

To: ALL WSF MEMBER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

cc: WSF Regional Vice-Presidents, WSF Committee Members, PSA & WSA members, Accredited Companies

NETHERLANDS - NEW WORLD JUNIOR HOSTS

The 2015 WSF World Junior Squash Championships will take place in the Netherlands, during the same period as was scheduled for the event before its recent move from Cairo.

The WSF World Junior Championships 2015, comprising men's and women's under 19 age individual events followed by the biennial junior women's team event, will now be held in Eindhoven - the former from 26-30 July, with the Women's Team Championship following on from 31 July to 4 August.

The championships will be hosted by the Dutch Squash Federation, in conjunction with the 15-court Squashtime Centre.

Thanking the Dutch Federation, WSF President N Ramachandran said: "After the very unfortunate need to relocate the event, we were very grateful that our friends from Netherlands - who have great facilities and extensive event experience - were in a position to offer an option that allows the cream of young players from all over the world to contest their world titles as scheduled. While we very much hope to return to Egypt soon, for this year we thank our new hosts."



Enthusiastic crew....

Hans Arends, Chairman of the Dutch Federation (pictured), added: "We are very happy to be able to help the WSF with organising the 2015 World Junior Squash Championships. We have an enthusiastic crew ready to make the

tournament an unforgettable event for the players, staff and spectators."

Both individual world champions Habiba Mohamed (Egypt) and Diego Elias (Peru) should be back to defend the 2014 titles they won in Namibia. Elias became his country's first ever world squash champion and 15-year-old Mohamed has a potential record four world junior titles in her sights!

The 2015 Women's World Junior Team Championship is likely to see Egypt seeded to win the trophy for a record fifth time in a row. Entries for the Individual events will close on 12 June.

MALAYSIA WIN WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTING BID

WSA, in conjunction with WSF, has awarded the rights to Malaysia to host the next three editions of the Women's World Championship. The inaugural event will be held from 11-18 December 2015.

The tournament will see a top-class international field of the best 32 players in the world coming together for the largest prize-purse in the sport.

Commenting on the historic agreement, developed in partnership with Hallmark Events Group, which will see the World Tour's premier women's event staged in the same country for three years in a row for the first time in its 36-year history, WSA Chief Executive Tommy Berden said: "We are excited to be returning to Malaysia, a country with a successful history in the sport. It was crucial for us to create some stability and continuity for our pinnacle event and we are delighted to be hosting the Women's World Championship for three years in Asia, which is a very important market for squash."

Growth appeal...

"Squash continues to make huge growth in its appeal across a wide range of audiences and we will be working closely with the promoters to look at every component of the



event. Strategies are being put in place to design something very special and I believe, given the venue - which will be announced shortly and is unique - we have the foundations to put on a great show and set a new benchmark for the sport."

Malaysian superstar Nicol David (*pictured above playing Raneem El Welily in last years' final*) will undoubtedly be firm favourite to extend her remarkable record of eight world titles on home soil at the end of this year. The 31-year-old from Penang made history in February by topping the world rankings for a 106th month, thereby becoming the longest-reigning World No.1 of all-time.

WSF PRESIDENT APPOINTED ONTO ANOC COMMITTEE



Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, President of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), has appointed WSF President N Ramachandran (*pictured*) as a Member of the ANOC International Relations Commission.

In his letter to Mr Ramachandran, who is also President of the Indian Olympic Association, the ANOC President said that the appointment was in keeping with his vision "to create working commissions with experts to help develop the work of ANOC".

Accepting the offer, the WSF President said: "I am happy and honoured by this appointment. It is an honour for the WSF and the Indian Olympic Association. I have assured the ANOC President that I shall strive to serve to the best of my ability on this Commission."

COURT ACCREDITATION / REGISTRATION



The WSF Accreditation scheme ensures that centre operators know that they are buying courts of a good standard, and their users will be playing in the right conditions.

Full information on WSF Court Accreditation can be found at:

http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/150206_WSF-ACCREDITATION-INFORMATION-2015.pdf

For all World, Regional, PSA Tour, and Junior Circuit events using newly built courts, and expanding to other events run under the auspices of national federations, there is a requirement that they are WSF Registered as being Complete Court Accredited (CCA), i.e. that all the main components are Accredited, and are appropriate for competitive use.

Details of this, are at:

<http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/resources/accreditation/complete-court-accreditation-cca/scheme>

Court Registration is at:

<http://www.worldsquashcourts.org/addAccredited.aspx>

(Recognising that there will be occasions where the court owner does not wish all or some of the courts to be *Registered* where they are not intended for national and international competition, in these circumstances they can *List* these courts using the same form but without paying a fee. The *List* will not be published but will be on our database making it easy to upgrade in the future from 'non-competition' to 'competition' use if required).

EGYPT'S ALL AFRICA HAT-TRICK

Egypt triumphed in the All Africa Junior Squash Championships, winning all three titles in the regional event in Gabarone, Botswana.

Both individual events concluded in all-Egyptian finals. Top seed Amr Arafa dismissed Saadeldin Abouaish, the No.3 seed, 11-9, 9-11, 11-6, 11-8 in the men's final to keep the trophy in Egyptian hands for the fourth year in a row.



It was a similar position in the other final where Mariam Metwally extended Egyptian ownership of the women's trophy. But the 18-year-old top seed, ranked 38 in the world, was taken the full distance by second seed Mayar Hany Mohamed before beating the world No.101 from Cairo 11-5, 11-8, 8-11, 9-11, 11-8. (*Gold medallists pictured*).

South Africa provided the opposition in the team final. But for the fourth time in successive years, the Egyptian favourites brushed aside the second seeds 3/0 to ensure Egypt a trio of titles in the Botswana capital.

RESULTS:

Men's Individual quarter-finals: [1] Amr Arafa (EGY) bt Callum Lawton (ZIM) 11-5, 11-4, 11-5, [4] Jean-Pierre van de Merwe (RSA) bt Makashonke Ntuli (RSA) 13-11, 7-11, 11-6, 12-14, 11-9, [3] Saadeldin Abouaish (EGY) bt Dewald van Niekerk (RSA) 11-8, 11-4, 11-7, [2] Abdel Rahman Zaher (EGY) bt John Kuhn (RSA) 5-11, 11-6, 9-11, 11-1, 11-6. **Semi-finals:** [1] Amr Arafa (EGY) bt [4] Jean-Pierre van de Merwe (RSA) 11-6, 11-6, 11-7, [3] Saadeldin Abouaish (EGY) bt [2] Abdel Rahman Zaher (EGY) 7-11, 11-9, 11-6, 12-10. **Final:** [1] Amr Arafa (EGY) bt [3] Saadeldin Abouaish (EGY) 11-9, 9-11, 11-6, 11-8

Women's Individual quarter-finals: [1] Mariam Metwally (EGY) bt Lida-Marie Calitz (NAM) 11-1, 11-1, 11-5, [4] Panashe Sithole (RSA) bt Daniela Scriba (NAM) 11-6, 11-4, 11-5, [3] Mariska Wiese (RSA) bt Danielle Cunningham (ZIM) 11-4, 11-2, 11-2, [2] Mayar Hany Mohamed (EGY) bt Jade Pinkney (ZIM) 11-2, 11-1, 11-1. **Semi-finals:** [1] Mariam Metwally (EGY) bt [4] Panashe Sithole (RSA) 11-3, 11-2, 11-6, [2] Mayar Hany Mohamed (EGY) bt [3] Mariska Wiese (RSA) 11-3, 11-3, 11-5. **Final:** [1] Mariam Metwally (EGY) bt [2] Mayar Hany Mohamed (EGY) 11-5, 11-8, 8-11, 9-11, 11-8

Team Championship Final: [1] EGYPT bt [2] SOUTH AFRICA 3/0 Amr Arafa bt Jean-Pierre van de Merwe 11-2, 11-5, 4-11, 11-9, Mariam Metwally bt Mariska Wiese 11-6, 11-9, 11-2, Abdel Rahman Zaher bt John Kuhn 11-8, 12-10, 11-3

WOMEN'S TOUR BACK IN PAKISTAN

Bahria Town in Rawalpindi hosted the first WSA World Tour event in Pakistan for almost seven years. The WSA Challenger 10 Bahria Town International Women's Tournament, which boasted a \$10,000 prize-fund and attracted players from seven countries, took place at the Safari Club..

South African champion Siyoli Waters, ranked 35 in the world, was the event's top seed while local interest was led by Maria Toorpakai Wazir, the event's No.7 seed who hails from Peshawar. The Toronto-based world No.58 is the highest-ranked Pakistan-born player of all-time.



"The \$10,000 women event shows that Pakistan Squash Federation is keen to promote women's squash in Pakistan," PSF Secretary Amir Nawaz told *The Express Tribune*. "It's an opportunity for local players to compete against much better players than themselves. There have been

small satellite WSA events previously, but nothing of this kind."

The event saw a home triumph with Wazir (*above*) beating Waters 11-9, 11-7, 10-12, 12-10 in a tight final, having beaten Teh Min Jie from Malaysia and Hong Kong's Liu Tsz-Ling respectively in their semi finals.

WORLD GAMES 2017 – PLAYER QUALIFICATION

The quadrennial World Games are next being held in 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland, and as before feature individual events for men and women.

There will be 32 player draws, and players will have an opportunity to participate based upon this selection criteria:

- 20 players - Up to 2 players from each of the top 10 placed teams in the WSF Men's World Team Championship 2015 and the WSF Women's World Team Championship 2016
- 5 x 1 player - from the 11 - 15 placed teams in the above events
- 1 x winner of the World Junior Individual Championship 2016 if not eligible for a nation in the above categories
- 1 player from teams finishing 16 upwards in the above events, taken in order if the top 16 finishing teams do not take all their allocated spaces
- 3 x WSF wild cards (additional wild cards will be added if not all places are filled)
- 2 x Host country representatives

WSF AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME 2015



The latest WSF Ambassador Programme is taking in countries in Eastern Europe when Malaysia's world No.1 Nicol David and Spain's highest-ranked squash player of all-time Borja Golan lead the 2015 World Squash Federation

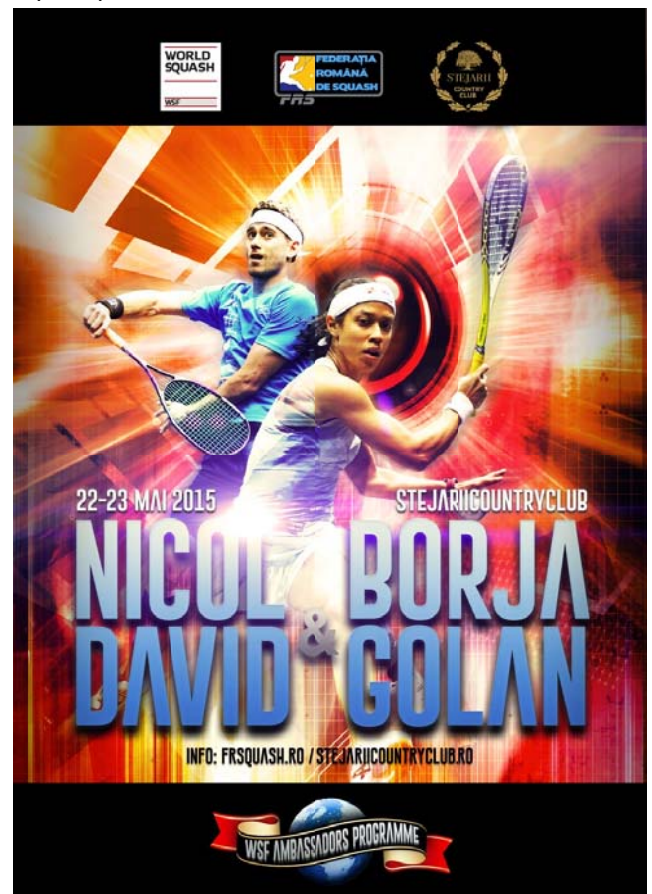
initiative into Serbia, Romania and Croatia later this month.

Launched four years ago, the inspired WSF international promotional initiative takes two 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.

Nicol David, the record eight-time women's world champion who this month began her tenth year as world number one, is the sport's ultimate ambassador who has led all but one of previous WSF campaigns since 2011. Meanwhile Golan will be making his debut as a WSF ambassador. Boasting a career-high No.5 world ranking, the 32-year-old from Santiago de Compostela is a 12-time Spanish champion.

Also joining the 2015 programme - visiting Belgrade, Bucharest and Zagreb from 20-25 May - will be WSF Referee Committee director Roy Gingell, from Wales, and Belgian and Dutch National coach Ronny Vlassaks, who will be running workshops in Bucharest.

The Romanian Squash Federation have produced a superb poster for the Ambassadors visit:



EUROPEAN JUNIOR CLEAN SWEEP

England scored a clean sweep of all three titles in the 2015 European Junior U19 Squash Championships at the Sports Center Hector in the Czech Republic capital Prague.

George Parker was favourite for the men's individual title - but the 18-year-old from Leicester had to withstand a spirited attack in the final from surprise opponent Edmon Lopez Moller. The Barcelona teenager upset Ireland's second seed Michael Craig in the semi-finals to become the first Spaniard to reach the final in the 26-year history of the championship.

It took 107 minutes and four tie-break games for Parker to prevail 10-12, 14-12, 10-12, 13-11, 11-3 to become the fifth successive English winner of the men's title.



In the women's final, Georgina Kennedy denied Belgian favourite Tinne Gilis the chance to join 2014 champion Nele Gilis as the only pair of sisters to win the title. Second seed Kennedy, from Bexley in Kent, defeated Gilis junior 11-8, 11-3, 11-9 to become the sixth English women's winner in the last seven years.

It was Parker and Kennedy who steered England to success in the team competition, with a 2/0 victory in the final over Finland, the fourth seeds celebrating their first appearance in the final since 1992. England have now held the title unopposed for six years since 2010.

RESULTS:

Men's Individual:

Quarter-finals: [1] George Parker (ENG) bt [5/8] David Ryan (IRL) 13-11, 11-5, 11-7, [3/4] Jami Aijanen (FIN) bt [5/8] Benjamin Aubert (FRA) 11-9, 11-8, 13-11, [5/8] Edmon Lopez Moller (ESP) bt [3/4] Patrick Rooney (ENG) 11-8, 11-5, 12-10, [2] Michael Craig (IRL) bt [9/16] James Peach (ENG) 11-8, 12-10, 9-11, 11-4. **Semi-finals:** [1] George Parker (ENG) bt [3/4] Jami Aijanen (FIN) 11-5, 11-6, 11-9 (34m), [5/8] Edmon Lopez Moller (ESP) bt [2] Michael Craig (IRL) 11-4, 11-2, 11-5 (37m). **Final:** [1] George Parker (ENG) bt [5/8] Edmon Lopez Moller (ESP) 10-12, 14-12, 10-12, 13-11, 11-3 (107m). **3rd place play-off:** [2] Michael Craig (IRL) bt [3/4] Jami Aijanen (FIN) 11-4, 11-3, 11-8 (33m)

Women's Individual.

Quarter-finals: [1] Tinne Gilis (BEL) bt [5/8] Kace Bartley (ENG) 11-3, 11-1, 11-2, [3/4] Amelia Henley (ENG) bt [5/8] Alison Thomson (ENG) 11-6, 11-5, 13-11, [3/4] Lucy Beecroft (ENG) bt [5/8] Cristina Gomez (ESP) 12-10, 15-13, 11-8, [2] Georgina Kennedy (ENG) bt [5/8] Celine Walser (SUI) 11-9, 17-15, 11-1. **Semi-finals:** [1] Tinne Gilis (BEL) bt [3/4] Amelia Henley (ENG) 11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 3-11, 11-9 (73m), [2] Georgina Kennedy (ENG) bt [3/4]

Lucy Beecroft (ENG) 11-4, 12-10, 6-11, 11-8 (47m). **Final:** [2] Georgina Kennedy (ENG) bt [1] Tinne Gilis (BEL) 11-8, 11-3, 11-9 (34m). **3rd place play-off:** [3/4] Amelia Henley (ENG) bt [3/4] Lucy Beecroft (ENG) 11-7, 3-11, 11-7, 11-4 (44m)

Team Championship

Semi-finals: [1] ENGLAND bt [5] FRANCE 3/0, [4] FINLAND bt [7] WALES 3/0. **Final:**

[1] ENGLAND bt [4] FINLAND 2/0

Final positions: 3 FRANCE; 4 WALES; 5 IRELAND; 6 SWITZERLAND; 7 SCOTLAND; 8 SPAIN; 9 GERMANY; 10 BELGIUM; 11 SWEDEN; 12 DENMARK; 13 NETHERLANDS; 14 CZECH REPUBLIC; 15 HUNGARY; 16 ISRAEL; 17 SLOVAKIA; 18 ITALY; 19 NORWAY

WSF COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME GOES LIVE



The WSF Coach Education Programme, the WSF initiative providing a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, is 'live' with the opening of WSF Level 1 coach candidate registration and course registration.

Tutor training across the continents began earlier this year, leading to a number of coaches becoming certified to deliver WSF courses. Meanwhile registration for candidate WSF Level 2 and 3 comes on stream later.

The courses will include agreed core-content and delivery methods to ensure that standards are uniform and qualifications achieved are recognised not only in the coach's own nation but worldwide too.

For a printable version of the full Programme details and arrangements:

www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CEP-Information-Update-February-2015.pdf

In Guatemala:

Pan American Vice-President Federation Roberto Hernandez organized the first joint WSF/ODEPA coaching workshop in Guatemala, 20-24 April 2015. Over 40 participants from 19 countries had five intense but enjoyable days attending lectures and practical sessions run by WSF Tutors Peter Hirst and Michael Khan. (10 were qualified as National Level 1 Tutors and another 25 as WSF Level 1 Coaches).



PERRY'S FAREWELL

Madeline Perry, the most successful Irish squash player of all-time, made a winning farewell WSA World Tour appearance at the Irish Open in Dublin, beating Guyana's Nicolette Fernandes in the final.



"I've been really looking forward to this event, desperate to win it and end on a high," said Ireland's most successful player of all-time after clinching her 12th and final WSA Tour title. "The perfect finish, I guess!" Perry added.

A full-time professional since 1999, 38-year-old Perry has enjoyed a distinguished career in the sport, winning 12 WSA Tour titles from 28 final appearances and celebrating a career-high world No.3 ranking in 2011.

With more than 120 caps for Ireland, Perry has competed for her country in eight successive World Team Championships and this year won a record 15th Irish National title.



"It has been an incredibly difficult decision to make but I had to be honest with myself and unfortunately I have noticed that I do not have the same extreme focus that I once had, or indeed, desire to compete. Having had such a successful career, I felt that I was no longer doing myself justice and felt the time was right to move on and find a new career", said Perry.

My pride...

"I am so proud to have come from a small country like Northern Ireland and to have competed at such a high level on the world stage," Perry (pictured above in action in the 2014 Tournament of Champions) continued. "I still play and train to a very high level so I have every intention of continuing to compete for Ireland, at national level and leagues as I still love training and playing the game. I also hope to coach more and give back to the sport that has given me so much.

A new challenge awaits and after retiring in June, I will travel to Malaysian Borneo to volunteer for the charity Raleigh International, a youth and sustainable development charity".

SPIN INFORMATION



For players, all players who wish to play in all World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Events and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels will need to be registered. Their SPIN (Squash Personal Identification Number), stays with them for life.

For individual events where national federations enter their players they will do so using the SPIN of the players. Similarly, in those events where players enter themselves e.g. World Masters, they will do so using their SPIN.

For team events of all ages in World and Regional Championships, Member Nations will enter their teams into the event using the on-line system. Squad and Team submissions can also be made on-line.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

Any player, irrespective of age, can register themselves - or their federation can do so on their behalf - by completing the on-line registration form. They should also let their national federation know that they are doing so.

The current SPIN registration fee - paid on-line - is a once only lifetime fee of GBP10.00 (not annual).

Notes: Half of all the fees paid by the players (or Member Nations on their behalf) is split equally between the five Regional Federations to help fund development initiatives.

Tournament Planner software is used to take entries for National Junior Opens, with players at U19 level able to claim World Junior ranking points.

WHERE DO PLAYERS REGISTER?

Simply go to www.worldsquash.org/spin

MEMBER NATION LOGIN

Separately, all WSF Member Nations have their login so that they can view all registrations from their country, enter WSF Championships and do so for WSF individual events.

WSF APPROVED BALLS



CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2015

The following brands have passed national safety standards and, having applied for WSF Certified listing, are the only brands permitted for use in WSF, Regional and many national junior events.

When buying new products, look for the WSF Certified Tested logo. Brands that become certified will be added to the WSF website and featured here.

BRAND NAME	APPROVED MODEL
Black Knight 	Turbo (AC 114) Turbo Jnr (AC 114 Jr) Lasers (AC 111) Sight Guard (AC 112) Kona (AC 119) Kona Junior (AC 119 Jr) Lynx (AC 122) Stiletto (AC 620)
Dunlop 	Dunlop I-ARMOR
Grays 	Grays GT Eyewear
Harrow 	Shield Pro R16 Covet R615 Radar R43 Radar Jr R717JR
i-Mask 	i-Mask
Karakal 	2500 (9903 Jnr) Pro 3000 (R43)
Reydon (Mantis) 	Mantis Protective Eyewear
Oliver 	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (PRO2) Shark (R43) Marvel (SE-7)
Prince 	Rage (9903V) Rage Junior (9903JR) Prolite (RB10C) Speed (R601) Attitude (Pro2)
Salming 	ASTM F803
Tecnifibre 	R615

WADA SYMPOSIUM 2015



The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) annual symposium took place in Lausanne in March, with around 470 participants, which included all members

of the WADA Athletes Commission, representatives from WADA accredited laboratories as well as International Federations and National Anti-Doping Agencies, attesting to its importance for world bodies.

This year's event, attended by WSF Anti-Doping Commission Director Anne Smith and WSF Programme Manager Lorraine Harding, focussed on implementation of the new World Anti-Doping Code 2015, which is requirement for compliance.

WADA advised that they are currently developing the criteria for compliance and that it anticipates that from 2016 onwards Anti-Doping Organisations will be required to:

- Educate athletes and members of their entourage (coaches, managers, parents etc.), not just provide them with information. This education must be "values based" around three key areas:
 - Awareness – Seminars, pledges, Say NO to Doping campaign, for example.
 - Information – Outreach programmes and website information.
 - Values – WADA is developing a resource for teachers and coaches to use as part of their curriculum.

Other important facets of compliance will be:

- Strict adherence to the new "Prohibited Association" Rule – athletes must not fraternise with known dopers or any member of a doper's entourage.
- A Test Distribution Plan (TDP) *for in and out of competition testing*, based on the Technical Document for Sports Specific Analysis (TDSSA). This means testing for substances in urine and blood according to each sport's risk assessment based on physiological demands and also based on "intelligence" indicating those athletes most at risk of doping. This is Smart Testing which is more expensive but more relevant. The WSF already has this in place.

There were many other more 'technical' discussions and guidance offered as sports battle against drug cheats.

.....and don't forget:

As a feature of our vigilance as a sport whose aim is to remain dope-free, anybody can provide information or tips about possible breaches totally anonymously to the confidential Play Clean Tip Centre too:

<http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/playclean>.

AUSTRALIA'S OCEANIA JUNIOR DOUBLE

Australia celebrated a regional double on New Zealand soil when second seeds Solayman Nowrozi and Lakeesha Rarere scored unexpected title triumphs in the Oceania Junior U19 Squash Championships in Invercargill.



Rarere, a 17-year-old Queenslander who was born in New Zealand, faced Kiwi favourite Eleanore Epke in the women's final.

Ranked 88 in the world after reaching her maiden WSA World Tour final in January, Rarere brushed aside fellow 17-year-old Epke 11-5, 11-4, 11-5 to win the title for the first time.

The men's final was an all-Australian affair in which 18 year old Nowrozi also lined up against the event's top seed. Brisbane-based Sam Ejtemai reached the



final without dropping a game - and had a 23-minute opening game before fellow Nowrozi opened up a one-game lead in the final. It was in the second game

that Ejtemai injured himself - and was forced to concede the match after just two games to give Pakistan-born Nowrozi, from Melbourne, the title.

RESULTS:

Men's quarter-finals: [1] Sam Ejtemai (AUS) bt Montell Zachary Whatarangi (NZL) 11-5, 11-6, 11-5, [4] Scott Galloway (NZL) bt Chapman Kutia (NZL) 11-7, 11-7, 11-9, [3] Luke Jones (NZL) bt Jayden Millard (NZL) 11-4, 11-5, 11-8, [2] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) bt Joseph Williams (NZL) 11-5, 9-11, 11-1, 11-8. **Semi-finals:** [1] Sam Ejtemai (AUS) bt [4] Scott Galloway (NZL) 11-4, 11-5, 11-9, [2] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) bt [3] Luke Jones (NZL) 2-11, 5-11, 11-8, 11-5, 11-6 **Final:** [2] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) bt [1] Sam Ejtemai (AUS) 12-10, 11-7 ret. **Women's quarter-finals:** [1] Eleanore Epke (NZL) bt Anna Hughes (NZL) 11-9, 10-12, 7-11, 1-1, 11-3, [4] Victoria Leow (AUS) bt Juee Bhide (NZL) 7-11, 11-7, 12-10, 8-11, 11-9, [3] Abbie Palmer (NZL) bt Kaitlyn Watts (NZL) 11-4, 11-7, 11-1, [2] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) bt Samantha Calvert (AUS) 11-9, 11-6, 11-5. **Semi-finals:** [1] Eleanore Epke (NZL) bt [4] Victoria Leow (AUS) 11-6, 11-8, 14-12, [2] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) bt [3] Abbie Palmer (NZL) 11-6, 11-5, 11-4. **Final:** [2] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) bt [1] Eleanore Epke (NZL) 11-5, 11-4, 11-5

Photographs:

Many with thanks from SquashSite.co.uk and squashpics.com

NEW METROSQUASH CENTRE IN CHICAGO



The MetroSquash Academic & Squash Center has opened its doors to Chicago's urban youth. The 21,000 square-foot facility is the largest of its kind in the Midwest USA, boasting

seven singles courts (*pictured below*), one doubles court, four classrooms, office space, locker rooms and a parent lounge.

On the heels of urban squash's recent celebration of twenty years, the opening of the MetroSquash Center continues the National Urban Squash and Education Association's vision to enhance lives through squash and education in communities of need. This is the fourth stand-alone urban project supporting both academic and athletic activities in a safe, after-school setting.

Three previous combined projects:

In 2003, Boston's SquashBusters became the first urban program to open its own youth center in coordination with Northeastern University. The facility, which includes eight squash courts and four classrooms, allowed SquashBusters to triple its enrolment and provide a growing number of alumni with a place to reconnect, setting the standard for urban squash facilities.

Four years later Philadelphia's SquashSmarts built a 52,000 square-foot facility with a basketball court, dance studio, computer lab, library, game room, catering kitchen, several classrooms and eight squash singles courts.

Then, in 2008, was the grand opening of the S.L. Green StreetSquash Center in Harlem by then-Senator Hillary Clinton.

"Needless to say the excitement of our grand opening is only exceeded by the fact that our programs will be doubling in



size, and that MetroSquash has a home which serves all of our needs on the court and in the classroom," said David Kay, Executive Director of MetroSquash, who established it in 2005.

ROSNER REACHES NEW HIGH

The most successful male German squash player of all time Simon Rösner has climbed an impressive three places in the May PSA World Tour rankings to occupy his highest position ever at World No.7.



The 27-year-old from Paderborn (*left*) has been in sublime form so far in 2015, reaching the finals of both the Canary Wharf Classic and Grasshopper Cup and his form takes him ahead of Egyptian trio Tarek Momen, Omar Mosaad and Amr Shabana.

Four-time World Champion Shabana has dropped four places to occupy the World No.8 position following disappointing finishes at both the El Gouna International and the Windy City Open.

Elsewhere inside the top ten Mohamed Elshorbagy maintains his stranglehold on the World No.1 ranking for a seventh consecutive month, while Peter Barker and Ramy Ashour both move up two places to No.6 and No.4, respectively.

Talented Egyptian prospect Fares Dessouki finds himself inside the top 20 for the first time in his career, reaching the No.19 position, while Mathieu Castagnet continues his recent surge through the ranks to claim a new career best of World No.11.

May 2015 PSA World Rankings

1	Mohamed Elshorbagy	EGY	1606.500
2	Nick Matthew	ENG	1241.000
3	Gregory Gaultier	FRA	1230.500
4	Ramy Ashour	EGY	686.500
5	Miguel Angel Rodriguez	COL	638.500
6	Peter Barker	ENG	541.500
7	Simon Rösner	GER	531.500
8	Amr Shabana	EGY	526.000
9	Omar Mosaad	EGY	517.500
10	Tarek Momen	EGY	511.000
11	Mathieu Castagnet	FRA	429.500
12	Borja Golan	ESP	411.818
13	Marwan Elshorbagy	EGY	404.500
14	Daryl Selby	ENG	382.000
15	James Willstrop	ENG	358.500
16	Karim Abdel Gawad	EGY	353.500
17	Max Lee	HKG	332.273
18	Stephen Copping	RSA	329.000
19	Fares Dessouki	EGY	322.000
20	Cameron Pilley	AUS	306.364

SERME RISES

While Malaysia's Nicol David maintains her healthy lead at the top of an unchanged top five, France's Camille Serme moves up to No.6 in the May WSA Women's World Squash Rankings.

David extends her unbroken reign as world number one to 106 months - ahead of second-placed Egyptian Raneem El Welily; English players Alison Waters and Laura Massaro, at three and four, respectively; and Egypt's Nour El Tayeb at No.5.



Serme (*left*), who won a seventh successive French National Championship title in February, can credit her May rankings rise to an unexpected semi-final berth in the Windy City Open in February in Chicago, where she was the WSA World Series event's sixth seed.

Egyptian Nouran Gohar rises to No.15. The 17-year-old from Cairo is the youngest player in the top 20.

An impressive five-place leap sees Salma Hany Ibrahim celebrate a career-high world No.19 ranking while extending to six the number of Egyptians in the world top 20. The 18-year-old from Alexandria already boasts three WSA World Tour titles from four final appearances.

May 2015 WSA World Rankings

1	Nicol David	MAS	3,590
2	Raneem El Welily	EGY	2,998
3	Alison Waters	ENG	1,540
4	Laura Massaro	ENG	1,424
5	Nour El Tayeb	EGY	1,380
6	Camille Serme	FRA	1,157
7	Low Wee Wern	MAS	1,066
8	Omneya Abdel Kawy	EGY	996
9	Nour El Sherbini	EGY	919
10	Amanda Sobhy	USA	852
11	Annie Au	HKG	679
12	Rachael Grinham	AUS	658
13	Emma Beddoes	ENG	623
14	Sarah-Jane Perry	ENG	568
15	Nouran Gohar	EGY	527
16	Jenny Duncalf	ENG	521
17	Madeline Perry	IRL	472
18	Dipika Pallikal	IND	454
19	Salma Hany Ibrahim	EGY	440
20	Nicolette Fernandes	GUY	425

FRANCE TAKE FIRST EUROPEAN MEN'S

Competing in the event for the 41st time since 1975, and making their 15th appearance in the final, France finally won the men's European Team Squash Championship for the first time after beating favourites and defending champions England in a dramatic final in Herning, Denmark.



Despite the absence of world No.2 Nick Matthew due to injury, England reached the final for the 23rd year in a row and were on course to win their 40th title.

However, French number one Gregory Gaultier, the world No.3 put the second seeds into the lead beating Peter Barker - and Mathieu Castagnet extended the lead after surviving a 112-minute marathon over England's second string Daryl Selby.

James Willstrop reduced the deficit - leaving England needing to win the fourth match 3/0 to have the chance of retaining the title. England debutante Chris Simpson duly took the opener, but when Lucas Serme clinched the second 11-7, the match was abandoned and France's historic and long-awaited title breakthrough was achieved!



England won the women's trophy for the 37th time after beating France 2/1 in the final.

After reaching the finals in

Division 2, Finland and Ireland gained promotion to the men's top division for 2016, while Netherlands and Germany earned promotion to the women's elite group.

RESULTS:

Men's final: [2] FRANCE bt [1] ENGLAND 9-6 *on games countback*. Gregory Gaultier bt Peter Barker 12-10, 11-8, 10-12, 11-3 (64m), Mathieu Castagnet bt Daryl Selby 6-11, 11-9, 11-4, 14-12 (112m), Gregoire Marche lost to James Willstrop 5-11, 11-7, 11-6, 8-11, 8-11 (90m), Lucas Serme v Chris Simpson 5-11, 11-7 (match unfinished)

3rd place play-off: [3] GERMANY bt [4] SCOTLAND 9-6 *on games countback*. Simon Rösner bt Alan Clyne 3-11, 11-3, 11-4, 11-9 (59m), Raphael Kandra lost to Greg Lobban 5-11, 7-11, 11-5, 7-11 (57m)

Jens Schoor v Douglas Kempself 12-10, 9-11, 11-6 (match unfinished), Rudi Rohrmuller bt Kevin Moran 11-4, 11-8, 10-12, 11-8 (57m)

Remaining final positions: 5 SPAIN, 6 NETHERLANDS, 7 WALES, 8 SWITZERLAND

Women's final: [1] ENGLAND bt [2] FRANCE 2/1 Sarah-Jane Perry bt Coline Aumard 11-4, 11-6, 2-11, 11-6 (36m), Alison Waters lost to Camille Serme 7-11, 4-11, 11-9, 5-11 (45m), Emma Beddoes bt Laura Pomportes 11-5, 11-5, 11-4 (28m). **3rd place play-off:** [4] IRELAND bt [6] DENMARK 2/1 Madeline Perry bt Line Hansen 13-11, 11-9, 11-8 Aisling Blake bt Sally Skaarenborg 11-6, 11-5, 11-6 Ciara Moloney lost to Mathilde Lauridsen 7-11, 3-11

Remaining final positions: 5 WALES, 6 BELGIUM, 7 SPAIN, 8 CZECH REPUBLIC

Division 2, Men's final positions: 1 FINLAND, 2 IRELAND 3 DENMARK, 4 BELGIUM, 5 CZECH REPUBLIC, 6 HUNGARY, 7 SWEDEN, 8 SLOVAKIA, 9 AUSTRIA, 10 UKRAINE, 11 POLAND. **Women's final positions:** 1 NETHERLANDS, 2 GERMANY, 3 SWITZERLAND, 4 AUSTRIA, 5 HUNGARY, 6 SWEDEN

DAVID DENIES AU ASIAN DOUBLE

Nicol David denied Hong Kong's Annie Au and Leo Au the first sibling double in the Asian Squash Championships when the world number one from Malaysia clinched her ninth women's title in the 18th staging of the regional championship in Kuwait.

David, the 31-year-old from Penang who has topped the world rankings for an all-time record 107 months, first became Asian champion in 1998 – and retained the biennial title over the next seven championships before being unable to compete in the 2013 event.



Left-hander Annie Au, the world No.11 who came to Kuwait as the defending champion, reached her third successive final after surviving a 75-minute five-game marathon against David's compatriot Delia Arnold – the No.3 seed who ousted second-seeded Indian Dipika Pallikal in the previous round.

But David was too strong for the Hong Kong number one, beating third seed Au 12-10, 11-7, 11-8 in 35 minutes – not only to win her ninth title, but also to establish a 17-year winning streak in the championships.

Leo Au reached the men's final for the first time after a close-fought four-game win over Pakistan's Farhan Zaman.

Au's opponent was local hero Abdullah Al Muzayen, the Kuwait number one who reached his second successive final against expectations after beating the Pakistan number one Nasir Iqbal.

But Au denied the hosts a first-time Kuwaiti champion when he beat Al Muzayen 11-7, 11-9, 13-11 in 47 minutes to become Hong Kong's first men's Asian champion since 1992

RESULTS: Men's quarter-finals: Farhan Zaman (PAK) bt Max Lee (HKG) 12-10, 11-9, 15-13, [4] Leo Au (HKG) bt Tsz Fung Yip (HKG) 2-11, 11-5, 11-1, 15-13,, Abdullah Al Muzayen (KUW) bt Nafiizwan Adnan (MAS) 11-5, 11-6, 9-11, 11-8, Nasir Iqbal (PAK) bt Saurav Ghosal (IND) 13-15, 11-7, 11-4, 11-5

Semi-finals: Leo Au bt Farhan Zaman 5-11, 11-9, 15-13, 18-16, Abdullah Al Muzayen bt Nasir Iqbal 8-11, 11-9, 11-9, 5-11, 11-6. **Final:** Leo Au bt Abdullah Al Muzayen 11-7, 11-9, 13-11

Women's quarter-finals: Nicol David (MAS) bt Liu Tsz-Ling (HKG) 11-6, 11-3, 11-7, Joshana Chinappa (IND) bt Joey Chan (HKG) 11-8, 11-13, 9-11, 11-9, 11-7, Annie Au (HKG) bt Rachel Arnold (MAS) 11-5, 11-5, 11-7, Delia Arnold (MAS) bt Dipika Pallikal (IND), 11-7, 12-14, 11-13, 11-8, 11-9. **Semi-finals:** Nicol David bt Joshana Chinappa 11-6, 11-9, 11-7, Annie Au bt Delia Arnold 7-11, 11-9, 9-11, 12-10, 11-4. **Final:** Nicol David bt Annie Au 12-10, 11-7, 11-8

SAMOA COURTS TAKE SHAPE

The Squash venue at the Tuana'imato Sports Facility in Apia, Samoa is currently under being construction at the old Beach Volleyball Courts from the 2007 Pacific Games. The venue is the only new build for the Commonwealth Youth Games which take place 5 – 11 September this year. Sitting alongside the Lawn Bowls venue and across from the Archery practise range amongst the multi-faceted sports complex, the new Squash Courts will have two double and three single courts with a gross seating capacity of 500.



The 5th Commonwealth Youth Games will have 1000 athletes and 250 team officials as well as 300 technical officials, 1500 volunteers and 1200 sponsors and Games Family members.

Squash was represented at the Inaugural Youth Games in 2000 Edinburgh and Samoa will see Squash hosted for the second time. The events being

contested in Samoa are Men's Singles and Doubles, Women's Singles and Doubles and Mixed Doubles for athletes born from 1997 to 2001, inclusive. Currently event entries see up to sixty-five athletes participating across the five events hailing from 24 nations and representing all six regions of the Commonwealth.

VIDEO CORNER

Apparently a world first.....

See the video for the LED illuminated multi sport floors by ASB for a condominium in Toronto:

<http://www.thestar.com/life/homes/2015/01/23/led-court-highlight-of-a-game-changer.html>

Looking back.....

See this newsreel reporting on squash in 1936:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_kS8VUBljg&feature=youtube_gdata_player

SNIPPETS

Nicol David, Malaysia's top athlete



..... has another award to add to her ever-increasing list of accomplishments – winning a 2nd Sportswriters Association Malaysia Athlete of the Year award.

The award recognised her achievements last year when won an 8th British Open title last May. Then, at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games in July, she retained the individual gold medal.

Last September, she also won two gold medals in the Asian Games – in both the individual and team event.

She wasn't done yet, though. In December, she guided Malaysia to a runner-up finish in the World Team Championships in Niagara Falls, Canada, for Malaysia's best-ever achievement in the tournament.

She then ended the year by creating history – winning a record eighth world title in Egypt.

Student date

.....The next World University Championships (Individual and Team) will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 5 – 11 September 2016

Marigold Supports



.... are set to benefit from a sponsorship deal worth S\$120,000 from local dairy and beverage brand Marigold.

Marketing initiatives, support for the national team and a preparation event are all part of the package.

The First World Conference of the Science of Net and Wall Games

..... takes place in Szombathely, Hungary, 16th – 18th June 2015. It incorporates Squash, Tennis, Badminton, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Beach Volleyball, Peyota, Sepak Takraw, Padel, Racketball, Fives, and others. Interested in attending? Details at: <http://www.nawgconf.com>

'Veteran' Matthew Sets a record



34-year-old Englishman Nick Matthew produced a squash masterclass to see off World No.1 Mohamed Elshorbagy 3-0 to win the final of the 2015 Windy City Open and become the oldest ever winner of a PSA World Series event.

Winning the Canary Wharf Classic then saw him collect his 33rd career title – two more than British Tennis star Andy Murray!

Tom Kjærbye Larsen steps down



..... as President of the Danish Squash Federation following their hosting of the European Team Championships after over thirty successful years on the Board, and latterly President.

Danish Squash Association. Happy retirement, Tom!

Russia Expands



French star Greg Gaultier (*left*) went to St Petersburg to open the four court RC Club recently. Owner Lev Razumovski tells us, "As a hobby I play

squash and table tennis myself at amateur level, and also wanted to start practicing golf, so I thought it might be a good idea to try and turn my hobbies into a new business".

The club is located in the heart of St-Petersburg, and comprises four ASB squash courts, high-tech golf simulators, table tennis tables amongst other facilities. The Club is headed by former Russian professional player Alexey Severinov (*Right*), and it is intended to be the first of a chain.

Cairo Scene

..... website have nominated their fifteen most currently inspirational Egyptian women, they come from politics, education and other spheres - amongst them world number two Raneem El Weleily. A great accolade for her.

<http://m.cairoscene.com/ViewArticle.aspx?Aid=125191-The-Most-Inspirational-Egyptian-Women-Among-Us>

WSF APPROVED RACKET



Twenty Million Barrier Broken

SQUASHTV television channel, has today passed the twenty million views mark on YouTube.

"YouTube has become an integral part of the sports media landscape and a medium that we have worked hard at developing over the past few years," said PSA PR & Communications Manager Nathan Clarke.

"To see such a strong response from squash fans is hugely encouraging and hopefully we can build on this impressive success over the coming months as we continue to develop the brand's identity across all social media channels."

www.psaworldtour.com/tv and
www.youtube.com/psasquashtv

Sierra Leone Squash

..... have received a grant from Mercury International Charity Foundation to help them establish their own secretariat, having been based at local facilities.

Association President Umaru Kakay, thanking them, explained, 'With this money we will be able to have a well structured secretariat which we will be proud to boldly invite people to visit us, especially those that might want to gather information from us or even those that will want to know more about the sport'.



Official WSF Magazine

Rod Gilmour talks to Simon Rosner about becoming Germany's top male player of all time and breaking into the world's top 10.

Also, David Evans explains how he has lifted Wales to new heights on the squash scene.

For these features and more, please click here:
<http://www.squashplayer.co.uk/features/features.htm>



19th title, a record?

..... is being asked after 41 year old Stefan Castelyn won his 19th Belgian National Men's Championship, beating Jan Van Den Herrewegen in the final 3-2 in Namur. Castelyn, who reached number seven in the world during his professional career, won his first title in 1992, on his 18th birthday.

A five game final so maybe the opposition are closing in!



Meanwhile..... Karen Meakins (pictured here with Men's Champion Gavin Cumberbatch) won her fifteenth Barbados national title. Not a record as Tuula Myllyniemi won 20 national titles between 1983 and 2009 in

Finland – but Meakins may be the only 15 consecutive ones. Does anybody know of more?

....And a new Speed Record

As part of a "play the pro" evening at SquashCity in Amsterdam, Australia's Cameron Pilley set a new world record for power hitting as he recorded 177 miles per hour on the radar gun, beating the mark he set of 173mph four years ago in Philadelphia.



A new Squash Marathon record

.... of 36 hours, 2 minutes and 6 seconds on court, beating the previous record of 33 hours and 8 minutes, has been set by a New Zealand father and son. James Meyer and his father Brett made the official Guinness World Record

attempt which only allowed a series of 5-minute breaks to raise money for the Child Cancer Foundation in Auckland.



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