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Opinion of the jury on prizewinning entries and honourable mentions

First prize: Tennis + trä, by Kent Pedersen, Marie Preisler-Berthelin and Jakob Suhr Lundh, Kent Pedersen Arkitektfirma ApS, Hellerup, Denmark.

“The entry has in a convincing manner addressed the competition requirements. In terms of tennis, the hall has very well thought-through functionality and lighting but is also highly versatile for other large events.

The simple form and construction principles make good use of the strength and character of timber. This creates a facility that can be reproduced and adapted in many contexts.

The available site has not been used particularly effectively and the building is only weakly related to its surrounds and the dense urban area that is planned.”

Second prize: Greencup, by Mikko Hormia and Carola Lindh-Hormia, Helsinki, Finland.

“The hall has all the attributes a tennis hall should have. The exterior signals tennis and welcomes players and spectators.

The design is impressive. Primary laminated arches between the courts divide the hall and the required ceiling height over the courts is achieved with a secondary span system. This is a somewhat complicated construction that is not convincing: the hall should be simple to build and replicate as well as provide space for functions other than tennis.”

Honourable mention: The house of tennis, by MADE arkitekti, Riga, Latvia.

“The entry shows a clear and very well designed architectural concept. The lighting that heightens the hall’s qualities from function to building art is unfortunately also its failing. Indoor tennis and glaring daylight are not compatible.

The jury wishes to highlight this proposal however as one of the most beautiful despite its functional shortcomings.”

Honourable mention: Fördel Trä, by Per Nadén, Anton Kolbe, Moa Rundlöf and Jacob Sjöblom, Gothenburg, Sweden.

"A very well designed building with a driven and clear design that takes the concept of tennis hall into modern times. The timber treatment, both external and internal, is extremely attractive. The geometric design language works well with the intended placement.

The entry has functional shortcomings however, the spectator-player relationship is not sufficiently convincing.”

Honourable mention: Urbana, by Hans Algard, Olle Bengtsson, Olle Dahlkild, Tuth Wiberg and Calle Notman, Arkitekter Engstrand och Speek AB, Stockholm, Sweden.

“The entry has ignored the request for a hall where spectators and instructors can easily overview games on all courts. The courts have instead been placed in pairs on two floors over one another and thus achieved a quality that the jury found interesting and worth highlighting:

An integrated building that can be placed centrally in an urban environment so as well as providing easily-accessible tennis courts it can also be used as a large exhibition or concert hall.

The integrated design of the proposal enables it to exploit the current location not only for the tennis hall but also to provide space for a large housing area.”

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Södra is a Swedish group with broad forestry operations and is a leading producer of pulp, wood products and bioenergy. The company, which is owned by 52,000 forest owners in southern Sweden, has 3,700 employees and sales of SEK 17 billion.