



— JEUX DU —
CANADA
— GAMES —

**MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE
SQUASH**



MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE SQUASH



- A. HISTORY OF SPORT**
- B. CANADA GAMES SPORT HISTORY AND PAST RESULTS**
- C. NUMBER OF ATHLETES PER TEAM**
- D. EVENT FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY**
- E. EQUIPMENT & TERMINOLOGY**
- F. ELIGIBILITY**
- G. JUDGING/SCORING SYSTEM**
- H. PLAYOFF AND TIE-BREAKING FORMAT**
- I. TECHNOLOGY OF SPORT**
- J. ROLE OF OFFICIALS IN SPORT**
- K. FACILITY DESCRIPTION**
- L. SPORT MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND STRUCTURE**
- M. ATHLETES TO WATCH FOR**
- N. NOTABLE PAST ATHLETES/ALUMNI**
- O. NOTABLE CANADIAN RECORDS**
- P. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

A. HISTORY OF SPORT

Squash developed from the game of rackets and is said to have begun at Harrow School in England in the mid-19th century. There was a court in most of the boarding houses, the Headmaster's having two. As no standard pattern existed, some of the courts had many hazards in the form of windows, doors, pipes, etc. Students started a knockabout game which, because it was played in a confined area, required a softer ball than the hard one used for rackets. It was from this ball that could be 'squashed' in the hand, that the name derived.

The first squash courts in Canada, built in the early 1900's, were privately owned and probably made of wood. Today the courts are of prefabricated space-age materials with wooden floors and special kinds of plaster on the walls to ensure a smooth, hard, non-sweating surface.

The Canadian Squash Racquets Association was formed in 1913. Originally it was almost solely a Montreal and Toronto Association which gradually broadened to become a Province of Quebec and Ontario Association and finally encompassed the western provinces. In 1991 the operating name was changed to Squash Canada. It comprises 12 Provincial/Territorial Associations and a membership of approximately 400 clubs and 100,000 players. The Association coordinates eight annual national Championships – Junior Open, Men's and Women's Provincial Teams, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, University and College, Junior Nationals and Nationals.

B. CANADA GAMES SPORT HISTORY AND PAST RESULTS

Squash made its debut at the 1991 Canada Winter Games in Prince Edward Island, and has been part of every Winter Games since then.

	2003		1999		1995		1991	
	Jr Men	Jr Women	Jr Men	Jr Women	Jr Men	Jr Women	Jr Men	Jr Women
1	AB	BC	AB	ON	BC	ON	ON	ON
2	ON	ON	BC	AB	AB	MB	BC	MB
3	MB	MB	ON	BC	ON	NS	MB	BC
4	SK	AB	SK	SK	QC	AB	AB	AB
5	QC	QC	NF	MB	MB	NF	QC	QC
6	BC	SK	NS	NS	NS	QC	SK	NS
7	NL	NL	MB	QC	NF	BC	NS	SK
8	PEI	PEI	QC	NF	PE	SK	PE	NF
9	NB	YK	NB	NB	SK	NB	NB	
10	NS		YK	YK	NB	NWT	NF	
11	YK		PE		YK	YK	YK	
12	NWT				NWT		NWT	

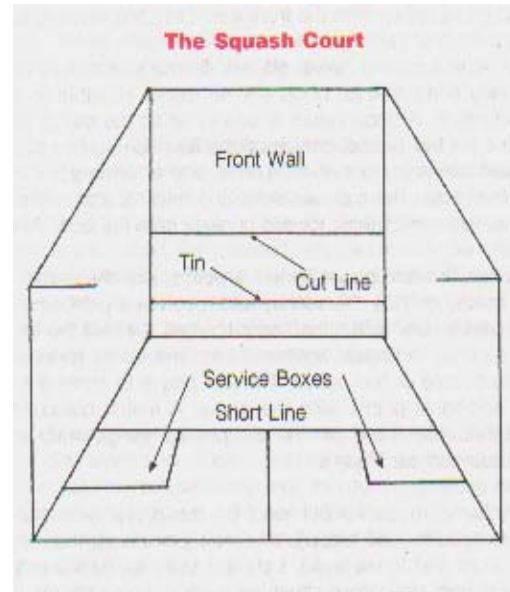
C. NUMBER OF ATHLETES PER TEAM

A provincial/territorial contingent consists of 8 athletes -- 4 males and 4 females -- comprised of 2 males and 2 females under 19 years of age, and 2 males and 2 females under 17 years of age.

D. EVENT FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY

The competition is played in a team format. One event will be held for women and one for men. During the first stage of the competition (pool play) the teams will be placed in one or two pools and will play a round robin competition (all play all) within their pool. During the second stage of the competition (play offs) there will be cross over encounters between the pools resulting in a final ranking of all teams.

Squash is played on an enclosed four wall court. This standard international singles court is 21' wide and 32' long. The front wall is 15' high and the back wall is 7' high. The side walls are bounded by a red line which runs diagonally from the top of the front wall to the top of the back wall. This red line which forms the upper limit on all four walls is the out-of-court line. At the base of the front wall is a strip of metal 19" high running the complete width of the court. This is the "Tin" which serves the same role as the net in tennis. Any ball which hits the Tin is out of play. Six feet above the floor on the front wall is another red line – the service line (formerly called the cut line). The ball must be served above this line to start play.



The competition will follow the official W.S.F. Rules of the Game. Two players take turns hitting the ball with their racquets onto the front wall of the court. Players may hit the ball while it is still in the air before it bounces, or they may wait until it bounces once on the floor before hitting it. The ball may rebound off any of the other walls before or after it hits the front wall. The object in squash is to win rallies by hitting the ball so that it bounces twice on the floor before the opponent can reach it. Rallies may also be won by forcing the opponent to hit the ball into the Tin or on or above the out-of-court line. A point can only be won by the server. A game is won by the first player to score 9 points. If the score reaches 8 all, the player receiving service may choose to play the game to either 9 or 10 points. A match is the best of five games, that is the first player to win three games wins the match.

E. EQUIPMENT & TERMINOLOGY

The equipment used to play squash is a squash-specific racquet and ball.

The following is a list of commonly used terms and expressions in the sport of Squash:

Winner - A shot with which the receiver cannot even make contact with the racquet; used especially with reference to service.

Appeal - A player's request to the Referee to consider an on or off court situation.

"Appeal" is used throughout the rules in two contexts:

Where the player requests the Referee to consider varying a Marker's decision.

Where the player requests the Referee to allow a let.

The correct form of appeal by a player is "Appeal please" or "Let please".

Board - The lowest horizontal marking on the front wall, with the tin beneath it covering the full width of the court.

Box (SERVICE) - A square area in each quarter court bounded by part of the short line, part of the side wall and by two other lines, and from within which the server serves.

Service Line - A line upon the front wall, 50 millimeters (2 inches) in width, the top edge of which is 1.83 meters (6 feet) above the floor and extending the full width of the court.

Game Ball - The state of the score when the server requires one point to win the game in progress. ("Game ball" is also used as a Marker's call).

Half-court line - A line set upon the floor parallel to the side walls, dividing the back of the court into two equal parts, meeting the short line at its midpoint to form the "T".

Hand - The period from the time a player becomes server until he becomes receiver.

Hand out - Condition when a change of server occurs.

Match - The complete contest between two players, commencing with the warm up and concluding when both players have left the court at end of the final rally.

Match Ball - The state of the score when the server requires one point to win the match. ("Match ball" is also used as a Marker's call).

Nick - A shot that hits the juncture of the floor and wall, and dies. Also, the juncture itself.

Quarter Court - One half of the back part of the court which has been divided into two equal parts by the half-court line.

Rail - A shot hit close to and parallel to the sidewalls - that is, down the line or alley; a power drive hit for length.

Rally - A service only or service and any number of returns of the ball, ending when the ball ceases to be in play.

Striker - The player whose turn it is to hit the ball after it has rebounded from the front wall, or who is in the process of hitting the ball, or who - up to the point of his return reaching the front wall - has just hit the ball.

Stroke - The gain achieved by the player who wins a rally, either in the course of play or on award by the Referee, and which results in either the scoring of a point or change of hand.

Tin - Situated between the board and the floor covering the full width of the court and constructed in such a manner as to make a distinctive noise when struck by the ball.

F. ELIGIBILITY

2 Males and 2 Females: Under 19 years of age as of March 10, 2007

2 Males and 2 Females: Under 17 years of age as of March 10, 2007

G. JUDGING/SCORING SYSTEM

Competition

As per the W.S.F. Rules of the Game, the first player to reach 9 points shall be declared the winner of the game. Points will only be awarded to the server. If the score reaches 8 all, the player receiving may choose to play the game to either 9 or 10 points. The first player to win 3 of 5 games will be declared the winner of the match.

Sport Scoring

Each Provincial/Territorial Team encounter will consist of four (best of five) matches. Two points (2) will be awarded for a Team victory (3-1, 4-0), one point (1) for a tie (2-2), and zero points (0) for a loss.

H. PLAYOFF AND TIE-BREAKING FORMAT

All teams will play one another to establish order of merit within a Pool. This will be decided by the greatest number of points won according to the scoring system. Each Provincial/Territorial Team encounter will consist of four (best of five) matches. Two points (2) will be awarded for a Team victory (3-1, 4-0), one point (1) for a tie (2-2), and zero points (0) for a loss. If any teams have equal numbers of points the following procedure will be used to break the tie(s).

- a) If two teams are tied, the ranking will be determined by the head to head results between the two teams:
 - i) first by greater number of matches won;
 - ii) if equal, by greater number of games won;
 - iii) if equal, by greater number of points won;
 - iv) if equal, the result of the match between the number #1 ranked player in each province in the encounter will be the deciding factor.

- b) If more than two teams are tied, the ranking will be determined by the head to head results among the tied teams;
 - i) first by the greater number of matches won against the tied teams;
 - ii) if equal, then the greater number of games won against the tied teams;
 - iii) if equal, by positive difference between games won and lost;
 - iv) if equal, then by the positive difference between points won and lost among the tied teams;
 - v) if still equal, then by draw.

NOTE: if any of the above criteria result in a tie between two teams then revert to the procedure for two teams tied.

I. TECHNOLOGY OF SPORT

Squash rackets were originally made of laminated wood and had a small area strung with natural 'gut' strings. Advancements in racket construction has led to the use of composite materials and synthetic strings. The composite materials provide for a lighter yet very durable racket construction. With several brands producing rackets, each racket

will have slightly different specifications. The “face” of the racket and the length of strings has increased in size and length.

Squash balls are made from an extremely durable high quality rubber compound. The original balls used for squash were made of thin rubber with small holes in it.

J. ROLE OF OFFICIALS IN SPORT

There are two officials at each squash match. The “Referee” is in overall control of the match and is assisted by the “Marker”. The objectives of the officials are to see a fair outcome to each rally, and, therefore, the match, and to ensure the safety of both players.

The Marker is responsible for calling all serves and returns which are not good: serves that are “faults” (below the service line or not reaching the correct quarter court); balls that are “Out” (above the upper boundary lines); balls that are “Not Up” (double bounce); and balls that are “Down” (hit into the tin or floor). At the end of each rally the Marker calls the score without delay but after the Referee has decided any appeals. The Marker also makes all introductory and between game announcements.

The Referee is in overall control of the match and rules on all appeals from the players. These appeals may be against a Marker’s call or non-call or may be an appeal for a let because of potential interference. Whenever a let is requested by one of the players, the Referee may deny a let (“No Let”), in which case the result of the rally stands; allow a let (“Yes, Let”) meaning the rally will be replayed; or award a “stroke” (“Stroke to ...”) to a player, thus awarding the rally to that player.

The Referee is also responsible for applying conduct penalties against players who behave badly. These penalties can be mild (a warning) through very severe (the awarding of the match).

The Referee is responsible for all time related rules, allowing only the permitted times for intervals between games, injury recovery, and equipment replacement.

Both officials must keep a written record of the score and the correct side for service.

K. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Squash matches will take place at two different venues at the 2007 Canada Winter Games: Better Bodies Centre and École Émilie-Tremblay.

The Better Bodies Centre is located just five minutes from the Athletes Village. The squash courts are Playcon built courts.

L’École Émilie-Tremblay is just 15 minutes from the Athletes Village. It is home to one 4-wall glass squash court built within the gymnasium.

L. SPORT MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AND STRUCTURE

Male member competitors: 10,328 (Note – this figure is for athlete members; the figure for male competitors is 70,153)

Female member competitors: 3,873 (Note – this figure is for athlete members; the figure for female competitors is 28,477)

Registered coaches: 3,166

Registered officials: 773

M. ATHLETES TO WATCH FOR

Northwest Territories

Squash is a family affair in Yellowknife. Brothers Garrett (17), Chad (15) and Devin (12) hold the first three positions on the team.

Yukon

Sisters Sophia Flather and Erin Linklater are members of Vuntut-Gwitchin First Nation. Both girls are fluent in French. Jane Bell was a member of the 2003 Canada Games Team and won the first ever Squash Canada Fair Play Award.

British Columbia

Sarah Parsons and Nikki Sequeira are members of the National Junior Squad and members of the Canadian team at the 2006 Panamerican Junior Championships in Guatemala. Sarah won a silver medal in the individual play and both were on the team that took the gold medal. Kristen Iverson lives on Saltspring Island where there are no squash courts so she commutes to Victoria to play and train.

Alberta

David Letourneau played for Canada at the 2006 World Junior Men's Championships in New Zealand. Brothers Graeme and Andrew Schnell play in the second and third spots on the team. Andrew is a member of the National Junior Squad. Jackie Moss and Erika Dort, National Junior Squad members, played for Canada at the 2006 Panamerican Junior Championships in Guatemala. Jackie won a bronze medal in the individual category and both were on the gold medal winning team. Erika is also an accomplished viola player.

Saskatchewan

Squash runs in the family in Saskatchewan as is evidenced by sisters Amber and Brook Shmon and the brother-sister team of Justin and Nikole Todd.

Manitoba

More family squash representation – David and Leanne Glass and Johandre and Elsemari Jacobs. David was on the bronze medal winning team at the 2003 Canada Games in Campbellton. The Jacobs were born in South Africa and moved to Canada 6 years ago. French speaking Graham Schmidt lives in Portage la Prairie where there are no squash courts so he travels to Winnipeg to train and play. Alix Younger also plays competitive badminton and won silver and bronze medals at the 2006 Badminton Nationals.

Ontario

Laura Gemmell, Samantha Cornett and Rebecca Hazell are all members of the National Squad as are Nick Sachvie and Brian Hong. Nick's brother, Chris, was a member of the squad last season and represented Canada at the 2006 Panamerican Junior Championships where the men's team won a silver medal. The Ontario team is coached by Mark Sachvie, father of Nick and Chris.

Quebec

It's the next generation of squash in Quebec. Maxime Blouin's sister Catherine was on the 2003 Canada Games team as was Laurie Filgiano, Ken's sister. Anabel Tory's sister Jessica was on 1999 Canada Games team. When he's not playing squash Julian Drobetsky is a top juvenile AAA football player at College Notre-Dame in Montreal. Lindsay Bovaird is an actress who has done numerous commercials and National Film Board productions. She was nominated for a Gemini for her role in "The Tournament", CBC's critically acclaimed comedy series about crazy hockey parents. She also sings and has released a Christmas album.

Nova Scotia

Brothers Keifer (17) and Morgan Latremouille (15) are from Tantallon. Brett (15) and Raquel Keeble (17) call Dartmouth home.

Prince Edward Island

Bilingual Stephanie Charlton was the recipient of the Steve Rogers Memorial Award, given annually to a player who has shown great improvement while demonstrating sportsmanship and dedication. Hilary Hansen speaks French and English. She is attending her third Canada Games. She played squash in Bathurst in 2003 and tennis in Regina in 2005. Danielle and Whitney MacDonald are sisters attending their first Games. Both sing in the Confederation Choir and will be going to sing at Vimy after the Games. Greg McQuaid has had two uncles and two aunts on previous Canada Games teams - Steven Banks and Jimmy Banks in Gymnastics and Sherleen Mackay and Eileen Costello in Badminton. Chris Quinn is an accomplished racquetball player who switched to squash in time to qualify for these Games. Chris is also bilingual. Matt McNeill is an avid hockey player and snowboarder. Alex Quinn played soccer as the keeper on the Provincial team at the National level.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Alex and Victoria Dias are from Kuwait and have only been playing squash for a little over 2 years. Stephanie Stanley is also an accomplished badminton player. Coach, John Nichols, played on the 2003 New Brunswick team and was the alternate for the 1999 Games in Corner Brook. John also played baseball at the 2005 Summer Games in Regina.

N. NOTABLE PAST ATHLETES/ALUMNI

Patrick Bedore

- 2003 Canada Winter Games, Alberta team
- ranked 121 with the Professional Squash Association (PSA)

Ashley Clackson

- 1999 and 2003 Canada Winter Games, British Columbia team

- member 2004 and 2005 Canadian team to Panamerican Championships
- Ranked 99 with the Women's International Squash Players Association (WISPA)

Stephanie Edmison

- 2003 Canada Winter Games, Ontario Team
- member of 2006 Panamerican Championship team
- ranked 124 with the Women's International Squash Players Association (WISPA)

Douglas Parent

- 1991 Canada Winter Games, Alberta team
- 7 time Canadian Junior Champion (1990-1996)
- 1998 team Panamerican Championships (Guatemala)

Marnie Baizley

- 1991 Canada Winter Games, Manitoba team
- 1999 Pan American Games Team – Gold Medal
- 2000 Canadian Women's Team, World Championships (England)
- 2000 World University Championships – 1st
- 2000 World University Team Championships – 2nd
- 2002 Panamerican Championships (Ecuador) – Gold Medal

Ian Power

- 1991 Canada Winter Games, Ontario team
- 2002 team Panamerican Championships (Ecuador) – Gold Medal

Viktor Berg

- 1995 Canada Winter Games, British Columbia team
- member 1998 team Panamerican Championships (Guatemala)
- member 2002 team Panamerican Championships (Ecuador) – Gold Medal

O. NOTABLE CANADIAN RECORDS

Jonathon Power – retired ranked #1 in the world, Power won 36 Professional Squash Association (PSA) tour titles and 58 PSA tour finals. He's referred to as the most successful squash player in North America. He was recently inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Sharif Khan – Son of legendary Hashim Khan, Sharif won the North American Open Championship 12 times before he retired in 1982.