

Racket News November 2007 - Issue #4

This is the final newsletter for 2007, and there will be some changes introduced next year. These will be explained in future issues. The current issue is in the usual format, with the normal items included.

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There should be new models introduced over the next few months. One new range of models is mentioned below.

Prince Ozone Range

There are three models in this new range, which could be of interest, but there is a word of caution about the prices. In the U.S.A they are all the same price, but in the U.K. each model is at a different price. The saving if you purchase one from America could be substantial.

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Racket Tests

Are you a tournament standard player? If you are, there have been some rackets reviewed recently. The ACE Magazine found the Dunlop Aerogel 300 to be the best racket. The German Tennis Magazin testers did not seem to agree, and found the models from Babolat, Head and Wilson to be the best rackets tested.

This probably shows that players will never agree about rackets. There will never be one racket that is suitable for everyone, which is why there is such a wide range of brands and models.

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String News

I have recently been testing a new Kirschbaum string, which will probably be introduced next year. This is a Hybrid string and seems good in my tests. Using a more forgiving cross string seems to have the advantage of providing a softer feel to the string. This should produce improved performance for many players, as they should find reduced shock and vibration.

This string is red similar to the Pro Line strings, and should be very good used in rackets up to Mid-Plus size. Players who use Oversize models at lower tension should also find this string to be good.

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Tennis Strings

Most players prefer a thinner string for better performance, and they also want good durability. This usually means they use a Monofilament string, which offers these characteristics at a low to medium price.

One problem with these strings, is that you usually need to use a higher tension. This means that they are mainly suitable for either Mid or Mid-Plus size rackets. The string tension you would need to use for Oversize rackets would normally be too high, unless you ignore the manufacturer's tension recommendation.

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Regular Features

String Tension

String tension is very important, and each player will have a personal preference. There is definitely not a perfect tension that will be ideal for all players. There are also many factors that influence the choice of tension. These include the string area (head size) of your racket, string gauge, and the material from which the string is made.

A good racket stringer should have some method of measuring string tension. This allows them to check the tension compared to when the racket was strung. One method this can be done is with the ERT 300, which measures the tension of the strings in a racket. You can see an image and description of this tester on the website.

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Tennis Racket Balance

Most professional players have their rackets customised in many ways. One of these is the balance of the racket, as it is unlikely that four, or five frames will have exactly the same measurement. When they change to a new racket in the middle of a game, they require exactly the same features.

The balance can be modified using Lead Tape at selected points on the frame. This is self-adhesive, and easy to apply. Finding the correct position to apply the tape may be a little more difficult.

This product is now available from Racquet Technic. It is supplied in a five-metre reel. Please contact Racquet Technic for further details.#

Racket Stringers

Players are always looking for a good racket stringer. There can be many reasons, including the fact that they have moved into a new area. One source of finding a local stringer is the Racquet Technic website.

This is not a free service, and further details are available from Racquet Technic. The rates are reduced for stringers who purchase products from Racquet Technic including the ERT 300 tension tester.

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Racket Stringing Associations

Are you a racket stringer or thinking of becoming one? You will probably have questions or want to learn more about stringing rackets. One solution is to join one of the Stringers Associations.

The best known is probably the USRSA (United States Racket Stringers Association) and has been around for a long time. There are also European and U.K. Organisations, and each one should have some advantages and disadvantages.

Each one has a website where you can find out more of what they can offer you.

Stringing Courses

There are some one and two-day courses for anyone who wants to learn about stringing rackets. The courses are organised by Liam Nolan from the UKRSA, who is a Wimbledon stringer. If this is of interest, please ask for further information. Your request will be forwarded to Liam, and you could soon be a racket stringer.

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Clothing Range

A selection of clothing is also available from Racquet Technic. This consists of a range using advanced materials that offer comfort in use. They are best described as being made from breathable materials.

The brands are imported from European manufacturers, and they offer an alternative to the larger brand names. There is a separate newsletter, which is similar to the Racket and Strings news. Your name can be added to the mailing list. To be included please send a request to <info@racquet-technic.co.uk>.

Autumn/Winter Ranges

The new products are best described as Active-Shirts. They should be suitable for most outdoor sports, or where you need something that is warmer to wear. There are styles from Gonso and Maier-Sports.

Ladies Range Promotion

As part of a campaign to make the brands better known, there is a special offer available on most items of ladies clothing. This will last until the end of January 2008. Please contact Racquet Technic for details.

General Information

Website

You can find advice here about selecting strings, rackets, and a range of accessories. There is also information about the products available from Racquet Technic.

There are three sites. These are the original Racquet-Technic site plus the Your-Racquet site, which is mainly for information about tennis equipment. The third site is for Kirschbaum strings, most of which are designed for durability combined with performance.

The sites are

<<http://www.racquet-technic.co.uk>>

<<http://www.your-racquet.co.uk>>

<www.kirschbaum-strings.co.uk>

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Newsletter Information

The newsletter is prepared four times a year. It is suitable for racket sports players and stringers. There is in each issue information about strings, accessories, and equipment.

The newsletter is also available from the website. You simply follow the links and can download a copy as a pdf file. You will need Adobe Reader to view it. This is installed on most computers, or you can download a free copy from <www.adobe.com>

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Contact Racquet Technic

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