

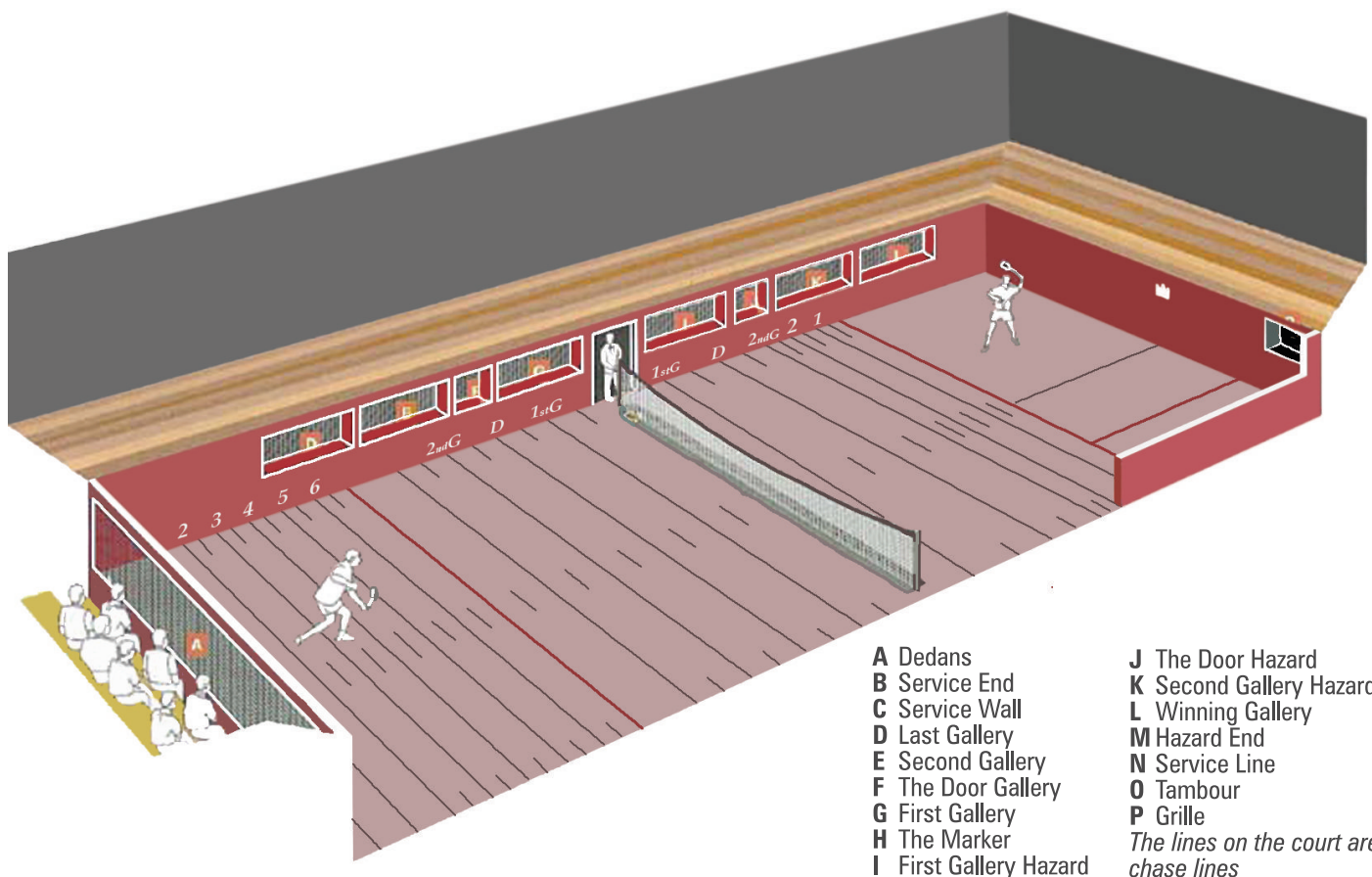
Guide to Real Tennis

Real tennis is the original racquet sport from which the modern game of lawn tennis, or tennis, is descended. Real tennis is still played at a small number of active courts in the United Kingdom, Australia, the United States and France.

It is also known as:

"Court Tennis" (America) • *Jeu de Paume* (France) • formerly called "Royal Tennis" (Australia)

The term real tennis is often thought to be a corruption of this last name and related to the game's connection with royalty during its heyday in England and France in the 16th and 17th centuries. In fact "real" was first used at the end of the 19th century as a retronym to distinguish it from the then recently invented game of lawn tennis. Real tennis players often just call it "tennis," describing the modern game as "lawn tennis."



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|-------------------------------|---|
| A Dedans | J The Door Hazard |
| B Service End | K Second Gallery Hazard |
| C Service Wall | L Winning Gallery |
| D Last Gallery | M Hazard End |
| E Second Gallery | N Service Line |
| F The Door Hazard | O Tambour |
| G First Gallery | P Grille |
| H The Marker | <i>The lines on the court are chase lines</i> |
| I First Gallery Hazard | |

The court is divided by the net into two sides. The side from which the game is normally viewed by spectators through the dedans is called the service side. The other is the hazard side. The serve is always delivered from the service side; and the ball is struck to bounce at least once on the hazard side of the penthouse roof and then on the floor within the service court.

Points are won or lost when errors are made (e.g. by hitting the ball into the net or out of the court). They may also be won by striking the ball into the winning openings (i.e. the dedans, grille or winning gallery) or so that it bounces on the floor for the second time between the service line and the end wall at the hazard end. If a ball bounces twice anywhere else on the court or enters any other gallery before a player touches it, a chase is set (said to be laid).

Scoring in Real Tennis is the same as that adopted by lawn tennis (viz

15, 30, 40, deuce, advantage, game;) except in Real Tennis the score of the winner of the point is always called first. The first player to six games wins the set.

When a chase is laid the score does not change, that chase is noted and held in abeyance until the chase is played off. When two chases have been laid, or if there is one chase outstanding and the score is at game point (e.g. one player is at 40 or advantage), the players change ends.

After changing ends, the chase or chases are played off in the order in which they were laid. When chases are played off, the receiving player (or server in the case of a hazard chase) must hit his/her shots so that their second bounce is closer to the back wall than the chase being played (e.g. if the chase is 6-yards, he/she must play to 5,4,3,2 or 1 yard or the point is lost, if the ball will fall short of 6 yards on the second bounce a shot does not have to be

played and the point is won by the server).

The lines on the floor are positioned to mark the floor equivalents of gallery chases and to measure the length of the other floor chases in yards from the back wall (e.g. if the second bounce was on the 6-yard line, then chase 6 has been laid). Chases that occur at the hazard end are called hazard chases.

The terms one and two, two and three etc. denote that the ball has landed on its second bounce equidistant between the two chase lines. The terms 'better than' and 'worse than' are used to give more precision to marking chases (e.g. 'better than 4 yards' denotes that the ball has landed on its second bounce nearer to the dedans back wall than the 4 yard line. 'Worse than 5 yards' denotes that the ball has landed on its second bounce further up the court than the five yard line).