

Inside this issue

Tennis Europe & HEAD Renew Partnership . . .	01
European Officiating Seminar	02
In the Spotlight: Hrvoje Zmajic	03
Serbia wins first Davis Cup title	05
Igor Andreev interview	07
Beyond the Baseline	09
Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings	11
Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results	13
2010 ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) review	14
European Rankings	15
HEAD lines	18

Serbia wins first ever Davis Cup by BNP Paribas title



Serbia celebrated in style after coming from behind to beat France 3-2 at the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas final in Belgrade, winning the country's first ever title at the sport's flagship international team competition. More on Page 5.

Tennis Europe and HEAD Racquet Sports renew partnership

Tennis Europe has announced a further extension to its comprehensive partnership with leading tennis equipment manufacturer HEAD Racquet Sports, due to last until the end of 2011.

Under the terms of the agreement, HEAD will continue in its role as Tennis Europe's 'Official Racquet, Tennis Ball and Tennis Bag' partner and will also continue as presenting sponsor of the Tennis Europe Winter Cups, the sport's largest junior indoor team competition, and the Tennis Europe Nations Challenge, Europe's pioneering team event for Under 12s.

In addition, HEAD balls will continue to be promoted as the 'Recommended Ball of the Tennis Europe Junior Tour', which consists of over 300 international events in 46 countries. Finally, HEAD will retain its presence as an 'Official Partner' of the Tour's flagship competitions, the European Junior Championships and Tennis Europe Junior Masters. >>



Tennis Europe CEO Olli Mäenpää and HEAD's Director of Sales and Marketing, Ottmar Barbian

Tennis Europe and HEAD Racquet Sports renew partnership

<< Tennis Europe and HEAD first teamed up in 2007 when the first events with HEAD as title sponsor were held, and the two organisations have forged exceptionally strong links in subsequent years.

Tennis Europe Chief Executive Officer Olli Mäenpää commented, "We are pleased to be able to announce this extension to our relationship with HEAD, which is now into a fifth year. Recent years have seen a tremendous expansion of our activities, particularly in terms of junior tennis, and HEAD's unwavering commitment has been a key contributor to these successes. I'd like to thank everybody at HEAD for their dedication and profes-

sionalism and we look forward to continuing to work together with them to achieve our mutual goals."

Ottmar Barbian, Director of Sales & Marketing HEAD Racquet Sports, emphasized the importance of the partnership for the brand and its tennis business, "The development of youth tennis and the attention on the future stars of this sport is certainly among our main tasks as a brand. Since the partnership began in 2007, Tennis Europe has aided HEAD's mission to introduce new technologies and products to the European market, and in light of Tennis Europe's favorable impact on our business we are very happy to prolong this partnership."

European Officiating Seminar

The bi/tri-annual European Officiating Seminar was held in London from 25-26 November.

As usual the members of the Tennis Europe Officiating Working Group and those responsible for international officiating in the major European countries took part, together with the ITF Officiating Department's Andrew Jarrett (day 2), Stefan Fransson (day 2), Kathryn Butters and Eric Lamquet.

The first day focused on European issues and news from the Professional and Juniors Circuits. The delegates reported on the status of officiating in their countries, the challenges ahead in recruiting new officials and how to keep present officials active and updated over a longer period of years.

In the second part of the day Jackie Nesbitt, Alistair Williams, Isabelle Gemmel and Helen McFetridge presented news about the 2011 ITF Pro and Juniors Circuits and Anders Wennberg informed the delegates about the Tennis Europe Junior Tour and the various versions of the Tournament Planner programme used at these events.

The second day saw the meeting extended to include the ITF Regional Officiating Officers; Ricardo Reis (South America), Iain Smith (Africa), and Nao Kawatei (Asia), as well as two representatives from the USTA, Kevin Clayton and Tony Nimmons. The ATP and WTA Tours were represented at the meeting for the first time by Valery Lutkov, Giulia Orlandi and Fabrice Chouquet.

The morning saw presentations and discussions relating to ATP and WTA news, officiating teams and assignments. During the second part of the meeting, Andrew Jarrett presented the draft for a new ITF three-year plan for officiating, and a long and intense debate followed. With some 20 (mainly Gold badge) Officials involved, the level of expertise was very high and valuable comments were made and responded to also by Dave Miley, Jackie Nesbitt and Bill Babcock who were also present for this session.

Kevin Clayton also made a presentation, detailing the USTA's inclusion and diversity programme and its applications in terms of officiating.



In the Spotlight: ITF/Tennis Europe Development Officer Hrvoje Zmajic

In many ways, Tennis Europe's primary responsibility is to ensure the continued growth and development of the sport across Europe. In the 35 years since the founding of the organisation, Europe has expanded and diversified enormously, with the 17 nations that formed the European Tennis Association, as it was then known, growing to today's total of 49 states.

The diversity of these nations is well documented, and has raised many challenges for the organisation as it seeks to increase awareness, participation and resources in some of the continent's less-developed tennis nations. The International Tennis Federation's Development Programme, established in 1992, makes annual grants to regional associations, who are expected to carry out a wide range of development tasks, such as those highlighted in the chart below. Through the programme, the ITF and Tennis Europe have invested over \$7 million in the last ten years.

In 1996, the post of ITF/Tennis Europe Development Officer was created. The Development Officer has a wide range of responsibilities, including the implementation and management of development projects, conducting training camps for coaches and players, and organisation of European coaching events. Since 2003, Hrvoje Zmajic of Croatia has held this role, which involves 24 weeks of travel around the continent during the year. We asked him to review a busy year in terms of development activities in Europe.

From the Development Budget we can see that over 50% of the resources are invested in Junior development.

Yes, because developing the next generation of players is one of our key goals. There is still an enormous need for development support and especially travel to tournaments for promising players from less-developed countries.

The Touring Teams are an important vehicle for the



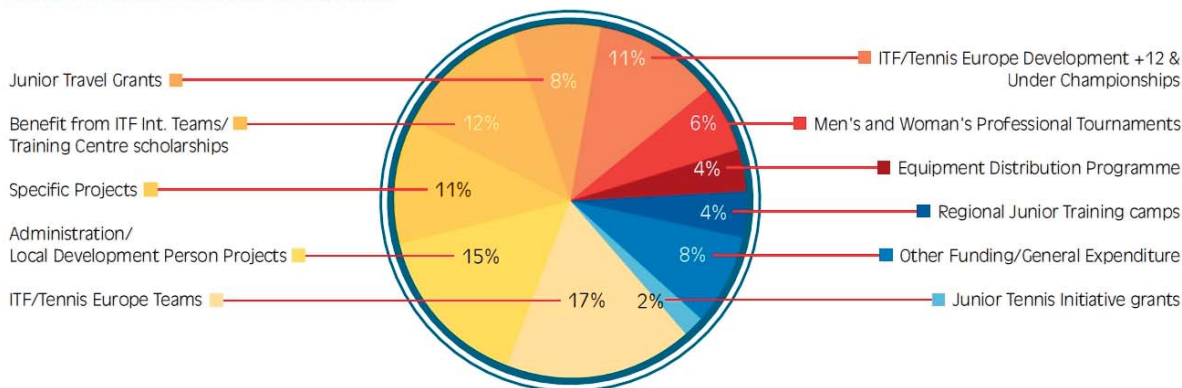
best juniors from lesser-developed nations. How did they perform in 2010?

In 2010 Tennis Europe organized two 14 & Under, two 16 & Under and one 18 & Under Team, which went to South America. In addition, several players were also invited on other ITF 18 & Under Teams. Of those, Damir Dzumhur (BIH) reached #4 on the ITF 18 & Under ranking list, Irina Bara (ROU) ended the year as the #1 Player on 16 & Under Race to Masters Rankings and Viktoria Lushkova from the Ukraine finished the year as #2 on the 14 & Under Race. These achievements are a consequence of their being able to play in the biggest events.

This year's European Coaches' Symposium in Moscow was the biggest ever in terms of participation. How important is this event for development?

Yes, it was great event with over 35 countries attending. For the first time ever, the Symposium took place in Russia and it was great to exchange views on how best to develop the next generation of high performance juniors. We had some extraordinary speakers, led by Russian Davis and Fed Cup captain Shamil Tarpishev, former world #3 Nathalie Tauziat, Marat Safin's former coach Rafael Mensua, and Bruce Elliott, the world's leading expert in tennis biomechanics from Australia. I would also like to mention >>

ITF/Tennis Europe Development Programme



In the Spotlight: ITF/Tennis Europe Development Officer Hrvoje Zmajic

<< that with the support of an Olympic Solidarity grant, we were also able to assist with the attendance of representatives from fifteen less-developed countries. Of course, it goes without saying that apart from the official programme, the Conference provided an opportunity for establishing contacts between experts from all around Europe.

On a smaller scale, you also oversee Coaches' Workshops. What happens at these events?

National Coaches' Workshops and Courses are regular part of Coaches' Education programmes. Coaches' Education is another key area of development programmes and our mission is to assist National Associations in becoming self-sufficient in this area. This year we have organized Level 1 Coaches courses in Estonia and Georgia as well as Level 2 Coaches' courses in Moldova and Armenia.

There are a number of specific development projects currently under way in Europe. Can you tell us about some of them?

The projects are set up in order to meet the specific needs of the countries. At present the projects cover Coaches' Education, 12 & Under player development, and the establishing of 'Tennis 10s' competition frameworks. In 2010 we have supported a 12 & Under development project in Turkey, the establishment of a National Coaches' education system in the Ukraine and organized competition workshops in six countries in order to support the creation of red court competitions for the youngest tennis players.

What do you think have been the success stories of 2010?

There were several success stories but if I had to choose one, I would say that the project in the Ukraine has been exceptional. During 2009 and 2010 the Ukrainian Tennis Federation together with the University for Sports in Kiev created a new Coaches' Education and licensing system. During these two years they have educated six Level 1 and five Level 5 National Tutors who delivered the courses in eight cities for over 250 coaches! The next step in the Project will be to organise Level 3 Tutors' and Coaches' courses with the support of the ITF/Tennis Europe experts in 2011. I believe that together with the excellent results in junior categories, especially girls, this project will ensure an even brighter future for tennis in Ukraine.

You are on the road for up to 24 weeks each year. How do you manage to prioritise these trips?

Obviously, it's challenging. Scheduling starts with reserving dates for regular ITF and Tennis Europe meetings as well as Coaches' Conferences. After that I try to focus on the most active countries, especially



the ones who are running Specific projects and the less-developed ones that I try to visit at least every second year.

Which countries do you feel are currently on a great course of development?

At present the Ukraine, Turkey, Bulgaria and Estonia are moving forward very quickly. Also there are countries with tough financial situations, such as Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova and Armenia, but are still very proactive and establishing new programmes and activities.

What do you expect to be the biggest challenges and priorities in 2011/12?

Our number one goal is to ensure the usage of softer balls and modern teaching methodology in training and competitions for 10 & Under players as a part of the ITF's 'Tennis 10s' programme.

In addition, by linking together Coaches' education and the development of promising juniors, we would like to help National Associations to give the next generation of young juniors the best possible start to their international playing careers. Being successful at a young age is not a guarantee of future success, but for players in less-developed countries it's important in order to attract private sponsors and to get financial support necessary to maximise their potential through quality practice and playing in the optimum competitions.

What is the most satisfying part of your role as Development Officer?

I feel privileged to work on the ITF & Tennis Europe Development Programme, assisting less-developed nations and knowing that our work has played a part in the continued health and future successes of the sport. Even though tennis is a very well established sport in Europe, there are still a lot of areas that we can improve. The many different nations each have their own policies and solutions, but this diversity gives us a wealth of opportunities to learn and to share new ideas and methods, all of which combines to ensure that European tennis continues to grow and prosper.

Serbia celebrates maiden Davis Cup win

Serbia has been crowned as Davis Cup by BNP Paribas champions after coming from behind to take their first ever title at the sport's world team competition in a thrilling finale against France in Belgrade.

France had been seeking their tenth Davis Cup title and opened confidently on the opening day, with Gael Monfils brushing past an inhibited Janko Tipsarevic 6-1 7-6(4) 6-0. Novak Djokovic levelled the tie with an equally dominant 6-3 6-1 7-5 win over French #2 Gilles Simon.

On the second day Serbia survived a blow as the French inflicted a memorable come-from-behind win to take the doubles tie and once more edge into the lead. The Serbs, who teamed world #3 Nenad Zimonjic with Viktor Troicki, established a two sets to love lead before the more experienced pairing of Arnaud Clement and Michael Llodra crept back into the match, salvaging the third set before growing in confidence and dominating proceedings by the fifth.

On the final day, world #3 Novak Djokovic put in an excellent performance to dismiss Monfils' hopes of clinching the trophy.

The final rubber saw Viktor Troicki, who had played excellent tennis in the first two sets of the doubles before fading noticeably, replace Tipsarevic while the in-form Michael Llodra was called up instead of Simon for France.

With the Davis Cup final stretched to a decisive fifth rubber for the first time in five years, one of the players was certain to become a hero, their name etched indelibly into their nation's sporting history, and it was the lower-ranked Troicki who rose to the challenge. Playing the match of his life, the 24-year old broke twice in each of the first two sets to break the spirit of his opponent. The 6-2 6-2 6-3 win eventually came in just over two hours as Troicki nailed a backhand return before speeding across the



Above: The freshly crowned Serbian team lifts the trophy for the first time.

court to rejoice with his team mates in Serbia's first ever Davis Cup title.

The trophy presentation was delayed as the home team kept their semi-final promise to shave their heads if they won, along with captain Bogdan Obradovic. With the win, Serbia rises to #2 in the Davis Cup rankings, behind last year's champions Spain.

Also during the final weekend, Serbian Tennis Federation President Slobodan Zivojinovic was presented with the 2010 Davis Cup Award of Excellence by the International Tennis Federation and International Tennis Hall of Fame. A former Top 20 ranked player, Zivojinovic was an integral member of the Yugoslavian Davis Cup team for more than a decade, representing his nation for 12 consecutive years between 1981-1992 and leading the team to the semifinals in 1988, 1989 and 1991, compiling an overall Davis Cup win-loss record of 36-26. He won two singles and eight doubles titles, and was a semifinalist at both Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

2010 marked a second successive year that two European teams had contested the final, with Spain having beaten Czech Republic for the 2009 title.

Lea Habunek

Tennis Europe was greatly saddened to learn of the death of Lea Habunek, who passed away recently, aged 89.

A pioneer in women's tennis in Yugoslavia, first of all as a player, Mrs. Habunek was an active member of Tennis Europe's Women's Committee for many

years, and played an instrumental role in the establishment of the first professional women's events in her home nation during the 1980's.

In 1997 Mrs. Habunek was presented with the Tennis Europe Award in recognition of her services to the sport.

Belgian elite tennis squad trains at La Manga Club

Whilst most of Europe battles wintery conditions, the tennis centre at La Manga Club in Murcia, Spain, has been particularly busy of late with international tournament action and the visit of the Belgian Elite Tennis Squad amongst the events in December.

The Belgian squad are currently on-site participating in a 10-day training camp on hard courts in preparation for next month's Australian Open. The team members include Olivier Rochus (world #104), a Davis Cup player since 2000 and former Top 30 player, Ruben Bemelmans (#194), David Goffin (#234), Yannick Mertens (#216) and professional tour newcomers Germain Gigounon and Yannick Reuter.

Bemelmans will go on from the training camp to team up with former world #1 Justine Henin to represent Belgium at the Hopman Cup in Perth. The Belgian squad is due to host Spain in the first round of the Davis Cup in March 2011.

As a special added value benefit, during their stay members of the Davis Cup team will be holding a free 90-minute clinic, for guests who have booked the 7-night Free Tennis Academy Package at Hotel La Manga Club Príncipe Felipe or the Best Tennis & More Package at Las Lomas Village for a minimum of 7 nights.

Prior to the arrival of the Belgian squad, La Manga Club was the venue of the 8th Murcia Turística Seniors Open. The Grade 3 event, played on clay courts for players in age categories from Over 35 to Over 75, saw participation from some of the best-



Above (left to right); La Manga Club Director, Tennis & Leisure, Lorenzo Martinez, 5-time European Senior Champion Jorge Camina Borda, and Taqui Ros, of La Manga Club. Below; the Belgian squad in training.

known players on the ITF Seniors Circuit, with a host of Top 20 players in action across all age groups.

Three of the eventual winners managed to defend their titles from 2009, including Men's 50s winner Pierre Godfroid, Men's 60s champion José Camino Borda and Women's 55s winner Encarnación Gomis Ruiz. Full results can be found at the Tennis Europe [website](http://www.tenniseurope.org).

La Manga Club is Tennis Europe's Official Resort Partner, and is also recognised as a centre of excellence. La Manga Club Tennis Centre has 28 courts, including 20 clay, 4 hard and 4 artificial grass. The award winning resort boasts over 300 days of sunshine each year, making it a favourite tennis retreat for holidaymakers and professionals alike.



In the Spotlight: Igor Andreev

Igor Andreev is one of Russia's most successful male players of recent years. After relocating to Valencia in Spain at 15-years of age in order to continue his tennis development, Andreev's game flourished and he has gone on to win three singles titles so far as well as being a key figure in the Russian Davis Cup team and a regular in the world's Top 20. Niggling injuries had contributed to a decline in his ranking in 2010, but recently Andreev has battled back to #78, qualifying for the ATP event in Kuala Lumpur, where he beat world #6 Nikolay Davydenko on his way to a second semi final of the season.

Showing characteristic dedication to both sport and education, Andreev attended the recent European Coaches Symposium in Moscow, where he spoke about the importance of psychological training before conducting a 'Question and Answer' session with the delegates. This is what he had to say:

Do you consider yourself to be primarily a Russian or a Spanish player?

When I analyse my game, I would say that I play a mostly Spanish style, yes. My serve, groundstrokes and style of play are reminiscent of Spanish players. So I'm a Russian who plays in a Spanish style.

How do you stay calm in the difficult moments of your matches?

Firstly I think that every player must understand, and trust, their strengths to give themselves more options. But also, when you can anticipate what your opponent will do, you have an advantage and that is why when I go through difficult moments in matches I try not to focus on that. By studying your opponent, you can find new choices and make decisions accordingly.

How does a player know when to take risks on the court?

It's very much related to confidence. You can compare it to when you are on a good win streak. If you have won a few matches, you have a good rhythm and everything flows automatically, you're not thinking. If you have confidence, your rallies flow in the same way, you're not thinking about the consequence of each shot, rather you know exactly what it will do. If you are lacking in confidence, even these normal shots can break down if you are thinking too much.

You seem to be one of the more thoughtful players on court, and put a lot of focus on your attitude. Is this one of the reasons for your success?

Good results come from a combination of a lot of processes; physical and psychological preparations that give you the confidence to instinctively know



Igor addresses the delegates at the European Coaches Symposium in Moscow.

what to do next in a given situation. If you are not in good shape, you are more likely to have negative feelings. The better you prepare, the easier it is to avoid this negativity. This is my personal opinion and also my experience. It's very important to have a positive mental attitude and to be ready for a match.

What do you consider to be the best result in your career, and was your mental preparation any different?

I think that my best tournament was probably when I won the Kremlin Cup in 2005. I really played my best tennis throughout the week and it was great to win at home. I didn't prepare any differently for this tournament than I would have done any other. I think that the key, once again, was confidence. I had a good series of results before the tournament, reaching the final in Bucharest, and then winning Palermo. Then I lost a first round, and came rested to Moscow before winning. It was a result of the good experiences in the previous weeks.

How much time do you spend in pre-season training?

Well, it depends a little bit on the season that you have had. This year they are trying to make the calendar a little shorter, so I hope that next year it will be better. In general, I would say we get about 4-5 weeks before the season starts, but I think that this is not enough, there should be more time. If you want to train seriously, there is not really any time for a break after we finish playing. A longer off-season would go a long way to helping players with injuries, and to giving us some free time for other interests.

Do you think that more national federations would benefit from employing sports psychologists to work with their players?

>>

In the Spotlight: Igor Andreev

<< That's a very specific question, and in many ways I think it depends on the individual player. I don't really know how the situation is in the countries that already do this. I remember that when I was 14, in some of the training centres I used there was a team of psychologists who looked at our behaviour, but to what extent it was helpful I don't know; it's something that's very difficult to evaluate. Any extra tool or analysis that can help you improve can only be a good thing, but it's difficult to organise, and the problem is to check if it is effective.

You've had some injuries this year that have affected your season. What do you think coaches can do to help their players in this situation?

Well the best way to prevent injuries, as we all know, is physical training. This is very important for everyone. It's not easy to be out of the game for an extended time. When you start to feel well and the pain is gone it takes a long time to get back into good shape and find your rhythm on the court. Your ranking drops, so you play lower tournaments that offer fewer points, it's hard to get back to where you were before the injury. But in another way it makes you stronger; it's easy to set clear goals as you already know what you need to do, because you have done it before. The main thing the coach – and the player – needs to remember is to have patience.

You're doing a university degree while playing. Not many players manage to combine their education and a playing career. Why is this important to you?

Well, I think it's very important in life to have something apart from tennis. I would always recommend to young players that they continue to study, it's important for their futures, because you never know what's around the corner.

Do you think of becoming a coach one day, or working for a federation?

In sport, everything is related. I would be pleased to stay in the tennis world, but right now my playing career is the most important thing to me, and afterwards we will see.

Do you think that young players today are fed too much information by their coaches?

Maybe. As with all complicated things, sometimes you just need an easy way of explaining. Sometimes, one or two small tips can be enough to make a big difference, rather than overloading a young player with technical talk. This is one of the reasons that moving to Spain worked out well for me when I was a teenager, because the coaching advice came in a way that I could understand, simplifying the game for me. Personally, I think that the game is 30% technique and 70% tactics. Once you know where to play



"I would always recommend to young players that they continue to study, because you never know what's around the corner."

the ball, how to attack, how to defend, you start to spend less time thinking on the court, which gives you the freedom to just play.

What advice do you have for young players who are thinking of starting a professional career?

It's easy to be intimidated and think that you have no chances to do anything. When you start to play Futures events, or satellites, as they were in Spain when I started, and you see 300 names on the sign-in sheet for a qualifying draw with 128 players, and you have to play four rounds just to get into the main draw of the smallest events...it's very tough. I thought it was a mountain to climb and that it would never happen for me. The trick is never to think too far ahead, you have to go step by step and things will work out in the end.

Beyond the Baseline...

The 2010 ITF World Champions have been announced. World #1s Rafael Nadal and Caroline Wozniacki take the professional titles, whilst Bob & Mike Bryan and Gisela Dulko & Flavia Pennetta take the doubles honours. Youth Olympic champions Juan Sebastian Gomez and Daria Gavrilova are the Junior World Champions, while Shingo Kuneida and Esther Vergeer repeat as Wheelchair winners.

Venus Williams has confirmed that she intends to play the forthcoming USA vs. Belgium Fed Cup tie in Antwerp, scheduled for next February. The former world #1 also revealed that mixed doubles Slams are amongst her goals for the next season.

Maria Sharapova is likely to feature in the Russian squad due to face France the same weekend, and has begun working with new coach Thomas Hogstedt.

Ana Ivanovic has confirmed that she will work with Antonio van Grinchen, former coach of Victoria Azarenka and Vera Zvonareva.

Italy's **Tatiana Garbin** has retired from singles play but will team up with Timea Bacsinszky of Switzerland in doubles next year.

Tennis Ireland has announced the appointment of **Garry Cahill** as the Non-Playing Irish Davis Cup Captain for the period 2011-2012. Cahill will continue in his other role as Tennis Ireland's Technical Director.

Guy Forget has had his tenure as French Davis Cup captain extended by another two years.

The Spanish-language Davis Cup website has moved to www.copadavis.com. Meanwhile, the ITF has announced that **Adecco** has rejoined the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas family of sponsors, as well as the Fed Cup by BNP Paribas, for a three-year period.

Goran Ivanisevic is set to return to ATP doubles action at the Zagreb event in February, where he is expected to team up with Marin Cilic.

David Ferrer and **Maria José Martinez** won the Spanish National Masters in Seville last week, beating Marcel Granollers and Laura Pous-Tio respectively. The event also saw the last competitive match of **Carlos Moyá**, who went into retirement after a loss to the eventual champion. Moyá was previously honoured with an on-court presentation at the ATP World Tour Finals in London where he

was joined by all of the players as the ATP celebrated his career.

Rafael Nadal has won the ATP Tour's Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award for the first time, ending Roger Federer's streak of six in a row. Nadal also took the No. 1 singles player award. Other awards went to Bob & Mike Bryan (No. 1 Doubles Team and ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite (Doubles)), Roger Federer (ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite - Singles), Andrey Golubev (Most Improved Player of the Year), Robin Haase (Comeback Player of the Year), Tobias Kamke (Newcomer of the Year) and Rohan Bopanna & Aisam Ul-Haq Qureshi (Arthur Ashe Humanitarian of the Year).

In response to demand from players, the ATP has confirmed that the end of year off-season will be extended by two weeks with effect from 2012. The main changes to the calendar affects the final events of the season, with the Paris Masters and the ATP World Tour Finals to be held in successive weeks. Also given new calendar slots are the regular Tour events in Bucharest, Vienna, St. Petersburg and Montpellier.

Justine Henin returned to the courts last week in an exhibition match with compatriot Kim Clijsters. Prior to the match, the pair discussed the possibility of playing doubles together at the 2012 Olympics, scheduled to be the final event of Clijsters' career. Clijsters won the exhibition match 6-1 3-6 (10-5).

The 2011 **World Team Cup** in Düsseldorf has been cancelled after organizers revealed that they have been unable to find a sponsor for the event.

Tim Phillips CBE, Chairman of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, has been named as the recipient of Golden Achievement Award by the International Tennis Federation and International Tennis Hall of Fame.

Tennis stars Bob Bryan, Martina Hingis and Jamie Murray have all married their partners in recent weeks.

Tommy Haas became a father on November 14th. Still recovering from a hip operation that has kept him out of the sport since last February, the former world #2 says he intends to return to the courts by Wimbledon 2011 at the latest.

Robin Söderling has announced that he will be coached by Claudio Pistolesi.

HEAD

I
AM
ANDY
MURRAY
AND THAT'S
MY
FAVOURITE
BALL.



MORE SPIN.
MORE CONTROL.
MORE DURABILITY.

The iconic HEAD ATP Ball - preferred not only by Andy Murray for its liveliness and ability to reach maximum spin and control - now comes with additional and unrivalled durability. Official ball of the ATP, many ATP World Tour tournaments and the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals in London.

FIND OUT MORE AT HEAD.COM/TENNIS



The letters ATP and the tennis player design are registered trademarks of ATP Tour, Inc.



THE POWER OF YOU



Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings – Overall

With effect from January 2010, Tennis Europe introduced a new junior ranking system, devised to give a unified overall list that shows the relative strengths of all players, regardless of where they achieved their results or picked up points,

A player's total includes points from Tennis Europe Junior Tour 16 and 14 & Under events, plus points earned by players in these age categories who participate in ITF Junior Circuit and professional tour-

naments, all of which are weighted according to their relative strengths.

The 14 & Under ranking will continue to be available separately (see next page), as well as being integrated to the overall rankings. In addition, a 'Race to the Junior Masters' is also published. For more information on the rankings system, including a full explanation of the changes for 2010, visit www.TennisEurope.org. Rankings below are as December 14th, 2010.

Overall Girls' Ranking

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Daria GAVRILOVA	RUS	3038
02	▶	Elina SVITOLINA	UKR	2326
03	▶	Irina KHROMACHEVA	RUS	1909
04	▶	An-Sophie MESTACH	BEL	1720
05	▶	Yulia PUTINTSEVA	RUS	1657
06	▶	Ons JABEUR	TUN	1562
07	▶	Irina Maria BARA	ROU	1522
08	▶	Ilona KREMEN	BLR	1472
09	▶	Victoria KAN	RUS	1420
10	▶	Nastja KOLAR	SLO	1360



Daria Gavrilova (RUS)

Overall Boys' Ranking

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Mathias BOURGUE	FRA	1745
02	▶	Pol TOLEDO BAGUE	ESP	1275
03	▶	Gregoire BARRERE	FRA	1165
04	▲	Kyle EDMUND	GBR	1155
05	▼	Maximilian MARTERER	GER	1140
06	▼	Laslo DJERE	SRB	1103
07	▶	Frederico SILVA	POR	1080
07	▲	Eduard ESTEVE LOBATO	ESP	1080
09	▶	Or RAM-HAREL	ISR	1010
10	▶	Liam BROADY	GBR	958



Kyle Edmund (GBR)

Correction: In last month's issue, we incorrectly denoted Kyle Edmund's nationality as Serbia, when he in fact represents Great Britain. We apologise for any confusion or inconvenience caused by this oversight.



Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings – 14 & Under

Though there have not been many playing opportunities on the Tour in recent weeks, some of our top players have seen some changes in the ranking totals due to the implementation of changes to the ranking calculation which means that six tournaments now count for the ranking (previously five), including the European Championships and Junior Masters. The points for the Masters have been upgraded by 25%.

Alexander Lebedyn, winner in both singles and doubles at the 16&U event in Malta last week, is the highest new entry, climbing nine places to reach the Top Ten.

Full ranking lists, as well as the new 'Race to the Junior Masters' rankings, and the year-end rankings for 2010 and all other years can be found at www.TennisEurope.org.

Rankings below are as December 14th, 2010.

14 & Under Girls

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Ulyana AYZATULINA	RUS	990
02	▶	Tamara PICHKHADZE	RUS	835
03	▶	Belinda BENCIC	SUI	830
04	▲	Ilka CSOREGI	ROU	725
05	▶	Katerina SINIAKOVA	CZE	695
06	▶	Viktoriya LUSHKOVA	UKR	690
07	▼	Ioana DUCU	ROU	678
08	▲	Ksenija SHARIFOVA	RUS	660
08	▶	Iva PRIMORAC	CRO	650
10	▶	Jelena OSTAPENKO	LAT	635



Ilka Csoregi (ROU)

14 & Under Boys

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Gianluigi QUINZI	ITA	950
02	▲	Andre BIRO	HUN	780
03	▼	Philip GRESK	POL	750
04	▶	Joshua SAPWELL	GBR	715
05	▶	Johannes HAERTEIS	GER	690
06	▶	Filippo BALDI	ITA	675
07	▲	Daniil MEDVEDEV	RUS	600
08	NEW	Alexander LEBEDYN	UKR	585
09	NEW	Alexandr CHEPELEV	RUS	585
10	▼	Oliver NAGY	SVK	580



Alexander Chepelev (RUS)



Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results

12 & Under

Date	Tournament	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles Winner
Nov 15	Antalya (TUR)	A Manafli (AZE)	E Kirkin (TUR)	75 61	Daels (BEL)/Tonelid (SWE)
		E Salas (FRA)	A Semashko (RUS)	61 60	Kalinskaya/Semashko (RUS)

14 & Under

Date	Tournament	Category / Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles Winner
Nov 29	Goteborg (SWE)	3 D Pashayan (RUS)	D Sary (CZE)	w/o	Appelgren/Fors (SWE)
		A Brogan (GBR)	J Ashgar (GBR)	63 2-0 ret	Borjeson/Ek (SWE)
Dec 06	Milovice (CZE)	3 R Safiullin (RUS)	D Sary (CZE)	46 75 64	Albertoni (ITA)/Zapata (ESP)
		A Bezemenova (GER)	M Kolodziejova (CZE)	61 64	Kolarova/Melounova (CZE)
Dec 06	Nastola (FIN)	3 A Bublik (RUS)	I Perunov (RUS)	36 62 64	Bublik/Perunov (RUS)
		A Lysakova (RUS)	K Evtushenko (RUS)	61 60	Shapovalova/Smagina (RUS)

16 & Under

Date	Tournament	Category / Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles Winner
Nov 22	Moscow (RUS)	3 K Khachanov (RUS)	E Tyurnev (RUS)	16 64 76(4)	Evtimiyev/Korolev (RUS)
		V Kudermetova (RUS)	A Silich (RUS)	64 46 76(2)	Bredikhina/Bredikhina (RUS)
Dec 06	Goteborg (SWE)	3 S Soendergaard (DEN)	V Johansson (SWE)	62 75	Hjertnsson/Mridha (SWE)
		I Rosca	C Swenson-Backelin (SWE)	64 62	Lodikova (RUS)/Rosca
Dec 06	Marsa (MLT)	3 A Lebedyn (UKR)	P Chrysochos (CYP)	26 75 63	Lebedyn (UKR)/Pervolarakis (CYP)
		A Pirok (HUN)	J Stor (SLO)	75 64	Argyriou (CYP)/Emelianova (RUS)

PARTNERS OF THE
TENNIS EUROPE
JUNIOR TOUR



RECOMMENDED BALL

POLAR
LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

RECOMMENDED
TRAINING COMPUTER

ITF Pro Circuits in Europe

Last week saw the conclusion of the final ITF Pro Circuit event of the season, as the 502nd tournament of the year drew to a close in Benicarló, Spain. Comprised of 249 men's Futures events with prize money of \$10,000 or \$15,000, and 253 Women's Circuit events, with prize money ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000, European events make up the bulk of the worldwide total tournament on the circuit and offer a combined total of \$8.49 million.

The Women's Circuit saw a number of Sony Ericsson WTA Tour stars winning titles, many of who were battling their back from injury-affected rankings. Three rising stars managed to win titles on both the ITF Pro Circuits and main Sony Ericsson WTA Tour in 2010, Kaia Kanepi (St. Gaudens and Cagnes-sur-Mer and WTA Palermo), Julia Goerges (Biarritz and WTA Bad Gastein) and Yanina Wickmayer (pictured) (Torhout and WTA Auckland)

The player to win the most titles overall was Madalina Gojnea, who managed the astounding feat of winning four \$10,000 titles as an unranked player while taking advantage of the special exempt positions. The Romanian indeed achieved a unique accomplishment, ending the season just outside the Top 200. Next year the rules will change and a player who earns 10 points will automatically receive a WTA ranking.

It is interesting to note the correlation between the number of singles title winners and the prize money offered by member nations on the Pro Circuit. In the Men's Top 5, Spain offers the most prize money, and Spanish players won the second-highest amount of titles. Italy is second in terms of prize money and third in titles. France is third in prize money, but won the most titles. Great Britain and Germany are fourth and fifth in both categories.

The Women's Circuit differs wildly. France offers the most prize money, but is fifth in terms of titles won. Italy is second but won more titles than any other nation for a fifth consecutive year. Second to fourth placed Romania, Czech Republic and Russia performed extremely strongly, accounting for a total of 63 singles titles while not appearing in the Top 5 countries in terms of prize money.

Quick Facts:

Nationalities to win at least 1 singles title: 38 (men's) and 41 (women's)

Tournaments won by unranked players: 14 (2 men's, 14 women's)

Tournaments won by players aged Under 18: 33 (1 men's, 32 women's)

Singles titles won by Wild Cards: 19 (10 men's, 9 women's).



Most Titles Won by Player

- 6 **Madalina Gojnea (ROU)**
- 5 **Gregoire Burquier (FRA) Daniel Cox (GBR), Kristian Mesaros (CRO) Jurgen Zopp (ESP)**
- 4 **Lara Arruabarrena (ESP) Magda Linette (POL) Mathilde Johansson (FRA) Romina Oprandi (ITA)**
- Liana Ungur (ROU) Anna Lapuschenkova (RUS)**
- Renata Voracova (CZE), Zuzana Zlochova (SVK)**
- Alexander Flock (GER), Augustin Gensse (FRA)**
- Gabriel Trujillo Soler (ESP)**

Most Titles Won by Country

No.	Men's Circuit	Women's Circuit
39	FRANCE	28 ITALY
32	SPAIN	24 ROMANIA
23	ITALY	20 CZECH REPUBLIC
13	GREAT BRITAIN	19 RUSSIA
12	GERMANY	16 FRANCE

Oldest/Youngest players to win titles

Age	Name
31 years, 3 months	Rafaella Bindi (ITA)
37 years, 7 months	Anthony Dupuis (FRA)
17 years, 6 months	Roberto Carballes (ESP)
15 years, 8 months	Ons Jabeur (TUN)

Highest-ranked winner

Rank	Name
20	Yanina Wickmayer (BEL)
153	Atila Balazs (HUN)

ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) Results



ITF Men's Circuit

Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Nov 15	Roznov (CZE)	\$15,000	J Mertl (CZE)	D Smethurst (GBR)	76(4) 16 63	Gawron (POL)/Matsukevitch (RUS)
Nov 15	Madrid (ESP)	\$10,000	A Giannessi (ITA)	J Marti (ESP)	75 62	Burrieza/Marti (ESP)
Nov 22	Opava (CZE)	\$15,000	J Mertl (CZE)	P Snobel (CZE)	75 62	Konecny/Lustig (CZE)

ITF Women's Circuit

Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Nov 15	Equeurdreville (FRA)	\$10,000	J Ginier (FRA)	C de Bernardi (FRA)	75 62	Haring (FRA)/Ramalalaharivololona(MAD)
Nov 15	Mallorca (ESP)	\$10,000	D Enache (ROU)	K Knapp (ITA)	64 62	Enache/Platon (ROU)
Nov 15	Bratislava (SVK)	\$25,000	K Bondarenko (UKR)	E Rodina (RUS)	76(3) 62	Laine (FIN)/Pavlovic (FRA)
Nov 15	Opole (POL)	\$25,000	S Zahlavova (CZE)	M Linette (POL)	57 76(4) 64	Kalashnikova (GEO)/Pekhova (BLR)
Nov 22	Vallduxo (ESP)	\$10,000	N Pipiya (RUS)	L Arruabarrena (ESP)	75 76(6)	Carreras (GBR)/Gamiz (VEN)
Nov 22	Prerov (CZE)	\$25,000	R Voracova (CZE)	C Feuerstein (FRA)	46 63 75	Gerlova/Kriegsmannova (CZE)
Nov 28	Vinaros (ESP)	\$10,000	L Arruabarrena (ESP)	C Dinu (ROU)	62 60	Fernandez (ESP)/Marenko (RUS)
Dec 06	Benicarló (ESP)	\$10,000	A Gamiz (VEN)	A Grymalska (ITA)	36 62 64	Fernandez (ESP)/Marenko (RUS)

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.

European Tennis Rankings – Men & Women

There has been just one change to the men's European ranking in the past month, with Britain's Andy Murray re-claiming fourth position over Robin Söderling, having outlasted the Swede at the season-ending ATP World Tour finals in London.

Eventual champion Roger Federer puts some breathing space between himself and #3 Novak Djokovic, though that could come under pressure at the Australian Open next month. Rafael Nadal ends the season as the top European for the second time in his career, while Tomas Berdych, Mikhail Youzhny

and Jurgen Melzer also finish the season at career high rankings.

With no WTA Tour events played in the last month, there is no change at the top of the European rankings since our last issue. The month of January should see some major changes. None of the current top five have significant points to defend during the Australian season, raising the possibility of a new #1 following the first Grand Slam of 2011.

Rankings as of December 13th, 2010.

European Women

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Caroline WOZNIACKI	DEN	8035
02	▶	Vera ZVONAREVA	RUS	6785
03	▶	Kim CLIJSTERS	BEL	6635
04	▶	Francesca SCHIAVONE	ITA	4935
05	▶	Jelena JANKOVIC	SRB	4445
06	▶	Elena DEMENTIEVA	RUS	4335
07	▶	Victoria AZARENKA	BLR	4235
08	▶	Justine HENIN	BEL	3415
09	▶	Shahar PEER	ISR	3365
10	▶	Agnieska RADWANSKA	POL	3000

European Men

Rank		Name	Nat.	Points
01	▶	Rafael NADAL	ESP	12450
02	▶	Roger FEDERER	SUI	9145
03	▶	Novak DJOKOVIC	SRB	6240
04	▲	Andy MURRAY	GBR	5760
05	▼	Robin SÖDERLING	SWE	5580
06	▶	Tomas BERDYCH	CZE	3955
07	▶	David FERRER	ESP	3735
08	▶	Fernando VERDASCO	ESP	3240
09	▶	Mikhail YOZHNY	RUS	2920
10	▶	Jurgen MELZER	AUT	2785



Andy Murray (GBR)



Elena Dementieva (RUS)



Roger Federer (SUI)

Notes and news from Tennis Europe

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from all the staff of Tennis Europe!

The Tennis Europe office in Basel will be closed from midday on December 24th until January 3rd. For urgent junior department enquiries, please send an email to juniors@tenniseurope.org.

News from National Associations

The Portuguese Tennis Federation has a new email address: geral@fptenis.pt

New contact details for the Azerbaijan Tennis Federation:

Binagadi Region,
8th Micro-District,
3158/3156,
Ibrahimpasha Dadashov str,
AZ1130 Baku,
Azerbaijan Republic

Tel: +994 12 651 56 11
Fax: +994 12 561 55 39
Email: tennis@tennisfed.az

Contact Us

TENNIS EUROPE
Zur Gempenfluh 36
CH-4059, Basel
Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 335 9040
Fax: +41 61 331 7253
Email: contactus@tenniseurope.org
Web: www.TennisEurope.org

www.facebook.com/pages/Tennis-Europe/40211773432
www.twitter.com/tenniseurope



Tennis Europe News is edited by Jonathan Jobson - jonathanj@tenniseurope.org.

To subscribe to Tennis Europe News, simply send an email to contactus@tenniseurope.org, with "Subscribe" as the email title, or click [here](#).

Our Partners

HEAD[®]



LA MANGA CLUB

POLAR[®]
LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

IFM Sports Marketing Surveys
quality research for management action

HEADlines

Agassi and Graf provide once-in-a-Lifetime Experience for HEAD Star Series Promotion Winner

Seventeen year old Tony Ly from Rockhill, South Carolina experienced the match of his life with Andre Agassi and Stefanie Graf in Las Vegas, after winning HEAD's YouTek™ Star Series Promotion.

The online promotion was featured on head.com earlier this year with four short viral videos of Agassi and Graf explaining the different technologies found in the new YouTek™ Stars Series Racquets.

Ly was able to bring his eighteen year-old brother Brian to enjoy the experience with him. Ly's parents also made the trip to Las Vegas, after they found out that their son had won a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Ly and his family were picked up at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino by limousine and were taken to the Amanda and Stacy Darling Memorial Tennis Center to meet Stefanie Graf and Andre Agassi. "We couldn't believe that we won this opportunity to go to Las Vegas and play tennis with Andre and Stefanie, because things like that just don't happen to people," said Ly.

Ly and his brother each grabbed the YouTek™ Radical as their racquet of choice and hit the courts with Agassi and Graf. "We expected to get demolished by them (which we did) but thankfully they took it easy on us, and we even managed to play some good points and hit a few winners," said Ly.

After getting the chance to hit with the two legendary players, Ly and his family had lunch with the couple and asked questions about his tennis game. Agassi and Graf both provided key advice for both Tony and Brian on how they could improve different shots and gave them key information on how to compete. After taking pictures and getting autographed copies of Andre's book, the day came to a close and Tony was both grateful and in awe by the opportunity to have such a unique tennis experience.

"This will be a great memory for us. Many tennis players only dream of getting to see Agassi and Graf play, but we actually got to meet them, play tennis with them and have lunch with them," said Ly. "Thanks for everything, HEAD!"

The Star Series racquets, whose three models include the YouTek™ Six Star, YouTek™ Five Star and YouTek™ Three Star, were launched in May and have earned the prestigious 2010 Red Dot award for Product Design. Agassi and Graf have taken an active part in the promotion of the HEAD Star Series, with the couple appearing in four short viral films explaining the different technologies and their advantages to players of all levels.

For footage from the Meet and Greet with Agassi and Graf as well as other HEAD video content, visit the [HEAD YouTube Channel](#).



POLAR
LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

WWW.POLAR.FI



YOUR HEART KNOWS HOW TO GET FITTER, FASTER

Don't waste a moment – instant feedback and guidance allows you to train at the right intensity.

- Leave too much time or not enough before your next rep and you won't see the best results. Strength Training Guidance lets you know how long to rest between sets
- Like a personal trainer, the STAR Training Program tells you how long and how hard to train, and motivates you with weekly targets
- The 5-minute Fitness Test measures your aerobic fitness so you can see when your fitness levels are improving

Also compatible with sensors that allow you to measure speed, pace and distance in your running, cycling or other sports sessions.