

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS NAMED IN THE
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

of
INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the initial board of directors of
INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION
a corporation not for profit duly organized and existing under
and by virtue of the laws of the State of Illinois, was held at
4101 Dempster Street , in the City of Skokie ,
Illinois, on the 20th day of December , 1969, at the hour
of 2:00 , P.M., pursuant to call and notice by a majority
of the incorporators of said corporation.

The following members of the board of directors were present:

ROBERT W. KENDLER
MORTON LEVE
KENNETH J. SCHNEIDER
CONSTANTINE LEWIS
JOSEPH ARDITO
DONALD K. CECONI

constituting a quorum thereof.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried

ROBERT W. KENDLER

was chosen chairman of the meeting and

MORTON LEVE

was chosen secretary of the meeting.

The chairman reported to the meeting that the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois on the 8th. day of December , 1969, issued a certificate of incorporation of the corporation numbered 11167 , and that, in compliance with the laws of the State of Illinois, said certificate of incorporation, with the duplicate original of the articles of incorporation thereto attached, was filed for record on December 10 , 1969, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the County of Cook in the State of Illinois, and recorded as document number 21033901.

The secretary presented by-laws for the consideration of the board, and on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That by-laws, in the form presented to this meeting, be and they hereby are adopted as the by-laws of this corporation, and the secretary is hereby instructed to cause the same to be inserted in the minute book of the corporation immediately preceding the minutes of this meeting.

The chairman called for the nomination of officers. Thereupon, the following persons were nominated for officers of the corporation, to serve for the term provided in the by-laws:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
President	ROBERT W. KENDLER
Vice President	CONSTANTINE LEWIS
Secretary	KENNETH J. SCHNEIDER
Treasurer	JOSEPH ARDITO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	MORTON LEVE

No further nominations having been made, the nominations were closed and the directors proceeded to vote on the nominees. All of the directors present at the meeting having voted and the vote having

been counted, the chairman announced the aforesaid nominees had been duly elected to the offices set before their respective names, to serve for the term provided in the by-laws.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That a seal, an impression of which the secretary is directed to place on the margin of this page of the minutes, having inscribed thereon the name of this corporation and the words:

"Corporate Seal
Illinois"

be and hereby is adopted as the corporate seal of this corporation.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That the corporation shall assume and pay the legal and other expenses incurred in connection with its organization and incorporation and that the treasurer be authorized to pay all such expenses.

The chairman stated that it was in order to determine the initial membership of this corporation, and

ROBERT W. KENDLER
MORTON LEVE
KENNETH J. SCHNEIDER
CONSTANTINE LEWIS
JOSEPH ARDITO
DONALD K. CECCONI

having been duly nominated for membership, were, pursuant to vote duly taken, unanimously elected to membership, and the chairman declared said persons elected the original members of the corporation.

The secretary of the meeting then presented a form of membership certificate.

Thereupon, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That certificates evidencing membership herein shall be in the form of the specimen certificate presented to this meeting and that said specimen certificate shall be inserted in the minute book immediately following the minutes of this meeting.

Thereupon, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That the president and secretary of the corporation be and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver certificates of membership in this corporation to each of the original members of the corporation.

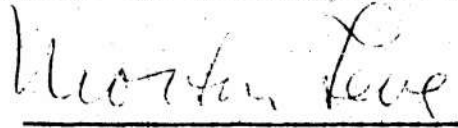
On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That NORTHWEST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO with its place of business at 3985 NORTH MILWAUKEE AVENUE in the city of CHICAGO, in the State of Illinois, be and it is hereby selected and designated as the depository of money and funds of the corporation, and that all of the money and funds of the corporation shall hereafter be deposited in said bank and that such money and funds may be withdrawn only upon checks, orders and drafts signed by the PRESIDENT of the corporation.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:


Robert W. Kendler, Chairman


MORTON LEVE, Secretary

CALL AND NOTICE OF FIRST MEETING
OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO THE DIRECTORS OF INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the first meeting of the Board of Directors of INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION an Illinois corporation not for profit, is hereby called and will be held at 4101 DEMPSTER STREET , in the city of SKOKIE , Illinois, on the 20th. day of December , 1969, at the hour of 2:00 , P.M.

Dated December 10 , 1969.

Morton Levy
MORTON LEVY

Kenneth J. Schneider
KENNETH J. SCHNEIDER

Constantine Lewis
CONSTANTINE LEWIS

Joseph Ardito
JOSEPH ARDITO

Donald K. Cecconi
DONALD K. CECCONI

Robert W. Kendler
being a majority of the
incorporators of said corporation.

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1970 ST. LOUIS: NO MINUTES

1971 SALT LAKE CITY : NO MINUTES – NO QUORUM

1972 MEMPHIS: NO MINUTES – Not a meeting of the board but meeting of Executive
Committee

MINUTES

December 17, 1972 meeting of the I.R.A.

Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Those present: Ken Porco, National Commissioner
Chuck Leve, Executive Secretary
Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Rules Chairman
Robert Challenger, Canadian Rep.

Robert W. Kendler, Director and president
Robert McInerney, Director
DeWitt Shy, Director
Myron Roderick, Director
Larry Lederman, Director
Dr. Bill Sellars, Director
Charles Garfinkel, Director

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. by National Commissioner Ken Porco. Meeting site was the Court House, Racquetball-Handball Club, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Minutes of the previous meetings of the Board were asked for, however no minutes were available. The first board of directors was set up in 1970 in St. Louis as reported in the June, 1970 issue of ACE Magazine. At the first meeting, to have been in Salt Lake City in 1971, there was no quorum. In A short, unofficial meeting in 1972 was held in Memphis, at which time it was decided that because of the time elemtn, a meeting would be set up for later in the year.

It was suggested by that minutes of this meeting be sent to each member present.

Mr. McInerney then requested a point of order to determine if this was, in fact, an ~~un~~ official meeting of the Board of Directors, in that there were present persons other than the acknowledged members of the board. It was determined that this was not a meeting of the board, as such, but a meeting of the Executive Committee. However, only the Members of the Board would have voting privileges.

Mr. Kendler then indicated some proposed changes in the by-laws of the Association, pointing out that some of them were archaic and therefore needed revision. This included changes in sections, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25.

It was also asked that a definition of cumulative voting as used in section 27 be provided.

It was agreed that Mr. Kendler would submit the propsed changes in writing to the other members of the Board for their approval, and/or recommendations. The proposed changes would then be voted on at the next meeting.

Mr. Roderick next asked for a definition of the Board's function and a discussion followed deeming it necessary for a chart to be drawn up indicating

the organizational structure of responsibility within the Association's governing body. Such chart was to be drawn up at the International office and a copy ~~of~~ sent to each person present.

It was agreed that some mutual problems existed along with confusion as to the duties of the board and the executive committee and that it was in the best interests of all for these problems to be discussed and out in the open.

Mr. Kendler commented that it was his opinion that the Association had to this point been highly successful, quoting financial statement figures of 1969, 1970 and 1971 that show total receipts of \$2,141.00 in 1969 to \$11,091.39 in 1970 to \$34,391.77 in 1971. Mr. Kendler also pointed out that estimates for 1972 indicate total receipts of more than \$65,000.00.

Mr. Roderick pointed out that it was essential for the future of the Association that new blood be kept coming into the governing body. If not, he felt, we would fall into the same pattern as the Amateur Athletic Union.

Dr. Sellars asked if an expanded board of directors (one of Mr. Kendler's proposed changes, see accompanying notes), would include the Association's president and executive secretary as voting members. A discussion followed regarding possible board expansion and the consensus was that it was a favorable idea.

Mr. Roderick was of the opinion ~~a~~ that the board be made up with geographical considerations so that a group of local players in the city of the host of the Internationals would not be able to dominate the governing body with local people. A discussion followed regarding the differences between area commissioners and members of the board, if the expanded board were to be geographically representative. Mr. Kendler pointed out that there are differences and that the members of the board should be concerned with the running of the Association and that the area commissioners should be concerned with the development of the game in their particular area. It was agreed that in some cases certain overlapping could occur.

Mr. McInterney requested that members of the board be notified as to the length of their term and its expiration date. He also pointed out that legally Mr. Kendler was, in fact, a current member of the board and all present agreed to same.

Mr. Shy requested that all pertinent information discussed at this or any meeting be distributed to all members of the board so that knowledgeable determination of policy can be made at subsequent meetings.

Mr. McInerney requested that a list be drawn up and distributed indicating what persons would become members of the board under the proposed expansion.

The next item was a determination as to the date of the next meeting. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the board would meet on the Monday prior to the International tournament (April 2, 1973), and if necessary, again after the player's convention meeting.

Association The next point raised was the actual step-by-step method of making rule changes. It was pointed out by Mr. Lederman and agreed to by those present that the final vote on rule changes should be made by the ~~player~~ members of the Association attending the player's convention meeting. Prior to that proposed rule changes should be presented to the Executive Secretary, who will forward them to the National Rules chairman for his recommendations, then back to the Executive Secretary who will send such recommendations and proposals to the Board of Directors who will make final recommendations to the members of the Association at the player's convention meeting.

A re-vote was then requested on those proposed rule changes of the current year that ended with close or tie votes. The results were:

Foul tip or fluke ball: for a change 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)
against a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy, McInerney).

Out of court ball: for a change 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)
against a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy, McInerney).

Age groups of 35-45-55: for a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Roderick, Garfinkel, McInerney)
against a change 2 (Lederman, Shy).

It was pointed out that these votes were, if a change vote was carried, meant that these were the recommendations of the Board of Directors to the general membership, who will then vote at the Player's convention meeting.

Mr. Roderick then proposed a rule to incorporate an age group of 18 and under. The proposal was amended to mean that an 18 and under International tournament would be separate and apart and held at a different date than the present International Championships.

Age group of 18 and under: passed unanimously.

Mr. McInerney then proposed a rule that would make a player eligible for play on the basis of a calendar year birth date determination.

Calendar year determination: For 1 (McInerney)
against 4 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy)
abstain 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)

A motion was made for an age ~~group~~ eligibility to be determined as of the first day of the tournament.

First day of tournament determination: For 4 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy)
Against 1 (McInerney)
Abstain 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)

It was requested that each member of the board be supplied with the name and address of other members and that same be published in Racquetball Magazine.

Mr. Roderick pointed out that as the by-laws governing the Association now are written, the board of directors must approve all contracts of the Association with various manufacturers.

Mr. Kendler indicated that he was presently negotiating with Leach Industries on a racquet contract and a same would be presented to the Board for their approval. He also indicated that he was talking with health food processors vitamin deal.

Mr. Roderick made a motion for a proposed budget to be drawn up for 1973. Dr. Sellars seconded. Mr. Leve pointed out that he felt the proposed budget should be made on the basis of the financial statement of 1972 and it was agreed upon. It was also agreed that such proposed budget and such financial statement be sent to each member of the board.

A discussion on an incorporation of standard method of draw and seeding was followed by a motion by Mr. Roderick that such method be drawn up by Dr. Muehleisen, the Rules Chairman, sent to Mr. Leve the Executive Secretary, who would then forward it to the members of the board for their recommendations and/or changes.

Mr. Kendler instructed Mr. Leve to send each member present one dozen of the "new" racquetball for their comments and criticisms.

Mr. Challenger then addressed the board as the Canadian representative to confirm his discussions with Mr. Leve of the previous month regarding :

financial aid to Canadian Racquetball

Canadian divisions of the I.R.A. in which the winners of singles and doubles would receive air transportation to the International tournament.

That the winners of open singles and doubles at the Internationals would be sent to the Canadian Nationals.

Mr. Challenger also commented on the great rise in popularity of racquetball in his country and that he hoped that for better communications and general relations between the International and Canadian Racquetball Associations that a Canadian representative be made a member of the Board of Directors.

All points above were agreed to unanimously.

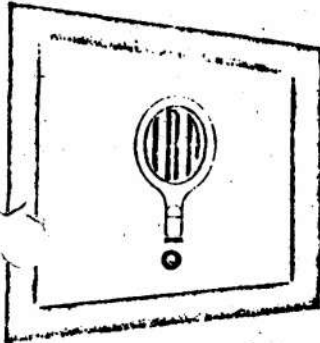
Mr. Challenger requested that Mr. Leve serve as the representative of the International Association on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Racquetball Association. No vote was taken.

Mr. Challenger also stated that the Canadian Racquetball Association would determine the person to represent Canada on the I.R.A. Board.

A proposal was made to prohibit mixed doubles in tournament play. It was agreed to unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Charles S. Lion



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

4101 DEMPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 • OR 3-4000

A G E N D A

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 3 P.M.

Monday, April 2, 1973

I. Call to order

II. Read and approve last meeting's minutes

III. Old Business

- A. Discussion and voting on ammendments to by-laws
- B. Presentation of rules chairman on standard method of draw
- C. Put into final form rule changes to be presented to general membership as agreed upon at last meeting.
- D. Budget

IV. New Business

- A. Replacement of inferior Area Commissioners (if any).
- B. Proposed contract between I.R.A. and Leach Industries
- C. Professionalism
- D. National Court Clubs Association
- E. Playing rules discussion
 - 1. Defaults
 - 2. Technical foul idea
 - 3. Linesmen
- F. Other

V. Adjournment

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

4101 DELPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 • OR 3-4000
Ken Porco, National Commissioner

Board of Directors Meeting

6:00 P.M.

Friday, April 6, 1973

Present were: Ken Porco, Dr. Bud Huehleisen, DeWitt Shy, Myron Roderick, Dr. Bill Sellers, Gerald Lapierre, Robert Challenger.

Meeting was called to order by Ken Porco.

The Nominating Committee was selected from the Board of Directors. They include: Gerald Lapierre, Dr. Bill Sellers, Bob Challenger, Myron Roderick and Ken Porco.

Motion: Mr. Roderick moved that the new signing officers be the President or the Executive Secretary. The motion was seconded by Gerald Lapierre and carried unanimously.

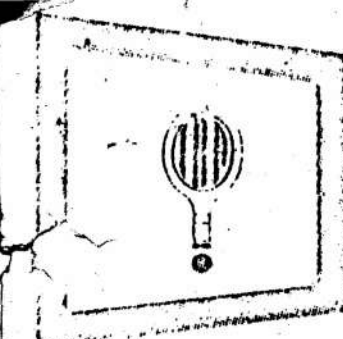
Motion: Bob Challenger moved that the Executive Secretary of the IRA be appointed as the representative to the directorate of the Canadian Racquetball Association. Dr. Sellers seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

Dr. Huehleisen suggested that the board review the IRA policy regarding air fare for divisional winners. It was agreed that discussion on this item would be in order at the next board meeting.

Discussion then centered on the ways and means of getting new members into the IRA. The consensus of opinion was that a key man must be gotten in each state to organize more effectively state-IRA affiliation. Details on this proposal were to be ironed out at the next board meeting.

Motion: Mr. Shy moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sellers. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

W. Shy



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

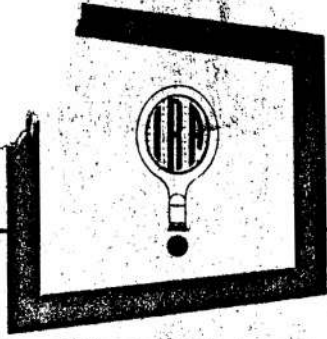
4101 DEMPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 • OR 3-4000

A G E N D A

1973 I.R.A. Convention -- St. Louis, Mo.

- I. Host Tournament Chairman Calls Meeting To Order; Welcomes Players
 - A. Calls for Invocation
 - B. Introduces head table ~
 - C. Introduces Convention Chairman (Ken Porco)
- II. Convention Chairman (National Commissioner) Opening Remarks
 - A. Thank you's
 - B. Nat'l Commissioners report
- III. Committee Reports
 - A. President's Report (Bob Kendler)
 - B. Executive Secretary Report (Chuck Leve)
 - C. Financial Report (Chuck Leve)
 - D. Rules Chairman Report (Bud Muehleisen)
 - E. National Executive Co-ordinator's Report (Gerry Lapierre)
 - F. Intercollegiates Report (Chuck Leve)
- IV. Business Meeting
 - A. Nominating Committee Report (*****person to be determined*****)
 1. Nominations to floor of two (2) board members.
 - a. Two for three years
 2. Announcement of other nominations (if any)
 3. Election of Board of Directors
 4. Recommendations of Nominating Committee to Board for officers
 - a. President
 - b. National Commissioner
 - c. Executive Secretary
 - d. National Rules Chairman
 - e. National Executive Co-ordinator
 - f. National Intercollegiate Chairman (new post)
 5. Announcement of other recommendations (if any)
 6. Approval of recommendations by convention (or disapproval)
(At this point we have an elected Board of Directors and recommended officers who must be officially elected by the newly elected board at a later meeting)
 - B. Open bidding for 1974 ~~International~~ tournaments
 1. Internationals
 2. Divisionals
 3. Invitationals
 4. Intercollegiates
 5. Juniors

(Bidding will remain open for two months after the convention to allow for those not in attendance to bid)
 - C. New Business (to be determined)
 - D. Old Business
 - E. Motion to Adjourn



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

4101 DEMPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 • OR 3-4000
Ken Porco, National Commissioner

1973 IRA Convention Meeting

Sheraton Motor Inn - St. Louis, Mo.

April 7, 1973

Present were: Ken Porco - National Commissioner
Chuck Leve - Executive Secretary
Dr. Bud Muehleisen - Rules Chairman
Gerald Lapierre - Director
DeWitt M. Shy - Director
Myron Roderick - Director
Robert Challenger - Director and Canadian Rep.
Dr. Bill Sellers - Director

Also in attendance were approximately sixty members of the IRA players association.

The meeting was called to order by Ken Porco at 10:00 A.M.

I It was announced by Mr. Porco that the divisional and national tournament sites for 1974 were now open for bids. Submitted bids are as follows:

1. Eastern Divisional - Cleveland Executive Club - Cleveland, Ohio.
2. Eastern Divisional - Canadian Racquetball Assn. - Toronto, Canada.
3. South Divisional - Birmingham, Alabama.

It was explained to the membership that the bidding will remain open for two months to allow those not present to bid.

II Mr. Chuck Leve, Executive Secretary, was then asked to submit his annual report. Mr. Leve stated that the IRA membership had risen to a total of 2,643. A significant increase in members took place when the IRA decided to put out its own magazine in November, 1972. Dues from memberships totaled \$6,019.00. Royalties from various manufacturers of balls, racquets, etc. totaled \$60,585.98.

III National Rules Chairman, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, was then asked to present to the membership the recommended rules changes which include the following:

- (1) To add a new playing category for players (male and female) eighteen years of age and under which would also mean holding a separate tournament for this age group on a national level. Motion: By Mr. Bruce Kranz to accept the recommendation. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- (2) To specifically state that age category is determined by your age at the first day of the tournament. Motion: By Mr. Ike Gumer to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Lenny Marks and carried unanimously.
- (3) To change the existing age breakdown of Masters and Golden Masters to be as follows: 35-44 (Jr. Masters), 45-54 (Masters), 55 and over (Golden Masters). Motion: By Mr. Don Rigazio to accept the recommendation. The motion was then seconded, but before a vote was taken, Mr. Don Adler made a motion to amend the previous motion to say that the age group should instead be 30-39, 40-49 and 50-over. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ed Kahn. The vote on the amendment to the motion was 15 for and 35 opposed. Motion for amendment not carried. The original motion was then voted on and carried.

IV

Board member, Myron Roderick, was asked to give the Nominating Committee and the Executive Committee reports. Mr. Roderick stated that two positions on the board and the position of president needed to be filled and that the Nominating Committee had submitted the following names as replacements: Charles Brumfield, director, Smith Schippers, director and Dewitt M. Shy, president. Before motions were heard Mr. Ken Schneider, National Commissioner of the U.S.H.A. questioned the legality of the board's action and much discussion followed. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Joe Zelson asked Mr. Roderick for a full explanation of the course of events which led to Mr. Robert Kendler's resignation as president of the IRA. After the explanation was given and both sides were heard (Mr. Mort Leve, Ex. Sec. of the U.S.H.A. spoke on behalf of Mr. Kendler). A motion was made by Mr. Ike Gumer that the membership give the board of directors a vote of confidence for the action which they undertook during the past week. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ivan Brunner and carried unanimously. Motion: By Ivan Brunner to charge the board of directors with the responsibility to secure for Mr. Kendler a gift of appreciation for his outstanding contribution to racquetball over the past five years. The value of the gift should not exceed \$200.00. This motion was seconded and carried with one member in opposition. Mr. Joe Zelson suggested that the board of directors meet again soon and review the IRA constitution and by-laws and prepare a new slate of amendments if needed. Mr. Ike Gumer also suggested that in view of the extenuating circumstances all board members be given a one year pro-tem term until such time as an official election can be held.

A vote was asked for on the three vacant positions of the board of directors. Board of Directors - Charles Brumfield - 35 for, 8 opposed. Board of Directors - Smith Schippers - (no count) - 1 opposed. President Dewitt M. Shy - unanimous.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,





INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

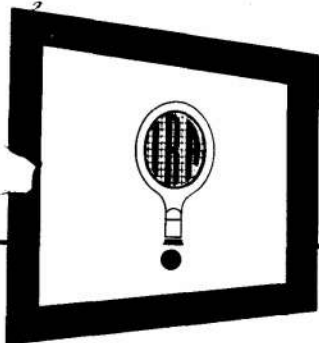
4101 DEMPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 • OR 3-4000

A G E N D A

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 12:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 7, 1973

- I. Call to order
- II. Read and approve minutes of last meeting
- III. Old Business
- IV. New Business
 - A. Election of officers
 - B. Site and date of next meeting
 - C. Other
- V. Adjournment



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

4404 DUNBAR COURT • STONE, ILLINOIS 60440 • 616-4400
Ken Porco, National Commissioner

p. 2 IRA EX. COMM. MEETING

MAY 6, 1973

A proposed annual budget, for use as a guideline at this time, was submitted to the Committee for review and additional recommendations. Further review was indicated and new copies will be submitted to the Board for their consideration.

National Commissioner, Ken Porco was urged by the Committee to expedite plans to find a suitable location for next years International Championships. In addition, all divisionals and invitational sites should be decided upon as soon as possible. The Committee further recommends that the geographical locations of tournament sites be rotated from year to year. A review of the IRA's role in the subsidization of divisional and national tournament winners will be made and a list of guidelines will be compiled and made available to potential tournament hosts.

Discussion next centered on tournament financing. A motion was made by DeWitt Shy that the Executive Committee appoint Charles Brumfield to chair the Tournament Finance Committee which would make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning tournament financial matters and also work within a budget of \$15,000.00. The motion was seconded by Ken Porco and carried unanimously.

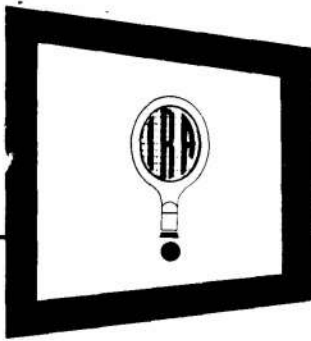
On the weekend of April 20th 22nd, 1973 Mr. Don Webb of the Illini Racquetball Club successfully conducted the 1st Annual Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships at the University of Illinois. A total of eight schools were represented with approximately 40 individual entries. The IRA provided the balls and trophies for this tournament and wishes to thank Mr. Webb for all of his hard work. Detailed results of the tournament will be printed in the next issue of the magazine.

Travel commitments brought the meeting to adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Porco, National Commissioner

*Permanent
file*



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1016 • Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074 • (405) 377-2676

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

All members of the International Racquetball Association should be proud of their Board of Directors. Ten out of eleven gave up their weekend and made the long trek to Memphis, only to sit inside for five uninterrupted hours...during a beautiful sunny afternoon...pounding out the course of direction your organization will take this coming year. (Only one member was missing -- he regretted he had to move his family from one city to another.) I particularly want to welcome the new members of the Board, Charlie Brumfield and Smith Schippers - both were most active and helpful in the discussions that took place at the meeting.

The results of the meeting are outlined below, but I'd like to give a thumbnail sketch on some of the important decisions that were made.

Unquestionably the highlight of the meeting was the appointment and acceptance of Myron Roderick as our new Executive Secretary. This position is the key to the success of any sports organization and we are fortunate to secure a man with his qualifications and experience. Not only is he a fine racquetball player - being ranked in the top sixteen - but he brings to the organization considerable experience since he is currently the Executive Secretary of the U. S. Wrestling Federation, which boasts over 200,000 members. He's vowed his first project will be to straighten out the membership mailing list so that every member will receive the magazine. I'm sure this project will be welcomed by all.

A major development for the Association was the decision to have State Commissioners for each state. This should greatly increase memberships and better coordinate inter-state events, as well as improve communications between the estimated 1/4 million players.

Another matter I want to comment on is the attitude or policy of the IRA regarding professional racquetball and the proposed rival organization. I assumed this item on the agenda would be very controversial and would take hours to settle. It was indeed a pleasant surprise when it was revealed that we were all in agreement and the matter was disposed of in fifteen minutes. In essence, (1) the IRA condones any group or any action that is good for, and gives exposure to, the sport of racquetball, (2) the IRA will allow any paid-up IRA member in good standing to compete in any IRA sanctioned tournament, and (3) the IRA at the International Open Singles Tournament next year - depending on budget restrictions - will hopefully have a purse of \$10,000 or more.

You will notice the International Open Doubles and the International Open Singles are to be divided up and played on two different weekends, with only four days (Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday) allotted. The thinking was that many players can get away the last two days of the week when they couldn't take a week off. With a 64 draw, this means 2 matches Thursday, 2 Friday, 1 Saturday, and 1 Sunday. Qualifying for Singles only at the Regionals, however, there will be 8 spots open at large for those that want to vie for those 8 spots the day before the tournament begins.

Notice also the technical foul rule. This is a rule long overdue, and will enable the referee to better control the match.

All in all, it was a great meeting and much was accomplished. My personal thanks to you Board Members that made the effort and put racquetball ahead of your own pleasures this past weekend.



DeWitt M. Shy
President, International Racquetball Assn.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Memphis, Tennessee
June 23, 1973

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Racquetball Association was called to order by the president, DeWitt Shy, at 1:00 p.m. The following board members were present: Ken Porco, Myron Roderick, Bud Muehleisen, Gerard Lapierre, Robert Challenger, Larry Lederman, William Sellars, Charles Brumfield, and Smith Schippers. Robert McInerney was absent.

STATE ORGANIZATIONS WERE DISCUSSED and recommendations were made that one man be found in each state who would organize the state chapters. Additional discussion was held, and it was decided that the board would recommend that each state charge \$1.00 membership fee from each tournament to go into the state funds to help promote and develop racquetball on the state level.

IT WAS BROUGHT OUT that a membership list will be alphabetized and divided into each state. There will be also compiled, a complete directory of membership in the handbook that will be available for circulation the last of August. Within the next two months, a new membership card is to be available for every member with the hope that we can overcome the problems we have had in the past with membership.

IT WAS THE UNANIMOUS OPINION of the board to change the name of Divisions to Regionals. The motion was made by William Sellars and seconded by Ken Porco. Regionals were discussed, and it was pointed out that there are seven: East, West, South, North, Central, and East and West Canada.

THERE WAS SUFFICIENT DISCUSSION concerning the International Tournaments and the feasibility of participation and lengths of meets. It was moved by Myron Roderick and seconded by Charles Brumfield to have the 1974 International Open Tournament divided into two divisions (singles and doubles) and that the tournament be held in two separate locations. It was decided that each tournament be a four day affair and each age category be limited to a 64 man draw. A motion was made by Charles Brumfield and seconded by Jerry Lapierre, that a player would have to qualify at seven regional tournaments. The International Rating Committee would handle the rating of each regional and how many players should qualify from each region. The motion carried 9-1.

LARRY LEDERMAN MOVED AND WILLIAM SELLARS seconded to have a tournament one day ahead of the International Open Singles Tournament to qualify eight players that were unable to qualify or who failed to qualify in the regionals. This motion passed 10-0. Bud Muehleisen moved and Charles Brumfield seconded, that there would be no qualifiers for the International Doubles Tournament. This motion also passed 10-0. Bud Muehleisen again moved and Smith Schippers seconded, that each player be limited to one event. This motion passed 10-0.

THE FOLLOWING DATES ARE SET for the International Racquetball Singles Tournament: April 4-7, 1974 with a 64-man draw and consolation; International Racquetball Doubles Tournament: October 3-6, 1973 with a 64 man draw and consolation; and Regionals: March 1,2,3, 1974.

THE DIFFERENT DIVISIONS THAT ARE TO BE set up in each tournament according to a motion that was made by DeWitt Shy and seconded by William Sellars are as follows:

- 18 and under—Juniors—open
- Open
- 35-44—Seniors—open
- 45-54—Masters
- 55 and over—Golden Masters

Myron Roderick moved and Robert Challenger seconded that Juniors 18 and under be held at the International Racquetball Tournament. The motion passed 10-0.

THE FOLLOWING DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL Racquetball Invitational Tournaments were set:

Open Singles:	Memphis, Tennessee—December 8,9, 1973
Open Doubles:	Louisville, Kentucky—November 10,11, 1973
Senior Open Singles:	San Diego, California—September 6,7,8, 1973
Senior Open Doubles:	Stillwater, Oklahoma—January 11,12,13, 1974
Master's Doubles:	New Castle, Pennsylvania—November 15,16,17, 1973

There was no date or location set for the Master's Singles, Golden Master's Doubles, and the Intercollegiate. It was recommended that all International Invitational Tournaments starting with the Senior Open Tournament be run with 10 players based on a 31-point game.

A REPORT WAS PRESENTED BY Bud Muehleisen who had recently returned from the SEMCO Company, where they have been working on the Racquet Ball. His report stated that the SEMCO Company were 100% behind the International Racquetball Association and were pleased with the contract. The board again stated that they were very happy with the terms that the Leech Company set up. It was decided that DeWitt Shy would work with the Leech Company concerning their contract with the International Racquetball Association. The Sports Craft Company Contract was also discussed and it was emphasized that the IRA honor its obligation to this firm.

THE TOPIC OF PROFESSIONALISM WITHIN the organization was discussed. It was moved by Charles Brumfield and seconded by Ken Porco that any members of the International Racquetball Association that are in good standing are eligible to play in IRA Sanction Tournaments. This motion passed 10-0.

IT WAS A UNANIMOUS DECISION on the part of the Board of Directors to accept the constitution as approved by the Executive Committee in May, 1972. The motion was made by Myron Roderick and Larry Lederman seconded. Equally unanimous was the decision to accept the proposed budget as presented. Ken Porco so moved, and the motion was then seconded by Gerard Lapierre.

THE NEXT ITEM OF BUSINESS CONCERNED the hiring of a new Executive Director. Myron Roderick stated that he would be interested in handling the International Racquetball Association for one year to help organize and develop a better association. Myron Roderick then resigned from the Board of Directors. Charles Brumfield moved and Smith Schippers seconded the motion to hire Myron Roderick for a period of one year as Executive Director, effective June 24, 1973. The motion passed 9-0. At this time, Myron Roderick stated that he needed the help of every board member and every member involved with the International Racquetball Association so that we can have the most outstanding organization in the United States.

A PROPOSAL WAS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD of Directors by Myron Roderick, Executive Director, that there be an award for a male athlete of the year, female athlete of the year, and a man or woman of the year award. It was brought out that once an individual has received this award, they would not be eligible for the award again for five years.

This proposal was moved to be accepted as a motion by William Sellars and seconded by Ed Muehleisen. The motion passed 9-0.

IT WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY by the Board to immediately emply a technical foul rule on a trial basis until the membership can vote on it permanently, which will be at the next International Championships. The rule, therefore, is now in force and will read as follows:

"Technical Foul: Results in a point or side out. It may be called by a referee at anytime whenever he feels that a player has executed or exhibited unsportsmanlike conduct either vocally or by any other means during the course of a match. A third technical foul called upon any one single player during the course of a match will result in the automatic immediate forfeiture of that match."

AS THERE WAS NO FURTHER BUSINESS, it was moved by Robert Challenger and seconded by Gerard Lapierre, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed 9-0.

INSIDE RACQUETBALL

The IRA has just finished a book called Inside Racquetball which pertains to teaching techniques of the sport. Most of the top Racquetball players have been involved in writing this book.

I have read this book, and feel that it is a great instructional asset to any player that would like to improve his game.

We have this book in a paper-back form for \$3.95 and in a hard-back form for \$5.95. There will be an additional charge of \$.50 each for mailing costs. These are available at this time through the IRA Office, Box 1016, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074.

MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONFERENCE CALL

DECEMBER 11, 1973

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President, DeWitt Shy at 11:00 A.M. CST. Those on the call were DeWitt Shy, Ken Porco, Bud Muehleisen, Gerard W. Lapierre, Robert A. Challenger, Charles Brumfield, Wm. A. Sellars, Robert McInerney, Larry Lederman, Smith Schippers and Myron Roderick, Executive Director.

Professionalism vs Amateurism was discussed and a motion was made by DeWitt Shy that beginning January 1, 1974 any players that enter a tournament with the qualifications of playing for money is band for that year to play in an IRA sanctioned tournament. Second was by Bob McInerney. Motion did not carry, 6 to 3.

Expenses paid to International Meet--Motion was made that 50% of all Regional Winners expenses be paid to Open Singles, Women's Singles, 18 and under and 50% of all finalist in International Championships including Masters. Motion was second by Smith Schippers. The motion was tabled and Roderick was to send more information concerning the amount of expenses and suggestions on a per-diem.

Qualifying for International Meet--Ohio is in East Region and not Central. A motion was made by Robert Challenger that the board approve the following qualifications:

West Regional	12
Southwest "	10
Central "	10
East "	10
South "	10
Canadian West	2
Canadian East	2
Day before Meet	8
Total-----	64

Bill Sellars second the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

A report on the ball was given by DeWitt Shy and he reported that the necessary adjustments have been made to improve the ball and it is back in production.

Advertising was discussed and the general consensus of the Board was to leave the advertising open and the rates could be adjusted by the National Office to try to make the magazine a paying proposition.

Dress Code, Rule 2-5 Uniforms, was discussed and all were in agreement 100%. A motion was made by the President, DeWitt Shy that a doubles team must wear the same if not the identical same shirt, one that at least approximates the same color and different from that of the opponents. Motion carried. The Board wanted Roderick to do some research on the size of emblem and report back to the Board with a recommendation.

All IRA sanctioned Tournaments--persons who participate must all be members. All were in agreement.

Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday morning, May 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned.

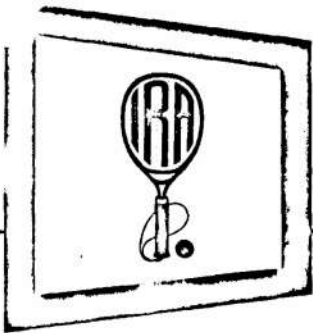
Respectfully submitted,



Myron Roderick
Executive Director

P.S.

The next Annual Board Meeting will be the day preceding the National Tournament, May 22.



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1016 • Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074 • (405) 377-2676

MYRON RODERICK
Executive Director

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MINUTES INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 4, 1974

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President, DeWitt Shy at 10:00 a.m. on June 4, 1974, at the LeBaron Hotel in San Diego, CA.

The first item on the agenda was the Financial Report for 1973.

Receipts:	Royalties	91,491.36	
	Membership	10,279.50	
	Advertising	4,247.59	
	Sale of Publications	3,305.08	
	Sale of Supplies, Balls	209.07	
	Tournament Income	226.00	
	Miscellaneous	<u>509.34</u>	
			110,267.94

Expenditures:	Salaries	12,029.59
	Professional fees	2,600.00
	Depreciation	55.40
	Dues and subscriptions	53.00
	Legal and accounting	7,561.76
	Rent	900.00
	Payroll Taxes	1,153.58
	Awards and trophies	1,031.25
	Duplicating	581.84
	Magazine Production	21,983.44
		<u>29,790.36</u>

Office Supplies	2,189.40	
Postage	6,084.12	
Membership Supplies	906.56	
Supplies for resale	6,354.63	
Telephone	2,554.46	
Tournament Expense	14,065.17	
Travel	5,020.59	
Miscellaneous	1,036.66	
	<u>87,010.84</u>	
Tax Adjustment	193.52	
		<u>86,817.32</u>
Net Income		<u>23,450.62</u>
		<u>110,267.94</u>

Budget Report for 1974:

Income:	Royalties	95,000.00	
	Membership	10,000.00	
	Advertising	10,000.00	
	Sale of Publication	1,000.00	
	Sale of Supplies	5,000.00	
	Tournament Income	<u>12,000.00</u>	
			133,000.00
Expenditures:	Magazine	24,000.00	
	Ex.Director,Salary	18,000.00	
	Magazine,Salary	3,000.00	
	Secretary,Salary	6,000.00	
	Rent	2,400.00	
	Telephone	4,000.00	
	Postage	6,000.00	
	Taxes	1,500.00	
	Membership Supplies	1,000.00	
	Office Supplies	3,000.00	
	Supplies for Resale	3,000.00	
	Mailing Service	1,000.00	
	Tournaments	20,000.00	
	Travel	5,000.00	
	Dues & Subscriptions	50.00	
	Photography	500.00	
	Insurance	1,200.00	
	Awards & Trophies	3,500.00	

	Duplicating	600.00	
	Office Equipment	1,500.00	
	Depreciation	100.00	
	Audit	<u>1,500.00</u>	
			<u>106,850.00</u>
Net Income			<u>26,150.00</u>
			<u>133,000.00</u>

Equipment Contracts and what has been approved was the next item on the agenda. Equipment Contracts that we have signed agreements with are Seamco, Trenway and Sportscraft. Contracts that are out and being considered are: Voit, World Courts, Powerlock, R², Ektelon and of course we welcome any manufacturer that is interested in helping to promote the International Racquetball Association.

Guidelines and committee for approval of equipment was discussed in the meeting. Guidelines should be set up for manufacturers to approve equipment and merchandise of the IRA. It was felt that a committee should be appointed to present the facts to, as far as the item to be approved is concerned. The Board felt this should be done through the Executive Director and working with and through the Manufacturing people in the market for setting up these guidelines to meet our standards. It was pointed out that anything the Board approves should be of good quality and something the members would have confidence in when going down to purchase the item because the IRA has approved it, given studies and research and put their stamp of approval on it. So the Director will set up a committee to form these guidelines as far as approving is concerned on all items.

It was recommended by the Executive Director, Myron Roderick, that he would like for the IRA to be audited each year for his own protection as well as the members. A motion was made by DeWitt Shy for the audit and it was seconded by Larry Lederman that we would have a certified audit for the year 1974. The motion carried unanimous.

Pro Racquetball was discussed and it was tabled for more research and decisions to be made by the Board of Directors at a later date. It was pointed out, if the IRA did get into Pro Racquetball, it would have to be justified from the standpoint of the money spent would promote and develop Racquetball in all areas. This item was discussed a great deal but was tabled and there will be a decision made and a report to the IRA membership.

The idea of a Celebrity Tournament was discussed. There has been some research done on this and it was the feeling of the Board that if a Celebrity Tournament could be held, it would help to get some TV coverage and publicity that would not be possible without some of the top Celebrities involved. Several Celebrities were mentioned that play racquetball and who might be interested. Elvis Presley plays as well as Sammy Davis Jr, the World Champion Chess Player, Fisher and etc. The Executive Director was given permission to go ahead and pursue in this area.

The dates of the International Doubles has been changed to Minneapolis, Minnesota because it was discovered that the Executive Club in Cleveland, Ohio has 22 ft. ceilings. The date will be the same, October 11, 12 and 13th. There will be (5) classes involved in this, Junior Doubles, Open Doubles, Senior Doubles, Master Doubles and of course Golden Master Doubles. The International Singles Championships for 1975 will be held the first week in April with the Regionals set the first week end in March. Other dates were discussed as far as Invitational National Tournaments were discussed and the dates and sites that are confirmed are as follows:

1. International Singles	April 3,4,5,6-1975	
2. Regionals	Feb. 28, Mar. 1,2	
3. International Doubles	Oct. 11,12,13	Minn, Minnesota
4. Open Invitational Singles	Jan. 10,11,12-1975	Louisville, KY.
5. Open Invitational Doubles	Open	
6. Senior Singles	Dec. 6-7	
7. Senior Doubles	Feb. 1,2,3-1975	San Diego, CA.
8. Master Singles	Open	Dallas
9. Master Doubles	Nov. 15,16,17	New Castle, PA.
10. Women Singles & Doubles	Open	
11. Golden Master Doubles	Open	
12. Intercollegiate	Mar. 29,30,31	Memphis, Tenn.

It was discussed how qualifications were set up this year and the break-down of the regionals was presented to the Board by Myron Roderick on having eight regional break-downs in the United States and two in Canada. Motion was made by Charlie Brumfield and seconded by John Chambers from Canada that the regional set-up be accepted as presented by the Executive Director. The regional break-down is as follows:

I.	II.	III.	IV.
California	Washington	North Dakota	Kansas
Utah	Oregon	South Dakota	Colorado
Arizona	Idaho	Minnesota	New Mexico
Nevada	Montana	Iowa	Oklahoma
Hawaii	Wyoming	Nebraska	Texas
	Alaska	Wisconsin	Arkansas
V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.
Illinois	Alabama	Delaware	New Jersey
Michigan	Mississippi	Virginia	Maine
Indiana	So. Carolina	W. Virginia	Massachusetts
Missouri	Georgia	Maryland	Rhode Island
Ohio	Florida	Washington D.C.	Vermont
	Louisiana	Kentucky	Connecticut
	Puerto Rico	N. Carolina	New York
	Tennessee		New Hampshire
			Pennsylvania
IX.	X.		
Canada East	Canada West		

Qualifications of each Region was the next item on the agenda and a motion was made by Robert McInerney and seconded by Larry Lederman that we qualify as we did this year in the Open Singles only. Since we will have ten regions instead of seven, if we qualify the same number this year, we will have more of the qualifying people there than we had at the present tournament. It was also discussed that in the future the tournament could be large enough that we may have to qualify in other divisions. This motion was passed. Another recommendation that was made by the Executive Director was that all regionals be held on the first week end in March and that you can go to any regional that you care to, to qualify. The reason for this was because some persons live on the border of two states that separate regions and could go maybe a hundred miles to be in one regional which wasn't their regional and go five hundred miles to their regional. It was felt because of time and expense it would be better to qualify in what ever regional was close. There would be a dead line of probably ten days before the regional for entrys. Also the recommendation was made that you only enter in one event. You have to make a choice as to which event you want to qualify in. The motion was made by Bud Muehleisen and seconded by Jerry Lapiere and passed unanimously.

It was recommended that we keep the same pay to the individual winners as we did this year, if the IRA can afford it and it appears that they will be able to. It was felt there need not be a motion for this but accept it as a policy of the past.

Ken Porco was appointed along with Smith Schippers to come up with some guidelines and functions of the regional commissioners.

Hall of Fame requirements were set-up and accepted as presented to them by the Executive Director and they are enclosed.

The next item discussed was officiating and it was agreed that we need to set up some guidelines to improve our officiating. The Board agreed to expand the rules committee to at least three members with Bud Muehleisen as chairman. Bob McInerney moved that the President be empowered to appoint two members not necessarily from the Board in addition to the chairman and this motion was seconded by Larry Lederman. The motion carried unanimous. Mention was made that each State could have an officiating clinic and that the IRA check into a video tape that states could have to explain exactly how officiating should be done.

The T-shirt rule was brought up and the feeling of the Board was primarily that the T-shirt rule should be "neat and clean and be an asset to the game of racquetball". The rule that the Board recommended to the membership is as follows: The basic body of the uniform must be of a light or bright color so as not to blend in with the black ball when it passes close to the body of the player. The Uniform trim may be of any color. The front of the pants and shirt may contain a decal not measuring over five inches in any dimension. The decal may contain a Club insignia or commercial advertising of any kind. The back of the uniform must be completely unadorned except that a player's name may be placed in one horizontal line across a shirt in letters not over three inches high. Doubles teams should wear similar color to ease problems of referee identification. Warm up suits not worn in actual play may be of any color and may have insignias anywhere.

The next item on the agenda was Eye Protection and it was felt by the Board that we should recommend that everyone possible to wear eye protection to prevent eye injury. The Board did not feel that we should make it a required item at this time. We do recommend to the membership if at all possible have some type of eye protection, when you play.

Club Membership was discussed and the Board recommended to the Executive Director to set up some type of Club Certificate with a \$5 fee for a Club to become a member of the IRA.

A report was presented from the National Court Club Association Convention that was held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The IRA was represented by Ken Porco and Myron Roderick. They reported there were some good things about the convention but as a whole it was very poorly organized and did not meet the needs of most of the people who attended. It was felt by both members that it had alot of possibilities to offer people in racquetball and a committee was set up consisting of Ken Porco and Myron Roderick to look into the possibilities of improving this organization or starting one through the IRA.

The next item discussed was the National Sporting Goods Convention that will be held in Houston, Texas in January and the Board recommended that the IRA have a booth at the convention telling people about the service and membership as well as the organization of the IRA. DeWitt Shy appointed Ken Porco and Myron Roderick a committee of two to give a report of holding an IRA Seminar of Court Construction and Court Management.

Myron Roderick reported that the IRA office has been moved to Suite 9, 2324 W. 7th, Wicklow Professional Center and he is working full time for the IRA and if at any time he can do anything for the Board or the membership, he is anxious to do it.

Ken Porco was Chairman of the Nominating committee and the committee recommended to the Board, four people to present to the membership as the new board members to replace the four going off of the present board. The names recommended were Bill Dunn, Hal Price, Ivan Bruner and Vince Cutshall. There was alot of research done by the committee of five on location of members, age and experience in racquetball.

Membership price was discussed and the Executive Director recommended that the membership price for one year for three dollars and three years for seven dollars, stay as is.

The cost of the magazine was discussed and it cost us about fifty cents a copy now to print 6500. The paid advertising as well as the free advertising to the approved beneficial manufacturers are coming fairly close to paying for the magazine and the Board recommended to the Executive Director to try and get more advertising if at all possible.

Mr. Roderick reported to the board that the membership when he took over as Executive Director was about 3100 and today we have about 5400 members. He feels that this can double without any problem if we form strong state organization to get memberships.

The magazine improvement was discussed and the Board felt that we must always try to report as much news as possible about all tournaments that are taking place no matter how large or small but felt that we need to class our magazine up with more colored pictures and more instructional articles. This is our area of communication so we can let the members know what is happening throughout the U.S. and Canada in Racquetball and we want to do as good a job as we possibly can. Mr. Roderick pointed out to the Board that the first couple of issues had a lack of articles sent in but the last few issues have been great and feels the membership will continue to contribute a great deal of information and pictures to the magazine.

A discussion was held on the National Ranking of Players in all classes and the Board felt this would be an interesting thing to do and that we would rank the players in all classes pertaining to the results of the International Tournament in 1974 and then revise this every two or four months to the results that are taking place during the year. The Board felt this would present interest in a position as well as help the seeding committee on all the National Tournaments.

There was no Old Business or New Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 on June 4. Motion was made to adjourn by DeWitt Shy and seconded by Larry Lederman. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Myron Roderick
Executive Director

P.S.
All Members of the Board were present: DeWitt Shy, Ken Porco, Bud Muehleisen, Gerard W. Lapierre, Charles Brumfield, William A. Sellars, John M. Chambers, Robert McInerney, Larry Lederman, Smith Schippers and Myron Roderick.

Membership Meeting of the International Racquetball Association held on June 8, 1974, San Diego, CA. at 9:30 A.M. in the LaBaron Hotel, following the Membership Breakfast.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the International Racquetball Association, DeWitt Shy.

The first item of business was presentation of awards to the out-going Board of Directors. DeWitt stated how much they had helped the International Racquetball Association and expressed his appreciation as well as the Board and the Membership. Awards were presented to Gerard Lapierre, Bob McInerney, Larry Lederman and to Bob Challenger who is being replaced as a Canadian Representative. Each of them stated how much they had appreciated working on the Board and would continue to help in any way possible as far as the International Racquetball Association is concerned.

Second on the agenda was the awards for the Man of the Year, Male Athlete of the Year and Woman Athlete of the Year which were presented by Myron Roderick, the Executive Director. The Woman Athlete of the Year went to Peggy Steding, the 1973-74 Womens Singles Champion as well as the Doubles Champion. The Male Athlete went to Charles Brumfield, the International Singles Champion and also the International Doubles Champion of 1973. The Man of the Year went to our fine President, DeWitt Shy. DeWitt has been a very outstanding leader for us during the time of change and without him it would have been impossible to make the change as smooth and as successful as we have had it.

The next item was our first inductees into the newly established Citizen-Savings Hall of Fame, the former Helms Hall of Fame. Inducted in as a contestant was Dr. Bud Muehleisen from San Diego, California. Dr. Bud was our first International Singles Champion in 1969 and has been involved in many many National Titles since then and just recently was crowned the 1974 Senior International Champion. It was a great pleasure for every member as well as the Board of Directors to present the Contributor Hall of Fame Award to Joe Sobek. Joe was present at the meeting. He flew all the way in from Greenwich, Connecticut just for this presentation and it was indeed an honor for everyone to have a chance to meet this fine gentleman and to know that it was through him that this great sport of racquetball was established. Every racquetball player enthusiast owes Joe a great deal of gratitude. Both of these men made very impressive speeches and expressed their appreciation for this award.

The next item on the agenda was the membership report by the Executive Director, Myron Roderick.

The Financial Report was given for 1973, it is enclosed.

A report was given on the membership growth that has gone from 3,000 to about 5200-5300 members. The Executive Director stated that this could be doubled if everyone works hard on their local level.

Another item discussed was information for the magazine. The information has been coming in very well the last two issues and he stressed to the membership to keep on sending all the articles or anything that is interesting to the membership and it will be printed.

The International Doubles has to be changed because the Executive Club in Cleveland, Ohio has 22 ft. ceilings instead of 20 ft. ceilings. It has been changed to the same date October 11, 12, 13 to Minneapolis, Minn. Supreme Court.

This meeting was called for the State Chairmanship Meeting at the International Championships in San Diego on June 9 at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. There were fifteen(15) persons present representing different states. The meeting was chaired by Myron Roderick, Executive Director, International Racquetball Assn.

The meeting was primarily set up to help establish an agenda that will be used at the National State Chairmanship Conference the first part of September. One of the main discussions was whether to have a National Wide Convention probably to be held in Chicago or to try and have about four regional set-ups where we discuss the same thing at each regional and would save travel for alot of state chairmen. There were pro and con for both set-ups and it was not determined which way we will go.

Some of the items brought up during the meeting and discussed are as follows:

Better communication throughout the state and better communication between the state and the National Office. This probably could be done by newsletters but this is an item to be discussed.

Finances was the second item on the state level. It was felt that this was one of the most important areas to be covered because to have a vital, active state organization, we must have some type of finances.

The next item was membership. How to increase the membership and how to better our service to the membership.

Another item would be to set up an ideal state chairmanship as far as qualifications are concerned. Items listed in this would be time available, phone office and communication and etc., available.

To point out to the state office that anything that they would like to send out to to their state, they can send it through the National Office and they will in turn send this out through their mailing to the states.

Tournament: Classes of Tournament, How many Tournaments, and etc., would be established.

Guidelines for writing articles for the magazine should be sent out.

Guidelines for pictures, in other words, if you are taking pictures, what size, black & white or color and etc.

Another area that we felt was very important & would have to be delt with on the state level was Referees. Certain classification, uniforms, patches and lots of areas that needs to be covered in this area.

Probably the most important item is the over all organizational structure of the state. From the State Chairman right on down.

It was pointed out in this meeting that the international structure should be as follows:

International Office, which would consist of the Board of Directors and from that the Executive Director and through the Executive Director then the National Commissioner who would work through the regional commissioners and each regional commissioner would work through his region with the state chairman and of course the state chairman would work through their state organization to meet each and every racquetball player in the world.

The meeting was adjourned and if anyone has anything at all they want added to the agenda which we formulate, so that we can have an outstanding state program in each state, be sure and let us know.

and this report is in the magazine as such.

Other items that were covered pertained strictly to the Tournament and the Tournament site.

The next item on the agenda was Tournament sites and dates. Our National Commissioner Ken Porco took care of this. He reported on the following sites and also about the regional set-up that will be held the first week in March. As you know, we have broken down into ten regionals, eight in the United States and two in Canada. Also one of the things that was passed by the Board of Directors was that you can play in only one regional but can play in any regional that you wish. The Board thought this would eliminate some travel for certain people that were close to one region but lived in another state. Mr. Porco pointed out that anyone interested in holding any one of these International Tournaments or any regional tournament should contact him in the next six weeks so he can finalize all dates and tournament sites. When you do report to Mr. Porco, he wants you to give him a complete evaluation of the facility where the tournament is going to be held as well as the Motel and facilities available.

The T-shirt report was given by Charles Brumfield. It was opened to the floor and there was quite a little discussion concerning what the International Racquetball Association should regulate and not regulate. There was some feeling by some of the members that we should open it up to where we can put anything as long as it was not obscene, on the front or back of the uniform. The Board of Directors had made a recommendation and they made this recommendation because they felt we should try to keep the sport of racquetball in a very neat and orderly fashion both in dress as well as conduct of the game. After a lengthy discussion the motion was brought up as follows: The basic body of the uniform must be of a light or bright color so as not to blend in with the black ball when it passes close to the body of the player. The Uniform trim and shoes may be of any color. The front of the pants and shirt may contain a decal not measuring over five inches in any dimension. The decal may contain a club insignia or commercial advertising of any kind. The back of the uniform must be completely unadorned except that a player's name may be placed in one horizontal line across a shirt in letters not over three inches high. Doubles teams should wear similar color to ease problems of referee identification. Warm-up shirts not worn in actual play may be of any color and may have insignias anywhere. This motion was made by Scott Deed of California and seconded by V.Z. Lawton of Norman, Oklahoma. There was call for a vote and the T-shirt rule passed by a large margin. This will be the rule that we go by in all IRA sanctioned tournaments.

Next on the agenda was the report of the nominating committee handled by Ken Porco. Mr. Porco explained the procedure for elections to the Board of Directors. As you know each year, three to four new directors will be elected because all Board of Directors as well as Officers rotate off the Board within three years. We had four openings for the Board of Directors for 1974. One was to replace Myron Roderick who resigned to become the Executive Director of International Racquetball Association, we lost three members, Gerard W. Lapierre, Robert McInerney, Larry Lederman and Bob Chandler from Canada resigned because of too much traveling with his business. The Canadian elects their own representative and John Chambers was elected to the Board and I might state, he will make a great Board Member. The rule states, as far as electing Board of Directors that the President selects a nominating committee of five Board of Directors who will research and come up with four names to present to the membership. The membership can then elect as many people as they care to from the floor and when you have the slate of candidates, you vote on this slate and each member will have four votes, and can vote for four people. To win the election you must have majority of the votes. If four of them do not have the majority of the votes, you take the next two highest and vote on them again until you have a majority.

The four members that the nominating committee presented to the membership was Ivan Bruner from Madison, Wisconsin, Vince Cutshall from Sioux Falls, S.Dakota, Hal Price from Phoenix and Bill Dunn from Union City, California. Nominated from the floor was Mike Zietman, Jim Trent, Betty Weed, Joe Zelson, Steve Serot, Jerry Heileicher, Peggy Steding and Steve Strandemo. The results were three gentlemen had received majority vote. Ivan Bruner, Hal Price, Bill Dunn and there was a tie between Vince Cutshall and Peggy Steding. We opened the nominations and the membership voted between Vince Cutshall and Peggy Steding and Peggy Steding was elected. So our four new Board Members are Ivan Bruner from Wisconsin, Hal Price from Arizona, Bill Dunn from California and Peggy Steding from Texas.

Old Business was brought up and Dr. Bud Muehleisen talked a little about remaining part of the tournament and also thanked all the people that had helped him and his committees to make one of the finest International Championships that we have ever had.

There was no new business and at 11:15 we adjourned.



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1016 • Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074 • (405) 377-2676

MYRON RODERICK
Executive Director

MINUTES

P. O. Box 1016
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INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONFERENCE CALL

Bus. Ph. (405) 377-2676
Res. Ph. (405) 372-3531

AUGUST 19, 1974

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President, DeWitt Shy at 11:00 A.M. CST. There were eight members on the call, DeWitt Shy, Ken Porco, Bud Muehleisen, Charles Brumfield, William A. Sellars, Bill Dunn, Peggy Steding, Ivan Bruner and Myron Roderick, Executive Director. Members unable to be present were Smith Schippers, John M. Chambers and H.R. Price.

The Conference Call lasted for 90 minutes and the Executive Director brought the Board up to date on what has happened to date and most of you have received this in the Newsletter that we have sent out to all members about our Pro sites, who we have signed and etc.

The big question was discussed about how we should handle our Pro-Circuit in regard to the NRC. We know that the NRC has started a new Amateur Association called the United States Racquetball Association in competition with the IRA.

Dr. Bill Sellars brought out five very good points that he felt we should consider and these were discussed a great deal. Another item discussed was whether we should have a ban on players who play in NRC Pro Tournaments or other Pro Tournaments. The feeling generally was there has to be something to protect our Pro Contract Players as well as our IRA Association.

Two items discussed were--Do we ban everyone in NRC Pro Tournaments--this was kicked around and felt it was not feasible because it would hurt a lot of players plus it would be unfeasible to administer. The other item was--Anyone who receives money, would this be feasible to ban--The Board as a whole felt it would be but again it would be very difficult to enforce because they felt that some of the good players would play in the Pro Tournament and not take money on top but take it under the table.

It was suggested by Ivan Bruner and a motion made that any player that plays in another Pro Tournament and advances to the round that money is given, would be ineligible to participate in the IRA Pro-Circuit or in any IRA International Tournament sponsored by the International Office and the violation of this rule would be effective for one year.

This motion was made by Ivan Bruner and seconded by Charlie Brumfield and passed seven to one. Dr. Sellars voting against the motion. Motion carried.

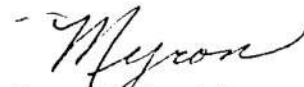
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What this rule states is "Anyone who advances in an NRC Pro-Tournament to a round that money is awarded will be ineligible for our Pro Tournaments and ineligible for our International Singles and Doubles Championships and all of our Invitational International Championships."

I know that this rule will not set favorable with everyone but I think it is a move that we need to make and I will see to it that this rule is enforced.

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Myron Roderick
Executive Director