

Tennis Europe Annual General Meeting in Zurich



l-r ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti, Mayor of Zurich Elmar Ledergerber, Tennis Europe President Jacques Dupré at the AGM's official dinner.

Hosted by Swiss Tennis, the 35th Annual General Meeting of Tennis Europe was held in Zurich, Switzerland from March 26th-29th, and was attended by delegates from 33 of Tennis Europe's member national tennis federations.

Among the special guests at the meeting were ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti and Executive Vice-President Juan Margets, both of whom addressed the assembly with opening day presentations on ITF-related matters. A full programme on the first day of the meeting included topics from Swiss Tennis, HEAD, and the Royal Dutch Lawn Tennis Association (KNLTB) as well as the presentation of Tennis Europe's recent survey of 10 & Under tennis across Europe.

Saturday's plenary session saw the delegates united in their approval of the 2009 budget and committee reports. During his report, Chief Executive Officer Olli Mäenpää announced a special offer from TennisLMS, the organisation's official player development platform, who explained their intentions to give a number of 2-year licenses to all 49-member nations of Tennis Europe, a donation to European tennis worth up to €240,000.

The meeting was brought to a close with a number of award ceremonies. Russian Tennis Federation President Shamil Tarpishev received his nation's haul of three **European Tennis Trophy presented by Lindström** awards (for Professional and Junior Tennis as well as Overall performance), while Karin van Bijsterveld, President of the KNLTB collected the eighth successive Wheelchair Tennis award for the Netherlands. Board member Günther Lang accepted Germany's 18th consecutive Senior Tennis award. Lindström Chief Executive Officer Juha Laurio joined Tennis Europe's President Jacques Dupré to present the awards.

Also at the meeting, Wolfgang Hofer and Jarl Whist were unanimously elected as **Honorary Life Counsellors** of the organisation in recognition of their

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contributions to Tennis Europe. Mr. Hofer's involvement with Tennis Europe dates back to the organisation's founding and saw him serve 30 years as an honorary auditor. Mr. Whist was a board member for six years until 2008, and is a former President of the Norwegian Tennis Federation.

A number of **Tennis Europe Awards** were also presented following the approval of nominations from national federations. Germany's Senior Tennis star Heidi Eisterlehner and Swiss Tennis' Dominique Gachoud were special guests at Friday's dinner, where both were presented with their awards for services to European tennis. Delegates from Russia and Turkey took home awards for Anna Skorodumova and Azmi Kumova respectively.

Finally, '**Tennis Europe Junior Tour Player of the Year powered by Polar**' awards were given to representatives from the national tennis associations, who took home computerised training wristwatches to pass on to the #1-ranked players in each age category at the end of 2008, whilst the corresponding **Senior Players of the Year** were also presented with medals and diplomas.

The closing dinner took place at the historical Muraltengut (City Hall) in Zürich and was hosted by the city's Mayor, Elmar Ledergerber and also attended by Zurich's Sports and Education Minister Gerold Lauber.

Summing up the meeting, Jacques Dupré said, "I'd like to thank all the delegates and guests for their contributions to an extremely productive AGM. I sincerely hope that the smooth programme and the lack of any major issues of concern is in some way a positive reflection on the first year of my mandate. Together with the Board of Management, I am looking forward to continuing our work. Finally, I'd like to express our gratitude to our host René Stammbach and his team at Swiss Tennis, who worked tirelessly to ensure a perfect organisation."

In bringing the formalities to a close, Mr. Dupré confirmed that 2010 meeting would be held in Riga, following the invitation of the Latvian Tennis Union.

For more images from the meeting in Zurich, visit our Facebook gallery.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tennis-Europe/40211773432>



Photos; Top - Tennis Europe CEO Olli Mäenpää, Tennis LMS CEO & Founder Sasha Frljanic, Tennis Europe President Jacques Dupré, ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti, Tennis LMS President Kelly Jones. Centre: Olga Barabanschikova collects Tennis Europe Junior Tour Player of the Year powered by Polar award for compatriot Pavel Filin from Jacques Dupré and Polar's Jean-Jacques Gauthey. Bottom, Jacques Dupré and Georg von Waldenfels present Wolfgang Hofer with the Honorary Life Counsellorship.

In the Spotlight: ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti

During the recent Tennis Europe AGM, Swiss Tennis arranged for ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti to meet with a number of leading sports journalists from the country, with whom he discussed a number of contemporary issues facing the sport. Tennis Europe News was also there...

Several players have complained publicly about the changes to the WADA anti-doping code this year. What is your response?

The changes to the WADA Code did put an extra burden on the players but I know that all of them agree that we want a drug-free sport. It is the ITF's job to work with the players so that they understand the rules and to listen to their concerns. We must also work with WADA to make the process as straightforward as possible so that the players can easily comply with the rules. The code has many new aspects, which went in effect from 1st Jan 2009, but two are especially relevant and have been misreported. One is the provisional suspension, which means that when tennis players test positive for a restricted range of performance enhancing substances, they are suspended immediately and cannot play until after the final judgement and any penalty that is assessed. The second change is the expansion of the whereabouts procedure for out of competition testing. I stress the 'out of competition' part, because this is not a huge part of the anti-doping programme. Due to the nature of this sport, this currently represents some 10% of tests. During the season, players compete in events and are subject to controls there.

The whereabouts clause applies only to each athlete from the pool chosen by each sport's governing body – and in tennis, this pool is composed of the top 50 ranked singles players, top 10 doubles players and top 15 wheelchair players. They have to give availability for only one hour each day, when not in competition. We do understand the concerns of some players; the situation is tough and the process may need some small refinement. But, let me stress, most players do support the programme, wanting to keep tennis drug-free. I'd like to add tennis has had the whereabouts system for four years; it was not compulsory, but was already working well.

The financial crisis has hit a number of sports hard – what is the situation in tennis?

I would say that tennis is one of the better-protected sports, but we are not immune from the difficulties. At



Francesco Ricci Bitti addresses the Tennis Europe AGM, March 27th.

the ITF we have several long-term sponsors, and there are some small signs that they might like to change existing commitments, but nothing major. The ITF is in a good financial position but, like almost everybody lately, we have lost money on our portfolio and that affects our reserves. We signed a new global sponsor, Telefonica, for Davis Cup last month, which I think is a great achievement in this climate.

To really say how tennis in general is faring I think we have to wait until 2010. I don't see any problems for the Grand Slams, they're highly profitable – some \$250m combined annually, but it is possible that some tour events may struggle. For 2009, there was a big increase in prize money, which I should note was organised before the current crisis, and they may find it difficult to keep up with these commitments. I wouldn't be surprised to see some sanctions on the market next year. But tennis is so strong that there will always be people queuing to buy them. On the other hand, if the tour events can cope with this year, I think we can say for sure that tennis is very, very strong.

Are you happy with the performance of the team competitions and are there any plans to change formats?

I think that the present format is only an issue for one country, the United States. There are always some suggestions, but generally speaking I think 99% of the countries are happy. I think that changing formats could kill the competitiveness of the event: the current format where you have 16 top countries that can hope to win the Davis Cup is perfect. Fed Cup is improving greatly in line with the depth of women's tennis. Every year we have more teams that can realistically hope

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In the Spotlight: ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti

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to win and the event is much stronger than five years ago. I'm happy to see all the upsets, and such commitment from the players, especially from the Russians and other Europeans in particular. And the competition is very successful in certain countries. I was in Serbia recently and they had 20,000 people each day to watch Jankovic and Ivanovic play Fed Cup, which is really something special.

Larry Scott left the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour recently, stating that he felt it was a pity that the two tours hadn't yet merged, and that he saw no sign of that in the near future. What do you think about those views?

Larry is a good friend and I'm very sad that he left because he's a great person, very experienced, and tennis will miss him. I think that he made it clear that one of his aims was to be the head of both tours, but the fact that they have not come together is not necessarily a problem for the sport. The ATP and WTA have one common challenge, which is that they want to represent both the union and the business – by which I mean the players and the tournaments –, at the same time. This is their problem, and the truth is that they have been doing great to manage both things successfully for so many years. To aim to join men's and women's organisations I think is a great concept but I don't know if it's very practical in the long run. But I know that Larry was passionate about this, and I think it's one of the reasons he has sadly decided to leave his role.

What do you think about the shifting of tournaments to emerging markets such as Asia?

It can be worrying when big events go to non-mature markets, but this is business. The balance of the world is changing and we have to accept that this happens. Money drives business – who would have thought that the venues for the women's World Championships would be Qatar and then Turkey? But on the other hand it has very positive aspects. We can only hope

that this goes some way to changing the position of the sport – and sport for women in general – in those countries. I would like to see more federations become promoters, which I think would bring more stability to the circuit.

Do you think that more changes need to be made to the game to enhance its appeal?

It's not easy because from an athlete's point of view, tennis is one of the most conservative sports. If you'd only asked the players, we would never have had the tiebreak, just to give an example. Personally I believe that what we did with short sets was very positive. If you do an investigation, you'll see that there is a fall of

interest after the end of set. So, maybe five sets of up to four games would counteract this. This was something we looked at some time ago on the Pro Circuits but it was just an experiment. Another possible innovation that I personally am interested in is 'one serve.' But, of course, in any sports it is difficult to

make radical changes without the support of the athletes, and as I said, tennis is very conservative.

Do you feel that the changes in doubles have been successful?

It has breathed life into doubles, but it has not solved the problem in my opinion. The key is to encourage the top singles players to play doubles. Look at the Olympics, where sometimes the audience was bigger for doubles than singles. What the Tours have done has certainly helped a bit. The key to why we are so strong in Davis Cup is that people love to see the doubles, it comes at a key point to the competition and it is a crucial point. I honestly don't know the long term solution to the problem because the tournament schedules of players hardly encourages them to play more, but at least the recent rule changes seem to have helped a bit.

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In the Spotlight: ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti

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The ITF invests huge sums of money for the development of the sport. When you look around the tennis world, do you think things are going in the right direction?

Well, I would like to note that we are active in 205 countries. The key is to encourage the professional development of the national federations. But this requires patience. It is not a process that will take two years; it might take twenty, or more depending on the country. In the meantime we have to keep alive our activities. I've been involved as an administrator since the early seventies, and things have changed a lot around the world. When I was first on the board of Italian Federation in '75, Asia represented maybe 10% of world tennis activities at best, and now accounts for 25% and continues to grow. It's a huge difference. The world is changing and we have to follow the evolution, to be a reference for people and our duty is to help them to change and improve. Five years ago I could not have imagined that the two main organisations would host their biggest events in China, and that's a great im-

provement, they've hosted the Masters and a top tournament, not to mention the Olympics.

It's important to realise as well that tennis is a cyclical sport. To attract the kids you need a role model. When one comes along, like Borg, who started a Swedish boom that is only just reaching the end of its cycle, things take care of themselves. In Europe, I think the only system that has had continuity is France. Before, it was the former Czechoslovakia that also has a very big tradition and infrastructure. But national federations cannot perform miracles. You cannot create a Federer from nothing, for example, but you can nurture him, and help him to express himself. This is the job of the federations.

Tennis Europe Junior Tour Latest



The venue for this year's 18 & Under **European Junior Championships** has been confirmed as Villach, Austria. The event will be held during the week of July 20-26, alongside the 16 & Under event in Moscow (RUS) and the 14 & Under championships in Pilsen

(CZE). Pilsen will also be the location of this year's **ITF/Tennis Europe Educational Forum**, which will give the chance for top juniors to attend seminars on player development, the media and health and fitness amongst other topics.

At the recent AGM, Russia was confirmed as the winner of the 2008 European Junior Championships **Nations' Ranking**, just ahead of second-placed Germany. 2006 winners the Netherlands took third place.

The **Tennis Europe Junior Masters** will take place in Napoli, Italy, during the weekend of October 2-4.

A few other changes to the Tennis Europe Junior Tour calendars should be noted:

Tournament locations in Ukraine during the week of May 4th have been confirmed as **Lugansk** (under 14) and **Simferopol** (Under 16).

An Under 16 event in **Reykjavik**, Iceland, has been added to the calendar for the week of July 6th. Another addition is the event in **Gausdal**, Norway which will be held during the week of July 20th.

The Under 14 event scheduled in Greece during the week of July 13th has been cancelled.

Visit the website for all the latest information from the Tennis Europe Junior Tour, including calendars, results, fact sheets and photos.

Tennis Europe 10 & Under Survey Launched



Tennis Europe has published a first-ever in-depth study of the structure of 10 & Under tennis activities in Europe.

Carried out in co-operation with Sports Marketing Surveys, the study took place between November 2008 and March 2009 and was devised to support the International Tennis Federation's 'Play and Stay' campaign, which aims to encourage participation and retention of players by enabling them to "Serve, Rally and Score" from the first lesson through the use of slower balls and smaller courts. Through the identification of successful models and sharing best practices, Tennis Europe hopes the survey will be an essential tool for member nations and other entities in the future planning of 10 & Under tennis projects.

The pan-European survey, sent to all Tennis Europe member nations (who each received a copy of the final report at the recent Tennis Europe AGM), looks at varying competition formats across the continent for young beginner players, and provides statistical analysis of event organisers, locations, court sizes, age categories and the numbers of participating children.

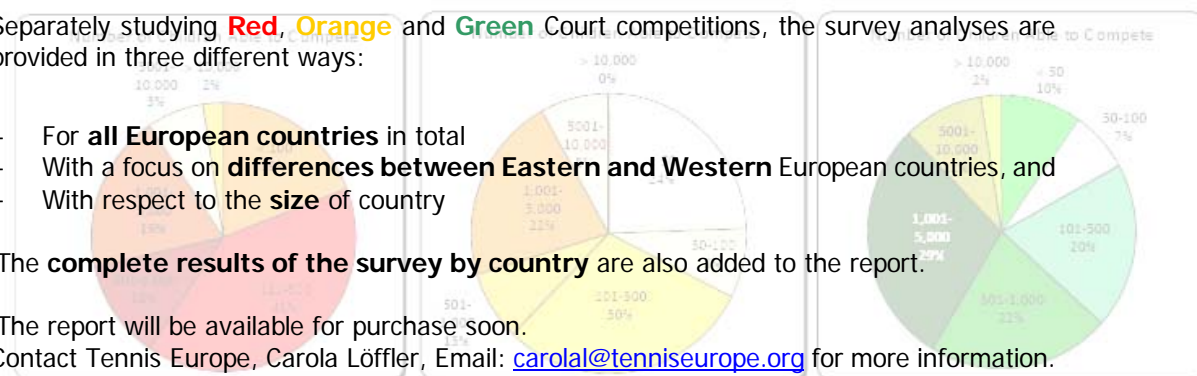
Separately studying **Red**, **Orange** and **Green** Court competitions, the survey analyses are provided in three different ways:

- For **all European countries** in total
- With a focus on **differences between Eastern and Western** European countries, and
- With respect to the **size** of country

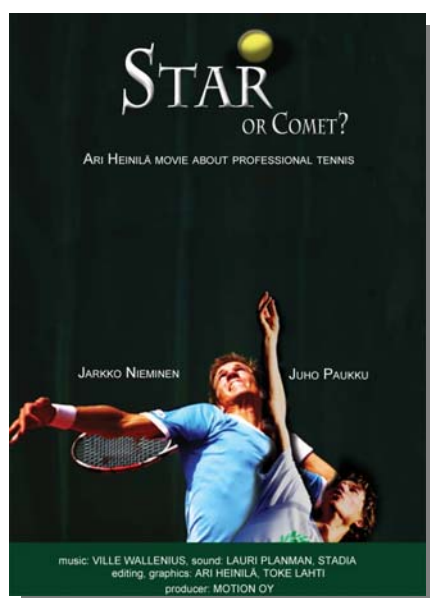
The **complete results of the survey by country** are also added to the report.

The report will be available for purchase soon.

Contact Tennis Europe, Carola Löffler, Email: carolal@tenniseurope.org for more information.



'Star or Comet' DVD Competition Winners



In the last issue of Tennis Europe News we held a competition to win one of ten copies of Ari Heinilä's award-winning tennis documentary DVD, 'Star or Comet', which follows the contrasting fortunes of two players (Jarkko Nieminen and Juho Paavola) as they battle their way through a season on different rungs of the professional circuit.

The winners are: Richard Koria, Lilla Adam, Oswald Tanti, Antonio Caiado, Kay Gilbert, Barbara Davidson, Bruno Soares, Ulla Hakansson, Traudl Weißen and Berndt Palmqvist.

The DVD can also be purchased online. Click the image on the left for further information, or see last month's issue for an interview with the director.

ITF Play and Stay Course in Greece

The International Tennis Federation's Play & Stay initiative was introduced to Greece recently and received an enthusiastic response from the 90 participants attending a 'Play and Stay' workshop held at the Piliupolis Tennis Club in Athens from 13 - 15 March.

Course leader and ITF/Tennis Europe Development Officer Hrvoje Zmajic was helped by George Pachatzis, Technical Director of the Hellenic Tennis Federation and four Greek tutors as he introduced the participants to the modified equipment designed to help teach starter players to serve, play and score from the very beginning of their first tennis session. The coaches were introduced to the way in which specially adapted equipment could be used to rapidly develop tennis skills in starter players and also allow coaches to work with larger groups more effectively.

Course Coordinator George Papchatzis commented, "The Course made use of a modern teaching methodology that, in our opinion will significantly influence the future work of the coaches in attendance. This was an important step in our efforts to improve participation in tennis in our country and at the same time provided the opportunity to prepare our tutors, who spread their acquired knowledge and skills



around Greece."

ITF/Tennis Europe Development Officer Hrvoje Zmajic added, "In June 2008, ITF expert Ronald Pothuizen conducted a one day 'Play & Stay' seminar that generated interest among Greek coaches. This year, during the three-days workshop we went through key aspects of the modern teaching methodology that should help coaches to attract and retain more players in our sport. The ITF and Tennis Europe are looking forward to cooperate in future coaches' education programmes in Greece."

Red Court Tournaments take off in Lithuania

The first ever red court competitions for players aged 7 & Under and 10 & Under competitions with green balls were held in Siauliai, Lithuania on March 20th.

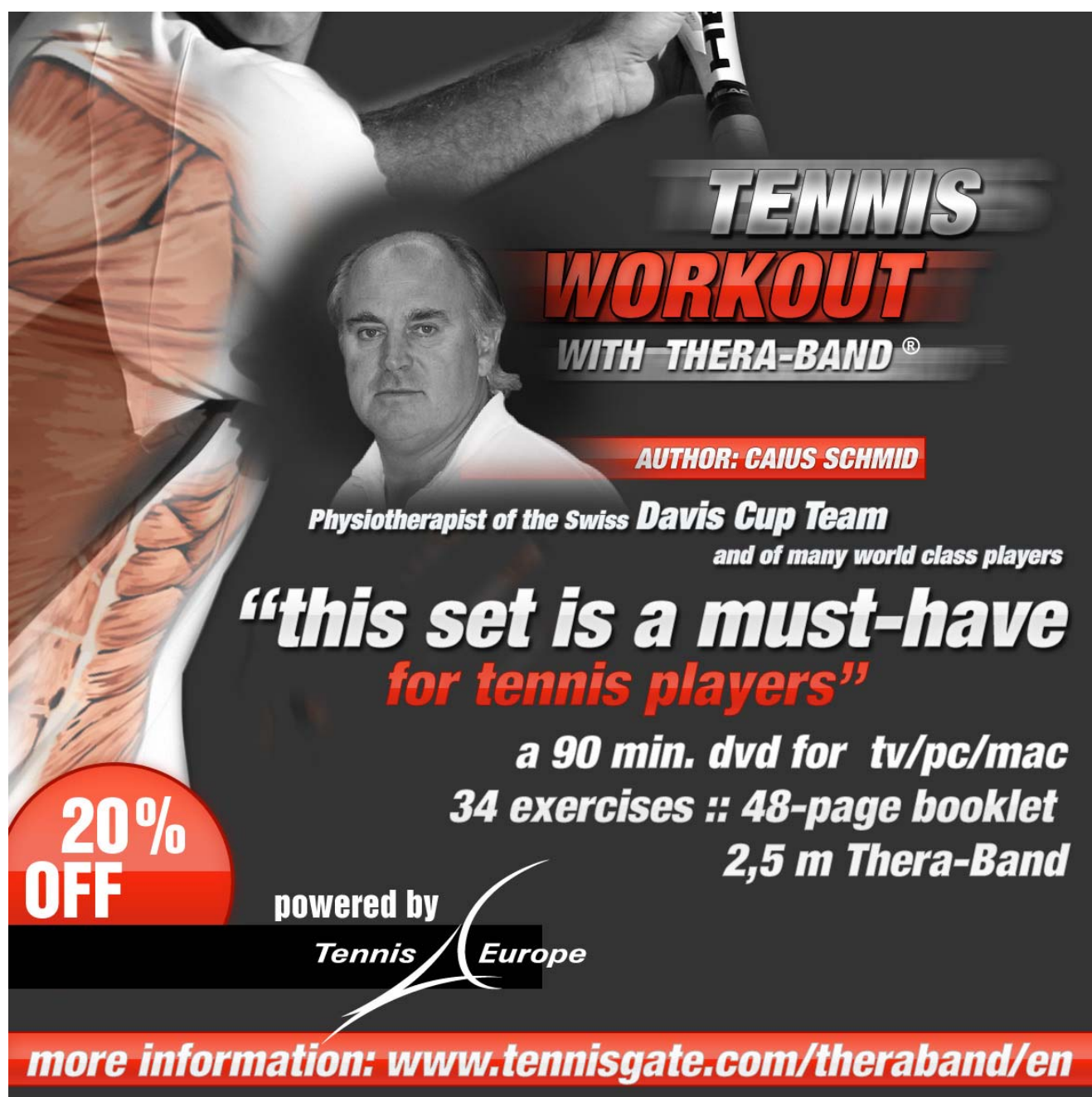
Under the umbrella of the Tennis Europe 'Competition for All' project, part of the ITF Tennis Play & Stay campaign, the event was organized by the Lithuanian Tennis Union and was held at the Siauliai Tennis School.

Around 100 children from Siauliai, Palanga and Druskininkai took part in the competition. The tournament was organized by Ramunas Grusas, Director of the Siauliai Tennis School, and National Competition Coordinator Justina Petraityte with the support of coaches from the Siauliai Tennis School.

Ramunas Grusas commented, "These events have an important role to play in the future of our sport in Lithuania. The aim is that they should help our young players to start enjoying the competition from the very



beginning. This is a tennis festival and is very important for kids' motivation to 'Play and Stay' in tennis. At the same time it will provide a valuable experience for kids and parents that will in the future look at taking part in performance competitions."



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Beyond the Baseline...

Several of the top Europeans collected accolades at the 2008 **ATP World Tour Awards** ceremony in Miami recently. Rafael Nadal was named 'Player of the Year' and Nenad Zimonjic's partnership with Daniel Nestor was crowned 'Doubles Team of the Year'. Roger Federer won the Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award for a record fifth consecutive year. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga won 'Most improved Player' after a year in which he moved from #43 to #6, and Rainer Schuettler won the 'Comeback Player of the Year' title.

At the corresponding **Sony Ericsson WTA Tour Awards**, Dinara Safina was named 'Most Improved Player', while Caroline Wozniacki won the 'Newcomer of the Year' award. Ana Ivanovic was named Humanitarian of the Year for her work with UNICEF. The players voted for the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix in Stuttgart as their favourite tournament.

Sony Ericsson WTA Tour CEO **Larry Scott** has announced plans to stand down from his role on July 1st, for a commissioner post in NCAA basketball. Under Scott's leadership, the tour attained equal prize money at Roland Garros and Wimbledon, a 500% increase in sponsorship revenues and 40% increase in prize money.

Over 100 players took part in the first **ITF Beach Tennis Tour** event of the season in Munich from 28th-29th March.

Carlos Moya is currently unable to play, with what is said to be a career-threatening hip injury.

Kim Clijsters has confirmed her return to professional tennis. After a couple of appearances in exhibition events during the European summer, the former world #1 will return to the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour in the run-up to the US Open, where she has been awarded a wild card.

Roger Federer and longtime partner **Mirka Vavrinec** are expecting their first child in the summer.

Andre Agassi is set to play his first senior tour event in October in Sunrise, Arizona. The **ATP World Tour** has announced plans to return

approximately \$3million in fees to tournaments, due to the financial crisis.

Mary Pierce is said to be training in Florida for a potential comeback to professional tennis.

The **Italian Tennis Federation** has announced that it will host its **Fed Cup** semi final against Russia on clay in Puglia, during the weekend of April 25-26. The other semi final will see Czech Republic host USA on indoor courts in Brno. The **Spanish Tennis Federation** has reportedly chosen Marbella as the location for its forthcoming **Davis Cup** semi final against Germany in July.

Telefonica has joined the list of sponsors of the **Davis Cup by BNP Paribas**, as 'Official Telecommunications Sponsor', in a multi-year deal.

A study into success rates for players challenging calls using **Hawk Eye** has shown that in the two years since the introduction of the instant replay system, only one player, Novak Djokovic, was correct in over 50% of his challenges. In total there had been 6279 challenges at the time of the study two weeks ago, and only 35% were successful.

The **All-England Lawn Tennis Ground** has announced plans to issue 2,500 new Wimbledon centre court debentures, at a price of £27,750 each for the five years 2011-2015.

The ATP **Interwetten Austrian Open**, due to be held the week prior to Roland Garros, will be held in Kitzbuhel, not Pörtschach.

Svetlana Kuznetsova has parted company with coach Olga Morazova after just two months.

A women's wheelchair tennis event will be held at **Wimbledon** this year for the first time.

Four Grand Slam champions - Albert Costa, Pat Cash, Richard Krajicek and Michael Stich - head the field for the **ATP Champions Tour** event due to take place in Barcelona later this month alongside the ATP Open Banco Sabadell.



Almost two-thirds (65%) of elite juniors rely on their parents for help in dealing with sponsorship and management issues.

Source: Sports Marketing Surveys/Tennis Europe Next Generation Report 2009

Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 14 & Under

Gabriela Pantuckova (pictured) of the Czech Republic moves up to her highest ever position of sixth this month, after a productive period in which she won her fourth Tennis Europe Junior Tour singles title (in Oetwil, Switzerland). The win came hot on the heels of her doubles win at the Category 1 Bolton event and a quarter final appearance at the Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD.

The top eight-ranked European players at the end of the season qualify to participate at the Tennis Europe Junior Masters, which this year will take place in Napoli from October 2-4.

Visit www.TennisEurope.org, for the full rankings.

Rankings below as of 2nd April 2009.



14 & Under Girls		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Petra UBERALOVA	SVK	760
2	►	Yulia PUTINTSEVA	RUS	720
3	►	Irina KHROMACHEVA	RUS	620
4	►	Petra ROHANOVA	CZE	435
5	►	Sonja LIASKOVA	CZE	430
6	▲	Gabriela PANTUCKOVA	CZE	415
7	▼	Olga IANCHUK	UKR	405
8	▼	Darya LEBESHEVA	BLR	395
9	▲	Katy DUNNE	GBR	375
10	NEW	Yulia LYSA	UKR	365

14 & Under Boys		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Nikola MILOJEVIC	SRB	510
2	►	Evan HOYT	GBR	455
3	►	Stefano NAPOLITANO	ITA	445
4	►	Luke BAMBRIDGE	GBR	415
5	►	Borna CORIC	CRO	400
6	▲	Gianluigi QUINZI	ITA	385
7	▼	Christopher PEARCE	GBR	365
8	►	Yuriy KRYVOY	UKR	360
9	►	Matteo DONATI	ITA	350
10	►	Alexander VASILENKO	RUS	330

Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 16 & Under

Martins Podzus (right) of Latvia is the newest addition to the 16 & Under top ten, after an impressive start to the season in which he has already bagged titles in Siauliai and most recently Riga, where he also won the doubles.

He joins Miki Jankovic (SRB), Anna Korshundova (RUS) and Connor Glennon (GBR) as the only multiple title winners so far this season.

Rankings are published each Thursday at www.TennisEurope.org.
Rankings below as of 2nd April 2009.



16 & Under Girls		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Cristina DINU	ROU	575
2	►	Ingrid RADU	ROU	495
3	▲	Natalia VAVULINA	BLR	415
4	▲	Jovana JAKSIC	SRB	415
5	▼	Timea BABOS	HUN	380
6	▼	Luksika KUMKHUM	THA	380
7	►	Irini PAPAGEORGIOU	GRE	360
8	►	Agnes BUKTA	HUN	355
9	►	Despoina PAPAMICHAIL	GRE	330
10	►	Julia STAMATOVA	BUL	300

16 & Under Boys		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Mate PAVIC	CRO	400
2	▲	Adrian PARTL	SVK	370
3	▲	Ciprian PORUMB	ROU	355
4	▼	Vasile Alexandru GHILEA	ROU	355
5	▲	Miki JANKOVIC	SRB	347.5
6	▼	Andrea DALL'ASTA	ITA	340
7	▼	Vullnet TASHI	SUI	320
8	▼	Axel ALVAREZ	ESP	300
9	NEW	Martins PODZUS	LAT	284.5
10	▼	Dimitar KUZMANOV	BUL	280

Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results

12 & UNDER

DATE	TOURNAMENT	CAT.	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	DOUBLES WINNERS
Mar-16	Riga (LAT)		K Raisma (EST)	B Zapata (ESP)	26 75 63	Klettenberg/Raisma (EST)
			D Emulina (LAT)	A Rudenko (RUS)	61 61	Gardella/Procacci (ITA)
Mar-23	Sergiev Posad (RUS)		B Bobrov (RUS)	E Tyurnev (RUS)	64 63	Rublev/Bobrov (RUS)
			A Rychagova (RUS)	A Komardina (RUS)	62 60	Kasatkina/Komardina (RUS)
Mar-30	Funchal (POR)		M Siccardi (ITA)	C Donat Arjona (ESP)	62 62	Nunes/Salgado (POR)
			V Muntean (FRA)	D Arranz Flores (ESP)	62 61	Muntean (FRA)/ Arranz Flores (ESP)

14 & UNDER

Mar-02	Raanana (ISR)	3	I Smilanski (ISR)	A Gal (ISR)	63 76(5)	Cohen/Smilanski (ISR)
			A Shestakova (UKR)	M Sakkari (GRE)	62 63	Sakkari(GRE)/ Shestakova (UKR)
Mar-09	Helsinki (FIN)	3	S Manji (GBR)	P Hovorka (CZE)	16 76 63	Chessari/Baldi (ITA)
			W Vitis (FRA)	K Akinnibi (GBR)	62 63	Zheleznyak/ Pomyatinskaya (RUS)
Mar-16	Minsk (BLR)	3	M Yersh (BLR)	A Taranda (BLR)	61 36 63	Mazor/Cohen (ISR)
			D Lebesheva (BLR)	N Rubel (BLR)	61 62	Lebesheva/Rubel (BLR)
Mar-16	Kosice (SVK)	3	A Biro (HUN)	M Maruscak (SVK)	61 62	Oravec/Kulich (SVK)
			I Csoregi (ROU)	I Bercaru (ROU)	63 63	Gradinaru/Ducu (ROU)
Mar-16	Oulu (FIN)	3	N Compagnucci (ITA)	S Butler (GBR)	62 62	Colautti/Butler (GBR)
			C Melsted (DEN)	M Tsakanyan (RUS)	64 76(6)	Melsted/Ditlev (DEN)
Mar-23	Minsk (BLR)	3	A Chepelev (RUS)	F Andrienko (RUS)	64 62	Taranda (BLR)/ Tribstok (RUS)
			M Katsitadze (RUS)	A Zablotskaya (BLR)	63 60	Rubel/Lebesheva (BLR)
Mar-30	Maia (POR)	1	N Milojevic (SRB)	E Hoyt (GBR)	62 62	Bambridge/Pearce (GBR)
			V Tomova (BUL)	M Vlahinic (CRO)	62 64	Kontaveit (LAT)/ Rosatello (ITA)

Full drawsheets from all Tennis Europe Junior Tour competitions can be found [online](#).



Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results

16 & UNDER

DATE	TOURNAMENT	CAT.	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	DOUBLES WINNERS
Feb-16	Chambon sur Lignon (FRA)	2	L Baudy (FRA)	M Bourgue (FRA)	63 46 62	Bourgue/Lokoli (FRA)
			L Tholey (FRA)	S Guyomard (FRA)	63 60	Lollia (ITA)/Sedano (ITA)
Feb-16	Siauliai (LTU)	3	M Podzus (LAT)	A Barabashov (UKR)	64 62	Barabashov (UKR)/Ivashka (BLR)
			A Korshunova (RUS)	D Shulzhanok (BLR)	64 62	Kulibaba/Runcha (LAT)
Feb-23	Taverne (SUI)	3	D Thiem (AUT)	A Campo (ITA)	76(2) 62	Cammarata/Ceccarello (ITA)
			G Rey (SUI)	K Rozenberg (RUS)	76(2) 64	Jager/Jager (SUI)
Mar-02	Tallinn (EST)	3	A Attrice (ITA)	L Mugevicius (LTU)	62 61	Raag (EST)/Stepins (LAT)
			A Korshunova (RUS)	S Lange (GER)	61 62	Kulikouskaya (BLR)
Mar-09	Milovice (CZE)	2	M Jankovic (SRB)	P Krstin (SRB)	76 76	Korshunova (RUS)
			T Smitkova (CZE)	J Jaksic (SRB)	36 64 63	Kristin/Jankovic (SRB)
Mar-09	Nastola (FIN)	3	J Ward Hibbert (GBR)	F Kudinoff (SWE)	61 61	Rutarova/Smitkova (CZE)
			C Hindmarsh (GBR)	S Castellano (ITA)	61 76(8)	Kudinoff/Kudinoff (SWE)
Mar-16	Oulu (FIN)	3	C Glennon (GBR)	J Domingues (POR)	62 61	Hindmarsh/Castellano (ITA)
			E Leivo (FIN)	D Chernetsova (BLR)	60 63	Ward Hibbert/Glennon (GBR)
Mar-23	Riga (LAT)	2	M Podzus (LAT)	J Podzus (LAT)	61 75	Leivo/Sillanpaa (FIN)
			J Kulibaba (LAT)	A Runcha (LAT)	62 60	Podzus/Podzus (LAT)
Mar-23	Trencianske Teplice (SVK)	3	B Barta HUN)	V Farkas (SVK)	63 63	Kulibaba/Runcha (LAT)
			D Stamenkovic (SRB)	M Sramkova (SVK)	61 60	Madarasz/Barta (HUN)
						Markuskova/Tumova (SVK)

Full drawsheets from all Tennis Europe Junior Tour competitions can be found online.



Visit the Tennis Europe Junior Tour Gallery for all the latest images.

Recent updates include the Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD, and tournaments in Chambon sur Lignon & Oulu.

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ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) Results

ITF Men's Circuit						
Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Feb-23	Terrasa (ESP)	\$10,000	A Menendez (ESP)	G Rumenov (ESP)	64 63	Aldi/Piccari (ITA)
Mar-02	Faro (POR)	\$10,000	D Lojda (CZE)	A Setkic (BIH)	62 26 63	Boje/Coll (ESP)
Mar-02	Sabadell (ESP)	\$10,000	D Silva (BRA)	F Aldi (ITA)	75 63	Gutierrez (ESP)/Westerhof (NED)
Mar-02	Griefensee (SUI)	\$10,000	N Langer (GER)	M Guenat (SUI)	62 62	Tabara/Vogeli (CZE)
Mar-09	Lille (FRA)	\$15,000	D Guez (FRA)	T Oger (MON)	64 75	Craciun/Ionita (ROU)
Mar-09	Tipton (GBR)	\$15,000	Y Mertens (BEL)	S Robert (FRA)	76(4) 76	Evans (GBR)/Kontinen (FIN)
Mar-09	Lagos (POR)	\$10,000	K Capkovic (SVK)	A Sandbichler (AUT)	36 64 60	Demoliner/Guidolin (BRA)
Mar-09	Badalona (ESP)	\$10,000	A Ramos (ESP)	R Bautista (ESP)	64 64	Millman/Verryth (AUS)
Mar-09	Griefensee (SUI)	\$10,000	J Zopp (EST)	P Oswald (AUT)	63 67(5)	Laaksonen (FIN)/Oswald (AUT)
Mar-16	Poitiers (FRA)	\$15,000	R Smeets (AUS)	D Meffert (GER)	64 36 63	Koning (NED)/Smeets (AUS)
Mar-16	Bath (GBR)	\$15,000	S Robert (FRA)	C Fleming (GBR)	62 63	Fleming/Skupski (GBR)
Mar-16	Rome (ITA)	\$10,000	T Goransson (SWE)	F del Bonis (ARG)	64 63	Giorgini/Vanni (ITA)
Mar-16	Albufeira (POR)	\$10,000	L Tavares (POR)	R Sluiter (NED)	63 64	Setkic (BIH)/Slovic (SRB)
Mar-16	Barcelona (ESP)	\$10,000	R Bautista (ESP)	M Fornell (ESP)	64 64	Fornell/Granollers (ESP)
Mar-16	Vaduz (LIE)	\$10,000	D Brown (JAM)	M Mecir (SVK)	36 64 76	Blandin/Ysern (FRA)
Mar-16	Antalya (TUR)	\$10,000	A Vejmelka (CZE)	A Gorban (MDA)	63 64	Anikanov/Smirnov (UKR)
Mar-23	Porec (CRO)	\$10,000	B Knittel (GER)	G Moraru (ROU)	36 63 62	Bradaric/Nakic-Alfirevic (CRO)
Mar-23	Rome (ITA)	\$10,000	E Prodon (FRA)	L Migani (ARG)	46 76(1)	Azzaro/Giorgini (ITA)
Mar-23	Zaragoza (ESP)	\$10,000	G Trujillo (ESP)	C Marcel Stebe	63 62	Coll/Granollers (ESP)
Mar-23	Antalya (TUR)	\$10,000	I Sergeyev (UKR)	V Rudnev (RUS)	63 61	Alekseenko/Alekseenko (UKR)
Mar-30	Viterbo (ITA)	\$10,000	G Olaso (ESP)	D Bracciali (ITA)	61 63	Fabbiano/Valenti (ITA)
Mar-30	Rovinj (CRO)	\$10,000	A Veic (CRO)	G Moraru (ROU)	76 63	Bradaric (CRO)/Slovic (SRB)
Mar-30	Antalya (TUR)	\$10,000	I Sergeyev (UKR)	R Roshardt (SUI)	60 ret	Mergea/Paval (ROU)



Updated seven days a week, all the latest draws, results, schedules, tournament fact sheets and entry lists for ITF Men's and Women's Circuit events in Europe are available at www.TennisEurope.org.

ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) Results

ITF Women's Circuit						
Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Feb-23	Biberach (GER)	\$50,000	K Sprem (CRO)	K Flipkens (BEL)	61 62	Klaffner/Klemenschits (AUT)
Mar-02	Buchen (GER)	\$10,000	K Perkovic (GER)	R Oprandi (ITA)	63 76(0)	Martinovic (BIH)/Oprandi (ITA)
Mar-02	Lyon (FRA)	\$10,000	S Zhang (CHN)	C Feuerstein (FRA)	16 61 63	Lu/Sun (CHN)
Mar-02	Raanana (ISR)	\$10,000	S Gronert (GER)	D Lobbingier (BEL)	60 61	Gronert (GER)/Shlomo (ISR)
Mar-02	Minsk (BLR)	\$25,000	D Kustova (BLR)	K O'Brien (GBR)	67(3) 61	Bohush/Kustova (BLR)
Mar-09	Dijon (FRA)	\$10,000	V Huck (FRA)	L Andrei (ROU)	64 76(2)	Harmsden/Kilsdonk (NED)
Mar-09	Las Palmas	\$10,000	E Webley-Smith (GBR)	E Chalova (RUS)	60 76(5)	Lu/Sun (CHN)
Mar-09	Rome Real (ITA)	\$10,000	K Kosinska (POL)	D Evtimova (BUL)	62 36 64	Giovine/Sulpizio (ITA)
Mar-16	Amiens (FRA)	\$10,000	V Huck (FRA)	A Bergot (FRA)	63 64	Brozda/Kiszczyńska (POL)
Mar-16	Bath (GBR)	\$10,000	S Vongsouthi (FRA)	V Verardi (ITA)	62 64	Boffa (SUI)/Fitzpatrick (GBR)
Mar-16	Rome (ITA)	\$10,000	D Kustova (BLR)	A Korzeniak (POL)	62 62	Dobra (CZE)/Kosinska (POL)
Mar-16	Tenerife (ESP)	\$25,000	E Bovina (RUS)	R Marino (CAN)	62 64	Sun/Zhang (CHN)
Mar-23	Gonesse (FRA)	\$10,000	J Babilon (GER)	M Kiszczyńska (POL)	36 63 64	Brozda/Kiszczyńska (POL)
Mar-23	Latina Nascosa	\$10,000	Z Ondraskova (CZE)	A Korzeniak (POL)	75 67 62	Marosi (HUN)/Tavares (BRA)
Mar-23	Jersey (GBR)	\$25,000	K O'Brien (GBR)	C Feuerstein (FRA)	75 10 ret	Camerin (ITA)/Foretz (FRA)
Mar-23	La Palma (ESP)	\$25,000	A Sevastova (LAT)	K Kucova (SVK)	46 61 61	Lu/Sun (CHN)
Mar-23	Moscow (RUS)	\$25,000	V Diatchenko (RUS)	V Manasieva (RUS)	26 63 41	Diatchenko (RUS)/Dzewishlevich
Mar-30	Antalya (TUR)	\$10,000	S Schoeffel (FRA)	J Babilon (GER)	67(8) 01	Kvatsabaia (GEO)/Tsybysheva
Mar-30	Latina (ITA)	\$50,000	J Schruoff (GEO)	A Petkovic (GER)	75 76(0)	Brianti (ITA)/Schruoff (GER)
Mar-30	Khanty (RUS)	\$50,000	E Rodina (RUS)	A Lapushchenkova	63 62	Milevskaya (BLR)/Tsurenko (UKR)



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European Rankings

Andrew Murray had a productive north American hardcourt season, strengthening his position as the fourth ranked European, and increasing the likelihood of advancing further during the upcoming clay court events. A runner-up in Indian Wells before winning the biggest title of his career so far in Miami, Murray is now just 170 points behind Novak Djokovic at #3, with much less to defend between now and Wimbledon.

Meanwhile, Victoria Azarenka's Miami win over world #1 Serena Williams sees her leap up to sixth in Europe. Her world ranking of 8th means she becomes only the second ever player from Belarus to reach the world's top ten, after Natasha Zvereva. Caroline Wozniacki is the only new-comer in either list, re-taking tenth spot from France's Alizé Cornet.

Rankings as of April 6th, 2009.



WOMEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	WTA TOUR RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	►	Dinara SAFINA	RUS	2	8951
2	▲	Elena DEMENTIEVA	SRB	3	7561
3	▼	Jelena JANKOVIC	RUS	4	7290
4	►	Vera ZVONAREVA	RUS	6	6720
5	►	Ana IVANOVIC	SRB	7	5174
6	▲	Victoria AZARENKA	BLR	8	4670
7	▼	Svetlana KUZNETSOVA	RUS	9	4308
8	▼	Nadia PETROVA	RUS	10	3840
9	▼	Agnieszka RADWANSKA	POL	11	3606
10	NEW	Caroline WOZNIACKI	DEN	12	3430

MEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	ATP ENTRY RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	►	Rafael NADAL	ESP	1	14470
2	►	Roger FEDERER	SUI	2	11020
3	►	Novak DJOKOVIC	SRB	3	9010
4	►	Andy MURRAY	GBR	4	8840
5	▲	Gilles SIMON	FRA	7	4010
6	▲	Fernando VERDASCO	ESP	8	3760
7	▼	Nikolay DAVYDENKO	RUS	9	3735
8	►	Gael MONFILS	FRA	10	3600
9	►	Jo-Wilfried TSONGA	FRA	11	3305
10	►	David FERRER	ESP	12	3125

NEWS FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Ruxandra Dragomir has been elected the new President of the **Romanian Tennis Federation**.

Jose Luis Escañuela is the new President of the **Spanish Tennis Federation**.

EUROPEAN RACQUET STRINGERS ASSOCIATION

The latest issue of ERSAs regular newsletter has been published and is available to download [here](#).

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