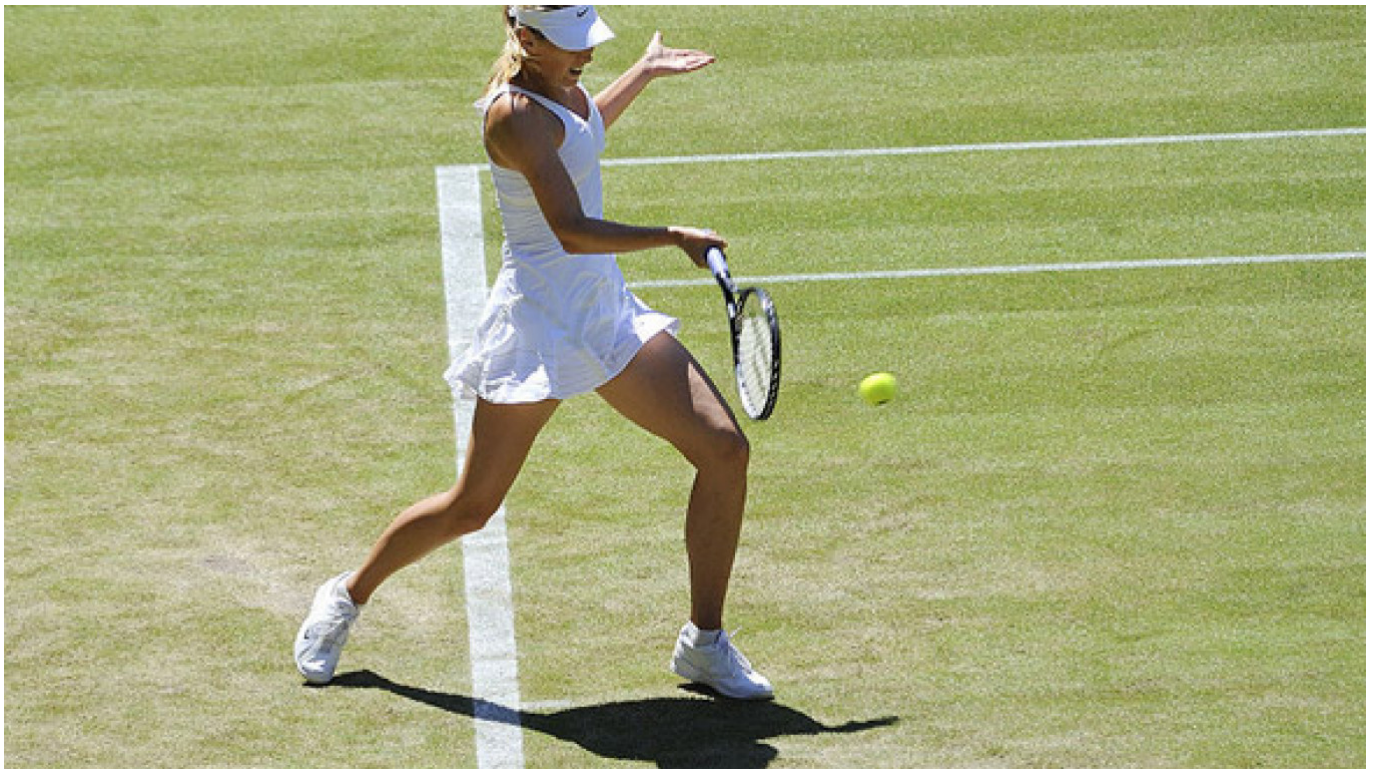


Sharapova Leads Forbes List for 9th Year

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Sharapova at the Wimbledon tournament in 2009, where she won her first Grand Slam singles title in 2004.

Maria Sharapova has topped the Forbes list of best-paid female athletes for the ninth straight year, raking in \$29 million over the last 12 months.

The tennis star earned \$23 million from endorsements and \$6 million in prize money from June 2012 to June 2013, the magazine announced Tuesday.

Sharapova, 26, has endorsements with Nike, Head, Samsung, Tag Heuer, Evian and a new deal struck up with Porsche.

The past 12 months have been her most successful in six years as she completed the career Grand Slam with the 2012 French Open title. She also reached the semifinals of the U.S. Open and the 2013 Australian Open.

Her candy brand, Sugarpova, was also launched in the last year.

Sharapova has headed the list since 2004, when she burst onto the global scene as a fresh-faced 17-year-old to win Wimbledon at her second attempt.

Tennis players dominate the Forbes list, with world No. 1 Serena Williams in second place with \$20.5 million in total earnings, Chinese star Li Na in third with \$18.2 million and Victoria Azarenka of Belarus fourth with \$15.7 million.

Nascar racer Danica Patrick is the first competitor from outside the world of tennis to appear, earning \$15 million for fifth place, while South Korean figure skater Kim Yuna is sixth with \$14 million.

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