## **Smart racquet offers virtual tennis coaching**

French sporting manufacturer Babolat's Play Pure Drive is the world's first interactive tennis racquet, packed with sensors that collect data and analyse performance to help players improve their game



Play Pure Drive: Looks like regular racquet on outside. Same physical specifications as Babolat's Pure Drive

Sensors: Microprocessor integrated within handle. Accelerometer and avroscope assess racquet angle and distance from ground to recognise different types of shot

Connectivity: Racquet syncs wirelessly with smartphone or tablet (iOS or Android) via integrated Bluetooth



Rafael Nadal and Li Na (below) are among current top players

who use Babolat equipment



Power button Turns data collection on / off

Bluetooth connectivity button Data downloads wirelessly or via cable attached to Micro-USB port

Cost of

racquet

\$399



Memory 150 hours of play time

**Battery life** Six hours

Babolat Play app: Displays skills such as power, technique, endurance and ball impact location. Players can share data and compete against friends as well as professionals

Sources: Babolat, wire agencies

Pictures: Babolat, Associated Press

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