

LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX: UNCATEGORISED (general)

Updated to 30 September 2026

Year	Month	Day	(features, bold)
2019	Nov	22	Agatha Christie's Court
2019	Dec	06	1st mag article - Boys Own Paper 1894
2019	Dec	07	1st book - 1900
2019	Dec	27	Library featured - Squash Player Magazine
2020	Jan	01	Death of Elvis Presley
2020	Jan	12	Litesome coaching cassette
2020	Jan	13	Stamps featuring squash
2020	Jan	18	Racketball/Squash 57 history
2020	Jan	25	Bjorn Borg
2020	Jan	26	Shakespeare Squash
2020	Jan	28	US Urban Programme
2020	Feb	05	Worldwide Clubs 1938
2020	Feb	12	London Breweries
2020	Feb	24	London Capital Radio Survey
2020	Mar	01	Irish qualification appeal
2020	Mar	21	Coaching film 1938
2020	Mar	31	Squash Player Diary
2020	Apr	01	Postal Squash!
2020	Apr	18	Squash Forward launch
2020	Apr	28	1st World Squash Day
2020	May	08	Hardball / Softball USA 1983
2020	May	18	1st squash computer?
2020	June	02	Spelling; Racket or Racquet
2020	Aug	09	Eric Hyde views (smoking/women) 1935
2020	Aug	12	Covid Snapshot
2020	Aug	17	SPIN introduction
2020	Aug	31	Jumbo Doubles
2020	Sept	05	Nicol/Garner 7 Court Challenge 2013
2020	Sept	13	History timeline
2020	Sept	15	PSA / WISPA promo DVDs (2004 & 07)
2020	Sept	21	Elton John Squash court
2020	Sept	27	Missing WSF Annual appeal
2020	Oct	05	Gander Dowar predictions 1932
2020	Oct	14	Hardball Doubles promotional brochure
2020	Oct	24	Squash Library 1st birthday
2020	Nov	14	1st Malaysian Champion, Tunku Imran
2020	Nov	21	Prince Philip meets
2020	Nov	24	Ball levy 1965
2020	Dec	15	1st British Squash 57 Champs (1984)
2020	Dec	24	RAC Club coaches
2020	Dec	31	SquashInfo Partnership
2021	Jan	16	New website daily post directory
2021	Jan	17	New website championships heading
2021	Feb	02	Doha Airport Squash Courts
2021	Feb	04	Athens LTC (HM King Constantine - 1966)
2021	Feb	06	Racketball becomes Squash 57
2021	Feb	21	Boy's Own Paper article 1894
2021	Mar	01	Filofax Squash Insert (1990)
2021	Mar	03	Handicaps for Squash (1937)
2021	Mar	07	World Clubs 1938
2021	Mar	09	Bath Club v Queens Club 1906
2021	Mar	19	Dick Hawkey, author
2021	Mar	31	Jesters Club (first 75 years)
2021	Apr	01	Finals backwards (April Fool)
2021	Apr	05	1st nuclear reactor - in a court (racquets)
2021	Apr	06	Pop-up squash shop
2021	Apr	15	Novak Djokovic plays squash
2021	Apr	28	Ultra violet squash
2021	May	08	WISPA Promotional Tour (Russia)
2021	May	15	SportAccord 2012 (Inflatable court)
2021	May	22	Missing publications
2021	May	25	Prince Philip – playing in Hong Kong
2021	May	30	Fred Perry ad, Khans, 1954
2021	June	05	Greek Law, medical fitness, 1968
2021	June	11	Torvill & Dean on court
2021	June	15	1st squash book by a woman
2021	June	22	Harrow School
2021	June	23	1st court in a house
2021	June	25	Titanic Ship court
2021	June	28	Shadow Caller training aid
2021	July	03	Rod laver (squash ball in pocket)
2021	July	24	Hugo F Charteris comments (1909)
2021	Aug	03	Post directory
2021	Aug	06	Qatar stamps
2021	Aug	07	Commonwealth Games 2014 stamp
2021	Aug	09	Plate event start
2021	Aug	12	Doubles report 1951
2021	Sept	13	Squash court ballroom 1930s
2021	Sept	22	Australian growth 1957
2021	Sept	25	Squash in art
2021	Sept	30	Argue Martin!
2021	Oct	05	Squash on stamps
2021	Oct	09	World Squash Day 2021
2021	Oct	14	Longest Match 2015
2021	Oct	18	Squash + Education Alliance
2021	Oct	23	Racket sports –risk of death
2021	Oct	29	1st English computerised ranking
2021	Nov	04	Titanic court fees
2021	Nov	05	WSF Ambassadors Programme
2021	Nov	18	Australia accounts 1936
2021	Nov	24	World Squash Coaching start
2021	Dec	20	Amr Bey memento return
2022	Jan	15	Squash sculpture 1986
2022	Jan	29	Squash Wales calorie chart 2013
2022	Feb	02	Obata session, Japan
2022	Feb	12	Anti-doping education
2022	Feb	15	Worldwide squash boom (1973)
2022	Mar	22	Outside the Box, show
2022	April	05	Hashim Khan on service.
2022	April	14	Kirks Classic Squash can
2022	April	18	Atari Squash Game 1992
2022	April	22	US Hall of Fame
2022	June	03	Tom Cruise squash T-shirt
2022	June	09	Quotes prompt
2022	June	13	Arsenal / Chelsea training courts
2022	July	01	Charles Read book, women comments
2022	July	11	John Skillman's book 1937 on glass courts
2022	July	20	Richard Mosley coaches King Juan Carlos
2022	Aug	05	Women's Tour calendar 2009 & 2010
2022	Sept	13	Memorable quotes
2022	Sept	19	Worldwide National court list 1987
2022	Sept	20	Eye Group event rights acquisition 1999
2022	Sept	24	Roger Federer retirement
2022	Oct	04	Extract, Charles Arnold coaching 1926
2022	Oct	11	Ned Bigelow, US 'shaker'
2022	Oct	14	World Squash Day start

2022	Nov	09	Cellphone offer (UK) 1987	2025	Oct	12	Racquets or Rackets question 1929
2022	Nov	19	Sports Marketing Survey UK 1987	2025	Oct	18	Racketball recognition
2022	Dec	24	Bath Club Cup, best of three (1936)	2025	Nov	19	George Bernard Shaw house court
2022	Dec	27	John Nimick, PSA & promoter	2025	Nov	25	Harrow School
2023	Jan	09	1 st Postage stamp 1962	2025	Nov	28	Squash Library, WSF Official Archivist
2023	Jan	09	Pakistan stamp, Worlds 2005	2025	Dec	11 'Greatest' results	
2023	Feb	11	Kensington Country Club	2025	Dec	12	Wheelchair squash, Canada & Wales
2023	Feb	14	Munster courts WW2	2025	Dec	13	SRA 21 st birthday 1949
2023	Apr	24	Hashim Khan book quote	2025	Dec	24	Logoed bags, European Team 1975
2023	May	27	Tay-Bul squash game	2025	Dec	30	Amr Bey advice
2023	June	02	Scandinavian squash 1969	2026	Jan	05	Women's clothing ad 1936
2023	June	03	English SRA accounts 1938	2026	Jan	17	Tony Swift resigns 1976
2023	June	13	1 st anniversary Nicol David Org	2026	Feb	23	Oldest team match 1908?
2023	June	15	Bert Armstrong collection	2026	May	04	Barrington / Corby consultancy 1971
2023	June	19	RAC Squash Sub-committee 1912	2026	May	15	Charles Roupell 4 tips (1934)
2023	June	27	Veterans Club of GB 60 th anniversary	2026	June	05	Ovaltine tablets 1950s
2023	July	28	Elliman's Athletic Rub	2026	June	27	Anti-doping education 2016
2023	Aug	24	Andrew Shelley job ad	2026	July	03	Jesters Club
2023	Sept	11	Frankenstein's monster ad 1989!	2026	Sept	02	Racketball / Squash 57 names
2023	Sept	12	Question of Sport cards 1987	2026	Sept	22	SRA activity trellis
2023	Sept	19	Sports Survey UK 1987	2026	Sept	26	Netherlands growth 1970s
2023	Oct	13	World Squash Day				
2023	Oct	28	Male player fashion 1938				
2023	Nov	04	Drinks trolley 1951!				
2023	Nov	09	Racquets Ground, Fleet Prison				
2023	Nov	10	Frank Sedgeman on tennis/squash				
2023	Nov	17	Jack Giles (coach)				
2023	Dec	27	Squash stickers				
2023	Dec	30	SRA officers 1938 (inc Amr Bey)				
2024	Jan	02	Aliens playing squash!				
2024	Jan	22	1950s player levy, Canada				
2024	Feb	10	Coaching course 1951				
2024	Feb	23	Peter McRae heroism WW2				
2024	Mar	04	Hillary Clinton opens StreetSquash				
2024	Mar	11	Subramaniam Singaraveloo 70 th				
2024	Mar	16	Calcutta Merchants Cup (1954)				
2024	Apr	20	Dunlop factory visit 1962				
2024	May	06	1 st World Coaching Conference 1994				
2024	May	24	1st SRA Newsletter (1979)				
2024	May	27	South African squash slogan comp '82				
2024	June	13	Lanyards and passes				
2024	June	25	Bert Armstrong collection display				
2024	June	26	Titanic postcard				
2024	July	17	European courts 1974				
2024	Aug	24	US Federation logo evolution				
2024	Oct	04	UK summer league start				
2024	Oct	10	Junior age groups 1954				
2024	Oct	27	1 st Library post 2019				
2024	Dec	17	Fairbairn / Wilson preparation 1954				
2025	Jan	11	HRH Prince Rainier (Monaco)				
2025	Jan	14	Ealing public courts, London 1933				
2025	Jan	27	HMS Renown court 1920s				
2025	Feb	11	AIS (Australia) starts 1985				
2025	Mar	13	Jonah Barrington (President SRA)				
2025	Mar	31	Tatler squash cartoon 1936				
2025	Apr	19	Barbados National Centre				
2025	Apr	30	John Flanagan, Univ Club, Chicago				
2025	May	20	<i>Ask The Library</i> launched				
2025	May	31	King Edward VIII squash enthusiast				
2025	June	14	Squash courts in churches				
2025	June	18	Arthur Winnington-Ingram				
2025	June	21	Oldest club debate				
2025	June	28	Promotional head covers (1070s)				
2025	July	05	US Coaching handbook 1962				
2025	July	19	Ayton & Millman, Berlin Wall				
2025	Aug	06	Handicapping discussion (1936)				
2025	Aug	23	20 th anniv, Becerra+Stillman Acad				
2025	Aug	27	WSF Coach Education Prog 2015				
2025	Sept	08	Vacant title guidelines 1928				
2025	Sept	11	Boast & Nick word origins				
2025	Sept	26	Ned Bigelow, US Open initiator				
2025	Oct	09	Bath Club racket presentation				

2026

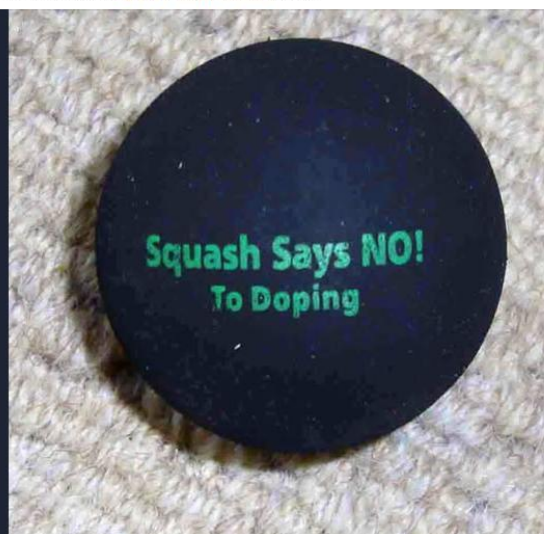


-Aiming to increase participation & promote excellence-



"THE PRICE OF A SQUASH BALL ANNUALLY FROM EACH PLAYER FOR ALL THESE SERVICES."

22



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[World Squash Federation](#) See less



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(Information at <https://www.thejestersclub.org/club-info/>. See less



BY CHARLES ROUPELL

Practice getting sufficiently near to the ball to be able to "smother" the bounce. If left foot for forehand, and right foot for backhand, is placed close to pitch of ball greater control is acquired. Lifting of ball nearly always occurs from swinging out at a ball that is too far from the player.

4.—**LEARN THE ART OF SERVING.** A good server always looks to see where his opponent is standing. If he stands near the half court line serve to the back wall corner. If he stands guarding the corner use the side wall and make the ball jump into the receiver. Pace and direction should be altered every service.

Squash Library
4 May

55 years ago in 1971 Jonah Barrington and Mike Corby became squash consultants. Corby went on to found a group of health and fitness clubs in London including Lambs – which hosted many events until its closure in 2007; while Barrington spearheaded the growth of squash by force of personality as well as on-court success. [Jonah Barrington](#) See less

BARRINGTON AND CORBY SQUASH CONSULTANTS

Britain's two leading players over the last decade have now joined forces, to form a unique blend of talent and experience.

If you need advice on any problems regarding the development and running of squash courts.

Write to:
73 St. Georges Square, London, S.W.1
or contact us at any of the tournaments

Squash Library
23 February at 07:50

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration> covers the early London clubs and their matches, including Bath Club v Queens in 1908, possibly the first inter-club match. Here, are the details of it published by Lawn Tennis magazine in 1908.

...the game of squash is one of the most popular and interesting of all the games played in the clubs and public houses of London. It is a game of skill and strength, and one which has attracted many of the best players of the day. The Bath Club and Queens' Club have been playing for many years, and their matches are always of great interest. The match between the two clubs on February 1st, 1908, was no exception. It was a very close contest, and the result was a draw. The players were: Bath Club, Messrs. Barrington and Corby; Queens' Club, Messrs. Smith and Jones. The match was played on the Bath Club's court, and was witnessed by a large number of spectators. The result was a draw, 10-10.

Squash Library
17 January at 07:54

This month marks 50 years since Tony Swift resigned as English National coach in 1976. In 1967 he worked as John Horry's assistant at the SRA, then as National Coach wrote a five year national development plan in 1972. Moving to Canada in 1978 (pic from then) where he is still based, Swift coached in Toronto and became a leading referee and coach, writing books on both facets of the sport. [England SquashSquash Canada](#)

Squash Library
5 January at 07:39

Here is a women's squash fashion item from 1936, featuring Harrods. The 'white clothing' regulation was not dropped until nearly fifty years later, interestingly!

...the Harrods outfit shown consists of a long-sleeved white blouse with a high collar and a long white skirt. The outfit is simple and elegant, and is suitable for both squash and other sports. The Harrods outfit is a classic example of the 'white clothing' regulation, which was in force until the 1960s. The outfit is made of a lightweight material, and is easy to move in. The Harrods outfit is a must-have for any woman who plays squash.

2025

Squash Library
30 December 2025 at 07:54 · 🌐

At a time when many people think of new year resolutions, squash legend F D Amr Bey has some advice from his 1934 book 'The Art of Squash rackets'. He commented:

'Unless played absolutely fairly, squash rackets is not worth playing.

There are some games in which the bad sportsman can 'get away with it,' but not so in squash.

He who will not play it in the true spirit of sportsmanship soon becomes a marked man and is thereafter very properly shunned by his fellows.'



Squash Library
24 December 2025 at 07:58 · 🌐

Fifty years ago for the 3rd Men's European Team Championship in Dublin in 1975, logoed squash bags were produced. This was before the women's event was added in 1978 and number of competing nations and the players would have made it a very large order indeed! [European Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library
13 December at 07:53 · 🌐

On this day 76 years ago (13 Dec 1949), the British SRA celebrated its coming of age with a 21st birthday exhibition match between Don Butcher and Charles Read - who contested the first British Open final in 1930 after Read was designated champion. Butcher had won the title 19 years later. The 'Three musketeers' from the 1920's, Oak Johnson, Charles Read and Charles Arnold (from left) were pictured at the dinner.

(More details on pages 54-7 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). [England Squash](#)



Squash Library
12 December at 08:01 · 🌐

In both Canada and Wales, wheelchair squash has been actively played in recent years, the activity spearheaded by Lolly Gillen and Richard Plenty respectively, with landmark events this year in each nation. The first Welsh Wheelchair Open took place at Rhiwbina Squash Club in Cardiff, and the first Canadian Wheelchair Doubles Squash Championships which had 8 physically challenged competitors from across Canada was held at the Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club.

Groups from Wales (top) and Canada pictured. [Squash Canada](#)[Squash Wales](#) - [Sboncen Cymru](#)

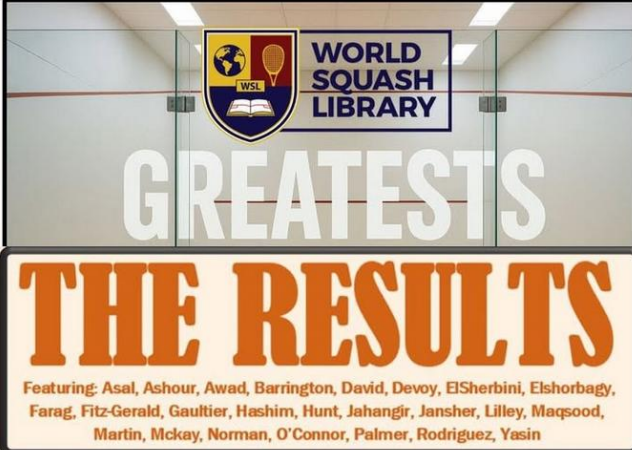


2025 CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR DOUBLES SQUASH INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Squash Library
11 December at 08:40 · 🌐

With thanks to all who responded, the 'greatest' results are here: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources> on the Library website, featuring all these named players. [World Squash Federation](#)[PSA Squash Tour](#)



Featuring: Asal, Ashour, Awad, Barrington, David, Devoy, ElSherbini, Elshorbagy, Farag, Fitz-Gerald, Gaultier, Hashim, Hunt, Jahangir, Jansher, Lilley, Maqsood, Martin, Mckay, Norman, O'Connor, Palmer, Rodriguez, Yasin

The WSF AGM took place last weekend and the meeting appointed World Squash Library as their Official Archivist.

The main three thrusts of the free service the Library provides are to preserve the rich history of squash for future generations via storing books, photos, films, documents, handbooks etc; to provide resources; and answer questions. The official acknowledgement of WSF is greatly appreciated' commented Library founder Andrew Shelley. 'As well as individuals, I hope that this link will encourage national federations not to throw away their histories but to contact me at info@squashlibrary.info to discuss them adding them instead!'

The Library and SquashInfo are also pleased to be research and data partners for WSF, PSA, ASF, ESF and FPS. [World Squash FederationPSA Squash TourEuropean Squash Federation@Federation Panamericana](mailto:WorldSquashFederationPSA@FederationPanamericana) de Squash



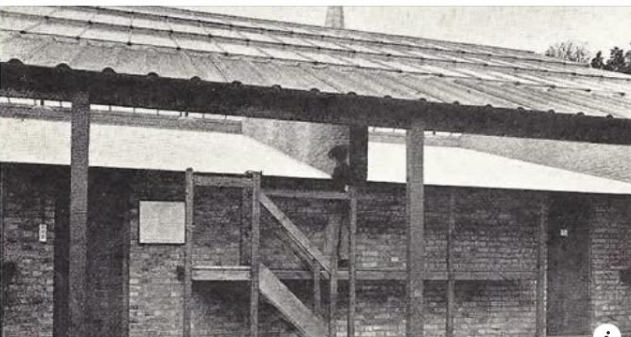
Official Archivist

WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION

Research & data partners for:



160 years ago the first squash courts in the world were opened at Harrow School in North West London, England in January 1865. Details are a resource on the Library website at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/harrow-school-where-squash-was-born>, and on pages 26 and 27 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>. [England Squash](#)



SQUASHLIBRARY.INFO

Harrow School - Where Squash Was Born

George Bernard Shaw died 75 years ago. The Irish playwright wrote more than sixty plays, including Pygmalion, and after his death in 1950 this book was published: Bernard Shaw's Rhyming Picture Guide to Ayot Saint Lawrence.

The village of Ayot Saint Lawrence north of London was where he lived - in a house called Shaw Corner, and featured in his rhyming guide was this photo of a squash court in the grounds, along with his lines. The court is not there anymore, but when it was taken out of use is not certain.



Save where our folk, to play squash rackets
Within this court take off their jackets.

40 years ago in 1985 the UK Sports Council accepted that, with nearly 10,000 players in the UK, racketball (now re-named Squash57) should become an officially recognised sport; a month later the inaugural racketball championships were held - the North of England at Leicester Squash & Badminton Club and the South of England at Sutton & Cheam Squash Club - and then on December 1 the winners from these two tournaments clashed at the Metropolitan Club in South London to find the sport's first national champions.

Essex-based Denis Secher, became the first men's national champion and Greer Batty from the West Midlands clinched the women's championship. [England Squash](#)



**THE BRITISH
RACKETBALL**

In the heavyweight (literally!) book titled British Sports And Sportsmen, dated around 1929, the editor speculated on whether the sport should be titled rackets or racquets. It had been noted that squash pro Charles Arnold had titled his 1926 book 'The Game of Squash Racquets'. It is only in the last few decades that the sport has generally dropped either after the word squash. Here are the notes:

to their own advantage. It may not pass unnoticed that H.R.H. spells the name of the game "racquets," not as other authorities, such as the late Mr. Noel, set the fashion. Mr. Arnold also spelt it as does the Prince, but it is ventured to suggest that the latter, if he gave the matter a thought at all, spelt the word as he found it spelt by Arnold, so in this work we shall continue to spell it "rackets," as has been the fashion in the original "Badminton Library" and in most if not all subsequent works on the subject. If it was known that the Prince of Wales was of the opinion that Mr. Arnold's way was the most classical and therefore the most academically correct, we should, as loyal subjects, have instructed the printer to make the necessary alteration in the text already in print.

The Bath Club in London was one of the earliest and most influential squash clubs, when built in 1904 (details and photo in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). Shortly after it opened Charles Arnold became the resident pro there. It changed ownership and location and became Bath & Racquets Club, where yesterday Stuart Hardy (left), England Squash Masters Chair and squash collector, presented Director Simi Panesar (centre) and Hiddy Jahan (right) an autographed Arnold model racket and Arnold's book titled a Handbook of Squash Rackets, published in 1926. Former top star Jahan, who has coached there for 34 years, and Panesar were left to discuss where to display Hardy's gift to them.



Ned Bigelow (pic) died 55 years ago in 1970. He was a mover and shaker in the squash community, and the man who initiated the US Open at the University Club in New York in 1954, beginning on New Years Day. It was won by American Henri Salaun, who beat Hashim Khan in the final. The Pakistani star did adapt quickly to the North American game and subsequently won the title three times (1956,57,63). Meanwhile, Salaun won the US National title four times in total, but not another US Open. [US SQUASH](#)



Sports do seem to have terms they use that are exclusive to them, and sometimes with their origin somewhat shrouded in mystery. While for squash some terms can be easily explained e.g. the tin, which was originally made of tin, two examples that are not obvious are boast and nick. Possibilities for them:

BOAST

Perhaps English from past centuries provides a clue as *boast* was linked to *rebound* or *deflect*. Couple that with another meaning of a *bold* / *tricky move*, so a shot that reaches the front wall via the side wall could have been linked to them.

NICK

Again, the past English meaning of a *notch* or *groove* may be the origin. Could it be that the ball going into a *niche*, pronunciation evolving into *nich* and *nick* be the route to our usage? (Certainly, as reported by Peter Eedy, an Australian newspaper 1949 discussing Mahmoud Karim said 'He plays deliberately for the sidewall niches near the front a great deal'.

When the SRA in England was formed in 1928 it set out rules for vacant titles when events were played as challenges rather than knockout. The Men's British Open was played as a best of three matches until 1947 (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../men-s-british-open-the-...>).

SUGGESTIONS TO GOVERN COMPETITION FOR A VACANT TITLE OR TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN ONE APPROVED CHALLENGER

The following are not intended to be Rules.

They are to be subject to the widest discretionary power of the S.R.A., who may also accept or refuse entries or seed the draw.

The purse for each match shall be divided two-thirds to the winner and one-third to the loser. (See paragraph 9.)

- (a) The knock-out principle is suggested.
- (b) Every match shall be played in a neutral standard court in the British Isles with standard balls and rackets.
- (c) The S.R.A. shall decide the court and make of ball for each match. They will consider the wishes of the players in these matters.
- (d) At least three days' rest between matches is suggested.
- (e) One practice game in the court to be used shall be allowed to each competitor before each match.

Nos. 12, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of the Conditions Governing the Professional Squash Rackets Championship of the British Isles shall also govern this competition.

Ten years ago in 2015 the WSF Coach Education Programme was launched. It was the start of a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, launched with the opening of WSF Level 1 coach candidate registration. Tutor training across the continents began, and WSF Levels 2 and 3 came on stream later.
(Information at <https://www.worldsquashsport.org/.../coach-education-programme/>)
World Squash Federation

WORLD SQUASH

COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME

WSF

Becerra Stillman Squash Academy celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. It started in 2005 when Colombian Sergio Becerra was in USA with his brother Luis and met Ken Stillman, then president of the United States Squash Federation.
He returned to Colombia with their vision to create to create a pan-Latin American squash base to serve players from grass roots to elite. As he explained, 'this dream was born with the intention of connecting our players with universities in the United States and with the goal of exporting our players abroad.'

The academy is based in the Colombian city of Bucaramanga, spearheaded by three brothers, Diego Becerra and Luis Becerra, WSF Level 3 Coaches, as well as Sergio Becerra, President of the Pan American Squash Federation, and father Enrique Becerra, founder of the Colombian Squash Federation (pic, with Stillman, right).

Players there have included Lucia Bautista, Colombia number 1 and Pan-American doubles champion, Jose Santamaria, bronze medal in World Juniors 2024, and other top juniors in the region.

[Becerra Stillman Squash Academy](#)



In 1936 a letter to a UK's racket sports magazine suggested that handicapping could be done with the better player having to play left-handed. (Interestingly, it seems that in past times it was assumed that all players would be right-handed!). Bisques, which were also mentioned were adopted later for a UK club / company team competition ('The Austin Reed'), running up to the 1980s.

VIEWS ON SQUASH HANDICAPPING.

To the Editor *Squash Rackets & Fives*.

(Enclosure)

Dear Sir,

Owing to the fact that squash is an easy game to play, it is possible to introduce left-handed play as a handicap.

This has many possibilities, especially when 2 players are of a very different standard.

For friendly games, a good plan is for the stronger player to play left-handed when leading or equal, and right handed when losing. This results in very close matches.

Yours sincerely,

D. I. BURNETT.

To the Editor *Squash Rackets & Fives*.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a suggestion from one of our Members who used to play a lot of Squash. I have played this system with him and find it excellent and far above any other form of handicapping I have yet found at Squash.

Yours sincerely,

NORMAN DICKS.

Thames House, S.R.C.

Dear Captain Dicks,

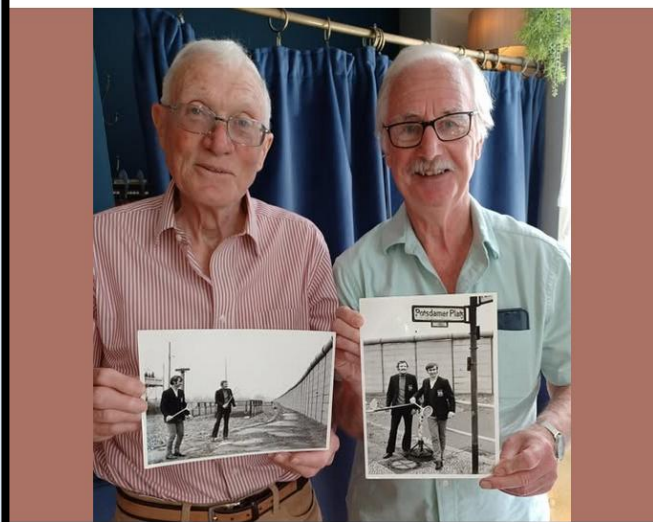
Year after year, we hear players complaining of the drawbacks in the existing handicap method and those of us who have taught many beginners know where the system is faulty. It is mainly due to "Hand-Out" being forced to win two strokes successively before he can secure a point and this favours the stronger player to an enormous degree.

The plan I have adopted with all my beginner friends is, for want of a better name—the "Bisque" system. For example, a player given four "Bisques" has a right to become "Hand-In" or to continue as "Hand-In" at any stage of the game, and he can exercise this option on four occasions, and naturally the number of "Bisques" given vary according to the prowess of each player.

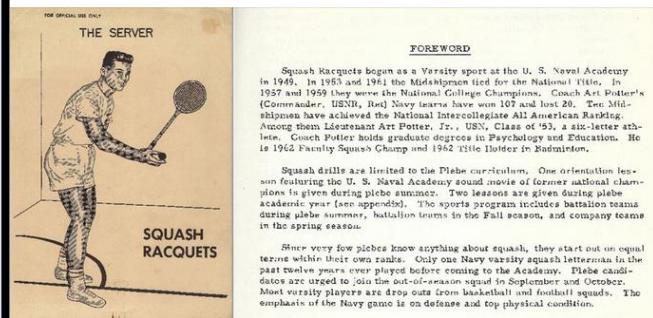
Yours sincerely,

CHARLES DEPINNA.

In 1971 top English players Philip Ayton (left) and Paul Millman hit balls against the Berlin Wall to promote squash while they were in Germany (as featured on page 139 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). Here they are showing the photos of that day 54 years ago when they were together yesterday.



In 1962 Captain Asbury Conrad of the US Navy supervised the publication of a coaching booklet for squash (hardball). As can be seen from the foreword, squash began as a varsity sport at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949. [US SQUASH](#)



When wooden racket heads were small and with head covers, the covers were also used upon occasion with event detail added as a promotion. Here is an example from the British Club Championship ('The Banbury') from 1987/9 season. [Dunlop Squash](#)



The debate about the oldest continuously operating squash club includes Aberdeen Squash Club in Scotland, established in 1913. Meanwhile the Toronto Racquet Club preceded it, albeit moving premises. Here is a letter written by their representative in 1948 stating their claim. [Squash Canada/Scottish Squash](#)

The Oldest Squash Club?
December 21st, 1948

The Editor,
British Lawn Tennis and Squash,
Dear Sir,

I have just been perusing a circular letter of yours dated November 10th, together with a reprint of an article on the Jesters Club, which appeared in your November issue. I note with interest an article on the back of the reprint under the title "Which is the Oldest Squash Club" and was surprised to learn that a club with as recent an origin as 1909 could be advanced as the oldest.

Perhaps your article has produced many responses and this of mine may not be in the running at this date. However, for whatever interest it may have to you, the Toronto Racquet Club was organised in 1905; and was incorporated as a limited liability company by letters patent issued by the Province of Ontario later in that year. The courts were opened for play on October 16th, 1905. The club has been in continuous existence since that time, although playing facilities were suspended during the first great war.

The club has always been solely for the playing of squash, and affords almost no facilities other than that. It has probably the most active playing strength of any of the clubs that I know in these parts, with a better average ability, due, of course, to its limited purpose; and this in spite of the fact that membership is limited to about 100.

Many of the original members are still members, though no longer active players.

During the last war a very high percentage of the members were on active service, but the club managed to carry on without shutting down the courts. The writer himself was away for nearly 5 years but managed to get a few games in during the period of waiting in England, playing at the R.A.C., Belsize Park, Brockenhurst, Blackdown, and at the Staff College, Sandhurst, also on the private court of Capt. E. George Spencer Churchill, M.C., in Glos.

Squash is enjoying a great popularity here these days, but in a more restricted circle than seems to be the case in England. Almost no women play hereabouts; and of course, a woman has never got her face inside the door of our own club.

Best wishes to yourself, and also to Aberdeen; but the latter will have to think up some other claim to fame than the one in your article.

Yours sincerely,
R. D. JENNINGS,
Director and Secretary,
Toronto Racquet Club,
135 St. George Street,
Toronto, Canada.

(In 1959 the site was needed for a subway station so new premises were sourced)

Arthur Winnington Ingram (1858 - 1946) was Bishop of London from 1901 to 1933, and an enthusiastic squash player. He played at the Bath Club seemingly starting in mid-life, coached by pro Charles Arnold. He played squash with the Prince of Wales (later Edward VIII), usually beating him despite the age difference.

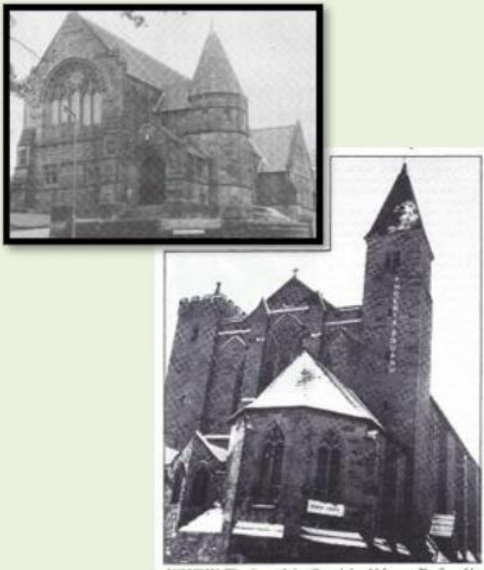
As a 68 year-old, on a tour to universities in the USA in 1926, he requested playing students at tennis and at squash, as he was, as he himself said, "still playing these games pretty well". In 1934 a British newspaper described Ingram, then 75 year-old, as "the Peter Pan of the Church; he positively refuses to grow old".

And in January 1937, the year this photo was taken, Ingram played a squash match at the Bath Club on the day of his 79th birthday against his coach Charles Arnold, to celebrate the occasion. Ingram won by 3-1, and afterwards Arnold commented that "the Bishop must be one of the most remarkable athletes the country has known".



Photo from the Bas van Nieuwen collection

Back in 1987 the disused St Cuthbert's Church was an innovative way to provide squash courts in Middlesbrough, England (bottom). It was called Phoenix Squash Club, and featured five courts as well as two badminton courts. Similarly, in 1976 in Scotland the Bridge of Weir Church was converted to house two courts – the organ loft providing a gallery (top). So, there were services going on again!



John Flanigan, pictured, retires as Athletics Director at the University Club of Chicago today, after 26 years in post. He initiated the Windy City Open in 2004 that has been held in the club's Cathedral Hall (pic), and later has coordinated the biennial World Championships in the city's Union Station.
He says that after today he will remain involved with the PSA as a Sponsor Liaison and 'I plan on pursuing my love of music, squash and many other hobbies.'
[PSA Squash TourUS SQUASHUniversity Club of Chicago](#)



There have been national squash centres built around the world, including Malaysia, Philippines, USA, Paraguay and England to name but a few. Malta's opened earlier this month, and now ground has been broken for a Barbados National Rackets Centre to feature three courts (convertible to two doubles ones) along with space for the national Federation office. Squash was introduced into Barbados in 1972, with the nation boasting both the current men's and women's Caribbean champions. [Federacion Panamericana de SquashWorld Squash Federation](#)



At the ground-breaking ceremony: Craig Archer, President of Barbados Squash Association) (L), Charles Griffith-Minister of Youth and Sports.

Shortly after he became British King Edward VIII in 1936, this item was published. (He is photographed, racket in hand, on page 50 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>).



King Edward VIII.

Our new King is well known to all of us as a player of Squash Rackets. To Charles Arnold of the Bath Club fell the great honour of teaching King Edward, then Prince of Wales, all there is to know of the game of Squash Rackets, and as Prince of Wales the King proved a first-class pupil. He played in the Amateur Championships of 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927, and during his tours abroad he played in most countries of the world where Squash Rackets courts were to be found. His great fondness for the game caused him to have a court built in the battleship H.M.S. Renown. Although it is some time since His Majesty took part in competitive Squash Rackets, he became a member of the Jesters Club towards the end of 1934 and more recently the first Royal Patron of the Squash Rackets Association.

WSL Launches "Ask The Library"

World Squash Library, the archive for squash being preserved for future generation as well as freely available website resources, has now launched an "Ask The Library" service. Library founder Andrew Shelley will try to provide answers to questions asked via an online form on any elements of squash's evolution and history, such as rules, champions, events, equipment, and more.
'Ask The Library' will now make it easy for anybody to get their questions answered via one click from www.squashlibrary.info.



ASK THE LIBRARY....

World Squash Library (www.squashlibrary.info) is the sport's information resource for the history of squash, champions, events, courts, equipment, rules.
What can the library help you with?

[CLICK TO ASK YOUR QUESTION](#)

This was The UK's Tatler Magazine humorous angle on squash in 1936, playing on the word squash!



From the Bar van Hoon collection

Squash Library
13 March at 07:50 · 🌐

In 1994 Jonah Barrington stood to become the President of the English Federation (SRA), and was duly elected. Here, in an article in the Times by sports journalist David Miller, his reasons for standing were explained. [England SquashJonah Barrington](#)

Barrington steps forward to save squash



The book has been passed all along the line, always ending in tragedy.

On 13 March 1994, the day that Jonah Barrington stood for election to the presidency of the English Federation of Squash, the Times published an article by David Miller, a sports journalist, explaining his reasons for standing.

The article, titled 'Barrington steps forward to save squash', was a significant piece of journalism that highlighted the state of the sport and the challenges it faced. It was a call to action for the squash community to support Barrington's bid for the presidency.

The article also mentioned the importance of the sport and the need for a strong leadership to ensure its future. It was a landmark moment in the history of squash, as it brought the sport's issues to the attention of a wider audience.

The article was a testament to Barrington's dedication to the sport and his vision for its future. It was a call to action for the squash community to support his bid for the presidency and to work together to save the sport.

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Squash Library
27 January at 07:51 · 🌐

In the 1920s, Britain's Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VIII, travelled the world with his squash racket. When HMS Renown was refitted as his royal yacht he arranged for a squash court be added on to the deck. It is visible here in the foreground when the ship was anchored in Neutral Bay in Sydney, Australia. More details / photos on page 50 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>.



Squash Library
11 February at 08:21 · 🌐

Forty years ago in 1985, squash was added to the Australian Institute of Sport activities - the same year in which squash featured for the first time in the Australia Games. The unit was able to call on the services of two great champions, Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt (pics) to pass on their knowledge to the inducted players. The first group of participants in the programme included Rodney & Michelle Martin, Rodney Eyles, Austin Adarraga, Danielle Drady and Sarah Fitz-Gerald. [Squash Australia](#)



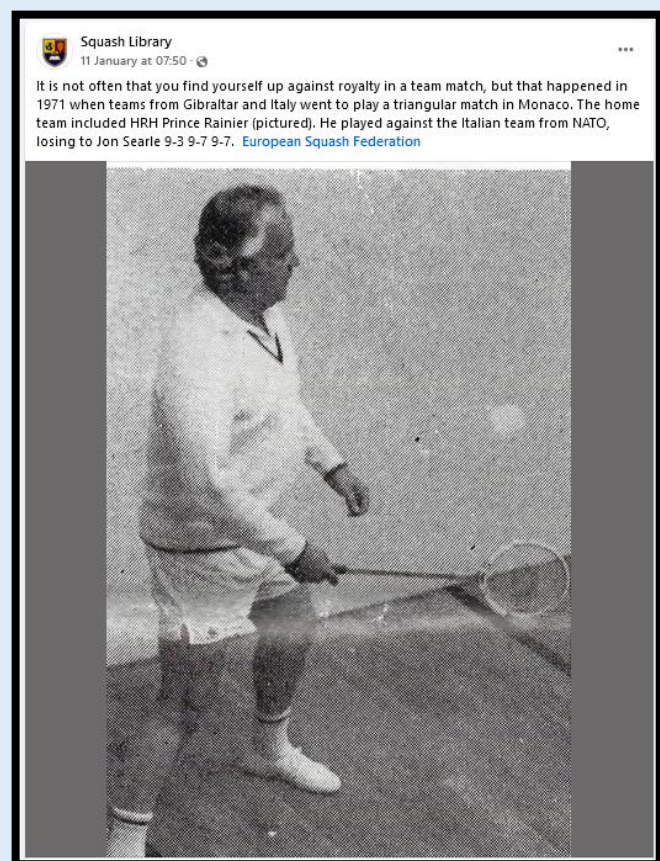
Squash Library
14 January at 07:59 · 🌐

In January 1933 the first public use courts were built in London. Over ninety years ago Gilbert Jacob initiated the recently closed Ealing Squash Club in West London, featuring two courts, with two more soon added.

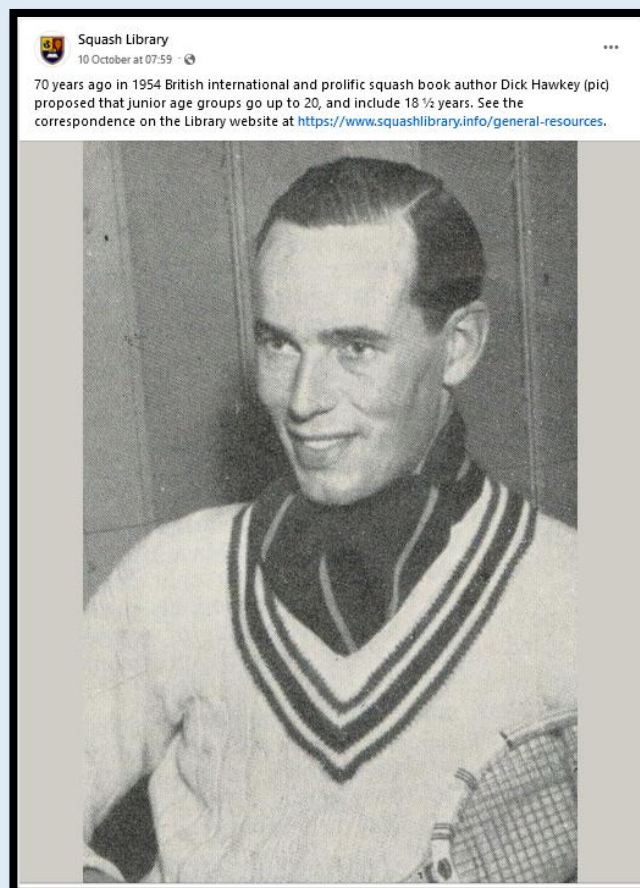
The opening featured both men's and women's exhibition matches. Interestingly, the main women's match was between Susan Noel (right), the current British Open champion and Eliza Wolfe (left), who was captaining the Women's team about to travel to USA (to play for their Wolfe Noel Cup).

(History of the Challenge here <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/wolfe-noel-challenge-cup> and in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). The match, which Noel won 2 - 1, saw both players using the heavier American racket and heavier ball, to prepare for the trip.





2024



Squash in the United Kingdom was considered a winter game. There were no summer leagues or competitions played until 1949 – 1955 when some rugby clubs near London organised a league to keep their players in training.

After it was abandoned, it wasn't until 1968 when a London Summer League with two divisions began, including three Hornsey sides.

The teams were:

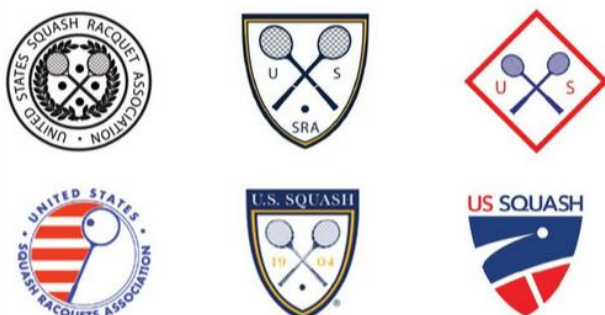
Division A:

Wanstead, Hornsey Hawks, Meadhurst, Chiltern, Ministry of Labour.

Division B:

Hornsey Hamsters, John Lewis, Forest Hill, Barclays Bank DCO, Hornsey Hounds.

Older national squash federation have not only evolved their names but their logos too. A good example is the American federation which was formed in 1904, and has changed its name and updated their logo at times too. Here are some iterations. [US SQUASH](#)

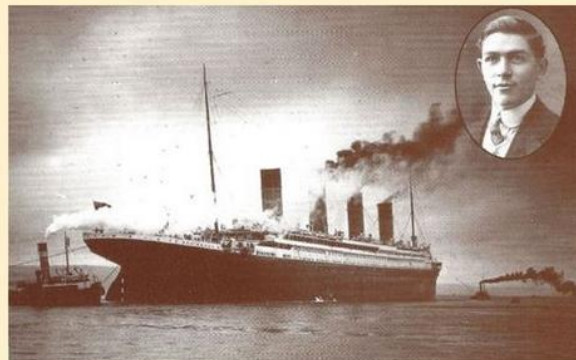


The Library has a commemorative Titanic postcard, featuring resident squash coach Fred Wright, who gave lessons to travellers on the ship's court. Here are the front and back. Wright was one of the 1,517 who perished when it went down on its maiden voyage.

Number Four of Twelve Postcards
R.M.S. Titanic and Fred Wright



From the Collection of Denis Cochrane
Fred Wright was the Squash Raquets expert on board the Titanic. He had been transferred from the Olympic and gave private lessons to those passengers who wished to use the time to improve their game. He was never found.

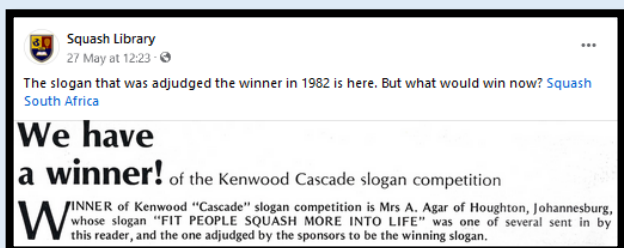


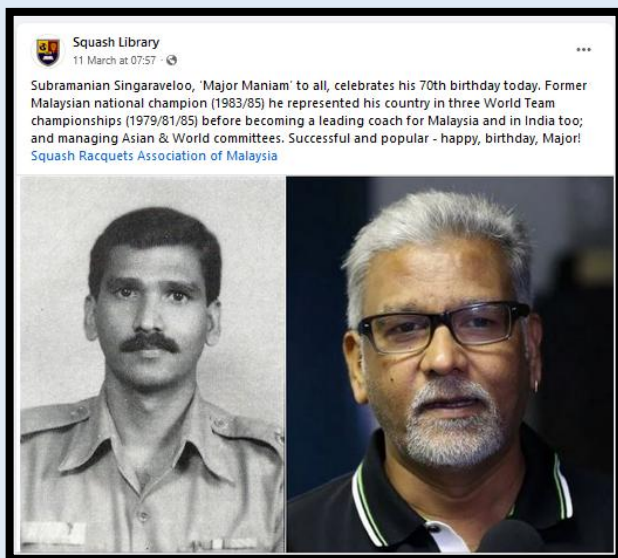
50 years ago in 1974, Squash Player Magazine printed a UK 'State of Play'. While fascinating, the 1.3 million players quoted, using 5,000 courts would mean an improbable 260 per court average! Squash Player Magazine



Bert Armstrong reports that his superb set of display cases showcasing his vast collection of rackets and other memorabilia is almost finished. It is at Kooyong Lawn Tennis club, Melbourne, Australia. Here are two photos that give a flavour of it.

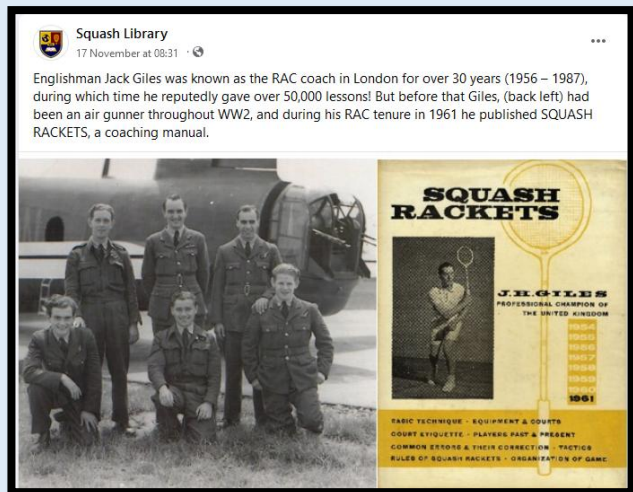


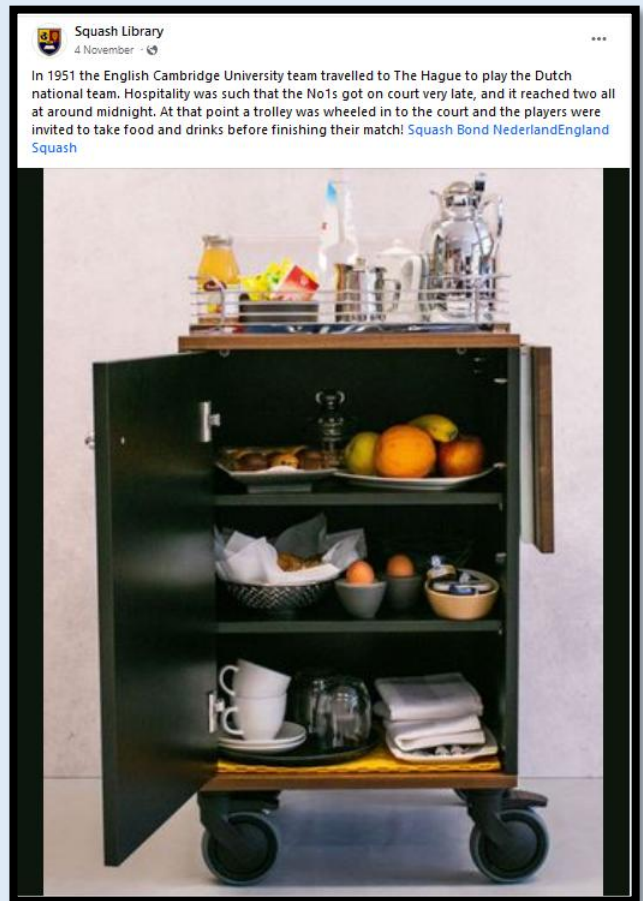
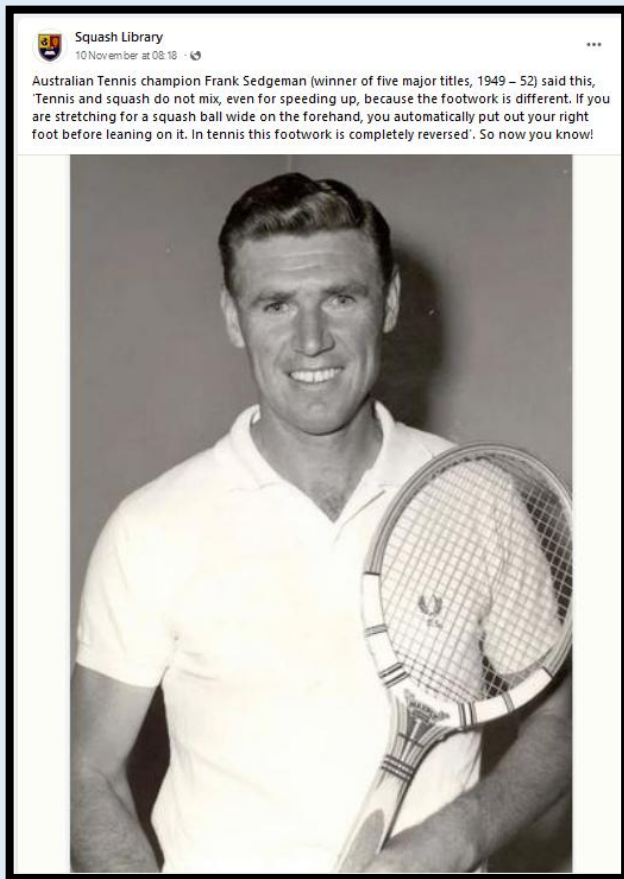






2023





Squash Library
13 October at 08:04 · 🌐

World Squash Day takes place tomorrow. It promotes and celebrates squash globally, having been initiated following the deaths of so many people in New York in the 9/11 terrorist attack in 2001. The history of it is at www.worldsquashday.net/how-it-all-started/.



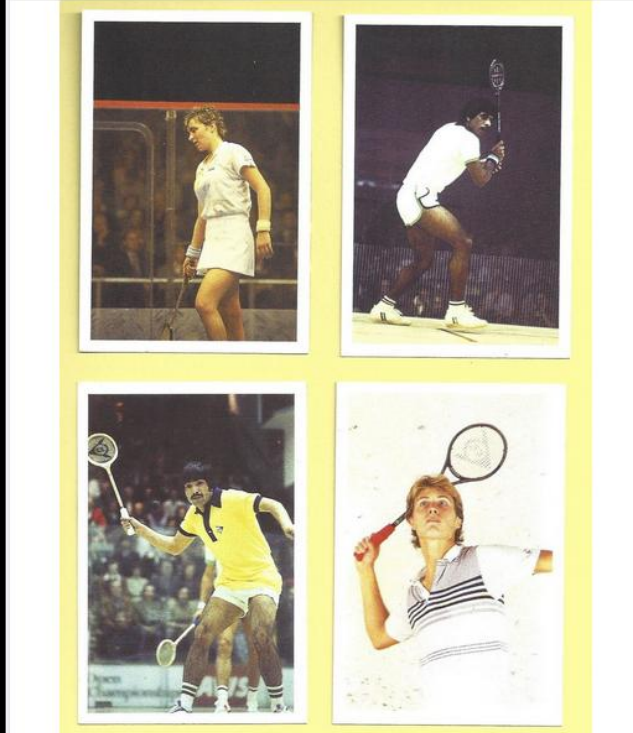
WORLD SQUASH DAY OCTOBER 14 2023

Squash Library
19 September at 08:23 · 🌐

A UK survey carried out by Sports Marketing Surveys in 1987 asked people aged 15 – 30 the sport they most enjoyed playing saw squash at 12.2%, behind only soccer (15%), and ahead of tennis (8.9%) and badminton (8.1%).

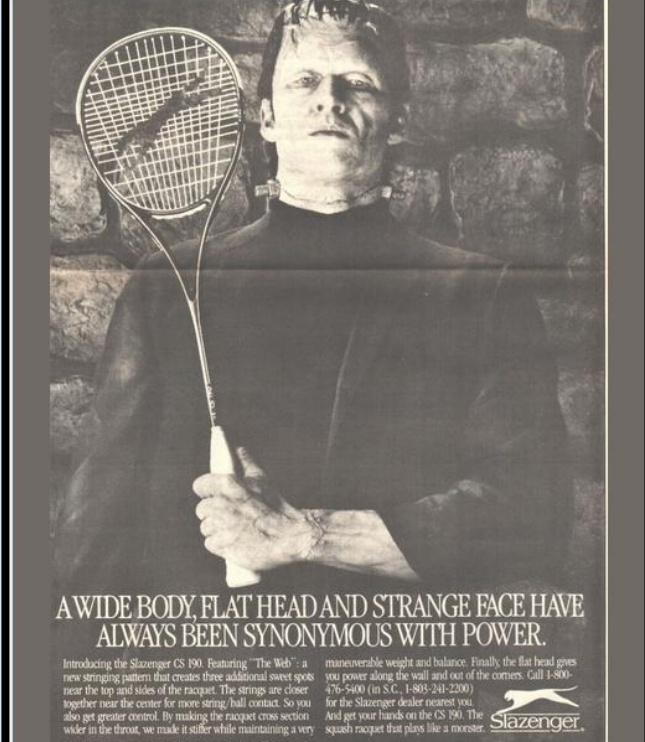
Squash Library
12 September at 07:52 · 🌐

A British TV quiz programme, A Question of Sport, produced a sports person set of 240 cards in 1987 which included squash players. Pictured from top left, Lisa Opie, Jahangir Khan, Jamie Hickox, Qamar Zaman.



Squash Library
11 September at 07:09 · 🌐

This top squash player was sponsored by Slazenger. Yes, Frankenstein's monster endorsed their rackets in North America in 1989, as seen in this ad from the time. PSA ranking www.squashinfo.com please? Squash CanadaUS SQUASHSquash Mexico



A WIDE BODY, FLAT HEAD AND STRANGE FACE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH POWER.

Introducing the Slazenger CS 190. Featuring "The Web", a new stringing pattern that creates three additional sweet spots near the top and sides of the racquet. The strings are closer together near the center for more string/hall contact. So you also get greater control. By making the racquet cross section wider in the throat, we made it stiffer while maintaining a very maneuverable weight and balance. Finally, the flat head gives you power along the wall and out of the corners. Call 1-800-476-5400 (in S.C., 1-803-241-2200) for the Slazenger dealer nearest you. And get your hands on the CS 190. The squash racket that plays like a monster. **Slazenger**

Squash Library
24 August at 08:15 · 🌐

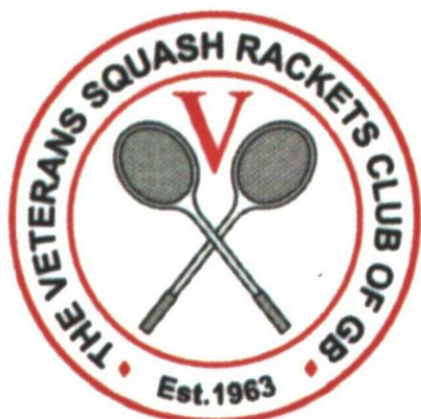
I have found this Squash Player Magazine ad from 1976. The SRA misguidedly employed somebody with no experience or knowledge – me! This ad led to the Shelley personal squash journey starting. Thank you, SRA! Andrew.

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION
Require an
Administrator for the organisation of
Tournaments and Membership
Initiative, good humour and a willing-
ness to participate in general work
essential. Opportunities for increased
responsibility.
Starting salary, c. £3,300.
Applications to:
SRA, 70 Brompton Rd, London S.W. 3.

Unless you have a ninety-year old bottle lurking in the back of a very old cupboard you have missed the chance to try this Donald Butcher-endorsed rub. The 'best before' date on it from the 1930s has passed anyway!



The Veterans Club of Great Britain (www.gbvs.co.uk) celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. Formed in 1963 when eight veterans (now called Masters players) got together to start a club, it manages championships, matches and tours for its several hundred men and women members.



Before the SRA was formed in England in 1928 and became the de-facto world body until the ISRF arrived in 1967, the RAC in London was the unofficial squash authority after forming a squash sub-committee in June 1912 (as shown here). The first meeting was exactly 111 years ago today on 19th June 1912.

MEETING OF SQUASH RACQUET PLAYERS.

A meeting of Squash Racquet players was held on Friday, 14th June, 1912, after dinner, when there were present: Mr. H. Blalberg, Mr. E. B. Blobb, Col. R. E. B. Crompton, C.B., Mr. C. Crompton, the Hon. Dudley Carleton, Dr. T. Drysdale, Mr. A. Duckham, F.C.S., Mr. C. F. Hart, Mr. C. W. Leather, Mr. A. Mayer, Mr. C. D. Retch, Capt. H. S. Scott-Harden, Capt. T. M. Kincaid Smith, Mr. C. D. Seligman, Mr. F. Wilkins, and the Secretary.

A Squash Racquets Sub-Committee was formed consisting of the following gentlemen: The Hon. Dudley Carleton, Col. R. E. B. Crompton, C.B., Dr. T. Drysdale, Mr. A. Mayer, Mr. F. W. Polehampton, Capt. H. S. Scott-Harden, and Mr. F. Wilkins.

On the motion of Capt. H. S. Scott-Harden, seconded by Dr. T. Drysdale, it was resolved:

That Col. R. E. B. Crompton, C.B., be Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

The first meeting of the Sub-Committee was fixed for Wednesday, 19th June, at 7 o'clock.

.....Chairman.

In 1981 Bert Armstrong completed building a squash court next to the kitchen in his Melbourne home. This coincided with the first graphite rackets appearing, and so friends left wooden ones behind when he played them – prompting him to hang them round the court. Then he started adding club badges, banners, flags, balls; anything that had a Squash / Racket sports connection. An obsession with collecting was beginning. As he put it, 'From then on I visited every Charity shop, Municipal Tip, Antique Fair from Hobart Tasmania to Cairns in far North Queensland, and similarly the UK, and even scoured a market in Kirkenes Norway.' So about 35 years later he has 1000+ rackets from 120 manufacturers in 23 countries plus many badges, books, flags, trophies, documents etc. Squash Player Magazine interviewed him in 2021, which you can see in the Library here: www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources. Since then Bert has turned much of his collection into a display at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, complete with notes so that anybody can come along and see them (some cabinets are pictured here). He is even offering personal tours! Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club



Today (13 June) marks the first anniversary of the Nicol David Organisation classes beginning. It was founded by eight times World Champion Nicol David and Mariana de Reyes in Kuala Lumpur (<https://nicoldavidorganisation.org/>) with the objective of empowering children through sport and education. The first intake was 72 children. [Nicol David](https://nicoldavidorganisation.org/) [Nicol David Organisation](https://nicoldavidorganisation.org/)



The British SRA accounts for 1938, reflect the small size of the sport, even though 27 English county associations had been formed by that point. The expenses included £0,65,6d (approx. 62 pence) for burglary insurance! [England Squash](#)

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION.			
Dr. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1938 Cr.			
	£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank 1st April, 1937 ...	247	11	10
" Subscriptions ...	272	17	0
" Sale of Rules and Handbooks ...	12	10	9
" Advertisements in Handbooks ...	49	17	6
" Competitions ...	33	0	0
" Loan of Plans, etc. ...	24	3	0
" Dividends and Interest ...	10	0	5
By Stationery and Printing ...	89	17	10
" Postages ...	18	12	9
" Clerical Services ...	52	2	0
" Competitions and Match Expenses ...	93	15	5
" Honorarium to Staff ...	55	0	0
" Medals and Engraving ...	6	2	6
" Professional Charges ...	36	15	0
" Tennis and Rackets Association, Subscription ...	2	2	0
" Burglary Insurance Premium on Challenge Cup ...	0	6	6
" Commissioners of Inland Revenue :- Corporation Duty, 1937/38 ...	£0	12	3
" Income Tax on Deposit Interest ...	1	10	3
" Sundry Expenses ...	5	3	3
" Balances at Bank 31st March, 1938 :-			
Deposit Account £250 0 0			
Current Account 38 13 0			
	288	13	0
	£650	0	6

J. E. PALMER-TOMKINSON, *Chairman.*
W. F. BASSETT, *Vice-Chairman.*

We have prepared the above Account from the books of the Association, and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

JACKSON, PIXLEY & CO., *Chartered Accountants, Auditors.*

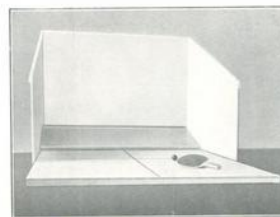
KENT HOUSE,
TELEGRAPH STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.
12th July, 1938.

H. M. & Co., Ltd.

Squash courts too big? You should try Tay-bul Squash. Tay-bul (table, gettit!) was, according to this ad, played under squash rules with table tennis bats and a specially made table tennis ball. Look for it at an antiques shop as this was available in 1937.

SPALDING TAY-BUL SQUASH

NOT A TOY BUT A NEW INDOOR GAME.



INVENTED BY A WELL-KNOWN
SQUASH PLAYER.

SPALDING "TAY-BUL" SQUASH

is actually a Squash Court in miniature. It is well made and beautifully finished in durable white rubber, with a net in red. It provides a fast and exciting game of squash in a limited space in the home.

The Court illustrated is 6 feet by 4 feet, suitable for placing on an ordinary dining table. When not in use, can be quickly folded to stand in only a small space.

The game is played under Squash rules with table tennis bats and a specially made table tennis ball.

No. 1 Tay-bul Squash (see illustration) complete with 6x Tay-bul Squash Balls. £5 : 5 : 0

A WELCOME GIFT FOR THE HOME

Popular at all Sports Clubs, Hotels, &c.

OBTAINABLE FROM ALL SPORTS DEALERS EVERYWHERE OR SPALDING SPORT SHOPS

LONDON: 318 High Holborn, W.C.1 - 78 Chesapeake, E.C.2 - 212 Putney Bridge Road, S.W.15
BIRMINGHAM - 21a Bennett's Hill LIVERPOOL - 20 Lord Street SOUTHSEA - 94 Palmerston Road
MANCHESTER - 22 Mosley Street LEEDS - 3 King Edward Street GLASGOW - 60 St. Vincent Street
EDINBURGH: 3 South Charlotte Street BELFAST: 15 Lombard Street

THERE IS A SPALDING SQUASH RACKET TO SUIT EVERY PURSE AND PERSON

"TOP-FLITE" "LAMINA" "NEW ERA" "UNITED SERVICES"
with the celebrated "Open throat"
30/- 30/- 25/- 22/6

Other recommended Spalding rackets "Autograph" 28/6; "Gold Star" 25/-; "Tournament" 21/-; "Standard" 18/6; "College" 15/-; "Club" 12/6; "Malcorn" 10/6.

Should you find any difficulty, please write for Illustrated Catalogue to A. G. Spalding & Bros. (S.R.), Putney, S.W.15.

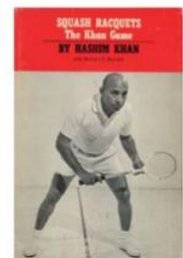
In 1969 John Horry (the first World Federation secretary), reported on the growth of squash in Scandinavia – and it is certainly not only an interesting read about squash, but a general snapshot of the time, too. Go to www.squashlibrary.info/post/squash-in-scandinavia-1969 to view it. The European Squash Federation Dansk Squash Forbund Svensk Squash Norges Squashforbund



Photo. Per-Olow. John Horry, Secretary of the International S.R.F. (right), discusses the growth of squash in Sweden with Lennart Iepson, President of the Swedish S.R.A. outside Jan Landvik's new club in Stockholm.

In his 1967 book 'Squash Rackets', Hashim Khan said this in his inimitable style:

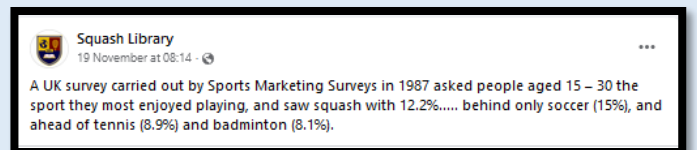
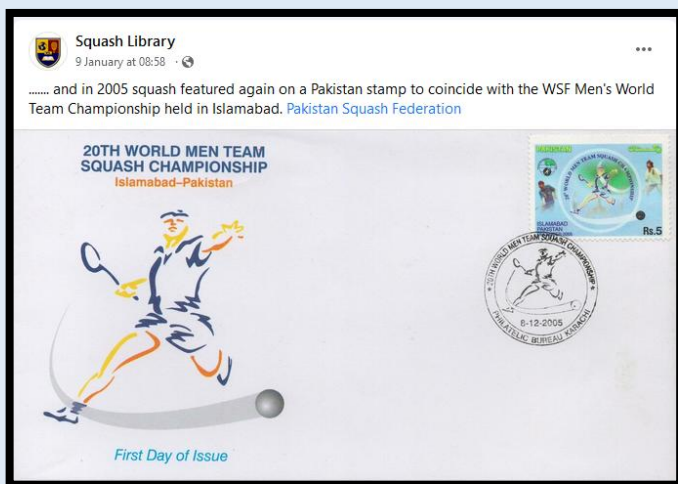
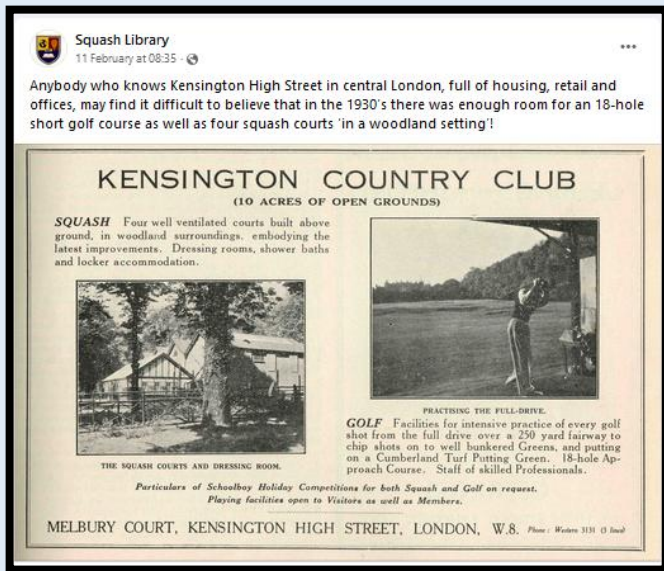
I do not think it is good idea, woman playing squash with man opponent, for reason she has handicap: she is not so strong in wrist and arm, and cannot twist quick to change direction like man. Not fair match. Better women play only other women.



In the 1930's there were two wooden squash courts at the Munster Agriculture Grounds in Cork, Ireland. But in 1939 the Irish Government imported a large reserve of wheat grain as World War 2 was beginning. These two wooden courts were considered to be perfect silos, so the only seeds in the courts were not players! [Irish SquashMunster Squash](#)



Munster Agricultural Society



2022

Before England hosted the World Men's Open and Team Championships in 1987 there was a linked promotion with British Telecom, offering early generation 'brick' cellphones at a discount for SRA (English Federation) members, allowing them not only to make calls, but receive them too!

Be in touch on court.

British Telecom West End District will rent you a Cellphone for as little as 24 hours.

So you can make all the calls you need to make however far you may be from a conventional phone.

Local calls. Long distance calls. Calls to anywhere in the world with a direct-dial number.

You'll not only be able to make calls, you'll be able to take calls as well. We will give you a personal number for as long as you rent the phone.

Hire costs range from £25.30 to as little as £10.68 a day. (These prices include VAT and insurance, but fully documented call charges will be added.)

Against the modest outlay of course, you can stay in touch during site visits, exhibitions, whenever your business takes you out and about.

And at the very least save yourself running around looking for a phone.

For more information about our wide range of British Telecom Cellphones for hire or sale at competitive prices, call us on 01-439 6032 (or ask the operator for FREEPHONE WEST END WORLD COMES). Or send the coupon on reverse.



**SPECIAL DISCOUNT
for S.R.A. MEMBERS.
CALL 01-439 6032 NOW!**

British
TELECOM
OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLIER
FOR THE WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Ned Bigelow, a great 'shaker' of squash in USA, having been responsible for the beginning of the US Open in 1954, travelled to Russia in 1958 to try to get the sport started there. But although he met the 'Master of Sport' the initiative failed. (Detail of squash beginnings of nearly 80 nations is at www.squashlibrary.info, then POSTS). [US SQUASH U.S. Open Squash](http://www.squashlibrary.info)



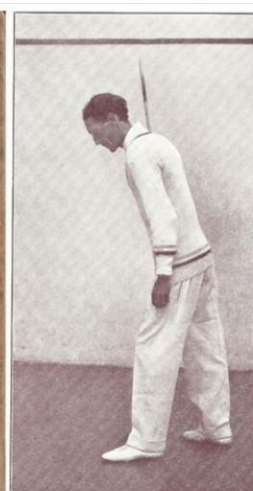
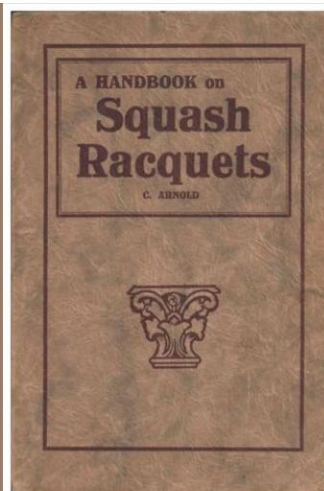
Tomorrow, this year's World Squash Day takes place globally. Stemming from the death of so many people, including Derek Sword a former Scottish junior squash international, in the 9/11 terrorist attack in 2001, the first was held on 11 January 2002 at Lamb's Club in London. It featured an 8-man pro event alongside a 15-a-side match between teams from London and New York to remember those lost and support the game. Here are a number of players from that first event. [World Squash Day](http://www.squashlibrary.info)



**WORLD
SQUASH
DAY 2022**
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
FUN / FRIENDS / FAMILY

Photo courtesy Steve Line

Charles Arnold, the professional at the Bath Club in London, wrote his Handbook on Squash Rackets in 1926. Here, at www.squashlibrary.info/features, is an extract showing how the forehand stroke was explained and illustrated 95 years ago.



Squash Library
24 September at 11:45

The retirement of Roger Federer prompts the memory that in 2013 the tennis star backed squash to be added to the Olympic Games programme in 2020.

"I think it's a wonderful sport. It's unfortunate some sports don't get the opportunity to be in the Olympics," said Federer. "I think squash would deserve it. They run a great tour and they have great players and characters. I'd personally be very happy for them."

Meeting up with then women's squash world No1 Nicol David at the ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament in Rotterdam, Federer expressed his support to David and revealed he played the sport growing up.

"I used to play it a lot when I was younger every Sunday with my dad," Federer said. "I started with a wooden racket like I did in tennis. I've always been a big fan of the sport." [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [Nicol David](#)



Squash Library
20 September at 08:19

In 1999 the uncertainty about the staging of the British Open was swept away via an 8 year deal with Eye Group, a sports rights acquisition and production company. The deal lasted for that year in Aberdeen as well as the next two years before it collapsed with legal action being taken by England Squash against Eye and their sister company Fablon in 2002. But not before Eye / Fablon agreed other 8 year agreements with PSA and WISPA to inject many millions over 8 years into the Men's & Women's Tours, together with a WSF accord too. All three organisations were involved in the Melbourne Festival 2001 which was to feature the Men's & Women's World Opens, Men's Team Championships and World Masters events. The non-payment of the underwriting commitment led to PSA cancelling the Men's World Open, while funding had been secured in advance to provide a Women's prize pot so that it went ahead, as did the other elements. The Australian organisers incurred substantial losses however.

A short but sorry story after such high hopes.



Squash Library
19 September at 09:20

A World Federation publication from 1987 provided a listing of clubs and courts in the member nations of the time. This snapshot shows how the national court stock may have changed in these nations in the intervening 35 years. [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash Federation of Africa](#) [SFAThe European Squash Federation](#) [Federacion Panamericana de Squash](#)

INTERNATIONAL SQUASH RACKETS FEDERATION – MEMBER NATIONS

Continent	Nation	Courts	Clubs
EUROPE	ANDORRA	11	2
	AUSTRIA	184	14
	BELGIUM	402	120
	CYPRUS	17	9
	DENMARK	34	15
	ENGLAND	9000	3000
	FINLAND	550	80
	FRANCE	550	250
	FED. REP. GERMANY	3000	850
	GREECE	9	5
	IRELAND	780	315
	ISRAEL	30	10
	ITALY	80	40
	LUXEMBOURG	11	4
	MONACO	6	2
	NETHERLANDS	562	160
	NORWAY	109	38
	PORTUGAL	58	10
	SCOTLAND	350	240
	SPAIN	300	80
SWEDEN	429	74	
SWITZERLAND	253	79	
WALES	235	150	
* Also affiliated: Malta			
ASIA	BANGLADESH	280	29
	BRUNEI	180	15
	HONG KONG	180	15
	INDIA	90	20
	INDONESIA	90	20
	JAPAN	60	20
	MALAYSIA	650	119
	MUSCAT & OMAN	45	28
	PAKISTAN	213	3
	PHILIPPINES	25	1
SINGAPORE	500	71	
SHRI LANKA	9	1	
THAILAND	9	1	
AFRICA	KENYA	80	1
	NOBRIA	300	420
	SOUTHERN AFRICA	1900	420
	ZAMBIA	11	1
	ZIMBABWE	116	42
CARIBBEAN	BAHAMAS	15	2
	BARBADOS	14	2
	BERMUDA	10	4
	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	15	5
	GUAYANA	15	5
M. EAST	BAHRAIN	60	29
	EGYPT	130	29
	JORDAN	60	29
	KUWAIT	130	29
	LIBANON	11	1
S. AMERICA	ARGENTINA	500	100
	BRAZIL	95	1
	CHILE	12	6
	PARAGUAY	12	6
	PERU	12	6
OCEANIA	AUSTRALIA	6000	800
	NEW ZEALAND	681	250
	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	38	10

Squash Library
13 September at 12:25

The Library's first edition of memorable quotes is here: <http://www.squashlibrary.info/memorable-squash-quotes...> Enjoy these amusing or insightful uttering, and if you can add more for the next edition please Email the Library at info@squashlibrary.info.

"We have run out of lets".

"Man who does not volley just play squash to run around and keep fit".

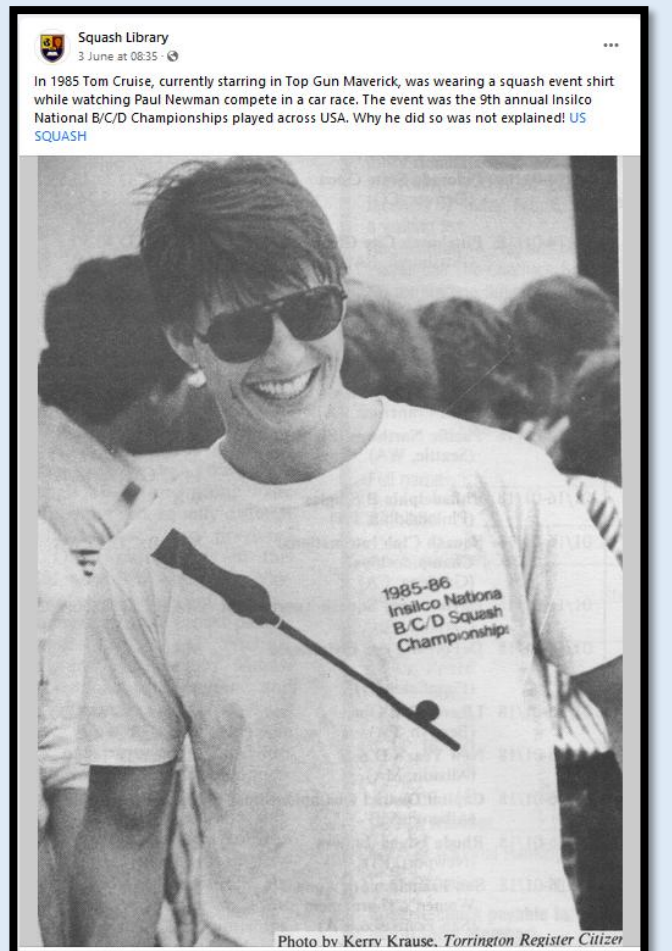
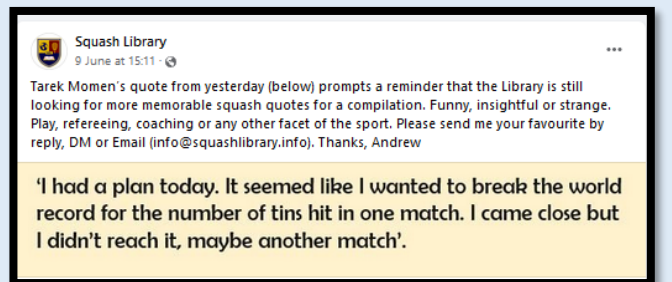
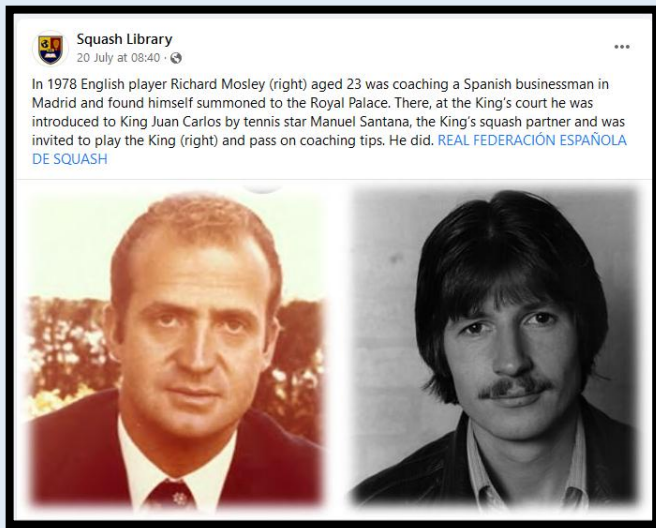
"Watch ball, walls don't move".

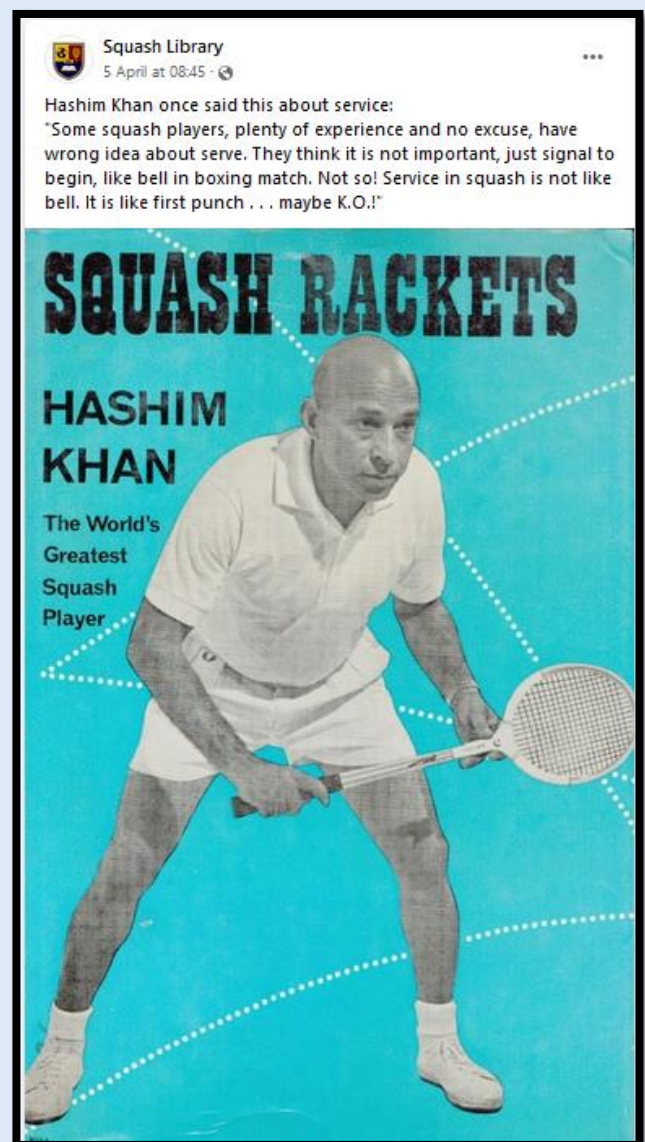
.....and many more.

Squash Library
5 August at 08:39

In 2009 the then separate Women's Tour produced a calendar for the first time. The intentions were to promote the Tour, generate sales income and provide a 'thank-you' for promoters. That year squash props were used, while for 2010 Cayman Islands Open settings were featured.









Squash Library

22 March at 08:40 · 🌐

...

As part of the Commonwealth Games programme, Outside the Box is taking place in May during Birmingham 2022 Festival. James Willstrop, actors and school children bring the story of Squash to life on three glass-back courts at Birmingham University, exploring its origins to the mountains of Pakistan and beyond. The story of Squash mirrors the evolution of the Commonwealth, and Outside the Box playfully explores this journey, to engage family audiences. A unique historical presentation! Details and trailer at: <https://untiedartists.info/outside-the-box/>. Untied ArtistsBirmingham 2022



Outside the Box The story of squash

21 - 22 MAY
28 - 29 MAY

AN UNTIED ARTISTS
IS THE PLAYHOUSE
PRODUCTION



Squash Library

15 February at 08:48 · 🌐

...

In 1973 UK's Sunday Times newspaper journalist John Hopkins wrote an article for the British Open programme that year. It provides a great snapshot of the state of squash around the world nearly fifty years ago. Go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> to read it. Squash Federation of Africa - SFAFederacion Panamericana de SquashThe European Squash FederationWorld Squash Federation

The Squash Boom Continues-Worldwide

John Hopkins—Sunday Times

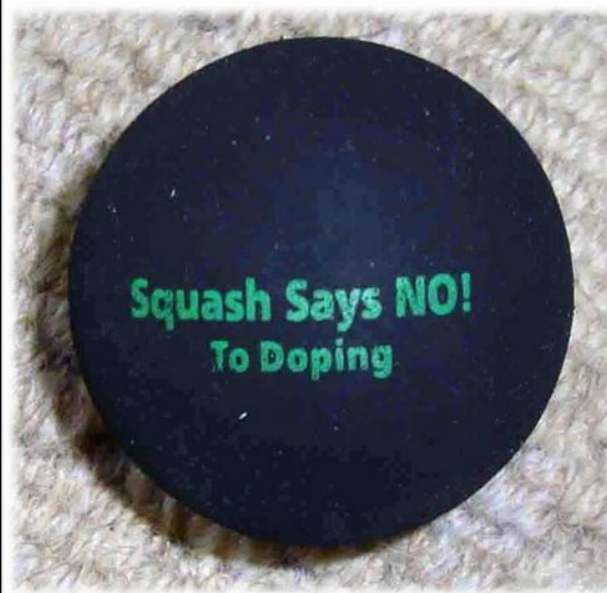


Squash Library

12 February at 07:18 · 🌐

...

In 2016 Anti-Doping education was carried out at the British Junior Open, via DFSU (Doping-Free SportAccord Unit) on behalf of the WSF. Players visiting their Outreach Booth was could participate in an online WADA quiz and given a free squash ball incorporating the logo: "Squash says NO! to Doping". [World Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

2 February at 08:21 · 🌐

...

In April 1997 in Chiba, Japan, Nobuo Obata started gathering friends, and their friends too, for monthly coaching sessions at Central Fitness ShinUrayasu. The squash routines – which have been unchanged since the start so that progress can be gauged – along with general play, have always been followed by a meal.

Over 4,000 have joined in, and while Covid caused a pause after session 246 (the 200th was celebrated in August 2015), the sessions are poised to re-start on the 25th year anniversary and move to 300 shortly.

Pictured: Nobuo Obata (left) with Tomokazu Saito who has managed the sessions with him from the start. Japan Squash Association





Squash Library

29 January at 08:28 · 🌐

...

Nine years ago here is how Squash Wales showed just how good squash is to use up energy. This chart showed schools, parents and prospective players generally what health benefits an athletic sport like squash can offer. [Squash Wales - Sboncen CymruWorld Squash Federation](#)

Get fit, stay fit..
Without the gym?
It's **EASY**
Play **SQUASH!**
The numbers for you...



Squash burns 920 calories per hour



Running burns 720 calories per hour



Cycling burns 600 calories per hour



Swimming burns 500 calories per hour



Source - Men's Health Magazine June 2013

In 2003, Forbes created a ranking of the ten healthiest sports - SQUASH came out on top! In 2011, LA Times took a look at the sport also sung its healthy praises, reporting that it can burn between 600 and 1,000 calories an hour and improve strength, flexibility, and balance. "Squash offers an aerobic workout due to the steady endurance required to sustain a game, but it's also an anaerobic workout because of moments of high-intensity play," the Times reported.

www.wsrb.co.uk

@sqwales



Squash Library

15 January at 08:46 · 🌐

...

In 1986 squash players from the Detroit Athletic Club, commissioned the well-known sculptor A. Thomas Schomberg (creator of the Rocky statue displayed at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games) to create a squash sculpture. Just 24 of these quarter life-size sculptures were produced.



Squash Library

20 December at 08:47 · 🌐

...

The Library has reunited a memento given to Egyptian legend Abdel Fattah Amr Bey with his family. The five times British Open Champion (1932-7) had received it, engraved: 'with sincere appreciation from his American Friends'. The other wording was: 'In commemoration of receiving from H.M. King Fuad 1, The Orders of Merit (14 Feb 1935) and the Bahaweya (26 Mar 1936). The boxed memento was found by British tennis memorabilia collector Alan Chalmers, who kindly passed it onto the Library so that it could be reunited with his family. Pictured here is Amr Bey's great grand daughter Dana Khater who gratefully received it in London. [Egyptian Squash Federation](#) - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش



Squash Library

24 November at 08:38 · 🌐

...

The WSF Coach Education Programme, which heralded the start of a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, was launched at the start of 2015. Tutor training across the continents began with Level 1 courses introduced first. The courses featured agreed core-content and delivery methods to ensure that standards were uniform and qualifications achieved would be recognised not only in the coach's own nation but worldwide too for coaches moving internationally. [World Squash Federation](#)

World Squash
COACHING
WSC



Squash Library

18 November at 08:20 · 🌐

...

The 1936 accounts for the Australian Squash Association accompanying their 1937 AGM Agenda showed an annual expenditure of just £163. (This was the Australian Pound, which in 1966 became the Australian Dollar). See them in full at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../australian-squash...> It included £1 for the doorman of the Australian Championships! Budgets have grown since! [Squash Australia](#)

SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA	
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th NOVEMBER, 1936.	
	Expenditure
31.18. 6	By Expenses of Management
14.14. 0	" Petty Postages and Telegrams
	" <u>Tournament Expenses:</u>
	<u>Victorian Championship -</u>
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	Tickets etc.
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	Exhibition Matches
	Replica of Trophy
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	Hire of Court
10 -	Scoring
	Doorkeeper
	Printing and Stationery
	5. 0. 0

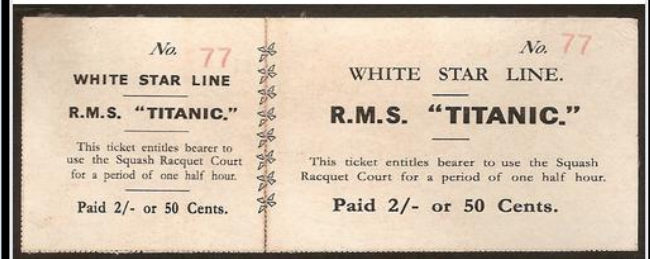


Squash Library

4 November at 08:35 · 🌐

...

First class passengers on the Titanic liner in 1912 could pay two shillings / 50cents for a half-hour game, and they could have lessons from resident coach Frederick Wright too. It wasn't only when they couldn't get a booking that passengers got a sinking feeling!



Squash Library

29 October at 09:02 · 🌐

...

35 years ago, in October 1986, the first English Men's ranking was produced by computer, by a company called Microcache, using their APG system that weighted events and linked the player rating to those above and below playing, altering their average based upon an algorithm on the gap. [England Squash](#)



Squash Library

5 November at 09:11 · 🌐

...

The WSF launched its Ambassador Programme in 2011 with a visit to Riga, Latvia. It was the first of a decade of the WSF international promotional initiative taking leading squash players, together with an international coach and referee, into younger squash nations to help raise the sport's profile - through clinics, exhibition matches, refereeing and coaching seminars, and media presentations. After Latvia the African countries of Malawi and Namibia followed, then Panama and Venezuela in 2013, Papua New Guinea in 2014, before focussing on the Balkan region in 2015 with appearances in Serbia, Romania and Croatia. In 2016, the team visited Dalian and Macau in China. After the 2017 edition was postponed, the Ambassadors went to Armenia and Ukraine in 2018, and Nairobi, Kenya in 2019. [World Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

23 October at 09:33 · 🌐

...

Playing squash, tennis and badminton is the best way to reduce the risk of suddenly dying, a study published in 2016 found (<https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/51/10/812>). The racket sports reduce the risk of death by 47 per cent compared to doing nothing, researchers discovered based on 11 annual health surveys for England and Scotland from between 1994 and 2008.

The study, which looked at the impact of different sports on health of people with an average age of 51, discovered that taking part in running and jogging, or football and rugby did not have a significant effect on cutting the chance of death. [British Journal of Sports Medicine \(BJSM\)](#)

British Journal of
Sports Medicine



Squash Library

18 October at 08:35 · 🌐

...

In 2003, Boston's SquashBusters became the first US urban program to open its own youth center in coordination with Northeastern University. Two years later when the American National Urban Squash and Education Association was launched in 2005, it featured four member programs serving a total of 250 students in Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

It now has 19 member organizations across the country and five affiliates abroad, with more than 2,500 students enrolled. As the NUSEA network expanded—beyond the United States and outside of major urban centres—the need for a new name became clear. Squash and Education Alliance (SEA), was chosen. [Squash and Education Alliance@](#)



**SQUASH +
EDUCATION
ALLIANCE**



Squash Library

14 October at 08:51 · 🌐

...

Leo Au, from Hong Kong, broke the record for the longest professional squash match ever recorded en-route to claiming the ninth PSA World Tour title of his career at the Holtrand Gas City Pro-Am in January 2015 in Canada.

His dramatic semi-final victory was the longest match ever recorded - a mammoth 170-minute encounter (11-6, 4-11, 11-6, 7-11, 16-14) against Canadian Shawn Delierre.

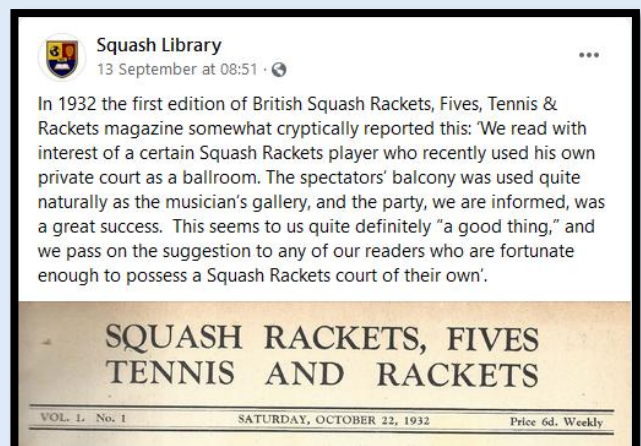
It was a match that eclipsed the previous record set by legendary Pakistani six-time world champion Jahangir Khan, who took 166-minutes to get past Gamal Awad in the 1983 Chichester Festival 9-10, 9-5, 9-7, 9-2. Yes, in four games!

It was a match that eclipsed the previous record set by legendary Pakistani six-time world champion Jahangir Khan, who took 166-minutes to get past Gamal Awad in the 1983 Chichester Festival 9-10, 9-5, 9-7, 9-2. Yes, in four games! [Hong Kong Squash Squash CanadaSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



Holtrand Gas City Pro-Am
Semi-Final
Shawn Delierre
Leo Au

SA (1) BL	SA (2) BL	SA (3) BL	SA (4) BL	SA (5) BL
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Squash Library

12 August at 09:10 · 🌐

...

Seventy years ago, in 1951 this report on the state of doubles appeared in a British magazine, indicating that there was only one 'larger' court available. It was a few decades before moveable side wall courts added more on demand to the few permanent ones.

BEFORE the war the doubles game was rapidly increasing in popularity and several doubles events were built in the London area. Unfortunately, bombs and other causes have exterminated every doubles court in England, leaving only the doubles court at the Edinburgh Squash Club where devotees of this type of game can continue to play.

In the past few years, there has been growing up an increasing tendency for those who find the singles game too strenuous, to play the doubles game in the ordinary standard singles court. Those who have played the game for some time have evolved the technique by which the players give way to each other so that each player has plenty of room in which to play his shot and collisions between players are surprisingly infrequent.

Although the game is not yet officially recognised by the S.R.A., doubles competitions have started and a tournament has been successfully held at the Worthing Squash Club for the past two seasons.



Squash Library

7 August at 08:35 · 🌐

...

Another example of squash featuring on stamps is the British one issued at the time of the Commonwealth Games 2014 in Glasgow, Scotland. It was part of a set of six featuring judo, swimming, marathon, netball and track cycling too. [Commonwealth Games Federation](#) [Scottish Squash](#)



Squash Library

6 August at 09:03 · 🌐

...

The poster for the 2011 Qatar Classic looked like a postage stamp. Why? Because the Qatar Squash Federation had arranged for a Qatari stamp to be issued by their philatelic bureau promoting the event. A new way to promote with 200,000 printed. Can another event lick that! [Qatar Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

9 August at 08:32 · 🌐

...

Plate events, events to give 1st match event losers a second game, were first introduced at the South African Championships held in Johannesburg in 1948. The idea was soon taken up widely. While they are not played in PSA Tour events, for World Junior Individual Championships minimum three matches are offered i.e. plate, consolation plate (1st match plate losers) and classic plate (2nd match losers).

[Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash South Africa](#)





Squash Library

3 August at 09:16 · 🌐

...

Have you found the POSTS heading on www.squashlibrary.info? Every Library daily post, nearly 900 of them, are there in 13 categories, each one having an index too. Want to explore the posting archive on people, events, nations, rules, milestones, etc you know where to look!

BRITISH OPEN

COURTS & EQUIPMENT

EVENT REGS (Champs & PSA)

EVENT VENUES

MEDIA/BROADCAST

NATIONS (Squash beginnings)

OBITUARIES

OLYMPIC/REGIONAL/GAMES

PLAYERS & EVENTS (general)

REFEREEING & RULES

SQUASH FEDERATIONS

UNCATEGORISED (general)



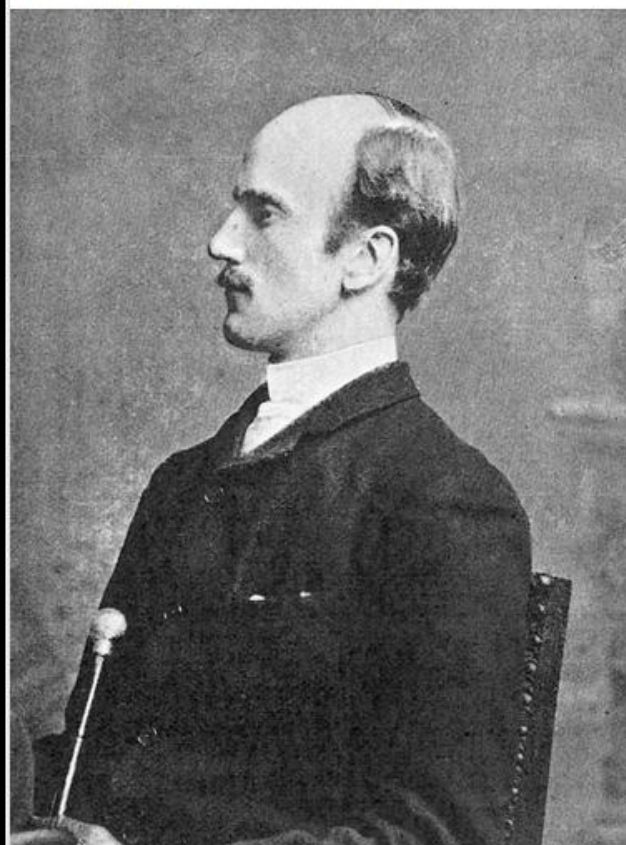
Squash Library

24 July at 08:57 · 🌐

...

In 1909, Hugo F Charteris (later Lord Elcho) wrote this while posted as an attaché to the British Ambassador in Washington:

'Squash Rackets is the great game in American country houses. It is the most brutal smashing form of sport in which I have ever indulged. It is squash tennis, really, as they use tennis rackets and covered tennis balls. It is impossible to miss the ball, as it is as big as the racket with which you hit it, and it goes on bouncing for a good long time in a small four sided court with no ledges or steps to add to the variety or uncertainty of the game. You hit as hard as you can till you become exhausted and miss it.'





Squash Library

3 July at 08:52 · 🌐

...

Commentators at the Wimbledon tennis this week have regularly talked of 'squash shots' being played. Meanwhile Australian tennis legend Rod Laver once said of his career that he was never without a squash ball in his pocket to help strengthen his wrist!



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/>

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★

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O. E. BRECKE, Pass. Agt., or local agents.



Squash Library

28 June at 08:45 · 🌐

...

Shadow training / star bursts, where a player replicates movement from tee to corner and back without a ball has been a feature of training regimes for generations. But in 1986 an attempt was made to automate it with a device that would call out a random set of corners to avoid predictability.

Enter 'Shadow Caller'. An electronics firm in England developed a unit that would be placed at the back of the court and emit four different tones at intervals – each indicating a different corner. Intervals and tones were adjustable. It was sold for GB£90.

Perhaps the absence of follow up advertising indicated low interest at a high price.





Squash Library
23 June at 08:13 · 🌐

...

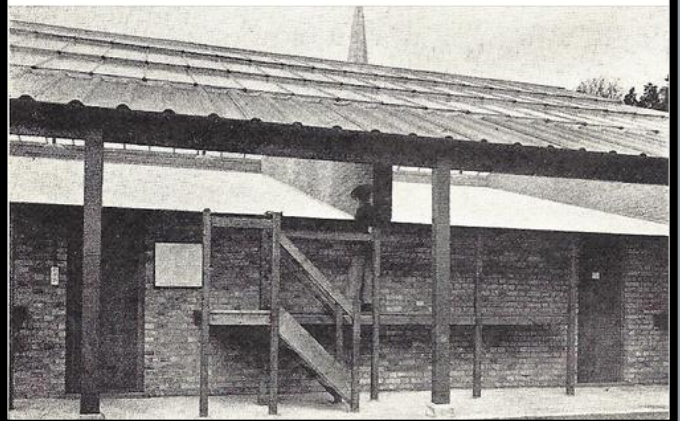
After the first squash-specific courts arrived at Harrow School near London in 1865 (see <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for details), a past-pupil constructed what is thought to be the first court in a house. Augustus George Vernon Harcourt (pic), a scientist, did this at his Oxford home in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



Squash Library
22 June at 07:49 · 🌐

...

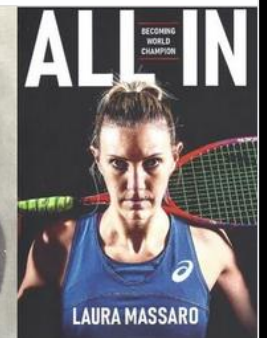
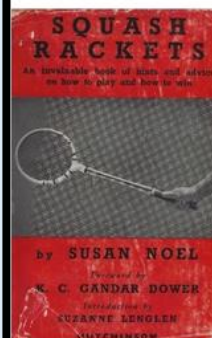
The story of how squash evolved from being played on 'baby' rackets courts at Harrow School in North West London in 1865 into the courts we know is detailed in a new Library feature. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



Squash Library
15 June at 08:52 · 🌐

...

Laura Massaro's book 'All In' published this month is the newest squash book, but not the first written by a woman player. That was 'Squash Rackets' by Susan Noel, first published in 1937. Also English, Noel (pic) had won the British Open three times (1932-34) and the US title in 1933. Multi-talented Noel was runner up in the French Open Tennis Doubles in 1936 too.

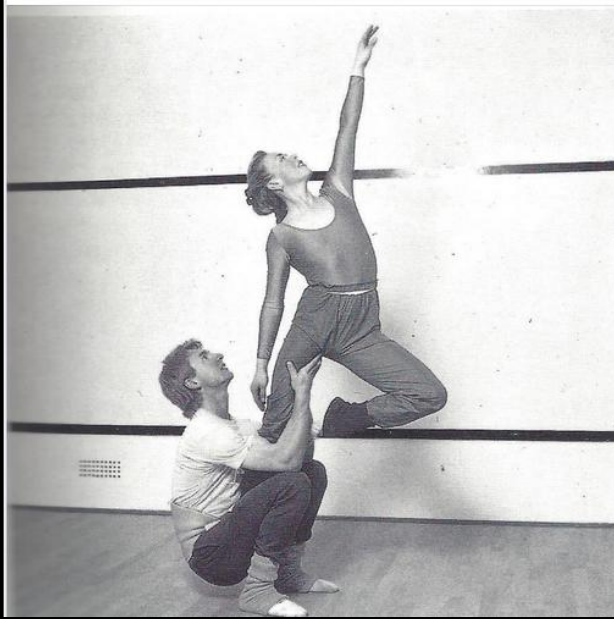




Squash Library

11 June at 09:10 · 🌐

In an unusual use for a squash court, World & Olympic ice dance champions Jayne Torvill & Christopher Dean used one at the Mollington Banastre Hotel in Chester, England to rehearse routines for a world tour in 1990.



Squash Library

5 June at 07:40 · 🌐

From the 'really?' dept: In 1968 the Greek Government passed a law requiring squash and tennis players to appear before a doctor every six months. Competition play would not be permitted without a certificate issued confirming fitness to play. This law was soon repealed, apparently! ΕΦΟΑ - Hellenic Tennis Federation HTF



Squash Library

30 May at 08:45 · 🌐

Sunday prompt. Squash player brand partnerships is not a recent phenomenon. In 1954 Pakistani 'legends' Azan, Hashim and Roshan Khan wore and advertised Fred Perry clothing. The advertisements were not in colour but neither was the clothing! [Fred Perry](#)

NOTHING BUT THE BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH

for the Fabulous

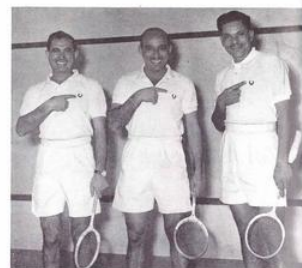
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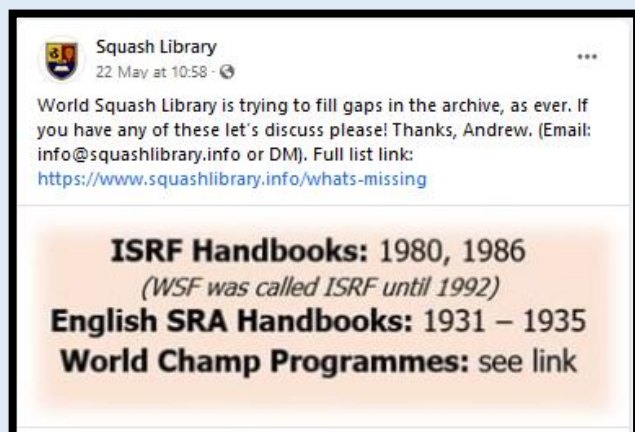
Squash Library

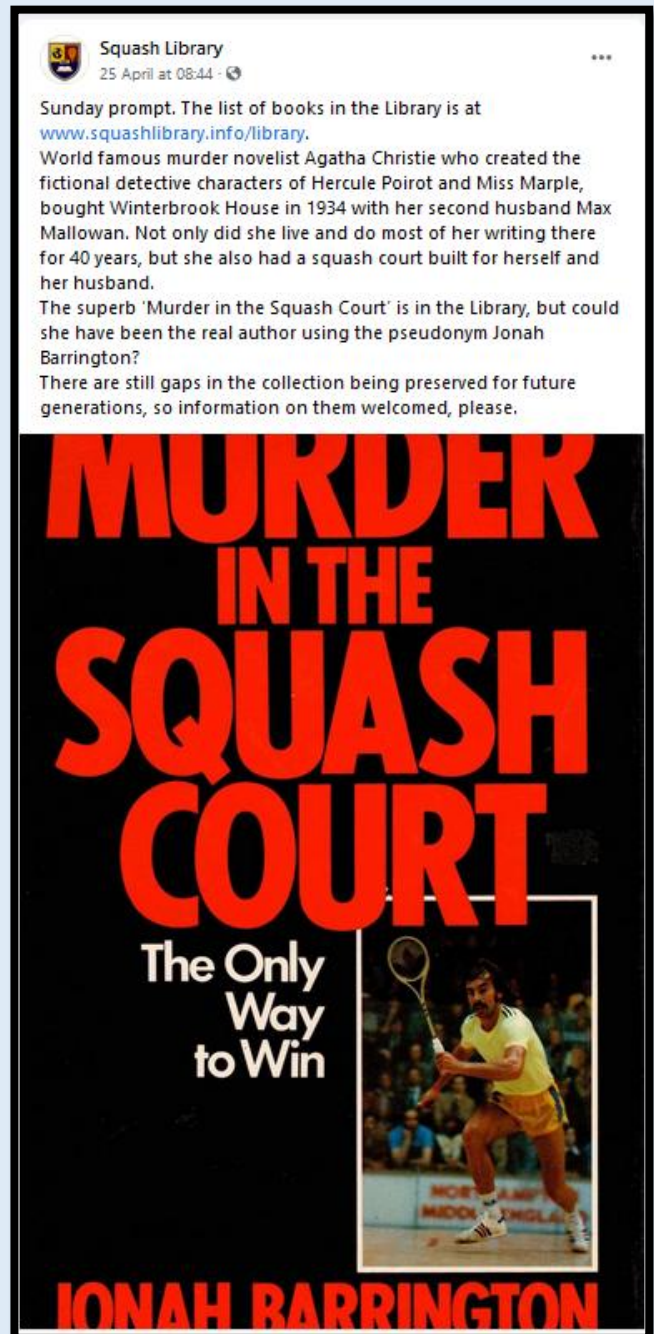
25 May at 09:01 · 🌐

UK's Prince Philip had a secret squash court in Hong Kong. You didn't know? Why would you, it was a secret!

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for the full story. [Hong Kong Squash](#) [England Squash](#)









Squash Library

15 April at 09:15 · 🌐

...

We hear tennis commentators describe a shot as a squash shot, especially from Roger Federer and here is another tennis player playing squash.

When he put down his tennis racket on his winter break in 2015 tennis star Novak Djokovic clearly liked to still keep a racket in his hand while on holiday. A future player for the Serbian squash team?



Squash Library

6 April at 09:18 · 🌐

...

An idea from eight years ago has relevance as retail stores have borne the Covid brunt along with squash. In Manchester's Corn Exchange in England, a pop-up squash shop making use of un-used retail space created a temporary high street squash court, with the England Squash intention to roll it out in other cities.

A BBC sports presenter Mike Bushell (pictured) gave it a try with Laura Massaro. [England Squash](#)

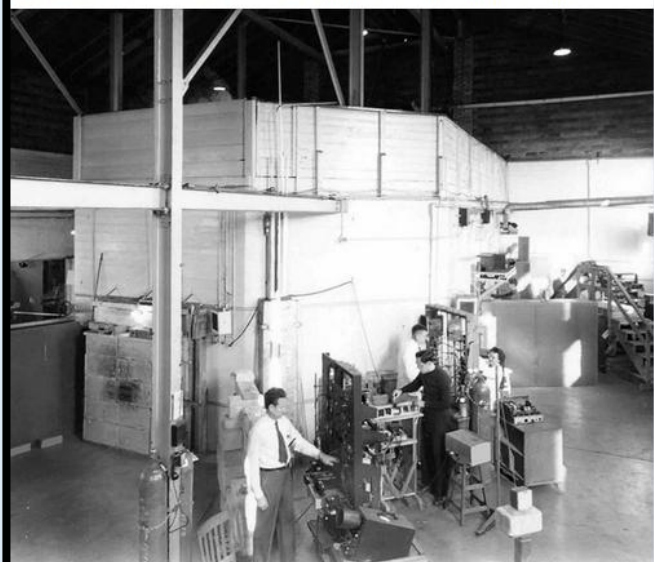


Squash Library

5 April at 09:18 · 🌐

...

The world's first working nuclear reactor was built in a racquets court! In Chicago, USA, at University of Chicago's Hyde Park Campus in 1942. The court sitting beneath the bleacher seating for the football field became the first home for self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction.





Squash Library

1 April at 09:13 · 🌐



PSA have found the solution to the issue of pro players needing flexible flights as they don't know how long they would be in a tournament has been found. The problems of tiredness as matches get harder has been solved too. All very neatly and simple - by playing event final on the first day and working backwards to end the event with the first round.

Most players could arrive when the event was well under way, with all the players knowing they would leave after the first round. Matches get progressively easier too. News of when the PSA Tour roll out this format is awaited.

[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

BACKWARDS



Squash Library

31 March at 08:26 · 🌐



As the Jesters Club edges closer to its Centenary in 2029, here is the story of the first 75 years of the worldwide organisation set up to encourage interest and participation. It is told by its President Robert Dolman. It is at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>

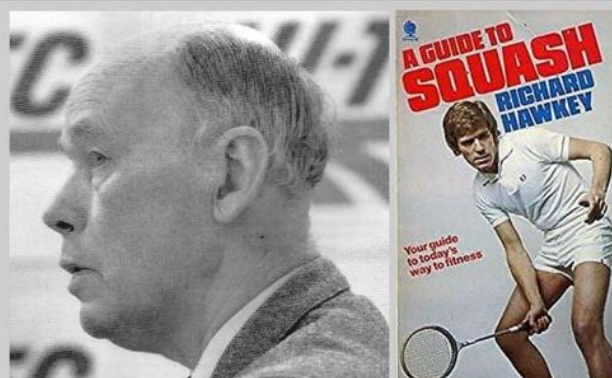


Squash Library

19 March at 08:44 · 🌐



Thirty years ago today (19.03.91), the most prolific author of squash books died aged 67. Richard (Dick) Hawkey wrote over a dozen playing, coaching and refereeing books, along with booklets and magazine articles during the 1960's and 70s, with later updating. He was a British squash international then later a school teacher.



Squash Library

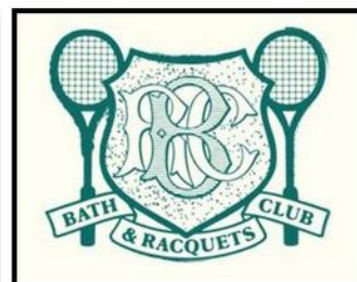
9 March at 09:36 · 🌐



In 1906 what was reputedly the first inter-club match took place. In London, England, the Queens Club thought it would be 'interesting' to challenge the Bath & Racquets Club, and it was arranged that each club would field a team of three, each should play all of the other side, and six matches would be played at Queens Club, three at Bath Club. The matches, on 22 & 23 February 1906 resulted in a crushing victory for Bath Club.

It was reported at the time in Lawn Tennis magazine:

'It is hoped that this match may be the forerunner of others, for one believes squash racquets will become more and more popular



Squash Library

7 March at 10:03 · 🌐



Sunday prompt. If you want to know where squash was played back in 1938, here's a Library worldwide list of clubs / courts from then.

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../principal-clubs...>

Name of Club	Address	No. of Courts	Subscription, Fees, Remarks, etc.
EAST AFRICA			
KAMPALA			
Kampala Club	P.O. Box 241, Kampala, Uganda. Tel.: Kampala 41 (L. J. Wood, P.O. Box 44, Kampala, Uganda)	1	18/- monthly; Non-Members: Court fee, 6d. per person
MAGADI			
Magadi Sports Club	P.O. Magadi, Kenya Colony (J. A. Tate, Magadi Soda Co. Ltd., P.O. Magadi, Kenya Colony)	1	
MOMBASA			
Mombasa Club	P.O. Box 270, Mombasa. Tel.: 56	2	120/- Country, 60/- Entrance fee, 100/-
NAIROBI			
Mathika Country Club	P.O. Box 181, Nairobi, Kenya Colony. Tel.: 5801	2	Town Members, 240/-; Country, 120/- Entrance fee, 200/-
NAKURU			
Rift Valley Sports Club	P.O. Box 1, Nakuru, Kenya Colony. Tel.: 18	1	
EGYPT			
(SUDAN, see page 219)			
ALEXANDRIA			
Alexandria Sporting Club	Drahlisch, Ramleh. Tel.: Alexandria 2666	4	£E6, plus £E1 games fee; Entrance fee, £E10
New Sports Club	Smouha City, Alexandria. Tel.: Ramleh 3048	4	£E6; temporary membership, 100 piastres monthly
CAIRO			
Gezira Sporting Club	Gezira. Tel.: Gezira 66419	8	£E6 (£E8 married); Entrance fee, £E10; Court fee, 1 piastre per person (bookable, 2 piastres). Three professional £E3 members, £E10 single Entrance fee, £E3 married, £E3 single.
MADI			
Madi Sporting Club	Madi, near Cairo. Tel.: Madi 91	2	
PORT SAID			
Port Said International Sporting Club	Roe Mokattam. Tel.: Port Said 2191 (Secretary's, 2044)	2	Annual subscription, 180 piastres; Squash subscription, 100 piastres; Entrance fee, 250 piastres; Visitors, 4/- per day



Handicap events are a popular feature at many clubs, but eighty years ago the idea was being developed. How to handle handicapping being wrestled with, as this December 1937 UK Tennis Magazine article by the Esports Club secretary indicates. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>

WHY NOT HANDICAPS FOR SQUASH?

By PETER HADLEY, Hon. Secretary, The Esports S.R.C.

ALTHOUGH Squash has been growing in popularity from year to year, it has still one great lack; there is no major tournament in which players of all standards can compete with one another on a basis that makes for equality.

In the Lawn Tennis world, thanks to the existence of handicaps, players of an indifferent standard can compete in tournaments with a reasonable chance of surviving several rounds of an event, and perhaps even of winning it. In Squash, on the other hand, the ordinary player has no hope of progressing in a tournament beyond the first or (if he is very lucky) to the second round.

players who never experience anything more exciting after their day's work than an occasional match for their local club, and who would welcome an opportunity for tournament play. The introduction of handicap events would provide such an opportunity.

It should not be difficult to evolve an efficient system of handicapping. Local committees might assign handicaps to members of their own club, based on current form (bolder matches, etc.). Thus the best player in the club might be given a handicap of, say, One 5, and the worst might receive the same amount. These handicaps could be used not only for the purpose of competition within

ment should be able to determine the handicaps with some degree of accuracy. Each competitor could be asked to supply, with his entry, not only information as to his club handicap, but also details of any matches played by him during the season. Most club secretaries keep full records of all matches, so that a member would have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary scores. An enormous number of club matches are played at Squash, and these should provide the handicappers with a great deal of useful information.

In order that the fullest possible data might be available, it would perhaps be advisable for handicap tournaments to



In 1990 the large squash playing business community prompted the English Squash Association to produce a 32 page Filofax Squash Guide, featuring tips, rule details, facts, championship results, useful addresses (and a membership form too!).



If you're a squash player and you want to improve your game and your position in the leagues at your local club, or if you want to resolve those interminable discussions on court and at the bar as to whether a let should have been played or the point conceded, this Filofax insert has all the answers.

Topics covered include warming up exercises, practice routines for forehand and backhand drives, boasting, volleying, dropshots, lobbing and tactical play, rules commonly misunderstood, match play and squash championship facts and figures.



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ISBN 1 85194 087 1

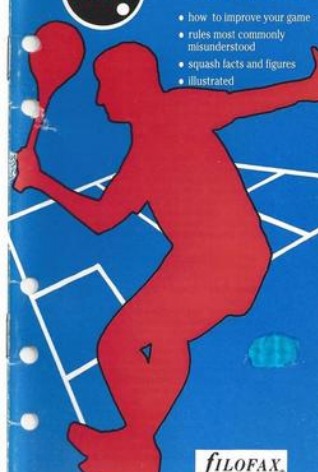
Filofax code 292891

SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION



SQUASH GUIDE

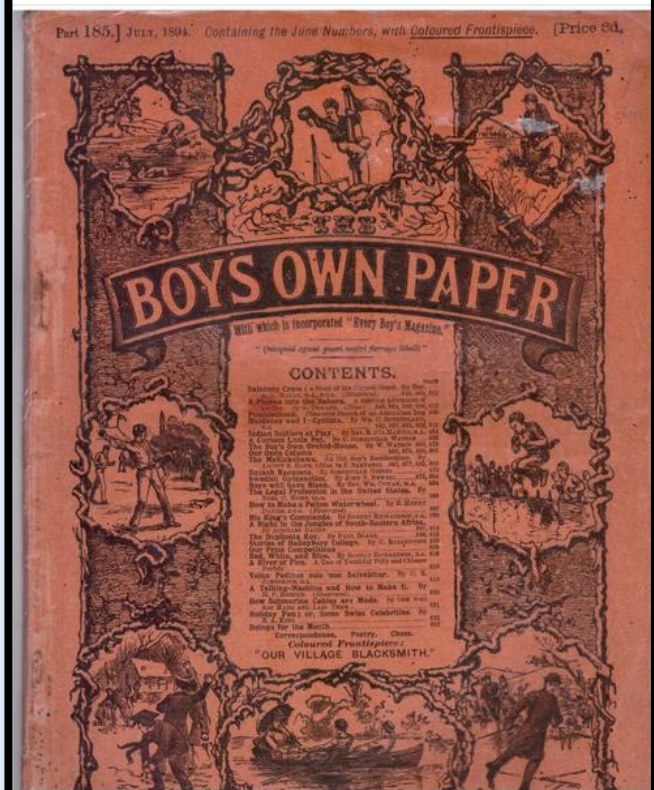
- how to improve your game
- rules most commonly misunderstood
- squash facts and figures
- illustrated



filofax



If you want to see the first known magazine article written on squash – from way back in 1894 – you can do so in this Squash Library feature: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/boy-s-own-paper-1894>



Racketball, a form of squash played on a squash court was rebranded as Squash 57 in an initiative spearheaded by the World Squash Federation in partnership with England Squash in September 2016. The new formal name focused on the key difference to squash – the larger ball, which has a maximum diameter of 57mm (compared with 40mm for a squash ball). Although at a local British level it was expected that the old name would be informally used for a time to come, newer countries... [See more](#)

squash 57



Squash Library

2 February at 08:54 · 🌐

...

An airport terminal with squash courts? That would be Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar, opened in May 2014. The spa area at Hamad features two ASB courts available for passengers, with rackets, balls and shoes provided. [Hamad International Airport Qatar Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

4 February at 08:39 · 🌐

...

The two squash courts at the Athens Lawn Tennis Club were under threat when the Greek club was due to be re-located, but with H.M King Constantine an avid player, this was averted, and indeed saw a doubles court built in time for him to win the Greek Doubles Championship held there in 1966.

For the record, he and Demetriades beat Zeruos & Glyplis 15/13, 10/15, 15/11, 15/12.

(Seen here, H.M. The King receives a pennant at a match played against Malta. Queen Anne-Marie is looking on).



Squash Library

17 January at 09:22 · 🌐

...

In addition to the Squash Library daily postings broken down into headings for easy reference at: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/daily-posting-directory>, you can find World Championship and major games/other events results & information at www.squashlibrary.info CHAMPIONSHIPS.

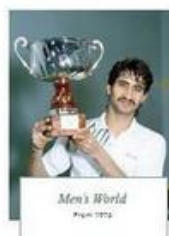


WORLD SQUASH LIBRARY



HOME THE LIBRARY NEWS CHAMPIONSHIPS FEATURES SUPPORT WSL CONTACT

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Men's World

From 1972



Women's World

From 1972



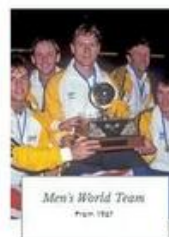
Men's World Junior

From 1980



Women's World Junior

From 1981



Men's World Team

From 1987



Women's World Team

From 1979

WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Host Directory

Australia	Bermuda
1987-1988	1987-1988
1989-1990	1989-1990
1991-1992	1991-1992
1993-1994	1993-1994
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2087-2088	2087-2088
2089-2090	2089-2090
2091-2092	2091-2092
2093-2094	2093-2094
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2097-2098	2097-2098
2099-2100	2099-2100



Squash Library

16 January at 09:07 · 🌐

...

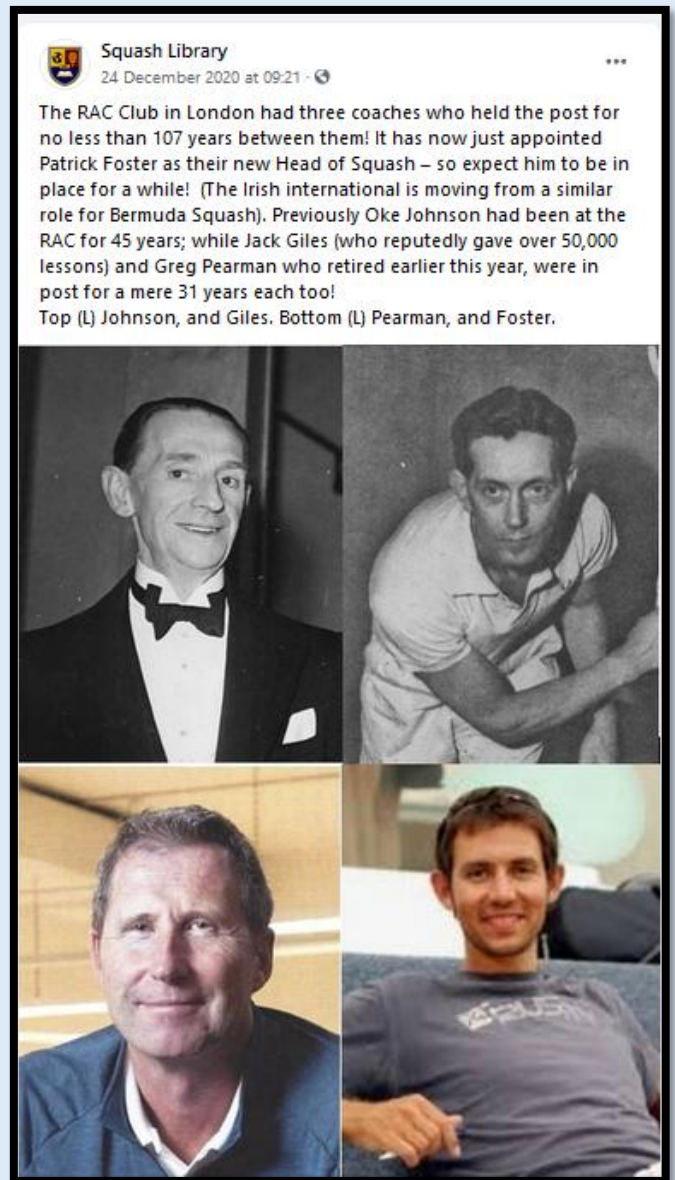
Squash Library posts daily on many aspects of squash's rich history. Now, you can find all of them broken down into thirteen groups for easy reference at: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/daily-posting-directory>.

The headings:

BRITISH OPEN
CHAMPIONSHIP & PSA REGULATIONS
COURTS & EQUIPMENT
MEDIA
MISCELLANEOUS
NATIONS
OBITUARIES
OLYMPIC / MAJOR / REGIONAL CHAMPS
PLAYERS & EVENTS
SQUASH ORGANISATIONS
SQUASH RULES & REGULATIONS
VENUES
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



2020





Squash Library

15 December at 09:13 · 🌐

...

The first British Squash 57 Championship (then called Racketball) was held from 1 December 1984 at the Metropolitan Club in London. Inaugural winners were Denis Secher - pictured (Men) & Greer Batty (Women's). They beat John Hakes and Barbara Watkins respectively.



Squash Library

24 November at 09:25 · 🌐

...

While the SRA in England were still managing the sport internationally (the World Federation began in 1967), they introduced a ball levy so that a proportion of the sales price would come to them as support funding. Hence the ball price rise to 17½p (approx. €0.19½ / \$0.22).

INCREASE IN PRICE OF THE SQUASH BALL

The increase in the recommended retail price of a squash ball from 3s. to 3s. 6d. from the 1st July, 1965, has come about as the result of a request made by the Squash Rackets Association to the Federation of British Manufacturers of Sports and Games Ltd.

In recent years, the rapid increase of international commitments, in a game in which spectators are necessarily so few, has resulted in a very severe strain on the S.R.A.'s finances, and the repeated, and unsatisfactory recourse to appeals for money from clubs and individuals. The S.R.A. felt that the players in this country would not object to paying an increased price for a ball, if they realised that it was money that was being put back into the game, and was being solely used to maintain our position in international squash, and as the overall governing body. With the game developing so rapidly throughout the world, our S.R.A. is competing with overseas associations, which derive financial assistance from their own sources, and to maintain our leadership in the international federation, which will no doubt shortly come into being, our finances must be on a sounder basis. This levy will, it is hoped, help to do this, and a proportion will go to the Women's S.R.A. to assist them with their international commitments. It must, therefore, be clearly understood, in fairness to the manufacturers and distributors of squash balls in the U.K., that this increase has been made at the request of, and solely for the benefit of, the S.R.A. and W.S.R.A., and is in no way a normal trade increase. The manufacturers are taking no profit whatever from this, and do not at present foresee the need to put up the price further. In view of the fact that the price of the ball has remained stable for so many years, it is hoped that this increase will be accepted without criticism by players in this country, in whose interests it is being made.

J. H. HORRY, *Secretary,*
Squash Rackets Association



Squash Library

21 November at 09:12 · 🌐

...

In 1965 H.R.H Prince Philip became President (later, Patron) of what was then the English Squash Rackets Association. He was a keen player himself on the court at Buckingham Palace, and on court when his first son was born!).

Some photos of his meeting top players and national teams are at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>





Squash Library

14 November at 09:20 · 🌐

...

The very first winner of the Malaysian National Championship in 1973 was Tunku Imran Ja'afar, beating Hood Salleh 3-0. Prince Imran as he is informally known, not only fostered the development of Malaysian Squash (seen here with star product Nicol David), but is a former President of the Commonwealth Games Federation, and an Honorary Member of the International Olympic Committee. In squash circles he became an inspirational President of the World Squash Federation (1996 – 2002) and is now the WSF Patron.

[Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia](#)



Squash Library

24 October at 09:12 · 🌐

...

World Squash Library celebrates its first birthday today. A year of over 500 Facebook / Twitter posts, many features produced / questions researched, the archive building too. Lots more to develop, but for now comments & ideas welcomed, along with any items to fill gaps (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/whats-missing>), or any donations towards planned digitalisation work (at www.squashlibrary.info). Thanks for all the support during the year. Andrew

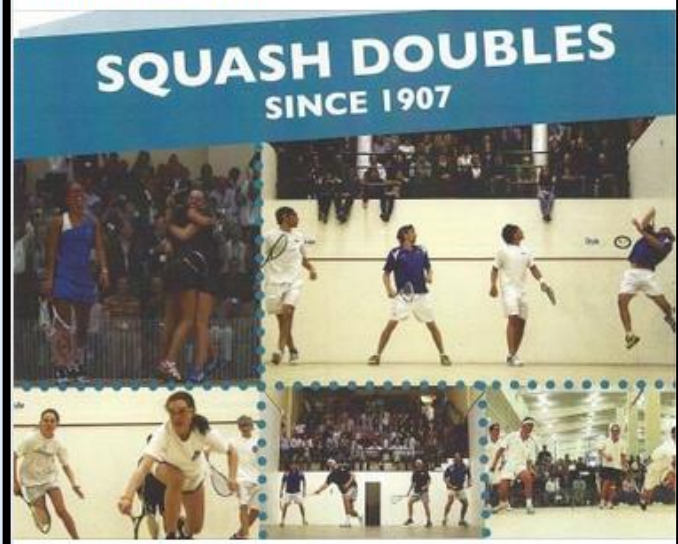


Squash Library

14 October at 11:43 · 🌐

...

Before the International Squash Doubles Association (ISDA) became Squash Doubles Association (SDA) Pro Tour in 2012 it produced an informational and promotional booklet. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>. (For 2020, around 20 events across the United States, Canada, and Mexico were scheduled). [SDA Pro Tour](#)



Squash Library

5 October at 09:53 · 🌐

...

In October 1932 Mr K.C. Gandar Dower, a leading English tennis and squash player of his day (and aviator, explorer and author too!), set out predictions for the future of squash in a magazine article. Now, 88 years later, here is an extract for interest:

'What of the future? We must remember that squash is still in his infancy, somewhere about where lawn tennis was in 1900. By 1940 let us hope that players will have reached a degree of accuracy so great that they can really kill the ball, or else, as is much more probable, matches will be lasting somewhere around three hours. By 1970 ... athletes will drug themselves scientifically and make their one great bid for the championship and totter home and die. And I shall come puffing into the auditorium and take my place among 5,000 people and watch the final reflected in the vast mirror in the roof'.





Squash Library

27 September · 🌐

...

World Squash Library, committed to preserving squash's rich history, is delighted to partner PSA Foundation as beneficiaries of proceeds for the World Squash Day Auction, and grateful to World Squash Day for including the Library. Some great items to bid for! [World Squash Day Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

WORLD SQUASH DAY AUCTION

IN AID OF



WORLD
SQUASH
LIBRARY



Squash Library

21 September · 🌐

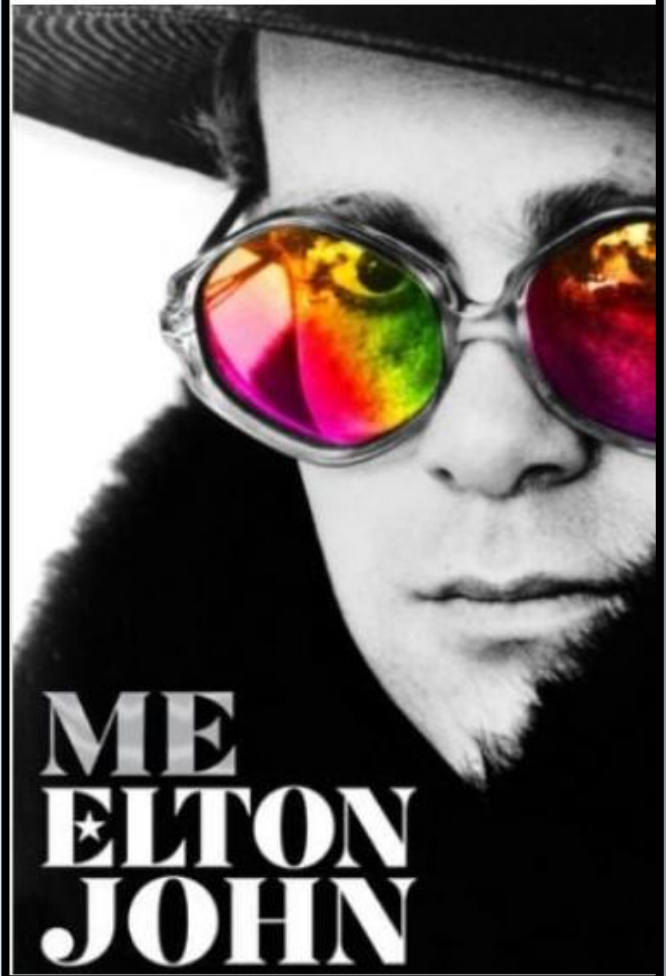
...

Music legend Elton John bought his home in Old Windsor near London in 1975, and in his autobiography entitled 'Me', he wrote, 'The squash Court was one of the things I liked when I moved in. I would challenge anybody who came over to a game'.

But he added that eventually the squash stopped as packing cases of memorabilia were deposited there. Later, it was transformed into a Library.

A court lost. Don't go breaking our heart, Elton!

[EltonJohn](#)



Squash Library

15 September · 🌐

...

Here is a reminder of the featured players and footage used by PSA & WISPA in promotional DVDs in 2004 & 2007 respectively. They are on the Library YouTube channel at <https://tinyurl.com/yvj9nzke>, along with a selection of Squash's Olympic bid videos. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [World Squash Federation](#)





Squash Library
13 September · 🌐

...

Want to know the milestone dates for squash from the 1850's until present? Nations, court, championships, legends, compiled by James Zug, it is on the Library website here:
<https://www.squashlibrary.info/history-of-squash>
World Squash Federation Squash - PSA World Tour

1971

An all-glass back wall, using suspended assembly, is constructed at Abbey; at a cost of GB£31,000; the British Open in 1972 is played on this court. Squash magazine, is started.

1973

Jonah Barrington creates the International Squash Professionals Association. In April the European Federation hosts the first European Championships in The West German Squash Rackets Association is founded.

1974

The British Open, having been closed to only amateur women since 1922, all enter tournament; the finals are filmed for television by the BBC.

1976

The first individual World Championships is played in London in February for Brisbane in August for women; Geoff Hunt and Heather McKay are the winners.

1977

Heather McKay wins the last of her record sixteen straight British Open titles.

1978

In September six hundred people watch the world's first portable court tournament on a glass back wall erected in the Swedish national tennis centre in Stockholm.

1979

In March the first Women's World Team Championships are held in Birmingham.



Squash Library
31 August · 🌐

...

Jumbo Doubles is a big South Eastern Asia idea! So-called because of the larger court, the Library has produced a feature on the local squash variation at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>.
Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia Singapore Squash Thailand Squash Rackets Association (TSRA)

JUMBO DOUBLES – A BIG SOUTH EAST ASIAN IDEA!

Doubles squash can be played on singles courts, and on courts that are expanded to & International Competition width – 7,620 & 8,420mm respectively, as opposed to single 6,400mm. But in South East Asia a variation called Jumbo Doubles is played too on non-sized 'Hardball' courts – which are 7,600 wide but much longer than an international as opposed to 9,750mm.



In Thailand in the early 1980s of expatriate tobacco players in Chiang Mai started playing on a singles court at the Club. Soon after the tournament for residents.

Then, during the 1980s Bangkok Sports Club introduced Doubles court, using the size of an American hard ball and started a tournament called the Mai Cup.



Squash Library
5 September · 🌐

...

In April 2013 former squash world number one Peter Nicol and fellow professional Tim Garner played seven squash matches in seven days in what they called the '7 Continent Challenge'. It aimed to promote the squash Olympic bid for a place on the now postponed 2020 Games programme.

The itinerary was Falkland Islands (Stanley), Chile (Santiago), Australia (Sydney), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Egypt (Cairo), England (London), USA (Stamford, Conn).

It involved: (a) Total flying time: 76 hours, (b) Total travel time: 138 hours, (c) Flights taken: 12, (d) Missed flights: 0! (e) Fund raising a substantial sum for good causes.



Squash Library
17 August · 🌐

...

International Player registration began for squash when WSF introduced it in January 2014. Called SPIN (Squash Personal Identification Number), it was formulated along the lines of other regulated sports that already had player, coach, official licences. The intention was to deal with official coordination and player international event entry, seeding, draw and results seamlessly, handle eligibility, uniform name spelling, discipline and anti-doping considerations. Half of the income from registration fees was related to regional federations to help with their promotional and development activity. [World Squash Federation](https://www.worldsquashfederation.org)

WORLD SQUASH

SPIN PROGRAMME

WSF

COVID-19's impact on world sport in general, and on squash specifically, will be remembered for generations to come. So, to record the wide range of effects produced by the pandemic on the sport, the World Squash Library is asking for contributions from around the world – from which to create a unique record of the unprecedented period.

From players, both recreational and professional, facility operators, federations; anybody involved with squash. The impact; the repercussions; and views on what the future holds.

This will be published on the website, and available so that in future people can look back at this time for the sport using information supplied by the squash community.

Please go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/covid-19-squash-snapshot> - and write about your personal and/or business experiences of how Covid-19 has impacted squash, plus other insights including thoughts on how the sport might be altered in the future. Thank you.



In 1935 an Englishman, Eric Hyde, wrote a book entitled *How to Play Squash Rackets*. In addition to his coaching tips (the illustration shows a rather erect half volley pose), he covers preparation and ladies squash.

On preparing he says this about smoking, '..... none at all on the day of a match, until about half an hour before the match starts, when a cigarette will steady the nerves'. Definitely not a recommendation any more.

He also comments on women's squash saying, 'Usually a woman is quicker and lighter on her feet than a man.... But she is liable to tire quickly with injudicious running about'.

Hyde also explains, '... one other important difference between the sexes in playing games is a temperamental one. Most women play a dashing type of game which produces a brilliant shot one stroke and very often a weak one the next it is definitely not the way to win matches consistently.

The library reports, it does not endorse historical comments!



A FOREHAND HALF-VOLLEY

Do we play squash with a racket or racquet? Generally speaking it has been a racquet in USA, and a racket elsewhere worldwide. In America a 'racket' can be used as a term for unscrupulous activities!

In the late 1300s British author Geoffrey Chaucer used the term racket & later William Shakespeare did too, referring to tennis e.g. King Henry V says 'When we have match'd our rackets to these balls'.

Other famous writers from where the sport originated in UK have used racket, including Johnson, Swift, Thackeray and Dickens.

Perhaps it is best left that either spelling is understood, wherever it is written!



It was in 1978 that one of the first squash computer programmes was developed – by the Victorian Association in Australia. Reacting to the growth of squash and time taken to process results, it was intended to cover areas we have taken for granted for many years now.

At the time the uses were stated to included: (a) weekly match results, (b) Ladders, (c) Performance lists, (d) Registration lists (e) Club registration (f) remote output using data transmission from country areas.

Then, it was claimed that squash was a sport that was an early recogniser of the value of computers to sport.

(Sid Myers, VRSA President, pictured testing the computer with company reps looking on). [Squash Australia](#)



At the 1983 WSF AGM (then called ISRF) this was recorded:

'HARDBALL. It was noted that the Directors of U.S. SRA voted to recognize and support softball squash as a summer game within the United States, and had recently completed the first national softball championships'. International squash has certainly blossomed Stateside since. [US SQUASH](#) [World Squash Federation](#)



World Squash Day was born in the aftermath of the 11 September 2001 World Trade Centre attack in New York. Former Scottish squash junior international Derek Sword was one of the many fatalities, and WSD founder Alan Thatcher along with Sword's friend Laurie Maclachlan decided this would be a fitting tribute, while doing something positive for the sport.

A few months later on 11 January 2002 the inaugural event was an eight player challenge tournament at Lambs Club in London, including stars Peter Nicol, John White and Paul Price (logos 2002 – 2004 below).

The occasion also marked the first 15 a side London-New York Challenge match for the Derek Sword Trophy donated by Derek's friends and colleagues at Keefe Bruyette Woods in New York.

With more than 50 events taking place around the world in 20 different countries, it was the start of the annual worldwide Day used to develop and promote squash.

World Squash Day this year takes place on Saturday 10 October. Details at www.worldsquashday.net [World Squash Day](#)



On this day in 2018 PSA & WSF announced SquashFORWARD, an initiative which selected young PSA members from across the world to bring his or her own perspective on the future of their sport. They became the ambassadors of thousands of young players internationally to help capture the aspirations of their generation to help shape squash's future. [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



In keeping with the Library archive role, as it is April Fools Day here is an article on postal squash from The English Federation magazine 27 years ago, just before the internet began. (Mea culpa!). Now time for a new version? Web Squash?

My three wall boast got lost in the post

"SURELY he can't have volleyed," I thought as I retrieved the familiar looking postcard that had come to rest, snuggled neatly between the final gas demand and a card from the library insisting that three books had been required back many moons ago. Ignoring the ever-mounting library fine, I turned over Peter's card to find that he had indeed played a sharp volley deep into the forehand court.

Here we were well into the fifth game of our Postal Squash match and he was still taking the ball early. One could only marvel at the stamina of an opponent after eight months' exhausting play. Still, a good response now and my trump card - a same-day couriered card no less - would see me at match ball.

You may not have encountered Postal Squash since there are currently only two players, but stand by for what may become the new sporting phenomenon of the 1990s. Don't be surprised if it sounds the death knell for scores of squash clubs, as participants switch from the frantic energy sapping version they currently play in the sweat boxes of the nation.

What is postal squash? Quite simply, it is a derivation of postal chess in which each player sends his opponent the next shot in a rally which continues until a point is won.

I cannot yet reveal the rules and general details of postal squash, as my patent application has yet to be granted. Obviously I must wait until I can do so without fear that it might be copied before royalties can be agreed. However, I am conceited enough to believe that I might be doing for the development of sport what Mr. Waddington has done for board games. And I'm not overly worried about the reaction from those who say the whole element of exercise has gone. I can simply point to the virtual elimination of any risk of injury, which must surely be to everybody's benefit.

I am prepared to say that in principle a player wins a point if the opponent incorrectly anticipates a shot when cards cross in the post. Or when his return doesn't arrive within a stipulated deadline. Of course, the requirement for quick delivery if points are not to be squandered generally means short matches in England where the Post Office continue to mount strikes or simply lose letters within their sorting system for days and weeks! It is only a personal observation, but mail is definitely more likely to go astray if it has a short distance to travel. Address it to the other side of the country and it will unerringly arrive the next day if it has been sent second class and three days later if posted first class, but don't hold out too much hope if you are corresponding within the same town!

But I digress. Readers will appreciate that postal squash cannot operate effectively without use of a third party who will receive and log all shots. It is he or she who adjudicates on lets and strokes, ensures players do not take more than the one week break allowed between games, and

The start of the now annual WSF World Coaches Conferences can be traced back to 1994 when the first was held at the Dekker Club in Zoetermeer, Netherlands, organised by legendary coach Ken Watson (pic), the Australian at the time being the national coach of Denmark. Sixty coaches attended. [World Squash Federation](#)

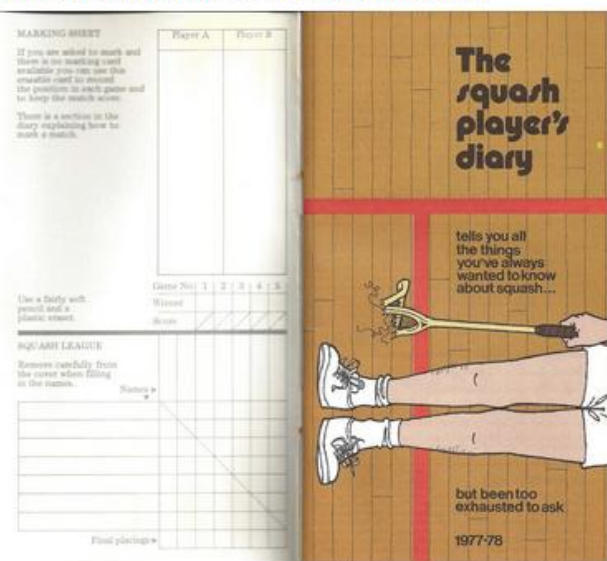


Do you have Irish heritage then this article searching for possible representative players may be of interest. However, you may have missed the response date (and requirements changed) as this request appeared 56 years ago in 1966! [Irish Squash](#)

COULD YOU PLAY FOR IRELAND?

The Irish S.R.A. is trying to form a panel of British based players who are eligible to play for Ireland. Ireland has been the weakest of the four home countries for many years and the Association feels that there are many good players who live and play their squash in England who do not realise that they are qualified to play for Ireland. The differences between the county and international qualifications are that whereas the residential qualification for international teams is three years instead of one, an international qualification may be obtained if a player's father was born in the country. Therefore any first-class player whose father had been born in either Eire or Northern Ireland is qualified to play for Ireland and the Irish S.R.A., the Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, Wilton Place, Dublin 2, would like to hear from him.

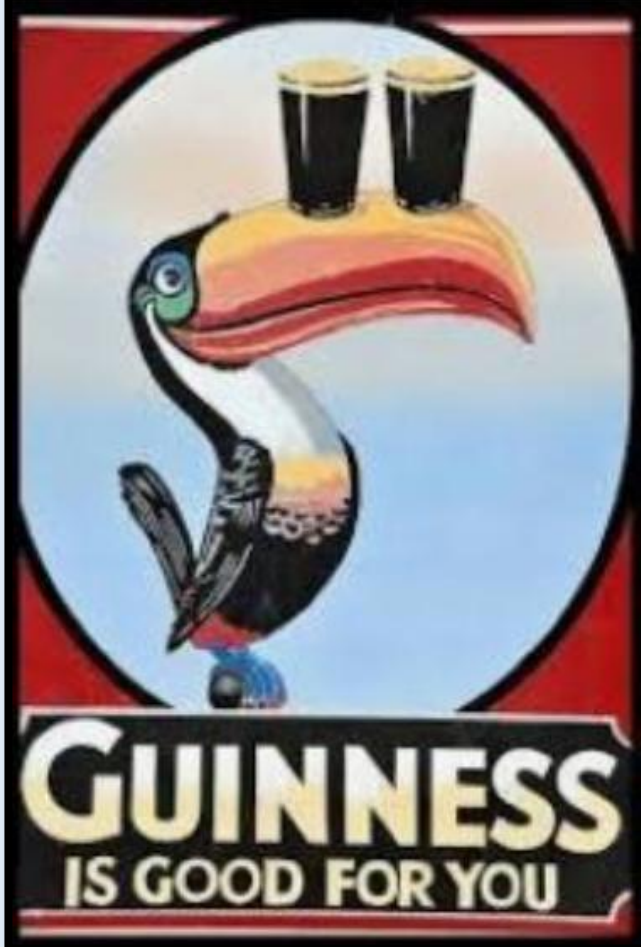
Such were the number of seventies UK players that in 1977 a company produced a Squash Player's Diary that ran for several years. In addition to normal diary detail, it featured a grid for match bookings and results and sections on Rules, tactics and refereeing. (Oh, and the obligatory London Underground map too!)



In 1987 research carried out for a London, England commercial radio station, Capital Radio, come up with the impressive stat that 1 in every 20 men aged 15 to 34 from London played squash at weekends. When all ages were combined the proportion dropped to 1 in 50 – which still placed squash as twice as popular as golf, and on a level with tennis.



As far back as the 1920's Guinness advertised their beer as having health benefits. They also must have thought the same about squash as they had a squash court at their London brewery, as did another famous brand, Watneys. After WW2 they and some of the other London firms started the London Breweries Squash League which ran into the 1950s. Supporters no doubt hoped to be invited to the post-match socialising! [Guinness](#)



Here is a list of worldwide 'Principal Clubs' from 1938. There were a number of GB / US clubs followed by Argentina through to Sweden – nearly 20 other nations in all. A few country names have changed, and 82 years later it is pretty definite that the club manager list is out of date, as are the membership fees! It is in the Library features section: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> [World Squash Federation](#)

ADEN		
Khormaksar Club	Aden, British Arabia	2
ARGENTINE		
BUENOS AIRES		
The Squash Club	Calle Florida 471	3
Hurlingham Club	Hurlingham, P.C.F. Tel: Hurlingham 14	4
The Juncoy Club	Calle Florida 488. Tel: 11-1041	1
AUSTRALIA		
NEW SOUTH WALES		
SYDNEY		
Garden Island Squash Rackets Club	H.M.A. Naval Establishment, Garden Island, Sydney. Tel: 31-4101	1
Royal Sydney Golf Club	Rose Bay, Sydney. Tel: PU 4111/8	2
Longridge Squash Rackets Club	113 George Street, Sydney. Tel: B 7773	3
Wall Gorge Officers' Mess	Women's Avenue, 325 George Street. Tel: B 1000	3
Sydney Squash Rackets Club	Victoria Barracks, Sydney. Tel: PL 4131	3
University Club	14-20 Bridge Street, Sydney. Tel: B 1047	3
Commercial Club	10 Phillip Street, Sydney	3
Killara Golf Club	Don Street, Albion. Tel: Albion 126	1
	Killara. Tel: SX 1417	2
		2



Squash Library
28 January · 🌐

...

In 1995 SquashBusters launched in Boston, USA, the first program of its kind to combine the sport of squash with academic support, mentoring, and community service. Ten years later in 2005 The Squash and Education Alliance was formed to provide an umbrella that would unify, share knowledge and support. 'US Urban Squash' is now celebrating its silver jubilee year with twenty national locations in place along with five international affiliates (Canada, Colombia, India, Israel and South Africa). [Squash and Education AllianceUS SQUASH](#)



**SQUASH +
EDUCATION
ALLIANCE**



Squash Library
26 January · 🌐

...

An interesting question posed by a writer for a rackets magazine in 1932. William Shakespeare died 406 years ago and seemed to have played squash! (When he played squash badly was it 'A Comedy of Errors', winning definitely 'All's Well That Ends Well'. Or is the whole article really 'Much Ado About Nothing'?)

14 December, 1932

SQUASH RACKETS, FIVES, TENNIS AND RACKETS

151

DID SHAKESPEARE PLAY SQUASH RACKETS AND FIVES?

By W. HODGSON BURNET

YOU will of course at once pooh-pooh the idea that Shakespeare ever played either Squash Rackets or Fives. But I am not so sure. In fact from a close study of his works I have at least convinced myself that not only was he a keen player of both games but that he belonged to a recognised club which had international fixtures. In Henry V. i. 2, he says—
"When we have matched our rackets to these balls we will in France by God's grace play a set."
(The difficulty he mentions of being able to get "rackets to match these balls" is one which luckily no reader of this paper who patronises our advertisers need have to face). That Shakespeare knew something about the design and construction of Squash courts there can be little doubt. Playing a match one day he remarks to his opponent—
"The roof of this court is too high."
(Love's Labour's Lost ii. 1)
and again, speaking of a friend who had just built one with out expert advice, he says—
"He hath a court he little cares for."
(Cymbeline i. 7)
Sometimes (for he was only human) Shakespeare appears to have lost his temper when playing, for we find him exclaiming angrily—
"That's a foul fault!" (Henry V. iii. 2)
but after a hard won match he shows his real love of the game by saying in a sort of ecstasy—
"This Squash—!" (Winter's Tale i. 2).

With regard to Fives there is distinct evidence (always of course cunningly concealed in the text) that Shakespeare had a marked preference for the Rugby game, for when asked to make up a four he says with enthusiasm—
"Rugby! Come to the Court!" (Merry Wives i. 4).
muttering as he goes in evident disparagement of the Eton game—
"No jatty—buttern!" (Macbeth i. 6)
I am sorry to say that in the matter of Fives gloves Shakespeare shows himself a bit of a muck for he refers (quite unaccountably) to—
"Those gloves the Court gave me." (Much Ado About Nothing iii. 4).
I am still sorer to have to record that the Bard was addicted to the practice (referred to in a recent issue of this paper) of inserting pieces of metal in his gloves for apparently just before a match he says in a spirit of pure swank—
"Fill this glove with crowns." (Henry V. iii. 8).
then turning to his opponent adds in a confident and offensive manner—
"I dare you to this match." (Cymbeline i. 2).
I could give any number of further references to prove that the question in the title of this article must be answered in the affirmative. Want of space however forbids—
[So do I. Definitely.—Ed.]



Squash Library
25 January · 🌐

...

As the Australian Open tennis moves into its second week current stars Federer has been a squashie and Djokovic pictured on a court, are both in the mix. Looking back, Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg enjoys his squash, and Bjorn Borg used to play squash at the Monte Carlo Country Club in Monaco where the Swede was based. Here he is in 1978 with rackets and girlfriend Mariana Simionescu. [#borgsquash](#)



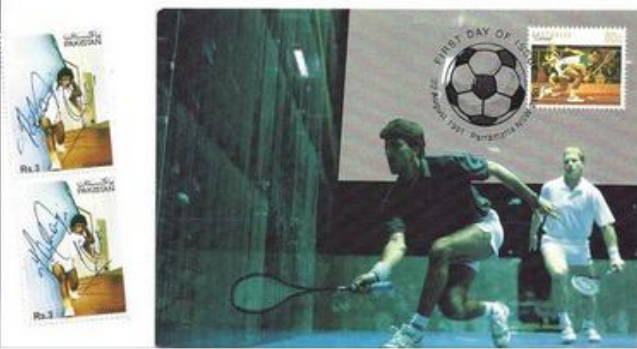
Squash Library
18 January · 🌐

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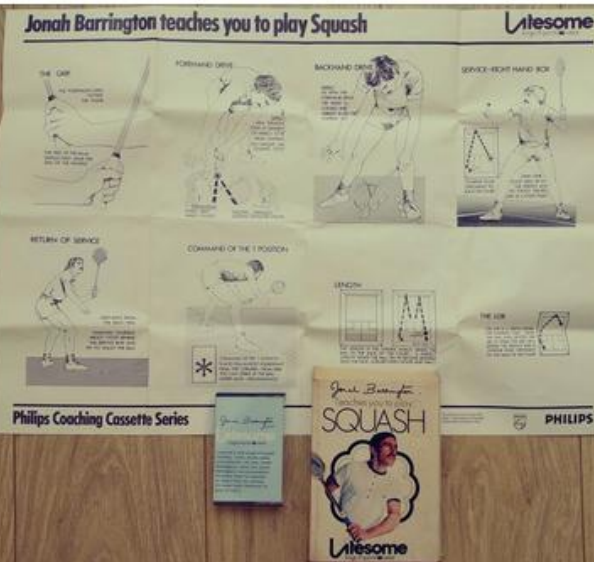
If you want to know how Racketball/Squash57 have evolved you can find the details in the features section of www.squashlibrary.info at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../the-racketball...> World Squash FederationEngland SquashRacketball



On 12 January 1977 the British Post Office issued what is thought to be the first postage stamp featuring squash. It was part of a series of four racket sports of different value, the others depicting badminton, lawn tennis and table tennis. Since then there have been others, for example a Pakistan one of Jahangir Khan and an Australian one using illustrations (one player looking suspiciously like a 'reversed' Kiwi Ross Norman!). Other examples?

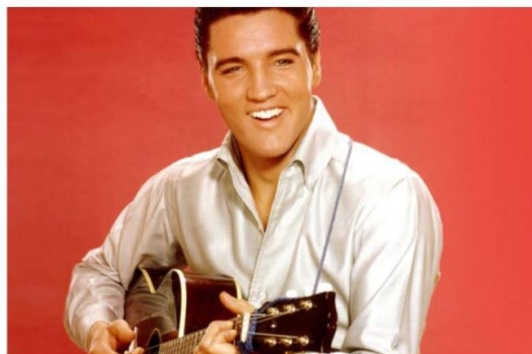


Back in the time of cassettes, a squash coaching tape was produced. Using the catchy title 'Litesome teaches you to play squash with Jonah Barrington' the 40 minute tape of Barrington teaching was accompanied by a chart when released in November 1974.



The sadly early death of Elvis Presley aged 42 on 16 August 1977 followed a game of Racquetball (not racketball, now called Squash57). He liked Racquetball so much he had his own court built at his Graceland mansion.

Elvis was overweight, on a cocktail of drugs and apparently had a diseased enlarged heart, leading to a heart attack verdict. On the day of his death he gave up mid-game saying 'I can't go on' and left the court. An hour later he was found dead in his bathroom. The world had lost the 'King'.



World Squash Library is featured by Squash Player Magazine in their latest edition. Thanks, SPM. [Squash Player Magazine](#)

FEATURE

THE REST IS HISTORY

Mike Dale finds out about the World Squash Library. Andrew Shelley's new labour of love following his departure from the World Squash Federation

In a small room recently vacated by an osteopath at Southgate Squash Club in North London lies a treasure trove of 4,000 items revealing every significant event in the world of squash dating back to 1890.

The room - packed full of books, magazines, photos, tournament programmes, annuals, handbooks and much else besides - is the recently-launched passion of Andrew Shelley, who finally has sufficient time and dedication to invest in it since leaving his post as CEO of the World Squash Federation in June.

Called the World Squash Library, it is undoubtedly the most comprehensive collection of squash information on the planet. It includes almost every book ever written about the game (nearly 200 in total), as well as every single issue of Squash Player magazine since its first hit newstands in 1971 (as well as back issues of many 'invit' magazines, which are, alas, now extinct). "I've started this library to ensure we preserve the history of squash for future generations, as well as helping the current generation - media, fans, players, national federations, students - who need information now," Shelley told Squash Player. "This is a collection which is ever-growing and will never be complete."

The library is not open to the public as such, but visitors are welcome by appointment. You can browse what Shelley believes is the first book ever written specifically about the game - The Game of Squash by Eustace Miles, published in 1900, as well as a compendium Sports & Pastimes, which dates back to 1890. There is also a copy of The Boy's Own Paper from 1884 with an article on squash.

It isn't Shelley's intention to make money from the project, only to, he says, "give back to the sport that has given me so much over these last 40-odd years".

His plan is to fund-raise in order to provide greater services to those seeking historical information. He has catalogued all the materials and intends to digitise key data, so that it is more easily searchable, starting with historical world individual and team events, and British Opens.

He has already begun posting daily fascinating insights from documents and photos from the collection on the World Squash Library website Facebook and Twitter feeds. Further articles and posters will be made available looking back at advertising, court development and other facets of the sport.

"There's so much that can be done to provide colour to the fabric of squash," he explains. "It's not intended as a commercial



Andrew Shelley in the new World Squash Library annex through the sport's magazine of record, Squash Player

proposition; it's to provide a service now and into the future. Over time, my task will get easier and thereafter I can be more activity-driven.

"I'm not being paid to run the library and clearly it can only be very helpful to a small number of people. I'm only one pair of hands, but I'll be doing this until I drop, so hopefully I'll have plenty of time to make it pretty special."

Shelley has been hoarding squash memorabilia ever since his first job in the sport some 42 years ago - and it was this very magazine that helped kick-start his career-long love affair with squash.

In 1976 Shelley was working as a publicity assistant for Rolex, which had sponsored the British Amateur Closed Championships. He bought a copy of Squash Player magazine to check it a Rolex advertisement it had supplied had been published. Inside, he spotted a job advertisement for a tournament and affiliation secretary at the Squash Rackets Association (now England Squash). He applied, got the job, stayed at the organisation for 18 years and never left the squash industry for the rest of his working life.

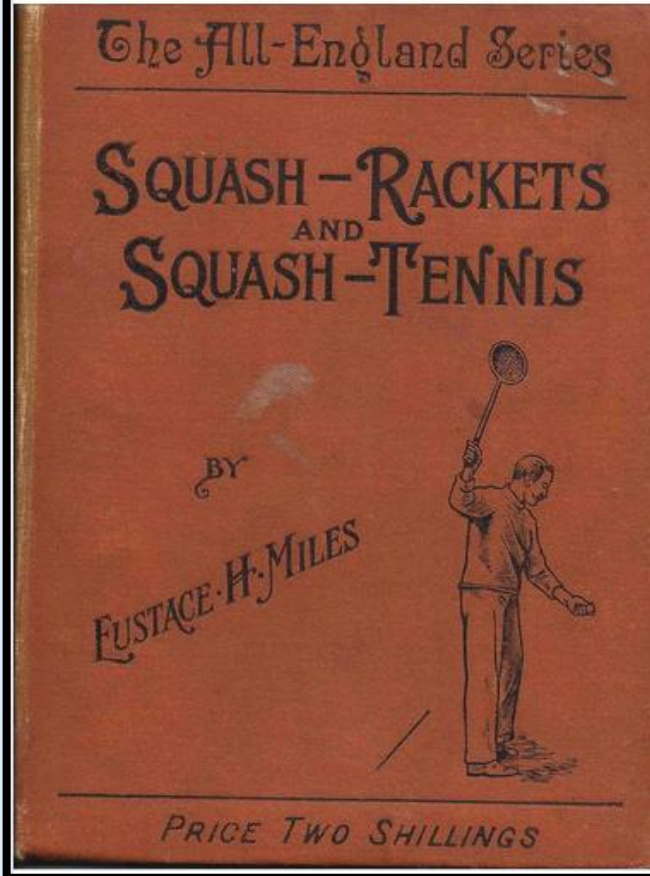
After the SRA, he spent 15 years at WSPA (later the WSA, before it joined forces with the PSA) and is credited with growing the women's professional tour by 300 per cent. He joined the World Squash Federation in 2010 and spent nine years as its chief executive.

He reflected: "Having seen out the last Olympic bid - together with the PSA, we mounted a terrific bid - it was clear we were miles away from the current intentions of the IOC (International Olympic Committee), so I thought it was time for somebody fresh to come in."

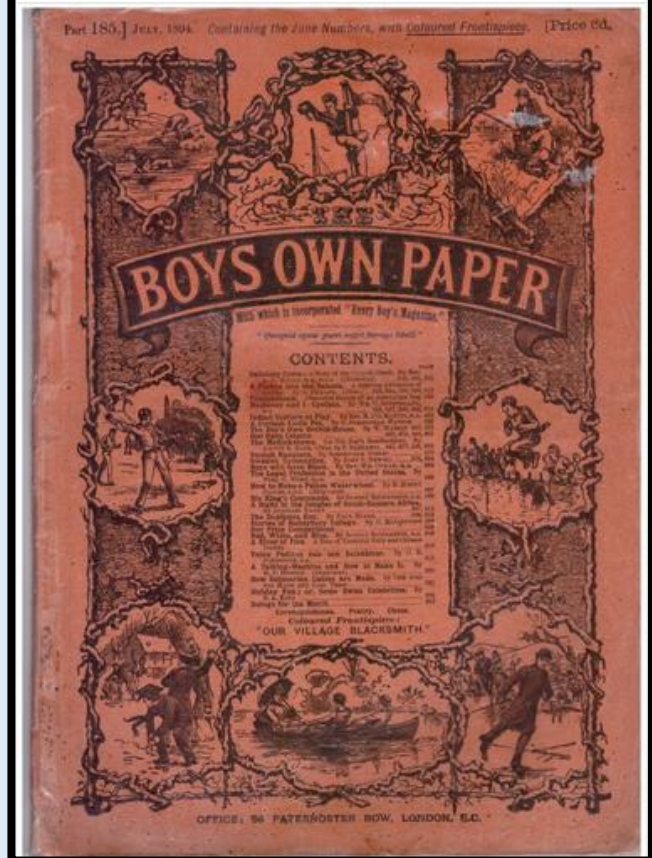
"I'm now throwing myself into growing the library, but in financial terms I'm now unemployed, at least until the male modelling assignments start rolling in! I'm sure it's only a matter of time!"



Eustace Miles, the Amateur Champion of America of Rackets and also Squash-Tennis (as he called it), and Amateur Champion of the World of the time, wrote *The Game of Squash*, first published in 1900. He said 'Squash has no literature of its own: I believe that this is the first book on the game. In fact, till 1899 I had never seen an article on squash, or even a report of a match'. (Miles clearly had not seen the magazine article on squash in *Boy's Own Paper* of 1894 – see yesterday's posting!). [US SQUASH](#)



The very first known article about squash appeared in the *Boy's Own Paper* in England in 1894. If you want to read it you can find it in the Library features section at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>





Squash Library

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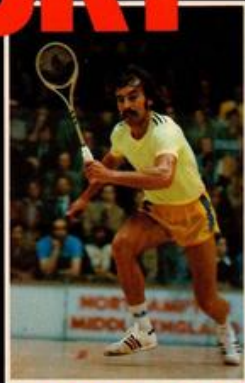
World famous novelist Agatha Christie who created the fictional detective characters of Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, bought Winterbrook House in 1934, with her second husband Max Mallowan. Not only did she live and do most of her writing there for more than 40 years, but she also had a squash court built for herself and her husband.

Could it be that she was the real author of Murder on a Squash Court using the pen-name Jonah Barrington?

For the full Library book list, (including this one by Agatha!) go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/library>

MURDER IN THE SQUASH COURT

The Only
Way
to Win



JONAH BARRINGTON