## **LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX:**

## **EVENT VENUES - See** *Events and Players* too.

Year	Month	Day	(features, bold)	2021	Dec	27	PIA Complex, Karachi
2020	Jan	09	1st TOC at Grand Central	2022	Jan`	14	Eiffel Tower area, Paris
2020	Feb	11	Temple Meads, Bristol	2022	Mar	06	Wimbledon Club
2020	Feb	20	Egyptian gallery 1958	2022	Mar	17	Black Ball Club, Cairo
2020	Mar	18	Chichester Front Wall viewing	2022	Mar	26	Marriott, Hurghada, Egypt
2020	May	17	Wembley Squash Centre	2022	May	18	Al Ahram, Egypt
2020	Sept	18	Manchester, pre-national centre	2022	June	30	Kungliga Tennishallen, Sweden
2021	Jan	02	Khalifa Centre, Doha	2022	Sept	28	National Centre, New Zealand
2021	Feb	22	Jeu De Paume, Paris	2022	Oct	13	Heights Casino, Brooklyn, NYC
2021	Feb	27	Calcutta Racket Club	2023	Feb	04	Indian National Centre, Chennai
2021	Mar	02	Museum Squash (Chicago 2007)	2023	Apr	04	Colinton Castle, Edinburgh
2021	Mar	21	1st Pyramids event (1996)	2023	Apr	05	Pyramids, Cairo, daytime
2021	May	22	Cairo Stadium	2023	Apr	14	Wembley Conference Centre 1980
2021	Aug	01	Chichester Festival 1983	2023	Apr	14	Wembley Conference Centre 1984
2021	Aug	11	Manchester, National Centre	2023	May	31	Cannons Club, London
2021	Aug	26	Philadelphia Racquet Club	2023	June	12	Marriott Hotel, Hurghada
2021	Sept	29	Hasta La Vista, Wroclaw, Poland	2023	Aug	30	Squash at the RAC, London
2021	Nov	30	Abbeydale Club, Sheffield	2024	Jan	19	Grand Central Terminal, New York
2021	Dec	13	Wembley Squash Centre court				

Updated to 29 February 2024

## 2024







Squash Library

Squash Library
31 May at 07:18 · 😵

Photo Courtesy Steve Line.













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Today's final of the Women's CIB Black Ball Open in Cairo is being played at the impressive facilities of the Black Ball Sporting Club. Opened in Oct 2017, it features no less than 19 courts, including an all-glass showcourt and has already hosted several major PSA Tour events. Squash - PSA World TourBlack Ball Sporting ClubCIB EgyptEgyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش





The Wimbledon Club in London, venue for the Optasia PSA Men's Tour event beginning today is an historic one. The club was founded in 1854 by cricketers playing on Wimbledon Common. In 1890 it relocated to the current freehold nine-acre site on Church Road that was bought that year from Miss Sarah Beaumont for £3,612. Historically cricket, hockey (pic), tennis and squash have been played there. This week many of the top squash players in the world will do so. Optasia Squash ChampionshipsSquash - PSA World TourTWCsport

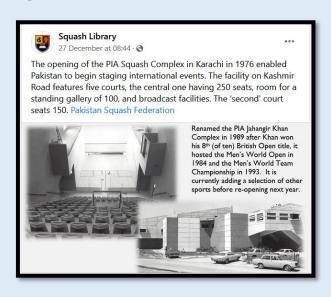




In May 1986 the French Squash Federation placed a showcourt produced by French company Puchaux in Paris between the fountains of the Trocadero, facing the Eiffel Tower for a week as part of the Sport Aid initiative. Its aim was to take squash out of the traditional indoor surroundings. The court was also used for the French Open and World Open (in Toulouse) that year. FFSquash - Fédération Française de Squash



## 2021





When the Wembley Squash Centre was built in North London in 1974, one innovation was a central block of removable seats so that a TV camera could be slotted in (with room behind, in a storeroom). The end seats on the front row were also removable for cameras. For the fill Wembley story go to https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/wembley-squash-centre



### World Squash Library @SquashLibrary $\cdot$ Nov 30

Abbeydale, a suburb of Sheffield in England holds a special place in British squash history. Its 7th court, opened on 30 Oct 1971 was the first full glass back wall fin court enabling viewing across its full width.

The Library Abbeydale story is at: squashlibrary.info/features

The club then hosted the 1972-74 British Opens before the championship moved to the newly opened Wembley Squash Centre in 1975.

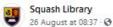




Hasta La Vista, the world's largest squash club, is due to host the postponed World Masters next year on its 33 courts. The facility has already hosted multiple squash championships before, including the 2013 WSF World Junior Championships, the 2017 World Games and the European Masters Championships and European Team Championships in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Owner Zenon Waniak added a demountable all-glass show-court in 2017 to support his bringing events to the Wroclaw, Poland facility. HASTA LA VISTA





Although squash had arrived in the United States earlier, (beginning at St Pauls School in Conover, New Hampshire and in private homes); Christmas Day 1900 was a landmark date for squash in USA.

It was on this date that the first court built at a club was opened. It was at the Racquet Club in Philadelphia at their original Walnut Street location. Slightly smaller than the standardised dimensions, and built entirely of wood for \$500, it proved to be an instant success.

This prompted the club to add three more courts two years later. Again, space constraints meant that they were slightly smaller than the standard 32' by 21'. Unlike the first, they were primarily cement constructed, including the floor, with only the front wall being wooden. The building costs had risen to \$1,630! US SQUASH





When Manchester won the right to host the Commonwealth Games 2002, the venue building programme included a National Squash Centre - which is being used for the Manchester Open this week. In addition to six courts (convertible to four doubles), it included a showcourt (also convertible to doubles), mounted on a hover-pad system.

This enabled it to move through the opening built into the adjacent indoor running track and seating to be built round it for over 2,000 spectators, as pictured (the top photo from the Games 2002 shows the court in the athletics area, with the bottom shot showing the black partition it had moved through to enter the squash area). England SquashSquash - PSA World TourCommonwealth Games Federation



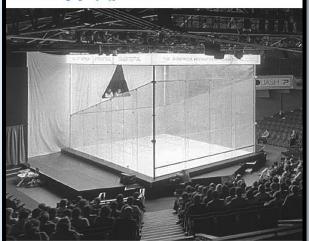


Photos: Steve Line



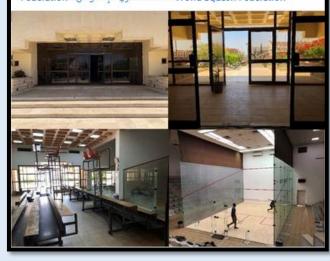
Sunday prompt. In March 1983 at the Chichester Festival Theatre in England Jahangir Khan (PAK) beat Gamal Awad (EGY) 3-1 in the then record breaking 2hr 46 min final of the Chichester International (yes, only four games!). He did so in the probably unique situation of the master camera filming being through the front wall. As can be seen there was no backwall viewing for the event except for the match officials.

Squash - PSA World TourPakistan Squash FederationEgyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصرى للإسكواش





Egypt is synonymous with event hosting, currently in El Gouna, but World Federation founder members Egypt had hoped to host their first world championship – the world Amateur Team & Individual – back in 1979. However, while finances were no problem the lack of facilities prevented it. The National Stadium courts (below) would come on stream two years later so the first of the current 13 World Championship stagings in Egypt was the Men's Teams in 1985. Details for all World Championship events and hostings by nation at https://www.squashlibrary.info/world-championships and all Library World Championship posts are indexed at www.squashlibrary.info, click on POSTS. Egyptian Squash Federation - المصري للإسكواش Squash Federation



# Squash Library

Sunday prompt: With the PSA Tour in Cairo at present, back in 1996 the very first Giza 'Pyramids' event was played there. The Al Ahram International 25 years ago saw home star Ahmed Barada beaten by Pakistani Jansher Khan in the final. Squash - PSA World TourEgyptian Squash Federation - بوابة / Ahram Sport الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش الرياضية







Squash may not have been played in prehistoric times, but in October 2007 it joined with them! A showcourt was erected in the Chicago Field Museum under the watchful eye of Sue, their resident T-Rex, and fighting elephants, for the two day event. It was presented by METROSquash, the city's urban squash & education programme to showcase squash to visitors and students, as well as fund-raise. Professionals including Amr Shabana, John White, Peter Nicol, Natalie Grainger & Jonathon Power played, coaching sessions held, and a dinner for 500 staged. Innovate use of the past to highlight future for youth.

MetroSquash





### Squash Library

27 February at 09:24 · 3

The Calcutta Racket Club in India has a huge history, having been formed in 1793 and thus one of the oldest clubs in the world. The 'Racket' was not a reference to sport, but derived from the 'Racket Bird' that lived in the trees around its site! The club was initially known as the Fives Court or Gamekhana. The game of rackets gave way to squash in the 1930s.

It started with two courts, and added two more in January 1951, the opening by H.E. Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, Governor ... See more







The historic Jeu de Paume Club in central Paris is located on the top floor of a building between the Arc de Triomphe and the Trocadéro.

The club originated in 1908, and replaced one of its Paume (real tennis) courts with four squash courts in 1927, at a time when squash (or squash rackets as it was then called), was almost unknown in France. These courts became the starting point for squash in the country.

One court had part of a sidewall replaced with glass and now opens into the club lounge. The club hosted some matches in the WSF Women's World Team Championship in 2016.

Société Sportive du Jeu de Paume FFSquash - Fédération Française de Squash









A top venue, the Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex was officially opened by HH Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa al-Thani on 16 December 1992. Then it featured a showcourt and two glassbacks, but grew to a showcourt and 8 glassbacks courts to host the Asian Games 2006.

In addition to hosting the annual Qatar Classic International Championship, the Khalifa Centre has also been the venue for five Men's World titles, one Women's and a World Junior Championships too (dates on Library chart extract below & in full at <a href="https://www.squashlibrary.info/features">https://www.squashlibrary.info/features</a>).

Pictured at the Complex inauguration are, left, H.H. Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa al-Thani, H.E. Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalifa al-Thani (centre) with Ali-Al-Fardan the President of Qatar Tennis and Squash Federation, right, showing the facilities.

Qatar Squash FederationSquash - PSA World TourWorld Squash Federation



Qatar				
1998 DOHA	Men's			
2002 DOHA				
2004 DOHA				
2012 DOHA				
2012 DOHA	Jnr Men's, Jnr Women's, Jnr Men's Team			
2014 DOHA				
2019 SOHA	Men's			



Even before the English National Squash Centre was built in 2002 for the Commonwealth Games, showcourt events took place in Manchester. Initially in a circus tent at Belle Vue, and from 1999 - 2002 the British Nationals were staged on a court placed inside the track at the Manchester Cycling Velodrome.





Cassie Jackman & Paul Johnson try the track. Photos courtesy Steve Line.

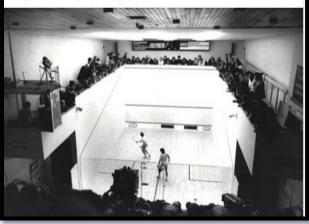


#### Squash Library 17 May - 3

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The Wembley Squash Centre in North West London opened in November 1974. It featured 15 courts, including the first purposebuilt for broadcast centre court. Apart from hosting events such as the British Open, it provided a blueprint for other nations at the time. The full Wembley Squash Centre story is at

https://www.squashlibrary.info/features

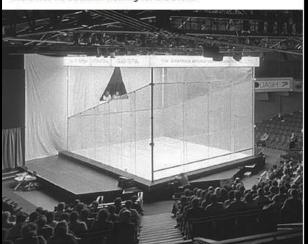




## Squash Library

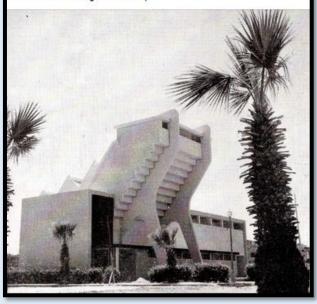
18 March - 🚱

In March 1983 at the Chichester Festival Theatre in England,
Jahangir Khan beat Gamal Awad 3-1 in the then record-breaking 2h
46m Men's Chichester International Final, while Vicki Cardwell also
won her 3rd title; both in the probably unique situation of the
master camera filming being through the front wall. As can be seen,
there was no backwall viewing for the event.





You might have thought that the largest gallery for a court (above the solid back wall) in the 1950's would have been at the Lansdowne Club in London, home of the British Open, ..... but that would have been incorrect. Until 1958 it was the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg, South Africa which could hold 300 – 400. Then in 1958 along came the pictured court which could hold 500 spectators, the majority in a towering block as well as 100 in two side galleries. It was built in the grounds of Cairo University. Another top ranking for Egypt! (The Lansdowne Club court had 144 seats and standing for 60 more).





### Squash Library 11 February - 🚱

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Iconic Grand Central Terminal in NYC isn't the first station-based event. The British Nationals starting in Nottingham today was played at a station from 1985 – 1988. Bristol's Temple Meads Station is the oldest station in England, and became operational in 1840. The court was placed on the track-bed of the historic building, with seating on the old platforms. England Squash





