



## MEMBERS BULLETIN – September/October 2011

### EVENTS UPDATE

*[Note: there are a lot of events closing on September 6<sup>th</sup>, so enter now if you are planning on playing in October/November!!]*

It 's been an exciting couple of months on the WISPA World Tour with major events in Asia, Australia and a number of other new events across the globe. Our thanks obviously to all those that have been involved in making these happen, but particularly to WISPA member Emma Beddoes who was very active in the Mantis Nottingham Open joining the tour. As I keep saying you are our sales team and ambassadors so it is vital that you keep working away at clubs and national federations that you think might be able to put on a WISPA event.

We are now well in to the WISPA World Series which sees Nicol David topping the standings, as she does the world rankings, but with many players still in contention for a finals spot. We are currently in discussions about the WISPA World Series Finals taking place alongside the PSA World Series Finals in January, and will let you know as soon as we have firm news. We are confident that this can only strengthen the sport and this is vital as we move into a key period in the lead up to the next Olympic vote. The WSF has engaged world renowned agency Vero to help this process and I am sure they will in touch with many of you over the coming months and your efforts will be key in helping squash get a seat at the Olympic table.

The television coverage of our major events continues to grow as Stewart Binns works with television partners Total Sports Asia to expand the distribution of the top tier events. It was great to see the CSR Viridian Australian Open go out on Fox Sports, as well as other networks, and with the CIMB Malaysian Open and CIMB Singapore Masters gaining excellent coverage across Asia we are hopefully starting to elevate the profile of both the players and the events. One area that you can help is with the commentary. If this is something that interests you please let me know asap as we are in the process of working out how this will work in a more structured way moving forwards.

The popular Hamptons Open was back again and by all accounts lived up to its billing as fun event to play, while just this weekend the first in the Dread Sports Squash Series had the players staying in the Ritz Carlton! This is the start of a North American swing that will take in LA, Phoenix, New York before arriving at the World Series US Open in Philadelphia. October is a busy month with the Monte Carlo Classic and Qatar International taking centre stage, followed by the World Open at the end of the month. Tommy Berden and his team are sure to put on a stunning event, so we look forward to seeing everyone there not only for the squash but also the AGM!! Please do attend if you can as it is key, not only to find out what is happening in your association, but also for you to be able to quiz the Board and me! It will take place on the evening of October 31<sup>st</sup>, watch this space for more details.

Unfortunately there has been no confirmation from China about their Open, and we are still waiting on the paperwork/fee from Seoul, you will get an update as and when things change.

**Finally, again please also note that occasionally emails go astray and don't arrive at their intended destination. You will always get a response from one of us if you contact WISPA, so if you don't then please follow it up whether it is your arrival details, a specific question or general enquiry. If we haven't received it we can't act on it!**

Attached is updated draft calendar, and please see below a draft schedule for the 'Silver and above' events planned for the next part of the year:

<b>22-25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Carol Weymuller Open (Gold 45)</b>
<b>2-6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>US Open (World Series)</b>
<b>11-14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Monte Carlo Classic (Silver 20)</b>
<b>17-21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Qatar International (World Series)</b>
<b>1-6<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>World Open (World Series)</b>
<b>15-21<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>Hong Kong Open (World Series)</b>

As always there are more events that fill the calendar and if you have any leads on new events please pass them on!

#### **TOUR RULE AMENDMENTS**

The Tour Guide has finally been updated and is now uploaded on to the website, the latest version will always be there so make sure you check that, but if you are unsure whether a rule has changed please contact Tim or Sam.

#### **Qualifying Draw**

This reverts back to being done by the WISPA office, and will be 1-2 working days before as per the below:

<u>Draw Done by WISPA</u>	<u>Day Qualifying Starts</u>
Friday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Saturday
Thursday	Sunday

This will hopefully give you all at least a full day, wherever you are in the World, to know when you will play, whilst being late enough to still minimise the impact of withdrawals.

Please note that this change will come in for all events that close after **1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**, i.e. all events in September will still have onsite draws done.

## **OTHER NEWS .....**

### 2020 Olympics

As mentioned above Squash did get short-listed so we will be working hard with all the other partners in squash to give us the best possible chance, and that work can start now at our events where WISPA players are the sports brand ambassadors.

### DRUGS

The Prohibited list of Substances and Methods is now available as a free i-phone app at the below link:

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/wada-prohibited-list-2011/id408057950?mt=8>

## **SEPTEMBER ENTRY DEADLINES:**

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Sheikha Sheikha Saad Al Sabah International</b> |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>10 Open Grupo Pao de Acucar</b>                 |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>SRAM-NSC Series 1</b>                           |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Dread Sports Squash Series 2</b>                |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Monte Carlo Classic</b>                         |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Qatar International</b>                         |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>World Open</b>                                  |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Macau Open</b>                                  |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> September -</b> | <b>Hong Kong Open</b>                              |

## **POINTS REMINDER.....**

Challengers – only Regional Members are awarded Challenger points automatically. Full Members must request them\*

Super Challengers - only Regional Members and Full Members ranked below 50 when entries close are awarded Super Challenger points automatically. Full Members higher than 50 must request them\*

Rising Star events - only Rising Star Members are awarded Rising Star (junior) points automatically. Full & Regional members must request them\*

\* Points must be requested by the final day of the event.

It is our Patrons Club members whose support for our development initiatives makes such a difference. We thank you all.

Membership details can be found at: [http://www.wispa.net/patrons\\_club.asp](http://www.wispa.net/patrons_club.asp)

## **NEW MEMBERS**

WISPA is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Lakeesha Rarere, Nathalie Sutter, Taylor Flavell, Rachael Gibson, Rebecca Baum, Aimee Slater, Mayar Abdelrahman, Gabriella Garr, Katie Tutrone, Camille Lanier, Norhan Abdelnaby, Catuxa Peree

Tim

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