

European Masters Squash Circuit

Quarterly Update

ISSUE 03 — JULY 2016

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A Message from the Chairperson, Pavel Sladeczek

As we were approaching the end of the season, our committee started to consider our future and our workload. With the number of tournaments in the Masters Circuit growing, administration was also increasing and therefore we decided to extend our Masters Sub-Committee. We are now pleased to announce and welcome two new members - Claudio Hassler from Switzerland and Danilo de Tufo from Italy.

In addition to routine committee work Claudio will oversee the correct procedure of the tendering process to host the Masters Tournament and Danilo will operate in the field of public relations and social media.

We need one last committee member who has experience in sport marketing and sponsorship to complement the team. If you are interested in helping us promote Masters Squash, please email masters@europeansquash.com.

Finally I would like to thank all players, organizers and supporters who take part in the ESF Masters Circuit and I wish you pleasant summer holidays, and look forward to seeing you next season.

Please contact us on masters@europeansquash.com.

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Czech Masters Open, Prague

April 2016

Pavel Sladeczek



M35+

- 1 - [ITA] Filippo Madella [1/1]
- 2 - [GER] Robert Stelzl
- 3 - [SVK] Ivan Jančíčka [3/4]
- 4 - [CZE] Ales Knotek

M40+

- 1 - [CRO] Manuel Fisticic [1/1]
- 2 - [POL] Jaroslaw Terlecki [2/2]
- 3 - [EGY] Tarek Shamekh
- 4 - [ESP] Sergio Juan

M45+

- 1 - [ITA] Alessandro Marcolini [1/1]
- 2 - [FIN] Esa Naukkari nen [5/8]
- 3 - [FIN] Anssi Määttä nen [5/8]
- 4 - [GER] Hassan Abdel Meguid [5/8]

M50+

- 1 - [CZE] Štěpán Marko [2/2]
- 2 - [GER] Oliver Janssen [3/4]
- 3 - [ITA] Antonio Poppa [5/8]
- 4 - [GER] Marko Kruse [3/4]

M55+

- 1 - [SUI] Walter Zemp [5/8]
- 2 - [GER] Felix Paal [5/8]
- 3 - [GER] Joachim Gersdorf [2/2]
- 4 - [ESP] Jose Luis Ori zola [1/1]



M60+

- 1 - [ENG] Stuart Hardy [1/1]
- 2 - [FIN] Kale Leskinen [2/2]
- 3 - [SVK] Lubomír Fabšič [3/4]
- 4 - [GER] Christian Bröcker



M65+

- 1 - [SWE] Peter Karlsson [1/1]
- 2 - [FIN] Markku Kaistinen [2/2]
- 3 - [NED] Erik Kooijman [3/4]
- 4 - [ENG] Keith Derham [3/4]

W35+

- 1 - [GER] Katja Leuschner
- 2 - [CZE] Denisa Lihartová [2/2]
- 3 - [GER] Iris Stockbauer
- 4 - [SWE] Joanne Elgood [1/1]

W45+

- 1 - [AUT] Konny Höllein [1/1]
- 2 - [GER] Felicitas Döhning [2/2]
- 3 - [CZE] Romana Adamkova
- 4 - [GER] Störte Becker

For the fourth time the international tournament, Czech Squash Masters, was played in Prague, Czech Republic, and for the first time the tournament was upgraded to Grand Prix

level which meant more ranking points for the players and pressure to sustain a certain level of quality in the tournament from the organiser's point of view.

As last year, the event was held in the Hector Sport Club, Prague. We welcomed 120 players from all over Europe divided into nine age categories, 749 sets were played in 234 matches.

Tournament results you can find on [tournament software](#) and photos from the prize giving ceremony on flickr (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/squashacademy/>).

We hope to see you again next year.



3rd Vapiano Hungarian Masters Open 2016

May 2016

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M35+

- 1 - [CZE] Vít Barnáš [1]
- 2 - [CZE] Karel Svoboda
- 3 - [TUR] Emre Bengu
- 4 - [GER] Alexander Hartig [2]

M40+

- 1 - [ENG] Paul Johnson [1]
- 2 - [HUN] Sandor Zsengeller
- 3 - [NED] Yasser Fayez
- 4 - [UKR] Oleksandr Bulgakov [2]

M45+

- 1 - [FIN] Anssi Pekko Määttänen [2]
- 2 - [HUN] Zsolt Kovacs
- 3 - [GER] Farman Khan [5/8]
- 4 - [GER] Hassan Meguid [3/4]

M50+

- 1 - [HUN] Gabor Krasznai
- 2 - [BEL] Lahourcade Guillaume [1]
- 3 - [FIN] Marko Värilä
- 4 - [GER] Oliver Janssen [3/4]

M55+

- 1 - [GER] Felix Paal [2]
- 2 - [CAN] Brian Macdougall
- 3 - [GER] Stefan Rosenberger [3/4]
- 4 - [GER] Lothar Homburg

M60+

- 1 - [FIN] Kale Leskinen [1]
- 2 - [SUI] Roland Walser
- 3 - [SVK] Lubo Fabsic [2]
- 4 - [GER] Christian Bröcker [3/4]



M65+

- 1 - [SWE] Anders Norman
- 2 - [ENG] Terence Norman [1]
- 3 - [SWE] Peter Karlsson [2]
- 4 - [SUI] Claudio Hassler [3/4]

W35+

- 1 - [POL] Dominika Witkowska [1]
- 2 - [SWE] Joanne Elgood
- 3 - [HUN] Zsuzsanna Kekesi [2]
- 4 - [POL] Dorota Grzechowiak

W40+

- 1 - [CZE] Denisa Linhartova [1]
- 2 - [HUN] Leonóra Udvardi [2]
- 3 - [HUN] Anita Pocsaji
- 4 - [ITA] Gabriella Frizzarin

W45+

- 1 - [NED] Karin Thiel [1]
- 2 - [SUI] Beatrice Walser [2]
- 3 - [ITA] Cristina Di Sacco [3/4]
- 4 - [HUN] Anna Divéky

The Hungarian tournament took place at the Griff Squash & Fitness Club in Budapest. 10 age categories were represented with a total of 93 players.

In speaking to Helene Annie Linnea Borg who played in the +45, she found playing at the same place as the hotel is always convenient. 'It's a great location,' she says 'close to the metro if you want to go to the city. You can even buy your tickets at the hotel. 'The Hungarians are friendly people and they even organised a sightseeing tour arranged in the evening. A really enjoyable tournament.'

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German Masters Grand Prix 2016

June 2016, by Störte Becker

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M35+

- 1 - [GER] Matthias Heinemann
- 2 - [ITA] Filippo Madella [1]
- 3 - [HUN] Lorant Muth [3/4]
- 4 - [CZE] Vít Barnáš [2]

M40+

- 1 - [CRO] Manuel Fistic [4/6]
- 2 - [ITA] Isaac Aroyo [1]
- 3 - [GER] Götz Mönninghoff [2]
- 4 - [GER] Ralf Ibele [4/6]

M45+

- 1 - [GER] Predi Fritsche [5/8]
- 2 - [GER] Andreas Omlor [9/16]
- 3 - [AUT] Marco Staller [1]
- 4 - [GER] Hassan Meguid [2]

M50+

- 1 - [POR] Carlos Mendes [5/8]
- 2 - [GER] Oliver Janssen [1]
- 3 - [GER] Uwe Peters [5/8]
- 4 - [SWE] Lennart Niklasson [9/16]

M55+

- 1 - [GER] Felix Paal [3/4]
- 2 - [SUI] Walter Zemp [5/8]
- 3 - [GER] Udo Kahl [5/8]
- 4 - [ENG] Stephen Edmondson

M60+

- 1 - [ENG] Alan Hathway [1]
- 2 - [SCO] Paul Harris [5/8]
- 3 - [RSA] Derek Lawrence

- 4 - [FRA] Gérard Sidoun [5/8]

M65+

- 1 - [SCO] Jim Dougal [3/4]
- 2 - [SUI] Claudio Hassler [1]
- 3 - [NED] Erik Kooijman [3/4]
- 4 - [GER] Bernd Götsch [2]

M70+

- 1 - [RSA] Desmond Sacco [2]
- 2 - [GER] Tony Schnell
- 3 - [POR] Fernando Valentim [1]
- 4 - [GER] Wolf Romm

W35+

- 1 - [GER] Melanie Kreisel [1]
- 2 - [GER] Katja Leuschner [2]
- 3 - [FRA] Sylvie Lacoste
- 4 - [GER] Sabrina Gerhardt [3/4]

W45+

- 1 - [GER] Iris Stockbauer [3/4]
- 2 - [GER] Simone Korell [1]
- 3 - [NED] Karin Thiel [2]
- 4 - [GER] Claudia Hennes

W50+

- 1 - [AUT] Konny Höllein [1]
- 2 - [GER] Felicitas Döhring [2]
- 3 - [GER] Störte Becker
- 4 - [GER] Marion Hanske

The reward: a very successful tournament with lots of tight matches and an extremely positive atmosphere on all three days. Even the high summer temperatures – the reason that some courts were behind the time schedule – caused no great problems.

The good spirits lasted through to the evenings, where many squash masters were celebrating and dancing through to the early hours.

On Sunday there were many close and exciting finals, mostly refereed by official referees, where squash at its best was to be seen. The closest decision was in Men's Over 60, where in the final group the number of



185 players from 22 countries met in Krefeld, Germany for the 19th International German Masters Championships. Desmond Sacco and John van Heeswijk even came from South Africa to take part in this international tournament and to recruit entries for the World Championship in Johannesburg this summer.

The German Masters was for the third time in a row by far the largest tournament in the ESF Masters Circuit and required a lot of work from the organising team.

games won decided that Alan Hathway (ENG) was to be the German Open Champion, closely followed by Paul Harris (SCO) and Derek Lawrence (RSA).

[Here](#) is a complete list of all winners as well as individual results.

Next year the 20th International German Masters Championships will take place from Friday 29th September to Sunday 1st October 2017.

Masters Tournament Evaluation and Checklist, by Jean-Marc Fraipont

Since the beginning of 2015, a vital mission was established in the Masters Sub-Committee (MSC):

To evaluate and improve Masters Tournaments

During discussions amongst members of the MSC, it was decided that we provide guidance for Tournament Directors (TDs) in organising their tournaments for the benefit of everyone involved.

The Checklist Was Born

It is for this reason that the "Checklist" was created. It was tested and improved during the last few tournaments of 2015 and now we use it for each tournament.

Everyone in the world of squash will experience the benefits:

1) The MSC has a tool to check the quality of the tournaments. This

is to determine the tournament levels (Master Open, Grand Prix and Super Series) for next season. Based on this evaluation, the Director of MSC will send feedback to the TD. This will enable him to correct mistakes or shortcomings but above all to improve the quality of their next tournament, and to also highlight

the positive efforts made for the benefit of everyone who participates – family, friends, supporters and players.

2) The TD, in preparation of his tournament, has a document containing all mandatory or recommended options as part of this evaluation. In addition he can ask for advice from members of the MSC as often as necessary. There is a regular dialogue between the MSC and the TD.

After the tournament he will receive a summary of positive and

negative points of his tournament so that further improvements can be implemented for future tournaments.

3) The Players - In playing, players have certain expectations. After all, in partici-

pating, tournaments cost money, therefore, it is only natural that players expect a certain level of organization of the highest possible quality.

Expectations can vary:

- quality matches,
- new places to discover,

- the social aspect,
- to reunite with fellow master players
- to keep fit

In summary, players are motivated for different reasons. Our duty, the Masters Sub-Committee's duty, is to manage and to reconcile all of these reasons and to meet as many of your expectations as possible.

Some examples of the checklist, pre-tournament, during tournament and post tournament are as follows:

Pre

- Promoting the tournament
- Seeding online

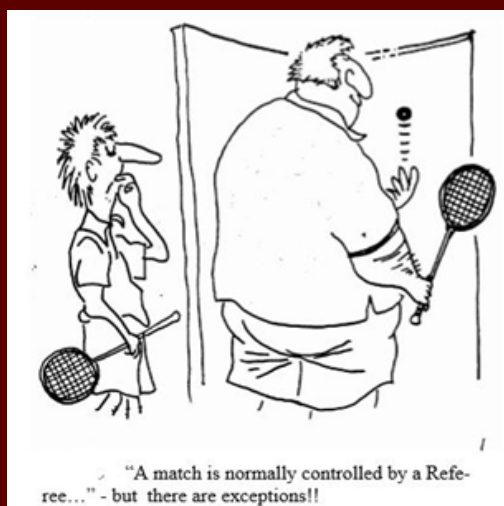
During

- Updating results in real time
- Court quality

Post

- Price giving ceremony
- Rankings updated

The full [Checklist](#) is found here. Based on recent assessments and on comments made by you, the players and TDs, we are now preparing a new version of the Checklist – this will be implemented next season starting September 2016. So our mission continues.



Player Interviews

Alicja Kulp interviews Fernando Valentim and Desmond Sacco

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Fernando is from Portugal and is currently ranked 1st in the M70+ category. A regular player and a great supporter of Masters Squash he has played in the M60+, M65+ and M70+ in recent years but not all at once 😊.

Why do you play in the Masters?

'I have been playing in the masters for 4 years now and the circuit now is much better. It is great to meet people and see new places and nice to see that the circuit is spreading across Europe.

There are many improvements in the circuit and I like the point system. I play because I don't want to lose my touch so it's good to play different players from different countries.'



Desmond is from South Africa and is currently ranked 1st in M75+ category.

Why do you play in the Masters?

'I play to meet people, I enjoy the camaraderie and of course I play to win. I normally try to combine some of my European tournaments with my travels and therefore decided to join the German tournament on the way back from Monaco visiting my sister. It's a different style of play here in Europe.

The facilities in Germany are good, as those in Italy and Netherlands. Here in Krefeld, there are 9 good courts, it's well run and well organized.

Every year the tournaments improve more and more. The organization gets better and it's good to visit different countries in Europe. And, of course I hope to see you in Johannesburg.

Next issue, we'll interview two of the regular lady players 😊

Your Voice - Implementing Scoreboards

Following our Customer Survey Results in our March 2016 issue of our newsletter, one of the suggestions put forward was the use of Scoreboards. This suggestion was made by Claudio Hassler. This makes it easier for players to know what the score is, especially when scores are not always easy to hear.

Here's a picture used in the Hungarian Masters in May 2016.



Germany led the way, by introducing these last year. Now we hope that they will be used in all tournaments. I am sure you would agree that this is an improvement for both referee and player.



Our thanks to Claudio for a great suggestion!



If you have any suggestions on how to improve our tournaments, please E-mail us at

masters@europeansquash.com

Poland Venue Change

The masters tournament in Poland on 7-9 October 2016 has changed to Wroclaw. Please make a note of this change. Full details will be available on our [Event Calendar](#).

European Squash App

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Do you want to know your match times and court assignments? Why not download the European Squash App! It will give you all the relevant details for your upcoming matches.

Go to Apple's App Store or Playstore and search for European Squash - an app for your phone! This will give you information on your playing schedule.

Tournament Software

Having problems with Tournament Software? Well, here are some videos which may help you.

<http://www.tournamentsoftware.com/product/videos.aspx?id=3&s=2>

If you are a Tournament Director responsible for Masters Circuit Tournaments, we will support you. The ESF Masters Sub-Committee is always willing to support the local Tournament Directors during the preparation of ESF Masters Circuit Tournaments to ensure that the tournament runs smoothly. Don't forget you can always ask your national associations as well, they're there to help you too.



European Masters Circuit 2016 Calendar

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22-24 January —Porto, Portugal (MO)
11-13 March—Santiago de Compostela, Spain (MO)
8-10 April—Prague, Czech Republic (GP)
13-15 May—Budapest, Hungary (GP)
24-26 June—Krefeld, Germany (GP)
15-17 July—Uster, Switzerland (MO)
9-11 September—Riccione, Italy (GP)
7-9 October—Wroclaw, Poland (GP)
28-30 October—Bruges, Belgium (MO)
18-20 November—Rotterdam, NL (GP)
9-11 December—Cardiff, Wales (MO)



MO—Masters Open GP—Grand Prix

World Masters 2016 - Update

24-30 September 2016 in Johannesburg, Alicja Kulp

Deadline for Entries is 12th August 2016

The deadline for entry will soon be upon us. There are 631 entries so far.

<http://wsfworldmasters.com>

Launch of 'The Nations Cup'

With the approval of the WSF, a new perpetual trophy will be launched at the 2016 World Masters Squash Championships. This trophy will go to the Country whose players produce the best overall performance in the Championships, taking the results in all age groups of both men's and women's events into account. It will be called **THE NATIONS CUP**.



So there's even more reason to enter! 😊

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PHOTOS

If you want to receive a copy of the newsletter via E-Mail, please contact [Alicja Kulp](mailto:Alicja.Kulp@europeansquash.com)

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EUROPEAN MASTERS CIRCUIT SEASON 2016 - 2017

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**SEPTEMBER 9-11
ITALY [GP]**



**OCTOBER 7-9
POLAND [GP]**



**OCTOBER 28-30
BELGIUM [MO]**



**NOVEMBER 18-20
NETHERLANDS [GP]**



**DECEMBER 9-11
WALES [MO]**



**JANUARY 20-22
PORTUGAL [MO]**



**MARCH 10-12
SPAIN [MO]**



**APRIL 21-23
CZECH REPUBLIC [GP]**



**MAY 19-21
HUNGARY [GP]**



**JUNE 2-4
FRANCE [MO]**



**JULY 14-16
SWITZERLAND [MO]**



**AUGUST 4-6
FINLAND [MO]**



[MO] MASTERS OPEN
[GP] GRAND PRIX



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