# Ladies Rackets World Singles Championship 2022

April 30th - May 1st 2022 The Queen's Club



## Order of Play

# The Eliminators Saturday 30th April

10:30 Georgie Willis vs Tara Lumley (Best of 3)

11:30 India Deakin vs Cesca Sweet (Best of 3)

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15:00 Georgie Willis or Tara Lumley vs India Deakin or Cesca Sweet (Best of 3) - Winner is the Challenger

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19:00 Evening Dinner

# The World Championship Challenge Sunday 1st May

11:00 Lea Van Der Zwalmen vs Challenger (Best of 5)

12:30 Pol Roger Champagne reception

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# The Champion Lea Van Der Zwalmen

#### When and where did you start playing Rackets:

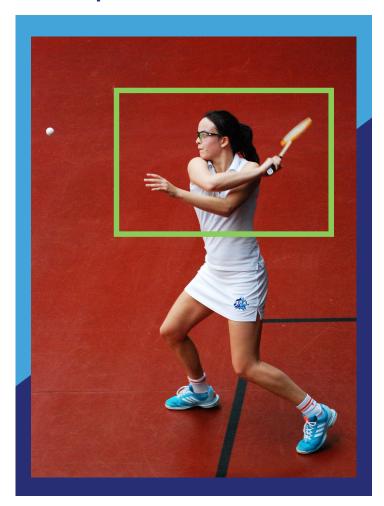
October 2013, Clifton College under the coaching of Reggie Williams

#### What major events have you played in:

- Winner of the UK Schoolgirls Singles Championship (March 2014; March 2015)
- Winner of the Ladies Rackets British Open Singles (February 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- Winner of the Ladies Rackets British Open Doubles (November 2016, 2017, 2018)
- Winner of the first ever Ladies Rackets World Championship (May 2015)
- Current Ladies Rackets World Champion (2015-)

## What is your most memorable match you played in:

Lots of great memories playing as a 2nd pair for Clifton College, playing doubles in some of the men's most prestigious events but most memorable match has to be against Claire Fahey back in May 2015 in the first ever Ladies Rackets Singles World Championship Final.



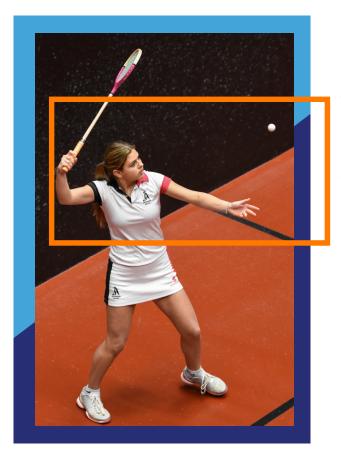
## The Challengers

#### **Georgie Willis**

I started playing at Seacourt as a junior, after picking up Real Tennis there, and won junior titles at U16 and U18. I won the British Open doubles for the first time in 2016, and then again in 2019; I was World Challenge Finalist in 2017 and 2019. After a break through Covid and University, I have started playing regularly again, and achieved my first British Open singles title this year, 2022. That has to be my most memorable match, playing against Cesca in the final, and achieving a goal I hadn't even set myself!



**Current World #1** 



#### **India Deakin**

I started playing Rackets in 2014, my first year at Cheltenham College. From then on I played in all the Queen's Club school tournaments both singles and doubles from the ages of 15-18, as well as playing in the British Open both single and doubles and the World Championships. My most memorable match would have been the Doubles World Championships with Tara Lumley, where we had a brilliant yet close game, where we eventually won. The standard of Rackets that day was amazing and was an extremely enjoyable and memorable day.



#### **Cesca Sweet**

I started playing Rackets when I joined Wellington College four years ago and had to go through an Enrichment Programme to see which sports I liked the most, Rackets obviously stuck with me and I've played it ever since. The events I've played in are the national school girls tournaments and Ladies British Open. A memorable match for me would be the Senior School Girls Final, which National Doubles my partner Lilly May and I won, it's memorable as we had been playing our opponents copious times in the years preceding, and was nostalgic to play our last school girls match against them.

## **Tara Lumley**

I started playing Rackets at The Queen's Club in 2017. I currently hold the British Open Doubles and World Championship Doubles titles with India Deakin, and previously won the British Open singles. I also competed in the Philadelphia Invitational.

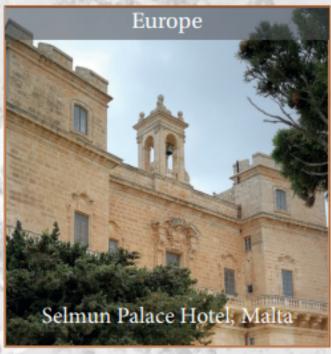
My most memorable match was probably winning the British Open singles in 2020 against India Deakin - I came back from 11-4 down in the 5th set, winning 10 points in a row before closing it out 15-12.

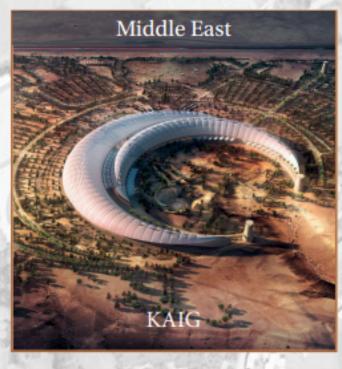


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## Message from the CEO

This is the fourth Ladies World Championship since inception in 2015. Back then the ladies Rackets game was rapidly evolving and today, seven years later, so much promise has been fulfilled. We now have a muchanticipated return of world champion, Lea Van Der Zwalmen, dominant since the first world championship, being hunted down by four very talented, and evenly matched, challengers. Georgie Willis and Tara Lumley have both won the Ladies British Open, Tara and India Deakin are the World Doubles Champions, and Cesca Sweet has won everything at Under 18, as well as reaching this year's Open Final. The four challengers will battle it out on Saturday with the winner taking on Lea the following day – a fantastic match in prospect.

How have we reached here? Huge effort from many, but Howard Angus has championed the ladies' game in support of the T&RA from the beginning; and two school professionals, Mark Briers and Ryan Tulley, have trail blazed the emerging talent. Others have played their part, of course, and the Rackets Professional Association have also welcomed the girls as equals.

The T&RA will also continue to champion the Ladies game as it goes from strength to strength, already playing the British Men's and Ladies' Opens together, on the same day, so that more spectators will see how far the ladies have come. It is the fastest developing programme I have had the pleasure to support.

I should also thank our co-sponsors; Situ, supported by Pol Roger and Play Brave, who have all played their part (along with co-sponsors the T&RA) to make this weekend special.

Enjoy the wonderful matches ahead and take care in the galleries. Chris Davies Chief Executive T&RA

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