



What's the Buzz?

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What do Sir David Attenborough and the color of tennis balls have in common?

You may recognize Sir David Attenborough as the man who inspires nature lovers everywhere through his BBC programs. An icon in the broadcasting world, this gent's also responsible for an icon in the tennis world: the "optic yellow" tennis ball.

To learn about USCTDP tennis icons click [HERE!](#)

When lawn tennis was introduced in the late-1800s, tennis balls were white. Those of a certain age will remember playing with white tennis balls until the mid-1970s.

With the advent of color television, colors bloomed!



Celebrating
40 Years of
Inspiration



Avid Biologist

Wimbledon was first broadcast on color television in 1967 and it was hard for viewers to watch the flight of a white ball, especially when it clipped the white lines. In 1972, the International Tennis Federation solved the problem by approving fluorescent yellow as a new color for tennis balls.



Lifelong Tennis Player

The Brits love to hold onto traditions, so it took another 14 years for Wimbledon to adopt the use of yellow balls.

Kudos to Sir David Attenborough, manager of BBC programming at the time, for advocating the change to the yellow ball.

