



VIRGINIA WADE OBE

- Born 10 July, 1945 in Bournemouth, UK and raised in South Africa
- Awarded the MBE in 1969 and the OBE in 1986
- Won the singles at Wimbledon in 1977 on her 16th attempt; No woman has exceeded the 25 Championships at which she played
- Also won the Australian Open in 1972 and the first US Open in 1968
- Won a total of 55 pro singles titles on the WTA Tour, including the 1971 Italian Championships
- Won the doubles at the Australian Open, the French, and the US Open in 1973
- Currently No 4 on the all-time victory list with 839 match wins
- As an amateur, won the first open tournament held in Bournemouth in 1968
- Represented Great Britain in the Federation Cup from 1967-1983, making a record number of more than 100 appearances and winning 36 of 56 singles and 30 of 44 doubles matches
- Also competed in a record 20 Wightman Cup ties from 1965-1985
- Career prize money \$1.6 million
- Highest singles ranking 2 (November / December 1975)
- Ranked continuously in World Top 10 from 1967-1979 and was the British Number 1 from 1972-1981
- Inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1989
- Published an autobiography entitled *Courting Triumph* in 1978 and a historical book marking the 1984 Women's Centenary at Wimbledon
- Was the first woman to be elected to the Wimbledon Committee in 1983
- Also represented the ITF on the WIPTC as an alternate
- Served on the LTA's International and Professional Divisional Board
- Graduated from Sussex University in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics
- Commentator for BBC TV since 1980 and, more recently, USA Network
- Enjoys ballet, the theatre and classical music
- Lives in London and New York

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