

## **DROP SHOTS**

\* The tournament in 2002 was the first time ever that two Swiss players (Martina Hingis and Roger Federer) reached respective singles finals at the same tournament and also went on to win the titles.

\* The tournament in 2001 was the first time in the Open-era that the top two seeds were featured in the final of every event - men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles.

\* Between 1990 and 2007 inclusive, players from nine different countries have won the men's singles - USA 7, Australia 4, France 2, Switzerland 1, Great Britain 1, Russia 1, Spain 1, Slovakia 1 and Korea 1. Players from nine different countries have won the women's singles - Belgium 5, USA 3, Switzerland 3, Argentina 2, Australia 1, Belarus 1, Czech Republic 1, Japan 1, Spain 1, France 1.

\* Eight players have won the singles more than once since 1990 - **Martina Hingis** ('97, '01, '02), **Justine Henin** ('04, '06, '08), **Kim Clijsters** (2003, 2007), **Gabriela Sabatini** ('92, '95), **Lleyton Hewitt** ('00, '01, '04, '05), **James Blake** (2006, 2007), **Pete Sampras** ('93, '94) and **Todd Martin** ('96, '99).

\* Only five men have won the singles title four or more times - **D. Webb** 1888, 1890, 1892, 1893, 1894, **Jack Crawford** 1927, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1936, **John Bromwich** 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1946, 1948 1949, **Tony Roche** 1967, 1969, 1974, 1976 and **Lleyton Hewitt** 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005.

\* The last man to win three or more in a row was **John Bromwich** 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940 while **Lleyton Hewitt** is the last man to have won it four times 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005.

\* Only eight women have won the singles title four or more times - **Miss Mayne** 1887, 1889, 1890, 1893, **Miss R. Payten** 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1907, **Mrs. B. Ford (Baker)** 1906, 1908, 1912, 1916, 1917, 1918, Miss P. Stewart 1911, 1913, 1914, 1915, **Thelma Long (Coyne)** 1935, 1938, 1940, 1951, 1953, **Nancy Bolton (Wynne)** 1936, 1927, 1939, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1950, **Margaret Court (Smith)** 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, **Evonne Cawley (Goolagong)** 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977 and **Martina Navratilova** 1982, 1984, 1985, 1989.

\* The last woman to win three or more in a row was **Margaret Court** 1969, 1970, 1971 while **Martina Navratilova** was the last woman to win the singles four times 1982, 1984, 1985, 1989.

\* Peter McNamara and Paul McNamee were the last team to win the men's doubles three consecutive times - 1979, 1980, 1981.

\* Joan Hartigan and Louie Bickerton were the last team to win the women's doubles three consecutive times - 1932 (Mar), 1932 (Nov), 1933.

\* Helena Sukova was the last woman to be involved in a winning doubles team three consecutive years - 1990, 1991, 1992.

\* Family ties - in the Sanchez family Emilio won the singles and doubles in 1992, Arantxa won the singles in 1998 and the doubles in 1991, 1992 and 1997 and Javier won the doubles in 1997. Also in family ties are Fred Stolle and son Sandon - Fred won the singles and doubles in 1964 and the singles again in 1966, Sandon won the doubles in 1993, 1994 and 2001.

\* Winning Sydney and the Australian Open (Championships prior to 1968) in the same season has happened nine times in the men's and 22 times in the women's.

The first time it was done was in the men's was in 1907 by Horace Rice. The last time was in 1994 by Pete Sampras.

In 1931, 32, 33 Jack Crawford achieved the hat-trick and in 1957, 58 Ashley Cooper did it in two consecutive years.

In 1970 Arthur Ashe won the Australian Open which was combined with this event.

The first time it was done in the women's was in 1924 by Sylvia Lance. The last time was in 2004 by Justine Henin.

In 1969, 70, 71 Margaret Court achieved the hat-trick and in 1974, 75 Evonne Goolagong did it in two consecutive years.

\* Media from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Italy, Germany, France, Japan, Spain, USA, and Great Britain were represented last year.

\* The tournament has won several awards on the ATP Tour. It has won for Media Relations/Operations, its Charity Programme and for Fan Experience.

\* The NSW championships moved to White City in 1922 (21 October) and January, 1999, was the last time they were played at White City. 2000 marked the debut for the Sydney International Tennis Centre (initially known as the NSW Tennis Centre) and the adidas International 2000 was the first major event to be played at the new site at Sydney Olympic Park (initially referred to as Homebush Bay), which was also used for the Olympics in September, 2000 the Davis Cup semifinal (v's Sweden) in September, 2001 and the Davis Cup first round (v's Great Britain) in February, 2003, Davis Cup 1st round (v's Austria) in February, 2005 and Davis Cup QF (v's Argentina) July, 2005.

\* This is the only centre court in the world that has used four different surfaces - Rebound Ace, red clay, grass and in 2008 Plexicushion for the first time.

\* 2005 marked the first time there was a pre-qualifying event for Australian men players.16 fought it out with the two finalists receiving wild cards in the qualifying draw. The two to advance were Jaymon Crabb (SA) and Vince Mellmo (NSW).

\* Attendance figures - 1996 - 52,800, 1997 - 43,500, 1998 - 60,000, 1999 - 70,000, 2000 - 85,000, 2001 - 100,000, 2002 - 86,000, 2003 - 80,550, 2004 - 85,000, 2005 - 70,000, 2006 - 73,000, 2007 - 91,900, 2008 - 85,100