

## LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX: BRITISH OPEN

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

Updated until 31 October 2024

Squash Library  
28 October at 08:35

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

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


Squash Library  
3 October

The Men's British Open featured only 'veterans' (over 45) and 'vintage' (over 55) masters events until 1983 when an Over 35 band was added. On the Perspex court in Derby Ahmed Safwat (pic) took the inaugural title, beating Jonah Barrington 9-6 6-9 3-9 3-3. A women's O35 event was added two years later. [British Open Squash - from SquashSiteEngland Squash](#)



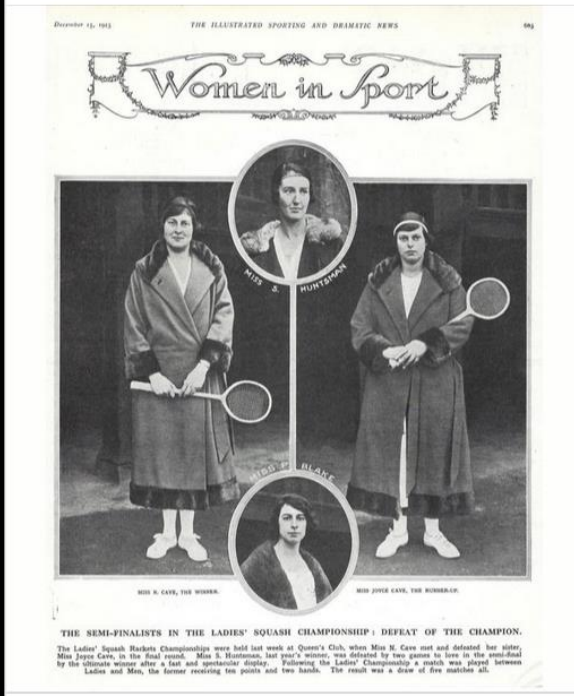
Squash Library  
21 September at 08:21

A viewing breakthrough occurred on 4 April 1977 when the final of the Lucas British Open was beamed live onto a cinema screen. The final was played at the 240 seat Wembley Squash Centre, with the play shown to another 400 spectators at the Wembley Conference Centre next door. (This, before the event moved there in 1980 when showcourts became available). The BBC outside broadcast van can be seen parked outside. [England SquashBritish Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



Squash Library  
21 August at 08:26

In December 1923 the illustrated Sporting & Dramatic News published this page about the 3rd Women's British Open. There is more about the Cave sisters in Squash Then And Now, ..... go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration> to order it. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



**Squash Library**  
8 June at 08:24

Geoff Hunt won eight British Open titles in three decades. His first was in 1969, the last in 1981 - when he overtook Hashim Khan's seven wins. Hashim's titles were all won in the 1950s decade. They are pictured together here. [British Open Squash - from SquashSiteSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



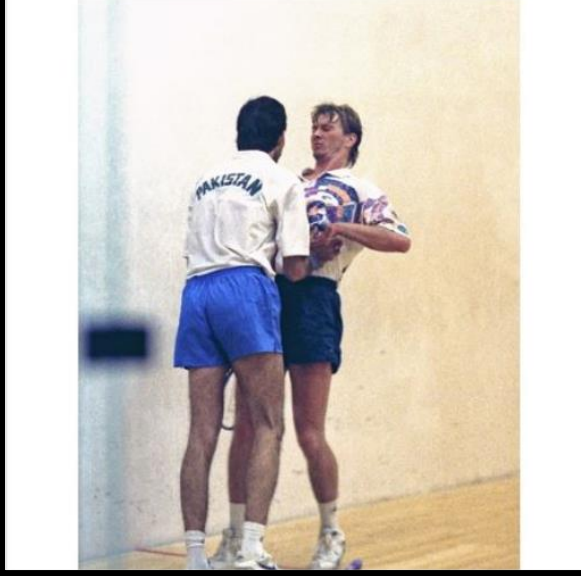
**Squash Library**  
6 June at 08:39

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



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

30 years ago an infamous incident occurred at the British Open 1994, captured by photographer Steve Line. At Lambs Club in London, Australian Anthony Hill continually riled up opponent Mir Zaman Gul in an acrimonious 1st round match, eventually causing the Pakistani to crack, face-up and lightly head-butt Hill. Hill dropped to the floor, clutching his face. Hill admitted, "He did not really hurt me. I've had worse than that from my mother, but I just could not believe he had done it. I fell over thinking: 'I'll just sit here for a while and I'll get the match.' He was right, he was awarded it. The incident which made headlines beyond the squash media led to Gul banned for four months and fined £1,500. Hill was fined £100 for throwing the ball at Gul. In addition the English SRA fined him a further £500 and banned him from the 1995 British Open. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



**Squash Library**  
5 June

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



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



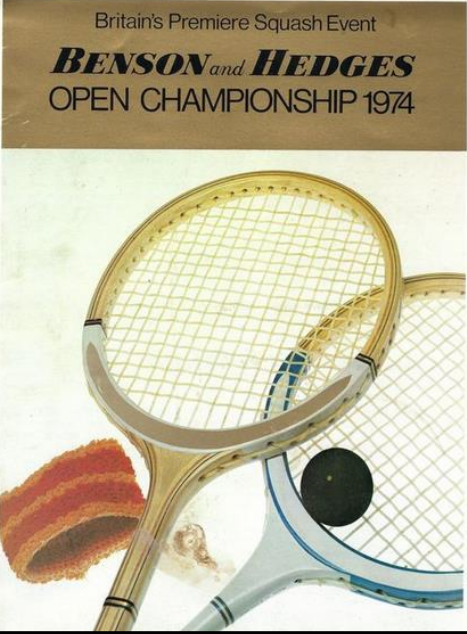
Squash Library  
4 June · 🌐

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



Squash Library  
30 May at 08:49 · 🌐

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



Squash Library  
3 June · 🌐

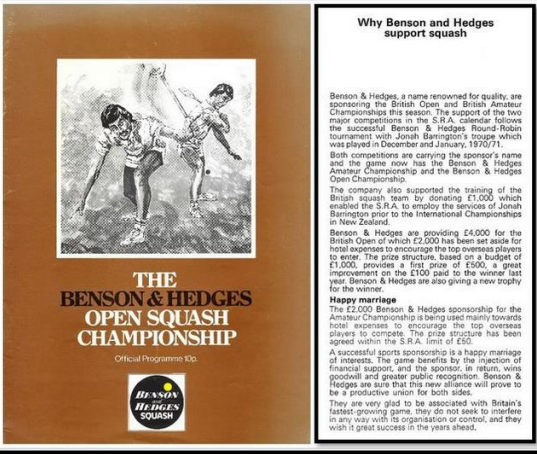
When the Men's British Open was played in December 1962 at the Lansdowne Club in London a qualification event was held for the very first time. Here is why the SRA decided to do so, with the full Library history of the Championship at [www.squashlibrary.info/british-open](http://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open).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

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

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

Squash Library  
28 May at 08:19 · 🌐

In advance of the British Open this year, looking back at 1972, the first of four years of men's sponsorship by the cigarette company (acceptable back then), the programme notes indicate that the prize fund total was just GBE1,000, half of which went to the winner (Geoff Hunt). [Squash - PSA World TourBritish Open Squash](#) - from SquashSite



**Why Benson and Hedges support squash**

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

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

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

**Happy marriage**


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

A successful sports sponsorship is a happy marriage of interests. The game benefits by the injection of financial support and the sponsor, in return, wins goodwill and greater public recognition. Benson & Hedges are sure that this new alliance will prove to be a productive union for both sides.

They are very glad to be associated with Britain's fastest growing game, they do not seek to interfere in any way with its organisation or control, and they wish it great success in the years ahead.

Squash Library  
23 May at 06:05 · 🌐

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



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

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


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



THE LADIES' SQUASH RACKETS CHAMPIONSHIP AT QUEEN'S: THE SEMI-FINALISTS (L. TO R.): MISS S. HUNTSMAN, MISS J. GAYE, MISS C. FENWICK, AND MISS NANCY CAVE. After Miss J. and Miss N. Cave had beaten their respective opponents they contested the final, when Miss Joyce beat her sister, Miss Nancy, the holder, 15-3, 6-15, 16-13.

**Squash Library**  
2 December 2023

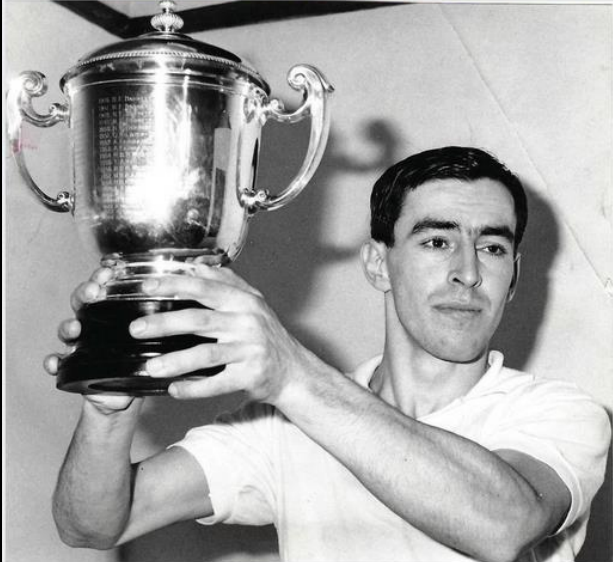
This weekend in 1963 signalled the end of the Khan domination of the British Open that had run through Hashim, Azam and holder Mohibullah Khan (senior) since 1951. At the Lansdowne Club 60 years ago in London Mohibullah was beaten by Scottish amateur Mike Oddy in the semis before Egyptian Abdelfattah Aboutaleb beat him in the final. Aboutaleb had taken out another Pakistani contender Aftab Jawaid in their semi-final to win the first of his three titles (pic). [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#) [Egyptian Squash Federation - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش @pakistan squash](#)



## 2023


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

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



**Squash Library**  
18 November at 08:47

When the Men's British Open was played in 1976, the winner was also awarded the first World Open title. It was Geoff Hunt, and he got to keep these two sponsors trophies. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [World Squash Federation](#)





**Squash Library**  
15 April at 08:27

In December 1958 Englishwoman Janet Morgan won the last of her ten British Open titles. Here on the Library website [www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources](http://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources) is the British Lawn Tennis and Squash magazine report. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)

**BRITISH LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH**

### Janet Morgan's Tenth Cha...

Two years ago there were many who thought that the writing was on the wall. Miss Morgan then won her eighth successive title but not without difficulty. Miss Speight as she then was, took the first game and had Miss Morgan on court for a very long time before bowing to the inevitable. The plain truth was that Miss Morgan had not been fit for most of the season. Last season, a fitter Miss Morgan very swiftly erased the writing and this year although winning the Championship for the tenth successive year, the writing has mysteriously re-appeared. Some day someone will come along who can hit the ball consistently harder than Miss Morgan and force her to the back of the court and keep her there. Then and not until then shall we see an end to Miss Morgan's long reign.

The heroine of the Championship was undoubtedly Mrs. G. Marshall. Last year she won the Plate, having had a bad draw, but her record in other tournaments was impressive and she was invited to join the Wolfe-Noel team. How in these circumstances she came to be unseeded in the Championship is just one of those things. After two wins, gained with impressive ease,

For two games experience or to come the change say that after Mrs. Marshall

**Squash Library**  
13 April at 08:39

The first live broadcast of squash took place when the second and third games of the Men's British Open semi-final 1951 between Mahmoud Karim (EGY) and Roy Wilson (ENG) for a 25 min programme for the Home Service of the BBC. In addition a part of the final in which Hashim Khan (with trophy) beat Karim was also recorded for transmission in the BBC Overseas Service. The commentator was Max Robertson, and on this Library page: [www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources](http://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources) is his account of the experience. [British Open Squash - from SquashSiteSquash - PSA World Tour](#)

**Squash Library**  
14 April at 08:37

..... Then in 1984, the British Open (with Men & Women's events combined from 1982) returned to Wembley with an all-glass court, placed in the middle of the Conference Centre with seating now on the stage. [British Open Squash - from SquashSite Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

*Photo courtesy Steve Line*

**Squash Library**  
12 April at 08:33

Jonah Barrington broke the Pakistani / Egyptian stranglehold of the British Open title after 28 years when he won his first of six titles in December 1966. Still an amateur, he was coached by Nasrullah Khan (brother of Roshan Khan), who won the 'veterans' (Over 45) title. Here they are with their trophies. [Jonah BarringtonBritish Open Squash - from SquashSiteSquash - PSA World Tour](#)

**Squash Library**  
14 April at 08:34


In 1980, the British Open went to the Wembley Conference Centre for the first time. It was played on a demountable glassback on the stage, enabling around 1,200 spectators to watch in a fan of seats. This was the largest audience of the period. Here is the poster and a view of the court.

[British Open Squash - from SquashSite Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



**Squash Library**  
11 April at 08:24 · 🌐

After the Women's British Open began in 1922, the first international entries came in 1934 when the six members of the US Wolfe Noel team ([www.squashlibrary.info/post/wolfe-noel-challenge-cup](http://www.squashlibrary.info/post/wolfe-noel-challenge-cup)) playing in England that year entered the Open. Three, including four times national champion Anne Page (pic) reached the quarter finals. [Squash - PSA World Tour British Open Squash - from SquashSite US SQUASH](#)




**Squash Library**  
3 March at 08:23 · 🌐

On this day 46 years ago (3.3.1977) Heather McKay won the last of her unmatched sixteen consecutive British Open titles. Played at the Wembley Squash Centre, she beat unseeded fellow-Australian Barbara Wall 9-3 9-1 9-2 in the final. (Wall was on her first UK foray before she won the title two years later). Sixteen finals, all won 3-0. [British Open Squash Squash Australia England Squash](#)



**Squash Library**  
10 April at 07:30 · 🌐

The first holder of the Men's British Open title didn't actually play a match! In 1930 Englishman Charles Read was designated the champion before facing a challenge later that year, when he was beaten in the best of three matches by Donald Butcher. Not only did he 'win' the British Open, but he was national professional Lawn Tennis champion from 1921 until 1927, and held the same title for rackets from 1925 - 1932. He became coach at London's Queens Club for 35 years, and included H.M. King George VI (before he ascended to the throne) amongst his pupils. (He is pictured, left, with Charles Arnold, runner up 1931). [Squash - PSA World Tour British Open Squash - from SquashSite](#)



**Squash Library**  
2 March at 08:28 · 🌐

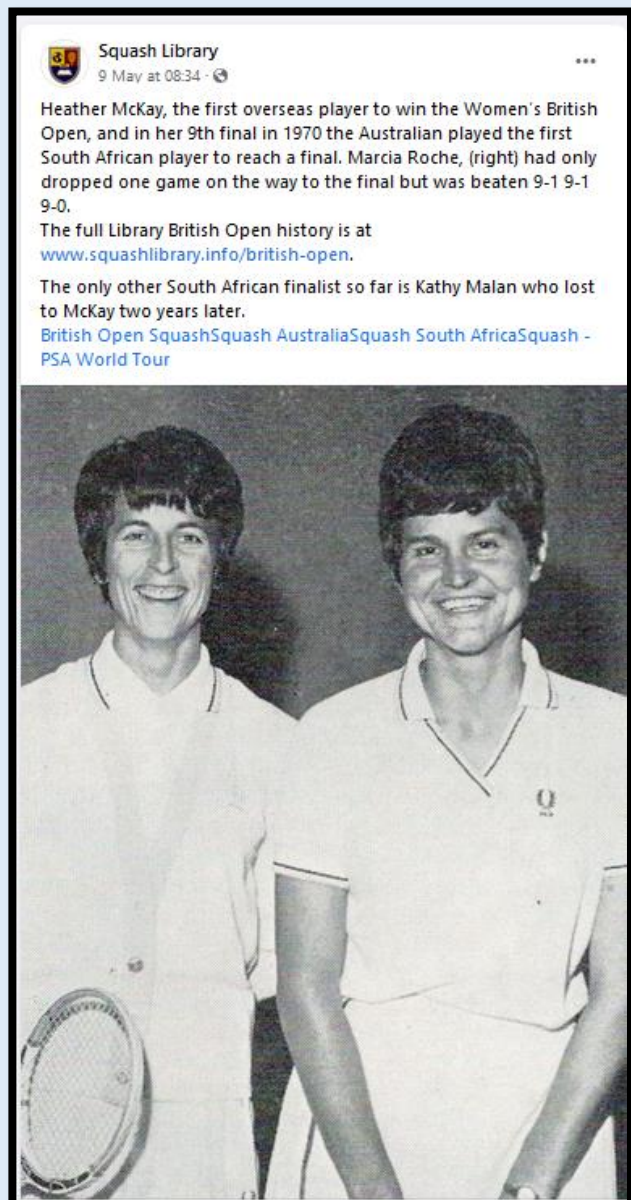
Sponsorship gives life to sports events, but what if they stand accused of taking life too? The early 1970s, coincided with the start of glass backwalls giving broadcast opportunities, and tobacco company advertising was welcomed. With sponsorship restrictions not yet enacted (even though TV advertising was now banned in UK), tobacco companies looked at sponsoring squash. In came Benson and Hedges, supported the Barrington circus' series of games between the various players in the circus in 1971, before upgrading to British Open title sponsorship for four years (1972 - 75). A cigarette company associating with an athletic sport was not considered entirely inappropriate fifty years ago.







2022







Squash Library

3 April at 08:59



Historic event, historic trophies! The Women's British Open trophy being played for today was first presented 100 years ago for the first event in 1922, while the Men's dates back to when the event evolved from a challenge to knockout format in 1947. The full British Open history is at: [www.squashlibrary.info/british-open](http://www.squashlibrary.info/british-open). [British Open Squash](#)



Squash Library

30 March at 08:41



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

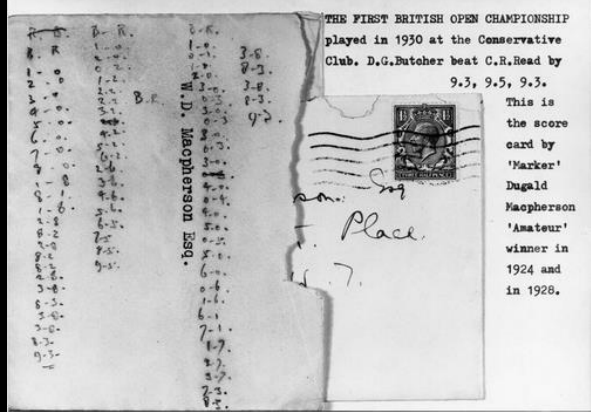


Squash Library

2 April at 11:55



The marker of the first British Open Men's Championship final in 1930 – former British Amateur Champion Dugald Macpherson – used an envelope rather than a score sheet! [British Open Squash](#)



Squash Library

29 March at 08:26



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



Squash Library

31 March at 08:56



Australian Geoff Hunt won his fifth British Open title in 1978, beating Pakistani Qamar Zaman in the final. Watch the match at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCjFo-3pCw5gTEQSUO34TQnQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjFo-3pCw5gTEQSUO34TQnQ), the Library YouTube Channel. [British Open Squash](#) [Squash](#) [AustraliaPakistan Squash Federation](#) [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)





Squash Library

28 March at 08:43



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



Squash Library

25 March at 08:31



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



Photo courtesy Steve Line.





Squash Library

7 February at 08:14 · 🌐



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

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

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

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



## 2021



Squash Library

11 December at 08:40 · 🌐



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

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



Squash Library

24 January at 08:45 · 🌐



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







Squash Library

6 December at 08:45 · 🌐



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



Squash Library

30 August at 09:25 · 🌐



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

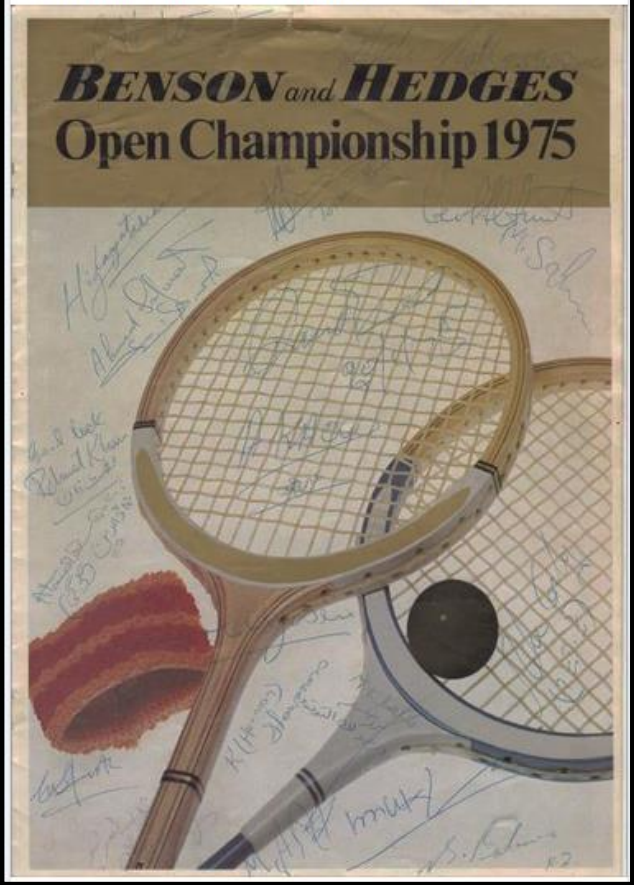


Squash Library

21 August at 08:29 · 🌐



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



Squash Library

25 September at 11:10 · 🌐



As squash events moved from glass-backs to all-round viewing there was a brief stage where buildable glass back courts were used. The first major event to do this was the March 1980 British Open, with final rounds played on the stage of the Wembley Conference Centre. (After that year the event moved away before returning in 1984 with a showcourt with seating all found it). Promoter Mike Palmer of Multisquash needed to show what this new staging concept would look like. In his words, 'To give the media – and the public – a greater understanding of what was happening, I commissioned a commercial artist to produce an illustration. This was then photographed and photos sent out with press releases'. This picture is an example of 'squash art', as opposed to cartoons and the like. If there are others out there the Library would love to create a gallery of them so that they can be viewed and preserved.






**Squash Library**  
20 August at 07:19 · 🌐

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




**Squash Library**  
17 August at 08:33 · 🌐

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



**Squash Library**  
19 August at 08:27 · 🌐

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



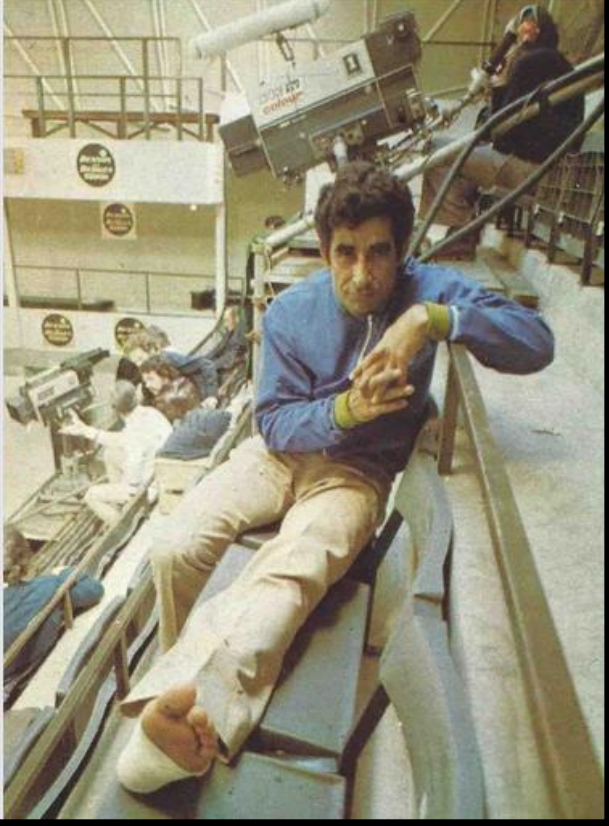
**Squash Library**  
31 July at 08:48 · 🌐

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



**Squash Library**  
13 June at 09:45 · 🌐

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




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

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



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

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



**Squash Library**  
9 February at 09:39 · 🌐

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



2020





Squash Library

18 August

...

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

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



Squash Library

22 June

...

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

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

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



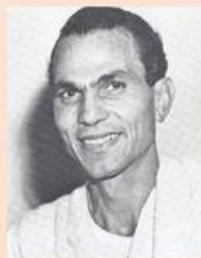
Squash Library

28 July

...

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

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





Squash Library  
12 June · 🌐

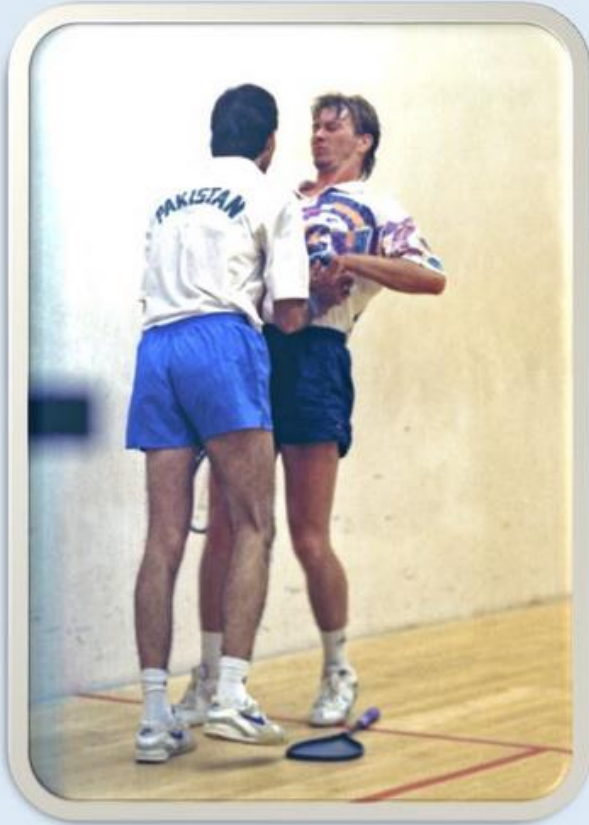


On 6 April 1994 at Lambs Club in London during the 1st round of the British Open, Australian Anthony Hill was leading 9/3, 3/9, 3/9, 9/2, 7/0 when opponent Mir Zaman Gul head-butted him and was disqualified.

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

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

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



Squash Library  
30 May · 🌐



'Would have been British Open week'. Item 6

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

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



Squash Library  
29 May · 🌐



'Would have been British Open week'. Item 5

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

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

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



Squash Library  
31 May · 🌐



'Would have been British Open week'. Item 7

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

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





**Squash Library**  
28 May · 🌐

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 4

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

Their representative explained their reasoning: 'the market is prestigious, it represents quality and it involves fast growth'. Here are the ticket prices for 1974.



The Squash Rackets Association  
**THE BENSON & HEDGES OPEN SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP, 1974**  
To be played on the Championship Court of the  
Abbeyle Park Squash Rackets Club, Abbeyle Park,  
Dore, Sheffield, S17 3LJ. (Tel. 0742-361354)  
Thursday, January 31st–Friday, February 8th, 1974  
Hosts: JONAS SARRINOVIC (Slovenia)

TICKET PRICES	Including VAT		
	Standard	Reserved	Reserved
ADULT (General Admission)	55p	—	£1.25
ADULT (Reserved)	55p	£1.00	£1.25
YOUTH (General Admission)	75p	£1.00	£1.50
YOUTH (Reserved)	75p	£1.50	£2.50
ADULT (Corporate)	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00
ADULT (Corporate)	55p	—	£1.25
ADULT (Corporate)	£1.50	£2.00	£6.50

**Squash Library**  
26 May · 🌐

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 2

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

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

(Pictured, a player group from the 1923 Championship)




**Squash Library**  
27 May · 🌐

'Would have been British Open week'. Item 3

The 2018 Men's British Open saw: (1) its' first South American champion, (2) the first unseeded winner too, and (3) the first PSA World Series event winner from the continent.

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

It was one of the greatest upsets that pro squash has seen. [Squash - PSA World Tour Federación Colombiana de Squash](https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../men-s-british-open-the...)



**Squash Library**  
25 May · 🌐

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

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







Squash Library

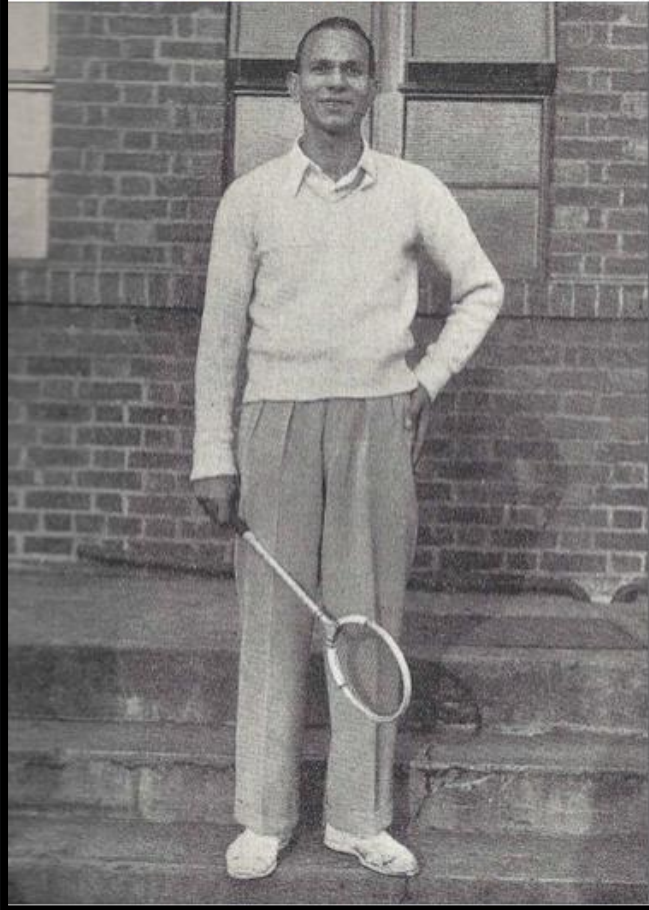
7 April · 🌐



Straight after WW2, a player went unbeaten for four years, winning four British Opens amongst other titles. He was Egyptian Mahmoud Karim, a renowned elegant stroke-maker. Having started Coaching on Cairo's Gezira Club concrete floors of the time, he had not played on a wooden floor before travelling to UK!

After his retirement he moved to coach in Canada and was adaptable enough to win the US title (hardball) in 1956 & 1957.

[Egyptian Squash Federation](#) - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش

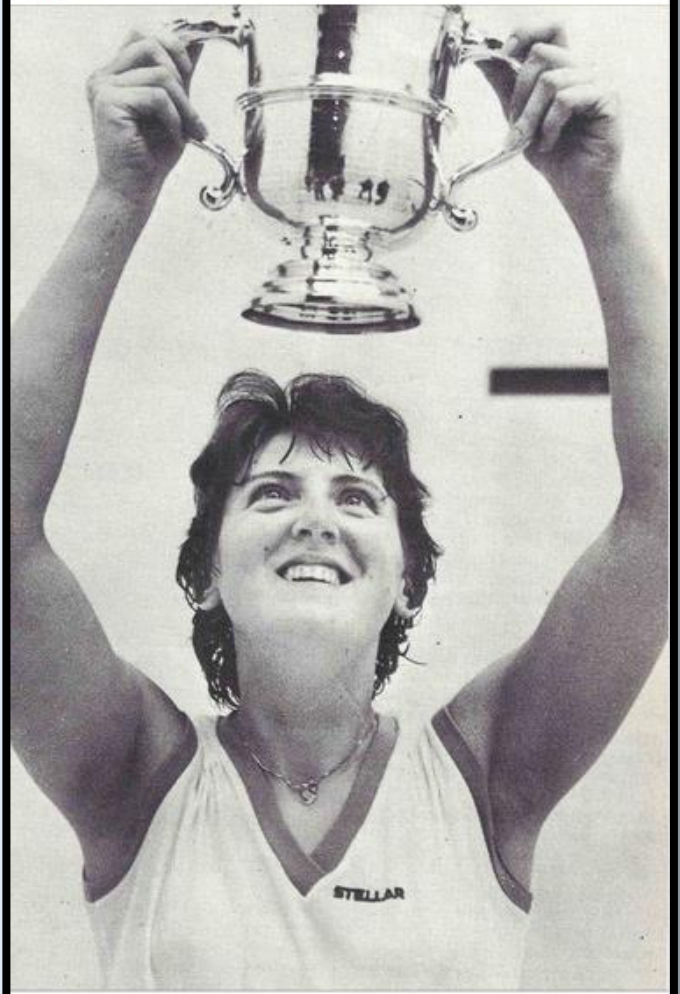


Squash Library

15 January · 🌐



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



Squash Library

25 February · 🌐



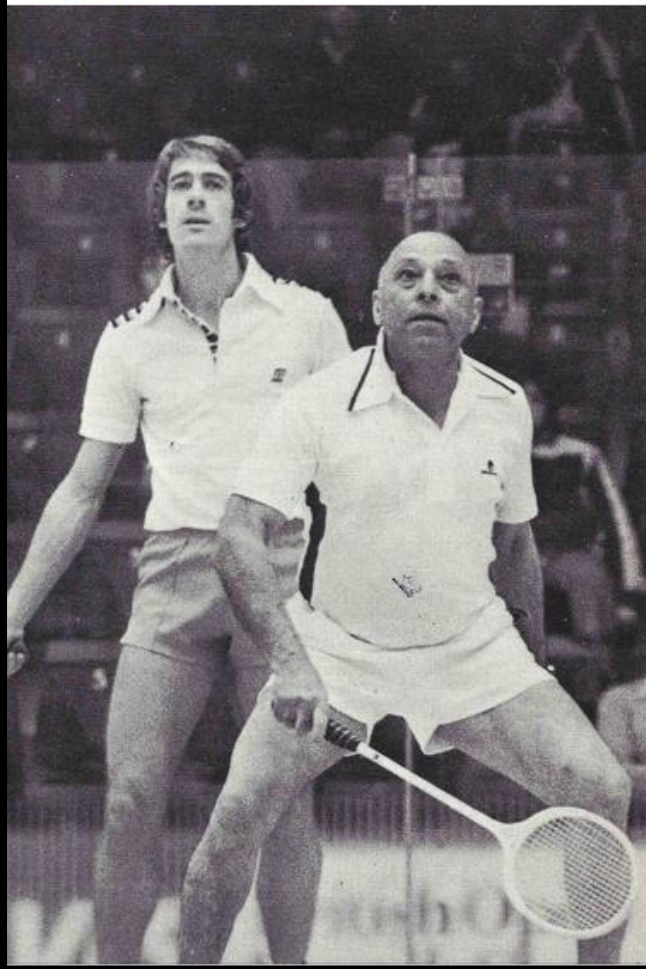
Following up on the start of ISPA (PSA), a group of early top line members are seen here before the 1978 British Open. LtoR: Geoff Hunt, Jonah Barrington, Sharif Khan, Bruce Brownlee, Kevin Shawcross, Qamar Zaman, Maqsood Ahmed, Ian Holding. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)







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



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

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



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

THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE BRITISH ISLES, 1953-1954

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

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

\* Amateur. Seeded players in heavy type.



Squash Library

25 November 2019 · 🌐



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

[Pakistan Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

13 November 2019 · 🌐



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



Squash Library

24 November 2019 · 🌐



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







Squash Library  
15 November 2019 · 🌐



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



Squash Library  
7 November 2019 · 🌐



**British Open Fact 1.**  
The Women's British Open began in 1922, eight years before the Men's in 1930. They only started being held together in 1982 sixty years after the first Women's. (A Challenge system was used by the Women until 1928, and Men until 1948).



Squash Library  
27 October 2019 · 🌐



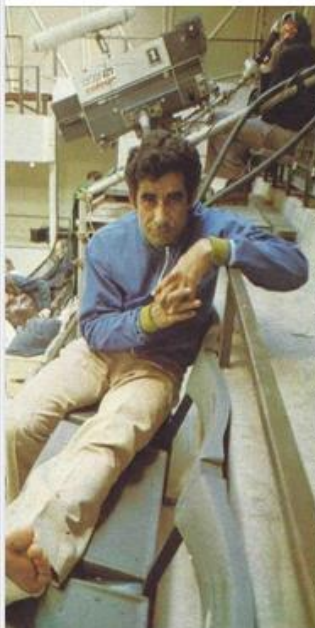
Squash legend Hashim Khan (left) beat brother Azam (right) in 3 of his 7 British Open final wins (1951 – 58), with Azam winning the next 4 (1959 – 62). Hashim only lost one final - to Jahangir's father Roshan Khan in 1957.



Squash Library  
7 November 2019 · 🌐



**British Open Fact 2.**  
The only British Open final that has not been played was the Men's 1974, when Pakistan's Mohamed Yasin (below) injured his ankle in his semi final win against countryman Qamar Zaman after beating holder Jonah Barrington in the quarters at Abbeydale, Sheffield. So Geoff Hunt won his second of eight titles by a walkover. Take a look at the ticket prices!



THE 1974  
& HEDGES BRITISH OPEN SQUASH  
on the CHAMPIONSHIP SQUASH  
COURT, WEDNESDAY, 31 JANUARY to FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY

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