



Hazel Blue Star Tennis Racket

£600



REF: 32148

Height: 69 cm (27.2")

Width: 22 cm (8.7")

Depth: 3.5 cm (1.4")

Description

Hazell Streamline Tennis Racket, Blue Star Model.

A fine and original Hazell Streamline "Blue Star" tennis racket, manufactured by Hazells' Ltd. of 111-113 Mare Street, London E8. This distinctive triple-branch laminated wooden racket remains in good condition, with nearly all original transfers and decals intact and well preserved. The stringing is in excellent condition, making this an outstanding example of one of the most iconic and innovative racket designs of the 1930s. Features and markings include:- Blue throat decal featuring a five-pointed star, "Hazells' Streamline, Regd. & Patented" decal, Patent countries decal listing Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, USA and Great Britain (with a small section missing) and British Patent No. 449362, stamped by the handle "13½".

The final two images shows a contemporary 1930s Hazells advertisement together with the United States patent application and a photocopy of an image of British tennis star H.W. Austin using a Hazell racket at Wimbledon in 1932.

The Streamline racket design was patented by former tennis player and inventor Frank W. Donisthorpe. Patent applications were filed in Great Britain on 31 December 1934 and in the United States on 17 December 1935.

Hazells produced a range of Streamline rackets for tennis, badminton and squash, including the Red Star, Blue Star, Green Star, White Star and Aqua models. The Blue Star was a high-quality tournament-grade racket, while the White Star represented the firm's top-of-the-range and now rarer model.

The Streamline became famous through its association with British tennis champion Henry "Bunny" Austin, who actively promoted and played with the design. Its popularity stemmed not only from its striking appearance but also from its lightweight construction and reduced wind resistance, which Hazells claimed improved balance, control and follow-through.

A period Hazells advertisement described the Streamline as: The New Wonder of tennis. Hazells' "STREAMLINE" Patented and registered Design. The Greatest Advance in Racket Design since the game began * "STREAMLINE" makes the game easier, it has perfect balance and rigidity by scientific combination of lightness and strength. It gives complete ball control and effortless "follow through" due to streamline design reducing wind resistance to a minimum. * For the player who wants the best racket there is nothing to compare with "STREAMLINE" - the fastest and smoothest playing racket ever invented. Feels better - It IS better - "Swing it and see".

BLUE * Grade Super Tournament tension 75/-

RED * Grade First Class County tension 65/-

Ask to see them at your Sports Dealer. If any difficulty in obtaining, write to us direct.

HAZELLS LTD. London E8.