

## LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX: BRITISH OPEN

Year	Month	Day	(features, bold)	Year	Month	Day	
2019	Oct	27	Hashim & Azam Khan Playing	2022	Mar	31	British Open Men's Final 1078 (YouTube)
2019	Nov	06	1st Women's British Open 1922	2022	Apr	02	Markers sheet, Men's Final 1930
2019	Nov	07	British Open 1974 - no final	2022	Apr	03	British Open trophies
2019	Nov	13	Men's British Open legends together	2022	May	09	1 <sup>st</sup> South African Women's Finalist (1970)
2019	Nov	16	Amr Bey 6 British Opens	2022	May	13	British Open programmes
2019	Nov	24	British Open Women 1946 - 1958	2022	Aug	27	M/W British open joint 1982
2019	Nov	25	British Open 54 (semi-final relatives)	2023	Feb	24	Hunt / Hashim with media 1979
2019	Dec	20	1st overseas Women's winner '62	2023	Mar	02	Cigarette sponsorship (1972-75)
2019	Dec	28	Hashim & Hunt on court	2023	Mar	03	Heather McKay titles
2020	Jan	15	Women's 78, Sue Newman wins	2023	Apr	10	1 <sup>st</sup> Men's challenge
2020	Jan	20	1st Men's Worlds (joint British Open)	2023	Apr	11	1 <sup>st</sup> Overseas Women's entries (USA)
2020	Feb	25	PSA (ISPA) Formation players	2023	Apr	12	1 <sup>st</sup> Jonah Barrington title
2020	Apr	07	Mahmoud Karim, post WW2 winner	2023	Apr	13	1 <sup>st</sup> radio broadcast 1951
2020	May	25	<b>British Open - the Challenge</b>	2023	Apr	14	Showcourt at Wembley 1980
2020	May	26	British Open - Cave Sisters	2023	Apr	14	Showcourt at Wembley 1984
2020	May	27	2018 M A Rodriguez (upset)	2023	Apr	15	Janet Morgan 1th report
2020	May	28	Benson & Hedges sponsorship	2023	Nov	18	British Open/World Open combined (1976)
2020	May	29	1st Men/Women joint (1982)	2023	Dec	02	Abdelfattah Aboutaleb's first title 1963
2020	May	30	Only final retirement (Nicol, 1999)	2023	Dec	21	Jonah Barrington's first title
2020	May	31	Karim trophy import duty	2024	Feb	02	Women's semi-finalists 1924
2020	June	12	Jahangir's 9th (beating Hunt record)	2024	Feb	09	BBC filming final 1974
2020	June	22	Zaman Gul / Hill head-butt	2024	Feb	09	Amr Bey title predictions
2020	July	28	Mahmoud Karim to Australia 1949	2024	May	24	Men's 1972 prize fund
2020	Aug	18	British Open - Lansdowne / RAC	2024	May	28	Men's 1972 prize fund
2021	Jan	15	Hunt/Zaman British Open O35	2024	May	30	<b>Men's 1974 draw / ticketing</b>
2021	Jan	26	Mother & Daughter finals (Irving)	2024	June	03	British Open begins qualification 1961
2021	Feb	09	1st World Open / British players 1967	2024	June	04	Nancy Cave 3 <sup>rd</sup> title, 1923
2021	June	13	Yasin withdraws, 1974 final	2024	June	05	1 <sup>st</sup> Men's 1930
2021	July	31	Heather McKay titles	2024	June	06	<b>Barrington saves the Open 1976</b>
2021	Aug	17	British Open at Lansdowne Club	2024	June	07	Mir Zaman Gul / Anthony Hill 1994
2021	Aug	19	<b>Champions by nation</b>	2024	June	08	Hunt & Hashim
2021	Aug	20	Jahangir Khan prediction	2024	Aug	21	3 <sup>rd</sup> Women's event
2021	Aug	21	Autographed programme 1975	2024	Aug	21	British Open 1977, beamed live
2021	Aug	30	Men's 1976 group (1st World open)	2024	Sept	21	Over 35 band added
2021	Sept	25	Wembley Conf Centre art impression	2024	Oct	03	British Open qualification results
2021	Dec	06	Janet Morgan, last of ten titles (1958)	2024	Oct	03	Over 35 band added
2021	Dec	11	1st Squash 57 British Open	2024	Oct	28	British Open qualification results
2022	Jan	24	Demountable glass-back 1980	2025	Feb	06	<b>Masters finalist history</b>
2022	Feb	07	<b>British Open History</b>	2025	Mar	10	Jahangir / McKay records compared
2022	Mar	25	Roshan Khan's title (1957)	2025	Mar	10	1 <sup>st</sup> Frenchwoman win Camille Serme
2022	Mar	28	Winning as an Amateur	2025	May	17	B & H sponsorship 1972 - 75
2022	Mar	29	Terry Wogan does draw (1978)	2025	June	03	Prize Fund 1986
2022	Mar	30	Susan Noel plays aged 12.	2025	June	04	1 <sup>st</sup> time outside England (Wales 95)
				2025	June	05	Cave sisters 1920s
				2025	June	06	Men's semi-finals 1973 & 1973
				2025	June	07	Anthony Ricketts wins 2005
				2025	Oct	17	

Updated until 30 November 2025



Squash Library  
17 October at 07:32 · 🌐

20 years ago today (17 Oct 2005) Australian Anthony Ricketts won British Open at the National Squash Centre, Manchester. He beat James Willstrop 11-7 11-9 11-7 in the final, and a month later he reached a career high number three in the PSA world rankings. (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open> for the Library's British Open history), [PSA Squash TourEngland SquashBritish Open Squash](#) - from [SquashSiteSquash Australia](#)



Photo courtesy Steve Line




Squash Library  
6 June at 07:55 · 🌐

Uniquely, when the first women's British Open was played in 1922, three of the four semi-finalists were sisters. This photo from <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration> shows (L to R) Joyce, Marjory and Nancy Cave. Joyce won the inaugural event and two more, while Nancy contested nine finals, also winning three. [British Open Squash](#) - from [SquashSite](#)



From the Bas van Hoorn collection



Squash Library  
5 June at 08:00 · 🌐

The British Open began in 1922 (women) and 1930 (men) but despite the 'British' name, it wasn't until 1995 that it moved out of England. Then, for three years under Leekes sponsorship it was held in Cardiff, Wales. The first year saw two showcourts being erected in the Cardiff International Arena. [British Open Squash](#) - from [SquashSiteSquash Wales](#) - [Sboncen CymruEngland SquashPSA Squash Tour](#)




Photo courtesy Steve Line



Squash Library  
7 June at 07:51 · 🌐


The first two men's British Open events of the three played at Abbeydale Sports Club in Sheffield featured the same four semi-finalists. Jonah Barrington came out on top each time – here are the details. <https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open> for Library British Open background, and [www.squashinfo.com](http://www.squashinfo.com) for detailed results. [British Open Squash](#) - from [SquashSiteJonah BarringtonPSA Squash Tour](#)



**BRITISH OPEN**  
Abbeydale, Sheffield

**1972**  
**Semi-finals:**  
Jonah Barrington (IRL) beat  
Gogi Alauddin (PAK)  
10-8, 9-7, 9-2;  
Geoff Hunt (AUS) beat  
Ken Hiscoe (AUS)  
9-7, 10-9, 9-4.  
**Final:**  
Barrington beat Hunt  
0-9, 9-7, 10-8, 6-9, 9-7.

**1973**  
**Semi-finals:**  
Jonah Barrington (IRL) beat  
Ken Hiscoe (AUS)  
3-9, 9-1, 7-9, 9-1, 9-2;  
Gogi Alauddin (PAK) beat  
Geoff Hunt (AUS)  
1-9, 9-7, 9-1, 10-8.  
**Final:**  
Barrington beat Alauddin  
9-4, 9-3, 9-2.



Squash Library  
4 June at 07:46 · 🌐

Here is the prize fund for the Hi-Tec British Open in 1986 – from a time when plate competitions were offered along with masters categories. [British Open Squash](#) - from [SquashSitePSA Squash TourEngland Squash](#)

PRIZE FUNDS		OVER 35		VETERANS		VINTAGE	
MEN'S OPEN							
Winner	£ 5,000	Winner	£ 1,000	Winner	£ 300	Winner	£ 200
Runner Up	3,450	Runner Up	500	Runner Up	175	Runner Up	120
3/4	2,000	3/4	250	3/4	100	3/4	50
5/8	1,100	5/8	100	5/8	40		
9/16	550	9/16	40				
17/32	315						
33/64	160						
TOTAL	£ 31,410		£ 2,720		£ 835		£ 420

WOMEN'S OPEN		WOMEN'S OVER 35		WOMEN'S VETERANS		WOMEN'S PLATE	
Winner	£ 3,500	Winner	£ 500	Winner	£ 150	Winner	£ 75
Runner Up	2,300	Runner Up	250	Runner Up	90	Runner Up	40
3/4	1,400	3/4	125	3/4	30		
5/8	700	5/8	40				
9/16	350						
17/32	140						
33/64	60						
TOTAL	£ 18,360		£ 1,160		£ 300		£ 115



Squash Library

3 June at 07:43

In a time when cigarette companies could sponsor sports, and athletic ones at that, Benson & Hedges sponsored the men's British Open from 1972 to 1975. Here is their information provided in the 1972 event programme. **British Open Squash - from SquashSiteEngland SquashPSA Squash**

## THE BENSON & HEDGES OPEN SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Official Programme No.

Benson & Hedges, a name renowned for quality, are sponsoring the British Open and British Amateur Championships this season. The support of the two major competitions in the S.R.A. calendar follows the successful Benson & Hedges Round-Robin tournament with Jonah Barrington's triumph which was played in December and January, 1970/71. Both competitions are carrying the sponsor's name and the game now has the Benson & Hedges Amateur Championship and the Benson & Hedges Open Championship.

The company also supports the training of the British squash team by donating £1,000 which enabled the S.R.A. to employ the services of Jonah Barrington prior to the International Championships in New Zealand.

Benson & Hedges are providing £4,000 for the British Open of which £2,000 has been set aside for hotel expenses to encourage the top overseas players to enter. The prize structure, based on a budget of £1,000, provides a first prize of £500, a great improvement on the £100 paid to the winner last year. Benson & Hedges are also giving a new trophy for the winner.

### Happy marriage

The £2,000 Benson & Hedges sponsorship for the Amateur Championship is being used mainly towards hotel expenses to encourage the top overseas players to compete. The prize structure has been agreed within the S.R.A. limit of £50.

A successful sports sponsorship is a happy marriage of interests. The game benefits by the injection of financial support, and the sponsor, in return, wins goodwill and greater public recognition. Benson & Hedges are sure that this new alliance will prove to be a productive union on both sides. They are very glad to be associated with Britain's fastest-growing game, they do not seek to interfere in any way with its organisation or control, and they wish it great success in the years ahead.

 **Squash Library**  
6 February at 07:59

Masters events started being played alongside the British Open with the Men's Over 45 being first in 1965. Subsequently men's were expanded from Over 35 to Over 80 age groups with women's up to Over 75. Here on the Library website: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open>, is the Library's complete list of all finalists (scroll down past the M/W event history). Results can be viewed at [www.squashinfo.com](http://www.squashinfo.com). [England SquashBritish Open Squash - from SquashSiteEUROPEAN SQUASH MASTERS](#)



2024

**Squash Library**  
17 May at 07:49 · 🌐

Ten years ago today (17 May 2015), Camille Serme became the first French woman to win the British Open, beating Laura Massaro (ENG) 3-1 in the final. She also became the first female from her country to win the US Open title the following year. [Camille SERMEFFSquash - Fédération Française de SquashPSA Squash TourBritish Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



A professional squash player, Camille Serme, is captured in a dynamic, low-to-the-ground stance during a match. She is wearing a black sleeveless top, blue shorts, and white sneakers with blue accents. Her right arm is extended forward, holding a squash racket, while her left leg is bent and tucked under her. In the background, another player in a white tank top and black shorts is visible, along with a blurred audience seated in the stands. The court floor is dark with blue boundary lines.

Photo: [psasquashtour.com](http://psasquashtour.com)

Squash Library

28 October at 08:35

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Squash Library has added all missing main and qualification results of the Men's British Open from the start in 1930 for [www.squashinfo.com](http://www.squashinfo.com), where they can be viewed. Women's to follow. But some 1980's qual results were not published. Has anybody kept any from 1983-1987 & 1989? [PSA Squash Tour](#)

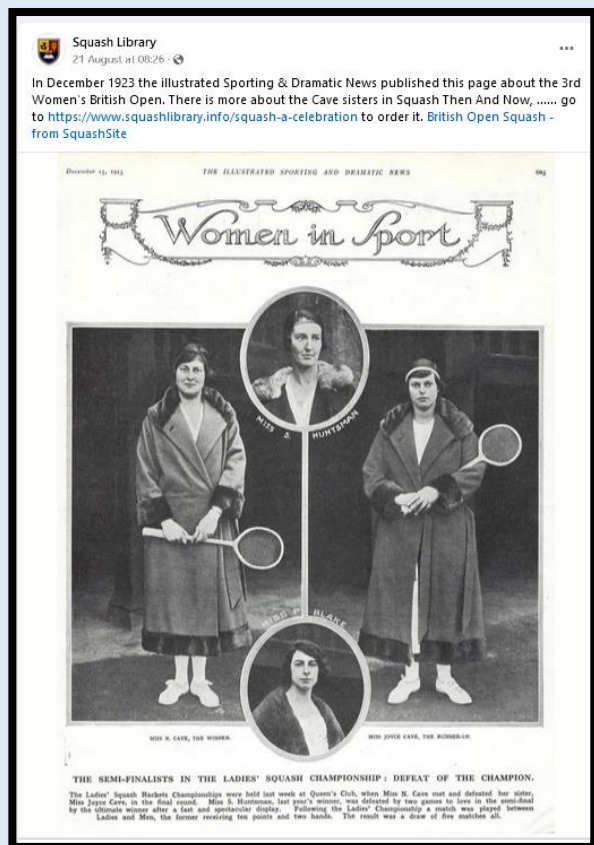
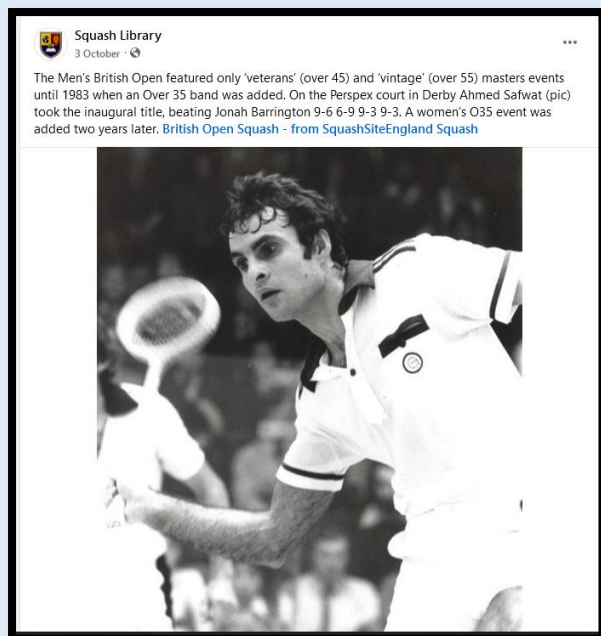
Jun-24	Birmingham, England	Apr-78	London, England
Apr-23	Birmingham, England	Apr-77	London, England
Apr-22	Hull, England	Feb-76	Wembley, England
Aug-21	Hull, England	Feb-75	London, England
2020	Event not held	Feb-74	Sheffield, England
May-19	Hull, England	Feb-73	Sheffield, England
May-18	Hull, England	Feb-72	Sheffield, England
Mar-17	Hull, England	Dec-70	Birmingham, England
Mar-16	Hull, England	Dec-69	Birmingham, England
May-15	Hull, England	Jan-69	Sheffield, England
May-14	Hull, England	Dec-67	London, England
May-13	Hull, England	Dec-66	London, England
May-12	London, England	Dec-65	London, England
2011	Event not held	Dec-64	London, England
2010	Event not held	Dec-63	London, England
Sep-09	Manchester, England	Dec-62	London, England
May-08	Liverpool, England	Dec-61	London, England
Sep-07	Manchester, England	Dec-60	London, England
Sep-06	Nottingham, England	Dec-59	London, England
Oct-05	Manchester, England	Mar-59	London, England
Nov-04	Nottingham, England	Mar-58	London, England
Oct-03	Nottingham, England	Mar-57	London, England
Apr-02	Manchester, England	Mar-56	London, England
Jun-01	Birmingham, England	Mar-55	London, England
Oct-00	Birmingham, England	Mar-54	London, England
Dec-99	Aberdeen, Scotland	Mar-53	London, England
Apr-98	Birmingham, England	Apr-52	London, England
Apr-97	Cardiff, Wales	Apr-51	London, England
Apr-96	Cardiff, Wales	Apr-50	London, England
Mar-95	Cardiff, Wales	Apr-49	London, England
Apr-94	Wembley, England	Mar-48	London, England
Apr-93	Wembley, England	Dec-47	London, England
Apr-92	Wembley, England	Dec-38	London, England
Apr-91	Wembley, England	Nov-37	London, England
Apr-90	Wembley, England	Nov-36	London, England
Apr-89	Wembley, England	Dec-35	London, England
Apr-88	Wembley, England	Dec-34	London, England

**Squash Library**  
10 March at 07:59

Heather McKay won sixteen and Jahangir Khan ten consecutive British Open titles during their careers. A look at the points they lost during their matches gives an indication of the level of their dominance. All matches were played HiHo, and in 1968 McKay dropped a mere three points over five matches; and once she got into her stride very few generally each year (and only two games in total).

It is perhaps indicative of the greater extent of the men's opposition that Jahangir lost more games and points annually.

[PSA Squash Tour](#)[Squash Australia](#)[Pakistan Squash Federation](#)[Jahangir Khan](#)






**Squash Library**  
7 June at 08:12 · 🌐

30 years ago an infamous incident occurred at the British Open 1994, captured by photographer Steve Line. At Lambs Club in London, Australian Anthony Hill continually riled up opponent Mir Zaman Gul in an acrimonious 1st round match, eventually causing the Pakistani to crack, face-up and lightly head-butt Hill. Hill dropped to the floor, clutching his face.

Hill admitted, 'He did not really hurt me. I've had worse than that from my mother, but I just could not believe he had done it. I fell over thinking: 'I'll just sit here for a while and I'll get the match.' He was right, he was awarded it.

The incident which made headlines beyond the squash media led to Gul banned for four months and fined £1,500. Hill was fined £100 for throwing the ball at Gul. In addition the English SRA fined him a further £500 and banned him from the 1995 British Open. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



**Squash Library**  
5 June · 🌐

When the Men's British Open began in 1930 the prize fund for the two players who contested the challenge was GBE100 so winner Donald Butcher took home nearly £67 and loser Charles Read nearly £34. <https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open> for the Library history, including challenge details, and champions poster. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#) [PSA World Tour](#)



**CHARLES READ (ENG)** **DONALD BUTCHER (ENG)**

**Squash Library**  
6 June at 08:39 · 🌐

Jonah Barrington didn't win the Men's British Open in 1976 – he lost in the quarter finals – but he did save it. Here, at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources>, is what happened in the month before the event began, along with the media release that announced the sponsorship of the event, and the results. Also on the Library at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open> is the full history of the championship. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#) [Jonah BarringtonSquash - PSA World Tour](#) [England Squash](#)



**Squash Library**  
4 June · 🌐

100 years ago in December 1923 Nancy Cave won the third Women's British Open (the first two had been played in Feb & Dec 1922). It seems that the courts were very cold! [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



**Squash Library**  
3 June · 🌐

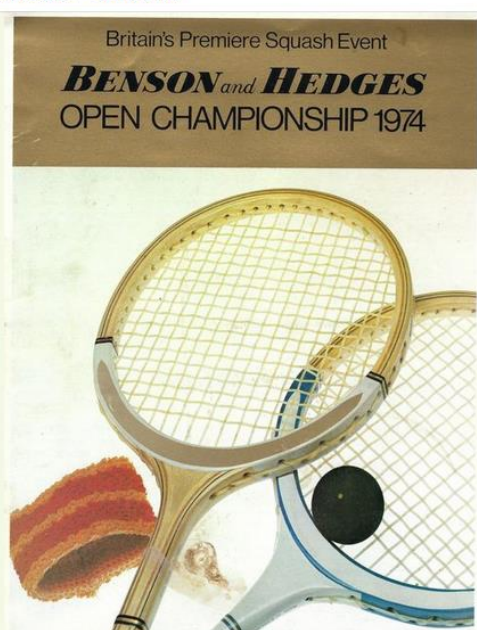
When the Men's British Open was played in December 1962 at the Lansdowne Club in London a qualification event was held for the very first time. Here is why the SRA decided to do so, with the full Library history of the Championship at [www.squashlibrary.info/british-open](https://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open). [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)

**The Championships Committee bearing in mind that the Open Championship represents the highest standard of play probably in any competition has decided to revert to the custom of limiting the championship proper to 16 players.**

**Any entries in excess of this number considered by the committee worthy of selection are required to qualify in an eliminating competition played a couple of days before the championships in the same courts.**

**Squash Library**  
30 May at 08:49

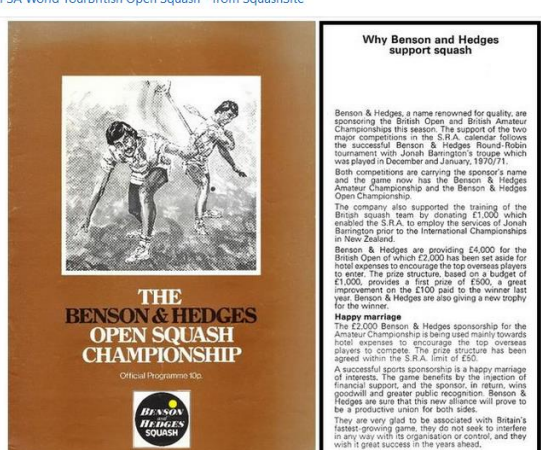
The Men's British Open 50 years ago in Sheffield in 1974 didn't feature a final as Mohamed Yasin having beaten holder Jonah Barrington in the quarters, sustained an ankle injury when he followed it up with a semi-final win over Qamar Zaman. The full draw is here <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources>, along with the ticketing details, with footage from the substitute exhibition between Hunt and Barrington at <https://www.youtube.com/@worldsquashlibrary7032/videos>, on the Library YouTube Channel. **British Open Squash - from SquashSiteSquash - PSA World Tour**



Britain's Premiere Squash Event  
**BENSON and HEDGES**  
OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP 1974

**Squash Library**  
28 May at 08:19

In advance of the British Open this year, looking back at 1972, the first of four years of men's sponsorship by the cigarette company (acceptable back then), the programme notes indicate that the prize fund total was just GB£1,000, half of which went to the winner (Geoff Hunt). **Squash - PSA World TourBritish Open Squash - from SquashSite**



**Why Benson and Hedges support squash**

Benson & Hedges, a name renowned for quality, are sponsoring the British Open and British Amateur Championships this season. The support of the two major competitions in the S.R.A. calendar follows the successful Benson & Hedges Round Robin tournament with Jonah Barrington's troupe which was played in December and January, 1970/71. Both competitions are carrying the sponsor's name and the game now has the Benson & Hedges Amateur Championship and the Benson & Hedges Open Championship.

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**Squash Library**  
23 May at 06:05

When Egypt's Amr Bey won the first of his five British Open titles in 1932 (beating Donald Butcher 2/0 in the challenge - (men's knockouts draws began in 1947), the Squash Rackets, Fives, Tennis & Rackets magazine predicted quite rightly that he would win more: **Egyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش**



Nobody can begrudge Amr Bey his victory; it was won by the finest play that has yet been seen, and it is difficult to see how he can humanly improve upon it. There seems no particular reason why Amr Bey should meet with defeat for many years to come, while it is quite certain that if he does, his conqueror must play brilliantly enough to defeat him in three games, for surely no one else will be able to set so fast a pace for five.

**Squash Library**  
2 February at 08:20

While the men's British Open didn't begin until 1930 (and until 1947 only featured a two player challenge, see [http://www.squashlibrary.info/\\_/men-s-british-open-the-](http://www.squashlibrary.info/_/men-s-british-open-the-)), the women's started in 1922, and went straight in as a knockout event. Here are the four semi-finalists from 1924, as pictured in the Illustrated Sporting & Dramatic News on 13 December 1924. **England SquashBritish Open Squash - from SquashSite**

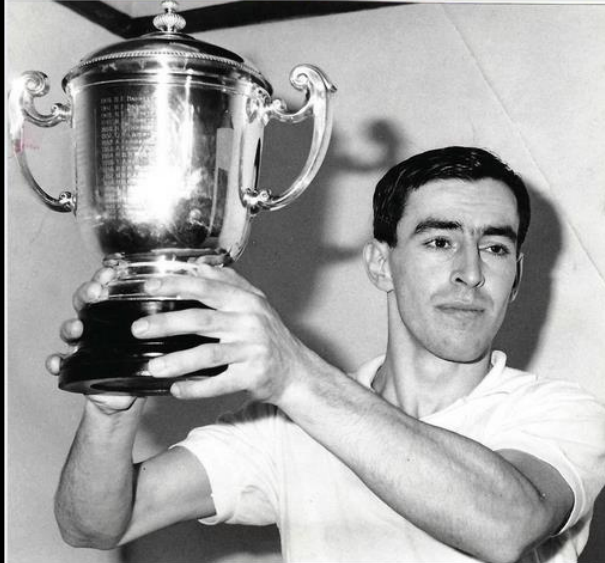


THE LADIES' SQUASH RACKETS CHAMPIONSHIP AT QUEEN'S: THE SEMI-FINALISTS (L. TO R.): MISS R. HUNTSMAN, MISS J. GAYE, MISS G. FENWICK, AND MISS NANCY CAVE. After Miss J. and Miss N. Cave had beaten their respective opponents they contested the final, when Miss Joyce beat her sister, Miss Nancy, the holder, 15-3, 6-15, 16-12.

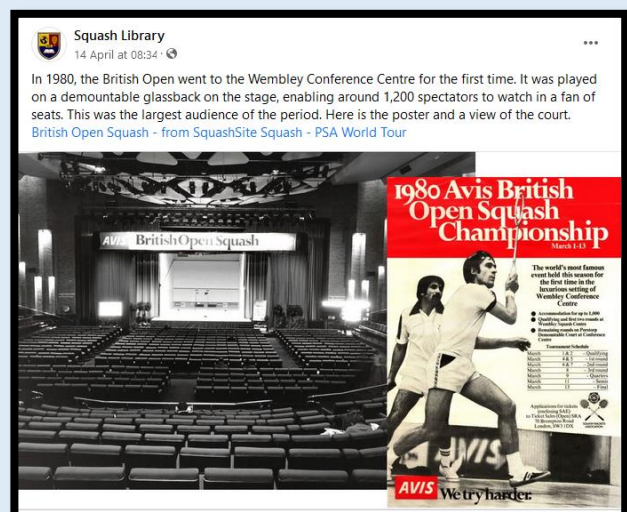
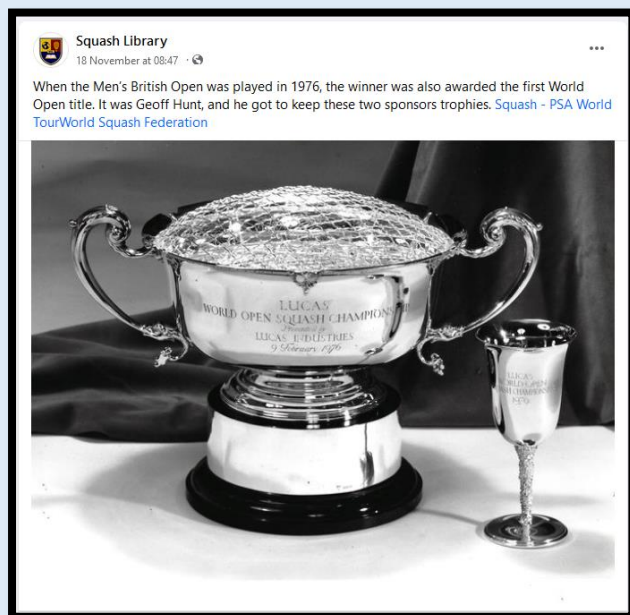
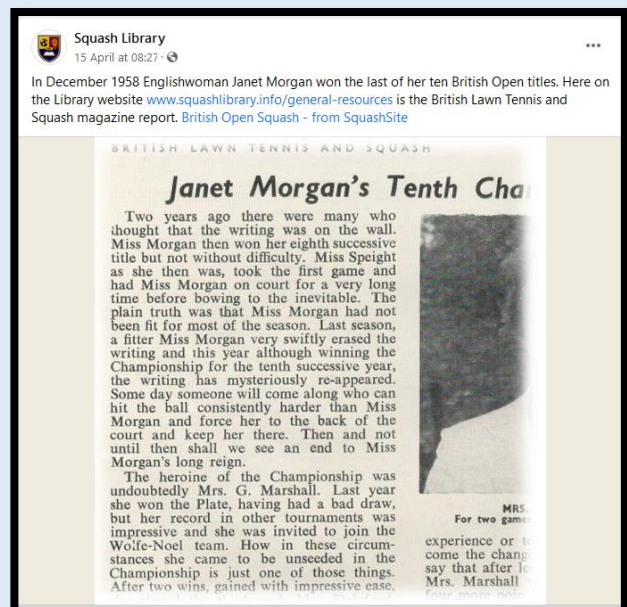
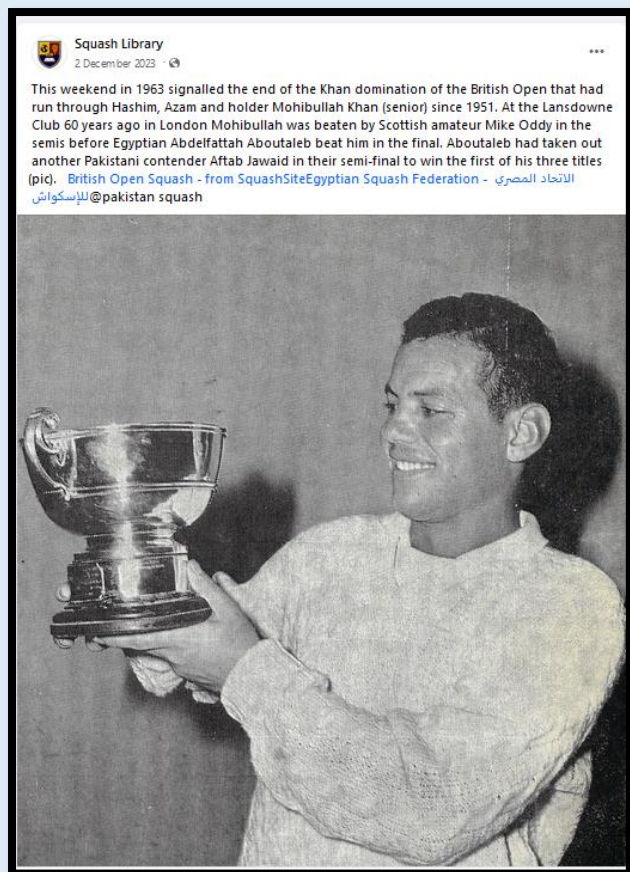
2023

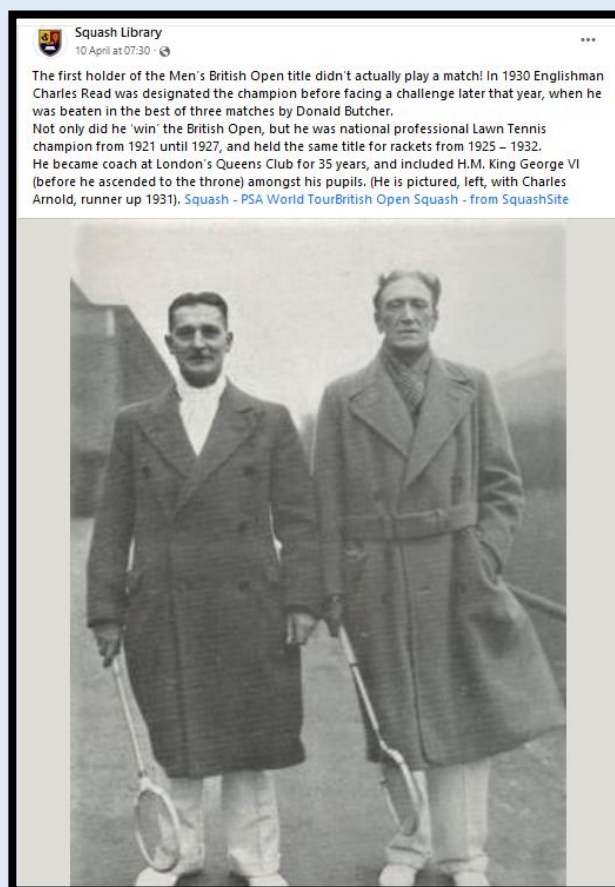
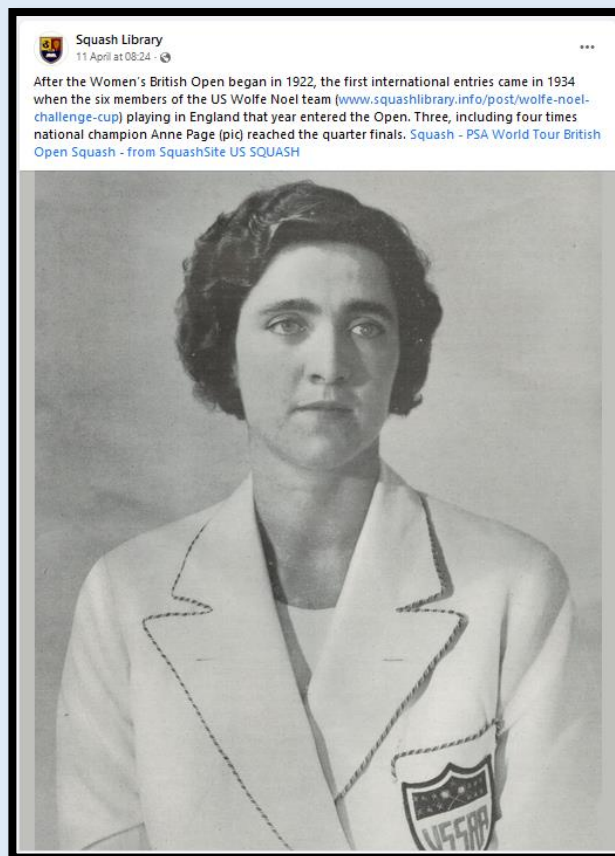
**Squash Library**  
21 December 2023 at 08:18

On this day (21 Dec) in 1966, Jonah Barrington his first British Open title at the Lansdowne Club in London. The event was the first where the final was contested by two amateur players, was a complete sell-out, and in another first the semis and final were filmed from a glass panel in the court door, and from a camera above the front wall. Barrington had beaten Egyptian holder Abdelfattah Aboutaleb in the quarters ('Abou's first defeat in UK after losing to Mohibullah Khan in the 1962 final), and Ibrahim Amin in the semis. His opponent was to be Aftab Jawaid, who beat fellow Pakistani Mohammed Yasin 3-2 in their last-four match. The final was a 53 minute encounter with a 9-2 6-9 9-2 9-2, the first of six British Open wins for Barrington. **Jonah BarringtonBritish Open Squash - from SquashSiteSquash - PSA World Tour**

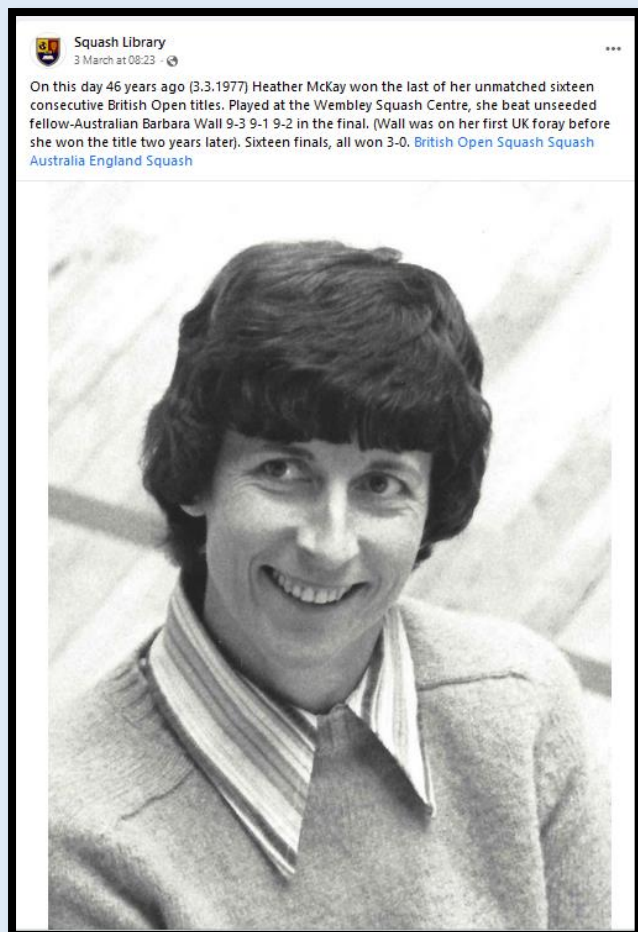




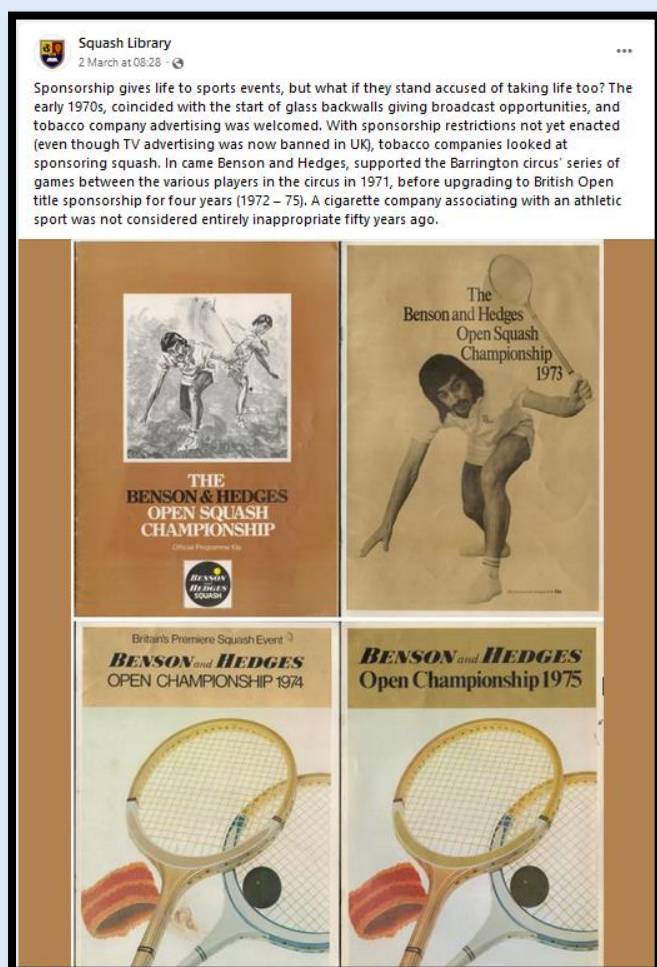




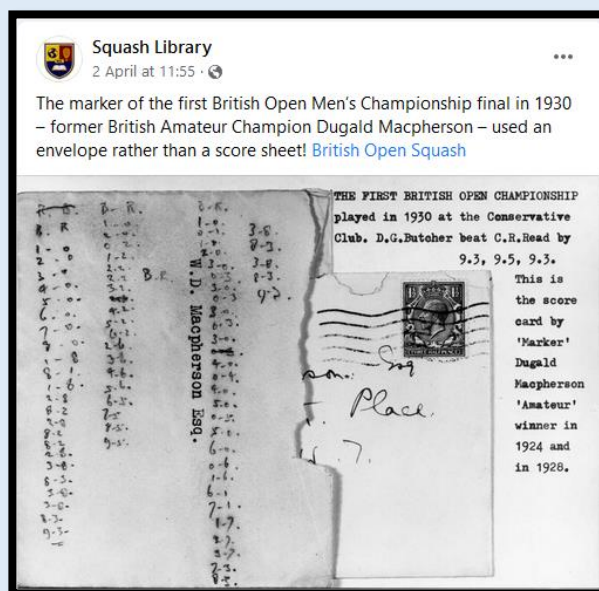
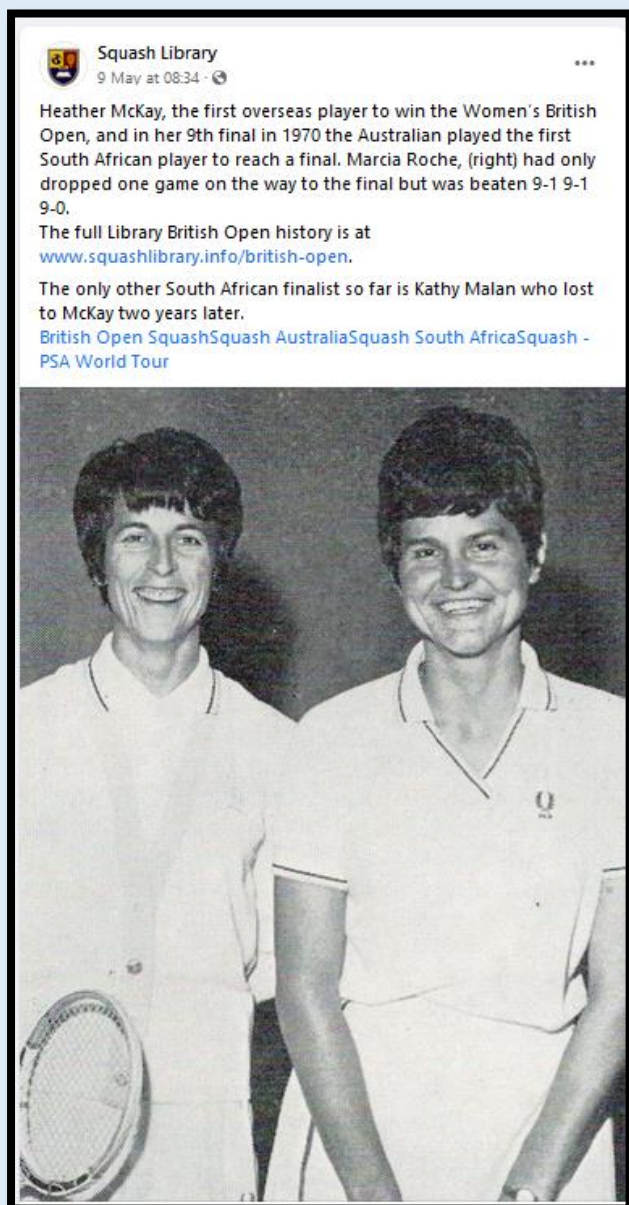




2022











Squash Library

30 March at 08:41 · 🌐

When Englishwoman Susan Noel competed in the British Open for the first time in 1924 she was aged 12! Later, she won the title three times, in 1932 – 1934, then retired at the age of 22 before returning five years later to play in the 1939 pre WW2 event, losing in the final to Margot Lumb (ENG). [British Open Squash](#)



Squash Library

28 March at 08:43 · 🌐

When Jonah Barrington won the first of his six British Open titles in December 1966 he became the first amateur to take the title. He also won his second a year later before turning pro, while Australian Geoff Hunt also won his first British Open in 1969, turning pro in 1971, before his second of eight came in 1974. (Pictured playing at the British Open 1978, Barrington, foreground). [British Open SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



Squash Library

29 March at 08:26 · 🌐

Fifty years ago today UK 'national treasure' Terry Wogan broadcast his first radio show. Six years later he did the 1978 Men's British Open draw. Australian holder Geoff Hunt also attended. [www.squashlibrary.info/british-open](http://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open) for full event history of dates, venues, sponsors, results linked to [squashinfo.com](http://squashinfo.com), programme PDFs and champions posters. [British Open Squash](#)





Squash Library

25 March at 08:31 · 🌐

Sixty five years today (25.03.1957), Roshan Khan beat fellow Pakistani Hashim Khan 6-9 9-5 9-2 9-1 at the Lansdowne Club in London to win his British Open title. Although he was also runner-up twice, there is no doubt that he would have won more titles had he not been playing at the same time as the dominating brothers, Hashim and Azam Khan. His son Jahangir won ten titles, and they are pictured here when Jahangir won his ninth in 1990. [British Open Squash Pakistan Squash Federation](#)



Photo courtesy Steve Line.



Squash Library

7 February at 08:14 · 🌐

The British Open - for much its history considered squash's World Championship - celebrates its centenary today. Library research at [www.squashlibrary.info/british-open](http://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open) has revealed that the first Women's British Open began on 7 February 1922 - exactly 100 years ago.

The Women's event preceded the Men's championship, which began eight years later in 1930 - the men playing on a challenge basis until 1947.

Until now, for the first few decades, actual dates have not been listed for British Open editions, and as they often denoted the year of the start of the British squash season (which ran from September to April), many were simply incorrect. Events were often held both before and after the New Year - so, in some years there were two events and in others none at all!

The page details the dates, venues, winners, programme scans and champions posters as a new Library reference resource for our sport. [England SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



Squash Library

24 January at 08:45 · 🌐

In 1980 the British Open was played for the first time on a portable court - one with solid front and side walls but a glass backwall. Placed on the stage of the Wembley Conference Centre, a 'fan' of up to 1,200 people could watch. [www.squashlibrary.info/post/before-full-show-courts](http://www.squashlibrary.info/post/before-full-show-courts) for the full history of demountable glass back wall courts. [British Open SquashEngland SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)





2021

**Squash Library**  
11 December at 08:40 · 🌐

A branch of squash celebrated its first British Open this year. On 16/17 October the Hallamshire Club in Sheffield hosted the Squash 57 (formerly Racketball) British Open.

The first Men's winner was ten times National Champion Tim Vail (right) who prevailed over Hallamshire's Nick Matthew – the three times British Open Squash champion unable to add a 57 crown; while current World number five Sarah-Jane Perry took her first 57 title. [England Squash](#)



**Squash Library**  
6 December at 08:45 · 🌐

On this day in 1958 (6 Dec), Janet Morgan (later married name Shardlow) won the last of her ten consecutive British Open titles, beating another Englishwoman, Sheila Macintosh 9-4 9-1 9-5. The event was held at London's Lansdowne Club.



**Squash Library**  
25 September at 11:10 · 🌐

As squash events moved from glass-backs to all-round viewing there was a brief stage where buildable glass back courts were used. The first major event to do this was the March 1980 British Open, with final rounds played on the stage of the Wembley Conference Centre. (After that year the event moved away before returning in 1984 with a showcourt with seating all found it).

Promoter Mike Palmer of Multisquash needed to show what this new staging concept would look like. In his words, 'To give the media – and the public – a greater understanding of what was happening, I commissioned a commercial artist to produce an illustration. This was then photographed and photos sent out with press releases'.

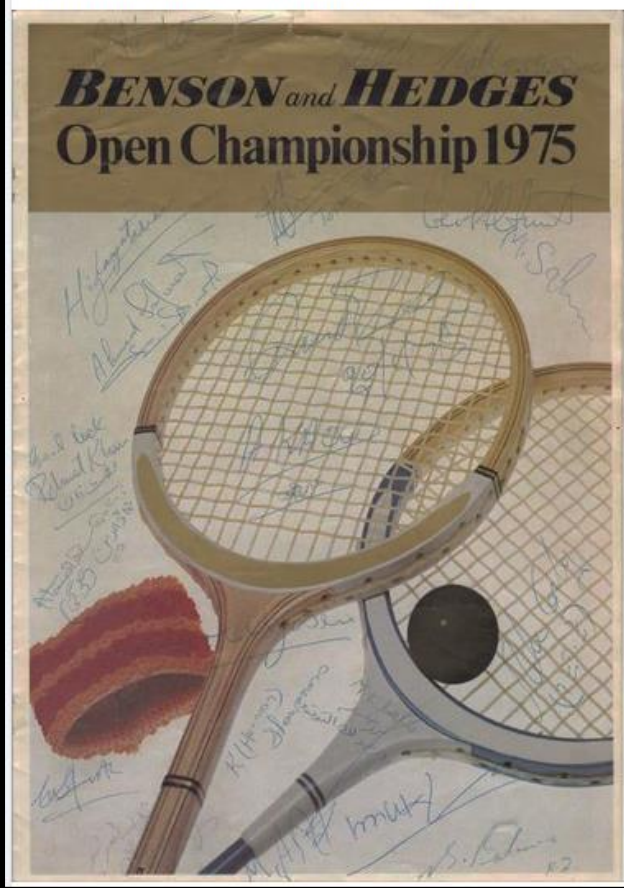
This picture is an example of 'squash art', as opposed to cartoons and the like. If there are others out there the Library would love to create a gallery of them so that they can be viewed and preserved.



The players at the 1976 British Open trying to get their hands on the trophy – knowing that it incorporated the 1st World Open title too! (L to R, Ken Hiscoe, Geoff Hunt, Mohibullah Khan, Gogi Alauddin, Qamar Zaman, Cam Nancarrow, Hiddy Jahan, Jonah Barrington). [World Squash Federation](#)[England Squash](#)



For a different trip down memory lane, an eye wandering across the cover of the 1975 British Open programme cover shows some of the entrant autographs. Sadly, not all are with us anymore.



In 1981 when Jahangir Khan was aged 17, six times British Open champion Jonah Barrington made this prediction, 'Jahangir Khan will become the best player of all time'. Ten British Open titles later (and six World Open wins too), nobody can argue that the Pakistani is right up there. A profile by journalist Dicky Rutnagur quotes another legend Geoff Hunt – who won eight British Open titles himself – who said 'They used to call me the best player ever at my age, but Jahangir is something special, much better than I was at seventeen'. (Barrington & Hunt left, Khan right) [England Squash](#)[Pakistan Squash Federation](#)[Squash Australia](#)[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



We know the outstanding number of British Open wins achieved by Heather McKay, Jahangir Khan and other legends, but what are the number of titles broken down by nation? This Library chart <https://squashlibrary.info/.../british-open-winners-by-...> gives you the answer. [England Squash](#)[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)







### Squash Library

17 August at 08:33 · 🌐

...

After WW2 the British Open was played at the Lansdowne Club (the Bruce Court pic) in central London until moving to the RAC in 1958, but when court repairs to the RAC courts were taking longer than anticipated, the event (along with the British Amateur) moved back to the Lansdowne for a further six years. [England SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



### Squash Library

31 July at 08:48 · 🌐

...

Australian Heather McKay who won an extraordinary 16 consecutive British Opens (1962 – 1977), celebrates her 80th birthday today. The first fourteen triumphs were as an amateur, before prize money was offered. She didn't drop a game in any final, with Anna Craven-Smith (ENG) coming closest in her 6th & 7th finals, losing 10-8 in one game in both years. They are pictured here. [Squash AustraliaBritish Open SquashEngland SquashSquash - PSA World Tour](#)

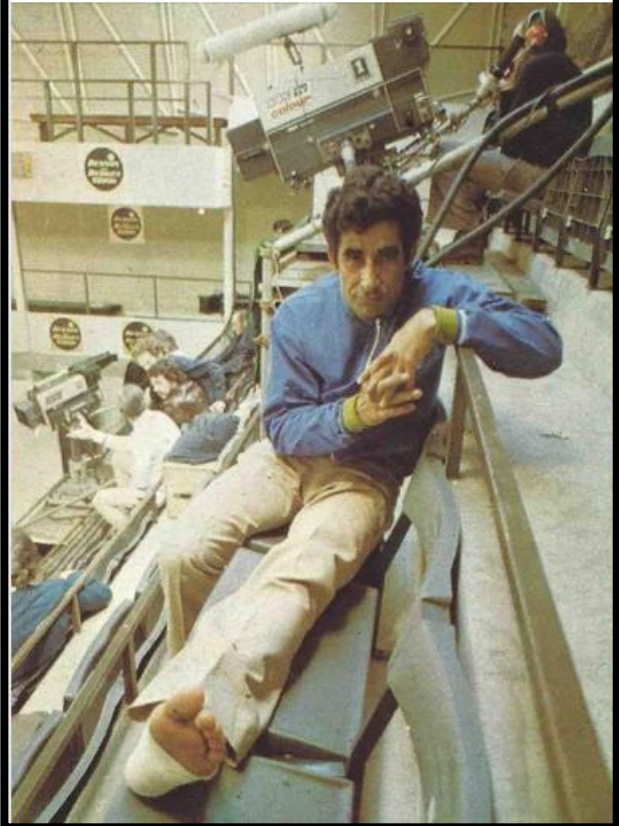


### Squash Library

13 June at 09:45 · 🌐

...

Sunday prompt: The only British Open final that was not played was the Men's 1974, when Pakistan's Mohamed Yasin (below) injured his ankle in his semi-final against countryman Qamar Zaman in the quarters at Abbeydale, Sheffield, after beating holder Jonah Barrington in the quarters. This gave Geoff Hunt the second of his eight titles via a walkover. [England SquashPakistan Squash FederationSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



### Squash Library

9 February at 09:39 · 🌐

...

The 1976 Men's British Open (31 Jan – 9 Feb), played at the Wembley Squash Centre, London, incorporated the first World Open title for the winner, who was Geoff Hunt (AUS). <https://www.squashlibrary.info/world-championships> for the full Library World Champ details. Here is the player group from the opening. Too many to caption! [World Squash FederationSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



**Squash Library**  
26 January at 09:05 · 🌐

Australians Liz Irving and her mother Jenny, are the only mother & daughter to have reached British Open finals, though neither (pictured together below) took the title. Jenny Irving reached hers in 1971 where legend Heather McKay waited; while Liz faced Susan Devoy (NZL) in 1988, and countrywoman Michelle Martin in 1994 & 95. [Squash Australia](#)



**Squash Library**  
15 January at 09:08 · 🌐

Australian Geoff Hunt beat Qamar Zaman in three British Open finals in 1978 – 1980 on his way to eight titles, and they met again in the 1989 event – in the Over 35 event. Hunt, the second seed, again beat his Pakistani opponent in the semi finals 9/7, 9/7, 6/9, 4/9, 9/6 before losing to top seed Hiddy Jahan in the final.



**Squash Library**  
18 August · 🌐

Immediately after the Men's British Open ceased to be played on a 'challenge' basis (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../men-s-british-open-the-...>), from 1948 until 1958 the Lansdowne Club in central London hosted the event using its' Bruce Court, pic. But for two years the event moved to another central London venue, the RAC Club because it was reported that 'the British SRA failed to agree financial matters with the club'. But after two years the event moved back to the Lansdowne due to RAC court repairs taking longer than anticipated.

From 1969 the Championships moved to glassback wall venues – initially Abbeydale (Sheffield) and Edgbaston Priory (Birmingham), before Wembley Squash Centre came on stream in 1975. [England Squash](#)



**Squash Library**  
28 July · 🌐

In 1949 British Open champion Mahmoud Karim from Egypt visited Australia. His club, the Gezira Sporting Club, granted him leave to go, and the Egyptian Squash Association contributed half his flight, the balance covered by the Australian Association who had invited him.

He played a number of exhibition games in Victoria & New South Wales, and won the Australian Open title. His presence was a great success and reportedly 'gave great impetus to the game'. [Squash Australia Egyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش](#)



2020





Squash Library

22 June · 🌐

...

On 23 April 1990 at the Wembley Conference Centre in North West London, Pakistani star Jahangir Khan won his ninth British Open title. He would go on to win a tenth consecutive one the following year, but this one was significant.

The ninth took him past Australian Geoff Hunt's eight and into the record books as the holder of the most Men's British Open titles.

His father Roshan, winner of the title himself in 1957 and runner up twice, was in London to see him complete the feat (photo: Steve Line).



Squash Library

12 June · 🌐

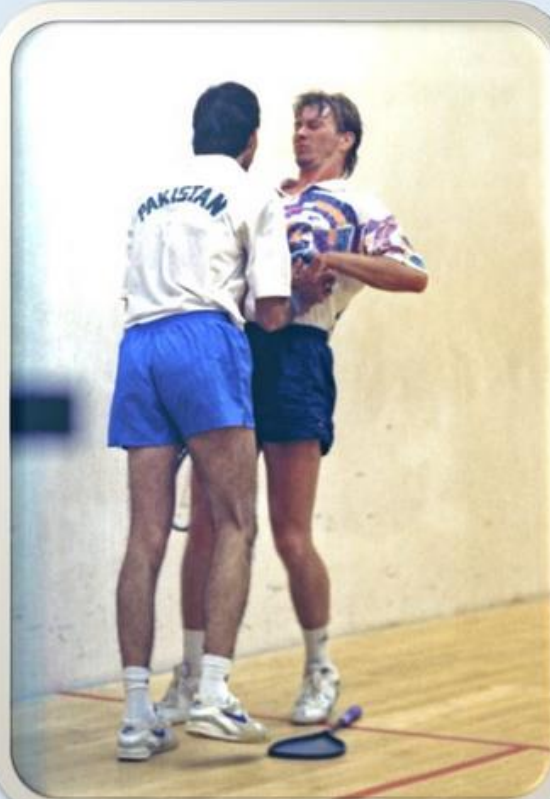
...

On 6 April 1994 at Lambs Club in London during the 1st round of the British Open, Australian Anthony Hill was leading 9/3, 3/9, 3/9, 9/2, 7/0 when opponent Mir Zaman Gul head-butted him and was disqualified.

The match had been acrimonious, with Hill baiting his opponent, including throwing a ball at Gul, before the Pakistani player snapped, stood eye to eye with his opponent and then bent forward to lock foreheads.

Hill reported that 'I have had worse than that from my mother' but made a meal of it, going down. The outcome was a four month ban and GBP1,500 fine was the outcome for Gul, with Hill receiving a GBP100 one for the ball throw.

The incident drew wide attention, being captured by squash photographer Steve Line.



Squash Library

31 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 7

When Mahmoud Karim arrived back in Egypt after winning the 1948 British Open (and the 'Professional Championship') he was ordered to pay import duty on the two trophies.

'The cups represent a high honour for Egypt, won at great expenses', he pointed out.... See more





Squash Library

30 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 6

The Library has previously reported that the only British Open Final that was not played was the 1974 Men's one when a semi final ankle injury forced Mohamed Yasin to concede to Geoff Hunt; but there has also been one Men's Final which was not completed.

In December 1999 the British Open went to holder Peter Nicol's region of Scotland. Later rounds were played at the Aberdeen Conference & Exhibition Centre. Nicol reached the final... See more



Squash Library

29 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 5

On the 60th anniversary of the inaugural Women's British Open, the Men's & Women's Open Championships were played together for the first time in 1982.

That year the championships took place at the Bromley Town Squash Club, with final rounds on a demountable glassback court built on the stage of the Churchill Theatre

in Bromley (South East London). It saw the first of ten triumphs for Pakistani Jahangir Khan, and a third of four titles for Australian Vicki Cardwell. Winners pictured.



Squash Library

28 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 4

While it would be inconceivable now, sponsorship of athletic sports by cigarette companies was commonplace a few decades ago. The British Open was sponsored by the Benson & Hedges brand for years 1972 – 1975.

Their representative explained their reasoning: 'the market is prestigious, it represents quality and it involves fast growth'.

Here are the ticket prices for 1974.

Benson & Hedges Open Squash Event  
**BENSON & HEDGES**  
OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP 1974



The Squash Rackets Association  
**THE BENSON & HEDGES OPEN SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP, 1974**  
To be played on the Championship Court of the  
Abbeydale Park Squash Rackets Club, Abbeydale Park,  
Dore, Sheffield, S17 3LJ (Tel. 0742-361356)  
Thursday, January 21st–Friday, February 8th, 1974  
Hosted by: JONAS KARBONEN (Sweden)

TICKET PRICES			
	Unseated	Seated	Seated
	Standing	Standing	Box 12
Early Admission (Monday 21st January) 8.00 p.m.	55p	—	£1.25
Midweek Admission (Tuesday 22nd January) 8.00 p.m.	55p	£1.00	£1.25
Friday Admission (Friday 25th January) 8.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	75p	£1.00	£1.50
Weekend Admission (Saturday 26th January) 8.00 p.m.	75p	£1.50	£2.50
Weekend Admission (Sunday 27th January) 1.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00
Final Admission (Friday 28th January) 8.00 p.m. onwards	55p	—	£1.25
Final Admission (Saturday 29th January) 8.00 p.m.	£1.50	£2.00	£6.50

NOTE: Tickets for Wednesday 23rd January will be purchased via two and three parties respectively. Arrangements for tickets should be made through the British Squash Association, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1A 3AB. Tickets for admission to the Open are available from the British Squash Association, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1A 3AB. Tickets for admission to the Open are available from the British Squash Association, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1A 3AB. Tickets for admission to the Open are available from the British Squash Association, 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1A 3AB.



Squash Library

27 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 3

The 1918 Men's British Open saw: (1) its' first South American champion, (2) the first unseeded winner too, and (3) the first PSA World Series event winner from the continent.

On 20 May in Hull, Colombian Miguel Angel Rodriguez, then aged 32, carved a way past Ramy Ashour & Ali Farag to reach the final against another Egyptian star, top seed Mohamed Elshorbagy. 102 minutes later he had taken the title with an 11-7, 6-11, 8-11, 11-2, 11-9 scoreline.

It was one of the greatest upsets that pro squash has seen. [Squash - PSA World Tour Federación Colombiana de Squash](#)







Squash Library

26 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 2

Hashim & Azam Khan were not the first siblings to contest a British Open final. Sisters Nancy & Joyce Cave played the first one in 1922 (won by Joyce), and a further three were played between themselves. One or both sisters were in the first eleven Women's British Open Finals (1922 – 1932), each winning three. Nancy, the older by six years, was also runner up six times, while Joyce managed three losing finalist slots.

They, and oldest sister Marjorie who played once too, were coached by their father Harold Cave, a rackets player, on an oversized court at their home.

(Pictured, a player group from the 1923 Championship)



Squash Library

25 May · 🌐

...

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 1:

After it began in 1930, the Men's British Open was played on a challenge basis rather than knock-out until 1948. The historical detail is in Library Features at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../men-s-british-open-the...>

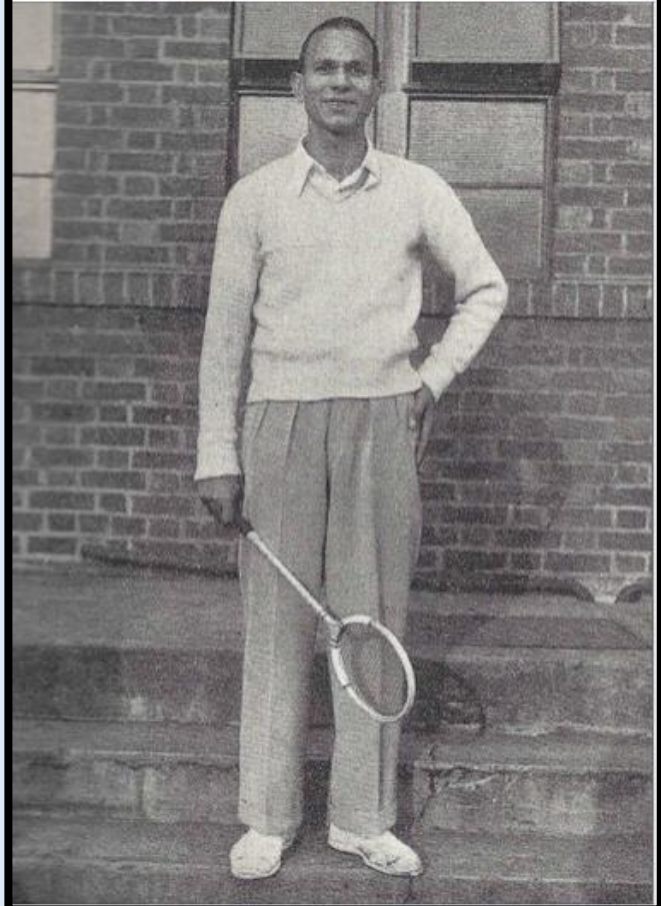


Squash Library

7 April · 🌐

...

Straight after WW2, a player went unbeaten for four years, winning four British Opens amongst other titles. He was Egyptian Mahmoud Karim, a renowned elegant stroke-maker. Having started Coaching on Cairo's Gezira Club concrete floors of the time, he had not played on a wooden floor before travelling to UK! After his retirement he moved to coach in Canada and was adaptable enough to win the US title (hardball) in 1956 & 1957. [Egyptian Squash Federation](#) - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش



Squash Library

25 February · 🌐

...

Following up on the start of ISPA (PSA), a group of early top line members are seen here before the 1978 British Open. LtoR: Geoff Hunt, Jonah Barrington, Sharif Khan, Bruce Brownlee, Kevin Shawcross, Qamar Zaman, Maqsood Ahmed, Ian Holding. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



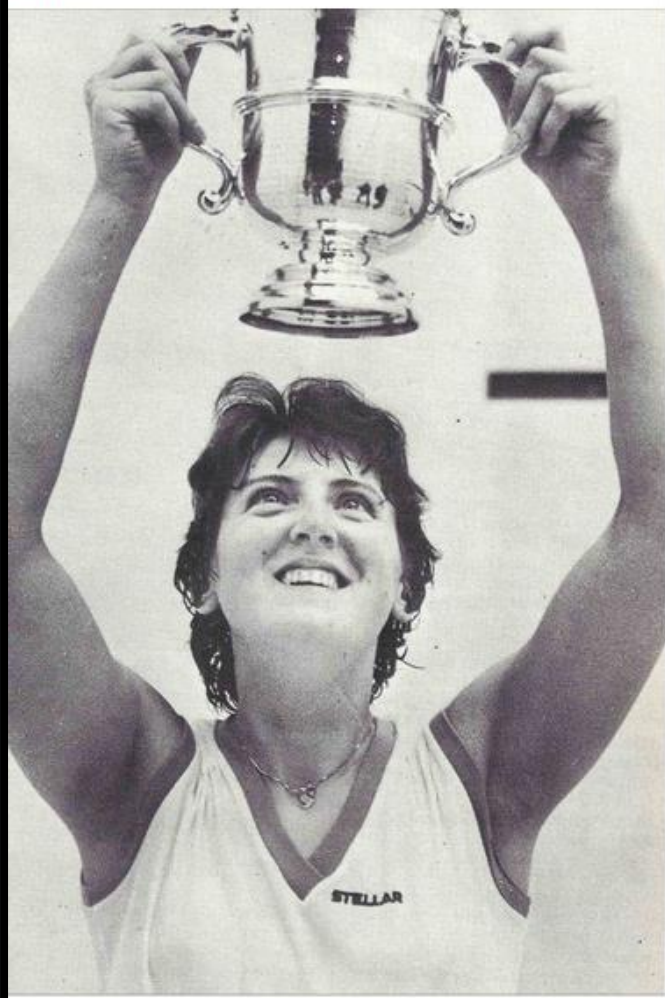


Squash Library

15 January · 🌐

...

Heather McKay stopped before the Women's British Open in 1978, so after a wait of 16 years she allowed another player to get their hands on the trophy! That person was Sue Newman (married name King). She beat fellow Australian Vicki Hoffman (Cardwell) 9/4 9/7 9/2 to win her only title. Hoffman later took four titles in 1980 – 1983.

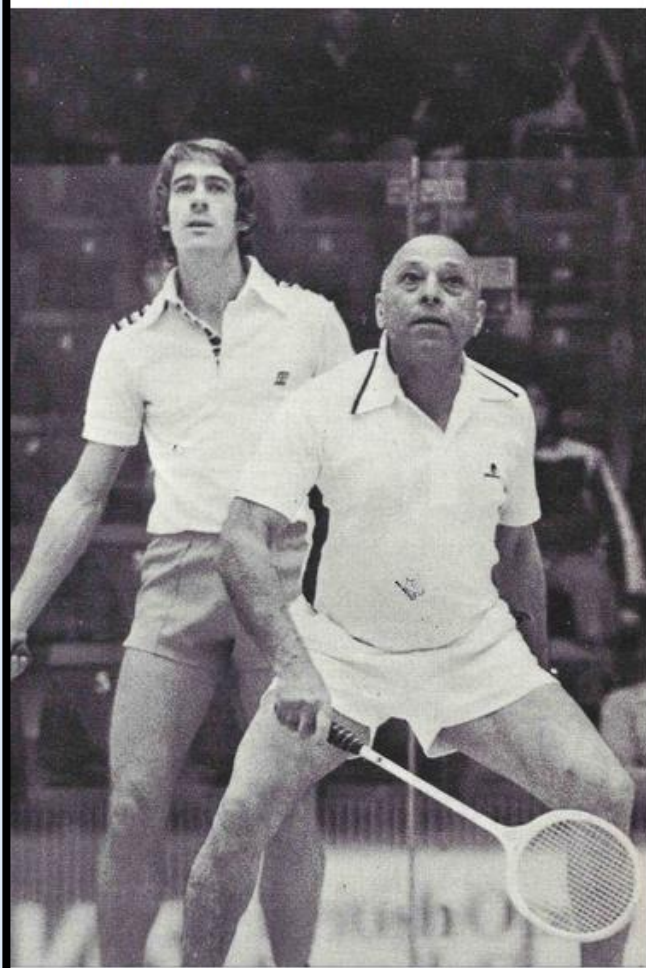


Squash Library

28 December 2019 · 🌐

...

While Geoff Hunt was winning his 5th (of 8) British Open titles in 1978, he took to the court with 7 times winner Hashim Khan (then 63 years old) to the delight of the Wembley crowd. Comparing legends can be inconclusive, but bringing them together is incomparable.







From when the Women's British Open began in 1920 until Australian Heather McKay (Blundell) won her first title in 1962, beating Fran Marshall 9/6 9/5 9/4, no player from outside England had reached a final.

British Lawn Tennis Magazine commented after the 1962 final, 'How good is Miss Blundell? The answer is of course is that she is not yet as good as she will be when experience is added to her already strong capabilities. Given time in which to perfect her drop shot and side wall play.' ..... Sixteen unbeaten years later it seems she did!



..... and for interest, here is the full 1954 British Open Men's draw.

#### THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE BRITISH ISLES, 1953-1954

Played at the Lansdowne Club from March the 24th to the 29th, 1954

First round	Second round	Semi-finals	Final	Winner
H. Khan (Pakistan)	H. Khan	H. Khan	H. Khan	H. Khan
*M. F. Mahdadi (Warwickshire)	9-6, 9-3, 9-3	9-1, 9-2, 9-4	9-0	
W. J. Ashford (United Service Club)	J. R. Giles	A. Bari		
J. H. Giles (Abbeydale Park S.R.C.)	9-4, 9-3, 9-3	6-5, 9-3, 9-5		
*A. Fairbairn (Middlesex)	A. Fairbairn	9-10, 9-7		
L. W. R. Keeble (Lansdowne Club)	9-4, 10-8, 9-2			
A. Bari (Junior Carlton Club)	A. Bari			
*D. B. Hughes (Sussex)	9-3, 9-9, 9-1, 9-4			
*D. W. D. Shaw (Scotland)	I. C. de Sales la Terrière	A. Khan		
*I. C. de Sales la Terrière (Scotland)	10-9, 9-5, 9-3	9-1, 7-9, 9-5		
A. Khan (Pakistan)	A. Khan	9-3, 9-5, 9-0		
*R. B. Wilson (Sussex)	9-0, 9-5, 9-0			
*Sir Charles McLeod (Hampshire)	Sir Charles McLeod	R. Khan		
*A. P. Duggart (Sussex)	9-3, 9-6, 7-9, 3-5, 10-8	9-3, 9-3, 9-6		
*R. B. Hawkey (Cambridgehire)	R. Khan			
R. Khan (Pakistan)	9-2, 9-3, 9-4			

\* Amateur. Seeded players in heavy type.



Uniquely, all four Men's Semi Finalists in the British Open 1954 were related. They were Pakistanis L to R Hashim Khan, Abdul Bari, Nasrullah Khan (withdrew) Roshan Khan and Azam Khan. Hashim & Azam were brothers, Roshan (Jahangir Khan's father) a cousin and Bari, son of Syed Ali, a distant relative!

[Pakistan Squash Federation](#)



For the post-WW2 13 year period starting 1946, English pair Joan Curry (left) won the first three British Opens, followed by Janet Morgan (Shardlow) who took the next ten. Morgan was R/up to Curry twice and Curry to Morgan three times too. [England Squash Squash - PSA World Tour](#)





Squash Library  
13 November 2019 · 🌐

...

As Jahangir Khan was starting out on his journey towards ten British Open titles, this photo was taken at the Wembley Conference Centre featuring legends holding no less than 37 British Open titles between them! L to R Roshan Khan (1), Jonah Barrington (6), Azam Khan (4), Jahangir Khan (10), Geoff Hunt (8), Hashim Khan (7) and Qamar Zaman (1). [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)[Pakistan Squash Federation](#)[Squash Australia](#)[England Squash](#)



Squash Library  
15 November 2019 · 🌐

...

Tarek Momen now joins a number of great Egyptian male and female champions. Congratulations, Tarek. The first Egyptian star was F.D. Amr Bey who won the British Open six times from 1933 – the de facto World Championship before it became a title in 1976.

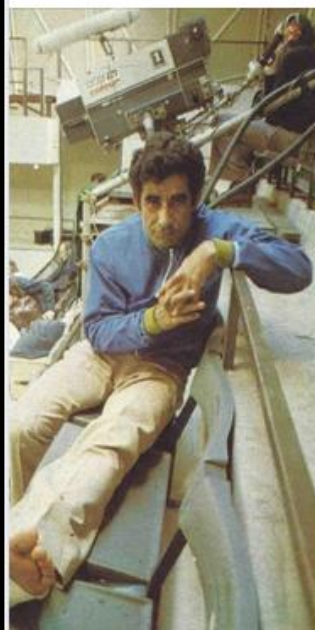


Squash Library  
7 November 2019 · 🌐

...

#### British Open Fact 2.

The only British Open final that has not been played was the Men's 1974, when Pakistan's Mohamed Yasin (below) injured his ankle in his semi final win against countryman Qamar Zaman after beating holder Jonah Barrington in the quarters at Abbeydale, Sheffield. So Geoff Hunt won his second of eight titles by a walkover. Take a look at the ticket prices!



THE 1974  
& HEDGES BRITISH OPEN SQUASH  
on the CHAMPIONSHIP SQUASH  
COURT, WEDNESDAY, 31 JANUARY to FRIDAY

		Unreserved STANDING	
AN	6.00 p.m.	55p	
AB	from 6 pm	55p	
'	3pm - 7pm	75p	
'	from 6 pm	75p	
R E S T			D
AB	6.30 & 8pm	£1.00	
'	from 3 pm	55p	
'	4.30, 6pm & 7.30 pm	£1.50	
ICE.		FOR MEAL RESER	
ALL PRICES INCLUDE V.A.			





### Squash Library

7 November 2019 · 🌐

...

#### British Open Fact 1.

The Women's British Open began in 1922, eight years before the Men's in 1930. They only started being held together in 1982 sixty years after the first Women's. (A Challenge system was used by the Women until 1928, and Men until 1948).



### Squash Library

27 October 2019 · 🌐

...

Squash legend Hashim Khan (left) beat brother Azam (right) in 3 of his 7 British Open final wins (1951 – 58), with Azam winning the next 4 (1959 – 62). Hashim only lost one final - to Jahangir's father Roshan Khan in 1957.

