off of me because I knew it wasn't the best preparation. If I lost, it wouldn't have been an excuse, but I would have understood why I lost.

"I hadn't come off a good World Tour Finals the month before and I wasn't playing my best at the time, so it was a pleasant surprise 11 days later when I lifted that trophy again. Chicago is always going to have a special place in my heart and I really look forward to coming back again.

**Q:** What are your memories of that final match against Mohamed ElShorbagy in Chicago?

**Ali:** "It was a strange match. I didn't play badly in the first or second but Mohamed won the first and then in the blink of an eye I was 7-0 down [in the second].

"I got a point on the board, I hit a couple of quick winners and Mohamed hit a couple of sloppy errors, which is unlike him. Somehow I was back in it and I remember the second and third games being very tight, then I ran away with the fourth. Thankfully, I had my parents in the crowd with me because they were there for the birth of Farida.

"Everyone I care for was there and coming back the way I did

against a champion like Mohamed made it even more special."

**Q:** The year after was a repeat of the Chicago final as you faced Mohamed again, this time in Cairo - how special was it to face him again?

**Ali:** "There are so many great players on tour but, for me, Mohamed is the greatest of our generation. We had played in so many finals in so many different areas of the world, but we'd never played in the World Championship final before.

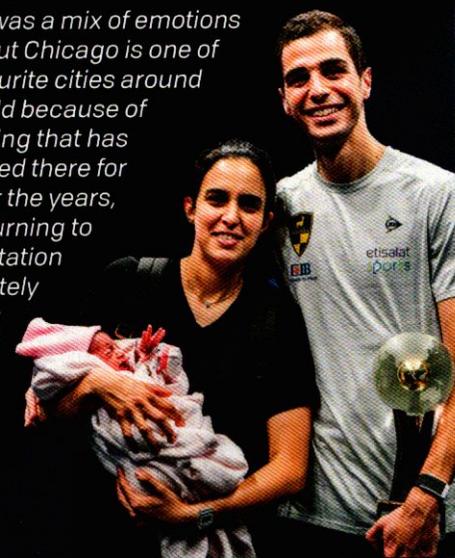
"To play two back-to-back was very special. I was lucky to come out on top in both because I was two points away from losing in Cairo and I was a game down and 7-0 down in Chicago. To do it in Cairo in an amazing venue in front of the people who had been supporting me from day one was very special for me."

**Q:** Union Station is an incredible venue - how excited are you to return there?

**Ali:** "I am excited because the very first World Championship I won was at Union Station back in March 2019. But Nour [El Tayeb] had lost to Nour El Sherbini in the women's final and it was a dream for both of us to win it.

"So it was disappointing from that perspective. Deep inside I wasn't in a very celebratory mood until later in the week once it had sunk in that I was World Champion and I had achieved a dream that any kid dreams of growing up.

"There was a mix of emotions there. But Chicago is one of my favourite cities around the world because of everything that has happened there for me over the years, and returning to Union Station is definitely exciting for me."



14th Annual  
Liz Kutyla - Miner Junior  
Achievement Award



MetroSquash is a 501(c)(3) out-of-school time and college success program that utilizes a long-term and holistic model to serve Chicagoland public school students with demonstrated need. Operating on the South side of Chicago in Woodlawn since 2005 and in Evanston since 2018, students receive support through college. MetroSquash is able to empower students to become healthy adults with social and economic stability.

On behalf of her husband Scott Miner, James Ryan, her friends at Constellation Brands and the University Club of Chicago, this award is given in memory of Liz Kutyla/Miner each year during the Windy City Open and PSA World Championships to a MetroSquash female who displays a dedication to reaching her potential both on and off the squash court. Recipients of the award are chosen for the academic success, positive attitude, and effort in their athletic and scholarly pursuits. The recipient of this award also receives a \$5,000 scholarship which goes towards supporting their post-secondary tuition.

2023 RECIPIENT

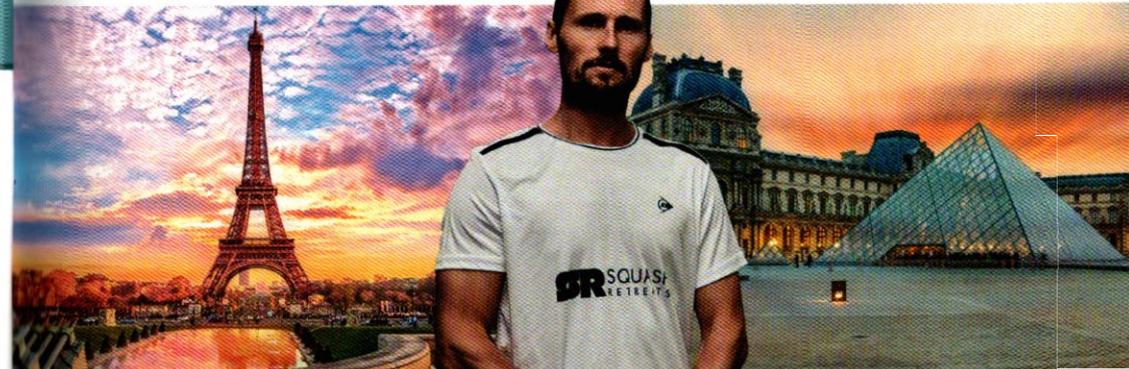
Jamya Stewart



Jamya has been MetroSquash's most enthusiastic ambassador since she joined in 2015. She started the program in the 5th grade and has since blossomed into a caring leader and mentor among her peers. Jamya has competed in over 20 squash tournaments and traveled to London, England to represent MetroSquash. Her commitment to success, outside the squash court, is best demonstrated by her 3.7+ GPA at the selective-enrollment Lindblom Math and Science Academy where she is a Lindblom Ambassador and Black Student Union leader. Although still waiting to hear admissions decisions from several colleges and universities, Jamya has already received over 15 acceptances and was awarded the Charles E. Curry Foundation Scholarship for her leadership and community service. A first-generation pioneer, squash captain, loving sister, supportive daughter, and community leader, Jamya is already making her mark in the world.

Previous Recipients

- 2022: Saharah Webb, 1st Year at Harold Washington College**  
Matriculated at Harold Washington College in Fall '22, she is exploring the financial and insurance sectors.
- 2021: Crystal Dixon, 1st Year at Connecticut College**  
Squash player at Connecticut College.
- 2020: Dzifa Searcy, 2nd Year at Bradley University**  
Currently pursuing studies at Loyola University.
- 2019: Kyla Armistead, 3rd Year at Trinity College**  
Econ major at Trinity College.
- 2018: Makyla Kelley, 4th Year at St. Lawrence University**  
Co-Captain of her team at St. Lawrence. Plans to coach within the SEA network or at the college level upon graduation.
- 2017: Michel'le Messenger, Alumna of Clark-Atlanta University**  
Graduated from Clark-Atlanta with high honors.
- 2016: Kai Stewart, Alumna of the United States Air Force**  
Graduated with honors from Air Force training, was stationed in Japan for several years before relocating to the Southwest to continue career in the military.
- 2015: Anathiel John-Charles, Alumna of Smith College**  
Chicago Cubs Scholar recipient, is a senior at Smith College pursuing International Studies.
- 2014: Liliana Vazquez, 4th Year at Connecticut College**  
Squash player at Connecticut College.
- 2013: Khadijah Muhammad, Alumna of Denison University**  
Worked for MetroSquash upon graduation from Denison before pursuing studies at New York University.
- 2012: Marytyn Rogel, Alumna of University of Vermont**  
TFA Alumna and first MetroSquash student to earn a Master's Degree. Is in nonprofit management currently.
- 2011: Nubia Beasley-Bartee, 4th Year at Bates College**  
Played for several years on the squash team at Bates College.
- 2010: Precious Rooks, Alumna of Denison University**  
Graduated from Denison in four years and stayed in the Columbus area to accept a position from Nationwide Insurance. Currently working for Root Insurance as she deepens her roots in the Columbus community.



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## Story of the 2022

# WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last year's PSA World Championships took place in Cairo, Egypt and there were several talking points throughout a thrilling event.

The sport's biggest tournament was held across two venues in the Egyptian capital. Club S Allegria played host to the early rounds, then the Egyptian National Museum of Civilisation took over, with the latter rounds of the competition being played on a spectacular glass court that had been erected in the museum's atrium.

From shocks and surprises, to two winners defending their World Championships crowns, here is what happened in Cairo last year...

## Wildcards Elshafei and Ayman Reach Second Round

Tournament wildcards Yassin Elshafei and Kenzy Ayman both secured upsets in the opening round as they defeated Pakistan's Muhammad Asim Khan and England's Jasmine Hutton, respectively.

Ayman and Hutton played a tough contest, but it was the Egyptian who won in three games. All three went to tie-breaks, but not once did the Englishwoman have a chance to win any of them. Only Ayman had game and match balls, winning all three tie-breaks 12-10 to advance to the second round.

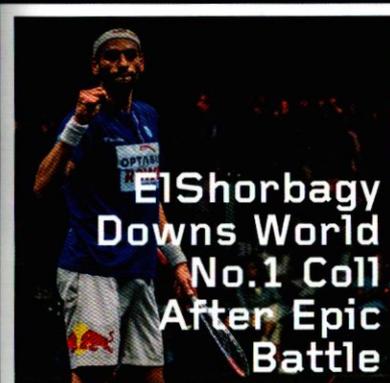
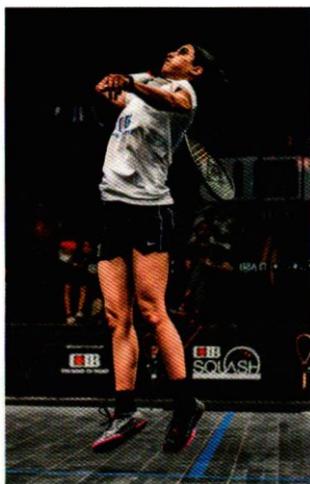
She was joined there by compatriot Elshafei, who got the better of Khan in four games. Elsewhere in the opening round, Germany's Raphael Kandra knocked out No.14 seed Miguel Rodriguez in the other major shock in the men's draw.

## Unseeded El Tayeb Reaches Semi-Finals

At the time of the tournament, Nour El Tayeb was the World No.28 as she continued her return to the tour after a 14-month break. During that time, she became a mother, and her return has been nothing short of astonishing.

In Cairo, the former World No.3 and 2019 World Championship finalist went all the way through to the last four, downing two of the world's top 10 in the process. The Egyptian defeated Malaysia's Aifa Azman and Sivasangari Subramaniam in the early rounds, along with a win against No.7 seed Salma Hany.

It was her quarter final win that proved El Tayeb was back. She took on then-World No.3 Hania El Hammamy, downing her fellow Egyptian in four games. Although she would ultimately lose to Nour El Sherbini in the semi-finals, this was the tournament that showed she could still mix it up with the best on tour.

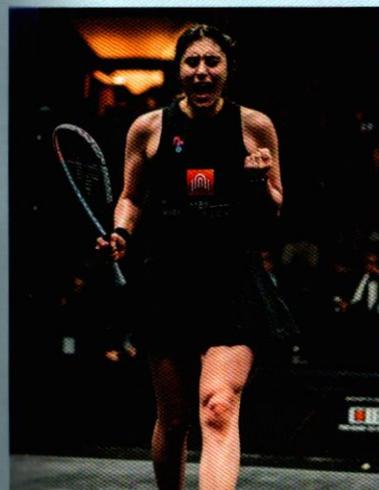


## ElShorbagy Downs World No.1 Coll After Epic Battle

The biggest battle of the tournament saw Mohamed ElShorbagy take on Paul Coll in the semi-finals, with the pair on court for an incredible 109 minutes.

Coll came into the contest as the World No.1 and had won their previous two meetings, including a victory en route to his first major title at the Allam British Open in 2021. It looked like the Kiwi would have his way once more when he took the third 12-10 to move into the lead of the contest.

ElShorbagy, in one of his last appearances playing under the Egyptian flag, fought back brilliantly. He showed why he is a former World Champion and World No.1, as he won both the fourth and fifth games to take the victory, earning his spot in a fifth World Championship final.



## El Sherbini Makes It Six World Titles

Nour El Sherbini did what she does best as she captured an astonishing sixth World Championship crown at the age of just 26.

The World No.2 dropped just two games in her opening four matches. She got the better of Spain's Cristina Gomez and Belgium's Tinne Gilis in straight games, before requiring four games to beat wildcard Kenzy Ayman and English No.1 Sarah-Jane Perry.

She beat the aforementioned Nour El Tayeb in the semis, before coming up against World No.1 Nouran Gohar in the final. It was 'the Terminator' who won the opening game, but in true El Sherbini style, she fought back to win the next three.

Only Nicol David now has more World Championship titles than the 'Warrior Princess' in the women's game and few would bet against El Sherbini adding to her trophy cabinet.

## Farag Takes Third World Championships Crown

The 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 World Champion, Ali Farag came in to the event looking for a third World Championship title, equalling the record of legends such as Ramy Ashour and Nick Matthew.

Farag breezed through his opening four matches as he defeated Mexico's Leonel Cardenas and Cesar Salazar, as well as the Egyptian duo of Youssef Ibrahim and Marwan ElShorbagy, all in straight games. Then came two five-game battles. He fought past the soon-to-be World No.1 Mostafa Asal in a 97-minute epic, before coming up against Mohamed ElShorbagy in the final of the sport's biggest event for a second season in a row.

Farag defeated his great friend and rival in Chicago in 2021, and he would do the same in Cairo a year later, coming back from 2-1 down to win in five. The Egyptian became one of just seven men to have won the World Championships at least three times, and only the third Egyptian male to do so.



# Jonathon POWER

By RJ Mitchell

## 25 Years on From World Championship Glory

He was one of the most gifted shotmakers and flair players that the modern squash game has seen and for Jonathon Power, the 2022-23 PSA World Championships mark a special anniversary.

It's 25 years since the Canadian won his first and only World Championship when he defeated Peter Nicol 15-17, 15-7, 15-9, 15-10 in Doha.

Power remains the only Canadian to have lifted the most prestigious title in squash. His protégé - Diego Elias - could pull off a similar achievement this week as he bids to become the first player from Peru to become World Champion.

Looking back on his form around the time of his landmark win, Power says: "I expected to win every match and beat Peter most times back then, and I was on a bit of a streak. Peter had a bit of a revamp after that, but that year I knew I just had to win.

"For me to become World Champion was just pure relief. The pressure I had put on myself was immense and at 23 I had done it and it was almost the end of the journey.

"After that, I achieved my goals, got to No.1 and was World Champion and then life was just more of the same.

"Once I had realised these goals it became difficult as I would get injured, try and get it back and have fun again and then there was another injury.

"I was more a moment to moment guy and not one to think about winning more championships. But that was certainly the moment for me."

Looking back at his progress through the draw, Power enjoyed a serene path through the early rounds.

Straight game defeats of Pakistan's Mansoor Zaman, England's Tim Garner and Power's great friend and fellow Canadian Graham Ryding booked a quarter-final berth against the volatile Egyptian Ahmed Barada.

It was the subsequent 15-5, 15-2, 15-3 demolition of No.5 seed Barada that confirmed to Power that he was peaking at the perfect time.

"Barada in the quarters was definitely a good one. I think he was ranked three in the world at that time and to run through him was pretty satisfying.

"I produced my best squash, was on the ball pretty early and it was one of those really memorable days - when it all just came together for me.

"Barada was the [Mostafa] Asal of our day, he invented all that stuff and played the

game to win. He was just very good at knowing how to push it and he just did everything he could to get that 'W.' I took real satisfaction from that win and the way I played."

Power dispatched Australia's Anthony Hill in four games in the semis before facing top seed Nicol in the final that everyone wanted to see.

Reflecting on the clash, the former World No.1 said: "The first game was really tough, maybe half an hour, and he won it on the tiebreak. The pace was really quick and there was a lot of corner to corner stuff.

"The match-up between Peter and I was almost like a maths equation. I made him do a lot of running and he was fitter than I was and liked to soak it up and it came to whoever ran out of gas first really.

"But early in the second, maybe 5-2, I played a little hold crossing to the front and he leant the wrong way. He could have come back and got it, but he didn't run and I knew the match was over.

"Once Peter or I had lost that first step speed, you were just hanging on and there is no way you can win.

"Back then, somebody almost always didn't make the finish line whereas now with the scoring system it means making the finishing line doesn't count the same way."

Having previously suffered a nasty ankle ligament tear and then developing a back issue, the great Canadian never added to his solitary World Championship and British Open victories from the final two years of the last millennium.

Now, Power will be watching when Elias lines up in Chicago with the aim of becoming the first player hailing from South American to have his name etched onto the famous trophy.

Speaking about the 26-year-old, Power says: "He has to walk through that door and he is certainly good enough.

"We have been working together and been friends for 13 years so it would be a major occasion for both of us and after that everyone has done their job.

"Really, it's all about timing and up to the individual, but it happens when it is meant to happen."



# Amanda SOBHY

## Gunning for Glory

United States No.1 Amanda Sobhy made history in Chicago at the 2020-21 PSA World Championships as she became the first American-born player ever to reach the semi-finals of the biggest tournament in squash.

The Philadelphia-based 29-year-old will return to Chicago this year hoping to end the week as the first American World Champion and has already enjoyed success on the PSA World Tour so far this season, winning both the Oracle NetSuite Open in San Francisco and the Canadian Open in Toronto.

We caught up with Sobhy to get her thoughts ahead of this year's championships.

**Q:** Amanda, how much of a boost is it to have the World Championships on U.S. soil?

**Amanda:** "I think having home advantage is huge. Having the familiarity of being in the U.S., being in Chicago and having good vibes with the crowd in my favour, that goes a long way."

"Those are tiny little things but they make a huge difference."

**Q:** When the World Championships were held in Chicago back in 2021, you became the first American-born player to reach the semis. Talk us through your memories from that event?

**Amanda:** "I beat Hania [El Hammamy] in the quarter-finals, so that was a really special moment. I was in the zone the whole time and I think it was one of those matches where I was dialled in from start to finish."

"It's one of those matches I will always remember in terms of my performance because it was a 3-0 win, which doesn't really happen every day against Hania."

"My dad and my sister were watching back home and they sent me a fired up selfie. I was fired up and I had part of my family there, as well as a lot of supporters and friends. It truly meant a lot to perform and to keep playing on that glass court was incredible."

"I have really good memories and I hope to bottle that and carry it with me going into this World Championships in Chicago."

**Q:** What is the goal for you at this year's World Championships?

**Amanda:** "I'm definitely going to go in there backing myself, I'm going there to win it. I'm trying not to put too much pressure on myself given the fact it's in the U.S."

"I'm seeing it as more of a privilege and an opportunity to perform in front of a home crowd. I want to enjoy the moment and be really present."

**Q:** A winner of a major PSA event these days has to beat one or two of the Egyptian 'Top Three' in Nouran Gohar, Hania El Hammamy or Nour El Sherbini - how much of a challenge is that?

**Amanda:** "They're the top three for a reason and they've been the dominant ones. It takes a bit of pressure off of me because people don't really focus on me and I can go and do my thing, there is nothing I love more than proving people wrong."

"But I need to believe in myself and know that I belong there too. They are great players and I respect them, but I'm also a great player and I can beat them."

**Q:** You beat the reigning World Champion - El Sherbini - recently at the Black Ball Open. What does a win like that do to your confidence coming into this year's World Championships?

**Amanda:** "Getting a win against Sherbini recently is huge in terms of the confidence and belief it gave me, knowing that I have the capability to beat the top players in the world. Sherbini has been World Champ a handful of times, so I think that definitely helped with my momentum coming into the World Champs."

**Q:** USA made history at the WSF Women's World Team Championships in December as you reached the final for the first time - you came within a point of beating Gohar there, what did you learn from that match?

**Amanda:** "There was so much going on behind the

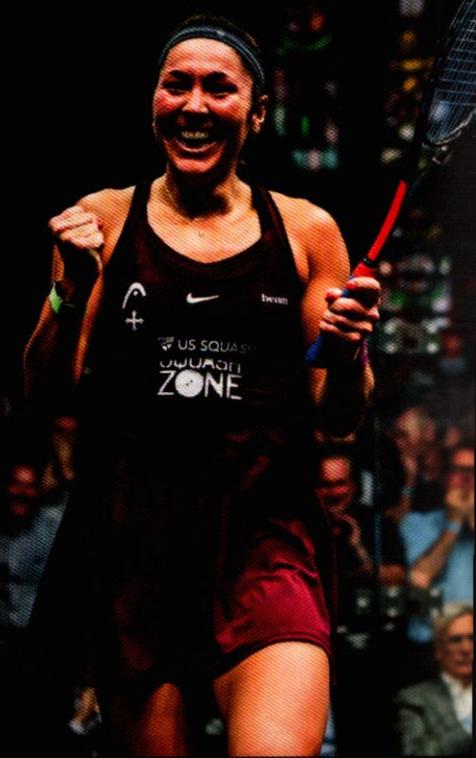
scenes. Going into the World Teams I had only played three times since I hurt my back in Singapore.

"My back wasn't healthy at all and I was so burnt out and injured and I had seasonal depression. I was not in a good state at all at the World Teams, so the fact that I was able to somehow perform that way and be a point away from beating the World No.1 - when I was so broken that entire week - is a testament to my resilience and my mental strength. I channelled all of my anger into that one."

**Q:** What would it mean to you to become the first American to win the World Championships?

**Amanda:** "It would mean everything. I train day in and day out for moments like that. To be able to call myself World Champion, not only would I be pleased for myself, my entire team and US Squash have been backing me for all of these years."

"It's about so much more than just results, all of the hard work behind the scenes would make it so much more satisfying."



# PAST WINNERS

## WOMEN'S

Year	Champion	Runner-up
2021/22	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Nouran Gohar (EGY)
2020/21	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Nouran Gohar (EGY)
2019/20	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Raneem El Welily (EGY)
2018/19	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Nour El Tayeb (EGY)
2017	Raneem El Welily (EGY)	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)
2016	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Raneem El Welily (EGY)
2015	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)	Laura Massaro (ENG)
2014	Nicol David (MAS)	Raneem El Welily (EGY)
2013	Laura Massaro (ENG)	Nour El Sherbini (EGY)
2012	Nicol David (MAS)	Laura Massaro (ENG)
2011	Nicol David (MAS)	Jenny Duncalf (ENG)
2010	Nicol David (MAS)	Omneya Abdel Kawy (EGY)
2009	Nicol David (MAS)	Natalie Grinham (AUS)
2008	Nicol David (MAS)	Vicky Botwright (ENG)
2007	Rachael Grinham (AUS)	Natalie Grinham (AUS)
2006	Nicol David (MAS)	Natalie Grinham (AUS)
2005	Nicol David (MAS)	Rachael Grinham (AUS)
2004	Vanessa Atkinson (NED)	Natalie Grinham (AUS)
2003	Carol Owens (AUS)	Cassie Jackman (ENG)
2002	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)	Natalie Pohrer (ENG)
2001	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)	Leilani Joyce (NZL)
2000	Carol Owens (AUS)	Leilani Joyce (NZL)
1999	Cassie Campion (ENG)	Michelle Martin (AUS)
1998	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)	Michelle Martin (AUS)
1997	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)	Michelle Martin (AUS)
1996	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)	Cassie Jackman (ENG)
1995	Michelle Martin (AUS)	Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS)
1994	Michelle Martin (AUS)	Cassie Jackman (ENG)
1993	Michelle Martin (AUS)	Liz Irving (AUS)
1992	Susan Devoy (NZL)	Michelle Martin (AUS)
1990	Susan Devoy (NZL)	Martine Le Moignan (ENG)
1989	Martine Le Moignan (ENG)	Susan Devoy (NZL)
1987	Susan Devoy (NZL)	Lisa Opie (ENG)
1985	Susan Devoy (NZL)	Lisa Opie (ENG)
1983	Vicki Cardwell (AUS)	Rhonda Thorne (AUS)
1981	Rhonda Thorne (AUS)	Vicki Hoffman (AUS)
1979	Heather McKay (AUS)	Sue Cogswell (ENG)

## MEN'S

Year	Champion	Runner-up
2021/22	Ali Farag (EGY)	Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)
2020/21	Ali Farag (EGY)	Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)
2019/20	Tarek Momen (EGY)	Paul Coll (NZL)
2018/19	Ali Farag (EGY)	Tarek Momen (EGY)
2017	Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)	Marwan ElShorbagy (EGY)
2016	Karim Abdel Gawad (EGY)	Ramy Ashour (EGY)
2015	Gregory Gaultier (FRA)	Omar Mosaad (EGY)
2014	Ramy Ashour (EGY)	Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)
2013	Nick Matthew (ENG)	Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
2012	Ramy Ashour (EGY)	Mohamed ElShorbagy (EGY)
2011	Nick Matthew (ENG)	Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
2010	Nick Matthew (ENG)	James Willstrop (ENG)
2009	Amr Shabana (EGY)	Ramy Ashour (EGY)
2008	Ramy Ashour (EGY)	Egypt Karim Darwish
2007	Amr Shabana (EGY)	Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
2006	David Palmer (AUS)	Gregory Gaultier (FRA)
2005	Amr Shabana (EGY)	David Palmer (AUS)
2004	Thierry Lincou (FRA)	Lee Beachill (ENG)
2003	Amr Shabana (EGY)	Thierry Lincou (FRA)
2002	David Palmer (AUS)	John White (SCO)
1999	Peter Nicol (SCO)	Ahmed Barada (EGY)
1998	Jonathon Power (CAN)	Peter Nicol (SCO)
1997	Rodney Eyles (AUS)	Peter Nicol (SCO)
1996	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Rodney Eyles (AUS)
1995	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Del Harris (ENG)
1994	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Peter Marshall (ENG)
1993	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Jahangir Khan (PAK)
1992	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Chris Dittmar (AUS)
1991	Rodney Martin (AUS)	Jahangir Khan (PAK)
1990	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Chris Dittmar (AUS)
1989	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Chris Dittmar (AUS)
1988	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Jansher Khan (PAK)
1987	Jansher Khan (PAK)	Chris Dittmar (AUS)
1986	Ross Norman (NZL)	Jahangir Khan (PAK)
1985	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Ross Norman (NZL)
1984	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Qamar Zaman (PAK)
1983	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Chris Dittmar (AUS)
1982	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Dean Williams (AUS)
1981	Jahangir Khan (PAK)	Geoff Hunt (AUS)
1980	Geoff Hunt (AUS)	Qamar Zaman (PAK)
1979	Geoff Hunt (AUS)	Qamar Zaman (PAK)
1977	Geoff Hunt (AUS)	Qamar Zaman (PAK)
1976	Geoff Hunt (AUS)	Mohibullah Khan (PAK)

