***IPRO Director’s Message August, 2024***

***Globalracquetball.com Internationalracquetball.com***

**Oftentimes for the betterment of a cause, there needs to be a give and take between parties. Take for example the recent 39th IRF World Senior Racquetball Championships; held in the bedroom communities of Arlington Heights and Lombard, Illinois. It was a cooperative venture between the IRF and National Masters. When things are out of one’s control, different avenues need be traveled. Having the tournament in New Mexico was NOT an option this year. The most successful road to success was to accept the situation and find a way to create a win-win partnership.**

**World Seniors, under the IRF, was organized in 1985 and is marketed as a *Racquetball Vacation* in the Great *Southwest* region. NMRA was organized in 1971; and, has historically moved its cadre of annual events around the USA. Chicagoland served our purpose well! Regardless of where we land, *Frank Hotels* will be the name sponsor.**

**Most successful businesses have as a basic tenet the giving back to the community. The Wellbridge group of clubs in New Mexico recently changed its business plan, which now seems to preclude this stance. Having the only indoor court sport infrastructure (courts) in Albuquerque, a city of about 600,000 inhabitants, one might think their doors and hearts would be open to continuing the legacy. Las Vegas to the north, which hosted the event in 2023, may once again be a candidate! In closing, we will continue to pursue having the event in New Mexico; with a contingency plan to bring us back to the *Great Midwest.***

**Gary**

***UPCOMING***

**August 23 IRF Level 1-3 Officiating Certification; Thousand Oaks YMCA, San Antonio, TX**

 **Gary Mazaroff, Clinician**

**December 7 IRF Level 1-3 Officiating Certification; Centro Deportivo, Guatemala City, GUA**

 **Gustavo Farell, Clinician**

**April 11 (’25) IRF Officiating/Instructor Certification; Club Deportivo, Tarija, BOL**

 **Manuel Flores & Gary Mazaroff, Clinicians**

***QUOTE OF THE MONTH***

***‘Carpe diem’ John Locke***