

**WELCOME LETTER
FROM
CHRIS DAVIES
T&RA CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Ladies Rackets World Doubles Championship is back. This was first played in 2020 when the inaugural winners were Tara Lumley and India Deakin. Tara will return in 2023 partnered by the five-time (and 2023) British Open Champion, Claire Fahey, who also happens to be the seven-time Real Tennis World Champion. Rackets World Champion, Lea Van Der Zwalmen, another five-time Open Champion, partnered with Schoolgirl Champion, Cesca Sweet, will be certain to challenge strongly. Last year's Open Champion, Georgie Willis will play with Honor Cockroft, with Mimi Davis and Eve Shenkman completing the line-up. Matches start on Thursday 27th evening, with the grand final the following evening at 6.30pm.

The T&RA has teamed up with Nick Sweet, Situ, to sponsor the event with the aim of continuing the mercurial rise of Ladies' Rackets. Nick and myself welcome you to the tournament and we hope you will enjoy the highly anticipated matches. We also thank Queen's Club for the use of its outstanding facilities, and Ben Geytenbeek for providing live, free-to-air streaming of all the matches, which you can watch on the T&RA Media Channel and, if you haven't already, please don't forget to subscribe.

Play!

**LADIES WORLD
DOUBLES
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**THURSDAY
27TH APRIL**

**6PM
CLAIRE FAHEY & TARA
LUMLEY
V
HONOR COCKROFT
& GEORGIE WILLIS**

**7:30PM
CESCA SWEET & LEA VAN
DER ZWALMEN
V
MIMI DAVIS &
EVE SHENKMAN**

**FRIDAY
28TH APRIL**

**6:30PM
THE WORLD DOUBLES
CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL**

**7:30PM
CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION
LINK ROOM**

**8:30PM
LADIES DINNER
THE GRILLE**

CHAMPAGNE
POL ROGER

T&RA

Grays

Situ



27-28 April

Queen's Club

Player Profiles

Georgie Willis



Georgie started playing Rackets at Seacourt Club with her dad. A star in the National Schoolgirls Championships in both Real Tennis and Rackets growing up, she has continued to be involved with both

games. She had to replace Rackets with squash while at university, but has since returned to the game and become a staple of the Mixed Rackets community at Queen's. Georgie has won a variety of Open titles over the years across Ladies' Singles and Doubles and has famously never lost a Mixed Doubles tournament!

Lea Van Der Zwalm



Lea Van Der Zwalm started playing Rackets at Clifton under the tutelage of Reggie Williams. From early battles with Claire to dominating the National Schoolgirls

competitions, she proved herself to be a leading player and was instrumental in putting Ladies Rackets on the map. After defending her Singles title for the fourth time in a row last year, Lea is back to try to take the Doubles Championship. She now lives in Bordeaux and is focusing on her Real Tennis.

Claire Fahey



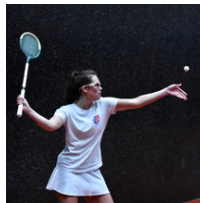
Claire started playing Rackets in 2011 at Queen's Club and was delighted to be a part of the very first Neptune Ladies British Open, playing until 2014. Moving away from a Rackets court meant play was until

she picked up a racquet again late 2022 for the Ladies Open Doubles, and found success on court again in the Open Singles in 2023.

Cesca Sweet

Cesca took up Rackets as soon as she arrived at Wellington College and developed into a useful player during her time there under the guidance of Ryan Tulley, culminating in her taking the National Schools titles for Singles

and Doubles in the 2021-22 season. This secured enough world ranking points to earn her a place in the Eliminators for the World Singles. She won these in two thrilling matches against the current World Doubles Champions India Deakin and Tara Lumley and progressed to play the great Lea VDZ for the title the following day, a great honour for a school age girl. Lea put her firmly back in her place that day but nonetheless her points accrued and Cesca is now ranked Ladies World No.1. She has since reached the British Open final in the past two years, most recently being (again) put in her place, this time by the great Claire Fahey! Her Doubles career has progressed alongside the Singles, winning the British Open Doubles title late in 2022 with Georgie Willis.



Tara Lumley

Tara first started playing Rackets when she moved to London and joined The Queen's Club. Having come from a Real Tennis background she quickly took a liking to the game and has played ever since. Tara's best victory

to date was securing the first ever World Doubles Championship title with India Deakin in 2020. She was also World Doubles Champion for Real Tennis at the same time, which had not been done in over a century. Alongside this, she has won British Open Singles in 2021, and British Open Doubles in 2019, 2020.

Situ

Player Profiles

Honor Cockroft



Honor started playing Rackets with her dad at Queen's Club, as well as at Wellington with Ryan Tulley. More likely to be found organising than winning tournaments, Honor has

helped grow Mixed Rackets and encourage beginners to pick up the sport. A solid player when consistent, Honor has improved a lot over the past year and is working on finding a backhand.

Eve Shenkman



Eve started playing Rackets at age 12 with her father Simon Shenkman at Manchester Tennis & Racquets Club and was also coached for a year by former Doubles World

Champion Will Hopton. She is most proud of her win in the U16 National Schoolgirls as the underdog from Manchester and is a committed contributor to both Ladies and Mixed Rackets at the Queen's Club.

Mimi Davis



Mimi started playing Rackets in sixth form at Cheltenham College in 2019 and was inspired to play by Mark Briers. Despite starting the sport later, she demonstrated

progress due to her experience in lawn tennis, as evidenced by her use of a two-handed backhand and her reluctance to hit shots off the back wall! During her gap year, she did a fellowship program in Philadelphia with the goal of promoting and expanding the sport, particularly for female members. Last year Mimi won the most improved player at the Cheltenham Gold Racket, and is a key OC player.