

IPRO Director's Message July, 2026

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New Mexico Racquetball and the IRF have a history of staging top tier indoor court sport events through the years. They include: International and Professional Racquetball, Pro Handball, and National Paddleball. The last IRT Tier One event in New Mexico was held at the Midtown club in Albuquerque twenty years ago. This year (November 19-22), we will hold a Tier One IRT Pro-Am (Meadow City). According to friend and Commissioner David Negrete, most of the top ranked professional players will participate. Venues are the Montoya Recreation Center and the Wilson Complex at NM Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

In addition to Pro Singles, a host of other skill and age group singles and doubles events will be offered. Open Doubles and Womens Singles will offer prize money, to go along with the IRT Singles purse of over \$20,000. The two pro semis (Saturday) and final (Sunday) will be televised on Comcast Channel 26 (Pro View Network). It will piggyback with the IRT stream.

Many thanks to the City of Las Vegas and the Lodgers' Tax grant program, which provides an avenue to secure seed monies for the event. The iconic Harvey Hotels; Castaneda and Plaza, are the main hosts. Log onto the R2sports.com site for information on registration and room reservations. This year New Mexico Racquetball is celebrating YEAR 50, along with the 100 YEAR AND 250 YEAR celebrations of Route 66 and USA respectively.

The City of Las Vegas offers many opportunities for recreation and education. Albuquerque and Santa Fe airports are within a comfortable drive time. Amtrak runs east and west (Illinois to California) and one may leisurely de-train at the Las Vegas station a 4 minute walk to the Castaneda Hotel.

Consider returning to the *Original Meadow City* or visit for the first time. The Frank Hotels 41st IRF World Senior Racquetball Championships will also be held in Las Vegas, NM. Dates are September 1-5 this year (*R2sports.com for registration*). Finally, follow IPRO/IRF events below:

<i>August</i>	Level 1 Instructor Certification; Pojoaque, NM, Gary Mazaroff
<i>October</i>	Level 1-2 Instructor Certification; Temuco, Chile, Rogelio Medina
<i>December</i>	Level 2-3 Officiating Seminar; Cochabamba, Bolivia, Gustavo Farell

Quote of the month

'Speak softly and carry a big stick—you will go far' T Roosevelt

