

ASP

2016 AUSTRALIAN Squash PLAYER

MAKING HEADLINES

Zac Alexander
Mike Corren
Rex Hedrick
Matt Hopkin
Josh Larkin
Tamika Saxby

The most successful Aussie male player was without doubt **Zac Alexander** who won 8 domestic PSA Tour Titles in 2016.

Tamika Saxby was our most impressive female player winning 5 PSA Tour Titles on home soil.



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Matt Hopkin



2016



The **Australian Squash Player Annual** has been created and compiled by Kim Schramm for **Squash Media**.

2016 was a year to celebrate. Whilst our athletes didn't win World Championships they performed well on the PSA World Tour. They collectively won 18 PSA Titles (compared to 13 in 2015 and 17 in 2014).

One performance that stood out as being absolutely superb wasn't a winning one. It was that of **Cameron Pilley** reaching the final of the PSA World Series.

Just getting into the draw is tough enough! One has to perform consistently over 7 World Series events: US Open, Qatar Classic, Hong Kong Open, Tournament of Champions, Windy City Open, British Open and the El Gouna International.

Players are awarded points based on their result at each World Series event: Winner 100 points, Runner Up 65, Semi Finalist 40, Quarter Finalist 25, 2nd Round 15 and 1st Round 10.

The Top 8 qualifiers were Mohamed El Shorbagy 640 points, Greg Gaultier 335, Nick Matthew 225, Omar Mosaad 220, Miguel Ángel Rodríguez 175, Simon Rosner 155, Mathieu Castagnet 150 and **Cameron Pilley 130**.

Pilley hit a "purple patch of form" and reached the final. Despite losing the final to Greg Gaultier, Pilley was at his absolute best beating World #1 Mohamed El Shorbagy in the semi final. The potential is certainly there for Pilley to enjoy more success in the future.

Spare a thought for **Lisa Camilleri** who reached 6 PSA Tour finals but couldn't break through for a confidence boosting win. The "champagne is on ice" for 2017 Lisa!

One can only marvel at the achievements of **Mike Corren** who once again proved age is no barrier. At 42 Corren won his 5th Golden Open in Kalgoorlie and his **51st Tour Title!**

Rex Hedrick, Matthew Hopkin and **Josh Larkin** all won PSA Tour Titles overseas.

Australia hosted the **World Doubles Championships** in Darwin but any home ground advantage we may have had didn't help the Aussies win any Gold Medals.

Men's Doubles: David Palmer and Zac Alexander won **SILVER**
Cameron Pilley and Ryan Cuskelly won **BRONZE**

Women's Doubles: Rachael Grinham and Donna Urquhart won **SILVER**

Mixed Doubles: David Palmer and Donna Urquhart won **BRONZE**

2016



CUSKELLY WINS 2015 US PRO SQUASH SERIES

STORY: [Sean Reuthe PSA](#)

World No.16 Ryan Cuskelly capped off a superb 2015 by topping last year's U.S. Pro Squash Series rankings, claiming the top prize of \$2,500 in additional bonus prize money.

The Australian No.2, who was in fine form throughout a year that saw him break into the world's top 20 for the first time in addition to claiming four PSA World Tour titles, beat Scotland's Alan Clyne and Mexico's Cesar Salazar to the summit of the rankings while 2014 winner Campbell Grayson, who pipped Cuskelly to the title that year, had to settle for fourth.

Cuskelly picked up 1,380 points from five events which included victory at February's Oregon Open and a runner-up finish at the Charlottesville Open in September of last year. A last four spot at the Pittsburgh Open combined with a quarter-final place at the Life Time Fitness Houston Open and a final qualifying round exit at the Suburban Collection Motor City Open added to his impressive total.



Photo courtesy of [squashpics.com](#)

"I'm really happy to win the U.S. Pro Squash Series this year, particularly as I came in second last year," said Cuskelly.

"Winning the U.S. Pro Squash Series is even more special for me as I live and train in the US and play most of my tournaments around the country. I think this series could really grow as there are so many tournaments in the states now which makes it a great place to base yourself as a professional player on the PSA World Tour."

The 2015 U.S. Pro Squash Series included 20 events ranging from \$5,000 to \$70,000 in prize money with players needing to participate in a minimum of four tournaments to be eligible for the additional bonus prize money.

THANK YOU



Thank you to the PSA for managing the World Tour and all the promoters around the World who continue to offer and improve events.

Thank you to our players who keep striving to achieve their dreams.

Thank you to all the contributors to the **Squash Media** Publications. You help to promote events, recognise our players and thank our volunteers and sponsors.

Thank you to all the writers who keep us well informed and the photographers who capture such wonderful memories.

Most importantly **thank you** to the fantastic sponsors who bring our events to life with their generous support.

INSPIRE



ASP aims to inspire the next generation of Aussie squash players to strive toward success and **make headlines!**

To be included in this publication an Australian Squash Player must have:

- won a PSA Tour title or
- won an international event
- received a major award or
- achieved a career milestone

The **ASP** collection forms a yearly summary of Aussie success stories ... our very own Squash Annual.

ASP is a FREE publication proudly brought to you by **Squash Media**.

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WORLD RANKINGS



Aussie Top 10

1 January 2017



MEN:

	LY:	TY:	HWR:
Cameron Pilley	13	18	11
Ryan Cuskelly	17	19	16
Rex Hedrick	53	57	51
Zac Alexander	78	74	36
Joshua Larkin	99	84	84
Matthew Hopkin	123	95	89
Rhys Dowling	151	134	120
Thomas Calvert	186	179	179
Mike Corren	269	196	38
Solayman Nowrozi	252	202	202

WOMEN:

	LY:	TY:	HWR:
Donna Urquhart	23	19	13
Rachael Grinham	18	31	1
Sarah Cardwell	53	45	45
Christine Nunn	47	49	36
Tamika Saxby	100	51	51
Lisa Camilleri	85	64	28
Jessica Turnbull	81	76	81
Samantha Foyle	178	97	73
Stephanie Wighton	115	104	98
Samantha Calvert	111	128	111

2016 Titles

Zac Alexander

PSA M5 NT Open
PSA M5 City of Perth International Challenge
PSA M5 New South Wales Open
PSA M5 Tasmanian Open
PSA M5 North Coast Open
PSA M5 Queensland Open
PSA M5 Mackay Open
PSA M5 Cairns International

Mike Corren

PSA M5 City of Kalgoorlie & Boulder Golden Open

Rex Hedrick

PSA M10 Malaysian Tour #3

Matthew Hopkin

PSA M5 Helsinki Winter Challenger
PSA M5 Black Sea Open

Josh Larkin

PSA M5 Inno Wood Open

Tamika Saxby

PSA W5 City of Perth International Challenge
PSA W5 Sandgate Open
PSA W5 New South Wales Open
PSA W5 South Australian Open
PSA W5 North Coast Open



HOPKIN RISES TO THE CHALLENGE

STORY: <http://www.squashsite.co.uk/>

Matthew Hopkin from Australia became the new champion of the Suez Helsinki Challenger in the Talihalli in Helsinki. In the final Hopkin defeated last year's runner up Baptiste Masotti from France 3 games to 1.



The winner was of course delighted to win the event and thanked Masotti for a good and fair fight.

"I didn't make mistakes, he did in the end," was Hopkin's analysis of the match.

"The fact that all matches were played on the glass was much appreciated. We don't get that many chances to play on a glass court, now all matches, great." commented the champion after the match.

Queenslander **Matt Hopkin** joined the PSA in September 2013. Hopkins broke into the World Top 100 in January 2015 and achieved a career high World Ranking of 89 in July 2015.

Quarter Finals

[8] Baptiste Masotti (FRA) def [1] Shehab Essam (EGY) 11-8, 7-11, 11-7, 11-9

[5] Joshua Masters (ENG) def [3] Geoffrey Demont (FRA) 7-11, 11-3, 11-4, 11-6

[4] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [7] Asim Khan (PAK) 11-5, 10-12, 13-11, 13-11

[WC] Kristian Rautiainen (FIN) def [2] Aqeel Rehman (AUT) 11-8, 11-8, 10-12, 11-5

Semi Finals

[8] Baptiste Masotti (FRA) def [5] Joshua Masters (ENG) 11-3, 11-8, 11-7

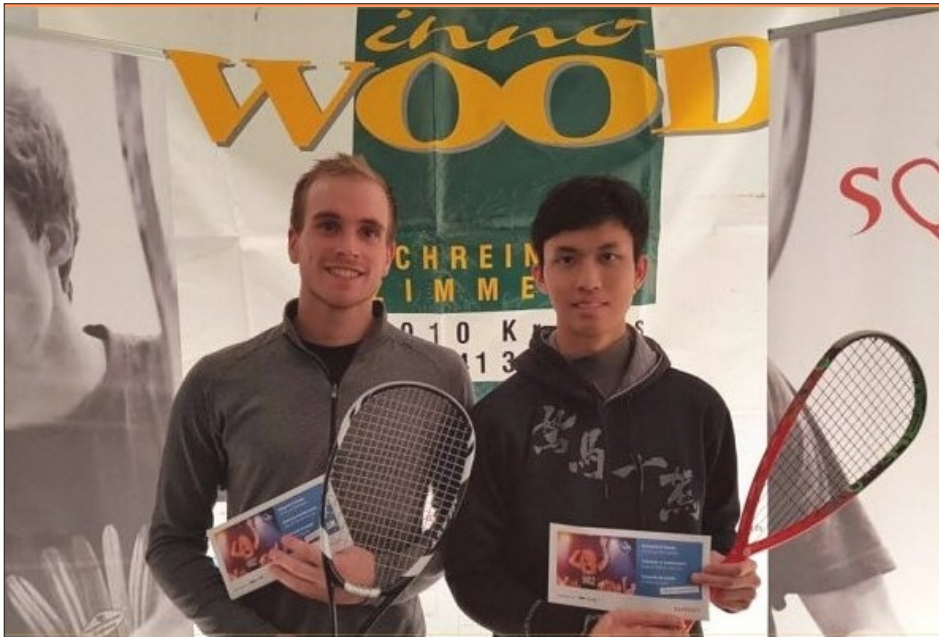
[4] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [WC] Kristian Rautiainen (FIN) 11-7, 7-11, 11-8, 11-6

**[4] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [8] Baptiste Masotti (FRA)
9-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-7**

March 16



TOP SEED LARKIN WINS INNO WOOD TITLE



Australia's **Josh Larkin** notched up his 3rd PSA Tour Title when he won the M5 Inno Wood Open at the Sportpark Pilatus in Kriens, Switzerland.

Seeded #1 Larkin beat #2 seed Chi Him Wong from Hong Kong in five solid games.

Up two games to love the Aussie looked to be in complete control but Chi Him Wong decided he wasn't going down without a fight.

No stranger to taking a match the full distance, after winning his quarter final clash 12-10 in the 5th and his semi final 11-9 in the 5th, Chi Him Wong was determined to take this final all the way as well.

Fortunately, Larkin was able to keep his nose in front during the last game and when he got match ball he took the first chance he got to close out a tight match 11-9.

Born in Victoria **Josh Larkin** joined the PSA in April 2007 and left after 10 months. He rejoined the Tour in March 2012 and broke into the World Top 100 in January 2016. Larkin achieved a career high World Ranking of 84 in January 2017.

Quarter Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [5] Jonas Daehler (SUI) 11-6, 11-6, 11-7

[Q] Daniel Mekbib (CZE) def [4] Benjamin Fischer (SUI) 11-9, 4-11, 11-3, 11-6

[3] Edmon Lopez (ESP) def [8] Manuel Wanner (SUI) 11-13, 11-6, 11-8, 11-5

[2] Wong Chi Him (HKG) def [Q] Dimitri Steinmann (SUI) 7-11, 11-8, 12-14, 11-7, 12-10

Semi Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [Q] Daniel Mekbib (CZE) 11-4, 12-10, 11-5

[2] Wong Chi Him (HKG) def [3] Edmon Lopez (ESP) 6-11, 11-4, 11-3, 9-11, 11-9

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [2] Chi Him Wong (HKG)

11-7, 11-5, 7-11, 10-12, 11-9

April 16



HEDRICK WINS MALAYSIA M10

STORY: [Extract from Squash Victoria Website: Checking in with ... Rex Hedrick](#)

Rex Hedrick, the number one seed, eased past Korean Ko Youngjo in the opening round, before defeating Malaysian Eain Yow Ng and Spaniard Carlos Cornes Ribadas to reach the final.

The 27-year-old showed his class in the decider, knocking off Dutchman Pedro Schweertman 11-4, 11-2, 11-4 to claim the title with a straight games victory.

While the return to the PSA World Tour may have looked like a breeze, Hedrick said a lot of work had gone into preparing physically and mentally for the tournament after suffering lingering hamstring-related injuries in the back end of 2015.

“It’s one of those ones where you do expect it (to win), or you are hoping that you are capable of doing it - actually doing it is another thing,” Hedrick said. “You do still go in quite confident and knowing that if you do play your best squash, you can definitely win the tournament.

With a title already under his belt for 2016, Hedrick said he would now turn his attention to improving his ranking to put himself at the forefront of 2018 Commonwealth Games selection, while also juggling his commitments with Westerfolds.

Victorian Rex Hedrick joined the PSA in December 2007.
Hedrick broke into the World Top 100 in July 2011 and
achieved a career high World Ranking of 51 in December 2016.

Quarter Finals

[1] Rex Hedrick (AUS) def [WC] Eain Yow Ng (MAS) 11-4, 8-11, 11-4, 13-11 (64m)

[4] Carlos Cornes Ribadas (ESP) def [Q] Bernat Jaume (ESP) 11-9, 11-3, 8-11, 13-11 (61m)

Elvinn Keo (MAS) def [5] Wong Chi Him (HKG) 11-4, 4-11, 11-6, 11-7 (41m)

[2] Pedro Schweertman (NED) def [7] Iker Pajares Bernabeu (ESP)

13-11, 7-11, 11-9, 10-12, 11-7 (80m)

Semi Finals

[1] Rex Hedrick (AUS) def [4] Carlos Cornes Ribadas (ESP) 11-4, 9-11, 11-2, 11-1 (54m)

[2] Pedro Schweertman (NED) def Elvinn Keo (MAS) 12-14, 11-3, 9-11, 13-11, 11-4 (60m)

[1] Rex Hedrick (AUS) def [2] Pedro Schweertman (NED)

11-4, 11-2, 11-2 (37m)

May 16



ALEXANDER KICKS OFF 2016 CAMPAIGN IN NT

World #107 **Zac Alexander** justified his #1 seeding at the NT Open in Darwin winning his 4th PSA title in succession.

The 27 year old Queenslander breezed through to the final winning his first three matches 3-0.

In the final he took on World #148 Adam Murrills (England) and rushed to a 2-0 lead before Murrills began a spirited fight back.



The former World #36 then steadied the ship and ran out the victor 11-2, 11-5, 8-11, 5-11, 11-5.

After finishing runner up at the 2015 NT Open to Kiwi Paul Coll, Alexander found it very satisfying raising the trophy and recording his 18th PSA match victory in a row.

After his recent appointment to a role with Squash Australia Alexander intends concentrating on mainly events around Australia.

"I'm planning on playing everything I can around Australia for the next two years, I want to play at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast," Alexander said.

Queenslander **Zac Alexander** joined the PSA in April 2007. Alexander broke into the World Top 100 in February 2009 and achieved a career high World Ranking of 36 in September 2012.

Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [7] Rohan Toole (AUS) 11-7, 11-3, 11-6

[3] Rhys Dowling (AUS) def [Q] Joseph White (AUS) 9-11, 11-6, 11-1, 11-4

[6] Mithran Selvaratnam (MAS) def [4] David Clegg (AUS) 11-4, 11-2, 11-8

[2] Adam Murrills (ENG) def [Q] Darcy Evans (AUS) 11-6, 11-5, 11-4

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [3] Rhys Dowling (AUS) 11-6, 11-4, 11-5

[2] Adam Murrills (ENG) def [6] Mithran Selvaratnam (MAS) 11-9, 11-6, 11-2

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [2] Adam Murrills (ENG)

11-2, 11-5, 8-11, 5-11, 11-5

May 16



ALEXANDER AND SAXBY CLAIM PERTH TITLES

STORY: [PSA World Tour](#)

Australian duo **Zac Alexander** and **Tamika Saxby** prevailed in the finals of the City of Perth Squash Challenge Open, PSA M5 and W5 tournaments, respectively, to lift the titles on home soil.

World No.107 Alexander, whose last defeat in a PSA World Tour event came in August 2015, lined up against last year's semi-finalist Lewis Walters in his final fixture, with the pair set to face off for the first time.

Alexander had reached the final without dropping a single game, while Walters had eliminated two home players, Thomas Calvert and Rhys Dowling, on his way to the final at the Terrace Squash Centre.

The first game was the closest of the lot, with Alexander narrowly taking it on a nail-biting tie-break to go a game ahead.

From there, Alexander moved up the gears and sailed to victory in game two, before



Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [WC] David Ilich (AUS) 11-3, 11-6, 11-6 (24m)

[3] Adam Murrills (ENG) def [7] Ko Youngjo (KOR) 10-12, 11-8, 14-12, 11-7 (58m)

[4] Rhys Dowling (AUS) def Timothy Cornish (AUS) 11-6, 11-13, 11-7, 11-6 (43m)

[2] Lewis Walters (JAM) def [6] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 7-11, 11-7, 11-1, 11-3 (42m)

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [3] Adam Murrills (ENG) 11-8, 12-10, 11-9 (36m)

[2] Lewis Walters (JAM) def [4] Rhys Dowling (AUS) 11-6, 12-10, 1-11, 11-9 (47m)

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [2] Lewis Walters (JAM)

14-12, 11-5, 11-8 (50m)

May 16



ALEXANDER AND SAXBY CLAIM PERTH TITLES

fending off a late rally from Walters in the third to wrap up the win with a 14-12, 11-5, 11-8 margin of victory to capture his fifth PSA World Tour title in a row and extend his unbeaten run to an incredible 22 matches.

The Women's event, meanwhile, saw Saxby go head-to-head with compatriot and number one seed Sarah Cardwell in a thrilling five-game contest.

Saxby twice took a one-game lead, before finding herself pegged back on both occasions by a tenacious Cardwell, who was appearing in her first PSA World Tour final of the year.

The deciding fifth game saw Saxby nudge back in front though, and she held on to close out an 11-9, 9-11, 11-9, 8-11, 11-5 triumph to lift her first PSA World Tour title of the season.



NSW's **Tamika Saxby** joined the PSA in October 2007. Saxby broke into the World Top 100 in September 2010 and achieved a career high World Ranking of 51 in January 2017.

Quarter Finals

[1] Sarah Cardwell (AUS) def [Q] Amanda Hopps (AUS) 11-5, 11-3, 11-8 (25m)

Samantha Foyle (AUS) def [8] Samantha Calvert (AUS) 12-14, 11-5, 11-4, 11-6 (30m)

[4] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [6] Stephanie Wighton (AUS) 11-5, 11-7, 11-4 (28m)

[5] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [2] Jessica Turnbull (AUS) 11-6, 11-9, 5-11, 11-9 (32m)

Semi Finals

[1] Sarah Cardwell (AUS) def Samantha Foyle (AUS) 11-6, 11-9, 11-8 (25m)

[4] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [5] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) 11-3, 11-9, 11-5 (24m)

**[4] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [1] Sarah Cardwell (AUS)
11-9, 9-11, 11-9, 8-11, 11-5 (65m)**

June 16



CORREN WINS 5th GOLDEN OPEN

The oldest man in the field proved age was no barrier when he took out the 2016 Golden Open.

Evergreen **Mike Corren** (42) was too good for his much younger Korean opponent Ko Youngjo winning 3-0 in 45 minutes chalking up his 51st Tour Title from 74 Finals.

After a tight opening game which lasted 22 minutes, Corren put the accelerator flat to the floor winning his 5th Golden Open in 7 years and creating a new age record as the oldest PSA player to win a Tour Final.



Presentation Photo: WA Minister for Sport & Recreation Mia Davies MLA, **Champion Mike Corren**, Runner Up Ko Youngjo, Mayor of The City of Kalgoorlie & Boulder John Bowler, and the former Member for O'Connor Tony Crook MLA

Quarter Finals

[1] Adam Murrills (ENG) def [7] Chris Lo (HKG) 10-12, 11-5, 11-3, 11-6 (37m)

[3] Ko Youngjo (KOR) def [8] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) 11-7, 8-11, 13-11, 13-11 (46m)

[6] Mike Corren (AUS) def [4] Tsz Kwan Lau (HKG) 11-2, 11-9, 11-6 (27m)

[2] Rhys Dowling (AUS) def [5] Jong Myoung Park (KOR) 11-9, 11-9, 11-6 (30m)

Semi Finals

[3] Ko Youngjo (KOR) def [1] Adam Murrills (ENG) 4-11, 2-11, 11-4, 11-8, 11-6 (58m)

[6] Mike Corren (AUS) def [2] Rhys Dowling (AUS) 11-3, 11-9, 11-7 (30m)

[6] Mike Corren (AUS) def [3] Ko Youngjo (KOR)

18-16, 11-3, 11-6 (45m)

June 16



SAXBY ON SONG AT SANDGATE OPEN

STORY: [PSA World Tour](#)

Unseeded **Tamika Saxby** continued her outstanding run of form with a 3-1 victory in the Sandgate Open.

In front of a full house in Queensland, the 23-year-old Australian proved too strong for second seed Lisa Camilleri, emerging a 3-1 victor.

The last time the pair met was in the semi-finals of the City of Perth Squash Challenge which resulted in a win for Saxby.

A repeat looked on the cards as she took the first two games 11-8, 11-5 before Camilleri responded to take the third 4-11. But that just delayed the inevitable as the 23-year-old swept her opponent away 11-1 in the fourth.

A delighted Saxby said afterwards: "It is great to get a second win at home. I had a strong first two games, however lost my way in the third game. I managed to piece it together for a strong fourth game."



Photo courtesy of
TKreek Photography

Quarter Finals

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [1] Sarah Cardwell (AUS) 9-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11-5 (41m)

Samantha Foyle (AUS) def [4] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) 6-11, 12-10, 12-10, 13-11 (42m)

[3] Jessica Turnbull (AUS) def Emma Millar (NZL) 11-3, 11-3, 9-11, 5-11, 11-3 (33m)

[2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [6] Stephanie Wighton (AUS) 11-7, 9-11, 12-10, 11-9 (40m)

Semi Finals

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def Samantha Foyle (AUS) 11-6, 11-5, 11-4 (18m)

[2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [3] Jessica Turnbull (AUS) 11-9, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10 (37m)

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS)

11-8, 11-5, 4-11, 11-1 (37m)

July 16



ALEXANDER AND SAXBY REIGN IN NSW OPEN

STORY: [PSA World Tour](#)

Defending champion **Zac Alexander** made it 11 months unbeaten on the PSA World Tour after retaining his title at the NSW Squash Open Championships, PSA M5 tournament to lift his sixth successive Tour title – while his compatriot, **Tamika Saxby**, lifted her third title in a row after triumphing in the Women's event in Sydney.

A fine display of strength from Alexander saw him power to the final without dropping a single game, where he came up against surprise finalist Aaron Frankcomb, who battled through qualifying to reach the main draw.



Frankcomb then went on to defeat two seeded players en route to the showpiece finale, including second seed Rhys Dowling, who succumbed to injury during their encounter.

Alexander had the better of the final encounter as a series of free-flowing rallies between two home players entertained a captivated crowd at the Elanora Squash Centre.

After securing straightforward victories in the opening two games, 27-year-old Alexander narrowly saw off the intentions of his opponent in a tightly-contested third game to secure an 11-6, 11-7, 11-9 win which sees the World No.93 extend his unbeaten run to 26 matches, in addition to claiming the 20th PSA World Tour title of his career.

Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [Q] Iain Tennant (SCO) 11-6, 11-3, 11-5 (20m)

[Q] Matthew Karwalski (AUS) def [7] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) 11-4, 11-7, 11-3 (23m)

[Q] Aaron Frankcomb (AUS) def Sandeep Ramachandran (IND) 11-7, 11-3, 11-4 (24m)

[2] Rhys Dowling (AUS) def [8] Luca Wilhelmi (SUI) 11-9, 11-9, 11-9 (27m)

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [Q] Matthew Karwalski (AUS) 11-9, 11-9, 11-5 (34m)

[Q] Aaron Frankcomb (AUS) def [2] Rhys Dowling (AUS) 11-4, 6-1 ret. (17m)

**[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [Q] Aaron Frankcomb (AUS)
11-6, 11-7, 11-9 (43m)**



ALEXANDER AND SAXBY REIGN IN NSW OPEN

“Honestly, reading I’ve gone 11 months without losing is a little strange to read,” Alexander said to Squash Australia.

“I guess after competing at a higher level than I’m currently playing helps, but still it hasn’t been easy, there’s definitely dangerous players around as I saw over the weekend.

“It took all my concentration, and some extra motivation you could say, to get me through.”



Saxby, meanwhile, followed up her victory at last month’s Sandgate Open by defeating fellow Australian Lisa Camilleri in straight games to win the Women’s crown.

The talented 23-year-old played with poise and maturity against an opponent 10 years her senior as she rattled off a number of perfectly executed winners to build up a succession of points.

Saxby took the lead in a one-sided first game and remained consistent in games two and three to wrap up the victory with an 11-3, 11-5, 11-8 scoreline which has yielded her third PSA World Tour title of 2016.

Quarter Finals

[7] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [1] Lee Ka Yi (HKG) 11-8, 9-11, 11-7, 11-7 (38m)

Emma Millar (NZL) def Danielle Fourie (NZL) 9-11, 11-6, 11-9, 7-11, 11-7 (42m)

[4] Lotte Eriksen (NOR) def [6] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) 11-5, 11-13, 12-10, 11-6 (40m)

[2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [5] Ho Tze-Lok (HKG) 11-8, 12-10, 3-11, 11-7 (39m)

Semi Finals

[7] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def Emma Millar (NZL) 11-8, 11-8, 13-15, 11-5 (38m)

[2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [4] Lotte Eriksen (NOR) 11-5, 11-7, 11-5 (25m)

[7] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [2] Lisa Camilleri (AUS)

11-3, 11-5, 11-8 (23m)

July 16



ALEXANDER LIFTS TASMANIAN OPEN TITLE

STORY: [PSA World Tour](#)

Australian top seed **Zac Alexander** lifted his seventh successive PSA World Tour title after a dominant 3-0 win over South Korea's Ko Youngjo in the final of the Tasmanian Open, PSA M5 tournament saw the World No.94 extend his unbeaten run to 30 matches.

Alexander, who has not lost on the PSA World Tour since August 2015, stormed into the final without losing a game as he put Vivian Rhamanan, Darcy Evans and Thomas Calvert to the sword in a series of dominant displays.



Youngjo was making his first PSA World Tour appearance since he lost out in the final of the City of Kalgoorlie & Boulder Golden Open to veteran Mike Corren last month and achieved his place in a third Tour final courtesy of victories over Solayman Nowrozi, Elliot Selby and Sandeep Ramachandran.

The early stages of the final were closely-contested and played at a fast pace as both players varied their shots in a bid to get on top.

Alexander's pressure finally told as he narrowly took the first game and he dominated from that point onwards to romp to his 21st PSA World Tour title by an 11-8, 11-1, 11-4 scoreline.

Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [Q] Darcy Evans (AUS) 11-5, 11-5, 11-3

[4] Thomas Calvert (AUS) def Chang Wook Woo (KOR) 13-11, 6-11, 9-11, 11-7, 11-4

[3] Ko Youngjo (KOR) def [6] Elliot Selby (ENG) 12-10, 11-4, 11-8

[Q] Sandeep Ramachandran (IND) def [2] Rhys Dowling (AUS) 9-11, 11-5, 11-4, 7-11, 11-8

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [4] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 11-4, 11-5, 11-6 (32m)

[3] Ko Youngjo (KOR) def [Q] Sandeep Ramachandran (IND) 11-6, 11-7, 10-12, 12-10 (43m)

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [3] Ko Youngjo (KOR)

11-8, 11-1, 11-4 (30m)

July 16



SAXBY: QUEEN OF THE ARC



Squash SA CEO Phil Sinnott, Champion Tamika Saxby and Campbelltown Council Mayor Simon Brewer

SQUASH SA

THE ARC
CAMPBELLTOWN

Two players stood out on the Aussie circuit in July. They were **Tamika Saxby** (NSW Open champ) and Tong Tsz-Wing (Tasmania Open champ).

Both reached the final of the SA Open but it was Saxby who prevailed in a very tight 45 minute final 12-10, 10-12, 11-7, 12-10 to keep her winning streak in tact.

On the new courts at Campbelltown, an unseeded Saxby got off to a very shaky start in her 1st round clash against #4S Jessica Turnbull.



Turnbull wasn't going down without a fight and pushed Saxby all the way. Saxby prevailed 10-12, 11-5, 11-7, 6-11, 11-8 (48m).

To reach the final, Saxby was all class destroying top seed Vanessa Chu in the semi final.

Quarter Finals

[1] Vanessa Chu (HKG) def [8] Jasmine Chan (AUS) 11-3, 11-5, 11-4 (17m)

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [7] Yura Choi (KOR) 11-7, 11-6, 11-7 (28m)

[3] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [6] Selena Shaikh (AUS) 11-6, 11-7, 11-9 (21m)

[2] Tong Tsz-Wing (HKG) def [5] Lakeesha Rarere (AUS) 11-5, 11-1, 11-3 (25m)

Semi Finals

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [1] Vanessa Chu (HKG) 11-8, 11-5, 15-17, 11-3 (47m)

[2] Tong Tsz-Wing (HKG) def [3] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) 11-8, 14-12, 13-11 (37m)

Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [2] Tong Tsz-Wing (HKG)

12-10, 10-12, 11-7, 12-10 (45m)

August 16



HOPKIN LIFTS ZENIT OPEN TITLE

STORY: [Sean Reuthe](#)

Australian World No.109 **Matthew Hopkin** captured his fourth PSA World Tour title after overcoming sixth seed Martin Svec in the final of the Zenit Black Sea Open, PSA M5 tournament held at the Sport Life Fitness Club in Odessa, Ukraine.

Hopkin started his tournament with a walkover against Spaniard Aitor Zunuzunegui, before putting Finland's Jami Aijanen and England's Patrick Rooney to the sword to seal a place in his second PSA World Tour final of 2016.

Svec, meanwhile, dispatched Navid Maleksabet in round one and the man from the Czech Republic followed that up with a tightly-contested 3-2 victory over Egypt's Hesham Mohamed Aly and then a win over Italy's Stephane Galifi in straight games.

The opening stages of the duo's final clash saw Hopkin dictate the tempo of the match as he quickly rose to a two-game lead.

A resilient Svec dug in, in the third game to force Hopkin into a tie-break, but the Brisbane-born 25-year-old held firm to wrap up an 11-6, 11-8, 14-12 victory to claim his first PSA World Tour crown since January's Suez Helsinki Winter Challenger.

Hopkin said: "I am happy that training is paying off. And it feels like a few things are coming together now, so thanks to my coaches Ben Ford and Robbie Temple."



Quarter Finals

[1] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def Jami Äijänen (FIN) 8-11, 11-7, 11-7, 11-8

[4] Patrick Rooney (ENG) def [8] Basem Makram (EGY) 11-2, 8-11, 11-6, 11-6

[Q] Stephane Galifi (ITA) def [3] Matias Tuomi (FIN) 5-11, 11-6, 11-9, 15-13

[6] Martin Svec (CZE) def Hesham Mohamed Aly (EGY) 11-6, 10-12, 14-12, 10-12, 11-8

Semi Finals

[1] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [4] Patrick Rooney (ENG) 8-11, 13-11, 11-7, 14-12

[6] Martin Svec (CZE) def [Q] Stephane Galifi (ITA) 12-10, 11-5, 11-6

[1] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [6] Martin Svec (CZE)

11-6, 11-8, 14-12

September 16



DYNAMIC DUO CHALK UP FIVE TITLES



Dynamic Duo **Zac Alexander** and **Tamika Saxby** win **North Coast Open**.

Quarter Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [8] Darcy Evans (AUS) 11-8, 12-10, 14-12 (56m)

[6] Connor Sheen (ENG) def [4] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) 5-11, 11-5, 11-9, 12-10 (41m)

Sébastien Bonmalais (FRA) def [3] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 11-7, 6-11, 7-11, 11-6, 11-4 (58m)

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [7] Taminder Gata-Aura (ENG) 11-4, 11-7, 11-5 (28m)

Semi Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [6] Connor Sheen (ENG) 11-5, 11-3, 11-4

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def Sébastien Bonmalais (FRA) 11-5, 11-8, 11-6

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [1] Joshua Larkin (AUS)

13-11, 11-4, 11-2



DYNAMIC DUO CHALK UP FIVE TITLES

Just prior to playing in the North Coast Open, **Tamika Saxby** got the news that she had been selected to represent Australia at the World Team Championships in November.

Saxby was by far the most in form player on the domestic circuit this year having won four PSA events. She will join Rachael Grinham, Christine Nunn and Donna Urquhart in the 2016 Australian Team to compete at the WTC in November.

On a high, Saxby went about destroying the field in the 2016 PSA W5 **North Coast Open**. 61 minutes of playing time created 3 wins and her 5th PSA title for the year.

#2 seed Saxby beat [6] Samantha Foyle 11-0, 11-8, 11-6 (22m) in her quarter final match, [5] Nazihah Hanis (MAS) 11-3, 11-4, 11-1 (18m) in her semi final and [1] Lisa Camilleri 11-4, 11-8, 11-3 (21m) in the final.

It was Saxby's 4th victory over Camilleri this year and her 3rd in a final.

#2S **Zac Alexander** won his 5th PSA Title for the year when he defeated #1S Josh Larkin 13-11, 11-4, 11-2.



Photo: Zac Alexander in the final against Joshua Larkin

Quarter Finals

[1] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [7] Eleanor Epke (NZL) 11-9, 14-12, 11-6 (29m)

[3] Jessica Turnbull (AUS) def [8] Taylor Flavell (AUS) 11-9, 11-4, 13-11 (26m)

[5] Nazihah Hanis (MAS) def [4] Stephanie Wighton (AUS) 11-3, 11-6, 6-11, 11-9 (31m)

[2] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [6] Samantha Foyle (AUS) 11-0, 11-8, 11-6 (22m)

Semi Finals

[1] Lisa Camilleri (AUS) def [3] Jessica Turnbull (AUS) 11-9, 3-11, 4-11, 12-10, 12-10 (45m)

[2] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [5] Nazihah Hanis (MAS) 11-3, 11-4, 11-1 (18m)

**[2] Tamika Saxby (AUS) def [1] Lisa Camilleri (AUS)
11-4, 11-8, 11-3 (21m)**

October 16



ZAC WINS THIRD Q OPEN

As predicted #2 seed and defending champion **Zac Alexander** defeated #1 seed Josh Larkin 11-9, 6-11, 11-8, 11-7 in 56 minutes to raise the Queensland Open trophy for a third time.

Alexander (World #83) has now met Larkin in 4 finals in the past 12 months for 4 wins. In last year's Queensland Open Alexander won 11-7, 11-5, 11-9 in 37 minutes.

It was a much improved performance from Larkin. At the North Coast Open in September Larkin lost 11-13, 4-11, 2-11.

A spectacular performance from Brad Freeme and a strong effort from Matt Hopkin certainly boosted Alexander's edge in the final.

Qualifier Freeme turned back the clock and stretched the #4 seed Patrick Rooney from England all the way to lose narrowly in five: 8-11, 11-9, 10-12, 12-10, 10-12 (71min). Rooney had very little left in the tank going down to Alexander in the semi 8-11, 13-15, 7-11 in 42 minutes.

#3 seed Hopkin stretched Larkin to five in the other semi going down 7-11, 11-7, 7-11, 12-10, 8-11.

GOLDCOAST™



Quarter Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [6] Manuel Wanner (SUI) 11-3, 11-6, 9-11, 11-7 (65m)

[3] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) def [8] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 11-9, 11-4, 11-8 (35m)

[4] Patrick Rooney (ENG) def [Q] Bradley Freeme (AUS) 11-8, 9-11, 12-10, 10-12, 12-10 (71m)

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [5] Dimitri Steinmann (SUI) 11-9, 5-11, 11-9, 11-7 (55m)

Semi Finals

[1] Joshua Larkin (AUS) def [3] Matthew Hopkin (AUS) 11-7, 7-11, 11-7, 10-12, 11-8

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [4] Patrick Rooney (ENG) 11-8, 15-13, 11-7 (42m)

[2] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [1] Joshua Larkin (AUS)
11-9, 6-11, 11-8, 11-7 (56m)

October 16



ALEXANDER: SIMPLY TOO GOOD IN MACKAY



#1 seed **Zac Alexander** has become the Mackay Open Champion for the 2nd year in a row. The victory took his PSA record to 7 titles this year.

Ranked W#83 Alexander had too much fire power in the final and defeated #5 seed Manuel Wanner from Switzerland (W#174) in straight.

“It was the best I have concentrated over the past 2 weeks so I'm pleased because that was important especially in the 2nd game when Wanner began to dig his heels in” said the champ.

Alexander won the Queensland Open last weekend, the Mackay Open today and he is looking forward to completing the “Triple Crown” by winning the inaugural Cairns International next weekend.

Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [7] Solayman Nowrozi (AUS) 11-4, 11-4, 11-3 (20m)

[3] Patrick Rooney (ENG) def [6] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 11-9, 11-8, 11-9 (36m)

[5] Manuel Wanner (SUI) def [4] Dimitri Steinmann (SUI) 8-11, 11-5, 11-9, 11-7 (61m)

Jean-Pierre Brits (RSA) def Darcy Evans (AUS) 7-11, 11-4, 11-6, 11-9 (56m)

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [3] Patrick Rooney (ENG) 11-7, 11-9, 11-3 (33m)

[5] Manuel Wanner (SUI) def Jean-Pierre Brits (RSA) 13-11, 11-8, 11-6 (66m)

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [5] Manuel Wanner (SUI)

11-6, 11-8, 11-3 (37m)

November 16



ALEXANDER CLAIMS CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL

Zac Alexander won his 8th PSA title for the year when he took out the inaugural Cairns International.

Alexander beat fellow Queensland and local hero Steve Finitsis in four.

Alexander completed the Queensland "Triple Crown" ... 3 titles over 3 consecutive weekends.

He also celebrated winning his 25th title on the PSA World Tour.

Alexander has now won 16 consecutive PSA championship matches.



Quarter Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [8] Solyman Nowrozi (AUS) 11-4, 11-9, 11-5 (31m)

[4] Ben Grindrod (NZL) def [6] David Clegg (AUS) 11-5, 11-3, 11-7 (21m)

[3] Rui Soares (POR) def [7] Thomas Calvert (AUS) 7-11, 11-2, 11-8, 11-6 (54m)

[Q] Steven Finitsis (AUS) def [2] Patrick Rooney (ENG) 11-9, 6-11, 11-7, 11-6 (50m)

Semi Finals

[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [4] Ben Grindrod (NZL) 11-5, 11-5, 11-5 (27m)

[Q] Steven Finitsis (AUS) def [3] Rui Soares (POR) 10-12, 11-3, 11-4, 7-11, 11-8 (81m)

**[1] Zac Alexander (AUS) def [Q] Steven Finitsis (AUS)
11-6, 11-4, 9-11, 11-7 (60m)**

December 16



AUSTRALIA WIN MALAYSIAN DOUBLES



Zac Alexander and Rex Hedrick teamed up to win the Malaysian Open Doubles Championship in December. It was the first time the two had teamed up and it was a great result for building confidence as Australia prepares for the Commonwealth Games in 2018.

With limited opportunities to play competition doubles it was a perfect way to get some added practice in and trial a different combination.

15-17 December 2016

OHANA Malaysian Doubles Open Championships 2016

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Round 2: Def Danial Nurhaqim & Mohd Hafiz 11-8, 11-6 (0:21)

Quarter Finals: Def Darren Rahul [5/8] & Marcus Sim 11-8, 11-6 (0:21)

Semi Finals: Def Addeen Idrakie [3/4] & Sanjay Singh 11-4, 10-11, 11-8 (0:51)

**[1] Rex Hedrick and Zac Alexander (AUS)
def**

[2] Ivan Yuen & Nafiizwan Adnan (MAL)

11-6, 10-11, 11-8 (65m)

Cameron Pilley



World Series Final

DAY 1: Men's Group B

[8] Cameron Pilley (AUS) def [4] Omar Mosaad (EGY) 2-1: 11-7, 5-11, 11-6 (52m)

DAY 2: Men's Group B

[2] Gregory Gaultier (FRA) def [8] Cameron Pilley (AUS) 2-0: 11-3, 11-1 (24m)

DAY 3: Men's Group B

[8] Cameron Pilley (AUS) def [6] Simon Rösner (GER) 2-0: 11-2, 11-7 (38m)

DAY 4: Men's Semi-finals

[8] Cameron Pilley (AUS) def [1] Mohamed Elshorbagy (EGY) 2-0: 11-9, 11-5 (41m)

DAY 5: Men's Final

[2] Gregory Gaultier (FRA) def [8] Cameron Pilley (AUS) 3-1: 11-4, 11-5, 8-11, 11-6 (67m)



Photos courtesy of squashpics.com