



75th Anniversary
Royal International Lawn Tennis Club of Belgium
Columbus Trophy + La Carreta
25-30 June 2023

Report for the IC Council

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Website address: sites.google.com/site/icbelgium/home



1. Report Highlights

On the occasion of its 75th anniversary, the IC of Belgium has organised two important competitions of the IC Council in Brussels from 25 to 30 June 2023:

- La Carreta for ladies W50+ et W60+
- The Columbus Trophy for men M55+ et M65+

The participating countries were the following:

- 8 teams in La Carreta (ladies): South Africa , Germany , Canada , Great Britain , Spain, USA, Luxemburg, Belgium
- 10 teams in Columbus (men): Mexico , Luxemburg , France , Ireland , Canada , Spain , Great Britain , Holland , USA, Belgium.

A total of 70 players participated to the event.

The winner of La Carreta was South Africa against Germany in the final with two ladies (René Plant and Rosanne Duke) absolutely unbeatable in double.

The winner of the Columbus was the USA after a superb final against Spain. The number 1 singles (55+ and 65+) were concluded both at the super tie-break by the victory of the USIC player. USIC was then leading 3-1 after the singles. A victory in the double 65+ was sufficient for them to win the trophy.



The competition was played by knock-out draws with consolation ties in order to rank the teams according to their results. It took place in two clubs: the well known Royal Leopold Club and the very nice club of Le Roseau.

The atmosphere was fantastic during the whole week and matches very often of a great quality in the best IC spirit. The planned programme could be easily followed thanks to a most favourable weather.

We were honoured by the presence the last day of the chairman of the IC Council, Peter Mac Quibban

As usual, the IC of Belgium made honorary members some of the players during the closing dinner which gathered 145 guests: Sabine Schmitz (Germany), Carmen Chilliqa (Spain), Dale Kozics (Canada), René Plant (South Africa), Maxime Buyckx (USA), Keith Porter (Canada) and Miguel-Angel Varela (Mexico)

Visiting IC also honoured some Belgium IC members : Annemarie Van Coillie by USA, South Africa and Canada, Alex Lamquet by USA and Pierre Mignot by South Africa.

2. Fact sheet

A fact sheet was issued at the beginning of the year 2023.

(doc 1: **Fact Sheet 75 years**)



3. Programme of the week

A detailed programme of the week was distributed to all captains during the captain's meeting.

(doc 2: **Information note for captains**)

The following services were provided:

- Transfers from the hotel to the Leopold Club in the morning and back to the hotel as soon as the matches were completed.
- Lunch at the Leopold Club from Monday to Friday
- Stringing at a nearby shop

4. Participating teams

A list of players with the order of merit for each category was distributed to all captains during the captain's meeting

(doc 3: **Teams composition**)

5. Draws / Ranking

The main knock out draws of both competitions are available in doc 4 (**Carreta main draw**) and doc 5 (**Columbus main draw**)

Each team has played at least 3 ties.

Results of the ties between losers in order to determine the ranking:

- Belgium-Luxemburg 5-1
- Canada-Ireland 4-2
- Mexico-Belgium 4-2
- Ireland-Luxemburg 3-3 (8-7 in sets)
- Mexico-Holland 3-3 (6-6 in sets, 46-45 in games)
- Belgium-Canada 4-2
- Great Britain-France 4-2



Those results led to the following final ranking:

CARRETA

1. South Africa
2. Germany
3. Great Britain
4. Belgium
5. USA
6. Spain
7. Canada
8. Luxemburg

COLUMBUS

1. USA
2. Spain
3. Great Britain
4. France
5. Mexico
6. Holland
7. Belgium
8. Canada
9. Ireland
10. Luxemburg

6. Individual results

Individual results day by day can be found in the following documents: doc 6 (***Carreta Individual Results***) and doc 7 (***Columbus Individual Results***)

7. Gala dinner

A gala dinner took place on Friday evening with a prize giving ceremony in the prestigious Royal Golf Club of Belgium, the Ravenstein.

Pictures are available on the website.



8. Concluding remarks

It can be concluded that the event was a great success due to the wonderful hospitality of the Belgium IC and the very good organisation of the week, with many social activities.

To be mentioned is the visit to the battlefield of Waterloo organised by one of the members of the Belgium IC (Daniel Charles). This visit was well appreciated by several teams, in particular the USA and the Canada.

What was remarkable during the week is the outstanding quality of tennis of the players. Several of them have a high position in the ITF ranking and it is important for this type of competition to have the participation of some of the best players of the world in their category.

Of course, as usual, a few injuries were to be deplored but this has not affected too much the smooth progress of the competition.

9. Pictures

All pictures are available on the website distributed in 8 files:

- Arrival day
- On court during the week
- On court final day
- Off the courts
- Teams
- Waterloo
- Wednesday dinner
- Gala dinner



Attachments:

1. ***Fact Sheet 75 years***
2. ***Information note for captains***
3. ***Teams composition***
4. ***Carreta main draw***
5. ***Columbus main draw***
6. ***Carreta Individual Results***
7. ***Columbus Individual Results***