

**LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX:
COURTS & EQUIPMENT**

Year	Month	Day	(features, bold)	2021	June	10	Protective Eyewear poster
2019	Nov	02	Largest Club - Hasta La Vista, Poland	2021	June	22	Harrow School courts
2019	Nov	05	Viewing Panel, Melbourne 1967	2021	June	23	1 st court in a house
2019	Nov	14	Altitude ball	2021	June	25	Court on the Titanic
2019	Nov	15	Court com + Racket ads 1930's	2021	July	14	Chris Herridge retires 2018
2019	Nov	29	1st 4 sided spectator viewing 1982	2021	Aug	16	Timber courts 1930s
2019	Dec	23	Skorts advertisement 1936	2021	Aug	25	Foldaway courts
2019	Dec	29	Table Squash	2021	Sept	05	Tin name
2020	Jan	05	Lady Gray racket ad 1973	2021	Sept	09	Tele-balls
2020	Jan	06	Doubles Court dimensions	2021	Sept	10	Ball feature request
2020	Jan	07	Gas rig court	2021	Nov	01	Sochi, Russia courts
2020	Jan	08	Thames House 1933 (15 courts)	2021	Nov	02	ASB company start
2020	Jan	16	Glass backwall ad 1972	2022	Jan	13	Demountable glass-back show courts
2020	Jan	19	Baghdad to Trinidad Courts ad 1930s	2022	Jan	21	Steel rackets
2020	Feb	06	Oldest Club, Toronto	2022	Jan	27	Banbury Concrete Courts (1971)
2020	Feb	08	Racket bumper strip	2022	Jan	28	Tele-ball TV feature
2020	Feb	09	Blue balls	2022	Feb	10	Asian Beach Games court
2020	Feb	15	Courts on ships	2022	Feb	11	Squash ball warmers
2020	Feb	29	Tele-balls	2022	Feb	22	The evolution of squash balls
2020	Mar	05	Shark Racket 1983	2022	Feb	25	RAC Squash ball
2020	Mar	07	NZ viewing windows 1954/6	2022	Feb	26	Squash ball sales machine
2020	Mar	10	Referee Gantry	2022	Apr	08	Doubles court / tin dimensions
2020	Mar	14	1st coloured floor	2022	Apr	15	Transwall Court 1981
2020	Mar	22	Showcourt on hydraulics	2022	May	03	Shark Racket feature
2020	Mar	23	Courts on ice rinks	2022	May	07	Steel Rackets 1968
2020	Mar	27	Spectator Squash timeline	2022	May	12	Queen Mary liner court
2020	Apr	05	Ball warmer 1980	2022	June	30	Perstorp court, Stockholm event
2020	Apr	09	ASB side door	2022	Aug	06	Cairo University gallery 1958
2020	Apr	15	Ball speeds (1950's - 1999)	2022	Aug	15	Palmerston North viewing 1956
2020	Apr	17	1st all-glass, North America (1987)	2022	Sept	22	Merco ball ad 1980s
2020	Apr	20	Outdoor court - New York	2022	Sept	23	Silvertown Ball ad 1951
2020	Apr	24	Glass backwall (Abbeystead)	2022	Sept	24	Dunlop Ball ad 1935
2020	Apr	29	International Standard Scheme (1988)	2022	Sept	30	Expandable Doubles Show Court (1998)
2020	May	14	Portable Court 1937	2022	Nov	18	ASB side-door showcourt
2020	May	15	Timber Court 1937	2023	Jan	03	Outdoor courts, Elstree School
2020	June	04	Royal racket endorsement 1934	2023	Feb	03	Referee gantry 1980s
2020	June	21	Court lighting 1930	2023	Feb	07	Contravision sheets (1980s)
2020	June	25	Courts in palaces	2023	Feb	22	Queen Mary court 1936
2020	June	28	Handmade rackets	2023	Feb	25	Timber courts 1930s
2020	July	14	1st five wall glass (ASB Glass floor)	2023	Mar	09	Ball adoption 1981
2020	July	26	Doubles courts dimensions	2023	Mar	11	Permanent hardball court 2013
2020	Sept	04	Contra-vision	2023	May	16	Electronic scoreboards 1970s
2020	Oct	06	Eyewear rule 1999	2023	May	20	Banbury Court ad 1968
2020	Oct	19	Protective Eyewear ad 1936	2023	May	23	Squash court photo from 1930s
				2023	June	15	Bert Armstrong collection
2021	Jan	06	US/Canada court floors (1930s)	2023	July	14	Kiltonga Club, Northern Ireland
2021	Jan	23	1970s scoreboards	2023	July	15	Court, South Africa
2021	Jan	24	Under 18, then 18 (1986 - 1988)	2023	July	26	RAC Narrow court
2021	Jan	25	Innovation timeline feature pointer	2023	Aug	05	Portable courts 1937
2021	Feb	10	Racket Specification history	2023	Aug	12	New Grampians Club, London
2021	Mar	05	Florescent Lighting (1948)	2023	Aug	18	Philadelphia's place US squash
2021	Mar	10	Making wooden rackets	2023	Aug	29	French Open 1983 blue floor
2021	Mar	11	Eye protector 1968	2023	Aug	31	Squash at Lords, London
2021	Mar	29	Transparent court (1938)	2023	Oct	03	Officers Club court, Delhi, India
2021	May	05	Red balls (1937)	2023	Oct	14	Ball Boaster
2021	May	10	Lighting presentation, 2011	2023	Dec	28	Courts, balls etc 1936
2021	May	16	1 st four sided viewing (1982)	2024	Jan	11	Dunlop racket ad 1938
2021	May	24	Camera position specifications	2024	Jan	17	Dunlop Blue Flash shoes
2021	May	29	Patent application, glass court 1935	2024	Feb	17	Bumper strips
2021	June	09	Johannesburg court	2024	Mar	08	End of wooden rackets

2024	Mar	14	Wooden club, Slovenia	2025	Jan	06	SquashMaster ball machine
2024	Mar	22	Courts, Nigeria	2025	Feb	05	1 st courts at Harrow School (1865)
2024	Apr	08	Royal Beerschot, Belgium	2025	Apr	03	SRA Guide To Maintenance 1979
2024	Apr	18	Oil rig court	2025	May	08	Mirrored Squash 1939
2024	Apr	22	European courts 1974-1979	2025	June	12	Racket stringing 1930s
2024	Apr	25	Ball feeder (Germany)	2025	June	27	Early court dimensions used at Lords
2024	Apr	30	Goudie/Dunlop ads 1980	2025	July	07	SRA club list 1929 / 30
2024	May	07	Court building errors	2025	July	08	London club information 1929 / 30
2024	June	01	Scoreboard, Abbeydale 1971	2025	July	11	RAC Ball 1924
2024	June	10	Scoreboard South Africa 1971	2025	Aug	02	Thames House courts, 1930s
2024	June	20	Courtback seating system	2025	Aug	04	Aluminium rackets
2024	July	08	Carter Courts ad 1937	2025	Aug	12	ContraVision
2024	July	27	1 st Glass floor (2006)	2025	Sept	03	Glass backwalls penetration.
2024	Aug	01	Spalding wooden rackets 1983	2025	Oct	04	Gradidge Squash courts 1935
2024	Sept	20	Courts on ships	2025	Oct	24	Pilkington glass walls 1970s
2024	Nov	07	Individually wrapped balls	2026	Jan	31	Carter ad 1933 – RAC Woodcote Pk

Updated to 31 January 2026

2026

Squash Library

31 January at 07:43 · 3

When the RAC built constructed squash courts at their Woodcote Park facility in Epsom, England in 1933 the Carter company built them, and promoted the fact in their advertising.

Illustrated Brochure sent on request giving a list of Carter Courts in ENGLAND, IRELAND,
SCOTLAND, WALES and OVERSEAS.

G. H. CARTER, LIMITED
(COURTS FOR ALL SPORTS)

HEAD OFFICE : CISSOLD WORKS
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Telephones: Cissold 6920-12.

Code: Marconi.

A representative will be sent, *free of charge*, anywhere in the British Isles and most European Countries to give advice and estimates.

Squash Library
24 October at 10:53 · 0

...
By the time the mid-1970s were reached, Pilkington glass back walls were being installed internationally. Here is how they promoted the product at that time.

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Squash Library
24 October at 10:53 · 0

...
By the time the mid-1970s were reached, Pilkington glass back walls were being installed internationally. Here is how they promoted the product at that time.



Squash Library
4 October at 07:49 · 

...
In 1935, the Gradidge Company used a list of the courts they had built in their advertising, so here are some of the facilities in operation 90 years ago in England, and Scottish SRC too. [England](#)
[Squash](#)[Scottish Squash](#)



A GRADIDGE COURT AT KINGSTON, SHOWING HOW ARCHITECTURAL FRAMES ARE INCORPORATED WHEN REQUIRED.

GRADIDGE SQUASH COURTS

LEADING SPECIALISTS in the design and construction of Covered Courts and Squash Rackets Clubs.

The list below represents some of the Contracts carried out by us for leading Clubs, Hotels and Schools who demand the highest standard of design and workmanship.

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- West Sussex Squash Rackets Club, Chichester
- New Forest Squash Rackets Club, Southampton
- Wellington Squash Rackets Club, Cheltenham
- Malvern Squash Rackets Club, Worcestershire
- Wimborne and Blandford Lawn Tennis Club, Dorset
- Putney Tennis Club, London
- Berkenham Cricket Club, Surrey
- Sutton Lawn Tennis Club, Surrey

HOTELS

- Tregenna Castle Hotel, St. Ives (G.W.R., Major Hotel), Hotel, Morecambe (Lancashire)
- Pitts Hotel, Polystone (Lancashire)
- Palace Hotel, Liverpool (Lancashire)
- Hawthorn Hotel, Liverpool (Lancashire)
- Hawthorn Arms Hotel, Oxford (Friary Street)
- Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hornsey (Friary Street)
- Palace Hotel, Southend-on-Sea, Essex

COLLEGES

- Queenswood School, Tonbridge
- Mercant Taylors' School, Moor Park, Hertfordshire
- Bailey College, Oxford
- Westminster College, London
- Merton College, Oxford
- University College, Cambridge

*Send your enquiry to :
GRADIDGE CONSTRUCTION CO LTD
7 HOBART PLACE, EATON SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1
Telephone : Sloane 2206/9*



Squash Library

3 September at 07:45 ·

We are so used to glassbacks in clubs, but after they emerged in the early 1970s (see <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../innovation...> for a Library timeline), they did not mushroom everywhere initially. In 1990, for example, India had only four in the country, albeit with another twelve on the way.



Squash Library

12 August at 07:51 ·

In August 1982 the court used for the World Masters pro event in England six weeks later was built to test the precision of the exact 'registration' of the white and black dot layers to produce clear viewing from the outside but a 'milky' finish for the players to sight the ball against. It was ContraVision, a clear film of superimposed black and white dots 'wallpapered' onto the inside of the court wall. Later, dots were baked in and colour added.

The full story of squash innovations form part of the lavishly illustrated World Squash Library publication <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>.



Squash Library

5 August at 07:55 ·

During the 1980s after the abandoning of the requirement that wood must be used, racket manufacturers turned to graphite and other materials. Aluminum was also used for lower priced recreational rackets. While graphite was better for power, and less tennis-elbow inducing vibration, an aluminum tube that started in the handle, went up around the head and back down again was promoted. Here is a range from forty years ago.

MODEL	MAKER	PRICE	MATERIAL	WEIGHT	STRINGING AREA	SPECIAL FEATURES
Fluo 40	Donay	14.99	6000 series Alum.	225gms		Leather grip
Rally	Wilson	15.95	6000 series Alum.	215-225gms	47 sq in.	Synthetic grip Available in 4 colours
Star Flex	Pro Kennex	16.00	Aluminum	210gms	Mid-size	
XLT 10	Dunlop	18.99	Aluminum	205-225gms	47sq in.	Synthetic grip
Spira 11	Browning	19.50	Aluminum	215-225gms	Mid-size	Trigrip, Head light
Delta	Gourdin	19.60	Aluminum			Leather grip
Aludec	Unquestionable	19.95	6000 series Alum.	220-225gms	20% oversize	Polyurethane grip
Power Mid	Donay	19.95	6000 series Alum.	225gms		Synthetic grip Shock absorber
Panther	Slazenger	19.99				Leather grip
Defender	Wilson	19.99	6000 Series Alum.	215-225gms	47 sq in.	Shock absorber
Top Flex	Pro Kennex	21.00	Aluminum	210gms	Mid-size	Leather grip
Rebel	Oliver	22.00	Aluminum	225gms	Mid-size	Synthetic grip
Discovery 11	Browning	24.00	5% zinc	215-225gms	Mid-size	Leather grip
Mid 205	Donay	24.95	600 series Alum.		Mid-size	Shock absorber Special throat
Panther	Slazenger	24.99				Extended throat piece for vibration control
Alura	Goodie	26.99				120mm Strength
Alu Comp 11	Browning	26.70	7000 Series Alum	215-225gms	Mid-size	Leather grip
Title	Unquestionable	27.50	6000 Alum plus Titanium	215-225gms	square 22% oversize	Polyurethane Grip
Black Max 11	Dunlop	27.99	Aluminum	205-220gms	47 sq in.	Shock absorber Head light
Powerflex	Pro Kennex	28.95	6000 Series Alum.	215gms	Mid-size	Synthetic grip
Cobra Mag	Wilson	29.95	Alum/Magnesium	215-225gms	47 sq in.	Leather grip
Panther	Slazenger	29.99	Aluminum			Elongated sweet spot
Concord	Oliver	33.00	Aluminum and Titanium		Mid-size	
Mag. 4	Donay	34.99	Alum with magnesium	205-225gms	mid-size	Weight screws and shock absorber
Magnesium	Pro Kennex	35.00	Alum with magnesium	210gms	Mid-size	Micro-stringing
Donominator						
Mag 95	Browning	35.60	95% magnesium	203-223gms	Mid-size	Micro-stringing



Squash Library

2 August at 07:47 ·

In the 1930s Thames House in London had 15 courts, making it the largest facility in the world at the time. As the building now houses the UK security service (MI5), the Library understands that none remain, but prefers not to draw attention to itself by checking!



CARTER'S SPORTS COURTS LTD.

(Formerly Sports Courts Dept. G. H. Carter Ltd.)

Established 1856 CLISSOLD WORKS, 57-69, GREEN LANE, LONDON N.16
Telephone: CLissold. 5800-1-2
Cables: Carter's, Croydon. London
Postbox: CLissold 6026-1-2



Squash Library

11 July at 05:40 ·

If you want to know how squash balls, their packaging and promotion has evolved you need to buy <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>! Only available from the Library, it includes the gloss-finished RAC Number Two ball (pic) which has the RAC logo, and was developed in 1924 as a new slower standard ball.



Photo from Bas van Hoom collection

Squash Library

8 July at 07:38 ·

Following on from yesterday's post listing clubs in 1929, here are Library notes on the London clubs that were active at that point nearly a century ago.

LONDON CLUBS LISTED BY SRA 1929-30

Army & Navy Club

The original Army & Navy Club in Pall Mall was opened in 1847, and added a squash court when the club expanded in 1927. When the club was re-built on the same site in 1963 squash courts were not included.

Army SRA

The original Army & Navy Club had squash courts, and was based at the 100 Grosvenor Gardens at Bridgewater Walk close to Buckingham Palace.

Badminton Club

The Badminton Club at 100 Piccadilly featured two courts. It was named after Badminton House and associated with horses, but disbanded in 1938, taken over by the Public Schools Club and the courts re-purposed.

Banbridge Island Sports Club

The club in Roehampton for its staff had two courts at the time, later expanding to five.

Bath Club

The Bath Club at this time on its original site in Dover Street had two courts which had opened in 1904. It administered the Bath Club, a London league; and joined with the Conservative Club after a basement fire in 1941 destroyed the building. Later it located to Brook Street in 1959 before closing in 1981. (In 1989 the similarly named Bath & Bremerton Club opened in Brooks Mews under new ownership although unrelated to the original Bath Club).

Cavendish Club

Formerly New Cavendish Club, it opened in 1920 in Cavendish Square and ceased to be featured soon after court registration began.

Conservative Club

The club had two courts at St James Street before merging with the Bath Club.

Guards Club

The Guards Club had two courts in Brook Street before linking with the Cavalry Club in 1975 to become the Cavalry & Guards Club in

Piccadilly

Junior Carlton Club (Pall Mall)

The club dispensed with three courts, but went down to two in its new home in 1968, before it closed in 1977. M.C.C. (Lords)

The first court at Lords was opened in 1899, and like the second court in 1908 was oversized. These were followed by a new court in 1927. Later only one of the two initial courts was altered to standard dimensions. The 1927 court was removed around 1950 for a memorial gallery, with the other two being relocated in 1977.

Haymarket (Admiralty)

Details unknown.

Princes Club (Knightsbridge)

The club had three singles and one doubles court, and after being requisitioned by the War Office in WW2 did not re-open and was demolished in 1952.

Queens Club (West Kensington)

Queens Club built two courts in 1905, and a further two courts in 1929. The original courts are now gone. (During WW2 a bomb destroyed courts 1 and 2 which were not rebuilt, but after that the remaining two courts were always known as 3 and 4).

Roehampton Club (SW15)

The initial three courts were built in 1929, with a further three being added in 1968.

Royal Air Force Club (Piccadilly)

The club opened in 1922 with two non-standard sized courts, which remained in use until 1939 when they were re-purposed in 2018.

Royal Automobile Club (RAC) (Pall Mall)

The RAC opened in 1911 with three non-standard sized courts. One standard sized court was added in 1935, and later (in 1950) the other courts were modified so 2 were standard and one narrow.

Union Club (Carlton House Terrace)

This club had two courts but was only open briefly after the 1929 listing.

Squash Library
7 July at 05:49 ·

The SRA in Great Britain became the de facto world body when it was formed in 1928, and a year later produced this list of clubs 1929/30 Clubs. It showed the beginnings of overseas registrations, which would expand substantially until the World Federation was formed in 1967. By 1960, for example, the list was nine pages long and featured facilities in thirty countries.

SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION (SRA) MEMBER CLUB LIST 1929-30
(SRA was formed a year earlier in 1928)

UK

- Aberdeen Squash Club (2 courts, Hardgate, Scotland)
- Buxton Club (1 court, Palace Hotel, Derbyshire)
- Greenjackets (Rifle Depot, Winchester)
- Leicestershire Rackets Club (1 court, Welford Place, Leicester)
- Liverpool Racket Club (3 courts, Upper Parliament Street)
- Manchester Tennis & Racket Club (1 court, Salford)
- Newcastle Squash Rackets Club (3 courts, College Street)
- Royal Air Force SRA (Porton, Wilts)
- Royal Military College (Sandhurst, Berks)
- Sussex County Sports Club (3 courts, Eaton Road, Hove)
- Weybridge Squash Rackets Club (3 courts, Oaklands Park, Surrey)
- Yorkshire Rocks (2 courts, St Peter's School, York)

LONDON (further details on London clubs tomorrow)

- Army & Navy Club (Pall Mall)
- Army SRA (Bridgwater Walk)
- Badminton Club (Piccadilly)
- Bank of England Sports Club (EC2)
- Bath Club (Dover Street)
- Cavendish Club (Marylebone)
- Conservative Club (St James Street)
- Guards Club (Brook Street)
- Junior Carlton Club (Pall Mall)
- M.C.C. (Lords)
- Navy SRA (Admiralty)
- Princes Club (Knightsbridge)
- Queens Club (West Kensington)
- Roehampton Club (SW15)
- Royal Air Force Club (Piccadilly)
- Royal Automobile Club (RAC) (Pall Mall)
- Union Club (Carlton House Terrace)

OVERSEAS

- Durban Country Club (1 court, South Africa)
- Gezira Sporting Club (8 courts, Cairo, Egypt)
- Khartoum Sporting Club (Sudan)
- Sudan Club (6 courts, Khartoum)
- Sydney Squash Rackets Club (Australia)

Squash Library
8 May at 07:53 ·

Around 30 years before glass backwalls appeared, the idea of increasing viewing capacity by use of mirrors was floated in 1939. The article from the Bas van Hoorn collection, seemingly from USA, is reproduced here for readers to try and follow!

MIRROR USED IN PROPOSED DESIGN OF FOUR-WALL COURTS
GAVIN HADDEN, Engineer

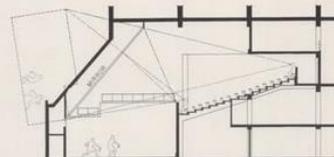
In successive four-wall courts for games like squash, tennis, badminton, etc., from wall handball, etc., one great restriction has been the ability of spectators to view from the side of the courts at any one moment. With the field of action at the bottom of a "well" formed by the four walls, spectators have been limited to a field of view descended from above one of the walls. The best that can be done is to provide a front and space for spectators' seats or standing room has usually been located above, but even so, the spectators are limited in what they can see. In practice, always part of the play has been hidden from the spectators by the wall or by spectators behind the front or second rows.

A new scheme for the design of four-wall courts has been proposed which places spectators in front and behind the front wall, and by which all of the spectators can see the entire width of the court. Spectators are seated on gradually rising tiers of a steeply stepped floor that has been eight inches high and has a slope located in part above the rest of the court, in space above the floor.

The number of possible arrangements of the seats is limited by the size and spectators' limited only by the floor, the height of the floor and height above the floor. With regard to the number of spectators, the scheme is limited to one just permitting the front-seat spectators to take in the entire width of the court, the back wall, and the other just permitting the last-row spectators to obtain a similar view of the floor of the court.

The section diagram shows sixteen tiers or steps, which would extend the full width of a standard squash court and accommodate a single tier of spectators. The number of spectators in the ordinary type is not possible; but the high cockpit arrangement of the spectators, the floor of the court and the top of the side walls make possible the use of sublighting from a considerable height. The spectators' seats can be arranged to avoid glare in the eyes of players.

A possible objection to the scheme arises from the fact that all spectators are seated in a fixed row in which all spectators are seen from the same angle. For example, a right-handed player will appear to the spectators in the front row in the same orientation, however, that the completes of the view would compensate more than adequately for its somewhat artificial character.



Section diagram

BUILDING NEWS 49

Squash Library
27 June at 07:56 ·

Lords in London provides a good example on how court dimensions evolved from before they began to be standardised in 1923 (details in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>).

According to details found by Chris Orriss, the first court - the "A" court, also called the Long Court, was - 42ft x 24ft - with a 28in tin! Plans were approved in July 1898 and it was reported to have a leaking roof in June 1899 even before it was used.

The second "B" court was completed in 1908 - 36ft x 22ft - so midway between the subsequent "standard size" and the Long "A" court. The first British Amateur championship in April 1923 was played on the "B" court

A "C" court was constructed, presumably using the standard 32ft x 21ft and 19in tin, in the rackets court in 1927. Two courts remain at the Lords Cricket Ground behind the Pavilion.



Squash Library
3 April at 07:38 ·

In 1979 the English SRA started producing editions of a 'Guide to Maintenance & Refurbishing' for squash courts. The details covered many of the enquiries received by the SRA at the time. In addition to advice on all aspects of court repair and maintenance it included programme for daily, weekly, monthly, 6 monthly and annual maintenance. The first two editions were kindly provided by Alan Chalmers to be lodged in the Library. **England** **Squash** **Alan Chalmers**

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION

SQUASH RACKETS COURTS

A GUIDE TO THEIR MAINTENANCE AND REFURBISHING

ADVISORY ARCHITECTS:
FAIRTLUGH AND MORRIS
CHARTERED ARCHITECTS
19 Church Street, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1EL

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION
70 Brompton Road, London, SW3 1DX
Telephone: 01-584 2506 & 01-584 0094

ISSUE No. 1 JUNE 1979

Squash Library
12 June at 07:57 ·

Back in the 1930s a 24-page booklet on how to re-string a tennis or squash racket was produced by a company who sold the equipment. Here are the items, but they may be out of stock! More pages on <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources>.

HOW TO RESTRING A RACKET
ILLUSTRATED INSTRUCTIONS
PRICE 1/-

STRINGING TOOLS

- Parallel Jaw Pliers
- Stringing Stick
- Bench Stick, padded and rubber covered, 3 ft. long, weight 1 lb. Price 1s. 6d. each
- Pulling Out Hook
- Stringers' Scissors
- Best Sheffield Steel, Highly Darned, Length 5 in. Weight 1 oz. Price 1s. 6d. pair
- Stringers' Glove
- Clip Point Knives
- Best Sheffield make, Hoech Hardened, Length 5 in. overall, weight 1 oz. Price 1s. 6d. each
- Bench or Circular Hoech with Leather, in 3 sizes, small, medium, large. Price 1s. 6d. each

BREGA LTD.
126 WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD
LONDON S.E. 1
Telephone HOP 5628

A vintage postcard showing a view of a town with numerous buildings, likely Harrow School, featuring red brick and green roofs. The image is framed by a decorative border.

A red Dunlop Squash Balls box containing twelve balls, with a Santa hat placed next to it. To the right is the book cover for 'Squash Then and Now: A Celebration' by Andrew Shelley and Bas van Hoort.

Squash Library
6 January at 08:06 -

An Australian ball gun was produced around 50 years ago – the Squashmaster being endorsed by top player Cam Nancarrow. See the promotional information here [Squash Australia](#)

Squashmaster

BALL GUN

Ideal for beginners to learn racquet and ball co-ordination, perfect for experienced players to practice their strokes.

'Squashmaster' has high accuracy and versatility and is capable of setting up every stroke from any position on the court.

Squashmaster can do the following:

- Lob serves
- Hard serves
- Forehand drives
- Backhand drives
- Nick shots
- Boasts

and 'Squashmaster' is outstanding when practicing

- Overhead shots (one of the hardest shots in the game).

Squashmaster
BALL GUN

Designed & Manufactured in Australia by Curtayne Industries exclusively for **Boustead Australia Limited**

SQUASHMASTER is a registered trademark of Curtayne Industries Pty Ltd, Australia.

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Brisbane (07) 277.5922
Adelaide (08) 277.5922
Perth (09) 344.2711

INQUIRIES
Melbourne (03) 648.5922
Sydney (02) 277.5922
Brisbane (07) 277.5922
Adelaide (08) 277.5922
Perth (09) 344.2711

INCREASE
SQUASH CENTRE
INCOME
with the unique
Squashmaster
BALL GUN

Recommended by Australian & International Squash Champion ...

CAM NANCARROW

Squash Library

20 September at 06:05

The Titanic had a squash court (as covered in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>, page 45), but it was not the only liner of the time with one. Sister ships in the Cunard-White Star fleet, Corinthia and Queen Mary also had a court; as did Empress of Britain (Canadian Pacific) and Nieuw Amsterdam (Holland America Line).

Lantern
light
allowing
play in
natural
light

Naturally the 'Queen Mary' has her own Carter Squash Court

The Queen Mary is the proud holder of the blue riband of the Atlantic; Carter's have been told that they hold the blue riband for the building of Squash Courts. What could be more natural, therefore, than a Carter Court for the Queen Mary, the only ship afloat with a lantern light above the Squash Rackets Court, permitting play by natural light—though, of course, she is not the only ship with her own CARTER Court. This Court was designed and constructed by Carters.

Messrs. Carter's Sports Courts Ltd., who are the largest builders of Squash Rackets Courts in the world, will be pleased to submit estimates for Covered Sports Courts of all kinds in any part of the world.

CARTERS SPORTS COURTS LTD.

Established 1878

(formerly Sports Court Dept. of G. H. Carter Ltd.)

"Courts for all Sports"

CLISSOLD WORKS, 57-69, GREEN LANES, LONDON, N.16
Phone: Clissold 6930-1-2

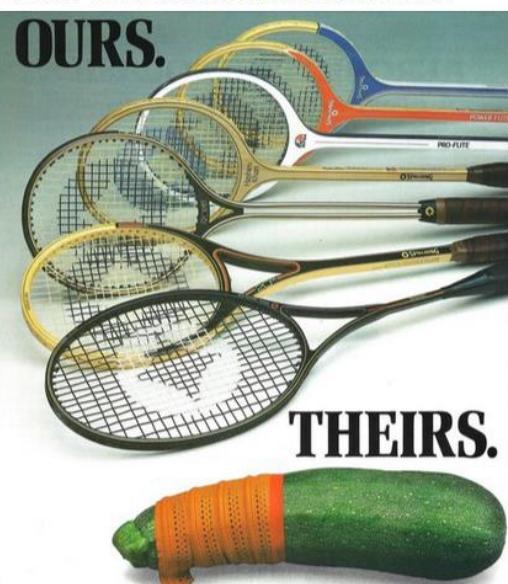
Code: Marconi

2024

Squash Library
1 August at 07:23

In 1983, just as the wooden head rule was being set aside, Spalding were advertising their range, including hardball and a Hashim Khan signature racket. The racket history with so many fascinating photos of old rackets can be found in the newly announced Squash Then & Now: A Celebration: www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration for details.

OURS.



THEIRS.



Growing tired of the same old crop?

Then try Spalding's secret recipe for award-winning squash! It's simple, quick and guaranteed to satisfy your taste for victory! Simply select from our complete line of equipment and any one of our complete line of power-packed rackets. Then, get cool! Spalding squash rackets are here to add some flavor to your game, whatever your level of play... or your budget. Choose

from our System 220™ oversize graphite, 200s™ mid-size wood, Trophy™ aluminum, Pro-Flite® or Squash Power® rackets. All are exclusively endorsed by the International Squash Association. Spalding. When you're ready to dish it out!

SPALDING

© 1983 Questor Corp.

Distribution for Germany: Tretorn GmbH, Weidestr. 118, 2000 Hamburg 76

Squash Library
8 July

An English court company was exporting courts to places such as Baghdad, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and Trinidad as long ago as 1937, as they proclaimed here.

A SCENE IN BAGHDAD. Carter's have recently shipped to Baghdad, near the ancient city. We import for three standard Spanish courts.

FROM BAGHDAD TO TRINIDAD . . . CARTER COURTS!

Wherever people play squash, or badminton, or fives—and play well—Carter's courts are there. Carter's courts, always the standard of the world, are becoming more and more popular every season. In the margin is shown a partial list of contracts at home and abroad in hand or recently completed by Carter's.

Your enquiries are invited for SQUASH RACKETS COURTS and ALL COVERED SPORTS COURTS in any part of the world. Illustrated Brochure and other literature free on request.

CARTER'S SPORTS COURTS, LTD.

(Covered Courts for all Sports)

CLISSOLD WORKS, ST-69, GREEN LANES, LONDON N.16.

Phone: CLISSOLD 4920-12. Teleg. CARCORTS, FINSPARK, LONDON. Cables: MARCOS. Established 1878.

Squash Library
27 July at 08:22

In 2006 the first tour event to use ASB's glass floor was the Women's Qatar Airways Challenge staged in Hyderabad, India. The court was sited in the grounds of the Falaknuma Palace, overlooking the city. www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration for the court evolution history. Squash - PSA World Tour Squash Rackets Federation of India ASB Squash Courts



Photo courtesy Alex Wan

Squash Library
20 June at 08:30

Once glass backwalls opened up viewing opportunities, seating systems began to be offered to clubs. Courtback, a product from Audience Systems, was one of those from the end of the 1970s. Here: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources>, the Library has reproduced their brochure.

COURTBACK

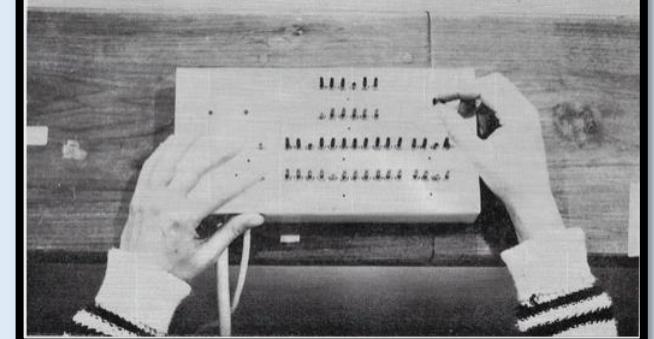
Squash Viewing System

The unique answer to spectator seating for squash



Squash Library
10 June at 08:26

Along with the Abbeydale version posted recently, another early example of an electronic scoreboard appeared in 1971 in South Africa. It was designed and built for the Western Province SRA. Here is the console. Squash South Africa





Squash Library
1 June • 3

When Abbeydale Sports Club in Sheffield opened the first full finned glass back wall court in October 1971 they found a local company to produce a scoreboard in advance of the club hosting the British Open in 1972. Here is their brochure: [Abbeydale Sports Club British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



A SQUASH RACKETS SCOREBOARD
A MUST FOR EVERY PROFESSIONAL CLUB
KNOW THE STATE OF THE MATCH AT A GLANCE

Control Unit

Dimensions:
Board L96" W36" D8"
Control Unit L18" W13" D37/8"
Electricity Supply: 13amp socket, 3amp fuse
Bulbs Standard 15-60 watts



Details

The Control Unit is built Mahogany panel with a Perspex panel to the top surface (Chronograph pencil supplied). All other parts are made of Mahogany panel with a perspex colour scheme.

The Name & Game panels, digit numbers and game indicator panels are supplied in the Letters and Numerals which are supplied with the Control Unit. The Perspex panel on top of the unit can be supplied as an extra.

Access for bulb/standard replacement is simple. The bulb is held in a base which is a cable 2-inches long. Each cable can be supplied at £1.00 per meter (VAT)

(American, Australian, French, French Club, British)

PRICE: £195 + VAT

After Sales Service:

G.W. FORD & SON LTD.
SCOREBOARD DIVISION
288-292 GLOSSOP RD.
SHEDFIELD S10 2HS
TEL: (0742) 22082

Squash Library

7 May at 08:12

There are specifications that accredited court builders adhere to, but there are other courts that have been built not using them. A window opening in the sidewall, or the door (as pictured), a skirting board to decorate the floor nicks, and many more. I feel a Library feature coming on! Please DM or Email me (info@squashlibrary.info) with your examples please. If you have a photo, even better! Thanks, Andrew

Squash Library

22 April at 0826 - 5

Squash Player Magazine reported on the growth of squash in the European mainland in the period 1974 to 1979. It was striking that Poland didn't merit a mention, and Germany and France had almost no courts. Great growth was to follow for them in the next decade.

European Squash Federation Belgian squash Dansk Squash Forbund squash Suomi
 Finland FFS squash - Fédération Française de Squash Greek Squash Squash Bond Nederland Irish
 Squash Italian squash Squash Monaco Squash Racketball-Portug... See more

The future of European Squash

NATION	1974		1979	
	courts	players	courts	players
BELGIUM	4	400	25	2,500
DENMARK	8	700	30	3,000
FINLAND	30	4,000	120	20,000
FRANCE	5	150	25	3,500
GREECE	2	80	15	1,500
HOLLAND	24	3,000	200	26,000
IRELAND	100	5,000	400	25,000
ITALY	1	60	20	1,500
MONACO	2	100	8	1,000
PORTUGAL	1	20	10	2,000
SPAIN	1	40	20	4,000
SWEDEN	185	38,000	400	70,000
SWITZERLAND	5	500	40	4,000
WEST GERMANY	7	500	50	6,000

Plus: MALTA, six courts; GIBRALTAR, two courts;

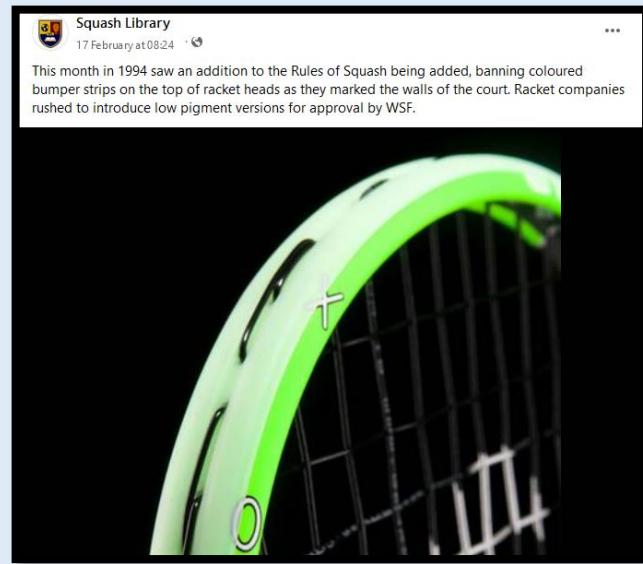
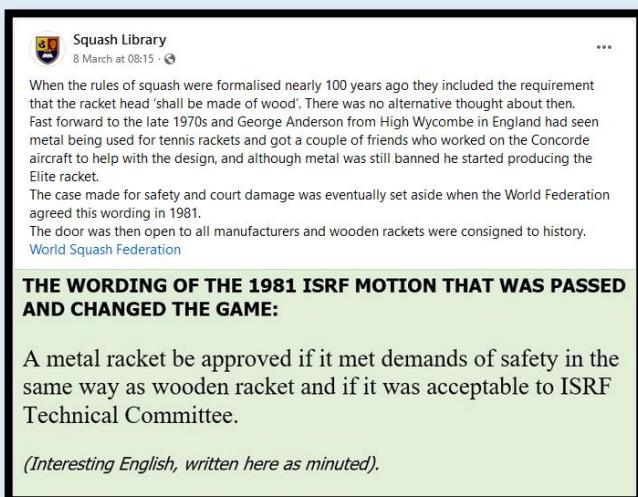
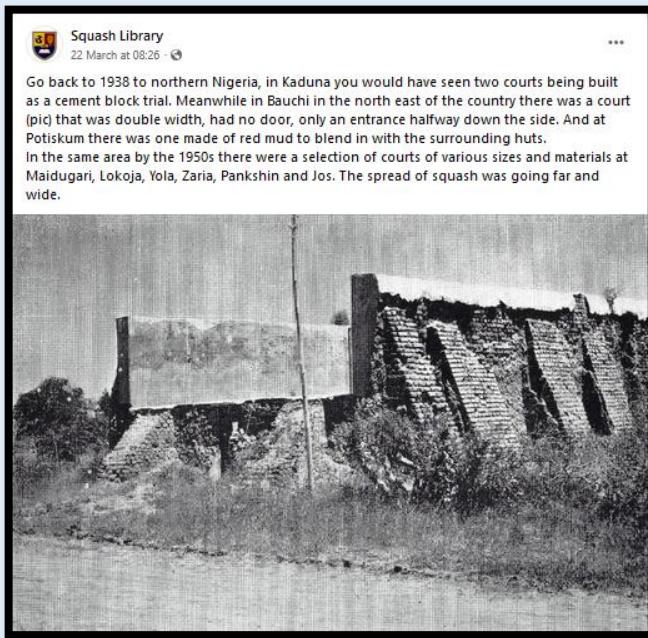
Squash Library

18 April at 0837

...

In March 1982 the briefly published Squash Magazine (UK) reported about a Perstorp squash court being airlifted onto a gas rig in the Persian Gulf (also called the Arabian Gulf). See the photos and article at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources> on the Library website.

A photograph showing a large, white, rectangular squash court structure being hoisted by a crane onto the deck of a ship. The ship is in the water, and the background shows the horizon of the Persian Gulf. The structure is suspended by cables from a large crane arm. The ship's deck is visible, and there are other industrial structures and equipment on the ship.



2023

Squash Library
28 December 2023 at 08:16

In 1936 a report on the state of the game in UK was already talking about scoring, court measurements in relation to uniformity with the American hardball game. Here is what it said:

Court
While there is much to be said in favour of the universal adoption of the English singles court measurements, it is not suggested that concessions should come from the American side only. The statesmanship of both countries might in the first instance be directed to attaining uniformity in lesser directions. It should, for instance, be possible for the American doubles court measurements to be adopted as standard in England. The doubles game has become very popular in America, but it is only in the early stage of development in England.

Tin
A further point of agreement could be the lowering of the "tell-tale" to the American 17 inches as, in the view of many eminent players in England, this would be a definite improvement. A still further concession could be in the method of scoring by agreeing to the American five games of 15 points up and the winning of a point whether the player is "in hand" or not, as advocated by many prominent English players.

Ball
The ball question is one of much simpler solution, and an agreement to compromise should be easily arrived at between sensible men.

Beekman Pool, one of the greatest of American players, is of the opinion that the difference in the courts is not nearly so radical as the difference in the bounce and speed of the ball, and is wholly in favour of a ball half-way between the ones now in use in England and America. This opinion is endorsed by A. Willing Patterson, one of the younger American players, who has had special opportunities of studying playing conditions in both countries, while W. Palmer Dixon, who won the American Championship in 1925 and 1926, gives the interesting opinion that a combination of the English court and the American ball would be practically ideal. There seems, however, to be general agreement that a "compromise" ball would be a great step forward on the path to uniformity.

Squash Library
31 August at 08:40

Along with other early adopters including the RAC, Queens, Bath Club and Princes, Lords was another London club which added squash. It hosted the first British Amateur in 1923. Library details here www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources.



LORD'S

Squash Library
14 October at 08:36

In the mid-1980s a Welsh company called Sporteqip produced a squash ball-firing coaching aid, costing around GB£600. It was called The Boaster, details here. (Included with the Boaster was a bag of talcum powder, which was added to coat the balls!)

FOR THE PLAYER
You want to improve your squash play? Of course. You have to practise your game, and really! So you need to practise specific shots. The Boaster can provide you with a variety of straight drives, drop shots, lobs, boasters, receivers and volleys. Every type of shot you need can be supplied consistently by this new squash practice. With The Boaster you can concentrate intensively on those weaknesses and turn them into your strengths.

FOR THE COACH
The Boaster takes all the burden out of coaching. You can make sure to supply the shots you want for your pupil. Let the squash practitioner do the work. If you want to teach a drop shot all the time, he will benefit from the Boaster's reliability. Your pupils will also benefit from the convenience of the shots supplied and 'get the hang of it' more quickly.

FOR THE GROUP
The Boaster provides an excellent means of entertainment for the court for your club members, for service or, how about just a fun evening?

Telephone (0299 614981 or 613429 to arrange a demonstration in your squash courts.

SPECIFICATION

Weight 20kg
Size 200mm wide x 530mm long x 600mm high (without the barrel)
Barrel length 720mm
Power supply 240 volt 50Hz 9 amps 2000W
Ball speed Fully adjustable from 13m per sec to 31m per sec.
Ball capacity over 80 balls in any colour you like.
Firing interval Adjustable from 2 sec to 10 sec intervals via an electronic timer.
Elevation angle Fully adjustable from 0° to 45°
Ball heating 125W heating, thermostatically controlled to 40° ±2°C.
Time delay 10 sec to 100 sec, depending on ambient temperature.
Storage of cone cable 17m long fitted with 13 amp plug.
Internal ball feed control This mechanism is thermostatically controlled to prevent ball jamming.
Lifting handle and wheel mounting provided for ease in transportation.



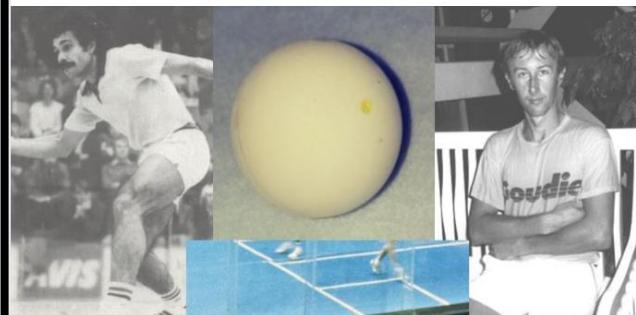
BOASTER

Squash Library
29 August at 08:28

The first painted showcourt floor appeared at the French Open at the Cirque d'Hiver in Paris in 1983. It was painted blue, and lines were added in yellow. The first players to try it, Australian Frank Donnelly and Egyptian Ali Aziz (left), were presented with another innovation too, a white ball to play with.

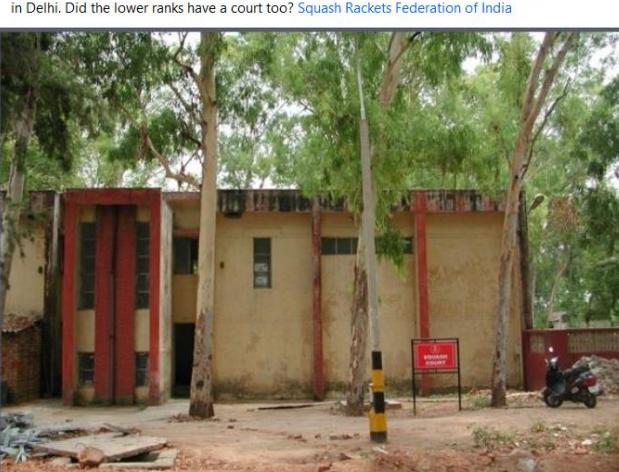
The paint hadn't quite dried to there was a sticky sound underfoot and the ball turned blue very quickly for that first match!

FFSquash - Fédération Française de SquashSquash - PSA World Tour



Squash Library
3 October at 08:15

It is random historical photo day! The year is uncertain but here is the Officers Club Squash Court in Delhi. Did the lower ranks have a court too? Squash Rackets Federation of India



Squash Library
18 August at 08:23

A new Squash Library resource explains how USA pivoted from hardball to softball, the key role Philadelphia played in this, and the city's position as 'squash central'. Go to www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources to read it. **US SQUASH**





Squash Library
5 August at 08:27

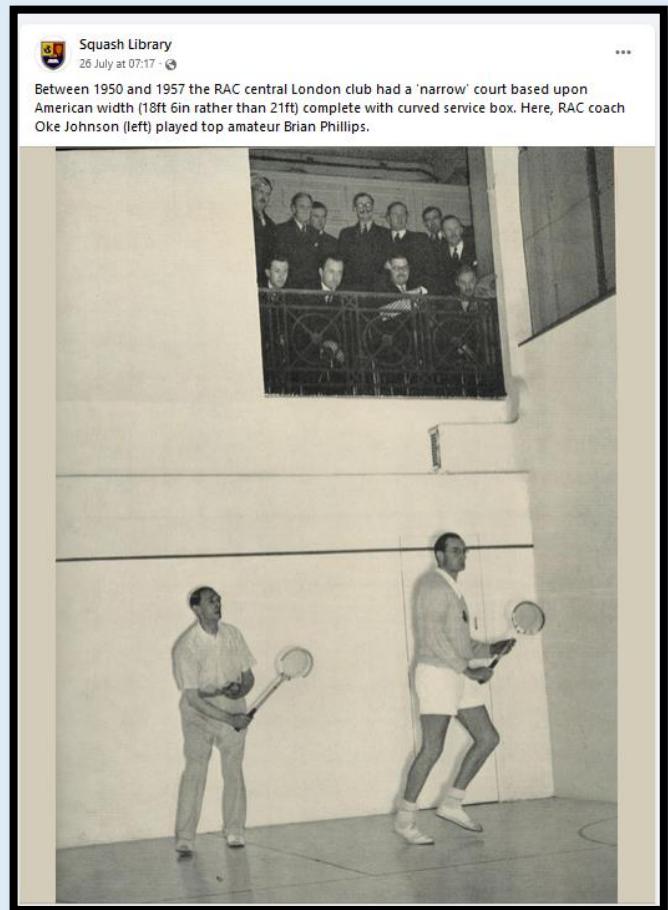
Think portable courts, think glass and think recent. Think wrong! Here is a court ad from 1937.

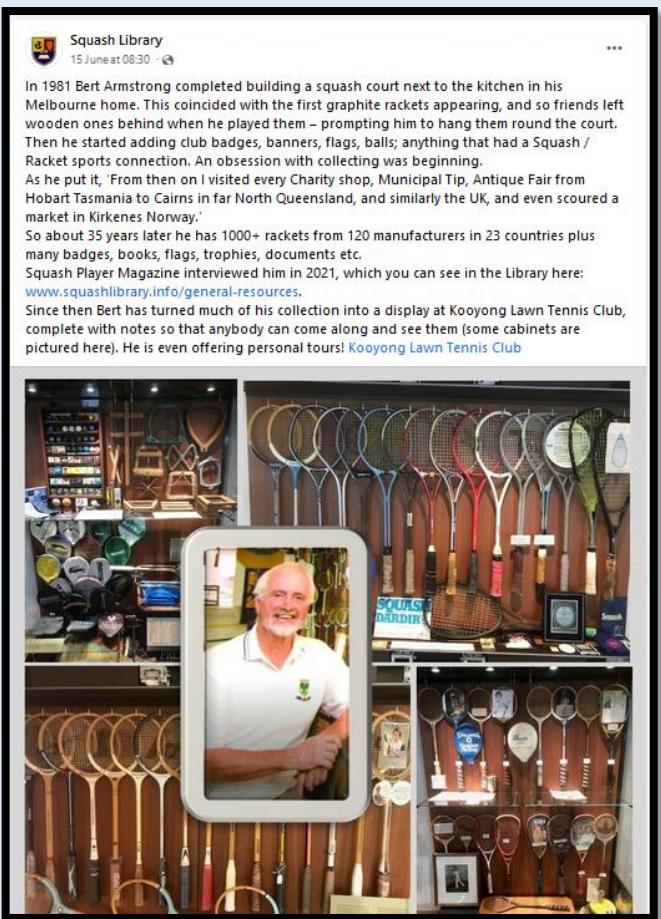
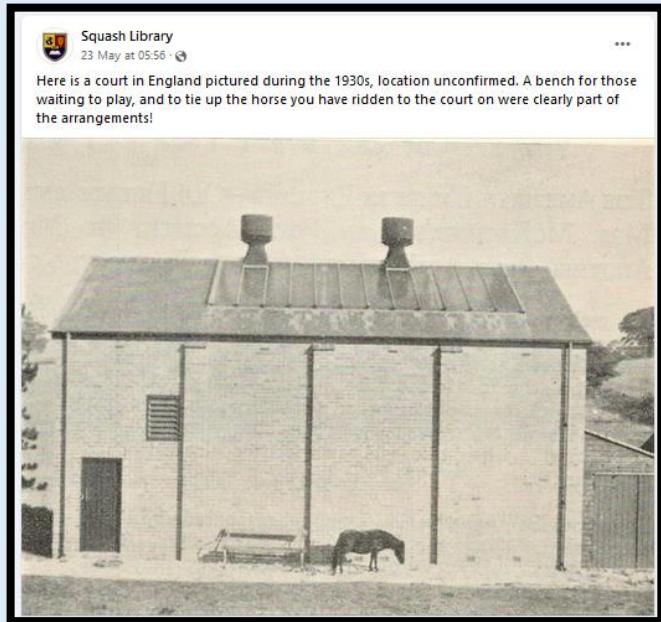
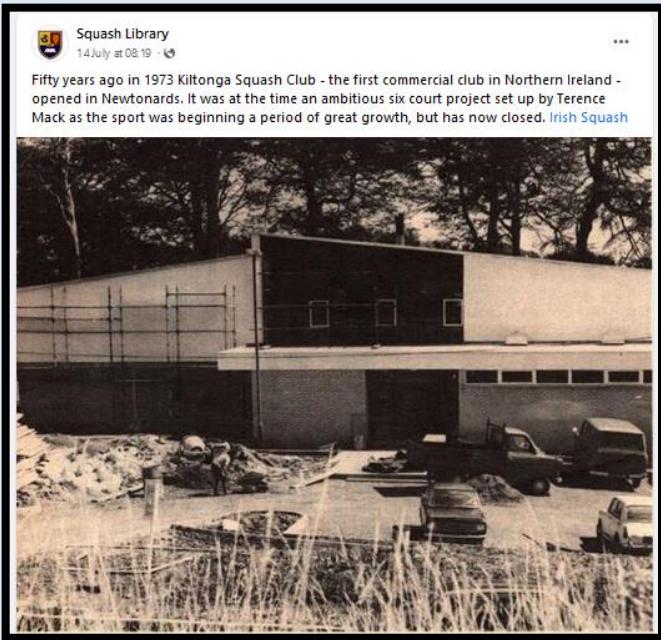
PORTABLE SQUASH COURTS LTD.

Why not invest in one of our Courts ?
It is a permanent building in every way of indefinite durability.
It can, however, be taken down and re-erected on a different site if desired.
Our Courts are in all respects of standard construction. The owner of a court, recently purchased, in the South of England writes to us regarding the visit of a Squash Professional from one of our most famous Public Schools. He says, "I had the professional from H—— School over the other evening and he was delighted with the play of the Court and expressed the opinion that it was equal to those of Standard Construction."
The Cost is about half that of the usual brick courts.

*View of Court showing three quarter balcony.
Full size balcony can be fitted if desired.*

For further particulars apply :—
The PORTABLE SQUASH COURTS LTD.,
Trent Navigation Building, No. 3,
NOTTINGHAM





Squash Library
20 May at 08:26 ·

In 1968 the British based Banbury Squash Courts company advertised their courts, and included the costs at that time, as listed here.

BANBURY SQUASH COURTS

SENSATIONAL SUCCESS STORY

Right from the first announcement, Banbury Squash Courts have had Tremendous success. The first customers to order have come - tennis clubs, universities, sports clubs, school clubs, industrial concerns. After all, these courts are the best game for maintaining club revenue and customer loyalty.

AND NOW A DOUBLE COURT

Where the demand or potential future demand justifies more than one Squash Court, this double court makes sound sense. It is delivered and erected ready for play at a price per court and the whole building is an attractive feature in any club.

The finest Squash Courts on the market today

* Perfect playing walls which require NO PLASTIC COATING AND THERE REQUIRE MINIMUM MAINTENANCE

* Design and construction approved by the British Rackets Association

Our General Manager, Mr. M. J. K. Smith will be very pleased to answer any problems. Please write to him at:

BANBURY GRANDSTANDS LIMITED 5 Robins House, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Tel: Leamington 27131 (9)

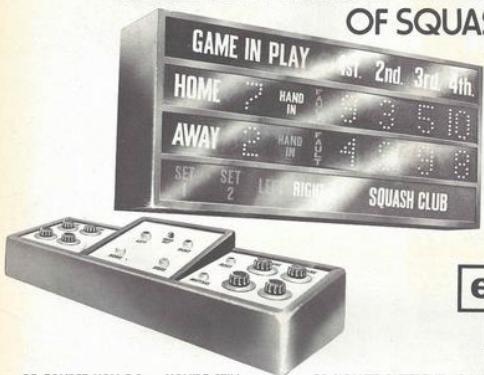
SINGLE COURTS
£3,750
excluding base

DOUBLE COURTS £7,350
delivered and erected ready for play



Fifty years ago flatscreens and tablets were very much in the future. Here is a 1973 squash scoreboard advertisement which pre-dated slimline screens and had controls certainly way too big to be hand-held!

REMEMBER THE BAD OLD DAYS OF SQUASH?



OF COURSE YOU DO — YOU'RE STILL PLAYING IN THEM.

SO WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT OUR COURT?

Before we installed an electronic score-board our spectators were too busy asking questions to enjoy the game. "Who's hand-in?" "What's the score?" "Is this the first game?" "This is the second serve isn't it?" Ad infinitum.

Then we had the marker. Struggling with sheets of paper. Hoping his memory was reliable. Shouting into the court for maybe a couple of hours.

Not forgetting the players — "Sorry, I didn't hear you". "Did you say 6 — 5?" "It's this side, isn't it?" "Eh?" "What?"

Noise. Confusion. Arguments.

CONTROLS	Ergonomically designed for simplicity of operation. Distinctive colours identify players.
COMPACT	Despite the wealth of information displayed, board measures 50" x 30", control box 30" x 10".
RELIABLE	All components are well-proven and designed to operate well below the maximum load.
SAFE	Operates at 24V.
ADAPTABLE	Home and Away panels — designed for team matches — can be easily altered to show players' names.

The electronic score-board is designed, manufactured and marketed by The Edward Thompson Group, Richmond Street, Sunderland, SR5 1BQ. Telephone: 77511 (10 lines) Telex: 53671 Patent applied for SRA APPROVED



1981 saw changes in squash ball adoption, with the European Federation agreeing a three year deal to use Dunlop balls for their events, while England & Scotland moved to the Grays Merco ball. These came just after ISPA (now PSA) signed an agreement with Dunlop which included their logo being stamped on them, and ISRF (now WSF), used them for their world championships. Squash - PSA World TourWorld Squash FederationThe European Squash FederationEngland SquashScottish Squash

The Dunlop Black Championship Ball. The number 1 Ball.



Indisputaball.



The New SRA Championship Ball. Selected exclusively for the 81/2, 82/3, 83/4 seasons.

Stringent tests by the SRA confirm the new Grays Merco is the best ball for the next three seasons. Tested extensively for consistency, durability, the retention of matt finish, rebound characteristics and feel, both the black and the green squash balls are officially approved.

Grays Merco — indisputably the best ball for you. Available from your sports dealer.

© Grays Merco

In the 1930s, timber courts were advertised as a cheaper alternative to brick. Here is an example.



TIMBER-BUILT SQUASH COURT AT HALF THE COST OF BRICK . . .

by the makers of the renowned—

The "SHORTER'S" Timber-Built Squash Court (as illustrated) is the answer to cheaper squash. You get a first class court at half the cost of a brick building. Substantial and attractive construction. Send for details: SHORTER WEATHERPROOF COURT CO., Willifield House, Willifield Way, N.W.11 (Please quote "Refuge" 377) Phone: Spennal 5111-2



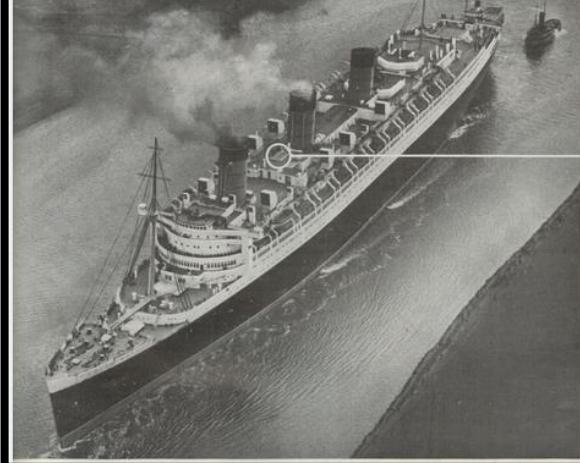
Ten years ago in 2013 the first all-glass permanent hardball court was installed by McWil at the National Sports Academy in Toronto (45 ft long by 25 ft wide (as opposed to 32 x 21). It accompanied nine other courts in a former Canadian Air Force hangar. Founded in 2010 the facility has since closed. [Squash Canada](#)[McWIL Squash](#)



When the Queen Mary liner set sail across the Atlantic for the first time on 27 May 1936, it featured a squash court — as did the ill-fated Titanic. But this one was at deck level and had a glass ceiling.

It won the Blue Riband for the fastest crossing between England and USA, at just 27 minutes

more than four days — to allow time for just a few court sessions.



Squash Library
3 February at 08:38 ·

One solution to provide referees with the best possible view of the court after the arrival of glass backwalls and full showcorts was a gantry so that the referee and marker could sit right over the backwall. Great for them but less so for the master shot of TV cameras with the screen filled by their backs! They would access the seats via a ladder which would be removed when they were up – though it was also said that this would prevent angry players reaching them! Because of the public, Tele-Squash period lighting requirements and general camera view issues, they were discontinued.

HIGH VIEW REFEREES' CHAIR

Squash Players...

- Having trouble with referees?
- That pick up was good?
- Anytime the ball goes out of court
- And more...

Now is your chance to put the referee in his place!

Referees...

- Far from the action – view disturbed by spectators?
- Can't see the ball – in or out of court?
- Why do they keep saying the score – count their head?
- Advertisers by request to referee – distract by noise?

Get on top of the game and start you outwith!

We the MR structure for referees and markers you can put the officie in the best place for controlling the match.

- The standard stands are for floor standing and free to the top of the glass back wall. Quiet and easy to assemble and move for night and tournaments.
- If you prefer to sit down, the more spacious referee accommodates, seated or standing position and leaves room for spectators.
- Whatever your need we can design and install a structure to improve the view for referees and markers.
- Our products are approved by the PSA, the BSS, and are used at all the major tournaments around the world.

Get in touch for a quotation or survey without obligation or return the coupon on the back of the letter for full details.

The High View referee stand in position on the PSA Peoples Court at Wembley for the Africa British Open Tournament.


• Floor standing
• Simple fitting to court
• Clear view for officials
• Minimum obstruction for spectators


• Wall mounted structure
• Clear space for spectators
• Simple, safe access



All referee stands are made from steel and are furnished with a tough plastic coating in a choice of colours.

For further details phone or fax to 020 87068, or send coupon


Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

Squash Library
18 November at 08:30 ·

Ten years ago in 2012 court company ASB produced a glass court with two side wall doors, intended to enhance the clearness of broadcast shot through the larger panel and door-less back wall. It was first used in Egypt that year, their national federation having purchased it, as well as the Egyptian Federation lending it for the Hong Kong Open in December that year – an inspection event by the IOC for squash's Olympic bid 2020. ASB SquashCourts



Squash Library
3 January at 08:46 ·

After the beginnings at Harrow School (see <http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../harrow-school-where...>), other UK public schools including Elstree School north of London introduced squash too. Outdoor and with no back wall there, as was often the case.

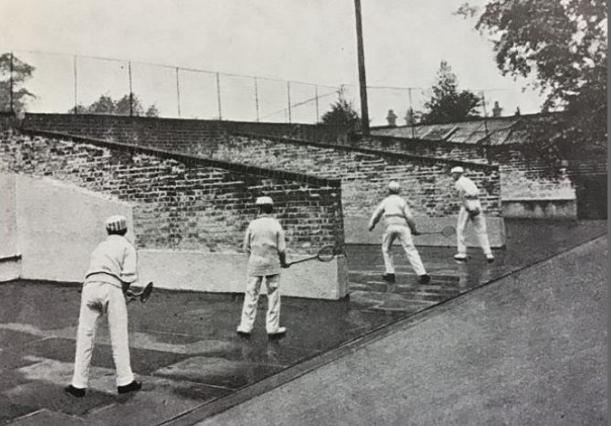


Photo courtesy Stuart Hardy

2022

Squash Library
30 September at 08:50 ·

In September 1998 the first glass showcourt that could be expanded onsite to a doubles configuration was developed by ASB for squash's inaugural participation in the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia. Both side walls could be moved outwards by 1.1m to reach the 7.62m/23ft 8in doubles width.

(Subsequently the International Doubles Competition Width of 7.62m was expanded to 8.42m/27ft 6in from 2012 onwards. The tin was also lowered to 33cm/13in cm). The extra width each side is shown between the service box hatched line and the wall.



Squash Library
24 September at 08:45 ·

To complete a trio of squash ball ads we go back to a British Dunlop racket and ball ad from 1935. (35/- for the top racket is £1.75 in current currency). Squash balls were 90pence – for 12! A press to stop the wooden racket warping cost 12.5p.



Dunlop
**RACKETS, BALLS
PRESSES**

SQUASH RACKETS. Each is the world's best racket at its price. Highest quality frames and best English Gut used throughout.

"MAXPLY" - Tournament Model	Price 35/-
Standard Model	Price 30/-
"BLUE FLASH"	Price 21/-
"PIONEER"	Price 25/-
"NIMBLE"	Price 17/6
SQUASH BALLS Standard T.R.A.	Price 18/-
Per dozen	

SQUASH RACKET PRESS -
A wooden racket frame with equal pressure over the entire surface. The most efficient press on the market ... Price 2/6

FROM ALL SPORTS DEALERS.

DUNLOP RUBBER Co., Ltd. (Sports Division),
St. James's House, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1.

The Triumphant Trio

Squash Library
22 September at 09:26 ·

Going further back, in 1951 this advertisement for the British Silvertown ball appeared to promote their ball, using Egyptian British Open champion Mahmoud El Karim. The ball had been popular in the first half of the century, but ceased production shortly afterwards, (www.squashlibrary.info/post/squash-balls-from-then-to-now for the Library history of the squash ball).

The Champion's Choice

MAHMOUD EL KARIM plays and prefers the Silvertown Ball

Silvertown Balls in Australia . . .

Silvertown Squash Balls of the medium pace type were used in the series of Australian Championships played in September

Silvertown
SLOW and MEDIUM SQUASH BALLS

THE SILVERTOWN COMPANY, HERGA HOUSE, VINCENT SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1

Squash Library
15 August at 08:26 ·

In 1956 after a similar set-up was initiated in Invercargill, new courts at Palmerston North in New Zealand incorporated viewing windows. (The full library history of innovation is at [http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event-innovation...\).](http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event-innovation...) They were built in the back wall of the court so that spectators standing on a platform in the passageway outside could view the game from almost ground level through plate glass windows. The only part of the court not visible was the back wall and corners. SquashGym Palmerston North Squash New Zealand

Squash Library
22 September at 07:45 ·

In the late 1980s Australian sports balls company Merco produced a brochure about their range. Here is the front page featuring Jahangir Khan, along with the squash details.

merco sporting balls, manufactured in Australia by Easton Technologies Pty, Ltd., are used and acclaimed by leading sporting identities throughout the world.

With many years' experience manufacturing rubber and plastic balls to demanding standards of performance and quality, this dynamic company boasts unsurpassed levels of polymeric technology and engineering which combine to make Merco High Performance balls the best in the world.

Acknowledged leaders in the manufacture of squash balls, synthetic hockey and cricket balls, racquetballs and handballs, Merco sporting balls are exported to more than 30 countries around the world.

SQUASH BALLS

The Merco ball revolutionized the game of squash in 1971 with the introduction of the now universally accepted "Ever Ready" spinning block ball.

Prior to the Merco spinning block squash balls caused heavy scuffing of court walls and thus heavy court maintenance costs. The Merco technique of ball construction has revolutionized the squash game far beyond that of any product then available.

Over the years since its introduction, the Merco squash ball range has been expanded to offer the various needs of the increased diverse markets around the world. The Merco Squash ball range is far wider than that offered by any other manufacturer.

The Merco ball is the only ball in the world whose compound enables the speed and rebound characteristics of the ball to be varied to meet any requirements.

Thus the Merco ball was the first to be able to be "slowed down" to satisfy the modern requirement for an extremely slow ball for use by super-fit professionals in the extreme hot conditions of televised tournament squash.

The full Merco Squash ball range is detailed in a separate section of this brochure. It offers a range of speeds to suit all classes of player from novice to professional. A special "Ever Ready" Double Red Dot Ball is widely recommended by coaches as a teaching ball. In the words of the "ever-ready" professional, "Merco makes the only complete range of 'Hardball' Squash balls for the American Squash Federation."

More so than in any other game, the quality of a squash ball is important to the enjoyment of the game. The Merco product has no peer for durability, surface finish, "feel" or the remarkable consistency of performance, from ball to ball and batch to batch.

Merco has Championship Official Ball status throughout the world and is the Official Ball of the Squash Association of Britain, Canada, U.S.A. and Singapore.

In 1988 Merco became the exclusive Official Ball of the International Squash Players Association (ISPA).

Squash Library
6 August at 08:21 ·

Until 1958 the largest gallery above a solid back wall was at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg, South Africa. It could hold 300-400 people. That year it was overtaken by this court built in the grounds of Cairo University. The huge block could seat 500 spectators, as well as 100 in two side galleries. (London's Lansdowne Club which hosted the British Open at the time had 144 seats and standing for 60 more). [Egyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصري للسلكواش](http://www.squashlibrary.info/post/1958-new-court-at-cairo-university)

Squash Library
30 June at 08:31 ·

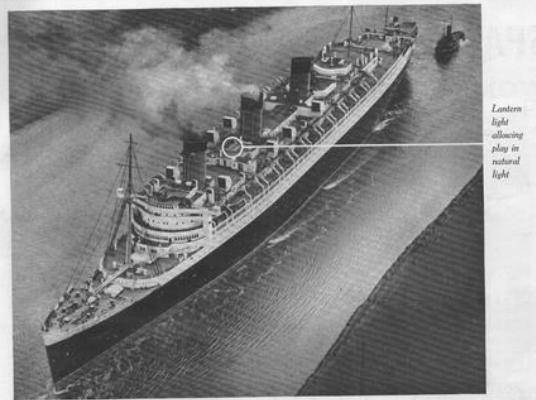
When the PIA World Series reached Sweden on 31 Aug – 5 September 1978 as a new innovation a Perstorps panel court with a glass backwall was erected in the Kungliga Tennishallen in Stockholm. It led to what was then reported as a world record audience of 510 watching the final. The full Library PIA World Series history is at www.squashlibrary.info/features.



Squash Library

12 May at 08:33 ·

The Queen Mary ocean liner was launched in 1936, and ran the North Atlantic route until 1967. And as can be seen from this 1936 Carter Sports Court advertisement, featured a squash court for passengers on their way between Europe and USA.



Naturally the 'Queen Mary' has her own Carter Squash Court

The Queen Mary is the proud holder of the blue riband of the Atlantic; Carter's have been told that they hold the blue riband for the building of Squash Courts. What could be more natural, therefore, than a Carter Court for the Queen Mary, the only ship afloat with a lantern light above the Squash Rackets Court, permitting play by natural light—though, of course, she is not the only ship with her own CARTER Court. This Court was designed and constructed by Carters.

Messrs. Carter's Sports Courts Ltd., who are the largest builders of Squash Rackets Courts in the world, will be pleased to submit estimates for Covered Sports Courts of all kinds in any part of the world.

CARTERS SPORTS COURTS LTD.

Established 1878

(formerly Sports Court Dept. of G. H. Carter Ltd.)

"Courts for all Sports"

CLISSOLD WORKS, 57-69, GREEN LANES, LONDON, N.16

Phone: Clissold 6920-1-2

Code: Marconi



Squash Library

7 May at 08:41 ·

In March 1968, there was an SRA concern that an all-steel racket may be produced. At that time while the handle shaft could be made of 'wood, cane, metal or glass fibre', the Rules insisted on that the head be wood. They issued this statement to confirm their stance:

It recently came to the notice of the Squash Rackets Association that an all-steel racket was being manufactured and would shortly be on sale to the public. The Hon. Technical Adviser informed the company concerned that not only would such a racket be potentially dangerous, in his opinion, but that it would be in contravention of the Rules of the Game which lay down clearly that "... the framework of the head shall be made of wood." Despite this, the firm would offer no guarantee that the project would be abandoned, and a prototype was therefore obtained and examined carefully by the Management Committee, who unanimously supported the view of the Hon. Technical Adviser that it is potentially a most dangerous racket and one which is illegal for all matches played under the auspices of the S.R.A. The Association also strongly advises individuals to refuse to play against an opponent using one of these rackets in friendly matches, and clubs are advised to bar them from use on their courts in view of the increased danger of damage to the walls, apart from the element of risk to their members.



Squash Library

3 May at 08:49 ·

On 11 August 1985 journalist Martin Bronstein reported on the Shark racket, square head with an angled handle, intended to make it easier to get to balls close to the nick. See the illustrated article here: www.squashlibrary.info/features

It was also claimed to have a larger sweet spot at a time when stringing areas were still size-restricted.

A patent infringement dispute meant the racket was never produced.

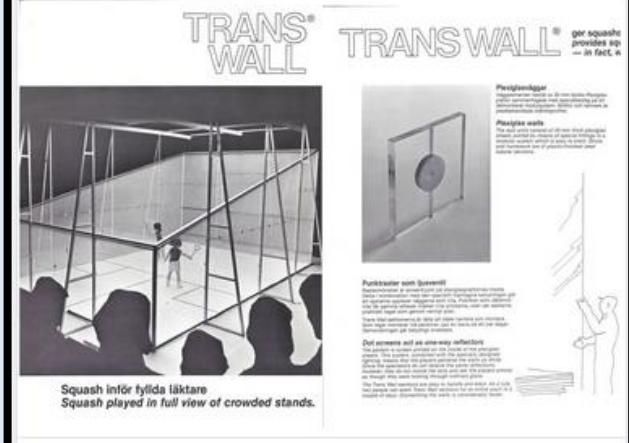
.....spot at a time when stringing areas were still size-restricted. A patent infringement dispute meant the racket was never produced.



Squash Library

16 April at 08:31 ·

In 1981 a Swedish company, Andren & Sons of Stockholm, marketed a plexi glass court called Trans Wall which was used for the German Masters that year. Here are the details. The full Library court and presentation history is at <http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event-innovation...>





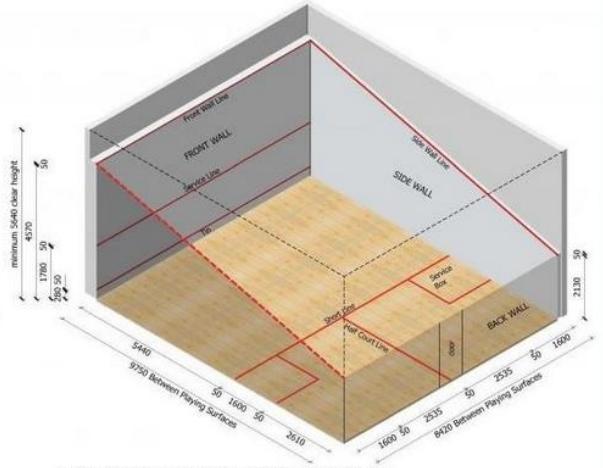
Squash Library

8 April at 08:45 ·

The tin height for the World Doubles is 330mm (13inch). This International Doubles height is set along with an increased court width. Standard courts are 6.4m (21ft) wide, in 1992 the doubles width became 7.6m (25ft) and then enlarged to 8.42m (27.6ft) from 2008.

[World Squash Federation](#)

...



Squash Library

25 February at 08:26 ·

The Royal Automobile Club licenced the Silvertown Company to manufacture a squash ball for their members' use from around 1914 onwards. This ball, was known as the RAC number one ball. See the full history and evolution of squash balls at [www.squashlibrary.info/features](#).



Squash Library

26 February at 08:52 ·

Forty years ago squash clubs could buy a squash ball sales machine (UK price £20 including installation and service). They had a capacity of 28 balls with the operator being able to set the price. The illustrated one had the price at UK 20p per ball (approx. US27c).

...



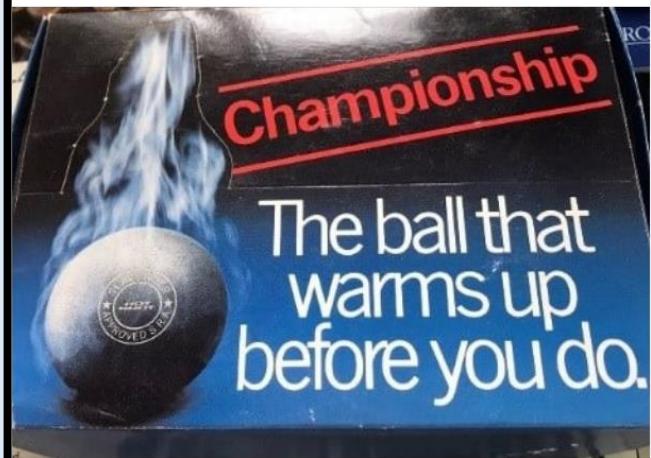
Squash Library

22 February at 08:42 ·

It is generally agreed that the name of the sport came from the 'squashy' ball, but what was the composition of the early balls? How have balls evolved in the last century and a half? A new Library resource on the history, development and branding of balls is here: [www.squashlibrary.info/features](#) to read or download.

[Squashsite](#)[Squash Player Magazine](#)[Squash Magazine](#)[World Squash Federation](#)

...





Squash Library

10 February at 08:48 ·

An illustration of the versatility of show-courts came when squash featured as a medal sport at the 4th Asian Beach Games played in Phuket, Thailand in November 2014. An ASB court was erected on Karon Beach. Harinder Pal Sandhu of India and Liu Tsz-Ling from Hong Kong (pictured) claimed the gold medals. [Thailand Squash Rackets Association \(TSRA\)](#)[Hong Kong Squash Rackets Federation of India](#)



Squash Library

28 January at 08:44 ·

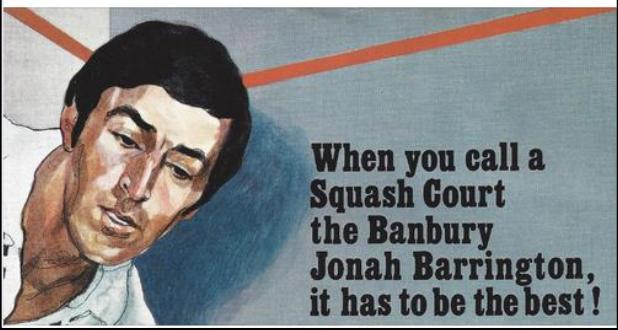
In 1985 two dentists in England drilled and filled white squash balls to make them retro-reflective. The BBC, who filmed the British Open that year, introduced their coverage with this feature. It is on the Library YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjFo-3pCw5gTEQSUO34TQnQ>



Squash Library

27 January at 08:36 ·

There was a period when courts were built with concrete walls. A leading company was Banbury, who produced this brochure in 1971. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>. It advertised single courts at GB£4,620 - £4,850 each (with no extras!).



Squash Library

21 January at 08:55 ·

In 1966 the English SRA (then the de facto World body, just before the World Federation was formed the following year) made clear that steel rackets, were not to be used. (For the full racket spec history: [https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-rackets-1928...\).](https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-rackets-1928...) Here is the notice: [World Squash Federation England Squash](#)

S.R.A. BAN ALL-STEEL RACKETS

THE following official notice has been circulated to all affiliated clubs as well as to the Press:—

It recently came to the notice of the Squash Rackets Association that an all-steel racket was being manufactured and would shortly be on sale to the public. The Hon. Technical Adviser informed the company concerned that not only would such a racket be potentially dangerous, in his opinion, but that it would be in contravention of the Rules of the Game which lay down clearly that “ . . . the framework of the head shall be made of wood.” Despite this, the firm would offer no guarantee that the project would be abandoned, and a prototype was therefore obtained and examined carefully by the Management Committee, who unanimously supported the view of the Hon. Technical Adviser that it is potentially a most dangerous racket and one which is illegal for all matches played under the auspices of the S.R.A. The Association also strongly advises individuals to refuse to play against an opponent using one of these rackets in friendly matches, and clubs are advised to bar them from use on their courts in view of the increased danger of damage to the walls, apart from the element of risk to their members.

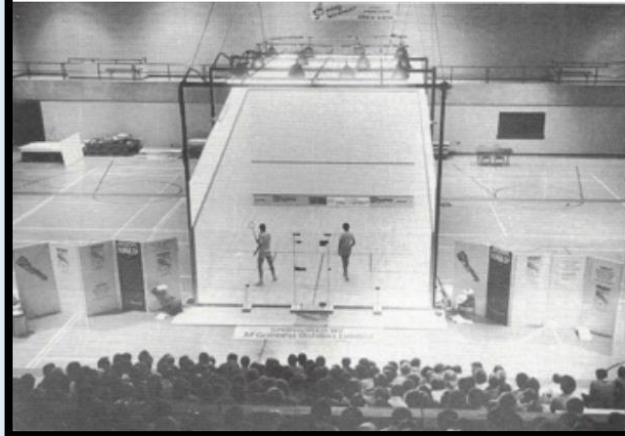
J. H. HORRY
Secretary



Squash Library

13 January at 08:41 ·

After back walls had begun to appear, there came a brief intermediate stage at the end of the 1970s where glass back walls and their accompanying panelled side and front wall courts could be built especially for championships (including Worlds) and then taken down immediately afterwards. <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for the details. [World Squash Federation](#)[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

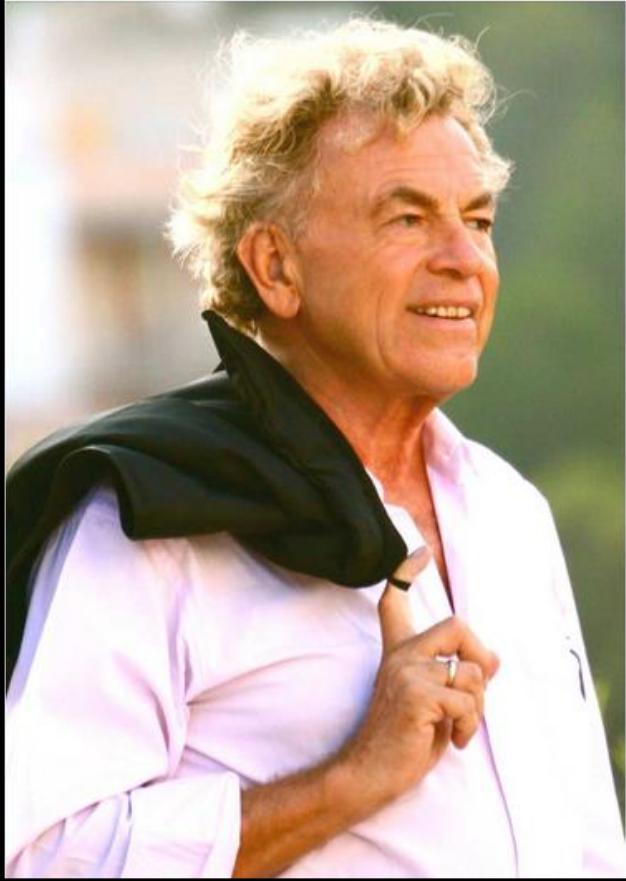


2021

Squash Library

2 November at 09:12 ·

44 years ago, in 1977, the first ASB court was built by founder Horst Babinsky (pic). Since then the German company has introduced innovations including moveable side walls, height-adjustable tins, all-glass courts and glass floors. It has been granted more than 40 patents. [ASB SquashCourts](#)



Squash Library

1 November at 08:43 ·

When the Olympic Winter Games took place in Sochi in Russia in 2014, two squash courts, (built by Courtwall), were in place as part of a new sports complex – Zapoljarye – featuring a gym, aqua-park, and a multifunctional sports hall.



Squash Library

10 September at 08:18 ·

Staying with squash balls after Tele-balls, the Library would like to develop a photo gallery of balls, their packaging and advertising over the ages, so any photos of old balls / packaging would be gratefully received (DM or Email: info@squashlibrary.info). Thanks. Andrew



Squash Library

9 September at 08:40 ·

In October 1985 Dunlop produced a retro-reflective squash ball which featured small circular recesses similar to a golf ball into which the material would be bonded. Developed by two dentists using their drills in Surrey, England, the principle was that TV lights positioned close to cameras would pick up the reflective elements of the ball, and bounce it back into the lens, improving visibility of the small ball. A Merco version with 'fingers' of retro-reflective material was used at the Men's World Open in 1986 (when Ross Norman beat Jahangir Khan).

Because the balls featured less rubber there was more of a tendency of skidding, and the TV lights pointing into the front meant viewing play through the front wall was problematic, so they were phased out soon after as TV camera picture definition improved still further at that time. The photos, one with the flash on, gives an idea of the effect.

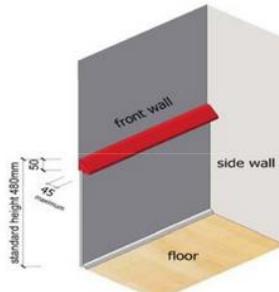


Squash Library

6 September at 08:44 ·

The 'tin' of a squash court is called that because historically the space under the wooden top batten across the front wall was covered by hammered tin – used as it made a distinctive sound when hit.

The upper 50mm of the Tin – shall project into the court by not more than 15mm at the top and 45mm at the bottom and shall be shaped so as to deflect any ball striking it (see diagram 6) and all edges of the Tin shall be rounded. Below the upper 50mm, for the full width of the court, the Tin shall be constructed in such a manner as to make a distinctive noise when struck by the ball.

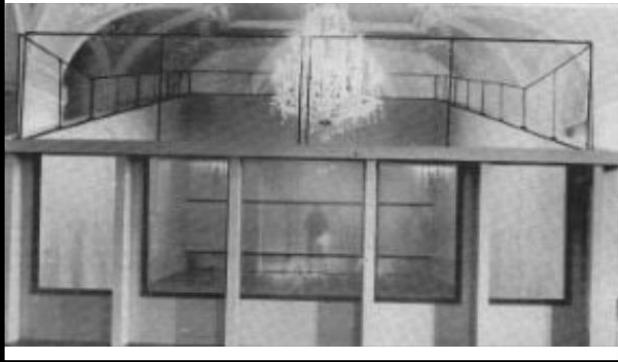




Squash Library

25 August at 09:11 ·

In September 1976 a squash court company called Lumiere Leisure built what they called a Ring Beam court in a ballroom at Castle Klesheim in Austria as a feature of the Austrian Trades Fair. Courts were built in other settings too, with the selling pitch being: '.... This enables the maximum time to be available for squash, and yet allows the space occupied by the Foldaway court to be cleared for Saturday night dances and other leisure activities'

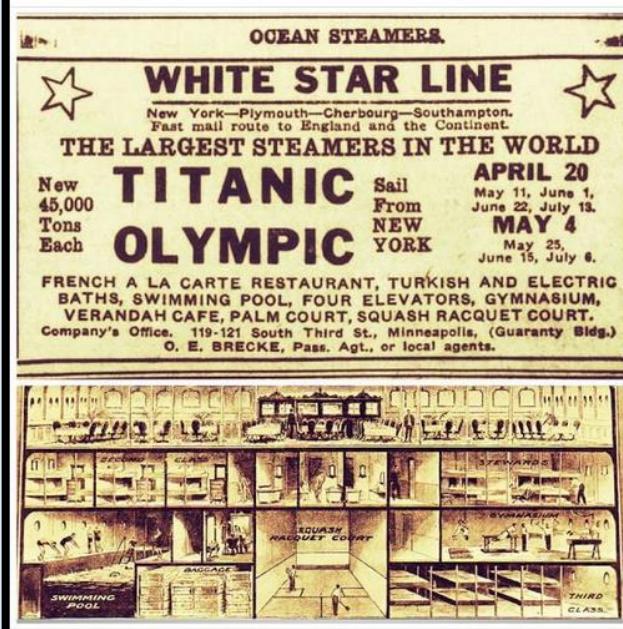


Squash Library

25 June at 08:14 ·

When the Titanic, the largest passenger steamship of the time, sank in 1912, the squash court on it was relocated to the Atlantic depths. The court was available for use by 1st class passengers, and there was a professional in residence. Full details can be found in this comprehensive report:

<http://squashbloglife.com/a-squash-match-on-the-titanic/>



Squash Library

14 July at 08:45 ·

Chris Herridge, the undisputed world authority on court components and products, retired at the end of 2018 after 28 years being responsible for this area for World Squash Federation as chairman of the WSF Courts & Technical Commission.

For three decades, Herridge, an architect by profession in Winchester, England until his retirement, had been inspecting courts and products wishing to be WSF Accredited, evolving court specifications, liaising with the industry and dealing with all manner of enquiries.

A presentation was made to him by then WSF President Jacques Fontaine (right, above) at the WSF AGM 2018 to mark his retirement.

[World Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

16 August at 08:57 ·

In the 1930's timber court buildings were promoted as a cheaper alternative to brick, as seen in an advertisement from the time. The shape of the roof in the photo is interesting in relation to squash!



After the first squash-specific courts arrived at Harrow School near London in 1865 (see <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for details), a past-pupil constructed what is thought to be the first court in a house. Augustus George Vernon Harcourt (pic), a scientist, did this at his Oxford home in 1883.

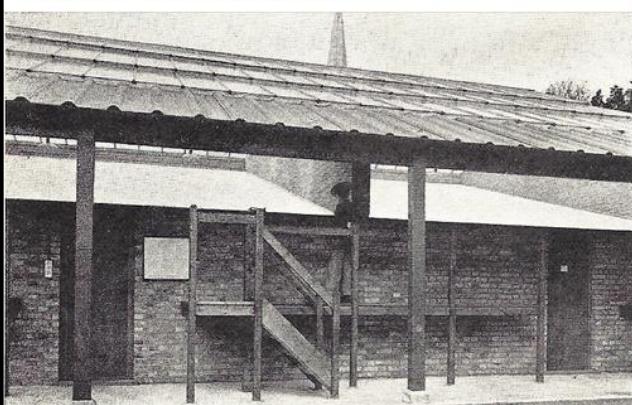
His son Simon (one of 10 children – an unbalanced 8 girls and 2 boys!) recounted 'As soon as they could walk the children were taught the game. It must have been between 1880 and 1895 that my brother-in-law, the famous war correspondent, Sir William Beach Thomas who ran for Oxford, C B Fry, TB Case and many others used to come along and play with us'



Wearing certified protective eyewear became mandatory for junior events by WSF in 1999. In order to help promote awareness of eye protection in 2014 WSF produced a downloadable scalable poster for clubs to display. The current version is at: <https://www.worldsquash.org/eyewear/eyewear-poster/> World Squash Federation



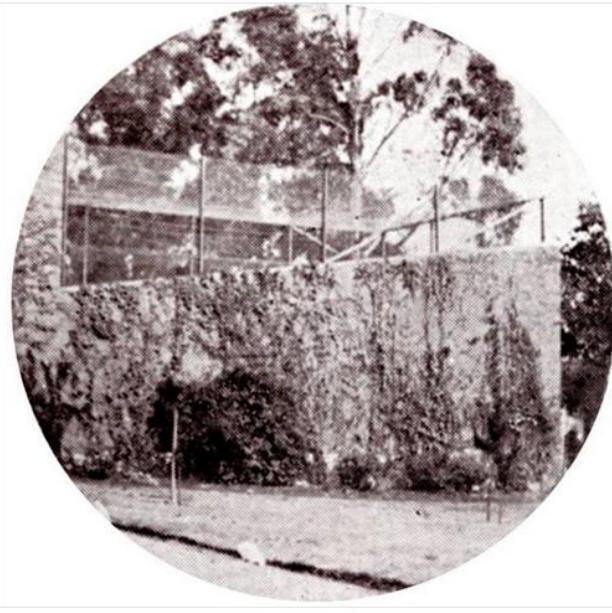
The story of how squash evolved from being played on 'baby' rackets courts at Harrow School in North West London in 1865 into the courts we know is detailed in a new Library feature. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



One of the earliest courts outside UK was built in South Africa at the Johannesburg Country Club, and opened in December 1906. It was open to the skies and had a concrete floor. As for size, it was a little wider than what became the standard dimensions, which were agreed nearly twenty years later.

In 1930 it was adjusted to the standard size, a roof added and a wooden floor laid. Two further courts were added then too.

[Squash South Africa](#)





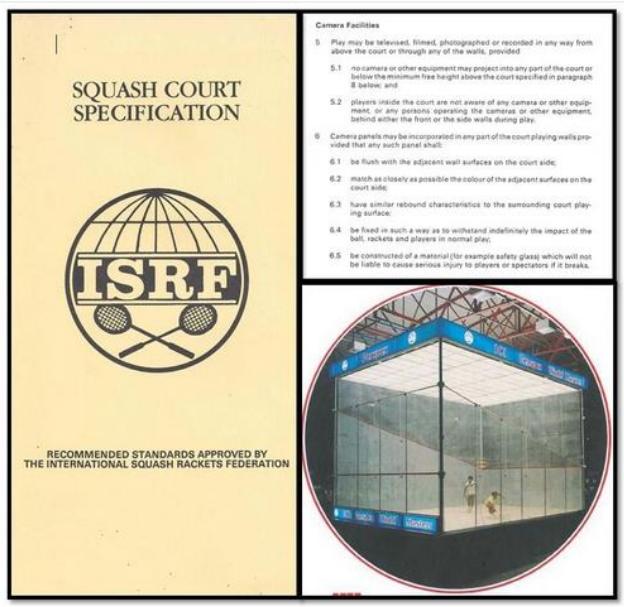
Over 40 years before transparent squash courts appeared in the early 1980s, in 1935 a patent was taken out on them by George Herbert Colt, a surgeon from London who claimed the invention. It has lapsed now, but it was certainly ahead of its time.

Improvements in or relating to the construction of fives courts, rackets courts, squash-rackets courts and the like

466,220. Squash rackets and like courts. COLT, G. H. Dec. 2, 1935, No. 33300. [Class 20 (i)] Fives courts, squash rackets, and like courts, are formed wholly or partially with transparent walls to allow spectators to view the play from without but which are more or less opaque to the players within. The panels for the walls are formed of compound glass sheets 10, unbreakable or safety glass, celluloid, or like transparent substances, having one or both faces roughened, stippled, painted or provided with frosted areas 12 to render the panels partially opaque. The outer surface may be covered with mesh screens 3 and the screens may be enclosed by further glass sheets 14; sheets of perforated metal may be used as screens. In certain cases opaque blinds may be used to screen the court when the exterior is more brilliantly lit than the interior. The panels are fitted together to provide continuous playing surfaces free from obstructions and are secured by sunken bolts 18 to T-shaped frame bars 16 which may be supported by inclined struts 17.



When the World Federation published Squash Court Specifications in 1983, transparent side and back walls had been introduced such as the Perspex court using Contravision (below), so this section on Camera Facilities appeared. [World Squash Federation](#)



Sunday Prompt. See how squash events and their presentation have changed from the 1950's until now. <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event....> Included is the first four sided viewing event in November 1982.

A milestone moment for squash - as stated on the booking form. The event had viewing through all four Perspex walls (which was the material used before glass), and Contravision which was essentially a wallpaper of dots pasted on the inside of the court to provide a basic 'one-way' effect. Later, the dots were baked into the glass. A black ball was used (coloured floors only started in 1984).

A new view of world class squash 1982 World Masters SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Granby Halls
Leicester

1st - 5th November, 1982



* First ever Squash Championship viewed through four see-through walls. Squash as you've never seen it before with theatre-in-the-round comfort and visibility.

* 16 of the world's best players - including world no.1 Jahangir Khan plus Hiday Jahan, Qamar Zaman, Gamal Awad, Gawain Briars, Philip Kenyon.



LightPower, a leading worldwide exponent in TV and live stage visuals used their expertise to offer up a new dimension to squash arena lighting / presentation at the Men's World Team Championship 2011. It was played in Paderborn, Germany, their operational base. [Lightpower](#)





Squash Library

5 May at 08:15 ·

Red squash balls? Indeed there were, as evidenced by this extract from notes written in 1937 by Englishman Simon Harcourt. 'Even fifty years ago we were, as we are now [1937], experimenting with the ball. The black surface of the ball left the mark of its shape on the walls, and very curious they sometimes were. And in consequence we played for many years with a red ball which in time gave the walls a pleasant pink hue. We also used a ball with a hole in it, probably at the same time as the Bath Club were trying out a similar ball. The ball was very popular with us as it needed a perfectly-timed shot to get it to the back wall – i.e. there was no waiting for the ball second time round'.



Squash Library

29 March at 09:17 ·

Perspex and then glass showcourts began in the early 1980's but look at this ad from 1938! Excepting that it would have used gauze rather than laminated dots, the principle pre-dates the appearance of them by over 40 years. Perhaps the intervention of the 2nd World War put paid to production.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

TRANSPARENTLY-BUILT SQUASH COURTS

A perfect view of play for large audiences

"It is likely to revolutionize the game from the point of view of the spectators. At present not even 100 persons can see every stroke of a match. The glass court will allow nearly 2,000 people to watch a match."

THE TIMES.

Patented in Great Britain, United States, Canada, and South Africa

The invention supersedes the existing method of accommodating spectators in galleries. At the present time only a small number of persons in the front row of the gallery can obtain an adequate view, and most spectators see about two-thirds of the play as a whole.

The new invention allows of a direct and perfect view of play for a large audience from the level of the court. A semi-transparent panel is let into the wall of a court, and through this the details of a game can easily be followed up to a distance of 40 to 50 yards. The audience sits in darkness as in a cinema, and is invisible to players.

The panel is produced from sheets of plate glass very roughened. The surface gives the same bound of ball as a plaster surface. The panel is rendered opaque on the playing side by a special finely woven white gauze behind the plate glass. The sheets of treated glass are built into a steel framework giving the necessary element of strength. A whole court can be built in this way. There is no sweating of the surface. The roof, floor and lighting are the same as in an ordinary standard court.

It is a striking fact that more than 350 persons can be seated comfortably behind the back wall and obtain a perfect view of the game, in the length of a cricket pitch.

Further information may be obtained from:

MAJOR C. D. KNIGHT,

28 SHEPHERD MARKET,



Squash Library

11 March at 08:40 ·

In 1968 after having been hit in his left eye by a racket causing loss of vision, Dr E.D. Kerr of High Wycombe in England had a metal protective mask made. His prototype was not taken up – probably because it would seem that protection was limited, especially with holes wide enough for a ball to pass through. (As from 1 January 1999 WSF mandated that all Juniors and Doubles players were required to wear protective eye-guards during competition play).



Squash Library

10 March at 08:27 ·

If you have ever wondered how to make a squash racket, here is your answer in a Squash Library feature at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>. It may be a little out of date as it comes from a publication produced in 1938!

The Making of Squash Rackets.

by R. E. Hadingham.

THE main timber used in most squash rackets is English ash, which arrives at the factory in logs direct from the forest. At the factory it is quartered and then planked, after which it is allowed to season for about ten months before being cut into strips measuring four feet and nine inches long, seven eighths of an inch wide and one eighth of an inch thick.

Occasionally strips or laminations of continental beech are introduced, so that the racket is made with two, three or more laminations, such as ash-beech, ash-beech-ash and so on. Some players like the handle to be of Manila cane, which is spliced into the throat piece and gives a racket extra whippiness.

The heart or wedge of the racket is made of sycamore, which arrives in planks and is roughly cut to the desired shape with a band saw and then finished with a spindle-moulding machine.

Short lengths of ash which provide the overlays on the shoulders of rackets are bent into U-shaped pieces and then cut on a special machine.

Now the strips of ash and beech, together with the wedge pieces and the overlays, are sent to the bending shop. Glue is applied



Squash Library

5 March at 09:27 ·

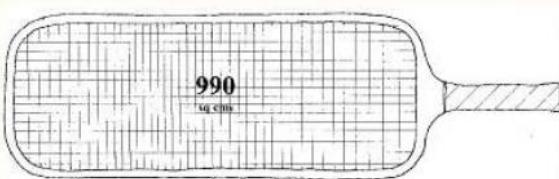
Go back to October 1948 for this English SRA comment: 'Fluorescent lighting is much to the fore nowadays and its possibilities for the squash court are being considered. M.C.C have already installed it in the squash court at Lords, and at least one other London club is toying with the idea'.



Squash Library

10 February at 08:54 ·

The standardisation of rackets began simply with a maximum length in 1928. Other dimensions have been added, including stringing area provisions, open-throat, and the move away from wood. The history is in a Squash Library feature at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



Squash Library

25 January at 08:44 ·

The Squash Library innovation Timeline is at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event....> It charts how courts, events and their presentation and broadcast has changed since the 1950s. [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



Until squash courts had glass back walls, viewing was very limited, as was the opportunity to televise or even photograph on-court action. But from the first use of glass nearly 50 years ago the breakthroughs in court construction, colour, presentation and broadcast have been rapid and varied. Here are a number of the key innovation milestones that have seen squash move even further into the mainstream as a spectator sport.

1954 & 1956

To add to backwall balcony viewing, small windows are added just above the backwall out-of-court line in courts in Invercargill & Palmerston North respectively, in New Zealand. This adds two lower rows of spectators to the balcony capacity.



1959 & 1962

Squash is televised in a local broadcast for the US Open in Pittsburgh in 1959; and three years later part of a court door is removed in Perth Australia to enable filming through the open doorway.

1965

A glass window is placed in a court door at the Albert Park Squash Centre in Melbourne to enable filming, and is used for the ISRF Men's World Individual Championship in 1967. (Geoff Hunt, front, beating Cam Nancarrow, rear, in the final).



Squash Library

23 January at 09:13 ·

Now, a scoreboard control would be a tablet wirelessly connected to a LED display where the current number would light up. But from the 1970's as glassback courts increased spectator capacity scoreboards often featured a number of individual bulbs and manual switchboard electric controls.



Squash Library

6 January at 09:36 ·

In the 1930's the US & Canadian Squash Associations tried to establish uniform playing conditions in their countries. A sticking point was that the Canadians insisted that the Americans abandon their white painted floors in favour of natural maple wood floors. The US were not prepared to do so, but agreed to a one year trial, during which some clubs converted to natural wood as used worldwide, and this subsequently became the norm in USA too. [US SQUASH](#) [Squash Canada](#)



2020



Squash Library

19 October at 09:17 ·

If you thought that protective eyewear for squash is a relatively new initiative, think again. Here is a British advertisement from 1936!

OPTICIANS
BY APPOINTMENT

THEODORE HAMBLIN LIMITED
MAKERS OF SPECTACLES TO SURGEONS' PRESCRIPTIONS ONLY

HAMBLIN'S
"FULL-FIELD"
SPECTACLES

IDEAL FOR SQUASH
RACKETS AND ALL
SPORTS

The shape of Hamblin's "Full-Field" Spectacles makes possible the wide field of view so essential in sports of all kinds. With the more ordinary round or oval lenses, undistorted vision is not possible at extreme angles, the rim of the frame invariably coinciding with just the line of vision required.

SALVOC REINFORCED
LENSSES ARE A SAFEGUARD
IN CASE OF ACCIDENTS

An illustrated brochure will be sent on application.



In the interests of the public, Theodore Hamblin, Ltd., would like to point out that the importance of absolute accuracy of prescription is becoming increasingly more necessary in coping with the exigencies of modern life, and that this can only be obtained with confidence from an Ophthalmic Surgeon. Theodore Hamblin, Ltd., only dispense prescriptions so acquired.

15 WIGMORE STREET
LONDON, W.1

And at MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, SHEFFIELD, LEEDS, EDINBURGH, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, BOURNEMOUTH, WINDSOR, KING'S LYNN, CHESTERFIELD, MIDDLESBROUGH, SCARBOROUGH



Squash Library

6 October at 08:39 ·

As from 1 January 1999 all competitors at WSF World Junior Individual and Team Championships, along with Doubles events, were required to wear protective eye guards (manufactured to an appropriate national safety standard) properly over the eyes at all times during competition play.

This Regulation was subsequently adopted by Regions & Nations for their competitions, and for junior club play generally.

World Squash Day auction item:

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/324317948817>



EBAY.CO.UK

World Squash Day Auction 2020: Black Knight Eyewear signed by Daryl Selby ...

Pair of Black Knight eyewear signed by the player who is leading the way in encouraging players to wear eye protection, Daryl Selby.

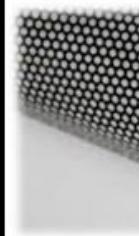


Squash Library

4 September ·

As the 1980s started 'wallpapering' the inside of a Perspex wall with a product called Contravision enabled multi-sided viewing. (See: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-event...> for a full innovation history).

It was a clear film of superimposed black and white dots 'wallpapered' onto the inside of the Perspex court walls. (Perspex was the forerunner to glass, and later with glass, the dots could be baked into it). In October 1982 at the ICI World Masters at the Granby Halls in Leicester, England (an event for professionals, not seniors), Contravision was used on the front and side walls for the first four sided viewing event.



Squash Library

6 October at 13:28 ·

In March 1983 the French Open court floor at the Cirque d'Hiver in Paris was painted blue and used a white ball instead of black... and you could own the signed white ball included in the World Squash Day auction (with funds going to the PSA Foundation and Squash Library)! [World Squash Day](https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/324317971472)

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/324317971472>



EBAY.CO.UK

World Squash Day Auction 2020: Canary Wharf Classic squash ball, Ali Farag |...

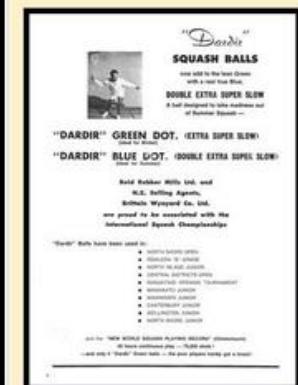
Squash ball used at this year's Canary Wharf Classic, signed by Ali Farag.



Squash Library

8 August ·

It is possibly unique for a squash ball to be branded by the name of a player. Dardir Squash Balls were in use at the start of the 1970's, named after the Egyptian professional and later legendary coach Mohamed Dardir El Bakary. He had been Australian based before settling in New Zealand in 1967, and was revered internationally. He died in 2015. [Squash New Zealand Egyptian Squash Federation - الانتحاد المصري للإسكواش](https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../squash-new-zealand-egyptian-squash-federation-...)

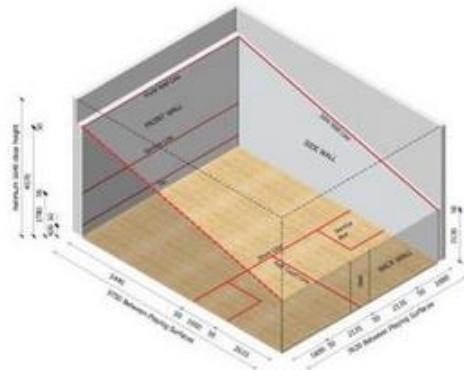




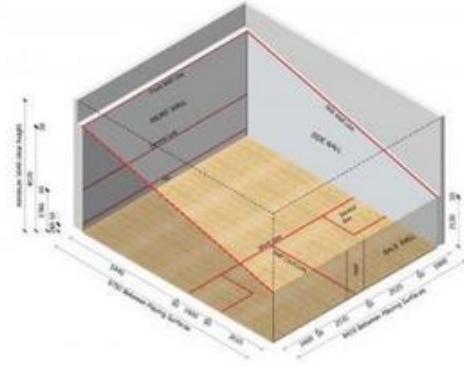
85 years ago a British SRA report in 1935 indicated that Doubles courts were already being built in Great Britain. The dimensions being used were length 45ft x width 25ft, and featured a 17inch (43cm) tin height. (Now, the doubles width is unchanged – except for the International Competition width - but the standard length of a squash court is significantly less, at 32ft i.e. 9.75m). (Current WSF court specifications e.g. doubles as illustrated, are at <https://www.worldsquash.org/court-construction/>)

World Squash Federation

Doubles Court Diagram:



Doubles Court Diagram – Competition Width:



The first time that a five-sided glass court was used was when WISPA (Women's International Squash players Association, since merged with PSA in 2015) ran the Qatar Airways Challenge in September 2006.

An ASB four wall glass court was erected in the grounds of the Falaknuma Palace in Hyderabad in India, featuring a glass floor too. The glass had raised dots for grip, and the background underneath could feature any colour and sponsors logos. The sprung underfloor could be covered in LED lights so that names, scores could be illuminated.

As losing semi-finalist Jenny Duncalf commented, 'this floor was solid without being hard, not at all slippery and was firm in the grip. I liked it a lot. I wish all court floors were as good'. However, as was found in the Men's World Open the following year, it did become slippery in very humid conditions. (Pic: ASB's Horst Babinsky onsite in Hyderabad) [Squash - PSA World Tour Qatar Airways ASB SquashCourts](#)



Before the Second World War squash rackets could be bought 'entirely hand-made'. As advertised, John Holden (based a few doors down from Sherlock Holmes in London's Baker Street) would make you his top of the range model for 30 Shillings (now GBP1.50).

THE "SUPER-HOLDEN" SQUASH RACKET

OUTSTANDING
IN QUALITY AND
PERFORMANCE

THIS NEW MODEL WITH ITS
BUILT-UP CANE SHAFT COM-
BINES LIGHTNESS, STRENGTH
AND GREAT DRIVING POWER

30/-



OTHER
MODELS

"EMPIRE"
A FIRST-CLASS RACKET
26/6

"REGAL"
21/-

EVERY RACKET ENTIRELY HAND MADE BY

JOHN HOLDEN

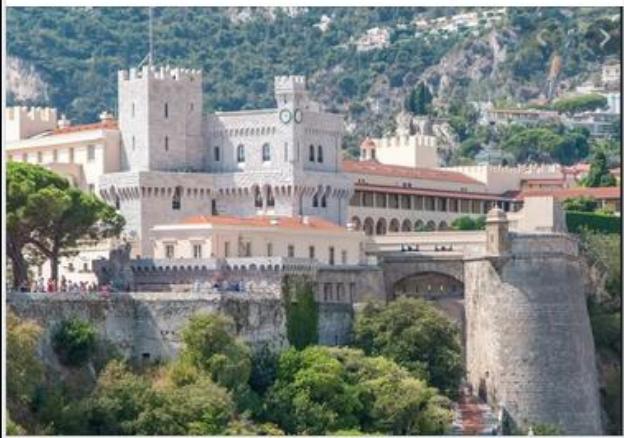
(The Specialist)

232, BAKER STREET, LONDON, N.W.1

Phone: WELbeck 8622

Ask for Price List

Squash courts can be found in many places, including Royal Palaces. Examples include Buckingham Palace in London where HRH Prince Philip was a keen player (and who was on court when his oldest son was born); and the Prince's Palace in Monaco (pic), where HSH Prince Rainier & son HSH Prince Albert have played. In Malaysia there are two courts in the Palace of the Sultan of Negeri Sembilan. Nearby, the Sultan of Brunei had two all-glass courts at his disposal at his Palace. There are also two possibly unique marble courts still in the Indian Palace of Umaid Bhawan at Jodhpur. Doubtless there are others too.



There was a time before court lighting featured fluorescent tubes, & most recently LED options. This is how 'globes' were arranged during the late 1920's.

NOTES ON THE ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING OF THE COURT

The best results may be obtained by the use of six 300 half watt electric lamps hung so that the globes are not less than 17 feet from the floor. They should be hung in pairs from front to rear of the Court, each lamp at 3 feet 6 inches from the nearest side wall, and 8 feet between each pair and between the nearest pair and the front wall.

The reflectors of the front pair should be so arranged as to throw the light forward sufficiently to avoid shadows on the front wall and to protect the eyes of Hand-in from glare when serving.

Protection is seldom required for any of the lamps if hung at the proper height but may be found necessary in some circumstances for the pair nearest the front wall.

This ad for the Super Arnold Racket (named after the British Open R/up 1931, Charles Arnold, pictured) is possibly the only royal squash racket endorsement - by HRH Duke of Kent. Arnold already had a royal connection as he had taught British King Edward VIII to play squash.

ARNOLD SUPER SQUASH COURTS
GUARANTEED SATISFACTION
Acclaimed by the leading Amateurs and Professionals as being equal to the best and with our recent improvements are better than any other type.
CONSULT
The Arnold Squash Rackets Court Construction
Co. Ltd.
32, COURTHOPE ROAD, LONDON, N.W.3
Telephone: CLOver 4722.

**ALL BRITISH
The SUPER ARNOLD SQUASH RACKET**
AFTER 25 YEARS STILL THE WORLD'S BEST
As used by
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF KENT
Specialist endorsed by the Duke of Kent, one of the leading Squash players, and he has performed what is undoubtedly the best work in Squash Rackets in the world. Only the finest English Ash is used in the frame. It is strung with special quality gut, and is the lightest, strongest, most durable and lightest, and the racket perfectly balanced. It is ideal for the amateur or Club player and will please the most critical players.

FINEST BALL FOR ANY COURT
Used in
Professional Championship, 1934,
Doubles Championship, 1937,
etc.

Imported and Distributed
JAMES COBBETT (1934) LTD.
151, PARK ROAD, LONDON, N.W.8
Telephone: FIFteen 2261 and 2271



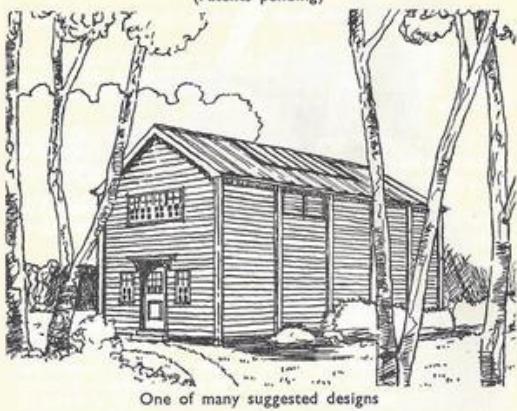


Yesterday, a pre World War Two portable court, today a timber one being promoted at the same time. 20% cheaper than brick, and with a clearly desirable quick erection.

News of any portable or timber courts from the period still in existence welcomed please.

A NEW DEVELOPMENT TIMBER SQUASH COURTS WITH COMPOSITION WALLS

(Patents pending)



- * 20% cheaper.
- * Non Sweating Composition Walls.
- * Quick Erection.
- * Removable for re-erection.
- * "Play" as Carter's Brick Courts.
- * Sloping or damp sites can be used.

CARTERS are the largest builders of Squash and other Covered Courts in the world, and have introduced these Timber Courts to meet the demand for cheap but durable Courts.

Illustrated Brochure 'O' (Timber) or 'P' (Brick) on request.

CARTER'S SPORTS COURTS LTD.
57-69, GREEN LANES, LONDON, N.16

Telephones : Clissold 6920-1-2. Telegrams : Carcorts Finspark, London



If you thought that portable courts are a relatively recent phenomenon, think again! These courts were advertised in 1937 on the basis that they could be fixed or moved. The car was an optional extra!

PORTABLE SQUASH COURTS LTD.

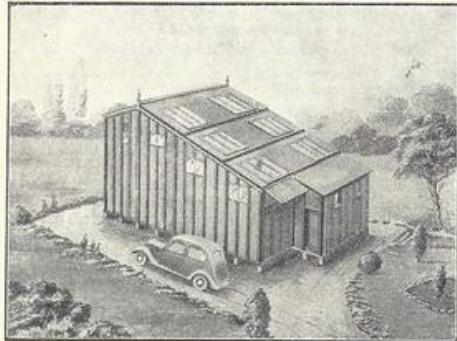
Why not invest in one of our Courts?

It is a permanent building in every way of indefinite durability.

It can, however, be taken down and re-erected on a different site if desired.

Our Courts are in all respects of standard construction. The owner of a court, recently purchased, in the South of England writes to us regarding the visit of a Squash Professional from one of our most famous Public Schools. He says, "I had the professional from H— School over the other evening and he was delighted with the play of the Court and expressed the opinion that it was equal to those of Standard Construction."

The Cost is about half that of the usual brick courts.



View of Court showing three quarter balcony.
Full size balcony can be fitted if desired.

For further particulars apply :—

The PORTABLE SQUASH COURTS LTD.,
Trent Navigation Building, No. 3,
NOTTINGHAM



Squash Library

29 April · 0

1 January 1988 saw the start of the ISRF (now WSF) International Standards Scheme to test and approve squash court materials and components. The intention was stated as 'this will ensure that future courts are built to the very highest standards, and should give member nations value for money and give support and encouragement to reputable companies'.

(This continues today as WSF Accreditation, details at <http://www.worldsquash.org/accreditation-scheme-2/>) World Squash Federation

WORLD SQUASH

ACCREDITED PRODUCT

WSF

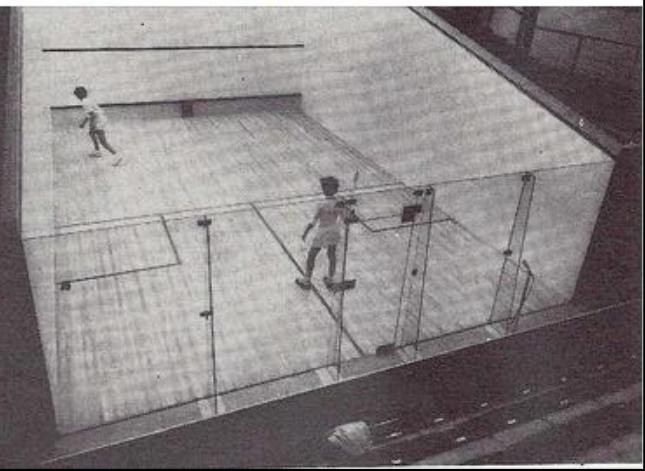


Squash Library

24 April · 0

In January 1972 the British Open became the first major championship to utilise a glass backwall when played at Abbeydale, Sheffield. It was installed in 1971 (date of photo). As the event programme noted: 'For the first time spectators can easily see what is happening in the back corners of the court, where so much play takes place'.

The full Library event innovation timeline 1954 – present is at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



Squash Library

20 April · 0

In April 2018 a group in USA – the Public Squash Foundation – collaborating with German court company ASB, unveiled a free-to-use public outdoor squash court. It was erected at Hamilton Fish Park in New York City for summer play.

The floor was made up of weather-resistant boards installed on top of an elastic drainage sub structure to allow rainwater to drain away. [US SQUASH](#)



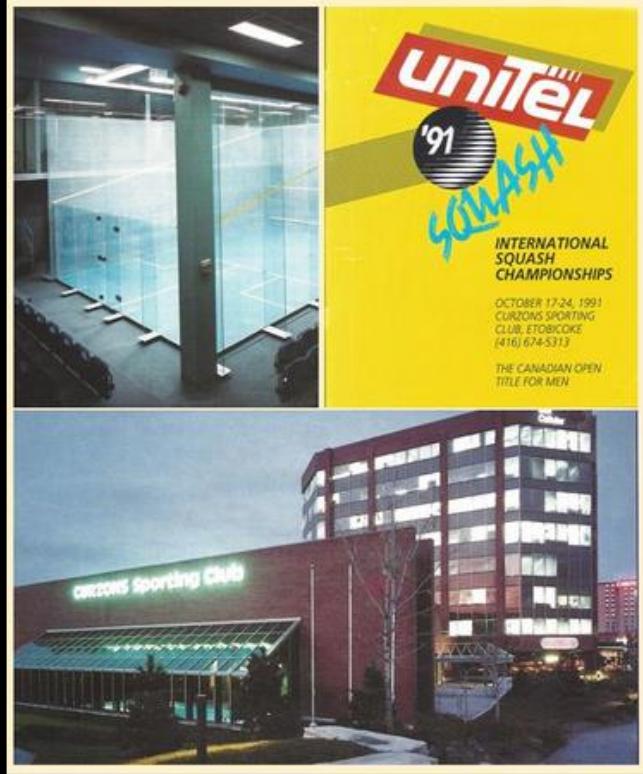
Squash Library

17 April · 0

The first permanent four-sided glass court installed in North America opened on 1 October 1987. The location was Curzons Sporting Club in Toronto, Canada; the re-development of the Carlson facility masterminded by Englishman Garry Oliver, who had already installed the first UK all-glass court at the Cannons Club in London.

It featured 360 seats and hospitality boxes down one side. Seven other glassbacks completed the squash set-up.

While it has ceased to operate, it successfully hosted Canadian Open & Mennen Cup events in its' heyday. [Squash Canada](#)



Before coloured dots were introduced in the 1950's squash balls were two speeds, i.e. Standard & Slow.



1951-52 SEASON

THE **Dunlop**

'SLOW' SQUASH BALL

has been exclusively selected for

The British Open Championship
The British Amateur Championship
The British Women's Championship
The British Professional
Championship

... for the fourth successive year

Dunlop-Tyrell Company Limited, 19/20 New Bond Street, London, W1
10/1952

From the 1950's until 1999 the speed of squash balls was indicated by different colour dots (blue – fast, red – medium, white – slow, yellow – extra super slow). Then market leaders Dunlop scrapped dots and introduced larger balls intended to aid participation. Others followed. Double dot entered the squash vocabulary at that time.



**THE BIGGEST IDEA IN SQUASH
FOR YEARS
- AND THAT'S OFFICIAL**

Height of Bounce

Time in the Air (HANGTIME)

10% LONGER HANGTIME
20% LONGER HANGTIME
40% LONGER HANGTIME
STANDARD HANGTIME
PEWSEEDAL HANGTIME

Professional, Advanced & Testers
REVELATION PRO X
Traditional size
Traditional hangtime

Club Players
REVELATION COMPETITION X
Traditional size
Traditional hangtime

Improvers & Recreational Players
MAX
6% Bigger
10% Bigger
12% Bigger
Instant Bounce

For Learners, Ideal Starter
MAX
12% Bigger
15% Bigger
Instant Bounce

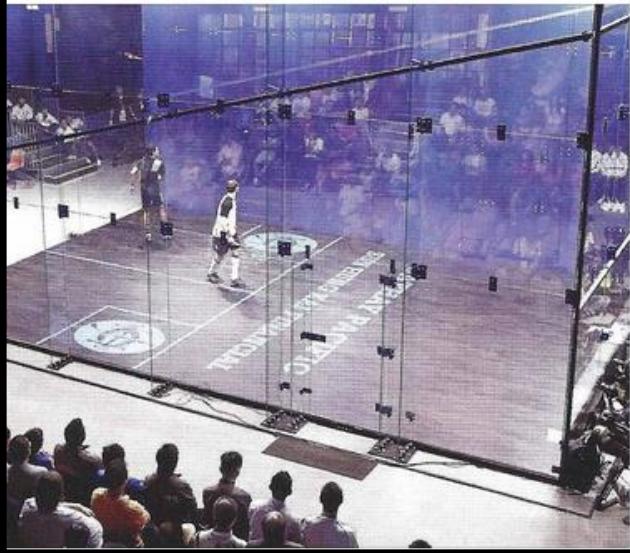
REVELATION PRO X
Official ball of

DUNLOP
Produced in a selected part of the UK, and tested and selected by the World Squash Federation and British Squash Association. Dunlop is a registered trademark of the Dunlop Corporation. © 1999 Dunlop Corporation.

PSA
Professional Squash Association

WISPA
World Indoor Squash Players Association

In April 2012 a door on each side wall rather than on the backwall, was first seen at the El Gouna event in Egypt in a showcourt innovation developed by ASB. This allowed for larger panels in the backwall, no door frame and fittings, and so enabled a 'cleaner' broadcast shot through the backwall. The full event 1954 – present Library timeline is at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



In colder climes, or in winter, some squash courts that had no heating were called ice boxes, and to get a too slow ball to bounce reasonably was hard. Cue the marketing of ball warmers to help – as this example from 1980 shows.



**Your Club needs
the Decpace
Squash Ball
Warmer...
...and can
afford
it too!**

Decpace Squash Ball Warmer

Great ideas don't have to cost the earth – the Decpace Squash Ball Warmer is a new, exciting and attractive squash facility that your club needs and, at an all-in cost of only £1.00 per week, can afford.

A warm ball right from the start allows normal stroke play. Should a ball burst during the game, simply take the spare from the warmer and continue at the same pace, saving the usual wasted warm-up time. Also, playing with a half of varying pace reduces the risk of injury and, don't forget, that for players the facility is free.

CLUBS BENEFIT

Satisfy your members by providing a facility that the modern player will expect to see in the clubs of the 80's. It is a small attractive, low-cost unit using minimal electricity. No club in Britain should be without the Decpace.

YOU SHOULD KNOW THE CLEAR ADVANTAGES OF THE DEPACE UNIT

1. Thermosytatically controlled, it will determine its own temperature and will not overheat and damage the balls.
2. It heats two balls (not one), in effect halving time and cost.
3. It features highly effective hemispherical heating chambers.
4. It is a truly sturdy and rugged unit.
5. The unit is backed by a first class, personal service.

**Decpace Ltd., Pit Lane, Talke Pits
Stoke on Trent, Staffs, England. Tel: 07816 5016**

Patent No. 1959976 applies
Telex: 38250 Chacom 0.

 Squash Library
27 March · 0

Available today – the Squash Library Event Innovation Timeline spectator presentation, broadcast & courts. See how squash events and their presentation have changed from the 1950's until now. www.squashlibrary.info/features

World Squash Federation Squash - PSA World Tour



SQUASH EVENT INNOVATION TIMELINE
..... Spectator event presentation, broadcast & Courts

Until squash courts had glass back walls, viewing was very limited, as was the opportunity to televise or even photograph on-court action. But from the first use of glass nearly 50 years ago the breakthroughs in court construction, colour, presentation and broadcast have been rapid and varied. Here are a number of the key innovation milestones that have seen squash move even further into the mainstream as a spectator sport.

1954 & 1956

To add to backwall balcony viewing, small windows are added just above the backwall out-of-court line in courts in Invercargill & Palmerston North respectively, in New Zealand. This adds two lower rows of spectators to the balcony capacity.



1959 & 1962

Squash is televised in a local broadcast for the US Open in Pittsburgh in 1959, and three years later part of a court door is removed in Perth Australia to enable filming through the open doorway.

1965

A glass window is placed in a court door at the Albert Park Squash Centre in Melbourne to enable filming, and is used for the ISRF Men's World Individual Championship in 1967. (Geoff Hunt, front, beating Cam Nancarrow, rear, in the final).



 Squash Library
22 March · 0

For the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England, a permanent all-glass court was built on an elevated base with hydraulics. This meant it could be slid from the squash facility into the adjacent indoor athletics track through a removable wall, and seating built around it. [England Squash](#)



 Squash Library
23 March · 0

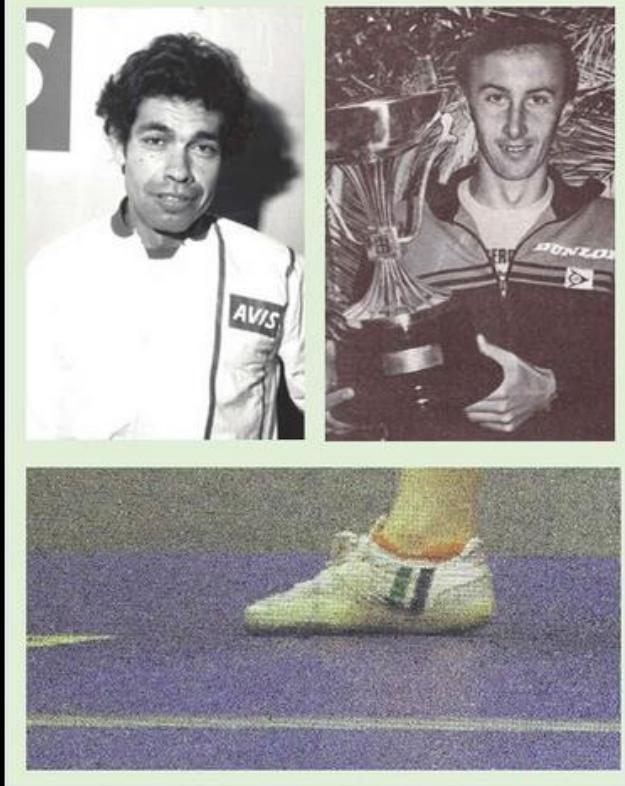
There are at least two instances of showcourts being built on frozen surfaces. The Leekes British Open in 1997 was held at the Welsh National Ice Rink in Cardiff and the Women's Texas Open was played on the ice rink at the Plaza of the Americas in Dallas 2003 (pictured). Fortunately, there were no power cuts, the ice didn't melt & the court didn't sink!



 Squash Library
14 March · 0

In March 1983 coloured floors on showcourts began. The French Open painted the floor blue and used a white ball instead of black.

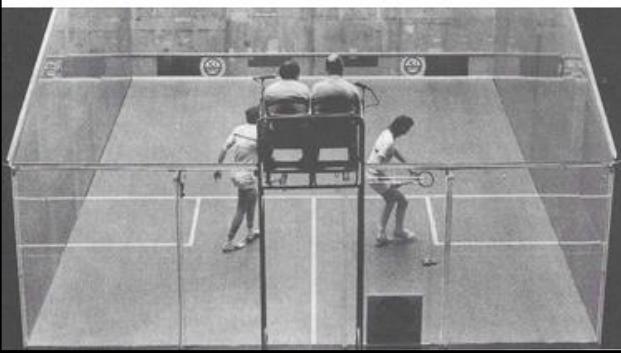
The first blue floor glass court match was played at the Cirque d'Hiver in Paris by Frank Donnelly (Australia, right) and Ali Aziz (Egypt). Court markings moved from red to yellow and overall to a more colourful presentation for broadcast & spectators alike. [FFSquash - Fédération Française de SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)





Squash Library
10 March ·

At the World Masters (top professional, not mature age) event in Warrington, England in October 1984 referees on a gantry against the backwall was tried. The 'Squash Observer' was a great position for officiating, but not so good for filmed events as their back view was centre-screen!



Squash Library
7 March ·

The first glass backwall was unveiled in (Dec 1966). Before this to add to balcony viewing narrow windows were added just above the backwall out of court line in courts in Invercargill & Palmerston North, in New Zealand in 1954 & 1956 respectively. This innovation enabled a further two rows of spectators to watch from below the people on the balcony. [Squash New Zealand SquashGym Palmerston North](#)



Squash Library
5 March ·

Back at the end of 1983, two years after the requirement that rackets had to be made of wood had been dropped a prototype carbon fibre racket called 'The Shark' appeared in England. It featured straight sides and an angled head which, it was thought, would be a great benefit to players as it could get closer to the nick and help shovel the ball back. It was also claimed to have a larger sweet spot at a time when stringing areas were still size-restricted. Promoted by player Danny Lee, due a patent infringement dispute the racket was hastily placed under wraps again, and was never produced.





Squash Library
29 February · 5

At the 1985 British Open a 'tele-ball' was first used. Dunlop balls were drilled with holes by a dentist in Surrey, England, and light-reflecting material inserted. Lights placed next to camera lens shone on the ball & the beam returned to the lens to produce a glowing highly visible ball.

It worked just like cats-eyes reflect headlight beams on roads. Following the play became easier - except for people viewing through the front wall who were dazzled by the bright light!

A Merco version of the Tele-Ball using 'fingers' of reflecting material was used at the Men's World Open 1986 in France (where Ross Norman ended Jahangir Khan's unbeaten years). However, the increased proportion of reflective area to rubber made it more prone to skidding. Tele-balls were not continued with as cameras improved picture quality.



Squash Library
15 February · 5

The Titanic liner, complete with squash court, struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and sank in 1912, as is commonly known (see the court position on the brochure). But the Titanic was not alone. The Queen Mary plied the Atlantic with a court, and much more recently the German AIDAdivacruise ship includes an ASB glass court on deck.



Squash Library
9 February · 5

Marked Walls 2. Black squash balls were also badly marking walls, hence companies introduced green 'non-marking' balls. However, the green balls were felt to be inferior to the black ones in playing characteristics. The next stage was the introduction of blue balls, first by Grays and Slazenger during the 1976 / 7 season. They were trumpeted as not only being non-marking' but also playing similarly to 'championship' balls. [Slazenger](#)

IT'S NEW! IT'S BLUE! IT LEAVES YOUR WALLS WHITER!



The New Non-Marking Squash Ball
by Slazenger with improved
playing characteristics - the ball all squash
players have been praying for

Approved by the Squash Rackets Association

 The proudest name in sport



Squash Library
8 February · 5

After 1 January 1994 court operators stopped finding their walls covered in marks from the coloured bumper strips on racket heads. A change to the Rules of Squash meant that from then on bumper strips needed to be white, colourless or unpigmented, with colours only allowed where the manufacturer could demonstrate that it was non-marking.





Squash Library
16 January

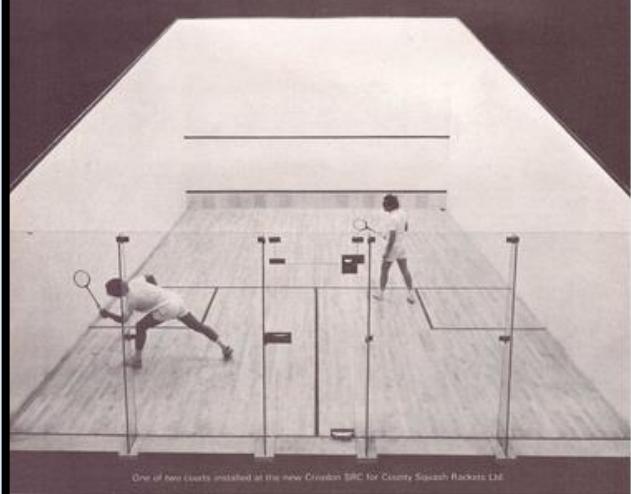
Glass backwalls as commonplace now, but when they began to be installed from 1968 they were transformational for squash. A year later Ellis Pearson started promoting the innovation, and in 1972 a manufacturer, Pilkington Brothers, trumpeted that they were sending walls to countries including Japan, South Africa, Nigeria, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Lebanon, Kuwait and USA. The sales information stated that the walls were called Armourplate, 'glass up to 20 times stronger than o... See more

ellis pearson

GLASS BACK WALLS

Twelve months after the installation of the very first glass back walls, thirty seven courts have been specified including single developments of six courts at Winchester, three courts at Harrow and two at Derby. Squash court designers are steadily realising the advantages not only of vastly increased spectator facilities but also the considerable cost savings introduced by omitting traditional balcony construction.

Ellis Pearson & Co. Ltd., Glass & Metal
P.O. Box 48, Meadowhall Road, Sheffield S9 1FA
Telephone: 43333 STD: 0742



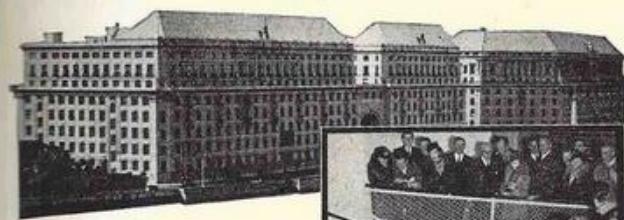
One of two courts installed at the new Croydon SRC for County Squash Rackets Ltd.



Squash Library
8 January

In November 1933, a centre with no less than 15 courts was opened at Thames House on Millbank in the centre of London. The annual subscription was GB£1.05 and court fees 10p per player. The courts were taken over at the outbreak of World War 2 for file storage, and it took over 20 years before the Civil Service SRA managed to get three courts released for squash again. Courts are still there, but as the building is now occupied by the British security service MI5, the number left is probably a secret!

The largest squash rackets club in the world . . .



Thames House, London



Thames House contains fifteen first-class squash courts, all of which were finished by Carters. The same firm has been responsible for almost every first-class squash court in this country, and about 90 per cent of the standard courts. Carters will be pleased to send, at their own expense, a technical expert to advise you or submit estimates for Private, Club or Hotel Courts, or for the conversion of old buildings into courts. This free service they offer to anyone in the United Kingdom and most European Countries. An illustrated brochure will be sent post free on request.

CARTERS SPORTS COURTS LTD.

Established 1878

(formerly Sports Court Dept. of G. H. Carter Ltd.)

"Courts for all Sports"

CLISSOLD WORKS. 57-69 GREEN LANES. LONDON. N.16



Squash Library
7 January

When you think of unusual places for squash courts to be found, a gas rig is not likely to spring to mind. However, in 1981 a Total owned rig in the Arabian Gulf became the home of a Perstorp System court. A prefabricated building was placed on a barge and then lifted onto the top of the accommodation block, after which the court was assembled inside. (The court could not be assembled before the building was taken out to the rig as the flexing would have affected the precise court joints).

... over water . . .

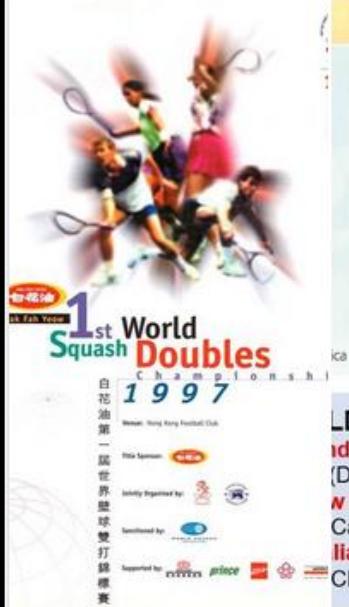


... to final resting-place . . .



 Squash Library
6 January · 3

Doubles Squash has been played since the 1920s on singles courts in many countries, but in 1992 the WSF AGM approved dimensions of 32 feet (9.75 metres) by 25 feet (7.62 metres) for International Doubles courts. The width of the court for elite play at World and Commonwealth Games was increased to 8420mm from April 2008. In July 2012 it was decided that the tin height would be dropped for both men's and women's events to 13 inches (330mm). Hong Kong were the first host of the World Doubles Championships in 1997, with these teams participating and finals, meanwhile, (Doubles features in the Asian, PanAm and Commonwealth Games too). [World Squash Federation](#)



Women's Doubles	Mix
Australia	Austr
Canada	Can
England	Engla
Hong Kong	Hong
Japan	Malas
Malaysia	New
New Zealand	Scotl
Philippines	Singa
Scotland	South
Singapore	Unit
South Africa	
United States of America	

LD DOUBLES FINALS

1st (Chris Walker & Mark Cairns
(Dan Jenson & Craig Rowland) 1
2nd New Zealand (Leilani Joyce & Phil
Cassie Jackman & Sue Wright)
3rd (Dan Jenson & Liz Irving)
Chris Walker & Cassie Jackman

2019

 Squash Library
5 January · 3

The first squash racket specifically produced for the female market was the Lady Gray, launched in 1973 by Grays of Cambridge. The intention was to make the feel more attractive for women, with a weight of 220gm and a handle circumference of 9.5cm. Wooden construction meant they were necessarily heavier than now.

Now, a squash racquet made exclusively for women

The Lady Gray

Weighs only 71 ounces, with extra light balance and feel.

Natural gut gives the extra resilience.

Tough laminated wood shaft and frame, will stand up to the modern game.

Slim, well-shaped, light glue towel grip of about 3". Easier to grasp, more comfortable to hold.

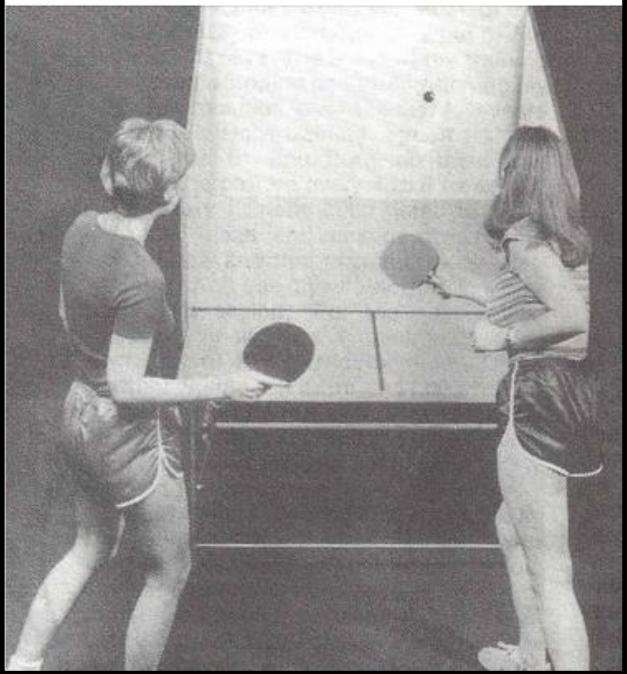
A second model, the Gazelle, is available to the same frame specification, but with clear, synthetic stringing.



 Grays of Cambridge
The Squash Specialists
Payfair Works Cambridge

 Squash Library
29 December 2019 · 3

40 years ago a company called Table Squash Ltd introduced a cross between squash and table tennis played on a table resembling a miniature squash court measuring 5ft long and 4ft wide. Black table tennis balls were used. Unlike a table tennis shot, the venture was not a smash!





In 1936 skorts were delightfully advertised as 'the new and correct garment for being athletic in whilst looking enchantingly female!'



SKORTS for SQUASH

THE new and correct garment for being athletic in whilst looking enchantingly female! Neither shorts nor skirts . . . always chic, immaculate and graceful! Brilliantly tailored by the creators of Dorville Models to give both freedom and seemliness whilst maintaining the illusion that the female form is divine! For International and Championship Players and all smart sports-women. "SKORTS" are obtainable from the best Ladies' Outfitters in your Town. In White Linen and Grey and Navy Flannel

35/-

●
FROM THE
BEST STORES
& OUTFITTERS
IN ALL CITIES
●

SKORTS

Stocked and
Recommended
by

Lillywhites
OF
Piccadilly Circus



A milestone moment for squash - as stated on the booking form. The event had viewing through all four Perspex walls (which was the material used before glass), and Contravision which was essentially a wallpaper of dots pasted on the inside of the court to provide a basic 'one-way' effect.

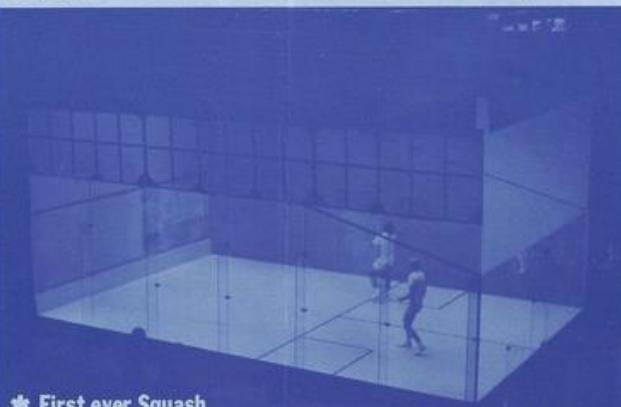
Later, the dots were baked into the glass.

A black ball was used (coloured floors only started in 1984).

A new view of world class squash 1982 *World Masters* SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Granby Halls
Leicester

1st - 5th November, 1982



● First ever Squash

Championship viewed through four see-through walls. Squash as you've never seen it before with theatre-in-the-round comfort and visibility.

● 16 of the world's best players - including world no. 1 Jahangir Khan plus Hiday Jahan, Qamar Zaman, Gamal Awad, Gawain Briars, Philip Kenyon.

25% discounts for groups of 10

or more on some sessions.

Booking form overleaf.



.... and racket advertising had a different style in the 1930's too!
Dunlop Squash

...a *Squash* RACKET for the **FIRST-CLASS PLAYER**



Other
Dunlop Models
15/- 18/6 21/-

Dunlop

MAXPLY



DUNLOP FORT MODEL - 35/-
TOURNAMENT MODEL - 30/-
STANDARD MODEL - 25/-
DUNLOP RACKET PRESS 2/6 each
DUNLOP SQUASH SHOES Women's 4/11. Men's 5/11
DUNLOP SQUASH BALLS 18/- per dozen

From all Sports Dealers -

DUNLOP RUBBER CO. LTD. (Sports Division),
St. James's House, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1

C.F.H.

6 S.W.S. 6/3

11



In the 1930's squash court construction companies had a very polite
way of looking for contracts!



An Open Letter **RAYNERS**

Proprietor: N. Dean.

Court Dept.

Llanaway Road, Godalming

Phone: Godalming 242

August, 1936

Dear Sir,

May we be permitted
to tender for your
Squash Rackets Court?
Our representative will
inspect site, and we
will prepare complete
estimate without cost
or obligation. We
feel sure this will be
the means of saving you
many pounds.



Squash Library

14 November 2019 ·

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Squash with altitude! Squash is played at La Paz, Bolivia at 3,600m high, while WSF World Squash Championships have been held in Quito, Ecuador (2,800m), Johannesburg, South Africa (1750m) and Windhoek, Namibia (1725m). PSA events have been held at Denver (1,730m), for example. A green dot ball – slower than a double dot – is generally used above 1,600m because the ball travels faster in the thin air.



Squash Library

2 November 2019 ·

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The question of which is the global largest squash centre is easily answered. It is Hasta La Vista Club in Wroclaw, Poland with 32 courts, including a glass showcourt; along with another showcourt that can be built in the 10 court badminton hall. Certainly enough space to host the WSF World Masters next August! [HASTA LA VISTA](#) [#polskisquash](#) [World Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

5 November 2019 ·

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As glass backwalls were arriving in the 1960s, a glass viewing panel inserted into the door was tried for very limited viewing added to balconies. The photo shows one at Albert Park, Melbourne in Australia, venue for the first World Amateur Individual Championship in 1967. The players seen here in the final are winner Geoff Hunt (front) and runner-up Cam Nancarrow. [@SquashAustralia](#)

