

PICTURE BOOK PROFILE – Jennifer Hinam.

'Jen Days that Shook the World!'

1. It all started in an innocent looking park in Zurich in 2007... only blurred photos and passed down legends exist from this long ago time. What we do know is this – a group of runners, who called themselves Geezers, picked up a strange shaped ball and started touching each other. Soon they made up rules and the game of Touch was born in Switzerland. Then one fateful day, so the legends say, into this park came a wide-eyed, fair young lady from a far away island. Her name was Jennifer.
2. The young Jen was intrigued by this strange new world, these people running around in their funny outfits. Naturally she began running around after them too. And she realised she liked it!
3. What's more, Jen was good at it. Encouraged by her new friends, she began to train day and night and over the coming years, she would play through winter and summer, heat waves, snow falls, mud and storms.
4. Jen shone so brightly on the Touch pitch that soon she was an integral part of what some called the 'greatest Touch team on earth'. The Geezers toured Europe – a band of travelling players exploring new territories, making new friends and playing quality Touch.
5. Jen and her companions played hard and partied hard, trying out many different interesting looks on their travels... The fame of the Geezers exploits spread, and on dancefloors from Berlin to Strasbourg the chant went up of 'GEEZERS! GEEZERS! Everyone's a GEEZER!'
6. Party life didn't stop Jen from continuing to work hard and improve as a player and she won many trophies with the Geezers. Some think her cupboard must be exploding from all the titles!
7. Feeling invincible, Jen even tried refereeing... but soon decided A) the world would be better off with her as a player and/or B) yellow is not her colour. Only one, long-hidden photograph is known to exist of this brief detour in Jen's career...
8. Jen soon took her playing career to the next level and was called up to join the national team. She has represented Switzerland in Mixed and Women's Open teams at World Cups and European Championships. She is one of the highest caps holders in Switzerland with well over a half century of caps and has also had the ultimate honour of captaining her adopted country.



9. 'Don't be fooled by the rocks what she got!' Success didn't go to Jen's head. She has remained Jenny from the block and has always stayed actively involved in local Touch, playing regularly in the Zürich league.
10. And Jen is happy to share her skills across many, many, many teams – she was part of the Fawkes, the Dodgefathers and then the Angry Birds... No evidence that she ever played for Blue Steelers was found but it can't be ruled out.
11. Jen continues to travel and play across Europe, sometimes with more, sometimes with less pressure, always with friends and ideally with plenty of wine tasting. She's perhaps not quite the party animal she once was though and is now more famous for being the first in bed!
12. Touch has helped shape who Jen is and she has made a lot of great friendships through Touch over the years.
13. Off the field, Jen has helped shape and drive Touch herself in Switzerland. She has not just been a top player, she has also been President of Swiss Touch. Those in the know say her three main superpowers as an administrator are A) A love of Touch statistics. B) Organising board meetings and C) And getting shit done.
14. Perhaps Jen's greatest off-field accomplishment has been driving the initiative of the awesome Swiss Cup series which has brought all the Touch clubs of Switzerland together to compete against each other over the year. On a side note, Jen even holds the record for highest attendance in all of series. (Check the stats! For sure, she'll have them somewhere if you can't find them!)
15. Jen has also been part of driving the progress of women's Touch, through playing in the Women's Open team.
16. Equally, Jen has always continued to take a strong interest in men's touch too... Although, some have questioned the purity of her motives at times, we know it is just her true love of the sport.
17. Are we exaggerating to say that we believe Jen could be the inspiration her homeland needs to solve Brexit? Well, she did exactly this when she proudly represented a European All-Star Women's team in the 2019 World Cup in Malaysia. C'mon Britain, if she can love Europe...!
18. Well, she has certainly come a long way since her first game of Touch in Switzerland all those years ago. The girl has done well. And there's still plenty more to come. New legends to be created. We look forward to many more great days together.



'Start your En-Jens!'