



# GRSA INTERNATIONAL ATW MAGAZINE

# ROGER

103 TITLES, 20 GRAND SLAMS  
28 ATP MASTERS 1000

# THE G.O.A.T

RETIRES



## HEAD

Laver Cup &  
Sustainability



## DIACON

Will you be there?



# ULTRA V4





# *BEAUTIFUL. DANGEROUS.*

The two sides of  
the all-powerful  
Ultra V4.

Wilson

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Roger Federer says goodbye to professional tennis, Laver Cup & the official HEAD stringing team (powered by GRSA), Novak in Tel-Aviv. In the room and more..

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Over the pond we go to meet Joe and his team getting some interesting insight to the work entailed in creating a successful shop. Teamwork makes the dream work.... or so they say!

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Diacon, will you be there?

*If you're not already a member of GRSA, check out our website to find out why you should be!* [GRSA-INTERNATIONAL.COM](https://GRSA-INTERNATIONAL.COM)

# Roger that, over and out!

Born in Basel in 1981, this Swiss legend has achieved so much, has shared so much, has given so much, it's hard to imagine the game without him.

When looking at numbers, it's frightening to imagine the amount of professional on court time, truly mesmerising. OK so those court minutes would take us quite a while to work out, but here are a few numbers we didn't need to work out; he spent a total of 310 weeks as World N°1, 237 of those weeks being consecutive, and, at year end, he finished as N°1 a total of 5 times. Between 2003 and 2009, Roger played in 21 of the 28 singles finals. The second highest ATP title wins at 103, of which 20 of them were Grand Slam singles titles, with 8 being a Wimbledon record, Open Era, joint top spot in US Open wins at 5 and a whopping 6 year-end championships, a record that still stands today.

It's doubtful that back in the day when Roger was a ballboy at his own club in Basel, he was thinking that one day he would be Wimbledon Champion, but it happened as a boy in 1998 in the singles and doubles, and his first adult title coming in 2003 at just 21 years of age.

We know that over the years, there have been many rivals, with the most notable being Nadal and Novak, but there have been others that have also shaken the GOAT and pulled off some brilliant wins, Andy Murray for example at the 2012 Olympics. It was a dominant era for Roger, he really was the gentle giant and you may remember, in 2006 became the only player in history to achieve the Wimbledon and US Open double for 3 consecutive seasons!



World's most marketable sports person (2017), World's most respected, admired and trusted personalities (2011), Honorary doctorate (2017), Most stylish man of the decade (2010-2019), Swiss Coin (2019), first living person to be celebrated on Swiss coins), World's highest paid athlete (2020, Forbes reported \$106.3 million in earnings.)

**INTERESTING FACT:** Roger's career win rate is a staggering 86%

Roger has had some titanic encounters over the years, the stats show some interesting figures. Lets take a look at some of them.

Matches against Rafael Nadal, 40, with Rafa winning 24, that's a 60% success rate.

Matches against Djokovic, 50 matches, Novak winning 27, a win rate of 53%, quite an even battle between the two.

Andy Murray has faced Federer 25 times, wining only 11 of those matches.

It seems that Rafa wasn't the only one getting the better of Roger, Alexander Zverev only had a handful of matches with Federer but had a 57% success rate with 4 wins out of 7 matches.

With an instrumental involvement in the Laver Cup, Roger Federer's management team joined forces with Jorge Pablo Lemann and Tennis Australia to create the tournament which is given it's name in honour of the only player to ever win all 4 grand slams in the same calendar year, Rod Laver. Born in 1938, Rodney George Laver won a total of 59 titles, played over 722 professional matches winning a staggering 576 of them, no wonder Roger's passion and respect for this legend is so visible. The respect is mutual, Laver was quick to send a special tweet that read: **Retirement comes to all at some stage, but it seems the greater the player, the harder the moment. That was hard, @rogerfederer. We laughed, and cried, and celebrated with you, and we will continue to do so for a long time. Thank you for being a friend.**

There are many things Roger has done off the court too, helping charities all over the world, most recently through the pandemic, 1 million dollars being donated to families in Africa to help with food through the Federer Foundation. But on a personal note, both Roger and Mirka donated more than 1 million dollars to vulnerable families in Switzerland. The help and commitment doesn't stop there, more and more dedication is put into the Federer Foundation to help educate the underprivileged.

We're sure we haven't seen the last of this one in a million, stand-out, legend of the game!

You can visit the  
Roger Federer Foundation  
by clicking the logo,  
**Thank you Roger!**



Your journey to become a stringer starts with the very basics & step by step instructions on where to start.

This course will give you the tools you need to start your journey and get into the world of stringing, be it from home or even to become a certified professional stringer, you have to start somewhere!

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# BEGINNER COURSE

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN  
HOW TO STRING FROM HOME?

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A NEW TRADE?

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DONE BUT NEVER HAD THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN?

**IT'S ALWAYS A GOOD TIME  
TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW**

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**[grsa-international.com](http://grsa-international.com)**



Novak Djokovic launched a message to the rest of the ATP Tour — He's nearly back.

The top seed dispatched second seed Marin Cilic 6-3, 6-4 in the final to clinch the Tel Aviv Watergen Open trophy. With this victory the Serbian became the first man to have victories on hard, clay (Rome) and grass courts (Wimbledon) this season.

“My approach is to win tournaments wherever I am and I’m glad that I have a team of people around me that makes sure that I am in the best shape in order to be a contender to win titles,” Djokovic said. “That’s why I came to Israel, it was to try to win the title. First time playing here [since a] Davis Cup tie more than 15 years ago, so it was a really amazing experience.”

Djokovic didn't drop a set at this indoor hard-court ATP 250, but was this simply because he wasn't in a line-up of dangerous players? The 35-year-old claimed his third tour-level crown of 2022 and the 89th of his career.

“I played some very good tennis, I think. I [didn’t] drop a set the entire week,” Djokovic said. “I hadn’t played a tournament in three months, so it was really extra motivation for me to really do well, particularly because people have been so friendly and so supportive of me throughout the week. I’m taking some great confidence into next week as well.”



#### Did You Know?

Djokovic is the fifth player to earn at least three tour-level titles this season, joining Carlos Alcaraz (5), Rafael Nadal (4), Andrey Rublev (3) and Casper Ruud (4).





# DAVIS CUP<sup>®</sup>

## by Rakuten

At the end of the Finals in the group stages, the groups of the Davis Cup ended with the following standings.

|                                                                                    |           | Played | Won | Lost |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----|------|
|    | ITALIA    | 3      | 3   | 0    |
|   | CROATIA   | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|  | SWEDEN    | 3      | 1   | 2    |
|  | ARGENTINA | 3      | 0   | 3    |

GROUP A

|                                                                                     |             | Played | Won | Lost |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|-----|------|
|    | SPAIN       | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|   | CANADA      | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|  | SERBIA      | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|  | KOREA, REP. | 3      | 0   | 3    |

GROUP B

|                                                                                    |           | Played | Won | Lost |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----|------|
|  | GERMANY   | 3      | 3   | 0    |
|  | AUSTRALIA | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|  | FRANCE    | 3      | 1   | 2    |
|  | BELGIUM   | 3      | 0   | 3    |

GROUP C

|                                                                                     |               | Played | Won | Lost |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------|-----|------|
|  | NETHERLANDS   | 3      | 3   | 0    |
|  | USA           | 3      | 2   | 1    |
|  | GREAT BRITAIN | 3      | 1   | 2    |
|  | KAZAKHSTAN    | 3      | 0   | 3    |

GROUP D

**So, the Quarter Finals look like...**  
**with the Semi's and Final still to be decided, who do you think**  
**will be in the final? Let us know on social media.**

ITALIA

V

USA

GERMANY

V

CANADA

AUSTRALIA

V

NETHERLANDS

CROATIA

V

SPAIN

SEMI FINAL

V

SEMI FINAL

V

FINAL

V

FINAL

LIVE THE DAVIS CUP IN MALAGA

FINAL 8

BUY YOUR TICKETS

MARTIN CARPENA · MÁLAGA

# HEAD'S COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY SHOWN IN ENVIRONMENTALLY IMPROVED TENNIS BALL CAN.

**HEAD's** commitment to making sustainable sports products has moved a step forward with the launch of a can for tennis balls that is significantly more environmentally friendly than the one it will replace.

The new ball cans, which will soon start replacing the golden **HEAD** cans currently recognisable on tennis courts around the world, contain less plastic and are far better able to be recycled. Sample testing undertaken together with the Austrian recycling company Saubermacher has shown the potential to save up to 10 times more CO2 than existing ball cans.

The redesign of the new ball can is part of the **HEAD** Rethink sustainability initiative. The new cans include pre-consumer recycled PET, a shorter sleeve, less ink and lighter colours. All to ensure the cans are easier to recycle.

**Simon Brenneis**, **HEAD's** Business Manager for Balls and Footwear, said, "What we've now done is reduce the length of the sleeve by nearly 50%, which means the cans will now be detected for recycling. That in turn means much more recycling can take place and more resources will be saved."



# HEAD

The availability of new compounds and materials, as well as advances in recycling and machinery, means the new ball can move up the recycling pyramid from being incinerated to fully recycled. All that is now needed is for players and clubs to ensure the cans find their way to the recycling so the full environmental benefits are realised.”

Brenneis added, “For **HEAD** the performance of the product is paramount, and it goes without saying that the balls themselves remain unchanged. It’s a case of: same ball – better packaging. **HEAD** is committed to constantly improving its operational sustainability, and as part of this, we’re delighted to make it easy for tennis players to dispose of their **HEAD** tennis ball tins with a clear conscience. But for us, this is just a first step towards greater sustainability.”



# HEAD



# HEAD UPGRADES EXTREME RACQUET SERIES SPIN FOR YOU, CHAOS FOR THEM

---

Generate heavy spin and create chaos for opponents with the **EXTREME** 2022 racket series, upgraded with innovative Auxetic technology and a daring new design.

Endorsed by Wimbledon finalist Matteo Berrettini, the **EXTREME** racket is made for young, aggressive and energetic players who want to dictate from the baseline with spin and power. With the introduction of Auxetic technology, the new **EXTREME** offers superior crisp, helping you to put more spin on the ball and overwhelm opponents, pushing them back behind the baseline.

Launched in September 2022, the **EXTREME** is your ultimate spin-machine. For optimal spin and power, the racket has spin grommets that allow for greater main string movement in all directions. The sound grommets ensure extra power through greater string movement while also optimizing sound and vibrations.

Every aspect of the **EXTREME** is engineered so you can load the ball with lots of spin, power and menace. While the spin shaft enhances lateral stability, which creates higher spin potential, the open 16/19 string pattern maximizes the string snap-back, which allows you to play with more spin. Extreme performance comes with an exhilarating, modern design in pistacio dew green and grey.

Whether you are a tournament, performance or team player, you will find a racquet that suits your aggressive game in the **EXTREME** 2022 series, which has five models.

Tournament players looking to dictate with spin and power will choose the **EXTREME TOUR** while performance players will prefer the **EXTREME MP**. Young performance players can produce heavy spin and power with the **EXTREME MP L**, which is the lighter version of the **EXTREME MP**. The **EXTREME TEAM** is perfect for team players while the **EXTREME TEAM L** is the lightest model in the series, and also the easiest to play with thanks to a larger headsize and more power, making it an ideal racquet for intermediate players.

The **EXTREME** 2022 racquet series will be available at selected retailers and online.

**EXTREME TOUR 2022**

The ultimate spin-machine for tournament players, the EXTREME TOUR has been upgraded with state-of-the-art Auxetic technology, helping you to spin big and create chaos.

**EXTREME MP 2022**

The ultimate spin-machine for performance players, the EXTREME MP has been upgraded with state-of-the-art Auxetic technology, helping you to spin big and create chaos.

**EXTREME MP L 2022**

The ultimate spin-machine for young performance players, the lighter EXTREME MP L has been upgraded with state-of-the-art Auxetic technology, helping you to spin big and create chaos.

**EXTREME TEAM 2022**

The ultimate spin-machine for team players, the EXTREME TEAM has been upgraded with state-of-the-art Auxetic technology, helping you to spin big and create chaos.

**EXTREME TEAM L 2022**

The ultimate spin-machine for intermediate team players, the EXTREME TEAM L is the lightest racquet in a series that has been upgraded with state-of-the-art Auxetic technology.



# CHECK OUT MORE MODELS



# OrangeCoach®

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OrangeCoach is the premier online coach recruitment platform in the international tennis industry, proudly connecting coaches and employers of all levels, across the globe. We also provide user benefits and discounts that are specifically tailored to the global tennis coaching market.

The OrangeCoach automated jobs platform is unique to the tennis industry and has contributed to the professionalisation of recruitment of tennis coaches across the world. The sophisticated atomisation allows coaches to be immediately matched with suitable vacancies that meet the criteria they selected at the time of registration. Employers equally have the peace of mind that they only receive suitably qualified candidate applications for their adverts. Some might say, the perfect match!



**You can register for free. GRSA Coaches can benefit from a credit discount of 20% with the code:**  
**G\*20%OrngC**

**Are you looking for your first tennis coaching job, or maybe you are looking for your next coaching challenge?**

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- ✓ Promote your resume on our online coach database;
- ✓ Gain access to unique & useful tennis career benefits and content;
- ✓ Receive the latest tennis jobs by email and social media.



**TOALSON is a tennis equipment brand that has provided products to the world for over 60 years, with reliable engineering and craftsmanship. Chief among these products are our high-end strings.**

TOALSON takes manufacturing seriously. They have long used strings mainly produced in their factory in Oita, Japan, to deliver high quality products to tennis players around the world. With over 60 years of experience in manufacturing, sales and marketing of sports products, Toalson is a reliable world player in the sports market.

**Due to our partnership with GRSA, we are pleased to offer all GRSA members a 30% discount on all TOALSON products, all you have to do is enter the promotional code: GRSA when purchasing on our website. [CLICK HERE](#)**



## Aster Poly string

The tennis string Aster Poly is a very fast tournament tennis string with extremely long durability and best playability with incredible acceleration, control, and enormous spin.



Here at **GRSA** International, we are proud to have been involved, in a small way, with the “Adieu” from tennis of one Mr. Roger Federer. Is there anything to add that his achievements on the court don’t already say? No, his elegant style of play will be an example for future generations. In the same way that Rod Laver stands for excellence, Roger Federer takes that bar and raises it.

The **GRSA International Stringing Team** was in full force to power the **Official HEAD Stringing Team** at Laver Cup London. Some real expertise on hand when needed.

The honour for the team of having looked after Roger’s equipment (**Wilson** also being a major **GRSA** Partner) at his last rodeo, is a highlight in everyone’s career and one to be cherished & remembered. The fact that at one point during the event, there were rackets from “**the Big Four**” being strung at the same time on different machines, was something that we doubt has ever happened before!

From **GRSA**, we would like to say “Thank You” for creating this lasting memory..... **Long live the King**

# JVC STRINGER

**JVCStringer.com** manages stringing records providing an efficient and professional service to your customers. Running on most devices (PC, Mac, mobile, tablet etc) it can be used wherever you are and by individual stringers through to Grand Slam tournaments, it is ideal for shops and clubs too!

**Manage restring details**

Racket: Artengo TR 990 Stringer/Machine: Bloggs Joe On M1 - Babolat Racket Station Perf

Mains String: Adidas Feather - 15 g Cross String: Adidas Feather - 15 g

Mains: 22.00 Cross: 22.00 Units: Kg

Mains Pre-stretch: 15% Cross Pre-stretch: Manual

Submitted: 26/11/2021 Required: 27/11/2021 Time: 09:30

Rackets: 4 Knots: 4 Stencil: Black When To String: am

Price: 160 Paid: ☐ Completed: ☒

Comments: Take to court 1

[Save](#) [Print Label](#) [Accessories](#) [Cancel](#)

**Job and throat labels**

Last Name: **Acadiz Carlito**  
Type: **Male**  
Racket: **Pure Aero Lite**  
Mains: **23.00Kg PS 15%**  
Cross: **23.00Kg PS 10%**  
Mains: **Ashaway Power Nick 18**

Cross: **Ashaway Power Nick 18**  
Required: **30/07/2022**  
When: **N/A**  
Stringer: **Bloggs Joe**  
Machine: **M1 - Babolat Racket Station Perf**  
Stencil: **Green**  
Knots: **4**

**GRSA INTERNATIONAL**

Your racket stringing service  
Name: **Carlito Acadiz**  
Mains: **23.00Kg <Cross 23.00Kg**

**GRSA INTERNATIONAL**

Created by the developers of the PC version used at a Grand Slam tournament since 2011 and previously by Tecnifibre at The French Open. A complete system that is designed to make your job much easier, helping you keep track of every little detail, this enables you to dedicate even more time to the job at hand.

**Manage player restringings**

Search: [ ] to [ ]

| Player Name | Requested  | Completed  | Next       | Actions         |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| 10 100      | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 10 100      | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 10 100      | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |

**Maintain accessories (grips etc)**

Category: [ ]

| Category Name | Name          | Description   | Price | Actions         |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1000          | Yonex TRX2000 | Yonex TRX2000 | 1.00  | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 1000          | Yonex TRX2000 | Yonex TRX2000 | 1.00  | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 1000          | Yonex TRX2000 | Yonex TRX2000 | 1.00  | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |

**Maintain player categories**

Search: [ ]

| Category | Player Category | Actions         |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1000     | 1000            | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 1000     | 1000            | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| 1000     | 1000            | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |

**Manage list of players**

Search: [ ] to [ ]

Show: All entries

| Last Name | First Name | Category   | Actions         |
|-----------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| Abenda    | Francoise  | Female     | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| Adiga     | Thingo     | Female     | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |
| Ahang     | Irinda     | Wheelchair | [X] [ ] [ ] [ ] |



**VIST OUR WEBSITE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION  
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# In the Room

With Richard Parnell

## The Professional Image of Stringing Services at Tour Events

During a tour event, the image presented by a stringing team has far reaching effects. A clean and tidy workspace, a well presented team in the proper attire creates a professional environment.

The brand or company that has paid or has been chosen to be the official stringer for the event needs every detail to be perfect so that the brand or company is shown in the best light.

The branding of the booth can be professionally done or, if the budget doesn't stretch that far, made to look great with rollups, posters, printed banners and whatever images get the message out.

The stringer's uniform, or general attire if a uniform isn't available, must project professionalism and the quality of the work.

The workspace with reels all over the floor, string clippings and string lengths on the floor just present a chaotic and not well organized stringing service. If everything has a place and is kept in its place, the workflow is easier and more fluid. This means that the team can concentrate more on the job at hand.

This professional approach doesn't just have to be for a tour event, the same approach can be used for a local club tournament, shop or club stringing area.

Create a professional image and your expertise will shine brighter.

**Fail to prepare.....Prepare to fail**



## COMING SOON

THIS EXCLUSIVE GRSA BUNDLE

DOUBLE-SIDED PARNELL PAD + PARNELL BLOCK

In official GRSA colours



+



(DOUBLE SIDED)



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**PERFECT STRING PERFORMANCE**

# FUN FACTS



The worst thing I ever said to a tennis umpire was, 'Are you sure?'



Rod Laver

1

Did you know that the Fed Cup, which is an analogous competition for women's national teams, was founded in 1963 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ITF?

2

The fastest serve in men's tennis came from the racket of Australian Sam Groth at 263.44 km/h

3

The game of Tennis also became an indirect reason for the death of King James I of Scotland.

4

Grass court is the fastest type of the courts in common use. It tends to favor serve and volley tennis players. The serve plays an important role here because the ball bounces low on this surface and the points are short.

Tournaments played on grass include Halle Open, the Stuttgart Open etc. Roger Federer is one of the greatest grass court players the game has ever seen. He has won a record eight Wimbledon titles.

  
**HEAD**<sup>®</sup>  
Stringing Service  
**@lavercup**  
By  
*Richard Parnell*



What to say about being part of probably the greatest tennis event in history....

I don't have words to describe the atmosphere in the O2 Arena in London on the Friday night when Mr. Federer called it a day on his tennis career. However, the **HEAD** stringing team had already been hard at work since Monday, so let's start there....

**Monday** – The whole team arrived in London ready for set up of the **HEAD Official Laver Cup stringing service**. Edwin arrived from Holland, Martin from Germany, Huw from Beaconsfield and myself from Spain. A nice mixed team, 100% comprised of **GRSA Tour Certified** stringers and all members of the **GRSA International** stringing team.

Due to the Official State Funeral of **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**, the day was a somber one for the two British stringers and caused a slight delay on the setup while the machines were moved to the booth ready for building up.

Two red and two blue machines ready for the Europe Vs World clash. A limited edition machine specially made for the event. A couple of hours later and the booth was set up with the room divided into Blue on the left and Red on the right, a little “them and us” banter may have been heard about the competition between the two colours. The rackets from each team were distributed evenly between the team as we felt that it would be too complicated to have the teams divided by machine colour and stringers.



The players were yet to arrive, but we already had 30 special edition HEAD Laver Cup frames to string for events during the week. We started on those and got most of them done before calling it a day and managing an early finish.

**Tuesday** - 9 am start for the team after a nice breakfast in the hotel. One of the pleasures of working on a HEAD stringing team is the fact that the hotel is always first class and makes for a nice rest after a hard day.



The team started with the rest of the special Laver Cup frames, we finished those just as the players started to arrive. Stringing at the Laver Cup is very similar to stringing at a Davis Cup event, the workload isn't massive but tends to be rackets coming in and wanted all at the same time. Another early finish which was good as practice starts early tomorrow and we'll have to be on duty by 8 am.



**Wednesday & Thursday** – We have now seen rackets from all players with the lowest tension being 33 lbs and the highest at 28.5 Kgs. We are up to about 170 rackets so far and managing the workload well, with some rush jobs coming in that needed all of us to shift into another gear. We also had another 10 **HEAD** Laver Cup special frames to string which we managed to fit in between player frames.

We also managed to do a Q and A of frequently asked questions for social media plus filming a little competition between Taylor Fritz & Diego Schwartzman to see who could weave two crosses the fastest and measure 12 mts of strings without a measure. A lot of fun was had by all.



**Friday** – The day everyone had been waiting for. We had rackets from the Big Four on different machines at the same time which can't have happened too many times in recent years and as a stringer, the stakes don't get any higher. Andy changed his tensions slightly, Roger & Novak stayed the same and Rafa, as usual, didn't change. The noise from the stadium was deafening as The Match drew near. We all managed to get courtside to witness some of this "once in a lifetime" event. Finishing after midnight with a tube ride back to the hotel meant a late night and an early start the next day with not a lot of sleep.





**Saturday & Sunday** – seemed like a bit of anti-climax after The Match and after only 4 hours sleep, the team had to draw on reserves, catch twenty winks when the occasion arose and keep up the excellent service given up until now.

Due to Team World winning the Laver Cup with one match to go, the last match wasn't played, and we managed to start breaking down the machines early. Once we had boxed the machines and prepared the pallets for shipping, it was time for a beer and a team meeting to discuss impressions and ways to improve for next time. The whole team agreed that the service had gone seamlessly and without a hiccup.



**GRSA International** would like to thank **HEAD**, in particular **Dennis Fabian** and **Mauro Pinaffo** for the trust placed in the GRSA stringing team to handle the stringing service for such a high profile event.



# GRSA INTERNATIONAL

## \*Featured Club\*



Old Navan Road,  
Castleknock, Dublin 15,  
D15 NY10,  
Ireland  
TEL: +353 18210423

Castleknock Lawn Tennis Club is located in Dublin. It was founded in 1927 with the facilities consisting of a tent for a changing room and a grass court. Rolling the clock forward 95 years it is now one of the leading clubs in Ireland.

Just recently the club has benefited from a multi million euro investment to upgrade the clubhouse and indoor facilities.

**The club offers its 1500+ members (Junior & Senior) first class facilities including:**

- 10 x Floodlit Artificial Grass Courts
- 5 x Plexipave Cushion Indoor Courts (as played on at Australian Open)
- Gym
- Bar
- Restaurant
- Meeting Rooms
- On-site Physiotherapy Facility
- Dedicated Junior Room



There are a wide range of activities available for all ages and all levels including:

### **Tennis Coaching**

Individual & Group Coaching for both seniors & juniors is available, which is coordinated by Head Coach, Daniele Mancina and his experienced team.

### **League Tennis**

Castleknock Teams are always well represented in the various League Competitions throughout the year and have had their share of success.

### **Social Tennis**

For those players who just want to play for fun there are a number of opportunities open to them with the weekly Social Tennis sessions.

**Performance Tennis** There are a number of sessions specifically designed for those players who are playing and competing regularly in local, national & international events.

### **Fitness Classes Bridge Club**



Some of the highlights over recent years at Castleknock have included the hosting of various events such as:

#### **Davis Cup - 2013/2014/2015 (welcomed Finland, Egypt & Belarus).**

One of the club members, James McGee played on the team as the No.1 Irish player.

#### **Senior Four Nations Event - 2019 (Ireland, England, Scotland & Wales)**

#### **Castleknock Senior Open Championships & Castleknock Junior Open Championships**

Annual events which attract players from all over Ireland

#### **Junior Interprovincial Championships - 2021**

This year it is the plan to host a Junior ITF Tournament.



**Paraic McLoughlin**  
Former Club  
Chairman





# MINT

## REAL ESTATE GROUP

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# GRSA INTERNATIONAL

## \*Featured Shop\*



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**Marni & Joe**

**"I CAN DO WHAT I DO, BECAUSE OF THEM"**

**Joe Heydt**

The shop in Omaha Nebraska has been open since 2003. We sell a wide range of brands and products for tennis, racquetball, pickleball, and badminton. It's in a complex and incredible place to work, not a day that goes by that I don't thank the racket stringing gods for the people that have helped make so many dreams come true. It's easy to say that your colleagues are an asset to your business, but looking back on all of the people I've had the pleasure of working with, I can see how they helped me become the successful tour stringer I am today

Our very first employee, Bud Hall, came in the form of a regular customer. He would come in every few months to get his Wilson Outer Limits restrung, and re-gripped. He'd hang around and chat with me while I would cut out strings, answer phone calls, wrap grips, and string frames. He had a gift for conversation, we really clicked. He was in his mid 60's, and he was about to retire from being a pharmaceutical sales rep. One day, in the middle of a conversation about the heat wave we were having, he made me an offer Impossible to refuse, "It looks like things are pretty busy around here, you look like you could use a little help. I'm going to be retiring in a month, and I'm willing to come in and give you a hand. You'll need to show me the ropes, but I think stringing looks like fun. You won't have to pay me either, I'm going to be collecting commissions on sales that are already in the books for the next year. He gave me room to breathe. it allowed me run errands, write bills, order merchandise, and stretch out my time with customers without missing stringing deadlines. I needed to accept that I had a unique skill set in the world of tennis, and knowing the difference between a right handed grip and a left handed grip might seem simple to me, but to my customers, that realisation was amazing. Don't undervalue the knowledge you have.



I would probably find myself on receiving end of a kick to the groin by referring to my wife Marni as an employee. According to the business card I made for her many years ago, she is officially “Joe’s manager”. So true. Her ability to organize chaos is incredible. I had no idea how important Post-it notes were until she entered the arena. She does all of the wonderful things behind the scenes that make a good shop great. She still comes to work with me every Saturday (one of our busiest days). We make a wonderful team. She has taught me to look ahead and see the big picture. The tiny things that make a business run don’t mean much unless there is a larger frame to hang them on.

Sheryl Vaughn and Mike Saniuk are teaching pros here in town. Before they came to work with me, they would drop by the shop and leave frames for their students. I wasn’t much of a tennis teacher when I opened my shop. Bouncing ideas off of people that live and breathe teaching every day can be infectious. Having a conversation with Sheryl or Mike about tennis drills they were using on court, or how they made a breakthrough with a high school student’s backhand, was enough to make me want to close the shop and go play a set. I ended up going through the USPTA certification process with Mike to become a certified pro. We practiced and studied together for weeks to get ready for the all day test. Both of us passed with the highest marks. That knowledge not only helped me as a person, but it gave me an important link to how equipment can join with sound techniques to launch a player’s game.



Sheryl taught me how to be a little less complacent in my business. She loves things that are new and exciting, where it's preferred to have a system that is consistent and steady. She helped push my boundaries and explore the unknown. It's not unusual for me to return from a two week absence to find my shop rearranged, a chair recovered, or a room painted. Everything she's done has landed our shop in a better place. If you plan to be around for 20+ years, you'd better have someone to help you change with the times.

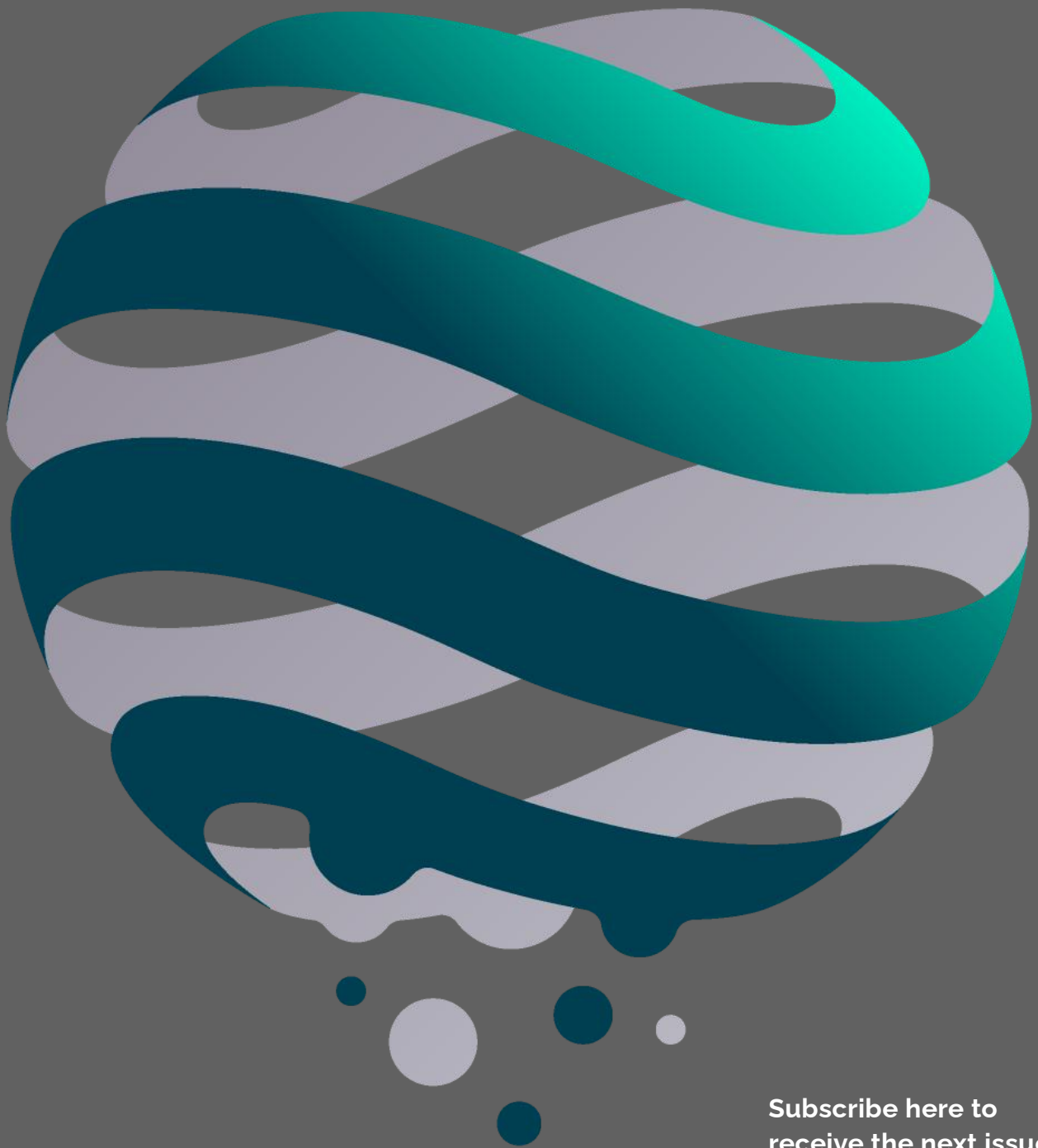
Luis Febres was another regular customer that seemed to be the right fit at the right time. He joined our team over 8 years ago. Knowing him as a customer for many years, I knew that he was passionate about the game of tennis. He jumped in with both feet. He strived to learn everything he could about working at the shop. He paid attention to stringing techniques, asked questions about frame technologies and racquet construction. He's always available in an emergency, or stay late to finish a heavy load of frames. He taught me that you can always go the extra mile, wrap one more grip, and string one more frame.



The most recent addition to the team is Bruce Van Maanen. Bruce and I played tennis together for years and I know him as an incredible tennis player and a friend. Bruce is amazing. He's retired, but he still wants to learn new things and try new sports. He's taught me that there is never a time to stop doing what you love to do.

This team I've acquired over the years has made it possible for me to thrive as a tour stringer and a business owner. There isn't a question they can't answer, or a situation they can't handle. They give me the security to focus on training new members of our stringing team. They have helped us develop the skills we need to succeed!





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# ADOPTAS.ORG

by Alejandro Davidovich Fokina



Since the beginning of **GRSA** we have outlined that our objective to help the not just our own community, but others too. We continue to look for ways to help educate, support and promote worthy organisations!

The amazing work **Alejandro Davidovich** has been doing over the last few years is a project that sees him promote this charity whenever and wherever possible, and why not, after all, it's a non-profit organisation that has the sole purpose of saving abandoned pets throughout the whole of Spain, finding them their forever home and giving them that second chance they deserve.

They help shelters across the country promote themselves with a pet finder platform, this makes sure people are in direct contact with each shelter individually. Thanks to the heroes who work in shelters, abandoned pets can have a cozy place to live and hopefully find a family to take them in.

Adoptas.org was created to facilitate the process of placing animals in these shelters and at the same time to raise much needed funds for the welfare of the animals that live there.

They help pets find a home as quickly as possible by reducing their stay in shelters. Animal welfare comes first. Greater speed in the search for a home allows them to reduce the risk of diseases in their animals.

Some shelters offer transportation services abroad, so even though all animals are from Spain, you might still be able to adopt depending on where you are in the world.

For more information, please contact them directly, and if you can donate to this amazing cause then follow the instructions on their website, you really will be helping animals all across Spain.



## Comfort

This string brings limited comfort as it is part of the monofilament line that always absorbs less shocks than multifilaments.



## Power Vs Control

The Max Power can give big hitters maximum power in their shots, but keeping their ball in the court. The 1.25mm gauge gives fast ball speed and no loss of control. Meanwhile, the 1.30mm gauge improves control.

## Tension Maintenance

Monofilament strings are known to lose more tension than a multifilament string. The Kirschbaum brand pre-stretch this string to help the string's ability to maintain tension.

## Life Span

The Kirschbaum Max power will please the bigger hitters due to the increased resistance.

## Topspin

If you prefer to hit topspin on your shots, this monofilament string with a rough profile is ideal for your game.

## Tension Maintenance

The monofilament strings are known to not keep tension as well as multifilament strings. The Kirschbaum brand pre-stretch the string to help reduce the loss of tension.

### Topspin

If you normally like to put topspin on the ball, this rough textured monofilament will definitely be suitable.

### Life Span

The increased resistance of Kirschbaum Max power string makes it ideal for players who tend to frequently break their strings.

### Power VS Control

The Max Power Rough will allow the heavy hitters to put maximum power on the ball, yet keep the ball within the court. The 1.25mm gauge will allow you to have quick racquet head speed without losing control.



## Comfort

This string offers limited comfort as it is part of the monofilament range, which absorbs less shocks than multifilaments.



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# GRSA CERTIFICATIONS

## CONGRATULATIONS *on your* RECENT CERTIFICATIONS



**Job Göbel** - GRSA Certified Pro Stringer - **Netherlands**

**Ulrich Hirliing** - GRSA Certified Pro Master Stringer - **Germany**

**Günter Möhnen** - GRSA Approved Stringer - **Germany**

**Louis de la Peña** - GRSA Online Certified Pro Stringer - **USA**

**Fabian Pütz** - GRSA Online Certified Pro Master Stringer - **Germany**

**Wesley Van Zomeren** - GRSA Online Certified Pro Stringer - **Netherlands**

**Andrea Colombo** - GRSA Certified Pro Stringer - **Italy**

### MOTIVATION QUOTE

We are given two eyes, two ears and one mouth, this is so we can see twice as much, hear twice as much and speak half as much. Learning happens all the time if we keep our eyes and ears open and if we ask the right questions.

Daniel Efford  
GRSA International - Operations Manager

AS A GRSA MEMBER, NOT ONLY ARE YOUR EXISTING  
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# Stringer Solutions

## The Natural Order of Things

TOP  
TIP

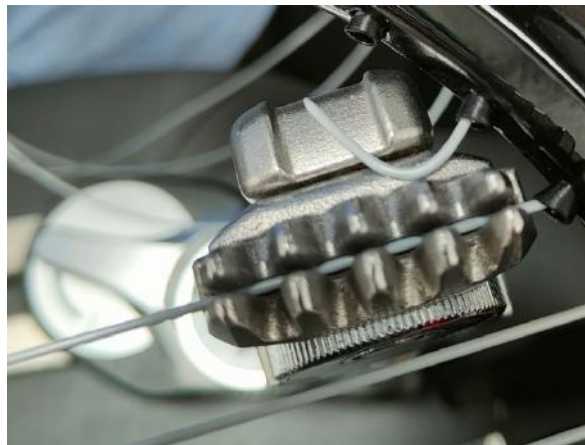
During the stringing process there are certain actions that have choices of methods, where one isn't better than the other, just different.

There are other times that certain protocols should always be respected (unless impossible to do). Once the knot has been tied and before the tag end of the knot cut, the removal of the clamp is one of these times.

The natural order of actions is:

- **Release the clamp base**
- **Open the clamp**
- **Cut the tag end of the knot**

When there are certain protocols that shouldn't be deviated from, there is always a good reason and here it is:



**Release the clamp base & then open the clamp** - We release the clamp base first, because however good we are at tying knots there will always be slightly less tension on the string leading to the knot (tie off string) and due to this fact, if we were to open the clamp first the string would move within the jaws of the clamp and we could strip the surfacing of the string & leave a mark. If we, however, release the clamp base first then the clamp, still attached to the string, will move backwards with it and then when the clamp is opened, the string will not be damaged and we will have achieved one of the 3 golden rules of stringing - to install the string without damaging it.

**NOTE: If your clamp base is actioned by opening the clamp and there is not a release button on the clamp base, this protocol can't be followed. However, this is a very good reason to have a machine that does have a system for releasing the clamp base first.**

Once the clamp base and clamp have been released, we can cut the tag end of the knot.

In next month's Stringer Solutions, we will cover knots and creating a professional finish that can satisfy even the most demanding player.

**Any personal tips to help your fellow stringers? Let us know and get them published in the Stringer Solutions part of the GRSA ATW Magazine**

# LET'S MEET MARTIN

Martin is the **GRSA** Country Manager for Germany, Austria and Switzerland, he lives in Frankfurt Germany with his wife Danielle and their family. Martin is a professional stringer and entrepreneur who started stringing at the age of 16. Being a motivated young tennis player and practising every day for a couple of hours, his level of string breakage exceeded the amount that his father was willing to pay the local stringer. Martin, like a lot of stringers, got his first drop weight machine and started stringing his own rackets, but it wasn't long until he started stringing for others, too!



Other than stringing, Martin has been working for one of the biggest global chemistry companies for over ten years. He works in printed circuit materials and flexographic printing in Customer Service and Equipment Service, being responsible for export to Panasia, France, Portugal, Magreb and Spain, having always had a side business as a tennis coach and stringer.

Martin's favourite sport is without a doubt tennis, when asked who his favourite player is, he said: "Roger Federer! He embodies the perfect tennis athlete by uniting aesthetics, technical perfection and precision, elegance and economy."

**We asked Martin for a story the GRSA community would enjoy, so here it is!**

"Olympics Tokyo 2020 with the Yonex stringing team in Tokyo. The circumstances of the pandemic, having no audience and being very close to the teams and players, the feeling of that Olympic spirit, the fact that the team mainly consisted of Japanese stringers, coupled with the influences of the Japanese culture... these memories cannot be described with words. Thinking of that tournament makes me get goose bumps every time."

**Are you a stringer? A coach? A player? If you have any inspirational pandemic stories related to your experience, please don't hesitate to share them with us at [info@grsa-international.com](mailto:info@grsa-international.com) for a chance to have your story featured in the magazine!**

**Have you listened to Martin's playlist yet?  
When he's in the room he listens to a real  
mixture of music... check it out!**



Listen on  
**Spotify**



# The Worst racket I've strung is the Prince Nitro Pro

Fortunately, once you've done a few, they become a little easier! Apparently! When you've never even heard of it and don't realise it's more challenging, it can be a little time consuming, to say the least!

Firstly, as with any racket, it's important that you have a good look at it **BEFORE** you cut out the string!

On this particular racket, you will see that it is 16 mains and 17 crosses. Written on the frame is the pattern, the unstrung balance point (35.0cm), the overall unstrung weight (130g) and the recommended tension (25 +/- 5 lbs). I also noticed that the fifth cross string down shared a hole with the top of the outermost main and the same main also shared a hole at it's bottom end with the last cross (no.17). I also saw that the mains started at the top and that the centre three holes at the throat, in fact, the only holes on the bridge had DOUBLE-BARRELLED GROMMETS in them

Starting at the top, they should finish at the top, but, because of the DOUBLE-BARRELLED GROMMETS It would normally be strung Around the World.

There are insufficient knot holes to string in two pieces. So one piece it is, even if that means Around the World.

Hang on a minute, despite all the rest, I had a closer look and now I've noticed that the third main string comes down and swaps sides (under the bridge) from left to right and then goes up as the third main on the other side, it goes in the hole and then swaps back again.

**Before manufacturers started making rackets that fed back data to computers, Prince made the most expensive racket available, which was the Prince 03 Sovereign Tennis racket. It came in a presentation case, with a stencil, two sets of string and a boomerang tool. It also had a limited edition number certificate, and there was Gold flake in the paint.**



That means, when measuring enough string, the Stringer needs to allow for one extra main on the short side and one less main on the long side.

Oh yes, also because there is a centre hole right in the middle of the bridge (into which two strings go), the machine will only fit if it has individually adjustable side supports. Therefore, it's unlikely that a machine with concentric knobs would work with this racket.

Also, the gap between grommets on the Bridge is too narrow, so most billiards won't fit. I have used an adaptation. You may need to speak to a friend with a 3-D printer or search the internet. Mine was made by a friend that I was stringing with at a tournament in Denmark quite a few years ago. It's been useful over the years, numerous times.

When finished it should look symmetrical.

I tried to use the Universal Around the World method. I got it strung, eventually, after a few adaptations along the way.

In conclusion, I don't think the designers considered the Stringer.

Finally, it takes too long for me to consider asking a candidate to string it in an exam, but it's on the list!

**When the Prince "Powering" was introduced about the turn of the century, some sportshops and stringers used to refuse to string them. Now they are considered to be one of the quickest squash rackets to string.**

# Ben Bartram & Alfie Hewett flying high!

We'd like to dedicate a few words to a remarkable US Open performance of Ben Bartram. It's not just Ben alone that has done exceptionally well, Dahon Ward, Gordon Reid & of course, now mens world N°1, Alfie Hewett. Flying the flag for the UK in the US Open, both with impressive results all the way through the tournament, let's take a look at their run!

## US OPEN

### Junior Grade A event

#### Quarter Final

6-1, 6-2 against Ivar Van Rijt

#### Semi Final

6-4, 6-3 against Saalim Naser

#### Final

6-4, 6-1 against Dahon Ward



It's not the first time Dahon and Ben had met in a final, and funnily enough, not the last final of the same event either as they paired up in the doubles final and took the title, an amazing achievement and a great sign of the quality coming out of the UK camp.



Ben has had a stellar year with a series of outstanding performances, the level headedness and dedication to the sport is really showing it's fruits. Ben now moves up to 2nd in the Junior ranking and 17th in the Mens ranking, a ranking that is now led by Alfie Hewett. After a very long time in the number one spot, Shingo Kunieda was finally knocked off the top perch with a stunning performance from Alfie. Born in 1997, this young gladiator has won a series of majors in his career not only in singles, his doubles record is something the record books will show for a long time.



It was going to be no easy match, Shingo has been a dominant force for some time and his experience, power and sportsmanship is regarded the best in the business. That didn't deter Alfie from putting one of the best performances of his career to date to take the top spot. Unfortunately in the doubles, alongside Gordon Reid, they were denied their 6th consecutive US Open doubles title by Nicolas Peifer and Martin de la Puente. It was a bitter pill to swallow but the pair have shown immense quality and unity over and over, the 15-time Grand Slam wheelchair doubles champions were eventually beaten 4-6 7-5 10-6.



**Nicolas Peifer / Martin de la Puente**

## It's time to say farewell to some of the most formidable pairings in women's padel.

Former number ones of the world Lucía Sainz and Marta Marrero have announced that they have split following the Adeslas Santander-Cantabria Open 2022.

A year on from when they first joined forces ahead of the 2021 Menorca Open, Sainz and Marrero now have the task of finding new partners for the same tournament in the current season.

Although the pairing was short lived, the Spaniards reached a total of two finals together in the back end of the 2021 season but failed to make it to a Sunday in the 2022 campaign.

While Sainz and Marrero won the Mallorca Challenger and made five semi-finals in 2022, they only made one semi-final in the last seven tournaments.



Lucía Sainz & Marta Marrero

### **Delfi Brea and Tamara Icardo have announced they will go their separate ways following the Adeslas Santander-Cantabria Open 2022.**



Delfi Brea & Tamara Icardo

Delfi Brea and Tamara Icardo have announced they will go their separate ways following the Adeslas Santander-Cantabria Open 2022.

The Argentinian Brea and Spanish Icardo have been paired since the start of the 2021 season, they won two titles and reached a total of five finals.

Ending the 2021 season as the three-seed, Brea and Icardo never really recovered form in the current season, it's for this reason that they switched partners for the Estrella Damm Menorca Open 2022.

Known as 'giant-slayers' for their substantial number of victories over top seeds, Brea and Icardo captured the heart of many World Padel Tour fans in their time as a duo.

# HUHEL SPORTS

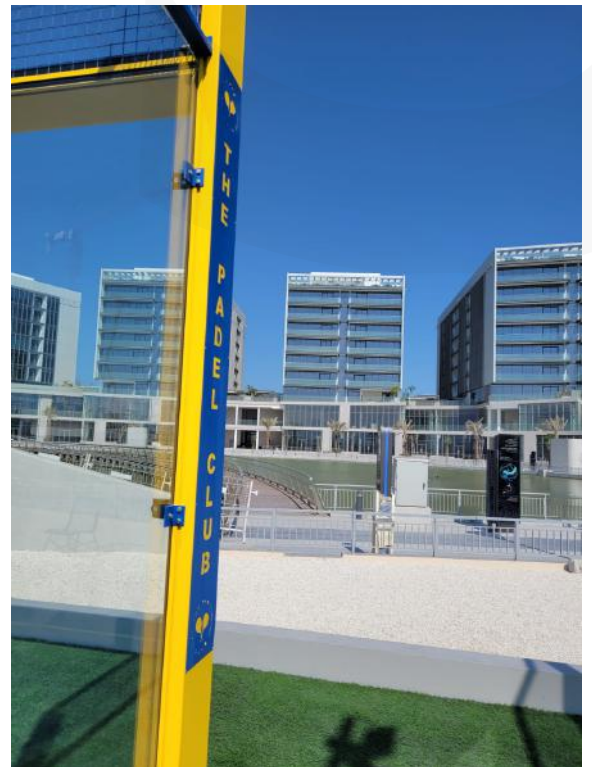
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All courts have a 15 year guarantee

## INDIVIDUAL PANORAMIC COURT

Anchor plates in galvanized steel for then fastening of the structure and glass, measurements of 250x200x15 (8 units), 495x250x15 (4 units) 150x120x15 (8 units)

Structural system of aluminum profiles, dimensions of the pillars 150x45x1.7 (8 units), 106x232x3 (4 units), 90x45x1.7 (8 units)

Top horizontal beam on 281x91 glass bottoms (2 units)  
Welded mesh 50x50x4mm

Lighting rods integrated into the structure

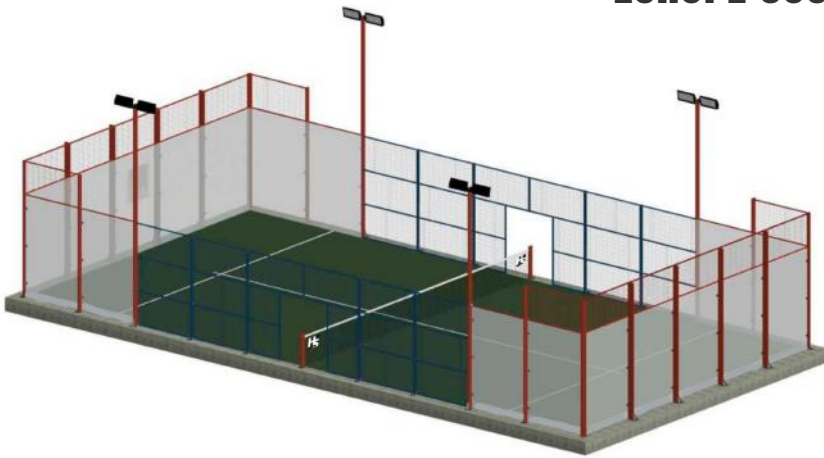


## EUROPE COURT

Structural system of aluminum profiles, dimensions of the pillars 1920x45x2 (8 units), 150x45x1.7 (8 units), 115x115x1.7 (4 units), 150x45x1.7 (8 units)

Galvanized steel mounting plates for the securing of the structure and glass, measurements of 300x250x12(8 units), 250x200x12 (8 units), 200x200x12 (4 units) 200x200x12 (8 units)

Structure designed and constructed in accordance with local technical code of building standards



## COLISEUM COURT

Anchor plates in galvanized steel for the fastening of the structure and glass, measurements of 450x250x25 (4 units), 200x200x12 (8 units)

Structural system of aluminum profiles, dimensions of the pillars 221x117x3 (4 units) and 150x45x1.7 (8 units)

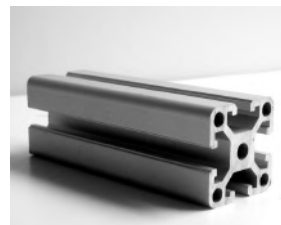
Top horizontal beam in 281x91 glass bottoms (2 units)

Welded mesh 50x50x4mm

M8 stainless steel screws of type A2 for the fastening of glass panels and meshes

Lighting rods integrated into the structure

Structure designed and constructed in accordance with local technical code of building standards



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They have built padel courts all over the world and for a wide variety of clients, from clubs, hotels, office building grounds, to resorts and private houses, the possibilities are endless!

If you're looking to invest in an area and have considered padel courts, they offer a no obligation assessment and quotation. They will advise on the type of court suitable for the area, climate and installations. They can also brand all courts to the client's needs, be it for a hotel chain, sports brand, airline, bank or insurance companies.

There are many ways to personalise the courts and all options can be studied, from the grass, flooring, glass panels, beams, corner posts and more. Even if you think it's an unusual request or idea, all options will be considered and studied.



## HUHEL SPORTS HEAD OFFICE

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Spain

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Tel: (+34) 619 076 978



# 1st Time in OZ

Born in Brazil but residing in Australia since 2004, former professional fencer Tuko Maia has a degree in sports science, a postgraduate qualification in sports administration and has been engrossed in sport for most of his adult life.



While working at the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, he discovered beach tennis on the sands of Rio de Janeiro and he remembers thinking about the reasons this was not being exploited in Australia already.

It wasn't long after that Tuko met his to-be wife, Clarisse Menezes, in Paris and it became clear that she too was in love with beach tennis having played in Rio with people such as Joana Cortez and Samantha Barijan.

As the romance bloomed, so did conversations about installing beach tennis in Australia and, while this specific part of the story skims some broad strokes, their initial vision was finally made a reality in a whole new dimension.

Friday 30 September saw the first ITF beach tennis tournament take place in Australia with a combined 32 competitors contesting the men's and women's draws at BT10 Perth on City Beach.

"To bring an ITF beach tennis event here is a dream," Maia, who is now the President of Beach Tennis Western Australia, commented in an interview. "It has taken a lot of work, but we love the sport, and we want to transform people's lives through beach tennis.

"We've had a lot of help and support, including from the likes of Alex Mingozzi, who has connected us with beach tennis suppliers and helps us with his incredible coaching methodology.

"Even during the Covid-19 pandemic, he was able to give us online support and mentoring. He is a legend of our sport and we can't wait to have him in Western Australia for coaching clinics and mentoring, and simply sharing his beach tennis experiences.

"We want to be full on with this. In the future, we want to bring BT400 events here if we can, perhaps host the World Championships one day. Australia has everything we need to grow beach tennis.

"At the end of the day, we're combining two passions – Australians love tennis, and they love the beach."

Beach tennis gained significant popularity in Australia after Tennis Australia installed an exhibition court and put on show events in inner-city Melbourne at January's Australian Open.

Western Australia already got a head start and became the nation's first state to be affiliated with Tennis Australia in respect of beach tennis, and the BT10 event in the capital city Perth is a serious step in the sport's development.

Following on from the Australian Open exhibition, there was a real appetite and desire within Tennis Australia to see this particular sport grow. The potential really showing as Australia could become an influential beach tennis hub.

"We recognise the natural opportunity for beach tennis in Australia given many of our major cities are located on the beach, along with our favourable climate which allows for year-round outdoor activity.

"Our investment in showcasing beach tennis at the Australian Open demonstrates our desire to see the sport grow and we hope to see this occur at an accelerated rate over the coming years.

"We would like to see beach tennis more formally established in all major cities, with consideration given to hosting major events in this time. For this, however, there will be a need for more passionate and qualified operators developing clubs and programs."

Head of Game Development Callum Beale, said that a considerable driving force behind the BT10 event in Perth, particularly in respect of operational and promotional support, is Tennis West. From their perspective, there is substantial scope to grow the sport.

"Hosting the first ever ITF beach tennis tournament here in Australia is a landmark occasion," Rob Kennedy, Head of Tennis – North at Tennis West.

"I believe in years to come the sport will continue to evolve, building on the fantastic foundation already laid as well as the increasing awareness of the sport and number of events taking place.

"I'd love to see the door being opened for the best international beach tennis players to come and play on Australian shores, and from a development and participation perspective, we'd love to establish a pathway for anyone, regardless of age or ability, to get involved.

"From seeing beach tennis in schools to competitions and leagues to ITF-level events, the opportunities are endless for the growth and development of beach tennis within Western Australia and across Australia."

## Winners of this landmark event were

**MENS**



Francisco Marcelino De Souza Junior



Gabriel Della Casa



**WOMENS**



Larissa Camara



Karla Lopes Leite

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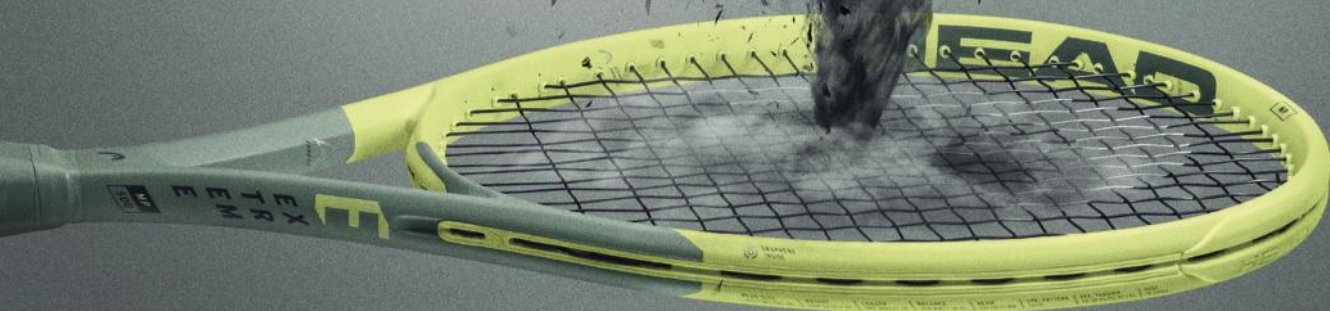


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