

The Wimbledon Championships

Wimbledon is the world's oldest tennis tournament. Since 1877 it has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments (majors), the others being the French Open, the Australian Open and the US Open.



Events

Wimbledon is made up of five main events, four junior events and invitation events, where some former professionals return to compete. The five main events are the gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

Schedule

In 2017, the championships began and ended in July, making the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer. Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes meant that matches are played on this day.

The Courts

In 2009, a moving roof was added to Wimbledon's Centre Court. It can be automatically closed over the court.

The main courts, Centre Court and No. 1 Court, are normally only used for two weeks every year during the championships. The other 17 courts are used for other events hosted by the club. All of the courts are grass courts.

Trophies

The gentlemen's singles champion receives a silver gilt cup. The women's singles champion wins a sterling silver salver.



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A Few Famous Champions

Serena Williams, and her sister Venus, have each won the singles title at Wimbledon several times. They have played against each other in the final.

Roger Federer won the men's singles title five times in a row between 2003 and 2007.

In 2013, Sir Andy Murray won the men's singles title. He was the first British singles winner since 1977 and the first male winner since 1936.

Did You Know?

- Tennis players' clothing must be all-white, or at least almost all-white.
- Players must bow or curtsy if HRH The Prince of Wales or Her Majesty the Queen is present in the Royal Box at Centre Court.



The Wimbledon Championships

1. Where is Wimbledon held?

- London
- Edinburgh
- Dublin
- Cardiff

2. It has been held there since what year?

- 1788
- 1877
- 1878
- 1888

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?

4. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?

5. Which court has a roof?

- Court No.1
- Court No.18
- Court No.13
- Centre Court

6. The courts are covered in:

- Clay
- Tarmac
- Grass
- Sand

7. Link up the beginning of each sentence with the end of each sentence:

The gentlemen's singles champion receives	2003.
The women's singles champion wins a	a silver gilt cup.
Roger Federer won in	2013.
Sir Andy Murray first won in	sterling silver salver.

8. Players' clothes must be _____ or at least almost all _____