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# Pakistanis capture squash title at DCC

## Karim Mattar, Rahber Sherif, Waqas Hanif and Jawed Rashid shine for the winners

By A Correspondent

### Dubai

Day Two of the Orient Irrigation tournament opened with Canada taking on Egypt on all three courts of the Dubai Country Club.

Canada needed a convincing win to pull out of second place but could only manage four points to Egypt's six. Africa went down to the unstoppable Rest of the World as did England. Pakistan showed no sign of faltering as they defeated the Chairman's team and Canada by impressive margins.

There was some controversy over Africa's reshuffled team order on day two, but the best they could manage was a third place finish within group 1. With the Rest of

the World team having claimed first place in group 1, it was left to England and India to fight it out for the second place finish necessary to advance into the semifinals. Despite impressive wins by Guy Brown and Becky Barfoot, India evened it up in the next two games but remained one point behind England in total points. Rajesh Mangnani needed a two point win against Simon White to give India the match and second place and he did not let his team down.

In group 2, Pakistan had already claimed first place with UK edging out Canada for second place.

The format for semifinals had the winner of group 1 competing against the runner-up of group 2 and the winner of group 2 versus

the runner-up of group 1, so it was Rest of the World versus UK on court one while India went up against Pakistan on court two. Both the UK and Indian teams put up a spirited defence but neither were a match for their opponents, so for the third year running, Pakistan and the Rest of the World teams met at the DCC's show court for the finals.

Nikki Harradine met the same fate as everyone else at the hand of 12 year old, Karim Mattar as he maintained his undefeated record for the tournament quite easily, giving Pakistan the early lead. Phil Deeb fought hard and managed to split his match with Rahber Sherif but Nancy Iskandar, playing for Pakistan was not so fortunate as

she lost to Rest of the World's Abu Baker Ghani 0-2, allowing R.O.W. to even up the points to 3 each. Waqas Hanif, playing with a 7 handicap throughout the tournament needed the full time to catch up to Girish Gulati in the first game and then had a much easier time of it in the second, giving the lead back to Pakistan. With the Rest of the World needing to win both games of the final match to create a tie situation and Pakistan needing only one point to clinch the title, Ansel Candelario and Jawed Rashid took to the court. Ansel's smooth controlled shots could not stop the super-fit Jawed from returning every ball with a great shot of his own and Jawed won the match to give Pakistan the well-deserved win.