



Sutton Tennis & Squash Club secures record sponsorship for 2015 Thomas International Open Tennis Tournament

Tournament has largest prize money for an Aegon British Tour event in the UK

Sutton, May 15 2015. Sutton Tennis and Squash Club unveils Thomas International as lead sponsor of its 2015 Open Tennis Tournament, which includes the Aegon British Tour, and will run from Sunday 16th August to Saturday 22nd August 2015. Once again the event is to be held in support of the Royal Marsden Hospital.

Thomas International is the global champion of the people assessment space and is an industry leader with dedicated divisions in education and sport and a presence in over 60 countries. Thomas work with 32,000 organisations and over 8000 students where they help young people to fulfil their potential. Sutton Tennis and Squash Club, in securing this record sponsorship, joins the likes of Virgin Trains, Kent County Cricket Club and the NHS, who have all worked with Thomas International to empower their people and change lives.

Now in its eighth year, the Aegon British Tour Sutton Open Tennis Tournament has been nominated by the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) as one of only three 'Premier Status' events in the UK, in recognition of its history, prestige and reputation.

Mike Walker, Managing Director of Thomas International's newest divisions Thomas Sport and Education comments:

"We are thrilled to become the lead sponsor of the Thomas International Open Tennis Tournament at the Sutton Tennis and Squash Club. I'm delighted to be able to develop my relationship and support for the club. At Thomas, we're passionate about improving performance and ultimately changing lives. We hope that our sponsorship of the tournament will complement this."

Steve Lewis, Chairman of the Tournament Committee adds:

"Mike has had a successful career as a professional tennis player, competing in both the Wimbledon Championships and the Davis Cup. He is dedicated to bringing his expertise from the world of sport to both business and education, helping to promote continual improvement through the development of innovative assessment solutions. We are delighted that Thomas International has agreed to support our event in this way."

The increased sponsorship money pledged this year by Thomas International and a number of additional local companies, means that the total prize fund this year will be £14,300, with an unmatched £2k going to the winner of the men's singles, £2k to the winner of the ladies' tournament. The Total Tournament Prize Money is £9,920 more than any other Tier 1 Event in the UK, making the Thomas International Open Tennis Tournament the richest in the UK.

About Thomas International

Thomas International is the global champion of the people assessment industry, providing assessments in 56 languages with a presence in over 60 countries. Today they are working with 32,000 companies and 250,000 trained Thomas users worldwide. From their inception in 1981, Thomas has grown to encompass more than just the business world and is now present in business, education and sport, empowering staff, leaders, students and sporting professionals to achieve excellence. At the forefront of assessment innovation for over 30 years, Thomas are passionate about providing tools that will help change lives. Find out more [here](#).

About Sutton Tennis & Squash Club (ST&SC)

Founded in 1923 ST&SC is one of the oldest clubs in UK and is one of Surrey's top tennis and squash members clubs. Originally, known as "Sutton Hard Courts", the club's 9 clay courts were a firm favourite amongst international tennis stars throughout the decades. In 1990s the club converted to all-weather hard courts with floodlights. A private members club, which is LTA Club Mark approved and run by volunteers, it has a vibrant family and social scene and plays an important role in the wider community through its junior engagement programmes with local schools and its support of local charities including Princess Alice Hospice, Cardiac Risk in the Young, The Royal Marsden Hospital and other good causes.

ST&SC compete annually in the Aegon National Club League. This is a competition where in excess of 5000 clubs enter each year. ST&SC won the event in 2008 & 2013 and have been runners up on four other occasions. Our teams compete at National, Regional & Surrey County Division 1 level which has made us one of the outstanding Clubs in British Tennis over the past decade. Grand Slam Champion Wayne Black has represented Sutton along with Davis Cup and Wimbledon players such as Miles Miles Maclagan, Mike Walker, Josh Goodall, Alex Slabinsky and Tom Farquharson. Other full time players who have represented Sutton include Jack Carpenter, Andy Bettles, Cam Norrie, Jathan Malik and GB current Davis Cup coach Nick Weal. Evan Hoyt was a member of the GB junior Davis Cup team that won the event in 2012. This year promising junior talent includes Jack Molloy, Alexis Canter, Jonathan Gray, Louis Newman, Zack Norman & Josh Goodger.

STSC

Contact: Roland Daniells
T: 07866 728429
E: roland.daniells@gmail.com

Thomas International

Contact: Emily Atkinson
T: 01628 470 970
E: emilya@thomas.co.uk