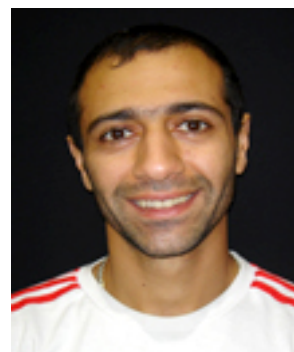


QATAR CLASSIC 2008

Name	Country	Ranking
AMR SHABANA	EGY	1
GREGORY GAULTIER	FRA	2
JAMES WILLSTROP	ENG	3
RAMY ASHOUR	EGY	4
DAVID PALMER	AUS	5
THIERRY LINCOU	FRA	6
KARIM DARWISH	EGY	7
NICK MATTHEW	ENG	8
WAEEL EL HINDI	EGY	9
ONG BENG HEE	MAS	10
MOHD AZLAN ISKANDAR	MAS	11
PETER BARKER	ENG	12
LEE BEACHILL	ENG	13
ADRIAN GRANT	ENG	14
LAURENS JAN ANJEMA	NED	15
OLLI TUOMINEN	FIN	16
STEWART BOSWELL	AUS	17
CAMERON PILLEY	AUS	18
MIGUEL ANGEL RODRIGUEZ	COL	20
OMAR MOSAAD	EGY	21
BORJA GOLAN	ESP	23
MOHAMMED ABBAS	EGY	24
HISHAM MOHD ASHOUR	EGY	25
RENAN LAVIGNE	FRA	27

Player Biography

Amr Shabana
EGY
Ranking 1



Height	1.73M
Weight	73 KGS
DOB	29th Jul 1979
Birthplace	CAIRO
Residence	GIZA, EGYPT
Turned Pro	1995
Marital Status	MARRIED
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	AHLY CLUB
Racket	DUNLOP AEROGEL
National ranking	1
National title successes	EGYPTIAN CHAMPION UNDER 12, 14, 16 & 19
National team representation	MALAYSIA 1997 4TH; EGYPT 1999 1ST; AUSTRALIA 2001 2ND; AUSTRIA 2003 4TH; PAKISTAN 2005 2ND
Best Squash success this year	3RD WORLD OPEN TITLE, BERMUDA
Worst this year	2ND ROUND SUPER SERIES
Other notable squash achievements	HOLDING NO. 1 RANKING POSITION
Sponsors	DUNLOP, HI-TEC, ORASCOM
Interest	READING, SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY
Ambitions and aims for next year	MAINTAINING 2007

Other	<p>In July 2008, Amr Shabana celebrated his 28th successive month as world number one in the Dunlop PSA Men's World Rankings - thus confirming his status as the fifth longest-standing world number one of all-time, behind Pakistanis Jansher Khan and Jahangir Khan, Englishman Peter Nicol and Australian Geoff Hunt.</p> <p>The achievement is the latest milestone in the 28-year-old's impressive squash career which features 21 PSA Tour titles from 31 final appearances, including 12 Super Series crowns and World Open trophies in 2003, 2005 and 2007.</p> <p>The left-hander from Cairo, one of the most stylish players in the modern game, first showed his promise when he was runner-up (to compatriot Ahmed Faizy) in the British U14 Open in January 1993. Four years later he reached the final of the British U19 Open, where he again lost to Faizy.</p> <p>A PSA member since 1995, Amr claimed his first Tour title in July 1999, winning the Puebla Open in Mexico. Seven days later he grabbed his second, the Mexico Open, again beating Australia's Craig Rowland in the final.</p> <p>But it was in 2003 that Shabana made his major career breakthrough, in the World Open in Pakistan. Seeded nine, he despatched title-holder David Palmer, the third seed, in five games in the third round before taking out Palmer's Australian team-mate Anthony Ricketts in the last eight. After defeating Karim Darwish (then the Egyptian No1) in a four-game semi-final, Shabana clinched his historic title by beating Thierry Lincou 15-14, 9-15, 15-11, 15-7 to claim the biggest title of his life.</p> <p>Remarkably, Shabana become Egypt's first winner of the sport's premier prize.</p> <p>It was in 2005 that Shabana admitted that his life had come together: Over a short period, he acquired a new coach, Ahmed Tahir; a new manager, the former Egyptian international Omar Elborolossy; and a wife, Nadjla. "All I have to worry about now is playing my matches – everything else is looked after for me now," said the relaxed Shabana.</p> <p>Shabana hardly put a foot wrong in 2006, winning the Canadian Classic, Tournament of Champions, PSA Masters, Hong Kong Open and the Saudi International.</p> <p>In December, he was honoured as PSA Player of the Year in the World Squash Awards in London - an accolade he received for the second time at the 2007 Awards!</p> <p>Shabana claimed his best ever year on the Tour in 2007, beginning the run by picking up the Windy City Open and Tournament of Champions trophies.</p> <p>The year ended with one of the tightest calendars for a long time - but Shabana took in his stride, achieving what most thought would be impossible: winning four PSA Super Series titles in succession!</p> <p>After clinching the Saudi International title in October (downing his fast-rising compatriot Ramy Ashour in the final), he went on to take the Qatar Classic and Hong Kong Open crowns in November before claiming the ultimate prize, the World Open, in Bermuda.</p> <p>The Bermuda triumph, his third successive final win over Frenchman Gregory Gaultier, made Shabana only the fourth player in history to lift the world title for a third time.</p> <p>Despite suffering with acute tendonitis in his wrist at the end of the year, Shabana came back in 2008 to reach five further Tour finals - celebrating his first title of the year at the Kuwait Open in April, with a further victory over Ashour.</p> <p>But perhaps an equally notable success of the year was reaching the final of the Super Series Finals for the first time in his career. Pool wins over Lee Beachill and Thierry Lincou took the world number one into the semi-finals, where a straight games victory over former champion David Palmer led to his maiden appearance in the final. But, this time, it was Gaultier that prevailed, winning in a close-fought 51-minute battle.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
2007	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2006	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2005	10	7	5	5	6	6	6	7	7	5	4	7
2004	5	5	6	7	7	6	7	7	5	6	7	5
2003	14	14	13	16	23	20	12	12	12	12	11	11
2002	29	32	37	25	18	18	16	15	15	20	15	15
2001	26	28	24	24	26	26	27	27	31	24	27	26
2000	27	23	28	30	30	23	24	29	24	29	31	29
1999	39						38	36	35	31	31	24
1998	27						23					
1997	49											
1996	207						111					
1995							262					

Player Biography

Gregory Gaultier

FRA

Ranking 2



Height	1.76
Weight	75 KGS
DOB	23rd Dec 1982
Birthplace	EPINAL
Residence	AIX EN PROVENCE
Turned Pro	199
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	AIX EN PROVENCE, STUTT GART, BRISTOL
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	ANDRE DELHOSTE & FRED LECOMTE
National ranking	1
National title successes	2004 & 2006
National team representation	EUROPEAN TEAMS & WORLD TEAMS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS
Best Squash success this year	BRITISH OPEN WINNER
Worst this year	OUT FOR 3 MONTHS INJURY MISSING TOC AND QATAR
Other notable squash achievements	WORLD OPEN FINALIST
Sponsors	DUNLOP, ADIDAS, ASB COURTS
Ambitions and aims for next year	WIN THE WORLD OPEN & GET TO WORLD NO. 1

Other	<p>One of the fastest-rising new talents on the international squash circuit, Frenchman Gregory Gaultier has been in the shadows of his illustrious compatriot Thierry Lincou since emerging from the junior ranks.</p> <p>But, on the 1st January 2007 - just a week after his 24th birthday - Gaultier leapt to three in the Dunlop PSA World Rankings, overtaking Lincou to become the highest-ranked Frenchman for the first time. A month later, the Aix-en-Provence star celebrated a career-high world No2 ranking!</p> <p>His crowning glory, however, came in September when he joined Lincou in the first all-French British Open final - going on to beat his close friend to become the first French winner of the title in the event's 77-year history.</p> <p>Following a distinguished junior career - which included two European titles, a British Junior Open crown and a berth in the world individual final - Gaultier has become a major force on the PSA Tour, with 12 titles from 27 final appearances.</p> <p>He enjoyed a remarkable 2006 - which began with a world ranking of 12. After two non-PSA Tour successes - in the French Nationals (featuring his first ever win over Lincou, in the final) and the European Individual Championships - he went on to reach six PSA Tour finals against the seedings, and lifted the titles in the Hungarian Open and US Open, his first Super Series triumph.</p> <p>A notable success of the year was his straight games defeat of defending champion Peter Nicol in the English Open in Sheffield - a victory which set up the first all-French PSA final outside France, against Lincou.</p> <p>Later, in the World Open staged by the Great Pyramids of Giza in Egypt, eighth seed Gaultier upset world No1 Amr Shabana, the top seed and local hero, to reach his first PSA Super Series event final.</p> <p>But it was in November that the Frenchman gained perhaps his sweetest win of the year, beating Thierry Lincou in straight games in the quarter-finals of the US Open in Boston. It was the pair's seventh PSA meeting since 2004 - but, finally, Gaultier's first Tour victory over his senior compatriot.</p> <p>His 2007 campaign began disappointingly with an ankle injury which forced his withdrawal from the Tournament of Champions in New York in February.</p> <p>Seeded three in the British Open in September, Greg made his breakthrough in the semi-finals where he beat top seed Amr Shabana. It was an emotional final which eventually saw Gaultier prevail against Lincou, winning 11-4, 10-11 (0-2), 11-6, 11-3 in just over an hour.</p> <p>"Winning the British was, with the World Open title, a dream of mine - it's my biggest win ever," said Gaultier afterwards. In paying tribute to his opponent, Greg added: "Thierry was a big boost for my career, throughout my whole career, and I'm grateful for what he brought into my life. I'm very happy."</p> <p>Gaultier reached three more Tour finals before the end of the year - but in all cases finished as runner-up: And in each case, it was the in-form Shabana who prevailed - firstly in the Qatar Classic, then the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Open, and finally in the World Open in Bermuda, where he put in one of the most impressive performances of his career to dismiss Englishman Nick Matthew in straight games in the semi-finals.</p> <p>Early in his 2008 campaign, Gaultier claimed a final berth in the Davenport Pro Championship in Virginia, beating John White in the semis before losing out to James Willstrop in the final.</p> <p>But he claimed his first title of the year - and one of the most prestigious of his career - in May at the ATCO Super Series Finals in London. Victories over Ong Beng Hee, Wael El Hindi and David Palmer in the Group stages led to qualification for the semi-finals - and a win over Thierry Lincou.</p> <p>Gaultier faced favourite Amr Shabana in the final - but despatched the world number one 11-9, 11-8, 11-8 to end a four-match winning Tour run by the Egyptian.</p> <p>Off the Tour in June, Greg extended his remarkable European record by winning the European Individual Championship for the fifth year in a row!</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2			
2007	3	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
2006	12	11	11	10	8	8	8	8	7	7	5	4
2005	9	10	10	10	12	12	12	10	11	10	12	11
2004	12	11	12	12	11	10	10	10	11	11	11	10
2003	26	27	26	22	18	16	17	17	13	11	12	10
2002	54	53	43	40	40	39	37	40	37	32	25	25
2001	117	114	101	101	104	108	109	81	78	63	64	68
2000	304	278	176	170	167	162	165	157	156	150	141	116
1999											283	297

Player Biography

James Willstrop
ENG
Ranking 3



Height	1.9 M
Weight	90 KGS
DOB	15th Aug 1983
Birthplace	NORTH WALSHAM, ENGLAND
Residence	LEEDS, ENGLAND
Turned Pro	2002
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	PONTEFRACT, HALIFAX, PADERBORN, APPELDORN
Racket	03 BLACK PRINCE
Coach	MALCOLM WILLSTROP
National ranking	2
National title successes	ALL JUNIOR AGE GROUPS NATIONAL TITLES UP TO U12-U19, 2007 NATIONAL CHAMPION
National team representation	EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2003-2007, WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONS 2003, 2005, 2007
Best Squash success this year	WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONS, NATIONAL CHAMPION
Other notable squash achievements	ENGLISH OPEN WINNER, CANARY WHARF CLASSIC WINNER, ENGLISH GRAND PRIX WINNER
Sponsors	PRINCE & HI-TEC
Interest	DIY & POLITICS
Ambitions and aims for next year	TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW, ENJOY SQUASH & BE WORLD CHAMPION

Other	<p>James Willstrop, England's most successful junior player of all time, became the world's top-ranked Englishman just two years after becoming a 'senior'. In December 2005, after reaching a career-high world No2, he led England to victory - for the first time in eight years - in the World Team Championships in Pakistan.</p> <p>After a disappointing 2006 - in which he was hospitalised with food poisoning in Cairo on the eve of the World Open in Egypt - the 23-year-old Yorkshireman struck back with a vengeance this year, first winning the British National Championship for the first time, then claiming his first PSA Tour title for more than 16 months at the Canary Wharf Classic in London.</p> <p>It was not only a confidence-boosting Tour triumph, but one he achieved after finally ending a career-long tally of 12 defeats by Lee Beachill, beating his Pontefract and England team-mate - and close friend - in a five-game quarter-final.</p> <p>But Willstrop's new-found form gathered pace after signing a new racquet contract with Prince in August: In the inaugural English Grand Prix in Birmingham, coincidentally sponsored by the brand, fourth seed Willstrop forced himself into the final after overcoming favourite David Palmer in a 95-minute five-game semi-final - then clinched the trophy when he beat third-seeded Frenchman Thierry Lincou 11-8, 11-8, 9-11, 7-11, 11-3 in 77 minutes to claim his seventh PSA Tour title.</p> <p>Palmer avenged the defeat in the quarter-finals of the British Open shortly afterwards - but James went on to score his best ever success in the US Open in October. He made his breakthrough in the quarter-finals in New York, beating the recently-crowned British Open champion Gregory Gaultier - a repeat of his first ever win over the Frenchman in August's Super Series Finals - before going on to down Karim Darwish in 98 minutes to make his 11th Tour final.</p> <p>Clearly feeling the effects of his marathon semi-final encounter, Willstrop went down in straight games to England team-mate Nick Matthew.</p> <p>Willstrop, coached throughout his life by his illustrious father Malcolm Willstrop, enjoyed a glittering junior career - winning British National titles at all age groups U12, U14, U17 and U19, and British Junior Open trophies at U14, U17 and U19. In his final year in the category, he won both the European Junior and World Junior Championships.</p> <p>It was in his final junior year - 2002 - that he won his first PSA Tour title, the Swiss Open, in March, followed by the Santa Barbara Open in October.</p> <p>The following year, he became one of the youngest players ever to play for the senior England team, representing his country for the first time at both the European and World Team Championships.</p> <p>He made a major breakthrough on the senior stage at the end of 2004 - winning the Pakistan Open in Islamabad (upsetting Amr Shabana in the quarter-finals) in his first appearance in a Super Series final.</p> <p>In 2005, he reached the final of the British Open for the first time, as the seventh seed, then followed this by outplaying a top-quality international field in Doha to lift the Qatar Classic trophy in only his second Super Series final appearance!</p> <p>In the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in March 2006, Willstrop partnered Vicky Botwright to a silver medal in the Mixed Doubles.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	6	6	4	4	3	3	3	3	3			
2007	7	9	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	6
2006	6	6	5	3	4	5	5	4	4	5	4	8
2005	5	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	2
2004	18	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	12	12	13

2003	42	41	38	37	36	38	34	34	39	37	34	28
2002	85	86	84	78	62	63	75	73	53	52	45	40
2001	135	134	131	132	134	135	83	83	83	71	83	86
2000	304	311	240	252	255	257	261	269	272	286	142	140
1999									258	265	283	297

Player Biography

Ramy Ashour
EGY
Ranking 4



Height	1.8M
Weight	78 KGS
DOB	30th Sep 1987
Birthplace	CAIRO
Residence	CAIRO
Turned Pro	2004
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	HELIOPOLIS CLUB, PADERBORN CLUB
Racket	MG RAMY SPECIAL - HEAD RACKET (MICRO GEL
Coach	DIFO/AHMED EL MATANY/AMIR WAGIH
National ranking	2
National title successes	NATIONAL CHAMPION FOR 7 YEARS FROM U13
Best Squash success this year	SUPER SERIES WINNER IN MANCHESTER
Worst this year	QATAR CLASSIC SECOND ROUND LOSER (RETIRED INJURED)
Other notable squash achievements	WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPION TWICE
Sponsors	ATCO & HEAD
Interest	MUSIC, WATERSPORTS
Ambitions and aims for next year	KEEP INJURY FREE

Other	<p>Ramy Ashour is truly the sport's 'new kid on the block!' After making his debut in the Dunlop PSA World Rankings on November 1st 2004 at 300, the teenager burst into the top 100 at 94 exactly a year later - and twelve months further on was in the top ten! By June 2007, the super-talented youngster had leapt to No2 - truly a remarkable rise!</p> <p>Ashour stunned the squash world in August 2004 when he became the youngest ever World Junior Champion - at the age of 16 - when seeded only to make the quarter-finals. Three months later, in his maiden appearance on the PSA Tour in Greece, he won the Athens Open - becoming one of only a handful of players who have claimed PSA titles on their Tour debuts.</p> <p>In July 2006, Ashour successfully defended his world junior crown in New Zealand, becoming the first man in history to win the world's leading junior title twice.</p> <p>Two months later, back on the 'senior' PSA Tour, he romped into the World Open quarter-finals in his home country after overcoming England's No10 seed Lee Beachill in an 85-minute five-game marathon.</p> <p>A further six weeks later and the teenager notched up another notable milestone when he reached his first PSA Super Series event final - upsetting tenth seed John White, former world champion Thierry Lincou and reigning world champion David Palmer before bowing out to compatriot Amr Shabana!</p> <p>His crowning achievement in 2006 came at the World Squash Awards in London where he was honoured as the PSA Young Player of the Year - an honour he received again at the 2007 Awards.</p> <p>Ashour surged back in 2007, winning his first Super Series title at the Canadian Classic in Toronto in January, when a semi-final upset over Australian Anthony Ricketts took the 19-year-old into the final against second seed David Palmer - whom, this time, he beat in straight games.</p> <p>Later in the month, Ashour beat John White in the climax of the Dayton Open in the USA.</p> <p>By April, Ashour was already established as one of the Tour's biggest draws - and his first victory over top-ranked compatriot Amr Shabana, in the final of the Kuwait Open, marked the teenager as a threat to everyone.</p> <p>Less than a week later, Ramy also won the Qatar Classic, again beating Palmer in the final.</p> <p>In August - still a month short of his 20th birthday - Ramy Ashour made a further entry in the sport's record books when he became the first event debutant since 1996 to win the PSA's flagship Super Series Finals event in England - his fifth title of the year - beating Karim Darwish, David Palmer and Thierry Lincou en-route to the final, where he despatched Gregory Gaultier in four games.</p> <p>Despite having to pull out of the 2007 World Open in Bermuda following an injury to his left foot, Ramy romped back to success in 2008 - claiming the titles in his first two events, beating James Willstrop in the final of the Tournament of Champions, and defeating compatriot Amr Shabana in the Canadian Classic climax.</p> <p>Back on home soil in April, at the inaugural Hurghada International in the Red Sea resort, Ashour claimed the 9th Tour title of his career - again upsetting Shabana in the all-Egyptian final.</p> <p>But fortunes were reversed when the pair next met in the Kuwait Open final - his 15th in little more than 40 months - as Ramy went down to his higher-ranked compatriot in straight games.</p> <p>It was, however, a lacklustre Ashour that made his long-awaited debut in the British Open in Liverpool in May - the No2 seed scraping past unseeded Englishman Alister Walker in the first round before coming unstuck against Malaysia's 11th seed Mohd Azlan Iskandar in the event's biggest upset.</p> <p>A range of injuries, including "both hamstrings, as well as my ankle and my lower back", kept the youngster off the Tour for a number of months.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4			
2007	6	5	5	5	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2006	38	30	27	23	22	20	20	21	21	13	9	7
2005	94	91	78	76	66	62	65	62	63	54	49	45
2004											301	178

Player Biography

David Palmer
AUS
Ranking 5



Height	1.88CM
Weight	85 KGS
DOB	28th Jun 1976
Birthplace	AUSTRALIA
Residence	BERMUDA
Turned Pro	1994
Marital Status	MARRIED
Children Girls	1
Children Boys	0
Racket	HEAD MICROGEL EXTREME
Coach	SHAUN MOXHAM
National ranking	1
National title successes	U/19 CHAMP 1995
National team representation	COMMONWEALTH GAMES 1998, 2002, 2006. WORLD TEAMS 2001, 2003-2007.
Best Squash success this year	SEMI-FINAL WORLD OPEN
Worst this year	QUARTER-FINALS TOC
Other notable squash achievements	WINNER OF CASE SWEDISH OPEN & FOREXX DUTCH OPEN
Sponsors	HEAD, HI-TEC, ASHAWAY
Interest	GOLF, MOVIES, FAMILY
Ambitions and aims for next year	TO WIN AS MANY TOURNAMENTS AS I CAN

Other	<p>David Palmer has been Australia's top squash player for most of this decade. The 31-year-old from Lithgow in New South Wales topped the world rankings for the first time in September 2001, two months after becoming the first Australian for twenty years to win the British Open title.</p> <p>A world top ten player since September 2000, Palmer has amassed 21 titles from 45 PSA Tour final appearances since September 1995 - his latest victory in the Dutch Open in September 2007 extending his lead ahead of Frenchman Thierry Lincou (with 18 titles) as the current player with the most Tour trophies to his name.</p> <p>He claimed his first PSA title, the Ecuador Open, in August 1997 - and went on to bring his tally to four titles by the end of the year.</p> <p>In 2002, Palmer won the World Open crown in dramatic style in his adopted home town of Antwerp in Belgium, where he fought back from two games down to beat Scotland's John White in the final.</p> <p>It was in 2004 that he joined a select band of three-times British Open champions when he successfully defended his 2003 title, defeating the then world champion Amr Shabana in the final in Nottingham.</p> <p>After his World Open success in 2002, history repeated itself four years later when Palmer, in his third World Open final, again recovered from a two-game deficit to defeat Gregory Gaultier in the 2006 climax in Egypt.</p> <p>After winning the singles silver medal in the Commonwealth Games in 2006, Palmer took time off in his homeland to be with his wife Melinda for the birth of their first child, daughter Kayla, in June.</p> <p>Palmer's 2007 campaign began with a runners-up finish in the Canadian Classic in Toronto in January, when he lost to rising Egyptian star Ramy Ashour in the final.</p> <p>The following month, he brushed aside all opposition in Linköping to win the Swedish Open to mark up his 20th trophy success.</p> <p>In April, he reached the final of the Qatar Classic for the fourth time - and again went down to Ashour in a 66-minute final.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	4	4	5	5	6	5	5	5	5			
2007	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4
2006	4	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2005	4	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	4
2004	6	6	8	6	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
2003	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3
2002	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
2001	8	8	7	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1
2000	12	9	11	13	13	13	12	12	8	9	7	8
1999	41						28	28	33	26	18	15
1998	33						30					
1997	54											
1996	63						56					
1995							69					
1994							188					

Player Biography

Thierry Lincou
FRA
Ranking 6



Height	1.80M
Weight	78 KGS
DOB	2nd Apr 1976
Birthplace	REUNION
Residence	MARSEILLE
Turned Pro	1994
Marital Status	MARRIED
Children Girls	2
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	MARSEILLE, ROME
Racket	TECNIFIBRE CARBOFLEX 140
Coach	FRANCK CARLINO & PAUL SCIBERRAS
National ranking	2
National title successes	9 TIMES NATIONAL CHAMPION
National team representation	3RD IN WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
Best Squash success this year	NONE
Worst this year	INJURY IN APRIL
Sponsors	TECNIFIBRE, ASICS, ASB
Interest	MUSIC, CINEMA, CARS, FAMILY
Ambitions and aims for next year	WE WILL SEE

Other	<p>Since becoming world number one for the first time January 2004 – confirming his status as the most successful French squash player of all-time - Thierry Lincou has continued to assert himself as a major force on the international squash circuit.</p> <p>Four PSA titles in 2006, culminating with a successful defence of his Pakistan Open crown in November, brought the 31-year-old from Marseille's career Tour tally to 18 titles - and reaching his second successive British Open climax this year lifts his appearances in PSA finals to 34.</p> <p>It was after a sensational run in 2003, when he reached the semi-finals in nine successive PSA Tour events and went on to contest five finals, that Lincou first topped the world rankings.</p> <p>Despite keeping his first world No1 ranking for only the first two months of 2004, Lincou went on to capture four major titles: the Super Series Finals in London, the Hong Kong Open, and the Canadian Classic in Toronto (beating home hero Jonathon Power in the final).</p> <p>Seeded to reach the World Open final in Qatar in December, Lincou did just that – but went one better by beating top seed Lee Beachill to become world champion for the first time.</p> <p>This success led to Lincou returning to the top of the PSA rankings in January 2005 – a position he held throughout the year!</p> <p>Lincou first stepped onto the winner's rostrum in 2006 when he clinched the Canary Wharf Classic title in February, upsetting favourite Anthony Ricketts in the final – but, perhaps more significantly, ending a ten-year run of defeats by Peter Nicol by beating the Englishman he calls his 'role model' in the semi-finals!</p> <p>He went on to win the inaugural Liverpool 08 Open in England in May, then clinched the English Open crown in Sheffield in August after defeating compatriot Gregory Gaultier in the first all-French PSA Tour final outside France.</p> <p>He reached his first British Open final in September - doing so by ending Palmer's two-year reign as champion in the semi-finals - then beat fellow countryman Gaultier in the Pakistan Open final in Islamabad.</p> <p>After winning his ninth French National title early in 2007, Thierry went on defend his Canary Wharf Classic title in London - but bowed out in a dramatic semi-final, losing to John White in a 95-minute marathon.</p> <p>After this, a calf injury caused his withdrawal from both the Qatar Classic and Kuwait Open - but the stylish Frenchman bounced back in the new English Grand Prix in Birmingham, upsetting the now higher-seeded Gaultier to reach the final.</p> <p>And just two weeks later, Lincou was again in action in a final, contesting the British Open climax for the second year - but finishing as runner-up again after this time losing to Gaultier.</p> <p>Away from the squash court, Thierry took time out in July 2006 to marry long-time partner Celine, mother of his daughter Jade - and, in July this year, the couple celebrated the birth of their second daughter Paolo.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	7	7	7	7	5	6	6	6	6			
2007	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	7
2006	5	5	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
2005	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2004	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
2003	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	4	5	5

2002	5	5	4	4	5	5	5	4	6	6	6	6
2001	19	18	17	20	19	19	20	20	8	5	5	5
2000	11	11	12	8	8	15	14	14	13	13	15	16
1999	26						23	24	24	25	19	13
1998	54						38					
1997	75											
1996	112						96					
1995							130					

Player Biography

Karim Darwish
EGY
Ranking 7



Height	1.79 M
Weight	76 KGS
DOB	29th Aug 1981
Birthplace	CAIRO, EGYPT
Residence	CAIRO, EGYPT
Turned Pro	1999
Marital Status	MARRIED
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	WADI DEGLA CLUB, VICTORIA ROTTERDAM
Racket	DUNLOP
National ranking	1
National title successes	NATIONAL CHAMPION 2005, 2006, 2007
National team representation	WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2001, 2003, 2005 & 2007
Best Squash success this year	SEMI-FINALIST IN US OPEN, SEMI-FINALIST IN QATAR CLASSIC
Worst this year	2ND ROUND IN BRITISH OPEN
Sponsors	DUNLOP, E-SQUASH
Interest	SOCCER, FISHING
Ambitions and aims for next year	REACH TOP 5

Other	<p>Karim Darwish, who led Egypt to the final of the World Team Championships in 2001 - and has participated in three further campaigns since then - has been one of the country's leading players throughout the decade. The 26-year-old from Cairo boasts 13 PSA Tour titles from 19 final appearances - and celebrated a career-high world No5 ranking in March 2004.</p> <p>He enjoyed a distinguished junior career, winning both the British Junior U19 Open and World Junior Open trophies before claiming the World University Championship title in Austria in August 2002.</p> <p>Darwish later recalled that the highlight of his career was the day he won the World Junior championship in 2000. "It was the happiest day of my life. I couldn't believe that I'd won the world championship."</p> <p>It was within a few months of joining the PSA that Darwish secured his first Tour title – winning the Maadi Open in February 2000 in his hometown Cairo, as a qualifier.</p> <p>After reaching the semi-finals of the World Open for the first time in December 2003 in Pakistan, Darwish began 2004 with three successive title wins, the Apawamis Open and Dayton Open in the USA in January and the Swedish Open in February – success which led to his best-ever No5 world ranking the following month.</p> <p>In July 2007, Darwish he reached the Heliopolis Open final in hometown Cairo for the second time, but was unable to stop fellow Egyptian Wael El Hindi winning for the second year in a row.</p> <p>In August, Darwish celebrated his first appearance in the Super Series Finals - and fully capitalised on his breakthrough by upsetting both Thierry Lincou and David Palmer to earn a place in the play-off for third place, where he lost to top-ranked compatriot Amr Shabana.</p> <p>Darwish ended a three-year title drought in September when he cruised through the CNS International in Pakistan, winning the title without dropping a game.</p> <p>But he saved his best run of the year for the US Open in New York City in October when he upset both El Hindi and Shabana to reach the semi-finals of the Super Series event as tenth seed. Darwish battled for 98 minutes - his longest match on record - before surrendering to James Willstrop in five games.</p> <p>Just a month later, the Egyptian again claimed a semi-final berth in a Super Series event against expectations when, as ninth seed, he beat both compatriot Ramy Ashour and Frenchman Thierry Lincou to make the last four of the Qatar Classic in Doha.</p> <p>Darwish was back in his stride in 2008 - achieving his seeding in all events and exceeding it in a number. Seeded two in the Oregon Open in the USA in February, Darwish upset favourite Lincou 11-4, 11-0, 13-15, 11-9 in the final to clinch the 13th Tour title - and the biggest - of his career.</p> <p>But it was his run in the British Open in Liverpool in May that gave him the most satisfaction - despite a later Achilles injury which caused his premature retirement in the semi-finals.</p> <p>He faced higher-seeded Gregory Gaultier in the quarter-finals - and despatched the defending champion 11-9, 11-7, 11-3 in just 39 minutes. He later described it as 'the finest match I've played recently': "I beat Gaultier three-love - I was really determined and focused and I did it," said the Egyptian.</p> <p>Darwish dedicates his success to his parents and brother Walid, who encouraged him and gave him all their support ever since he started playing squash.</p> <p>In December 2007, he married fellow international squash player Engy Kheirallah.</p> <p>"During tournaments I sometimes get tense, but because she understands the game, she knows exactly how to get me relaxed and focused," said Darwish. "It's nice to have someone close to you who understands what you do and knows what it's like to be in your shoes."</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7			
2007	9	8	9	11	12	11	11	12	11	9	8	8
2006	11	12	12	11	10	9	9	9	10	11	10	9
2005	8	12	13	12	11	11	11	12	12	9	10	12
2004	9	8	5	5	6	8	9	9	9	8	8	8
2003	11	11	10	9	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	7
2002	19	18	19	19	20	20	18	17	21	13	12	13
2001	42	39	43	31	21	21	22	21	18	19	18	17
2000	128	114	59	58	52	52	49	49	38	44	47	43
1999							221	222	219	128	130	132

Player Biography

Nick Matthew
ENG
Ranking 8



Height	6'
Weight	77 kgs
DOB	25th Jul 1980
Birthplace	SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND
Residence	SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND
Turned Pro	1998
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	HALLAMSHIRE, DUFFIELD, COLETS, PADERBORN
Racket	SLAZENGER NICK MATTHEW
Coach	DAVID PEARSON,
National ranking	2
National title successes	BRITISH CHAMPION 2006, BRITISH OPEN CHAMPION 2006
National team representation	34 CAPS FOR ENGLAND
Best Squash success this year	US OPEN CHAMPION
Worst this year	TEARING ANKLE LIGAMENTS IN JANUARY
Other notable squash achievements	SPEEDY RECOVERY FROM INJURY TO REACH SEMI-FINALS IN QATAR
Sponsors	SLAZENGER, HI-TEC, ASHAWAY, MAXIM, SPORT ENGLAND, BENZ-BAVARIAN MOTORS (DUFFIELD)
Interest	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY, FRIENDS, MUSIC, MOVIES
Ambitions and aims for next year	TO REACH THE TOP 4 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY CAREER AND A FEW MORE TITLES

Other	<p>Despite first achieving a world top five ranking in October 2004, it was in 2006 that Nick Matthew made an indelible mark on squash history when the Englishman, seeded six, upset third-seeded Frenchman Thierry Lincou in the final of the British Open in Nottingham to become the first home-grown champion of the world's most prestigious event for 67 years!</p> <p>Lincou twice levelled the match after the local hero forged game leads - but Matthew bravely stuck to his task and fought back from behind in the decider to claim a sensational 11-8, 5-11, 11-4, 9-11, 11-6 victory after 82 minutes.</p> <p>"This has to be the pinnacle of my achievements," said the Yorkshireman who had become the first true English champion since Jim Dear won the title in 1939.</p> <p>The triumph rounded off a sensational year for the 27-year-old from Sheffield, which began when he won the British National title for the first time - later becoming the only person to hold the National and Open titles simultaneously.</p> <p>It also included a final berth in the Tournament of Champions at Grand Central Station in New York, where he made his breakthrough in the quarter-finals after upsetting No2 seed and former champion Jonathon Power – in what transpired to be the colourful Canadian's farewell PSA Tour match when he then announced his retirement!</p> <p>Matthew's 2007 campaign started disappointingly when he suffered a serious ankle injury in his first match of the year at the Canadian Classic in Toronto. Intense treatment for the torn ligament in his right ankle enabled him to make a comeback at the KL Open in Malaysia - where he reached the semi-finals.</p> <p>Later, in the Canary Wharf Classic in London, Matthew made it through to the semi-finals before losing to England team-mate James Willstrop - who went on to win the title.</p> <p>He was a surprise semi-finalist too in April's Qatar Classic, where he again went down to the ultimate champion when he lost in a five-game marathon to Egypt's rising star Ramy Ashour.</p> <p>The disappointment of failing to retain his British Open title in September - when he lost out to world number one Amr Shabana in the quarter-finals - was tempered by his achievement in New York City two weeks later when he won his maiden Super Series crown.</p> <p>Seeded six in the US Open, Matthew made his breakthrough in the quarter-finals when he upset Thierry Lincou in five games. In the semis, he avenged his Qatar Classic defeat by beating the event's second seed Ramy Ashour in four games, before celebrating his historic triumph in a straight games win over compatriot James Willstrop.</p> <p>Matthew enjoyed a promising junior career – in which he represented England in both the European and World Team Championships and was runner-up in the 1998 European Junior Open and winner of the 1999 British Junior Open.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	8			
2007	5	6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	6	5
2006	9	9	10	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	7	5
2005	7	6	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	12	11	10
2004	11	12	10	10	9	9	8	8	8	5	6	7
2003	28	24	22	26	24	25	25	25	24	20	22	21
2002	37	39	38	36	38	38	36	37	40	38	32	32
2001	55	56	58	59	53	47	49	47	41	40	35	36
2000	57	56	55	53	53	53	53	55	52	47	53	56

1999	163						84	83	84	84	67	61
1998	261											

Player Biography

Wael El Hindi
EGY
Ranking 9



Height	1.87M
Weight	77 KGS
DOB	25th Jun 1980
Birthplace	CAIRO, EGYPT
Residence	CAIRO, EGYPT
Turned Pro	2000
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	AHLY CLUB
Racket	TECNIFIBRE
National ranking	2
National title successes	2000, 2002, 2003 WINNER
National team representation	AUSTRALIA 2001 2ND; AUSTRIA 2003 4TH; PAKISTAN 2005 2ND
Best Squash success this year	SEMI-FINAL QATAR CLASSIC
Worst this year	2ND ROUND SUPER SERIES
Other notable squash achievements	SEMI-FINAL CANADIAN OPEN; QUARTER-FINAL REGULARLY
Sponsors	TECNIFIBRE
Interest	MUSIC, FOOTBALL
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 5 2008

Other	<p>A PSA member since 1999, Wael El Hindi has long been regarded as one of Egypt's most talented players - first making his mark in the USA in 1998 when he reached the final of the World Junior Championship as a 5/8 seed.</p> <p>Steady progress on the Tour saw the 28-year-old from Giza - who currently divides his time between Egypt and England - rise to a career-high world No9 position in the world rankings in December 2007 after securing five PSA Tour titles from 10 final appearances.</p> <p>El Hindi reached his first Tour final in Spain at the Trofeo Aquarius Open in October 1999 - but it was a further two years later, in the same country, that he claimed his maiden title at the Spanish Open in Tenerife, in September 2001.</p> <p>Early the following year, he won his first trophy on home soil at the El Ahly Open in Cairo.</p> <p>In 2004, El Hindi began a love-affair with Malaysia where he won the Kuala Lumpur Open in February - then went on to reach the final of the Malaysian Open later in the year, and again in 2005, in both cases exceeding his seeding!</p> <p>His standout achievements in 2006 included home country success in the Heliopolis Open in August 2006 - when he made his breakthrough after beating Finland's No2 seed Olli Tuominen in the quarter-finals.</p> <p>The following month, unseeded, he burst into the last eight of the World Open - also in Egypt - after beating seeded compatriot Karim Darwish and England's Nick Matthew.</p> <p>El Hindi began 2007 by again beating higher-seeded Darwish en-route to a semi-final berth in the Canadian Classic in January. In April, he produced impressive performances in both the Kuwait Open and Qatar Classic (in Doha, featuring upsets over Anthony Ricketts and Lee Beachill) which saw him leap four places to make his top ten debut in May.</p> <p>In July, he successfully defended his Heliopolis Open crown after overcoming fellow Egyptians in each round - Mohd Ali Anwar Reda, Omar Elborolossy and Mohammed Abbas, then Karim Darwish in the final!</p> <p>El Hindi's 2008 campaign began with a quarter-final berth in the Tournament of Champions in January, then the following month he exceeded his seeding in the Canadian Classic in Toronto, where he beat Australian Cameron Pilley to set up a surprise all-Egyptian semi-final line-up.</p> <p>In May, Wael made his debut in the Super Series Finals in London, where he beat Ong Beng Hee en-route to recording a sixth-place finish.</p> <p>El Hindi credits his recent success to working on his fitness with British squash legend Jonah Barrington in England.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	12	9			
2007	15	13	13	14	10	10	10	10	10	12	11	9
2006	19	22	21	20	20	21	21	20	16	14	17	15
2005	24	22	26	26	23	23	25	24	25	22	21	19
2004	36	34	30	31	31	30	29	29	30	27	28	30
2003	29	33	39	38	38	37	38	38	37	34	37	33
2002	40	38	28	28	29	31	29	29	30	34	30	30
2001	62	59	56	55	58	57	58	59	48	38	40	39
2000	99	85	101	106	99	96	69	86	75	69	68	65
1999							95	85	85	82	89	92

Player Biography

Ong Beng Hee
MAS
Ranking 10



Height	1.78 M
Weight	72 KGS
DOB	4th Feb 1980
Birthplace	PENANG, MALAYSIA
Residence	HARROGATE, ENGLAND
Turned Pro	1996
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	NOTTINGHAM, HARROGATE
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	JAMSHED GUL
National ranking	2
National team representation	MALAYSIA WORLD TEAMS 6TH, ASIAN WINNER
Best Squash success this year	LAST 8 BRITISH & QATAR OPEN
Worst this year	1S ROUND OF US OPEN
Other notable squash achievements	LAST 4 IN DAYTON OPEN
Sponsors	DUNLOP, ASHAWAY, NSC
Interest	MAKING MONEY & SITTING HOME COUNTING IT!!!
Ambitions and aims for next year	FOURTH ATTEMPT TO MAKE TOP 8

Other	<p>With four successive Asian Championship titles from 2000-2006; gold medals in both the 2002 and 2006 Asian Games, 11 PSA Tour titles from 19 final appearances, and a career-best world ranking of No7, Ong Beng Hee has become Malaysia's most successful squash player of all-time.</p> <p>In August 1998, the Penang teenager crowned a glittering junior career in the USA by becoming the World Junior Champion – an achievement that made him the first non-Pakistani Asian to claim the most prestigious junior title.</p> <p>He began the new millennium outside the top 40. By the end of the year he had won his first Asian Championship; had become the first Malaysian to qualify for the British Open, then went on to make the quarter-finals. He had also secured three PSA titles.</p> <p>The third of these was in Kuala Lumpur where he became the first home winner of the prestigious Malaysian Open. His sparkling year was rewarded by a leap into the top ten, and a career-best world No7 ranking in December 2001.</p> <p>Ong Beng Hee began playing squash when he was eight – at the 17-court club his squash-enthusiast father had built in Malaysia. He first came to international attention in January 1994 when he won the prestigious British Junior U14 Open title in England. A year later he reached the final of the U16 British Open, going one better in January 1996 by winning the U16 title. Later that year, he showed his promise by reaching the semi-finals of the 1996 World Junior Open in Egypt, competing as a 16-year-old in an event in which most fellow competitors were at least two years older.</p> <p>Coached initially by his father, then the Canadian Malaysian national coach Jamie Hickox, Beng Hee moved to England in 1997 to work with Neil Harvey, coach to England's long-time world No1 Peter Nicol - later moving north to work with Malcolm Willstrop.</p> <p>In January 1998, he became the British Junior U19 Open champion, at the age of 17, and joined a select and distinguished group of squash players who have claimed three British Junior Open titles. In August, Beng Hee clinched the World Junior Open title in his second successive final, beating Egypt's Wael El Hindi in the final in Princeton, USA.</p> <p>In 2001, Beng Hee reached the quarter-finals of five Super Series events - an achievement which was rewarded the following year by his debut in the Super Series Finals in London.</p> <p>Also in 2003, Beng Hee made up for the disappointment of a third round exit in the men's singles of the Commonwealth Games in England by winning the silver medal in the Mixed Doubles with illustrious compatriot Nicol David.</p> <p>2007 highlights include beating higher-ranked Stewart Boswell to reach the quarter-finals of the British Open in Manchester - then, later in the year, repeating his success over the Australian in the Qatar Classic before achieving a second upset over Egyptian Wael El Hindi to become the only unseeded player to reach the last eight of the Super Series event in Doha.</p> <p>Beng Hee consolidated his presence in the middle of the top 20 in 2008 with an appearance in the final of the Kolkata International in India in February.</p> <p>But the biggest boost to his confidence came in his home country in March when he reached the final of the KL Open for the third time - but this time beat his new national rival Mohd Azlan Iskandar 11-8, 15-13, 12-10 to win the title for the first time, while also avenging the defeat by his compatriot in the 2006 final.</p> <p>The win also endorsed his rise above Iskandar in the PSA rankings - but later took Beng Hee back into the world top ten for the first time since December 2003.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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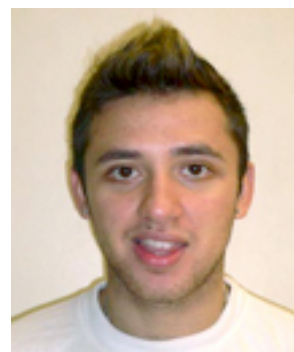
Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	16	18	17	12	10	11	11	9	10			
2007	16	16	16	17	18	18	18	19	19	18	19	16

2006	15	15	15	14	13	13	13	13	14	16	15	18
2005	17	16	16	17	15	15	16	18	19	17	17	16
2004	13	14	14	14	14	20	23	23	23	22	18	17
2003	8	9	9	10	10	9	9	9	8	7	7	8
2002	7	7	7	7	10	10	8	8	7	7	7	8
2001	15	14	13	13	9	9	8	8	11	10	9	7
2000	42	37	37	39	35	34	34	34	36	33	23	22
1999	92						77	75	74	71	44	45
1998	90						82					
1997	101											
1996	164						146					
1995							262					

Player Biography

Mohd Azlan Iskandar
MAS
Ranking 11



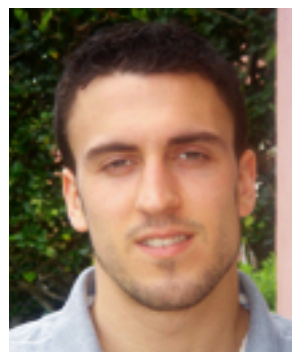
Height	1.8M
Weight	76 KGS
DOB	1st Jun 1982
Birthplace	KUCHING/SARAWAK
Residence	LONDON, ENGLAND
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	WINCHESTER (SUPER LEAGUE), CHICHESTER (PREMIER LEAGUE)
Racket	PRINCE 03 BLACK
Coach	PETER GENEVER, SEAN STRUGEDS (PHYSICAL TRAINER)
National ranking	2
National team representation	5 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
Best Squash success this year	MALAYSIAN OPEN WINNER
Worst this year	PULLING OUT OF QATAR CLASSIC INJURED
Other notable squash achievements	WINNING SAN FRANCISCO OPEN IN MAY
Sponsors	ZECON, PRINCE, POWERBAR, SKINS, MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT
Interest	WAKE BOARDING, CLIMBING, MUSIC
Ambitions and aims for next year	BREAK INTO TOP 10

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	15	16	18	13	13	13	13	13	11			
2007	18	17	19	19	19	19	19	17	16	16	17	18
2006	13	14	13	12	12	12	12	12	12	16	14	13
2005	19	17	17	18	19	18	17	16	15	13	14	15
2004	29	29	29	30	30	27	28	27	29	28	22	21
2003	43	43	41	42	41	39	39	39	36	32	31	27
2002	55	55	56	51	52	57	59	59	48	46	44	42
2001	63	67	66	66	62	60	59	60	60	58	55	55
2000		311	240	236	187	187	150	154	131	109	95	74

Player Biography

Peter Barker
ENG
Ranking 12



Height	6'
Weight	82 KGS
DOB	26th Sep 1983
Birthplace	LONDON
Residence	LONDON
Turned Pro	2002
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	ESPORTA CROYDON & VICTORIA
Racket	WILSON K FACTOR
Coach	PAUL CARTER & PETER NICOL
National ranking	4
National team representation	EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006, 2007 & WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007
Best Squash success this year	WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONS 2007 AND BEATING AMR SHABANA IN QATAR CLASSIC
Worst this year	VIRGINIA 1ST ROUND DEFEAT
Sponsors	ENGLAND SQUASH, WILSON, SPORTDISCOUNT.COM
Interest	READING, MUSIC, THEATRE, LIVE EVENTS
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 8 PSA

Other	<p>Peter Barker is England's newest international - having firmly established himself within the country's top four, alongside Nick Matthew, Lee Beachill and James Willstrop, the player he battled alongside throughout his successful junior international career.</p> <p>Steady progress on the PSA Tour since going full-time in 2002 has led to the 24-year-old left-hander from Essex collecting a total of 10 Tour titles from 14 final appearances. An unexpected final berth in this year's Swedish Open in February saw Barker achieve a career-high world ranking of 10 in March.</p> <p>In a highly successful junior career, Barker was a British, European and World Junior Open runner-up. It was during the two months before he reached the final of the World Junior Championships in India in December 2002 that he won his first three PSA Tour titles - firstly the Saskatoon Boast Open in Canada, then - as a qualifier - the Financially Plumb Open, also in Canada, and finally the Tech Valley Open in the USA!</p> <p>In August 2005, Barker began an impressive sequence of title triumphs in Colombia, winning the Colombian Open as second seed - and a year later retaining his title. Back in Bogotá again in 2007, Barker clinched his hat-trick, after beating Spaniard Borja Golan in the final.</p> <p>Barker's standout result of 2007 took place in Doha in April. In the second round of the Qatar Classic, seeded 14, he pulled off a sensational 11-7, 11-8, 2-11, 11-8 win over top seed Amr Shabana, the world No1 from Egypt, to record his second appearance in a PSA Super Series quarter-final.</p> <p>In September, Barker upset Egypt's Wael El Hindi in Manchester to reach his first British Open quarter-final.</p> <p>It was in his opening Tour event of 2008 that Barker reached the final of the Case Swedish Open in Linköping after beating Alex Gough and Olli Tuominen in the previous rounds. But it was career-long rival James Willstrop that he faced in the climax, where he battled for 38 minutes before going down in straight games.</p> <p>However, the achievement gave Barker his long-awaited breakthrough into the world's top ten rankings in March.</p> <p>In May, shortly after making London his home city, Barker again reached the British Open quarter-finals for the second year in a row after a marathon 83-minute five-game victory over England team-mate Lee Beachill in the last sixteen round.</p> <p>Barker made his England debut in the 2006 European Team Championships - and played a decisive role in England's defeat of France in the final.</p> <p>But it was a year later, in December 2007, that he made his World Team Championship debut for his country in India - where he took centre stage when he clinched the deciding match in the final against Australia, beating Cameron Pilley to enable England to retain the title.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	12	12	10	10	12	10	10	10	12			
2007	19	19	17	18	16	16	16	15	15	14	13	13
2006	21	23	24	24	23	23	23	24	26	23	20	19
2005	32	31	29	29	28	29	29	29	23	21	22	23
2004	41	39	37	38	38	37	37	36	36	33	31	33
2003	79	82	75	76	72	71	70	70	76	73	76	60
2002	196	241	204	215	220	227	228	235	138	146	93	76

Player Biography

Lee Beachill
ENG
Ranking 13



Height	6FT1
Weight	76 KGS
DOB	28th Nov 1977
Birthplace	HUDDERSFIELD
Residence	PONTEFRACT
Turned Pro	1994
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	1
Children Boys	1
Clubs/Teams	PONTEFRACT/HALIFAX
Racket	DUNLOP - LEE BEACHILL
Coach	MALCOLM WILLSTROP
National ranking	CURRENT 4,
National title successes	CHAMPION 2000, 2001, 2003
Best Squash success this year	SUPER SERIES RUNNER-UP
Worst this year	MANY
Sponsors	DUNLOP, HI-TEC, TOURNA GRIP
Interest	PROPERTY, GOLF, MUSIC
Ambitions and aims for next year	PLAYING SQUASH

Other	<p>With a world number one ranking to his name, plus nine PSA Tour titles including two at the US Open; two Commonwealth Games gold medals; three British National Championship titles; and four successful World Team Championship campaigns for England, there is little more that Lee Beachill has to prove in squash.</p> <p>True to the characteristic of a Yorkshireman, Beachill is a determined young man. But the 30-year-old achieved everything he has in the sport after a serious road accident in December 1997 in which he broke his back in two places!</p> <p>Despite being told that he would spend at least four months on his back – and would never play squash again – he was back on court after some eight weeks and made his tournament comeback at the 1998 British Open, in which he won six qualifying matches before being drawn to play favourite (and the eventual winner) Peter Nicol in the first round!</p> <p>In 2001, Beachill became the lowest seed ever to capture the British National title - a year afterwards, becoming the first man ever to successfully defend the crown. He won his third title in 2005, and two years later became the first player in history to reach the men's final seven times.</p> <p>In the 2002 Commonwealth Games in England, Beachill partnered Peter Nicol in the Men's Doubles and collected England's only gold medal of the Games. Four years later in Melbourne, the pair became the first players to successfully defend any squash title, beating the same Australians Stewart Boswell and Anthony Ricketts for the second successive time in the final.</p> <p>Three major PSA titles in 2004 – the Bermuda Open, English Open and the US Open – gave Beachill his long-awaited reward in October when he reached No1 in the Dunlop PSA world rankings. He ended the year reaching the World Open final, for the first time, in Qatar.</p> <p>In 2006, he reached the Super Series Finals final for the first after beating Anthony Ricketts, Thierry Lincou and England team-mate Peter Nicol en-route. But he lost to Ricketts in his second meeting in the event final - then avenged this defeat by beating the top seeded Australian as he fought through to the final of the Hungarian Open in October.</p> <p>Beachill began his 2007 campaign by reaching the climax of the Virginia Pro Championship in the USA. Two months later, he exceeded his seeding by reaching the Kuwait Open quarter-finals.</p> <p>The Yorkshireman ended his two-year title drought at the Wolverhampton Open in September when he triumphed over Australian Cameron Pilley in the final of the new Tour event in England - success which brought his career PSA title tally to nine, and his number of final appearances to 18.</p> <p>Later, Beachill bettered his seeding in the US Open to make it to the quarter-finals of the Super Series event in New York. In December, he played a leading role in England's successful defence of the World Team Championship title in India, where they beat Australia in the final.</p> <p>Already having undergone ankle and shoulder surgery in previous years, Beachill underwent hernia surgery early in 2008 - but made an incredibly rapid recovery to contest his record seventh British Nationals finals just six weeks later!</p> <p>But his standout success of the year came at the Kuwait Open in April, when he beat Australian David Palmer for the first time in almost three years to reach the quarter-finals of the \$200,000 Super Series event - then stretched Ramy Ashour to five games before going down to the world No2 in 53 minutes.</p> <p>Off court, Beachill was elected onto the PSA Board in January this year, when he became a Vice President.</p> <p>Updated July 2008</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	11	10	11	11	11	12	12	11	13			

2007	12	12	10	12	11	13	13	13	13	11	12	12
2006	8	8	8	8	11	10	10	10	9	9	8	10
2005	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	4	5	5
2004	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
2003	9	8	8	8	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	9
2002	12	12	11	10	9	8	10	10	8	8	8	9
2001	28	21	15	16	18	16	11	14	15	16	16	12
2000	36	34	33	34	34	36	36	36	35	27	27	25
1999	42						40	40	38	38	38	27
1998	135						85					
1997	166											
1996							167					

Player Biography

Adrian Grant
ENG
Ranking 14



Height	5'11"
Weight	75 kgs
DOB	6th Oct 1980
Birthplace	LONDON
Residence	LEEDS
Turned Pro	1999
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	QUEEN SC/REDWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	DAVID CAMPION
National ranking	4
National team representation	EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007
Best Squash success this year	REPRESENTING ENGLAND
Worst this year	HIP INJURY/DROPPING OUT OF TOP 16
Sponsors	DUNLOP, ASICS, TRION-Z, SIS SPORTS DRINK
Interest	MUSIC, MARKETING, EVENTS, PROPERTY, SPORTS LIFE STYLE
Ambitions and aims for next year	REPRESENTING ENGLAND, PROMOTING SQUASH, TOP 10

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	18	15	15	14	15	15	14	14	14			
2007	13	14	15	15	15	15	15	16	17	20	18	19
2006	22	21	16	15	16	16	16	16	17	15	13	14
2005	14	15	15	16	16	16	18	19	14	19	18	22
2004	22	21	17	17	18	16	16	16	16	13	13	12
2003	33	32	31	27	28	22	22	22	22	23	25	23
2002	47	45	48	48	43	47	45	46	42	37	34	36
2001	49	47	46	42	43	39	38	39	44	45	49	50
2000	85	79	79	79	75	91	96	68	68	68	52	49
1999							110	109	107	107	110	99

Player Biography

Laurens Jan Anjema
 NED
 Ranking 15



Height	1.89M
Weight	86.6 KGS
DOB	1st Dec 1982
Birthplace	DEN HAAG, HOLLAND
Residence	DEN HAAG, HOLLAND
Turned Pro	2002
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	HSRC de DIEPPUT, ROUEN, KOBLENZ
Racket	PRINCE
National ranking	1
National title successes	CHAMPION 2006, 2007
National team representation	EVERY YEAR SINCE 2000
Best Squash success this year	OREGON OPEN CHAMPION
Other notable squash achievements	MERRITT PROPERTIES OPEN CHAMPION
Sponsors	PRINCE, NIKE
Interest	GUITAR, SKIING

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	19	19	19	19	17	16	16	15	15			
2007	25	24	21	22	22	23	23	23	26	24	21	20
2006	23	27	28	27	28	28	27	27	22	25	24	26
2005	36	30	30	31	29	30	31	32	33	26	28	28
2004	48	47	42	42	48	38	38	38	38	39	37	38
2003	69	64	68	70	69	66	66	59	57	51	58	54
2002	185	211	192	111	113	110	108	92	91	88	68	67
2001	280	285										234
2000	216	217	189	192	187	187	190	190	191	187	180	193

Player Biography

Olli Tuominen
FIN
Ranking 16



Height	1.76
Weight	76 KGS
DOB	15th Apr 1979
Birthplace	HELSINKI, FINLAND
Residence	HELSINKI, FINLAND
Turned Pro	1997
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	HSRC FINLAND, APELDOORN HOLLAND, ROUEN FRANCE, STUTTART GERMANY
Racket	DUNLOP HOTMELT PRO
Coach	ARI PELKONEN, SIMO TARVONEN, TOMI NIINIMAKI
National ranking	1
National title successes	RUNNER UP 1999, WINNER 2000-2006
National team representation	TEAM EUROPEANS 1998-2006, TEAM WORLDS 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005.
Best Squash success this year	HUNGARIAN OPEN SEMI-FINALS
Worst this year	LOST IN FIRST ROUND TO GRAHAM RYDING IN VIRTUAL SPECTATOR BERMUDA MASTERS
Other notable squash achievements	EBS DAYTON OPEN SEMI-FINALS
Sponsors	REEBOK, HEKU, ORBIS, DUNLOP, DATA GROUP OY, INVESTORIA OY
Interest	GUITAR, BACK GAMMON
Ambitions and aims for next year	MAKE IT TO TOP 10

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	17	17	16	17	16	17	17	17	16			
2007	17	18	18	16	17	17	17	18	18	17	16	17
2006	14	13	14	13	14	14	15	14	15	18	16	16
2005	23	24	21	21	18	19	19	17	17	15	15	14
2004	19	22	27	22	26	24	24	24	25	25	24	22
2003	21	26	24	28	30	27	27	28	26	30	24	24
2002	17	21	18	17	17	17	17	16	20	17	17	17

2001	37	25	26	26	27	27	28	28	22	21	19	18
2000	31	30	29	32	32	30	30	30	39	40	35	40
1999	79						54	52	40	39	36	35
1998	113						97					

Player Biography

Stewart Boswell
AUS
Ranking 17



Height	1.88M
Weight	78 KGS
DOB	29th Jul 1978
Birthplace	CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA
Residence	BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
Turned Pro	1997
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	RODNEY MARTIN
National ranking	3
National title successes	AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2002 - 2007
National team representation	COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2002, 2006. WORLD TEAMS 2003, 2005, 2007
Sponsors	DUNLOP, AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT
Interest	SPORT, TRAVEL, LISTENING TO MUSIC
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 8

Other	<p>Stewart Boswell boasts two squash careers - the first of which followed his highly successful junior run through to the senior stage where, in May 2002, he celebrated a career-high world No4 ranking - and the second which began with him winning seven PSA Tour titles in a row after making a comeback in April 2005 following an enforced two-year layoff with a mystery back ailment.</p> <p>From January to December 2005, he leapt a sensational 279 places to 20 in the Dunlop PSA World Rankings as he fought to re-establish himself amongst the world's elite. The 29-year-old from Canberra marked his return to the world top ten in April this year - then clinched his 17th career PSA Tour title at the Australian Open in July before celebrating his 29th appearance in a Tour final later in the month at the Malaysian Open in Kuala Lumpur.</p> <p>Born and raised in Canberra, Boswell won Australian national junior titles each year from 1993, collecting the U-15 crown in the first year, then U-17 titles in 94 and 95, and the U-19 titles in 96 and 97.</p> <p>A World Junior Open finalist in 1996, he made his first appearance in the PSA world rankings in January 1995 and broke into the top 50 in 1998. He made his top twenty debut in October 2000, before celebrating his career-high world No4 position in May 2002.</p> <p>A graduate of the Australian Institute of Sport, Boswell reached his first PSA Tour event final in May 97 - and went on to reach his first Super Series final in April 2002 when, as sixth seed, he beat higher-ranked compatriot David Palmer to make the Qatar Classic climax.</p> <p>He gained his reward the following month with his rise to a career-best No4, confirming his status as the Australian number two behind Palmer.</p> <p>But tragedy struck after a surprising first round defeat in the PSA Masters in Qatar in May 2003.</p> <p>"I'd been getting some pain in my lower back leading up to that and decided to go back to Australia from there to sort it out," said Boswell. "Initially, with all scans of my back showing no damage, it didn't seem that serious. However it never improved to the stage that I could play."</p> <p>Things looked bleak for Boswell for about a year without playing and no real signs of progress. "I then saw a Physio (Steve Saunders) in Adelaide, who was doing further study on the dysfunction of the area I was getting the pain. He had some different techniques and a different approach treating my problem. Things slowly started looking up - and I was soon able to progress to harder work - running, gym, etc - before finally getting back to playing."</p> <p>Back as a threat to the world's elite, Boswell added the St Louis Open crown to his title collection in 2006 - where he upset second seed John White in the final - and began his 2007 campaign by battling through to the final of the Kuala Lumpur Open, beating higher-seeded Karim Darwish in the semi-finals.</p> <p>Now based in Manchester, England, Boswell delighted his home fans in July when he went 'down under' to compete in the Australian Open in South Australia. He beat compatriot Cameron Pilley in the final to win his country's most prestigious title for the third time since 2002.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	13	14	14	16	14	14	15	16	17			
2007	11	11	11	10	13	12	12	11	12	13	15	15
2006	17	16	17	16	15	15	14	15	13	12	12	12
2005	299		252	262	137	83	62	50	39	29	25	20
2004	32	33	98	98	97	275	276	280	283	290	301	301
2003	5	5	4	4	5	6	6	6	6	9	9	19
2002	6	6	5	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4

2001	18	16	16	14	14	15	17	15	9	11	6	6
2000	21	27	24	26	25	31	27	26	27	16	21	18
1999	29						25	26	25	34	30	21
1998	53						39					
1997	216											
1996	277						199					
1995							239					

Player Biography

Cameron Pilley
AUS
Ranking 18



Height	1.91 M
Weight	84 KGS
DOB	27th Oct 1982
Birthplace	YAMBA, AUSTRALIA
Residence	READING, ENGLAND & AUSTRALIA
Turned Pro	2001
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Racket	KARAKAL
Coach	DAN FROGAN
National ranking	3
National team representation	MENS AUSTRALIAN TEAM 2005, 2007
Best Squash success this year	REPRESENTING AUSTRALIA AT WORLD TEAMS EVENT
Worst this year	QATAR 1ST ROUND
Sponsors	KARAKAL
Interest	GOLF, SURFING, BEACH, MUSIC
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 20

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	23	23	20	18	18	18	18	18	18			
2007	22	21	23	21	23	22	22	22	23	21	22	23
2006	28	28	30	28	25	25	24	23	24	24	22	22
2005	41	41	33	34	34	34	35	33	29	28	27	30
2004	51	41	45	45	45	45	45	40	41	38	39	40
2003	62	65	65	64	61	63	58	60	59	55	48	56
2002	111	118	116	119	121	123	113	117	82	66	69	69
2001				240	235	198	172	169	124	116	116	116

Player Biography

Miguel Angel Rodriguez
COL
Ranking 20



Height	1.7M
Weight	69 KGS
DOB	20th Dec 1985
Birthplace	BOGOTA, COLOMBIA
Residence	BOGOTA, COLOMBIA
Turned Pro	2005
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	CLUB EL NOGAL
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	ANGEL RODRIGUEZ
National ranking	1
National title successes	2007 WON 4 NATIONAL TITLES AND THE MASTERS TITLE
National team representation	PAN-AMERICAN GAMES, RIO DE JANEIRO - INDIVIDUAL BRONZE MEDAL - TEAM GOLD MEDAL
Best Squash success this year	WON MITSUBISHI MOTORS OPEN, SAO PAULO; WON QUITO SQUASH OPEN, ECUADOR; WON MEXICO CITY OPEN
Worst this year	BALTIMORE CUP 3/4 PLACE
Other notable squash achievements	FINALIST BOGOTA TENNIS CLUB, FINALIST FASHION TOUR, FINALIST MONTREAL. SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPION
Sponsors	DUNLOP, CHERRYPHARM
Interest	KARTS, READING, PING PONG, SWIMMING, MUSIC
Ambitions and aims for next year	TO BE TOP 24

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	30	29	31	32	28	23	26	25	20			
2007	54	52	55	59	57	54	46	51	44	40	36	36
2006	72	70	65	60	60	65	63	56	55	47	54	57
2005		299	252	262	198	201	172	161	116	113	111	73

Player Biography

Omar Mosaad
EGY
Ranking 21



Height	1.93 M
Weight	90 KGS
DOB	17th Mar 1988
Birthplace	CAIRO
Residence	EGYPT
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	WADIDEGLA CLUB
Racket	TECNIFIBRE
Coach	K. MOHAMED MOSAAD & DR HATEM MANDOR
National ranking	NO. 1 U19
National title successes	WON U19 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
Best Squash success this year	BEAT JOHN WHITE IN US OPEN, WON GREEK OPEN
Sponsors	TECNIFIBRE, WADIDEGLA CLUB
Interest	TENNIS, THE NET, SWIMMING
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 10

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	28	27	25	25	25	26	24	23	21			
2007	45	43	43	44	38	38	38	37	37	37	33	32
2006	120	111	99	81	81	78	78	76	76	61	53	43
2005		299	252	262	216	213	221	150	134	119	117	122

Player Biography

Borja Golan
ESP
Ranking 23



Height	1.83 m
Weight	75 kgs
DOB	6th Jan 1983
Birthplace	SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
Residence	SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
Turned Pro	01.01.02
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	CLUB SANTIAGO, APPELDORN & SQUASH ORNANO
Racket	DUNLOP
Coach	JESUS SOUTO
National ranking	NO.1
National title successes	6 TITLES (2002-2007)
National team representation	EUROPEAN & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Best Squash success this year	WINNING BOGOTA OPEN
Worst this year	1ST ROUND IN SANTIAGO OPEN AND QUARTER-FINAL IN OREGON OPEN
Other notable squash achievements	2ND IN BLUENOSE OPEN, IRISH OPEN AND EL NOGAL OPEN
Sponsors	DUNLOP, WORLDEJOYER
Interest	CINEMA, SOCCER, TENNIS, FOOD
Ambitions and aims for next year	TOP 16

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	24	24	23	23	22	22	22	22	23			
2007	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	20	19	20	24
2006	47	38	38	34	27	27	26	26	28	27	25	21
2005	38	38	39	39	48	52	55	56	60	51	57	47
2004	35	36	36	36	35	34	34	34	34	35	35	35
2003	52	52	58	51	47	45	43	42	43	43	43	41
2002	196	211	192	167	167	101	99	100	102	75	52	48
2001												243

Player Biography

Mohammed Abbas
EGY
Ranking 24



Height	1.89 M
Weight	77 KGS
DOB	24th Dec 1980
Birthplace	GIZA, EGYPT
Residence	GIZA, EGYPT
Turned Pro	1997
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	AHLY CLUB, CAIRO, EGYPT
Racket	HARROW
National team representation	2003 WINNER ARAB GAMES, WINNER AFRICAN GAMES, 4TH PLACES WORLD TEAM, 2001 2ND PLACE WORLD TEAM, 1999 WINNER ARAB GAMES, 1998 2ND PLACE WORLD JUNIOR TEAM, 1996 2ND PLACE WORLD JUNIOR TEAM
Best Squash success this year	WINNING CIMB KL OPEN
Sponsors	HARROW
Interest	FOOTBALL
Ambitions and aims for next year	REACH THE TOP 10

Other	<p>A member of the PSA since 1998, Mohammed Abbas has made consistent progress up the world rankings - and, after winning his third PSA Tour title in his seventh final in March this year at the Kuala Lumpur Open in Malaysia, rose to a career-high world No13 ranking on the 1st April.</p> <p>Abbas first made his mark on the international squash stage when he reached the quarter-finals of the 1998 World Junior Championships in the USA, afterwards playing his part in Egypt reaching the final of the team event after beating favourites Pakistan in the semi-finals.</p> <p>He claimed his first Tour title at the El Ahly Open at his home club in Cairo in January 2000.</p> <p>Abbas enjoyed a breakthrough year in 2004 when, after reaching the final of the Dayton Open unseeded, he went on to reach the last sixteen of both the World Open and Pakistan Open in December - which resulted in a massive jump from 25 to 16 in the world rankings on 1st January 2005.</p> <p>Further progress took three years to achieve - but in March 2006 he won the COAS International in Pakistan (beating fast-rising compatriot Ramy Ashour in the final) and in December achieved his best-ever finish in a Super Series event by reaching the quarter-finals of the Saudi International after beating higher-seeded fellow countryman Karim Darwish in the last sixteen.</p> <p>Mohammed's 2007 campaign began with a semi-final berth in the Virginia Pro Championship in February in the USA, where he upset Malaysia's Mohd Azlan Iskandar in the quarter-finals.</p> <p>In the Kuala Lumpur Open the following month, he beat favourite Nick Matthew in the semis and higher-seeded Stewart Boswell in the final.</p> <p>"This is the biggest win of my career," said the 26-year-old at the time. "I am very happy to win it here."</p> <p>Back on home soil in July, Abbas battled back to the semi-finals of the Heliopolis Open for the second successive year - this time losing to compatriot Wael El Hindi in a 90-minute marathon.</p> <p>Updated October 2007</p>
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Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	14	13	13	20	20	21	21	21	24			
2007	14	15	14	13	14	14	14	14	14	15	14	14
2006	24	20	22	17	17	17	17	17	18	19	18	17
2005	16	19	18	19	20	20	20	22	20	20	19	21
2004	16	17	18	18	17	15	15	15	15	16	16	15
2003	37	29	27	23	21	24	24	24	23	25	23	25
2002	23	27	26	27	28	28	27	27	28	26	37	35
2001	56	62	61	54	54	54	51	50	43	36	29	29
2000	101	73	72	72	60	59	59	61	57	57	58	57
1999							114	110	108	106	100	106

Player Biography

Hisham Mohd Ashour
EGY
Ranking 25



Height	1.78M
DOB	20th May 1982
Birthplace	CAIRO, EGYPT
Residence	CAIRO, EGYPT
Turned Pro	2002
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Racket	HARROW/MOJO
National title successes	RUNNER-UP 2005
National team representation	ARABS & AFRICAN CUP WINNER 2004 & 2005
Best Squash success this year	SEMI-FINALS IN VIRGINIA OPEN
Sponsors	ATCO, PUMA, EGYPTAIR, HARROW
Interest	SWIMMING, ALL SPORTS & I LIKE BUYING SHOES, SHOPPING
Ambitions and aims for next year	TO REACH TOP 13 SOON

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	22	21	24	24	23	24	25	26	25			
2007	27	27	26	26	24	25	25	24	22	22	24	22
2006	37	41	39	38	35	35	35	34	34	32	31	31
2005	33	33	36	38	36	36	37	36	38	46	40	39
2004	43	40	39	39	39	39	39	46	45	37	36	36
2003	74	68	71	68	66	54	57	56	58	50	46	47
2002	121	129	117	125	125	102	101	105	93	85	88	80
2001	180	150	141	136	137	138	131	122	127	128	125	132
2000							261	269	272	286	289	227

Player Biography

Renan Lavigne
FRA
Ranking 27



Height	1.73M
Weight	66 KGS
DOB	1st Nov 1974
Birthplace	LONGJUMEAU, FRANCE
Residence	MARSEILLE
Turned Pro	1996
Marital Status	SINGLE
Children Girls	0
Children Boys	0
Clubs/Teams	SET MARSEILLE, BEWERVIJK, GRASSHOPPERS, KOBLENZ, REDDITCH
Racket	WILSON K TOUR
Coach	PAUL SCIBERRAS, ANDRE DELHOSTE
National ranking	3
National title successes	FRENCH U16 CHAMP 1990, U19 CHAMP 1991, RUNNER-UP FRENCH NATIONALS, 2003,4,5, FRENCH CLUBS CHAMPION FROM 1993 TO 2001
National team representation	FRENCH NATIONAL TEAM SINCE 1996, CAPTAIN OF NATIONAL TEAM, WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SILVER MEDALLIST 2003, WORLD TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS BRONZE MEDALLIST 2005 & 2007, EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SILVER MEDALLIST 2000-2006, EUROPEAN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP BRONZE MED
Best Squash success this year	EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SILVER MEDALLIST, WINNER BELO HORIZONTE FASHION OPEN TOUR 2007, RUNNER-UP VANCOUVER OPEN & BERKSHIRE OPEN
Worst this year	1ST ROUND LOSS BALTIMORE CUP
Sponsors	WILSON
Interest	INTERNET, TENNIS, FOOTBALL, HOUSE MUSIC, HOUSE DESIGN & MAKING TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS
Ambitions and aims for next year	GET BACK IN TOP 20 AND ENJOY MY SQUASH

Ranking History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2008	25	26	28	27	26	27	27	27	27			
2007	29	29	30	33	33	32	32	32	31	28	27	27
2006	33	32	32	31	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	29
2005	27	25	24	24	24	25	27	27	28	30	29	33
2004	20	20	21	21	20	18	18	18	19	17	19	20
2003	25	25	23	25	20	23	23	23	25	26	28	30

2002	31	29	30	29	30	30	26	26	22	22	20	21
2001	45	43	47	46	44	45	41	45	33	34	36	31
2000	48	45	43	45	46	46	47	48	54	53	54	51
1999							56	53	47	49	43	51