

International Tennis Hall of Fame Inductee

Butch Buchholz



Pre - Open Era Top Ranking
World No. 5

Pre – Open Era Record
Singles : 66-42

Davis cup

Member of the U.S. Davis Cup
Team 1959 – 1960
Overall Record: 6-3
Singles Record: 3-1
Doubles Record: 3-2

With his enshrinement into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2005, Earl Henry “Butch” Buchholz was recognized for his playing and promotional excellence. Buchholz was a tremendous junior player, winning three Boys’ Singles majors in a row, capturing the French and Wimbledon in 1958 and adding the Australian in 1959. Ranked four times in the U.S. Top 10, Buchholz played for the U.S. Davis Cup Team from 1959 – 1960, compiling a record of 6-3. In 1960, he rose to No. 5 in the world and reached the semifinals of the U.S. National Men’s Singles Championships.

Buchholz went professional in 1961 and a year later won the United States Pro Championship by beating Pancho Segura in the finals, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4. Buchholz holds the distinction of being a member of Lamar Hunt’s Handsome Eight, a group of players signed in 1968 for the newly formed professional World Championship Tennis (WCT).

The Second segment of Buchholz’s career in tennis came as the Commissioner of World Team Tennis (1977 – 1978), Executive Director of the Association of Tennis Professional (1981 – 1982), and a member of the Men’s Pro Tennis Council (1981 – 1983). In 1985, Buchholz founded the Lipton International Players Championships in Delray Beach, Florida. It quickly became a premier event on both the Men’s and Women’s tour; the event is now known as the Miami Open!

Buchholz helped create Althenis, a management company which overseas tennis tournaments in Latin America and helped keep the Orange Bowl, the Preeminent tournament for juniors, going in Florida. Buchholz was inducted into the ST. Louis Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.