

My Famous Inventor

Interesting Facts about Tennis

By Louis McCartney, P5
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Who....?

The English man Major Walter Clopton Wingfield invented tennis in 1873.



When....?

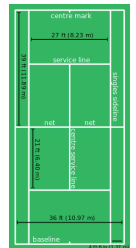
Some say that tennis started with the Romans and the Egyptians. But there are documents that show that it actually began in 11th and 12th century by French monks. It was played with hands rather than raquets.

Why....?

Tennis is really popular. 870,000 people play it in the UK. It's the second most popular sport. Badminton is the most popular.

Where....?

Tennis can be played inside and outside. It can be played on grass on concrete. I play tennis in Helen's Bay. We play on a concrete court.



Fact....!

1. Did you know that a racket strings used to be made from sheep guts!
2. Yellow tennis balls were used at Wimbledon for the first time in 1986.
3. The fastest server in the women's tennis was Venus Williams. The speed was 205 kilometers per hour. That's over twice as fast as any normal can go.
4. Henry Austin was the first to wear shorts at Wimbledon in 1932.
5. The first African American to win the US open was Arthur Ashe.
6. If you're not sure if your opponent's shot is in or out, you have to give them the benefit of the doubt and say it is in.
7. In Canada doubles is played with three people – one person against a doubles team.
8. A tennis ball normally weighs 2 ounces.
9. If your opponent hits a winning shot and his foot touches the bottom of the net, then you win.
10. Tennis outperforms golf and most other sports in developing positive personality, according to Dr. Jim Gavin, author of "The Exercise Habit."



I chose the inventor of tennis because I like to play tennis because it is fun and keeps you fit. It is interesting to find out about a sport that you like.