

L'association Jeu de Paume de Navarre

is proud to promote

In the honour of the legendary Pierre Etchebaster

An exhibition match with World Champion

Rob Fahey

At the Maubec tennis court, St André

Bayonne

&

Le Tournoi des Trois Tripots

A handicap doubles tournament to be held on the courts of

Bayonne, La Bastide Clairence, Pau

27th September to 2nd October 2011



Rob Fahey, has held the title of Real Tennis World Champion for the past 18 years and has now successfully defended this title more times than the legendary Pierre Etchebaster, the longest ever-reigning world champion the sport has ever seen.

On the evening of 28th September 2011 the club Jeu de Paume de Navarre will mark this achievement. They are to recreate and celebrate the *dozen sets*' anniversary of the exhibition match held on the Maubec tennis court in Bayonne between Pierre Etchebaster and Edgar Baerlein that took place on the 28th September 1929 organised by the historian Albert de Luze.



The ancient tennis court in Bayonne dating back to circa 1610 is situated amongst that narrow lanes of Petite Bayonne



close to the Atlantic resort of Biarritz and only 10 miles from the Basque fishing port of St Jean de Luze, the birth place of Pierre Etechebaster.

In addition to Bayonne, Le Tournoi des Trois Tripots will be played at the recently rediscovered and renovated court of La Bastide Clairence, situated in the centre this pretty Basque village which is located approximately 15 miles east of Bayonne. Current research indicates that this court was built in 1512 making it the oldest playable tennis court in the world.



The third court is situated on the edge of Parc Beaumont in the centre of Pau. It is a 'modern' court built in 1887 to attract and entertain the international visitors to the town during the Belle Epoque. The building was modelled on



the courts built for Napoleon III in the Tuileries gardens, Paris with the same architects having been engaged for both projects.



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All three courts have been modified into what are known as Trinquets, which are historically abandoned tennis courts that became used for the practice of various disciplines of Pelote Basque. As a result they all now lack a grille penthouse and classic tambour, but still allow for an engaging game of tennis if not one that tests your adaption to an unfamiliar court.

Tournament format

A Handicap Doubles tournament open to 96 players in 48 pairs

To be played over six days starting at 14:00 on Tuesday 27th September and finishing at 17:00 on Sunday 2nd October.

Play will be on all three courts from Tuesday to Saturday and only at Pau for the finals on Sunday.

The 48 pairs will be divided into 2 divisions, which would allow for those unable to attend for the full 6 days and give a 'day off' to those arriving for the start on Tuesday. Every pair will play in one round robin group of 4 pairs (3 games each - 1st to 6 games) on all three courts.

The top 2/3rds finishers from the group stages will proceed to the 1st round (last 32) of the knockout stage of the main competition whilst the bottom 1/3rd will proceed to the 1st round of the plate (last 16).

Therefore each pair will be guaranteed at least 10 (1st to 6 games) matches.

Entries will be accepted in pairs or, if you do not have a partner, individually and we will match you with a suitable partner.

Enrolment forms with full details of fees, evening functions etc will be sent out the end of April

For further information or to register your interest please contact Simon Berry

