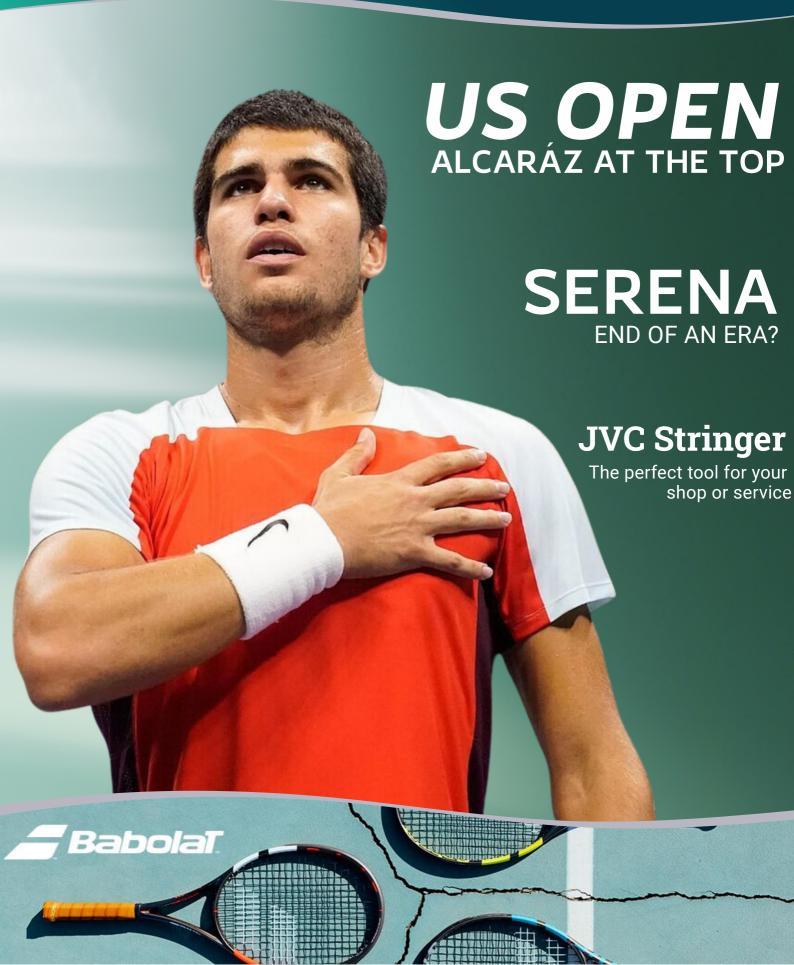


GRSA INTERNATIONAL **ATW MAGAZINE**





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Where do we start with the beginning of the US Open?

It's already been a dream start for some and a nightmare for others with early exits from some very key players. American **Danielle Collins** finally managed to overcome her bad run of loses against **Osaka** by taking her out in the first round 7-6 (5), 6-3.

"When you lose to someone three times, you get a lot of information on what you can do better," said Collins. "I just wanted to give myself the best shot to try to improve and do better than I did the last time and the time before, because with Naomi being the player that she is, she definitely whooped me the last time."

Stefanos Tsitsipas (5) was in with a chance of rising towards the number one ranking at the 2022 US Open but it was not to be as he was knocked out in the first round after a four-set loss to Daniel Galan (96), 6-0 6-1 3-6 7-5 with a match time of two hours and 48 minutes. 9 match points before clinching the win, Galan showed dominance and at one point Tsitsipas looked in pain with his forearm but put the loss down to the form of Galán. The Greek only managed 28 winners, with Galan hitting 41, while the Colombian also had better results in all the key serve categories, winning 74% on his first serve.



Lightning definitey didn't strike twice in New York as **Emma Raducanu** fell in the first round, a straight-sets victim of veteran Frenchwoman **Alize Cornet**.

Raducanu only needed to have started with a nice, nerve-settling opener against a player ranked outside the world's top 250, in some way a repetition of last year. On this occasion she came up against one of the tours trickiest customers. Aged 32, Cornet is a formidable character who was playing a record 63rd consecutive grand slam, impressive numbers and career.

The match was like an on-court lesson in courtcraft and mindset preparation. Raducanu's 6-3, 6-3 defeat seemed like a walk in the park, a brisk 1hr 42min. The queen of New York has subsiquently been reduced to a commoner with a ranking that will no doubt slide some 70+ places to around No 80 in the world. Never mind though, she still has her 2.5m Instagram followers, ten endorsement contracts, albeit with no seat at the table as one of the leading players on the tour.

"I feel like an idiot for thinking that I could win this thing; it sucks, I feel awful"

Taylor Fritz showed his disappointment following a shock first-round exit at this year's US Open. The American was caught out in a 6-7(3), 7-6(1), 6-3, 6-4 slog by his compatriot **Brandon Holt**.

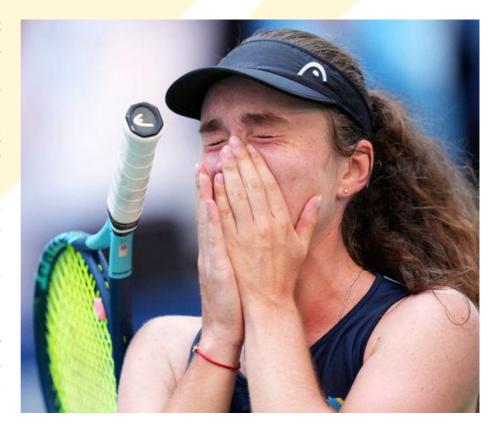
The World No. 303 pushed Fritz all across the court, taking 18/23 points when pushing towards the net. He also controlled from the baseline and kept Fritz searching for answers during the extended rallies.

Speaking after the match, Taylor Fritz compared the loss with his quarterfinal defeat to Rafael Nadal at Wimbledon, which at the time, he claimed was the worst of his career.

"Yeah, it feels as bad as the Wimbledon defeat to Nadal, it sucks. I mean, feels awful. Been playing really well. I had really high hopes, I feel like an idiot for thinking that I could win this thing, win the US Open. I can't go out and play a match like that, It sucks, I feel awful."

He did however praise the performance of Holt, "Just my level tonight is just not kind of what I've come to expect of myself as a player. To be honest, a lot of times in a match like this I can get away with playing like that, kind of toughing it out," he said. "A lot of credit to Brandon. He played a lot of really good points. He honestly played well. I think a lot of times I get through these types of matches."

Daria Snigur had her moment to shine when she faced Simona Halep in round one, the Ukrain<mark>ian qualifier really</mark> pushed to harness the power and quality needed to beat Halep who is currently working with Patrick Mouratoglou and was one of the favorites to win this year's Open. Snigur was playing in her first-ever firstround match in a Grand Slam and boy did she want it, 2-6 6-0 3-6 the final score which stunned everyone as it was Snigur's first tour-level match win in her first meeting with a top-10 ranked player.



Born 27 March 2002, this exciting promise of a player has already won six singles titles on the ITF Women's Circuit and as you can see in the image above, she's very emotional about her victory and said in a post match interview, "I was very very nervous but I tried to do my best. This match is for my Ukraine, for my family, for my fans, I want to say thank you to all"

More shocks came in round 1, we've already seen that the last two women's champions were out of the U.S. Open and now the 2021 runner-up and another semifinalist are gone.

More top players are falling fast in Flushing Meadows, while **Serena Williams** took care of another one in the second round. Hours before Williams beat No. 2 seed **Anett Kontaveit**, Then, minutes after Williams' victory, 14 seed **Leylah Fernandez** lost 6-3, 7-6 (3) to **Liudmila Samsonova**, this was a year after the Canadian lost to **Emma Raducanu** in the final.



Second round excellence!

Three-time Grand Slam victor **Andy Murray** bounced back quickly after dropping the first set to ease past American **Emilio Nava** 5-7, 6-3, 6-1, 6-0 and set up a third-round meeting with No. 13 seed **Matteo Berrettini**. No. 23 **Nick Kyrgios** managed to deal with France's **Benjamin Bonzi** and the suspected smell of marijuana that bothered him inside Louis Armstrong Stadium. Not only was he aware of the noise from the home crowd but this time it was accompanied by a special scent. After his 7-6 (3), 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 victory **Kyrgios** said, "People don't know, I'm a heavy asthmatic," "When I'm running side to side, I'm struggling to breathe. Probably not something I want to be breathing in between points."

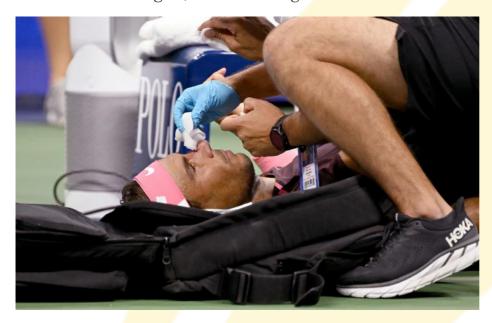
On the back of her own run to the Wimbledon finals, No. 5 **Ons Jabeur** equalled her best U.S. Open result with a 7-5, 6-2 victory over **Elizabeth Mandlik**, the daughter of 1985 champion **Hana Mandlikova**. **Jabeur** lost in the third round in each of her last three trips to New York.

Defending men's champion **Daniil Medvedev** shortly followed Williams on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court. A win over **Arthur Rinderknech** of France sent him cruising into the third-round matchup against **Wu Yibing**, who is the first Chinese man to win a U.S. Open match in the professional era, which began in 1968.

Xiyu in New York, the third seed fell 3-6 7-5 7-5 to her Chinese opponent in an immersing second-round contest that **Sakkari** was expected to win. She started strongly and went into a one-set lead before being let down by a series of unforced errors, when the match started to slip away. Despite **Sakkari's** obvious experience, World No. 75 Wang's heavy hitting from the baseline was outstanding in the second set, taking a 5-3 lead before clinching it following a double fault from **Sakkari**. **Wang** took the win 6-5 to reach the third round of a grand slam for the first time

Shocks, cuts and Novak

The shocks kept on coming with the surprising exit of the **Williams** sisters in the first round of the doubles. It was an emotional farewell but also a great opportunity to recognise all they have done for the sport. It's unclear if it was their last tournament together but it was fitting that they left in the same way they started off 2 decades ago, together! That said, **Serena** is still alive in the singles, she had a tough test ahead but no doubt she was aware of that.



Nadal receiving treatment after smacking himself in the face with his own racket. He always seems to have some sort of incident in the US Open and this one was no different. Left a little dizzy and needing medical attention, he went on to win the match against Fabio Fognini in a 4 set slog, in a commanding performance.

The three-time champion at Flushing Meadows **Novak Djokovic** was forbidden from entering the US in order to take part in the Open, US rules state that any non-resident must be vaccinated to enter the country. Many have seen this as ludicrous and unfair, however, some have hailed Novak a hero simply for sticking to his decision and putting what he believes in before a title.

Vowing to "keep in good shape and positive spirit and wait for an opportunity to compete again", Novak has received some encouraging support from a variety of players, **Rafa** said that his absence was "very sad news", **McEnroe** said the ban was a "joke", and defending champ **Daniil Medvedev** questioned the law that has prevented **Novak** from taking part in the event.

Heading towards the weekend there were some storms ahead, tough battles, **Garbiñe Muguruza** was heading into a testing match against **Petra Kvitová**, a match that she went on to lose setting up a match between **Kvitová** and **Jessica Pegula**. **Marin Čilić** and **Dan Evans** had an absolute hum dinger of a match over the weekend, a 4 set match that ended 7-6, 6-7, 6-2, 7-5. Elsewhere, **Norrie**, **Alcaráz** and **Tiafoe** all had relatively straight forward matches with the mammoth match being between **Denis Shapovalov** and **Andrey Rublev**, what a match to watch, a real tug-of-war, back and forth with some amazing points and 2 tie-breaks. One of the most entertaining matches of the tournament so far but more was to come. Both Spaniards **Pablo Carreño Busta** and **Alejandro Davidovich Fokina** faced epic battles in their matches. Both players faced formidable adversaries and this led to 2, 5 set matches which showcased some brilliant tennis, it really seems that the US Open brings out the best in so many players.

Monday Fun day!

This 142nd edition of tennis' US Open really has given some tremendous matches in a great setting, slowing the pace of matches down doesn't mean the quality slows down, if anything, that part is getting seriously good and energised.

Monday saw what some thought inevitable, the **Rafa** vs **Tiafoe** match that brought an end to **Nadal's** chances of another final. **Frances Tiafoe** showed yet again that when **Rafa** said he was going to be N°1 someday, he meant it. What a performance from the young American who's trajectory has shown serious signs of raw quality, was simply brilliant. Pulling on the energy from the crowd in the Arthur Ashe Stadium, he managed to fight off a US Open veteran **Rafael Nadal** in convincing form, Rafa had never gone on to win an Open match when losing the first set and yet again, this turned out to be the case.



It was a match like many for Rafa, seeming like he was struggling slightly, looking a little tired but still managing to pull out some brilliance. The humidity was high again and during a wardrobe reset for Rafa, there was a pause for his wrists to be strapped after the first set which also led to a little bit of a wait, something Frances didn't go on too much about but did voice his opinion. He didn't let it phase him though. Despite Rafa winning the second set, he really didn't seem to find a way through the determination of Tiafoe, the belief was there and that proved decisive!

That same belief was running through the veins of the determined Australian **Nick Kyrgios** as he faced defending champ **Daniil Medvedev**. His determination was admirable and it looked like he'd been working on his mental state too, more composed, with the odd Nick moment, he looked totally in control. It's not like **Daniil** to be a pushover and he was still putting up a fight, **Nick** looked and felt in control of his game and believed it was his time

Andrey Rublev dispatched Cameron Norrie quite easily with a 6-4, 6-4 win, Norrie looking solid with the forehand and wining some great points with his double-handed backhand, good strength but Rublev seemed to have the edge and wasn't letting this one slip from his grasp. This now set him up to face the dynamo that is Frances Tiafoe, fireworks were set for this one, how they manage to keep the pace up with the continuous heat and humidity is baffling, but time and time again we're being treated to some truly spectacular tennis.

to shine.

Match after match, we're spoilt with stunning skills, displays of strength and the determination of a younger generation fighting to make their mark. We have witnessed, pure brilliance, nerves of steel and disappointment. **Francis Tiafoe** had made it to the semi final by showing his amazing talent, his persistence and just how hungry he is for it, but awaiting was the Spaniard Alcaráz, he too showing his hunger after two titanic matches. The clash happened just as we expected, non-stop action, toe to toe and what a match. Instant pressure from **Francis**, showing little weakness and plenty fight, but that pressure seemed to fade soon after he'd won the first set, or was it simply the awakening of Carlitos? The spaniard pushed back and dominated the second and third set, the fourth set being a fairer contest heading to a tiebreak and **Francis** taking the win. It looked like an interesting come back but then the American seemed to lose his concentration, trying shots he'd already used and had proven to be less effective as the shots he started the match with. The final score was 6-7, 6-3, 6-1, 5-5, 6-3 to Alcaráz pushing him into the final where he'd meet the 4 year veteran Casper Ruud who'd already made relatively light work of Russian hard hitter **Karen Khachanov**, 7-6, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2, showing that he too was ready for the fight. He seemed to be the favourite due to the amount of court time between him and Carlos, with Casper having only played just the single 5 setter, whereas Carols had now played 3 in a row...

If you missed the final, you really did miss some amazing tennis, it looked like **Casper** had all the answers and was really dampening the fire, but something clicked, **Carlos** got his head back in the game and his confidence started to return. **Casper** was trying to force his forehand but **Alcaráz** kept finding a way to push back, the drop shot was starting to work and the beast of a forehand **Carlos** has was gathering more and more momentum as the match went on. The speed of both players was stunning, the footwork truly mesmerising.

The final score of this epic final very much showed the intense battle, the immense show of perseverance and young talent. 6-4, 2-6, 7-6, 6-3. With this win, **Carlos** became the world N°1 with **Casper** at the N°2 spot, great to see that the final has put these two at the top and we're sure that there will be more fantastic matches from these two, **Carlos** is 3-0 in matches against Ruud.

We couldn't leave out the ladies, **Iga Swiatek** was just amazing in her matches in the buildup to the final, and we all expected quite a slog but, after an easy first set against **Ons Jabeur**, she had to fight in the second, taken to a tie break but









Just two titles behind all time great, Martina Navratilova and equal to Steffi Graff on 7 Wimbledon titles.

2002, 2003, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016



Margaret Court won 24 major singles titles and 7 consecutive Australian Open, Serena is tied on 7.

2002, 2003, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016



us open

Molla Bjurstedt Mallory with 8 titles, Helen Wills with 7, Serena is tied with Chris Evert on 6.

1999, 2002, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014







The French Open unfortunately hasn't been Serena's most prolific event, she's outside of the top ten, Chris Evert holds the record with a total of 10 titles to her name.

2002, 2013, 2015

"YOU NEVER KNOW..."

The famous last words on Serena's retirement, she used those words to describe her future even though she'd already said that she wouldn't reconsider her decision. The story of the Williams sisters really captivated the crowds at the end of the 90's when they powered themselves onto the scene with their strength, technical brilliance and sheer grit to become the best. In 2002, after the French Open, **Venus** and **Serena Williams** were ranked world No. 1 and No. 2 in singles, respectively, marking the first time in history that sisters occupied the top two positions.



There have been many controversial moments in the career of the sisters, Serena being the most outspoken and having won the majority of the head to head's with her sister. The rivalry was fierce on court for some years with them dominating the singles and doubles, but off court they supported each other and where needed, defended one another, as sisters do!

The total number of career titles is 73, matches won 365, lost 55, some say that she's the greatest the game will ever see, and for sure they are big shoes to fill. **Arthur Ashe** and **Althea Gibson** were the first black players to tear down the barriers and succeed at the highest of levels, this was followed by champions of the calibre of **Zina Garrison** and **Yannick Noah**.

There were obvious contenders for the titles, **Justine Henin** being one of them and in a recent interview, Henin said: "We can talk all we want about her tennis qualities, but one of her strengths was to show that she was convinced that

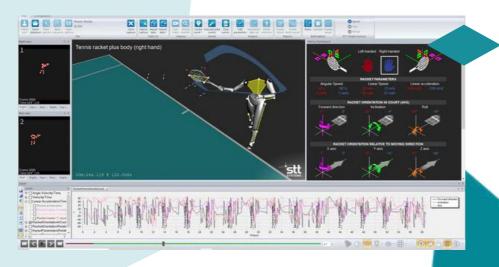
she was going to walk right over you even though normally she should have been full of doubts like all players," "That generated all kinds of fears for her opponents. I was afraid for a long time." There is so much to be written about **Serena** and her sister **Venus**, we really could go on for hours but we still wouldn't cover everything. She's been called fake, aggressive, un-classy, controversial and unfair, but one thing is for sure, she is and will be for a long time, classed as the best female champion of all time and the one that changed the game!



THE FUTURE OF CUSTOMIZATION

the Diadem Technology Center is a totally unique experience that helps players truly elevate their equipment setup. The motion capture technology utilizes 12 cameras and their proprietary software to capture a player's swing in real time 3D. Using the software's data and the expertise of their MRTs, they can identify the exact racket and string specifications that are ideal for a player's swing.





Strategically placed sensors help compile the information





With the Technology Center, they're able to give every player access to the "pro player" treatment of working with an MRT to dissect every aspect of their swing and build equipment that matches. This has been a hit with their roster of junior players but also has had success with many local club players.



Dustin brings his years of experience working with top juniors and pros to the Diadem hitting lane. As the lead stringer for the US Open and the French Open, as well as private stringing and customizing many of the top pros on tour, Dustin has learned the benefits of building custom specs for players. No two swings are the same, and building a racket's specs directly related to their stroke is key to getting the most out of a racket. Let us find your perfect specs and build you that racket!



This is one of the lost treasures, finding information on this racket has proven to be something of a test. The only thing we know about this racket is that back in 1995 at the U.S Open in Flushing Meadows, Prince used this racket as a promotional piece and presented it at the tournament. This racket is among the rarest or most unusual ever made, due to its extremely small head size. God is pictured in the commercial for the racket as a result of the march of time and a symbol of progress and development. In the commercial, God was depicted playing with a tiny headed racket and loses a close point to a player using a conventional Prince racket. CBS wanted nothing to do with the ad as their thoughts were that people would be offended by the image of God being used, even though it was a comical advert, they still weren't happy and suggested some changes, Prince said that the whole campaign would lose its meaning so they refused. The USA network were showing the US Open back then and had no issues with giving the ad some air time. If you'd like to see the ad, click on the icon!

While we searched for more information, one of our managers, not quite a God but in the world of squash, he's very close, Nick Down, happened to mention that he has one so we'll be posting a picture of that to our social media at some point in the future.

There are a few available on various buying platforms and some interesting prices too.





Head Size:Less than 12 sq. in. (less than 77 sq. cm.), Length:27 inches (69 centimeters) Strung Weight: 8.3 ounces (236 grams), Balance Head Light Beam Width: 20mm Straight Beam, Composition:100% Graphite String Pattern: 6 Mains / 8 Crosses, Strung With:prince Synthetic Gut



SWEET AREA RACKET 320

The concept of having a training racket isn't new, over the years, there have been different types and from numerous brands. Toalson have a great selection of rackets and **Sweet Area 320** is a great addition to the family. With the smaller head size, it forces the player to be more accurate with shots as the sweet spot is reduced considerably. It promotes higher quality of focus, footwork, early preparation & timing to be able to play with it. Enjoy the challenge this racket brings, you may even find yourself using it more during competitions too, once you're used to it then the feel is exceptional.



What else do Toalson have to offer?





Orange Coach Matching Sport Professionals

Register now! FREE

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 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?

OrangeCoach is the essential online platform for tennis coaching jobs for all levels around the globe.

- Biggest database of tennis jobs in the world;
- Review tennis jobs and apply directly online;
- Build a FREE professional tennis resume;

- 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

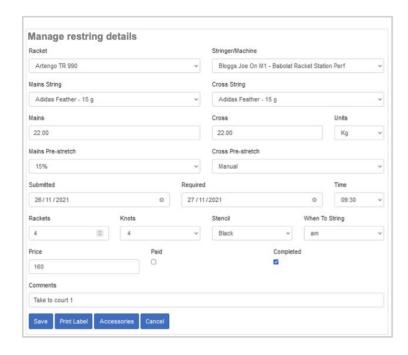


Aster Poly string

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.

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!



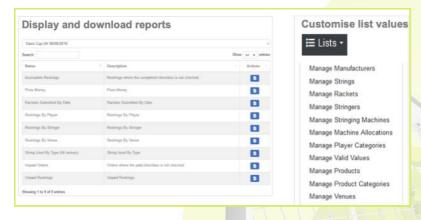


Created by the developers of the PC version used at a Grand Slam tournament since 2011 and previously by Tecnifibre at The French Open.

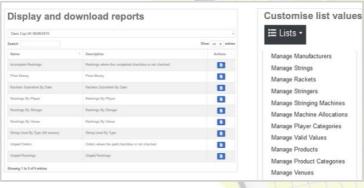


A complete system that is designed to make your job much easier, helping you keep track of every little detail, this enables you to dedicate even more time to the job at hand.





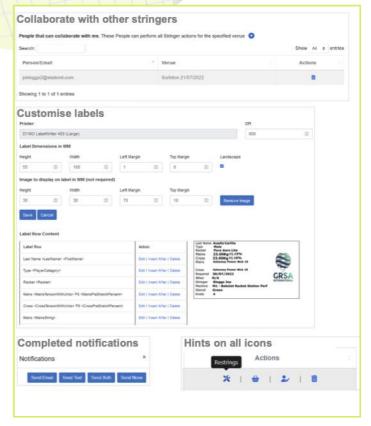
JVCStringer is now being used at Queens, Edgbaston, Nottingham, Surbiton, Eastbourne, Croatia Open, Dubai and by shops and individuals.



A new and improved interface, a user friendly on-screen layout and new features, make this the best front desk tool on the market.







VIST OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION - CLICK HERE -

In the Room

With Richard Parnell

The WONDERS OF Stringing INDOOR Tour Events

During this month of September, with multiple indoor events being staged, a stringer's experience is tested and hopefully not found lacking.

There are some unique factors to be considered when providing the stringing service. Whether it is Davis Cup, Fed Cup or Laver Cup, the teams are practicing all week prior to the event, held on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

During the week leading up to the event, a player's perfect tension is found and won't change until he leaves the event...... However, the difference between practice and match day is the introduction of the public and the effects this has on the venue. Having however many thousand people in an enclosed space will raise the temperature and mean that the ball will fly more, suddenly, the stringer has a problem to solve.

Because of the rise in temperature, a higher tension will almost definitely be needed. My advice would be to speak to the player about this, before match day, and prepare a few rackets at a higher tension, which means that if the temperature changes enough to alter the ball speed, there are rackets immediately available while others can be restrung quickly at the "new" tension.

Fail to prepare....Prepare to fail

From Stringer to Singer by Richard Parnell

Even though this picture was some time ago, I remember having had the pleasure of teaching a young gentleman by the name of Thomas Newton, no relation to Isaac that I'm aware of. Little did I know that a

few years later he would be a budding musician with a great following, not only that, but it turns out that his music is getting some very good reviews, and plenty of plays. Check out Thomas' latest release on the link below.



TIMELINE - (2022) Thomas Newton









Here's another blast from the past and a great tennis promise having a go at stringing his own racket back in 2015.

Croatian tennis player, Borna Ćorić, who recently overcame some of the biggest names in the game to claim the crown at the Cincinnati Masters.

Nadal, Corrie and finally Tsitsipas all fell to this cheerful character in August, currently ranked 29 in the world, his highest position having been N°12, there are sure signs of his form returning and you can see the confidence is back. He recently admitted that he was unsure if he could play at that level, his doubts slowly subsiding and the returning belief that he has the power, the ability and most certainly the game that can test the best.







PERFECT STRING PERFORMANCE

ON WHEN ORDERING STARTS AGAIN





The trouble with me is that every match, I play against five opponents: umpire, crowd, ball boys, court, and myself.

Goran Ivanišević

- The first Laver Cup was held in 2017 and is normally held in a town/city that does not host an ATP event.
- Germany's Sabine Lisicki hit a serve 210 km/h—the fastest ever recorded in women's tennis.
- Legendary tennis player Jimmy Connors holds the honour of being the only tennis player to have won the prestigious US Open on three different surfaces grass at Forest Hills in 1974, clay at Forest Hills in 1976, and hard court in 1978 at Flushing Meadows.
- Originally, lawn tennis was played on an hourglass shaped court with a net that was 4ft 8in high. A modern day net measures 3.5ft at the posts and 3ft in the middle.

Rectangular courts were introduced in 1875 by the All England Croquet Club at Wimbledon when it decided to add tennis to its repertoire.

GRSA INTERNATIONAL

Featured Club

In 2010 the Ferrer Tennis Academy was born in Jávea, specifically in the Jávea Tennis Club, by the hand of Javier Ferrer Ern, one of its current directors.





Xàbia or Jávea is a coastal town and municipality in the comarca of Marina Alta, in the province of Alicante, Valencia, Spain. The club's beginnings were focused on creating a good base for children so that years later their efforts would bear its fruits, and today, there are many locals and nationals, along with others from all over the world, who are part of the Academy's competition team.

In 2013, the Ferrer Tennis Academy saw the need to expand its expectations in order to offer a broader service and more personalized attention to each player and their families, that is when they decided to open a new headquarters in Benidorm, and just over a year ago they inaugurated the new and modern facilities in the **Ciudad Deportiva Camilo Cano**.

At this time, the Ferrer Tennis Academy is directed by Javier Ferrer, backed by Israel Vior and Gonzalo Morell. Javier and Israel, two former professional tennis players who established a good friendship whilst playing and training as juniors. Those who are lucky enough to know these two tennis professionals know very well that they form an unbeatable team, complementing each other and thereby achieving such a good work and team environment, on and off the court, that each player feels at home, thus getting the best out of each of them.

Their facilities have a residence for athletes within the same sports venue, which contributes to a very comfortable experience for athletes in La Nucía, Spain. The new sports center is located just 9 km from the main beaches of Benidorm, which is one of the main cities with the greatest tourist attractions in Spain, and 60 km from the main airport in the province of Alicante.

Ferrer Tennis Academy offers a complete educational path for students who want intensive tennis training to obtain tennis, psychological, tactical and physical excellence. It is based on a systematic methodology to develop world-class players, and has been in continuous development for more than 20 years.

They have programs such as: base school, annual, semester or weekly programs, as well as programs for Adults and Summer camps.

Experienced stringer and **GRSA Manager Daniel Peniza**, with more than 15 years of experience on the Tour, he has participated in Wimbledon and Roland Garros, ATP and WTA tournaments, such as the Master 1000 in Madrid and Paris, the ATP and WTA in Barcelona, Valencia, Nice, Montpellier and is the current stringer of the Davis Cup Team of the Colombian national team. Daniel has had the opportunity to string for players such as: David Ferrer, Rafael Nadal, Andy Murray, Carlos Alcaraz, Garbiñe Muguruza, Serena and Venus Williams, Sasha Zverev, Stan Wawrinka, Daniil Medvedev and many more.

It is a privilege to have a professional stringer at the academy, one who participates in tournaments of the highest level, the Ferrer Tennis Academy is one of the few that can say it has such a service for their students, both for their stringing as for customization, this really does help get the most of out each player even from an early age.



Academia de Tenis Ferrer - Jávea Club de tenis de Javea, Ctra. del Cap de la Nau Pla, 118, 03730 Xàbia, Alicante







REAL ESTATE GROUP

Located in the town of Casares, a "white wash town" that is known for the beauty of its hiking trails, and with the best beach coves for swimming, fishing or diving.

A dreamy residence that extends over 40,000 m2 of exotic gardens. An urban development that stands out for the design of white lines and smooth contours of its homes. Its layout in small residential groups facilitates the location of large green areas of palm trees, tropical plants and swimming pools that create a Mediterranean green ecosystem.









The contour of the lagoon is covered by a walk where you can enjoy nature and views while walking, running or enjoying other sports on wheels. The artificial beaches of fine white sand have solarium areas and beach sports areas, common service facilities, changing rooms and showers. The homes offer you a high-quality residential experience focused on making the most of interior lighting through the use of large terraces located in an absolutely unique environment.









Each of the homes enjoys exceptional qualities that include Porcelanosa brand porcelain tiles, kitchens equipped with Bosch and Technal appliances that provide maximum insulation and comfort. Centralized hot and cold air conditioning, elevator from the parking lot and private storage room for each of the houses.



63 m2
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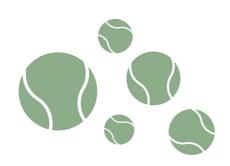
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RACKET SPECIALIST EDWIN



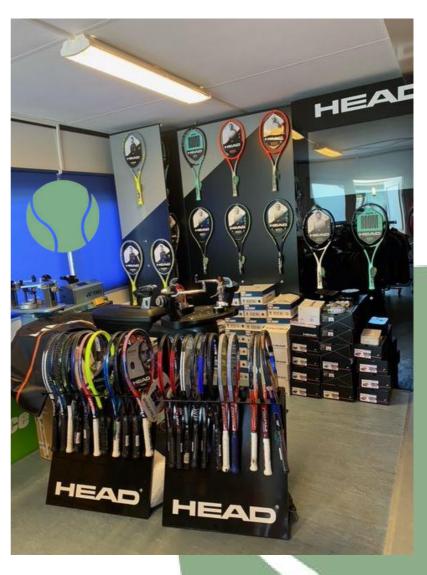
Racketspecialist Edwin is located in Amsterdam at Tennispark Kadoelen and in Zaanstad at TvWestzijderveld (The Netherlands).

A Tennis teacher for over 40 years, Edwin Gruijs started his shop more than 30 years ago in order to provide his pupils with equipment and advice.

For the last 20 years he has dedicated himself to becoming a good racket stringer as well.

Taking part in various workshops and classes in The Netherlands and abroad to improve his skills, he is now included in the list of Pro Tour Stringers around the world.

Starting off at local tournaments, he made his way up to international level working at ITF world Tennis Tour Alkmaar and the Dutch Junior Open in Castricum.









Edwin was part of the Australian Open 2018 stringing team, he also strung at The Mutua Madrid Open, two great tournaments of reference on the ATP calendar.

This year he'll be taking part in the Laver Cup in London, as part of the HEAD stringing team. The tournament takes place from the 23rd of September till the 26th, some of the best names in tennis will be there.

With a wide selection of brands both in the shops and online, we're sure you're going to find what you're looking for. If you don't, all you have to do is contact him and he'll do his best to find it for you or point you in the right direction, Edwin is always happy to help!

Featured brands:













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Richard Parnell



team.es@grsa-international.com team.fr@grsa-international.com

Not only leading the team of experts, Richard is also the country manager for Spain and France. With over 30 year's experience in the world of tour stringing and having worked with the best players over the years at Grand Slams, Davis Cup events and on the ATP & WTA Tours, it has given him the opportunity to gather an immeasurable amount of experience and knowledge which he takes great pride in sharing. Richard has been teaching & giving workshops around the world for the last 20 years using his "Aggregation of Marginal Gains" methodology that achieves amazing results.



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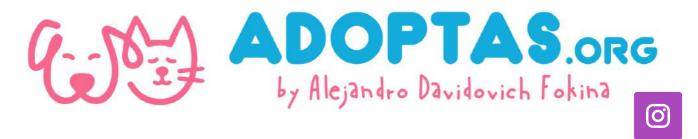
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Since the beginning of **GRSA** we have outlined that our objective to help the not just our own community, but others too. We continue to look for ways to help educate, support and promote worthy organisations!

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

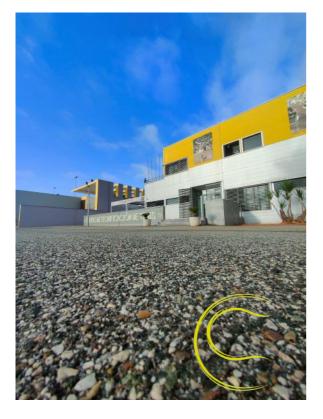




cause then follow the instructions on their website, you really will be helping animals all across Spain.



GRSA OUT & ABOUT



GRSA is about helping people grow, be it through online courses, sharing product knowledge or creating connections between professionals and organisations.

We recently paid a visit to the Andalusian Tennis Federation (**FATENIS**) to see some very respected people in the industry and their wonderful installations.

It's great to see the way in which they are helping young talents with their education in all areas, not just tennis, but their full education which plays such an important part of the future for them.



On-site classes, gym, accommodation, clay, grass and hard courts. Beach tennis, wheelchair tennis, and other activities are all accessible onsite.







Fatenis
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We'd like to congratulate **Juan Arispón Gil**, **Antonio Jesús Martin Moreno** and the whole team for their exemplary work, commitment to the preparation of young Spanish talent and the important promotional work throughout the whole Andalusian territory. They help clubs at all different levels and are very proactive with tournaments, events and education. More great things coming from this federation in collaboration with GRSA in the future as we join forces in order to provide complimentary education for players and stringers, stay connected to the **GRSA** platforms!







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Kirschbaum

kirschbaum-strings.de

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.

Kirschbaum

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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MOTIVATION QUOTE

Hearing and listening are two completely different things, when teaching or learning, make sure you're listening and not just hearing, it will make all the difference in the future.

Daniel Efford
GRSA International - Operations Manage



Antonio Jesús Martín Moreno GRSA Certified Pro Master Stringer **Spain**

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Stringer Solutions



AS STRAIGHT AS AN ARROW

An easy tip on how to keep the cross strings straighter during their installation.

One of the most important aspects of stringing, and one that will separate the experts from the rest, is the straightness of the crosses. This is also an integral part of being able to string on the Tour, many a player has complained about crooked cross strings and rightly so.

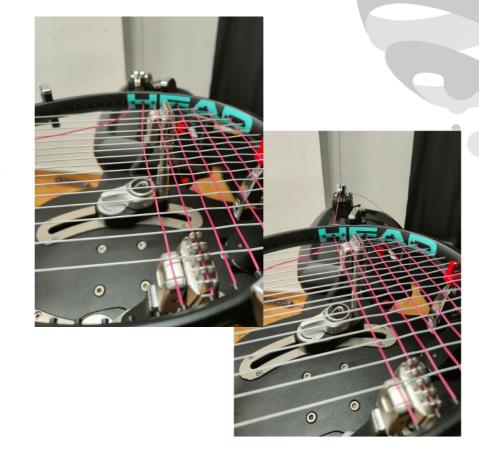
Straightening the crosses can be done in different ways, there is obviously the setting off awl which can be used at any time during the stringing of the crosses, however, here I would like to jump in at the basic technique of stringing those crosses.

When a cross string is tensioned, it can be in one of three positions:

- a. Curved
- b. Recurved
- c. Straight

Let's look at each of these individually and compare their effect on the string bed and straightness of the cross.

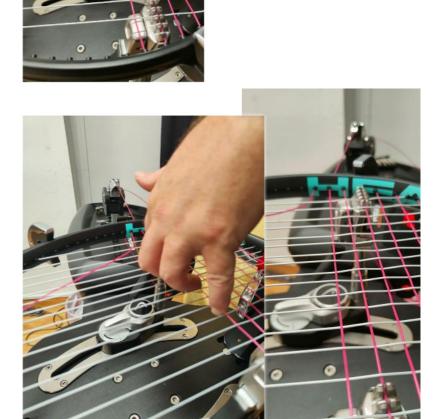
Curved - By leaving the string curved while tensioning, as we see in image A, the string, by not being straight is longer which means that the string will not be as "tight" as a straight string (the shortest route from A to B is a straight line). Once the tension head has stopped moving, we move the string to its straight position, the tension head often has difficulty picking up that small difference in length. Normally a lower DT will be attained. If the crosses are straightened at the end of the stringing process, then strings will be prone to moving more and be less responsive.



b. **Recurved** – By leaving the string curved inversely against the previous cross while tensioning, as we see in image B, the string, by not being straight is longer which means that the string will not be as "tight" as a straight string. This also means that when the string is tensioned it will automatically move away from the previous cross string and will never stop at the perfect "straight" position, rather move past it and again be curved but in the opposite direction. This string will then need to be pushed straight.... Which means that pushing

the string up against the previous cross was a waste of movement and creates more cross string movement. If the crosses are moved straight at the end of the stringing process, then the strings will be prone to moving more and be less responsive.

Straight - By ensuring that the string is straight while tensioning, as we see in image C, the string, by being straight is shorter which means that the string will be as "tight" as possible, because, as we have mentioned before, the shortest route from A to B is a straight line. This cross string, by being held in place by fingers that are guiding it and making sure it doesn't become curved will stay in its place longer and play better. When we have weaved the string we need to pull it as tight as possible by hand so that the tension head is working with the shortest string length possible.



If the main strings are natural gut and the crosses a monofilament, which is a harder string, then the indentations left in the natural gut need to be in the right place straight away, otherwise the cross strings will always slip back into these indentations and the cross strings will never remain straight.







SQUASH ODDITIES

The largest squash racket is 6.80m (22 ft 3.72 in) long and 2.15 m 15 (7 ft 0.65 in) wide.

- It has 16 mains & 18 crosses

It was created by The Qatar Squash Federation (Qatar) in Doha, Qatar, on 7 December 2012







It's been a very long journey since the first wooden squash rackets reached the market, with their very long handles and reduced racket blades, the early squash rackets barely resemble our contemporary "weapons" of choice. You can imagine how differently these heavy rackets performed in comparison to our lighter weighted rackets of 120 grams or even less.



Some time ago (no, not that long ago), while at a tournament, we were given these fine specimens of the original Dunlop Maxply. Made for someone slightly bigger than us, these promotional pieces were absolutely spot on with colours, strings and decals and brought back some great memories of the earlier rackets and just how fun they were to string.

Obviously the biggest advantage of today's lighter racket is that more speed is generated, increased racket acceleration and the response is faster with a shorter swing. Look back and it was down to the power you'd need in order to hit the ball hard with a wooden variant. The high weight together with the small racket blade guaranteed it was not an easy task

The evolution has been gradual but with significant changes during each step, technology changed, materials improved and the move towards more streamlined shapes and designs have led to using graphite, aluminium and compositions that allow for greater control, speed and power. That said, it's still wonderful to think back that even those heavier weighted rackets produced outstandingly good results. How did Jahangir Khan yield such a heavy (in comparison) racket during the 555 consecutive matches, an accomplishment only Khan holds with nobody close to beating it.

However nostalgic we get, we can't turn a blind eye to progress, to evolution and as the game evolves with stronger and quicker players, different materials to help both power and control, so the rackets will evolve even further and we will adapt to those changes. All stringers should embrace change as something positive and learn during the process, keep evolving, bettering techniques, adjusting our services and most importantly, enjoying this wonderful world of stringing that we have all come to love.



South Africa win 4 golds on the last day of BETARD WSF World Masters



Originally scheduled for 2020, and postponed twice, it turned out to be a long wait for Hasta La Vista, the largest squash club in the world. Even after such a long wait, it seemed it was worth it and made for an unforgettable event.

Saturday 27th of August was an eventful finals day. The M35+ draw in 2018 was won by Laurens Jan Anjema and it seemed the title might stay in Dutch hands with top seed Piedro Schweertman absolutely flying through every round before the final without losing a game. Over 500 spectators at the all-glass court, watched on and witnessed a top-notch performance from South Africa's Christo Potgieter that saw him win 3-0, a match he controlled right from start.

After the match, Potgieter said: "I want to thank the organisers for organising such an amazing event with so many players. It's an amazing venue. 32 courts and this amazing glass court! So many players here and the support was just crazy today, so thank you very much for the support."

Other South African players enjoyed success as well, with South Africa ending the day with four gold medals in total.

Karen Blom beat Natalie Lawrence in the W40+ draw to take the title and Samantha Herbert took the W45+ title against an unseeded Lotta Vuorela from Finland. Herbert secured her second gold medal after she'd already won one in the W40+ draw back in 2016 in Johannesburg.

Their countryman, Pierr Roodt, overpowered the M65+ draw, taking every match in straight games adding his third world title to an impressive collection. In 1997 Roodt was M40+ champion and in 2012 he added a M55+ gold. Eleven years later, he had reason to celebrate all over again.

Sweden's Fredrik Johnson finally added another World Masters title to his name. It was back in 1999 when he took the M35+ draw but now it was time to win the M55+ draw in Wrocław. In the final, Johnson came back from being 2:1 down to France's Thierry Scianimanico.

Some debut titles for Derek Ryan, Nicolette Fernandes and Ivan Flores Vela. Ireland's Ryan, former World No.7 and International Testing Agency ambassador beat the tenacious Adrian Hansen from South Africa in the M50+ draw. Guyana's Fernandes reigned the W35+ group and Gibraltar's very own Vela shone through during a highly entertaining final against Germany's Heiko Schwarzer in the M40+. Vela's fearless approach lead to him finishing the event unbeaten in six matches to win a first ever title for Gibraltar.

USA's Michael Gough, the oldest player of the tournament at 83 years of age, won the M80+ group. Gough played against England's Adrian Wright in the title decider, who was aiming for a fifth career title. The match went the length, with the American launching an outstanding comeback in the fifth game to pull back from 9-5 down to an 11-9 win.

England's Ann Manley re-wrote Masters history with her triumph in the W75+ category – another player with perfect record after five 3–0 victories – this means she now has five titles to her name in total, winning in the 60+ (2006), one in the 65+ (2012), two in the W70+ (2016, 2018) and now the 75+ draw, fantastic achievement.



Jon Sharpe - UK Squash manager @jonsharpe79



Racketball

(also known as: Racquetball & Squash 57)

Racketball has been a popular game in the US for a number of years and in the last decade has built up a big following in the UK, and is growing in Europe, in many cases saving squash clubs from the brink of closure as it's a very easy game to transition to from it's faster, less bouncier cousin, squash. I currently string a few hundred racketball rackets every year, including rackets for the UK National Champion, O40's UK National Champion and the U19's UK National Champion. I work closely with Karakal during their development stages for strings and rackets.

The racketball rackets have a head size which falls somewhere between squash and tennis but very little in the way of a shaft. It's more or less a head planted onto a handle. Most rackets have a significantly shorter grip than squash and tennis rackets.

The ball is a bigger, bouncier version of a squash ball but a little smaller than a tennis ball. Whereas in squash, the main shots involve a degree of cut/slice coming through the ball and in tennis the ball normally involves top spin or slice, in racketball the ball is hit a lot flatter. This actually makes string selection pretty simple. Often a good quality synthetic gut or thicker multifilament will work great. It's important to ensure that strings are a minimum of 1.25mm thick though, as the string bed is not generally dense (the spaces between strings are quite sizeable), meaning that the strings will move a lot, with friction causing premature string breakage, allied to normally big gaps between the top crosses and the frame - meaning mishits can cause strings to break around the frame pretty liberally. I generally tend to string rackets between 30lbs - 35lbs. Polyester string is a big 'No' though. With a light (160grm average) racket poly strings will feel horrible and potentially damage the players elbow. Plus the ball will slide off the strings at funny angles.

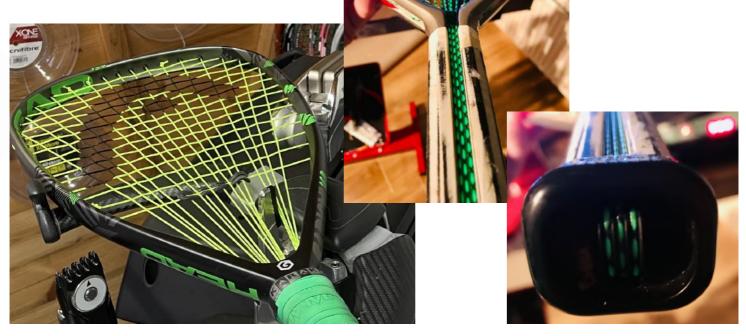




One of the most noticeable features of several racketball rackets is the varying degree of string patterns and crazy design features. In fact, one of the most popular racketball frames at the moment is the Head Radical (along with most head rackets) which has a kind of 'wave' fan pattern which is an incredibly intricate design with 16 holes at the throat, with each string freezing through a kind of tunnel at the throat to come out the next hole then up through to the head. As it's a fan pattern, the strings don't follow the order of the grommets at the head. Lots of skipped holes! The HEAD rackets also have hidden grommets on the side, so the strings stay inside the frame, which is totally smooth on the outside! There are also other rackets with some serious quirks. Wilson have a racket where the strings actually pass through grooves on top of the handle, under the grip (which you have to remove before stringing) and loop around the butt cap to go under/over the handle depending on which side you're stringing. Then there are the Ektelon and E Force rackets with very intricate looping around the throat and tubes (E Force).

It's my strong belief that racketball racket designers are designed by tennis and squash designers in a secret room where they've been banished to release their creativity before being allowed back to their normal jobs!

The best tip I would give to anybody stringing racketball rackets is to look at the string pattern prior to cutting out the strings or check out the racket online. You can actually work a lot out from just a picture. Most racketball rackets have a complex string pattern, especially compared to badminton and tennis which follow much simpler rules. Don't be put off by the complexity, have some fun and laugh at the crazy designs!





Time With Our Partners

We know that over recent years, more and more meetings are being held remotely. The internet becoming our boardroom or meeting point. One of the huge focus points of **GRSA** is to have a personal touch, one to one contact with our members and our partners.

Huhel Sports are the most successful padel court manufacturers worldwide, with courts installed in over 30 countries, we thought it would be a good idea to go and see them, get to know their product and see them at work.

Currently in expansion, their already busy workshop was in full swing, loading trucks for the next order to be dispatched, packing, coating, moulding and cutting, a hive of productivity.

The growth of padel globally really is in full swing, with countries such as Japan, Germany, UAE, Scandinavia and more are seeing the potential in installing padel courts, If you're looking for more information or know of someone looking to install padel courts, drop us an email and we'll be more than happy to help connecting you to our partners **HUHEL SPORT** who will help you every step of the way. EMAIL: online@grsa-international.com















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- High quality poly finish



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), 150x45.1.7 (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









HIGH QUALITY - PERSONALISED ALUMINIUM

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

C/ de la Giralda 18,
Castdelldefells
(Barcelona)
Spain

Email: admin@huhelsports.com

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SAARLOUIS GERMANY





The top players in the world started the final Sand Series of the regular season on Thursday the 25th, as the ITF Beach Tennis World Tour returned to the German Saarland, where last year's inaugural Sand Series event took place.

All eight semi-finalists were back in the men's draw this year, and with new partners, the draw looks significantly different than it did in 2018. Last year's champions Nikita Burmakin (seeded third) and Tommaso Giovannini (seeded fifth) found themselves on opposite sides of the draw with their new partners, Andre Baran (BRA) and Diego Bollettinari (ITA), respectively.

The pairing of Antomi Ramos Viera and Michele Cappelletti, who were knocked out in the quarterfinals in 2021, were in the top half. Allan Oliveira and Thales Santos, the Marechal Deodoro champions from 2019, are in their quarter along with number one seeds Maksimilians Andersons and his partner Gerard Querol, who they fought a tough battle against in the first BT400 in Parnu, Estonia last month.

Saarlouis is on Ramos' agenda because he wants to achieve a better result than he has in the past. Twice he has played there, and twice he has been eliminated in the quarterfinals," the Spaniard said, "My goal this year is to break that barrier and to keep playing well."

Mattia Spoto and Nicolas Gianotti made up the bottom half of the draw in the men's doubles. Spoto nearly made the semis last year, but was edged out by Marco Garavini and Theo Irigaray 14-12 in a tie-breaking shootout. Garavini and Vini Font might face off in the quarterfinals, as they did in last year's tournament. Irigaray and Doriano Beccaccioli, who was the runner-up in the 2020 tournament, could face off in the final round.



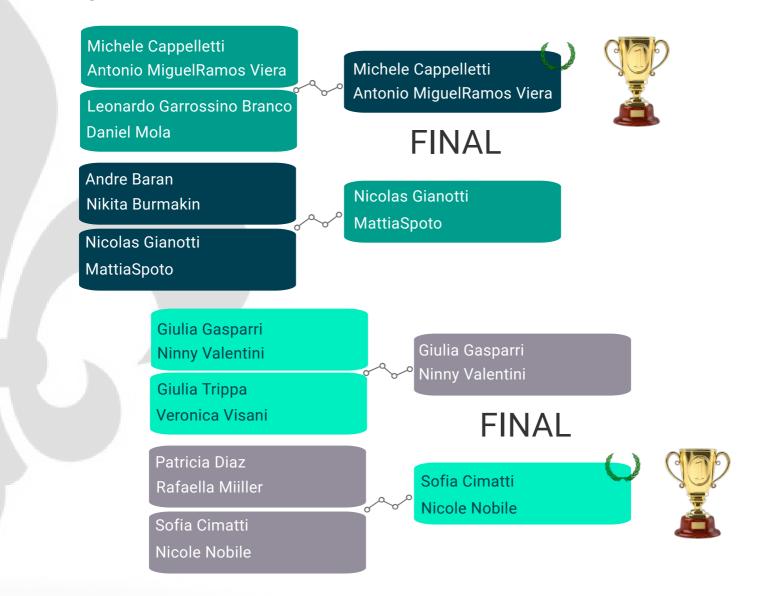
All four semi-finalist teams from the women's draw returned for this year's tournament, giving it a familiar look. Sofia Cimatti and Nicole Nobile, last year's winners, continue to perform well, as the Sand Series Brasilia Classic champions looked to win their fourth title of the year.

Rafaella Miiller and Patricia Diaz, the Sand Series Réunion Classic Champions, are both numbered two seeds in the same half of the draw. In a class semi-final from a year ago, Nobile-Cimatti prevailed 10-8 in a match tie break after they tied 10-10.

Cimatti and Nobile are also in the same quad as Veronica Casadei and Sophia Chow, with Chow having recently won the BT400 Marechal Deodoro. Chow said, "It feels great to be here competing this year after following the tournament last year over streaming channels. We are playing a Sand Series, the level is high, and there are no easy matches."

With world no. 1 and no. 2 seeds Giulia Gasparri and Ninny Valentini in the top half of the draw, the 2021 runners-up have won seven tournaments in 2022, including the Sand Series Gran Canaria Classic and Sand Series Barcelona, as well as the Estonian BT400 where they took down Cimatti and Nobile to save championship points. Vitoria Marchezini and Marcela Vita are seeded for a semi-final clash against the Italian champions, who also defeated them in Estonia. The Brazilian duo will hope for another chance to battle the world champions, as they clashed eight times in 2022.

Yet again, the brief build-up has been a special one, everyone looking to play their best, each putting in extra training to ensure a top level performance. Performances that gave the following results:





History, culture and worldwide reach



Bainbridge Island - Pickleball's Birthplace

In 1965, Joel Pritchard, Barney McCallum, and Bill Bell developed the pickleball we know today while living on Bainbridge Island (known locally as Bainbridge). Pickleball, a new racquet sport that was created and designed for everyone to play and enjoy. To honour the founding fathers and the birthplace of pickleball — a sport that is now enjoyed by millions around the world—the Bainbridge Cup was named.



The Bainbridge Cup: the World Cup of Pickleball

Pickleball has grown rapidly in the last few years, resulting in the development of the Intercontinental Pickleball Competition, with tournaments now being held in many countries across the globe. The International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) was established to help pickleball expand globally. As a result, member countries showed a growing desire for organised international competitions soon after the IFP was formed. Following the demand, the IFP established the Bainbridge Cup, a worldwide stage for pickleball's initial intercontinental team tournament. It was held in Madrid, Spain in 2017. The 2019 Bainbridge Cup was held in Essen, Germany.

In 2020, the Bainbridge Cup was to be held in Nottingham, England. This would have been the biggest pickleball tournament in the world, with over 800 competitors, it had to be canceled due to the worldwide flu outbreak. The location of the 2022 Bainbridge Cup was announced recently, for more information click the link below, but if you're looking to play there, get in quick because it's going to be very busy: https://www.pickleballtournaments.com/tournamentinfo.pl?tid=7045

More than a few celebrities and athletes have taken up paddles in the last few years.

Olympic legend Michael Phelps will faced NFL wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald in an exhibition match back in January 2022, while Stephen Colbert hosted a "celebrity-packed" pickleball tournament.

Ben Johns, number 3 in the world said, "I think it's kind of funny that the sport has caught on with celebrities, and athletes so much."

"It's something that levels the playing field, so you might have an NFL player playing with an NBA player and they're like, 'Hey, we can't compete with each other on our sports, but we certainly can in this sport."

Resides: Austin, Texas Turned Pro: 2016 Birthday: March 18, 1999

Age: 23 Height: 6' 0"

Plays: Right-handed Paddle: Signature Joola Hyperion CFS 16mm

The rest is history'

Essentially, courts for the game of pickleball were constructed near the tennis courts where I practiced, and I thought it looked fun," he said.

After growing up playing tennis and ping-pong, Ben Johns became a professional hitting partner for his older brother on the pro tennis tour. He picked up a pickleball paddle afterwards.

"So I gave it a try and like most people, I got hooked very quickly. I never stopped playing it after that, and the rest is history."

John's expertise in tennis is now being shared with TopCourt, a digital tennis teaching platform that offers lessons from players like Iga Swiatek, Venus Williams, and Nick Kyrgios, to help expand the sport.

50 PPA competitions and more Triple Crowns than any other male professional pickleball player are among the nearly 60 competitions he has won during his already illustrious career.





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FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Prince Tuning Centre (PTC), £750 GBP - Measures static weight, swingweight and balance point of tennis rackets. Immaculate condition. Has been well used but loved and looked after for several years. Has been used to customise frames for several top flight professional players, including grand slam champions, as well as used on tour. Selling only due to upgrade. Easy to calibrate when necessary. Was over £1500 brand new. info@racketspec.co.uk

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