



Vintage Fishtail Tennis Racket By F.H Ayres.

F.H. Ayres

Sold



REF: 28562

Height: 71 cm (28")

Width: 22 cm (8.7")

Depth: 3.5 cm (1.4")

Description

Wooden F.H Ayres Fishtail Tennis Racket, Tournament.

A lawn tennis racket by F.H. Ayres with a very nice unusual ash frame with concave walnut wedge. The frame is chamfered on both edges, wedge is stamped in gilt 'Tournament'. Handle with a very attractive shaped fishtail, stamped 'F.H. AYRES' on one side and '44 RS' on the other. The handle also with a deep central groove and with thin lined grooves for extra grip. Stringing is original but in poor condition, it has three double central strings, red horizontal stringing, white vertical strings and three rows of black trebling to the top and bottom. A good fine example of a fishtail racket even if the strings aren't perfect.

The fishtail (fish tail) was an innovation in the Victorian period and was an attractive gimmick to help tennis players to grip their rackets. They were manufactured approximately from the 1890's to the 1920's and their shapely handle is always an attraction to the collector.