

BEYOND THE SHORT LINE

October-December/January-March 2004



Collegiate Report

- Season starts when the FALL semester begins (AUG.- SEPT)
- Schools with active programs/teams:
CAL STATE SACRAMENTO
UC BERKELEY
UC DAVIS
(Region) UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO
(REGION- USRA Section 14-California, Nevada, Hawaii)
- RECRUITING:
 1. CAL POLY SLO and UCLA have expressed interest in starting clubs/teams, (board shall be kept updated on developments)
 2. A student from CAL STATE Hayward is examining the possibility/feasibility of starting up a racquetball club/team.
- 2003 NATIONALS - attended by UC Berkeley, CAL STATE Sacramento and the University of Southern California (liaison will be maintained with USC as this is their first time back in many years and we would welcome more participation from them at future events)
- UPCOMING EVENTS:
 1. 2004 REGIONALS: Double Diamond Athletic Club - Reno, Nevada / Date TBA
 2. 2004 NATIONALS: Site/Date TBA (likely in the West Coast)

Day Long of Fun, Food and Exciting Play in Petaluma for the Juniors!

Petaluma Valley Athletic Club (Petaluma, CA) had its annual Junior only tournament in October. There were over 30 players from 8 to 18 playing all day. Tournament Directors were Vinnie Caramagno and Brian Dixon....

Junior players came from throughout the Bay Area to play in the tournament. The goal was to get them as much play as possible as most players played at least three matches. During the lunch/pizza break, a small raffle was done with some kids winning DVDs, signed posters of Pros, or the extremely valuable Ektelon Wristbands!. The carbs did not seem to phase the kids, as they got right back on the court after a few pieces of pizza..Most adult players would be looking for a good nap spot at that point.

There were no controversies or complaints for that matter. On top of that, the kids would actually come to us asking if we needed refs (It was a self ref tournament!).

Winners included: Jesse Rockowitz over Eli Smuckler in the Advanced group; Ian Hong over Pat O'Neil in the

Intermediate group; Devon Pimentelli over Christian Kurtz in the Gold Division; Christian Claymore over Kevin Crowley in the Boys 14 Blue; Cameron Martin over Alex Richter in the Boys 14 Red; Hayden Richter over Tyler Lanman in the Boys 12 Blue; Justin Delisle over Dillon Franklin in Boys 12 Red.

Congratulations to all that played. It was a great day, and we hope to see more clubs recognize the importance of Juniors to the sport. Afterall, they will someday be dues paying club members looking for some courttime!

Brian Dixon
Junior Racquetball Director
Petaluma Valley Athletic Club

Attention: Tournament Directors

We would like to invite you to a comprehensive forum on the future of tournaments in California. This is an opportunity to step through the new performance-based ranking system, the tournament management program, the new membership protocols and their benefits.

We welcome all of our directors to participate and bring their ideas to the table. Our Tournament Directors are a key component to servicing the competitive racquetball player and mostly it is a labor of love. It is our aim to make that labor much easier. We will also review the fundamentals of tournament production for our newer directors.

Please join us on one of the three dates that follow. This will be an intensive one-day program with lunch and materials provided. Please RSVP for the date which will be most convenient for you.

April 13th 10 to 3 - Southern CA
Tourney Directors at Los Caballeros
May TBA 10 to 3 - Central CA Tourney
Directors at Modesto Court House
June TBA 10 to 3 - Northern CA
Tourney Directors at Woodland
Cross Court

CSRA Board of Directors

Peggie Callahan – President
Margaret Pederson – Northern VP
Darryl Warren – Southern VP
George Tellez – Secretary
Jack Hughes – Treasurer
Steve Cook – Newsletter Editor
Michael Martinez
Del Villanueva – Collegiate Liaison
Peter McMillin – Junior Liaison

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Are there recreational players
at your club that may want to
be exposed to the
USRA/CSRA membership?

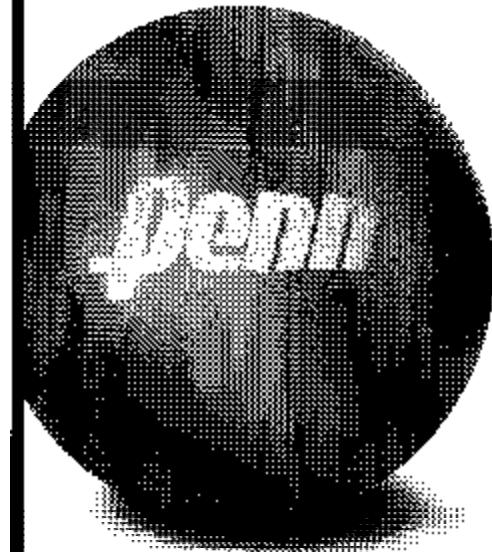
Remember, membership is not limited
to tournament players! ALL PLAYERS
benefit and help support and promote
our sport by becoming a member! For
less than \$2.00 per month you can
help promote racquetball! AND re-
ceive Racquetball Magazine! Please
pass membership info on to others
that you feel would benefit.

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Petitions will be Accepted for the Board of Directors

The CSRA Board of Directors will name three Directors at the Annual Meeting to be held September 2004

Members in good standing not nominated by the Nomination Committee, but wishing to be considered for the Official Ballot must gather a petition containing 100 valid signatures including the member's legibly printed name. The signatures must be of CSRA members in good standing indicating their support for said petitioner. Petitions must be submitted to the Nomination Committee, by mail, post-marked no later than May 31, 2004. Mail petitions to the CSRA Headquarters: PO Box 2984, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-2984. Lack of legible information will be cause for invalidation of that supporter.

The Official Ballot will be mailed to all current members in the 3rd quarter issue of the CSRA newsletter or with the State Doubles entry form. Ballots must be returned to the CSRA Headquarters by September 1, 2004. The election committee will certify the election results. Election results based on popular vote shall be announced at the annual meeting, September 2004.

Once the Official Ballot has been established, the candidates may submit a statement of candidacy to be printed in the 3rd quarter CSRA newsletter or with the State Doubles entry form. If you have any questions, please call (714) 319-9669

CaliforniaRacquetball.org – The Web Site

If you haven't found us by now ... we are here. With a new contact email on the site.

- See what is happening in racquetball clubs besides tournaments by visiting the "Village Voice" page. If you have events for publication, contact Alex Glaros at: aglaros@surfmail.net or George Tellez at: geotellez@pacbell.net.
- The calendar page is updated as soon as there is a change of event status.
- **Downloadable entry forms (until the new online system is in place)** If you have a sanctioned tournament coming up, get the entry forms uploaded to the web site. Send it to Alex Glaros in PDF form for immediate posting and save money in extra postage.
- The rankings page will continue to carry the "State Rankings" as well as the **New National Rating** system with the California players listed. (We will carry the old system for about 1 year)
- There will be a place to view starting times for future events involved with the new tournament draw program—keep your eyes out for more on this.
- How would you like to be able to view results for a tournament in progress? This is another area we would like to deliver to the members. If the new tournament program frees up the CSRA officials from chasing down players for membership compliance, loading the results of the event for web viewing could be great use of that spare time.
- We are getting ready to implement a page that will allow players looking for doubles partners to meet up as we have heard that is something members would find useful.

We are sure you have more ideas, let's hear them. Contact me directly: peggine@pacbell.net.

At your service, Peggine Tellez, President, CSRA



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Nominations for Education Scholarship

The Board of Directors is seeking the nominations and letters of referral for the "Jack Hughes Educational Scholarship". If you know of a collegiate racquetball player who has dedicated his or her time and talents in support of furthering racquetball, we encourage you to send information on that nominee for consideration.

Penn renews a 2 year contract to be the "Official Ball" of CSRA

Penn will continue to provide two cases of Blue Penn balls, scorecards and draw sheets to tourney directors who request these items when turning in the sanctioning forms. This agreement, running from September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2005, extends this long-standing relationship between CSRA and Penn. We are excited to carry on this terrific alliance.

2003 Election Results

Jack Hughes, Mike Martinez and Darryl Warren were re-elected to the CSRA Board of Directors. THANK YOU to all who voted.

CSRA BOD Endorses California Candidate

The California State Racquetball Association Board Of Directors is proud to endorse the candidacy of Peter McMillin for election to the Board Of Directors of the USA Racquetball. Peter has served our State as the Junior's Director with enthusiasm. As the largest member state, California should not be without a voice at the National level. Join us in voting for Peter McMillin with your ballot in the upcoming Racquetball Magazine issue.

Steve Harris, Racquetball Extrordinaire!

After chatting with Steve at Crosscourt's November tournament. I decided to write this article, to share his history and love for the game.

In 1975, Steve started playing racquetball at Sacramento State. In 1976, Steve began managing the Wall Street Racquet Club in Sacramento, CA. That year he put on the first racquetball Pro Tour, in Northern California. The premier event included over 300 entrants and showcased such names as, Charlie Brumfeld, the Leach wonderboys, headed by Marty Hogan. Steve Strandemo, who at the time was one of the best of all teachers in racquetball, and had also written a book)was present along with Davy Headsoe and Jerry Hilescher. The Wall Street Racquet Club had a front glass wall which was new and exciting!

Bill Coyne, owner of the Mr. Steak Restaurant's in Sacramento, sponsored Steve . For the next three years Steve put on the biggest and best tournaments with close to 300 players. Until 1979, the Wall Street Racquet Club was managed and operated by Steve Harris.

Steve achieved his vision when he designed and built his own racquetball club. Cross Court Athletic club opened it's doors in 1979, with six racquetball courts, and two squash courts and is a beautiful 30.000 sq. ft. facility. At the time Steve was one of the youngest of the club owners. The courts were jammed all day long, morning to night. Members were not there to lift weights or ride the bikes. They were there to play racquetball exclusively! It

wasn't unusual to have to wait an entire week for a court.

"I'm a dinosaur," says Steve," the boom really hit in the 70's, in San Diego. "Back then Club owners and managers were racquetball players. "The Kangaroo Courts (3), and The Wenmat Clubs (5) were originally built for racquetball. Health club existance sprang up as a result of the interest in racquetball.

Steve Harris believes that racquetball has reached it's level. He feels that Junior programming should have been further defined in the 70's and implemented nation wide. This would have greatly influenced the sports growth. Steve and I both agree, that our Junior Programs are where it's at. Get kids interested early.

In 1976 Steve Harris, was also one of the original advisors of the, "Teaching Pro's Organization."

At present Cross Court Open is having it's 24th Annual tournament, Sacramento Open's, 2nd Annual tournament, Yellow County Invitational's 25th Annual tournament.

If you want some hot racquetball in the greater Sacramento area, look no further than Cross Court Athletic Club. Steve is always willing to share a great story about the history of racquetball. Steve's enthusiasm for the sport will inspire you!

Margaret Pederson
Nor Cal VP

Laguna Creek Racquet Club FEED A FAMILY – Charity Fundraiser Event

By: Quentin Pittman, Charity Fundraiser & Tournament Coordinator, Laguna Creek Racquet Club, 916-684-8855

The Laguna Creek Racquet Club was the site of the 2nd annual "Spirit of Giving" Charity Fundraiser & Doubles Racquetball Tournament, which was held on December 6, 2003. This year's event for the "Feed a Family Program" was a huge success! Thanks to all our sponsors, players and LCRC members, we were able to bring in over **\$1800** for the "Feed a Family" Program. It was great to see some new players out there and definitely nice to see all of the veteran players that have become our friends and support our cause. Over 50 teams participated; players came from the San Francisco area, Chico, Lodi, Woodland, Auburn, Shingle Springs & Sacramento, making it the best tournament so far. We welcomed a special guest player from Bolivia, Ms. Carola Loma. She proved to be a great competitor, just ask Dick and Tony. Special Thanks goes to Mr. Dave Ellis of Stockton, California for his tournament expertise and John Ellis for his Ektelon raffle donations. This year's event took on a different flavor as we doubled the number of participants and added a Mixed Division. The racquetball alley was decked with hanging U.S. flags with an old racquet theme. The basketball court was turned into a banquet hall fit for the royalty of the day – Kings and Queens. The common whispers throughout the alley and on the courts were the greatness of our event, hospitality and charity support. This day was certainly filled with great racquetball, camaraderie, and a giving spirit!!

Players and spectators displayed TEAMWORK AND GREAT ATTITUDES as they rallied to assist us during the day. Thanks to all the "SOG" staff members who put in the long volunteer hours behind the scenes to make this event possible: Kim Pittman, Delia Ogaz, Grace Garcia, Markus Bowden, John Vick, Gilbert Ogaz and Rene Garcia. They did it all, from finding sponsors, selling raffle tickets, promoting our event, running the tournament desk, answered any questions throughout the day, made food pick ups, announcing raffle winners and running general errands. Their support was overwhelming. Also, thanks to our lunch and dinner sponsors; Chevys, Chef Ray of Aminah's Food For the Heart, Unlimited Sports Photography, Marble Slab Creamery, Laguna Pizza, Papa Johns and Pac N Sav. Thanks to ASO Racquet Sports for their continued support. Thanks goes to the LCRC staff especially Darren, Jeremy, Perri, Tiffany and Sadie, they stood above the rest in their support

PHASE TWO

The "Spirit of Giving"- Food Baskets for Local Families

We raised enough money to donate 35 food baskets to local Elk Grove/Laguna families. The families were identified through our local school district.

DATE: December 20, 2003, Saturday

TIME: 08:30 – 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Laguna Creek Racquet Club, 9570 Racquet Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758, (916) 684-8855, Fax: (916) 684-8894

"SPIRIT OF GIVING" RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

THANKS to all the players for making this a great event. Congratulations go out to all division winners. Attention to all Winners: Be prepared to defend your title on December 4, 2004. We look forward to the following years of LCRC camaraderie...THANKS.

Junior Racquetball Division

1st – Evan Kwan (Laguna Creek, CA)

"Open/Elite" Division

1st – Mark Salinas & Jason Santos (Sacramento State)

2nd – David Ray & Dan Bickel (Woodland, CA)

"A" Division

1st – Ron & Zack Aurich (Natomas, CA)

2nd – Ron Miramontes & Manuel Martinez (Woodland, CA)

"B" Division

1st – Clinton Nixon & Bronc Hughes (Lodi, CA)

2nd – Gilbert Ogaz & Mauricio Serrano (Laguna Creek, CA)

"C/D" Division

1st – Trent Hester & Robert McNaught (Roseville, CA)

2nd – David Thorne & Mark Aleman (Laguna Creek, CA)

"Mixed" Division

1st – Quentin Pittman & Denise Smeltzer (Laguna Creek & Shingle Springs, CA)

2nd – Eric Stankovich & Sue Felix (Sacramento & Chico, CA)

THE "SPIRIT OF GIVING" THANK YOU SOCIAL

Come and join us on Thursday, January 15, 2004 from 5 – 7 p.m. for players, sponsors and supporting members.

Sincerely,

Quentin Pittman

"SOG" Event Coordinator

JOHN ELLIS & EKTELON "DEMO NIGHT"

What a Great night in the history of LCRC Racquetball! This was a 1st time event for the racquetball program, having a top World Ranked Professional Racquetball player at Laguna Creek. The event surpassed the hype as John played Nick Irvine and our local players. We invited Sacramento State Racquetball Team to share this experience with us. This event drew over 100 players to watch the exciting play of Mr. Ellis. John proved over and over again that with good court positioning and footwork no ball is out of play. He provided instructional tips and answered questions before and after his demonstration. Stay tune for our next event with John Ellis, possibly a one (1) day clinic.

CSRA State Doubles Championships

MEN

Open

1st: TIM ANNEAR / BRIAN KLEE
2nd: MICAH RICH / DEVIN ROGERS

Elite

1st: MICAH RICH / DEVIN ROGERS
2nd: BILL DONGES / DAN GONG

A

1st: ROB BARBARA / JIM NORWOOD
2nd: BRIAN SOO / CHRIS TORNATORE

B

1st: TONY FANELLI / KEN SMITH
2nd: PHIL MILSTEIN / SUNIL VERTHODY

C

1st: BOB HAMMOND / GREG IMUTA
2nd: PETER GUTIERREZ / DAVE HEWITT

25/30

1st: TIM ANNEAR / BRIAN KLEE
2nd: ROBERTO REYES / ANTHONY TAYLOR

40+

1st: GIL CEPEDA / KEN FICHTHORN
2nd: DAN NEWMAN / JEFF ROBBINS

45+

1st: DAVE GEORGE / GENE PARE
2nd: ROBBIE BROWN / BARRY CLYDE

50+

1st: ERIC BARKEY / GENE PARE
2nd: BARRY LYNES / JOHN ELS

55+

1st: ROBERT LATTANZIO / SCOTT RUDONI
2nd: PETER GUTIERREZ / DAVE HEWITT

30/35 - 40/45 A

1st: JIM COHEN / LOUIE COUGHENOUR

2nd: GREG CORBIN / BRENT ROSENQUIST

30/35 - 40/45 B

1st: TONY FANELLI / KEN SMITH

2nd: PHIL MILSTEIN / SUNIL VERTHODY

30/35 - 40/45 C

1st: BOB HAMMOND / GREG IMUTA
2nd: PETER GUTIERREZ / DAVE HEWITT

Age

1st: TOMMY FRANCOIS / LONNY WEISSMAN

2nd: JACK GRIMES / RICHARD SIMONE

70/75 A

1st: JIM KEENAN / BOB YOXALL
2nd: Vinnie CARAMAGNO / JIM LOVE

WOMEN

Open

1st: KARI GARDNER / LISA HJELM
2nd: ELAINE DEXTER / CELIA VIGIL

Elite

1st: SHERRON BOYEA / MARGARET PEDERSON
2nd: CINDY GILBERT / BRENDA LEE

A

1st: ESTHER LOZANO / JENNY MILSTEIN
2nd: NIDIA FUNES / MERIJEAN KELLEY

B

1st: JULIE REYES / DENISE SMELTZER
2nd: PATRICIA PEREZ / CRYSTAL PROCTOR

C

1st: JOANN FREDA / COLLEEN KEATING

MIXED

Open

1st: ELAINE DEXTER / MARK NOMURA
2nd: SHERRON BOYEA / ANTHONY TAYLOR

Elite

1st: TARYN McDONOUGH / MICAH RICH
2nd: KIM CAMERON / RICK RAMIREZ

A

1st: CARLA FRANCIS / ED JARAMILLO
2nd: ESTHER LOZANO / GREG CORBIN

B

1st: ALICIA PALABY / RAY HOM
2nd: DENISE SMELTZER / GALE FILTER

C

1st: MARGARET WALDON / SCOTT WALDON
2nd: WAKANA SEARS / TOM ALLEN



Online Membership System

You have to check this out!!!!

Go to the USRA web site: USRA.org, then go to the **Member Login**.

Provide your membership number to get your password.

From here you will be able to change your address, correct personal information and view your competitive history.

If it is time to renew your membership, then go to the **Activate your Membership** tab, provide your membership number or search by your name. If you have been a member sometime after 1996, you are already in the database. Update your personal information and renew your membership.

This new system is really the cornerstone for the new rating system and the tournament draw program that will be used for all sanctioned events in the very near future.

No more wondering if your membership has expired and whether you'll need to bring the extra money to renew. With the new tournament program, most entries will be taken on-line with membership verification or application built in to the entry form. Rankings/Ratings will be stored in your membership file, which will save you from having to search for your name in the National ratings data file.

This new three-pronged system will finally bring this great sport into the 22nd century and allow it to take its place as one of the best and well-managed competitive sports.

The USRA deserves our support and applause for this huge undertaking.



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PARTNER'S NAME: _____

PLEASE ENTER ME IN

MEN'S SINGLES

LEGENDS _____ 30+ _____
OPEN _____ 35+ _____
AA _____ 40+ _____
A _____ 45+ _____
B _____ 50+ _____
C _____ 55+ _____
D _____ 60+ _____
E _____ 65+ _____
F _____ 70+ _____

WOMEN'S SINGLES

OPEN _____ 40+ _____
A _____ 45+ _____
B _____ 50+ _____
C _____ 55+ _____
D _____ 60+ _____
E _____ 65+ _____
F _____ 70+ _____

MEN'S DOUBLES

OPEN _____
AA _____
A _____
B _____
C _____

MIXED DOUBLES

Open/A _____
B/C _____
PADDLEBALL
DOUBLES _____
SINGLES _____

*(Age groups will be combined if there are insufficient entries.)
(All divisions will be limited to 32 player draw. Please enter early!)*

WAIVER

I hereby release myself, heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Tournament House Racquetball & Fitness Club or their respective agents, for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in the 2004 Second Annual Legends Pro-Am Tournament.

Signature _____ Date _____

Partner's Signature _____ Date _____

CSRA All members must be CSRA members.
SANCTIONED Members must show membership card or receipt.

Tournament Hotels: **RIVERSIDE MARRIOTT**
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Tournament Information: Call (909) 682-7511

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2nd – \$100.00	2nd – \$300.00	2nd – \$100.00
	Semis – \$50.00	

Women's Open Singles	Men's Open Doubles
1st – \$400.00	1st – \$500.00
2nd – \$200.00	2nd – \$250.00

Paddleball Singles	Paddleball Doubles
1st – \$1000.00	1st – \$1000.00
2nd – \$500.00	2nd – \$500.00

Enter Early – Accepting only 250 players. Make reservations early to avoid losing out to prior reservation.

PLAY STARTS: Friday 5 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.

All players will receive a Quality tournament shirt.

Phone entries will be charged on VISA or Mastercard and will be charged an additional \$5.00.

For full cash award – 16 member draw is necessary. Final events must be played to receive cash award.

Any one person can play in only two events.

Directors: Vance Lerner, Robin Dixon

Tournament Ball: Penn

Rules: MEN'S OPEN - PRO SERVE RULE IN EFFECT.
First two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11; everybody referees;
lensed eyeguards are mandatory, CSRA.

Entry Deadline: Monday, February 16th, 2004 (6 p.m.)

Starting Times: Wednesday, February 18th, after 5 p.m.

Towel Deposit: \$2.00 or bring your own, bring a lock.

Dates: February 20th - February 22nd, 2004.

Location: Tournament House Sports & Fitness Center
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Hospitality: All weekend. Our usual great stuff will be served.

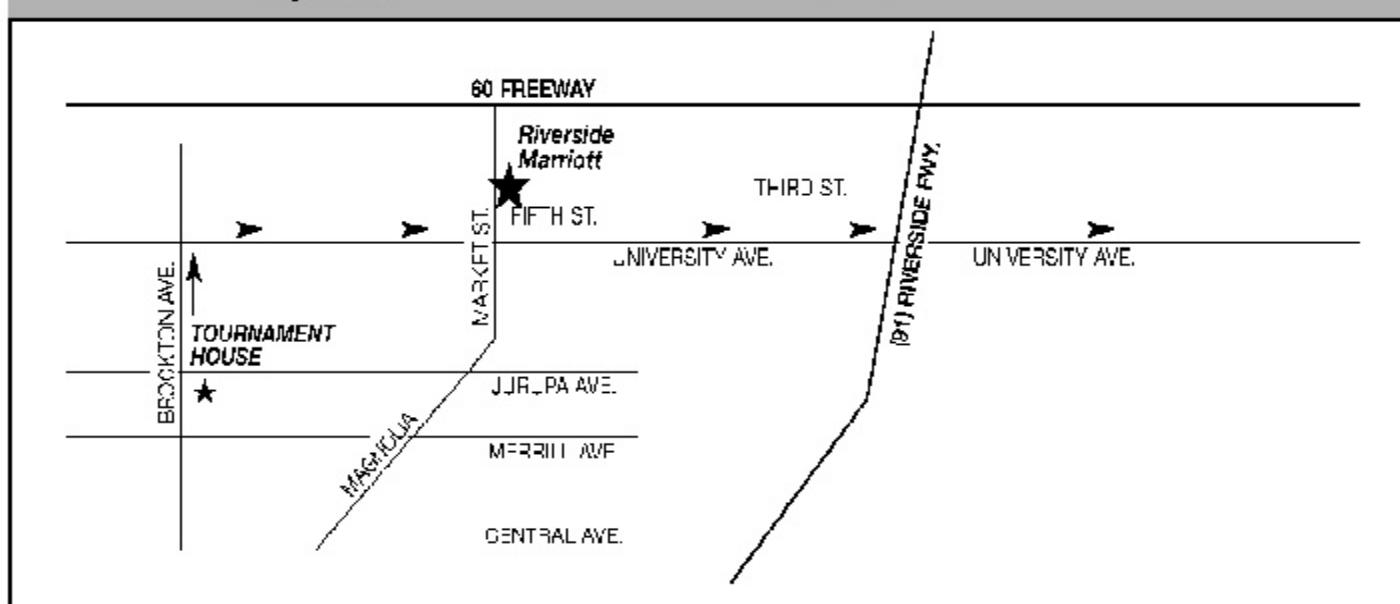
Entry Fee: Money Events Pro Event \$50
Other Cash Events: 1st Event Open – \$45
2nd Event Open – \$20

ALL OTHER EVENTS – 1st Event – \$40; 2nd Event – \$15

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Solano Athletic Clubs

West Club

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East Club

3001 Dover Ave.
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707)422-2858 Fax (707)425-7264

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOLANO ATHLETIC CLUBS

The Solano Athletic Clubs, Inc. came into existence with the merger of Hillside Swim and Racquet Club on Dover Avenue in Fairfield and the Fairfield Court Club on Holiday Lane in Fairfield. These two clubs were originally built in 1978 under two separate ownerships. Barry and Lu Young had become the General Managers of the Hillside Swim and Racquet Club and, in 1986, Young Radio Inc. (owned by Barry's family) purchased both Fairfield Clubs. So, more than 16 years later, the Young family still owns and operates the Solano Athletic Clubs in Fairfield.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Having a membership at Solano Athletic Clubs gives you more than just a place to workout. We encourage everyone to have a regular workout plan, but on the days that you want to take a break this is the place to be. You can pamper yourself on one of our sundecks, take a dip in our full length pool, or relax in one of our jacuzzis.

Solano Athletic Clubs offers a variety of membership plans to accommodate everyone. For more information, give us a call at (707) 422-2858 or (707) 429-4363 and find out why we have been voted the #1 health club in Solano County for the past 9 years in a row.

STAFF INFORMATION

Here at Solano Athletic Clubs, we take great pride in our friendly and courteous staff. You may feel free to ask our front desk employees any questions on activities or events. Our General Sales Manager, Membership Advisors, and Back Office Staff can answer any questions concerning membership. We also have On- Site Managers to address any concerns or suggestions you may have.

As a member of Solano Athletic Clubs, you also have access to some of the best fitness professionals in aerobics, tennis, racquetball, karate, aquatics, and personal training.

AEROBICS: Our aerobics staff, which has been rated 100 % in all areas by an outside firm, is A.F.A.A. and C.P.R. certified.

TENNIS: Our Tennis Pro, a former ATP ranked tour player,

holds numerous USTA singles and doubles national rankings and is USPTA certified.

RACQUETBALL: Our head racquetball professional has 20 years of teaching experience and is PARI certified. When you join, you receive a free orientation clinic (held quarterly) covering rules, scoring, and basic playing technique. He has:

- 30 years playing experience
- 25 years teaching experience
- 1993 nationals qualifier in singles, houston, texas
- Competitive open level player and 45+ division player
- Plans, coordinates, and directs racquetball activities at solano athletic club, which include leagues, tournaments (3), clinics, and lesson's, group and private
- Jim is a member of the United States Air Force Reserve and is working at Travis AFB, CA. He is a production superintendant and is responsbile for C-5 aircraft maintenance and coordination.

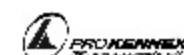
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Community Voice

Anyone wishing to post info about a mixer, demo night or any other up coming event at their club that is not a sanctioned tournament this is the place to do it. Please e-mail your info to Steve Cook at cooksprtg@softcom.net.



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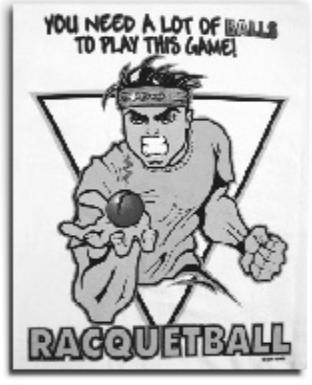
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