

1996

PROMUS HOTEL CORPORATION

US OPEN Racquetball

C H A M P I O N S H I P S

PRESENTED BY:



John Ellis

Cliff Swain

Michelle Gould

Andy Roberts

Mike Ray

Sudsy Moncbik

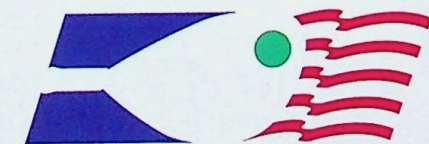
EMBASSY
SUITES®

Hampton
Inn®

Hampton
Inn & Suites

HOMESWOOD
SUITES

PROMUS HOTEL CORPORATION



UNITED STATES OPEN
RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS™

*Supporting St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital*

Be a Part of Racquetball History...

Witness the first "Grand Slam" of racquetball, the Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships presented by American Express. See all of the top pro players in the world, like Sudsy Monchik, Cliff Swain, and Michelle Gould, compete for the largest prize money purse in the history of the sport. Experience the thrill of dramatic player introductions featuring booming music and laser light shows. Be there to see the world's first truly "made for TV" portable stadium racquetball court. Stroll through the U.S. OPEN Hospitality Village and see what's new from the world's top racquetball manufacturers in the Industry Trade Show. Party the nights away with your favorite pros and racquetball fans from throughout the country.



PRESENTED BY:



AMERICAN EXPRESS

Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of history! Join us in Memphis at the luxurious Racquet Club of Memphis for the inaugural Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships.



NOVEMBER 13-17, 1996

THE RACQUET CLUB OF MEMPHIS

5111 SANDERLIN AVE.

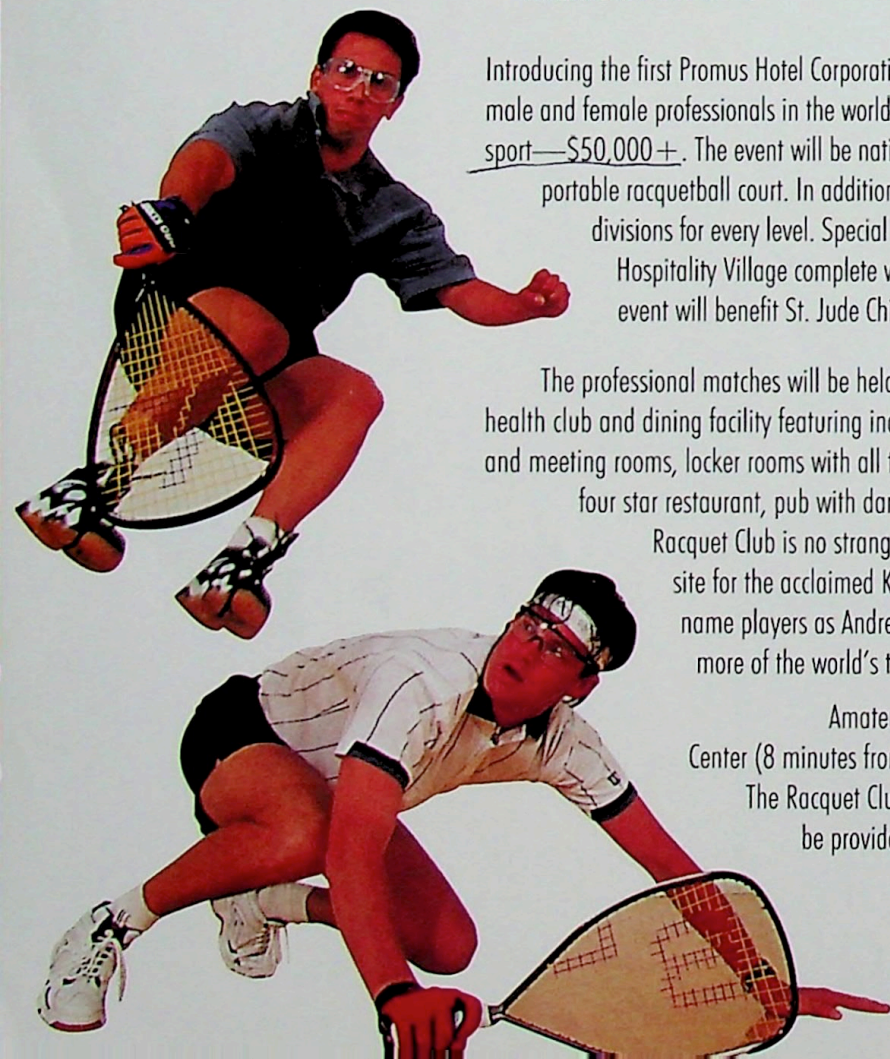
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38117

(901) 765-4400

Introducing the first Promus Hotel Corporation U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships—featuring the top male and female professionals in the world competing for the largest prize money purse in the history of the sport—\$50,000+. The event will be nationally televised on ESPN and will debut the "made-for-TV" portable racquetball court. In addition, hundreds of amateur players will compete in age and skill divisions for every level. Special events include "PARTY WITH THE PROS," an industry trade show, Hospitality Village complete with concessions, live entertainment, and fan fair activities. The event will benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The professional matches will be held at The Racquet Club of Memphis. The Racquet Club is a world class health club and dining facility featuring indoor and outdoor tennis courts, racquetball courts, elegant banquet and meeting rooms, locker rooms with all the amenities, state of the art fitness center, executive health club, four star restaurant, pub with dance floor, outdoor swimming pool, and much, much more. The Racquet Club is no stranger to hosting world class sporting events as they are the annual site for the acclaimed Kroger/St. Jude ATP tennis tournament which in 1996 had such top name players as Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras, Michael Chang, Todd Martin, and many more of the world's top men's tennis players.

Amateur divisions will be played at The University of Memphis Recreation Center (8 minutes from The Racquet Club) and Wimbledon Sportsplex (15 minutes from The Racquet Club). Complimentary shuttle service between all three facilities will be provided on a regular basis.



PRIZE MONEY \$50,000 +

Men's Pro-\$35,000

1st	\$10,000
2nd	\$4,800
Semi's	\$2,400
Quarters	\$1,200
16's	\$625
32's	\$350

Women's Pro-\$15,000

1st	\$4,000
2nd	\$2,500
Semi's	\$1,250
Quarter's	\$800
16's	\$350

Men's & Women's Open

1st	\$350
2nd	\$175
Semi's	\$85

PRO FORMAT

The Men's Pro draw will begin in the round of 64 with qualifying rounds scheduled as needed. The Women's Pro draw will begin in the round of 32 with qualifying rounds scheduled as needed. The Men's and Women's Open divisions will be made up of all Pro entrants who do not win prize money (i.e. lose in the round of 64 for Men or lose in the round of 32 for Women, and all players losing in qualifying rounds.) Players will not be able to enter the OPEN division directly without participating in the Pro division first!

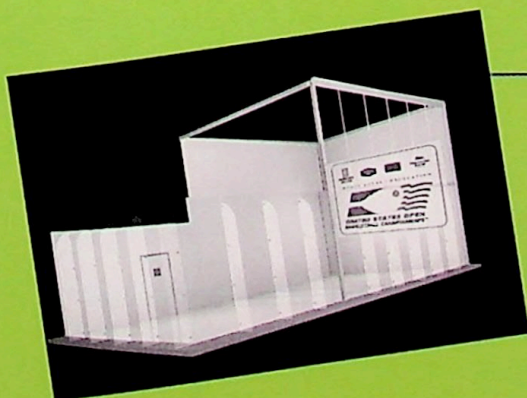
HOSPITALITY VILLAGE

The nerve center of the Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships will be the U.S. OPEN Hospitality Village. Many activities are scheduled to take place in the Hospitality Village including an extensive industry trade show, hard hit contests, pro autograph signing sessions, live stage with entertainment, concessions, cash bars, and restaurant style seating. Admission is free for all spectators and players.

PARTIES, PARTIES AND MORE PARTIES

That's right! For those of us that like to enjoy ourselves during the evening hours the U.S. OPEN promises to be one solid week of non-stop fun beginning with our Tuesday evening Registration Party in the Pub at The Racquet Club. And that's only the beginning! Wednesday night, Thursday night, and Friday night will feature more of the same as DJ's spin the hottest tunes for your dancing pleasure. Free munchies will be served each night. Mingle with the Pro's and racquetball fans from throughout the country.

Saturday evening will top off the party calendar with the gala racquetball bash of the year—the first Annual U.S. OPEN "PARTY WITH THE PROS." Over 1,500 racquetball fans are expected to turn out at The Racquet Club Party Center for an evening of live entertainment featuring one of Tennessee's hottest dance bands. Elegant ice carvings, an extravagant buffet, huge dance floor, live auction for St. Jude, a cash bar, a multi-media slide show, and all the top racquetball pro's in the world will make the evening one to remember. Discount tickets will be available in advance for \$10 per person for all players in the tournament. The cost for guests and tournament spectators is \$25 per person.



MADE FOR TV PORTABLE RACQUETBALL COURT

One of the most exciting aspects of the inaugural Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships is that the first truly "made for TV" portable racquetball court will make its debut! The court will feature stadium seating for 800 plus luxury boxes for sponsors and VIP's. From the quarter-finals on, all Men's and Women's pro matches will take place on the stadium court. Dramatic player introductions, complete with laser light shows and booming music, will treat racquetball fans to a total entertainment experience never before seen in the sport of racquetball!



PRO MATCH SCHEDULE

Men's & Women's Pro Qualifying Wednesday, 9am-3pm
Men's round of 64 Wednesday, 4pm-11pm
Men's round of 32 Thursday, 11am-3pm
Women's round of 32 Thursday, 2pm-6pm
Men's round of 16 Thursday, 6pm-10pm
Women's round of 16 Friday, 11am-3pm

Men's quarters Friday 4pm-9pm
Women's quarters Saturday 10am-noon
Women's semi #1/Men's semi #1 Saturday 2pm-4:30pm
Women's semi #2/Men's semi #2 Saturday 5pm-7:30pm
Women's finals/Men's finals Sunday 12:30pm-3pm

STARTING TIMES

Available after 5p.m. on Monday, November 11th by calling The Racquet Club at (901) 765-4409.

PLAY BEGINS

Players must be prepared to play as early as 8 a.m. on the following dates. Requests for special starting times must be indicated on the entry form. Every effort will be made to accommodate special requests, however no guarantees can be made.

Wednesday Nov. 13th All Pro's, Men's A,B,C,D, 19+, 19+A/B, 19+C/D, 25+, 30+, 30+A/B, 30+C/D, 35+, 40+, 40+A/B, 40+C/D, 45+, 50+A/B, 50+C/D

Friday Nov. 15th Men's 50+, 55+, Women's A, B, C, D, 19+, 19+A/B, 19+C/D, 25+, 30+, 30+A/B, 30+C/D, 35+, 40+, 40+A/B, 40+C/D, 45+, 50+A/B, 50+C/D

Thursday Nov. 14th Men's 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+, Women's 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+70+

MEMBERSHIP

All players must be current members of the AARA. If you are not, a membership can be purchased at the event (\$20 per year). All players entering the pro draws must be current members of the IRT/WIRT Players Association or join at the event.

CHECK IN

All player registration will take place at The Racquet Club of Memphis and check-in is required prior to participating in the event. Hours for registration are: Tuesday Nov. 12th 6pm-10pm, Wednesday Nov. 13th 8am-9pm, Thursday Nov. 14th 8am-9pm, Friday Nov. 15th 8am-9pm, Saturday Nov. 16th 8am-3pm.

SKILL LEVEL VERIFICATION

All players entering skill divisions (i.e. A, B, 30B/C, etc.) must either have their skill level verified by an AMPRO clinician prior to the event (have certification card) or submit the enclosed verification form with entry. All information submitted will be subject to verification by the State Association President in your home state. Players must compete in the same skill divisions as they have played in during the three month period prior to the U.S. OPEN.



TICKETS FOR PRO MATCHES

All spectators will be required to purchase tickets for pro matches (see ticket application) and the Saturday evening "PARTY WITH THE PROS". Amateur and Pro players will qualify for discounted ticket prices. Seats are limited, therefore it is strongly recommended that you purchase tickets in advance. ABSOLUTELY NO VIEWING WILL BE PERMITTED WITHOUT A TICKET.

TRAVEL AND LODGING

The United States Olympic Travel Desk and United Airlines join the AARA in offering you the lowest possible airfares to the U.S. OPEN. For reservations, call UNITED AIRLINES Olympic Travel Desk at (800) 521-4041 between 8:30am and 8pm EST, weekdays. Be sure to reference the special AARA account number - 587WB to receive your lowest possible fare.

When making hotel reservations, mention the U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships. Rates are good for up to 4 people per room.

1. EMBASSY SUITES
1022 S. Shady Grove Road
Memphis, TN 38120
(901) 684-1777
Rate: \$128 per night

2. HOMEWOOD SUITES
5811 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119
(901) 763-0500
Rate: \$108-\$159

3. HAMPTON INN-Poplar
5320 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119
(901) 683-8500
Rate: \$78

4. HAMPTON INN-Walnut Grove
33 Humphrey Center Drive
Memphis, TN 38120
(901) 747-3700
Rate: \$78

5. HILTON HOTEL
5069 Sanderlin Ave.
Memphis, TN 38117
(901) 767-6666
Rate: \$89

**6. THE RACQUETBALL CLUB
OF MEMPHIS**
5111 Sanderlin Ave.

7. UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
630 Echles St.

8. WIMBLETON SPORTSPLEX
6161 Shelby Oaks Dr.

Regular shuttle service will be available between all three clubs throughout the event. In addition, transportation will be provided from each host hotel to The Racquet Club during select morning and evening hours.

HOSPITALITY

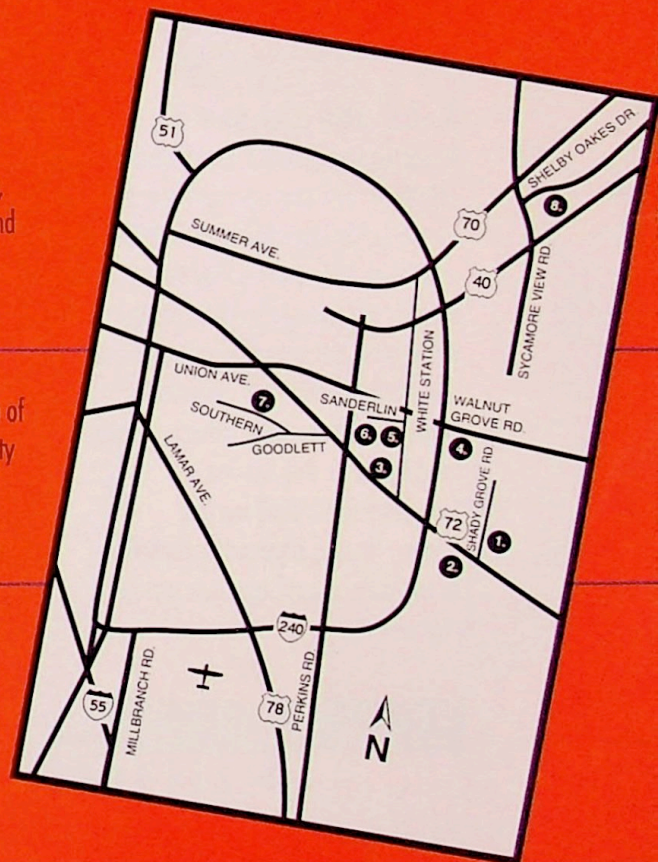
Limited hospitality for amateur players will be available at this event. However, The Racquet Club of Memphis features a four star restaurant for your dining pleasure as well as an extensive Hospitality Village with concessions throughout all hours of the tournament.

ST. JUDE HOSPITAL

The Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships is proud to name as our designated charity St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Founded in 1962 by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, St. Jude is dedicated to the successful treatment of diseases that afflict children. Having treated more than 13,000 patients from 47 states and 53 countries the hospital has been established as a world leader in the treatment of catastrophic childhood illnesses.

SILENT AUCTION & PRO/AM DOUBLES CHALLENGE

For the benefit of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the U.S. National Racquetball Team, a silent auction will be held during the event featuring Olympic memorabilia and racquetball equipment from all the biggest manufacturers in the sport. Checks, cash and American Express, Visa or MasterCard are welcome. In addition, on Tuesday evening November 12, thirty two lucky amateurs will have the opportunity to play in a single elimination (1 game to 15) doubles challenge with a top professional player as their partner. All proceeds will be donated to St. Jude and each amateur player will receive a pro autographed racquet. Call 1-614-890-6073 for more information as spots are limited. Cost \$200.



RULES

All amateur divisions will be played according to official AARA rules. Pro divisions will use IRT/WIRT rules. For all age divisions, players must meet the proper age requirement as of the first day of the tournament (Nov. 13th). All divisions (pro and amateur) will use the ProPenn (green) ball.

RANKING POINTS

Amateurs: For all skill level divisions the U.S. OPEN represents the highest level ranking tournament of the year (level 6) and all winners will be deemed National Champions. For all Open Age divisions the U.S. OPEN will be a Level 5 event. Professionals: On the IRT/WIRT tours, prize money determines the level of ranking points associated with a given event. The U.S. OPEN is the largest prize money event of the season for both the Women and the Men and will therefore be worth more ranking points than any other professional tournament this season.

OFFICIATING

All players will receive \$5 for each amateur match they referee.

PROMUS HOTELS CORPORATION

The U.S. OPEN is very pleased to have as its title sponsor Promus Hotels. Promus is the parent company of Hampton Inn, Embassy Suites, Hampton Inn & Suites, and Homewood Suites. Recognized around the world as a premier developer and management firm of hotel properties, Promus Hotel Corporation has experienced incredible growth. With well over 700 hotels worldwide and opening new properties every month, Promus is a jewel in the hotel industry. As a publicly traded company, Promus Hotel Corporation's stock has consistently outperformed the hotel industry indexes. Lead by C.E.O. Ray Schultz, a long-time racquetball fan and player, Promus is poised to continue its explosive growth rate well into the next century.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Overall: Doug Ganim, Jim Hiser,
Marty Austin

Amateur: Margo Daniels

Professional: Hank Marcus

For More Information Call the Promus
Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquetball
Championships Headquarters at
(800) 678-5396.



PRO MATCH TICKET APPLICATION

	Price	Quantity	Total(\$)
SESSION #1:.....	\$5	_____	_____
Men's & Women's Pro Qualifying Wednesday, 10am-3pm			
Men's round of 64 Wednesday, 4pm-11pm			
SESSION #2:.....	\$5	_____	_____
Men's round of 32 Thursday, 11am-3pm			
Women's round of 32 Thursday, 2pm-6pm			
SESSION #3:.....	\$5	_____	_____
Men's round of 16 Thursday, 6pm-10pm			
SESSION #4:.....	\$10	_____	_____
Women's round of 16 Friday, 11am-3pm			
Men's quarters #1, #2 Friday, 4pm-6:30pm			
SESSION #5:.....	\$10	_____	_____
Men's quarters #3, #4 Friday, 6:30pm-9pm			
SESSION #6:.....	\$5	_____	_____
Women's quarters(all) Saturday, 10 am-noon			
SESSION #7:.....	\$12	_____	_____
Women's semi #1/Men's semi #1 Saturday, 2pm-4:30pm			
SESSION #8:.....	\$12	_____	_____
Women's semi #2/Men's semi #2 Saturday, 5pm-7:30pm			
SESSION #9:.....	\$18	_____	_____
Women's finals/Men's finals Sunday, 12:30pm-3pm			

BEST VALUE

TICKET PACKAGE (includes all sessions listed above).....	\$65	_____	_____
TICKET PACKAGE FOR PLAYERS IN AMATEUR DRAWS (also inc. PARTY WITH THE PROS)...	\$49	_____	_____
Ticket for PARTY WITH THE PROS	\$25	_____	_____
Saturday, 8pm-1:30am			
Discounted ticket to PARTY WITH THE PROS for Amateur players.....	\$10	_____	_____
Processing fee	\$3		\$3

Make check payable or use credit card and mail to:

U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships
1685 West Uintah
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2921

TOTAL

Seating is limited. Must purchase tickets in advance to be guaranteed a seat.
A very limited number of 4 person box seats (with table service) are available.
Call 1-800-678-5396 for prices and availability.

AmEx*/Visa/MC # _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder's Name (print) _____

Signature _____

*Use your American Express Card and receive a free souvenir US OPEN Poster.

ENTRY FORM

Name _____ Birthdate _____ Age _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Phone (day) _____ Phone (night) _____
 Seeding Information (i.e. National Ranking, State Ranking, Recent Results, etc.) _____

Players may enter a maximum of two (2) events:

Check one: Men's _____ or Women's _____

Skill Divisions (Formerly the Skill Level Nationals)*

Can only enter one from this group

A <input type="checkbox"/>	24 & under A/B <input type="checkbox"/>	35+ C/D <input type="checkbox"/>
B <input type="checkbox"/>	24 & under C/D <input type="checkbox"/>	45+ A/B <input type="checkbox"/>
C <input type="checkbox"/>	25+ A/B <input type="checkbox"/>	45+ C/D <input type="checkbox"/>
D <input type="checkbox"/>	25+ C/D <input type="checkbox"/>	55+ A/B <input type="checkbox"/>
	35+ A/B <input type="checkbox"/>	55+ C/D <input type="checkbox"/>

Age Divisions (Open)

24 & under <input type="checkbox"/>	40+ <input type="checkbox"/>	60+ <input type="checkbox"/>
25+ <input type="checkbox"/>	45+ <input type="checkbox"/>	65+ <input type="checkbox"/>
30+ <input type="checkbox"/>	50+ <input type="checkbox"/>	70+ <input type="checkbox"/>
35+ <input type="checkbox"/>	55+ <input type="checkbox"/>	75+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		80+ <input type="checkbox"/>

Skill Level Verification Form

(complete if you enter any Skill Divisions and do not have an AMPRO certification card)

Recent Tournament Record

Event	Division	Result
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

I hereby certify that the skill level division(s) I have entered in the U.S. OPEN is the level at which I have competed in my state during the 3 months prior to this event. Further, I understand that the division(s) I have entered and the tournament record submitted above will be verified by my State Association President and that reclassification may take place if deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director.

Participant Signature _____ Date _____

Men's (IRT)** _____ Women's (WIRT)** _____

** The Men's Pro draw will begin in the round of 64 with qualifying rounds scheduled as needed. The Women's Pro draw will begin in the round of 32 with qualifying rounds scheduled as needed. The Men's and Women's Open divisions will be made up of all Pro entrants who do not win prize money (i.e. lose in the round of 64 for Men or lose in the round of 32 for Women, and all players losing in qualifying rounds.) Players will not be able to enter the OPEN divisions directly without participating in the Pro divisions first!

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release and all rights and claims that I may have against the AARA, IRT, WIRT, Ganim Enterprises, Inc., Promus Hotel Corporation, The Racquet Club of Memphis, Wimbledon Sportsplex, The University of Memphis, all other U.S. OPEN sponsors, or their respective agents for any and all injuries I may suffer as a result of participation in this event.

Participant Signature _____ Date _____
 (parent if under 18)

* All players entering skill divisions (i.e. A, B, 30B/C, etc.) must either have their skill level verified by an AMPRO clinician prior to the event (have certification card) or submit the enclosed verification form with entry. All information submitted will be subject to verification by the State Association President in your home state. Players must compete in the same skill divisions as they have played in during the three month period prior to the U.S. OPEN.

ENTRY FEES

Players may enter a maximum of two events. Only singles divisions are offered. Single elimination format will be used in all divisions and consolation will be offered only if court time is available. Players in two divisions may play back to back matches. Returned checks will be assessed a \$20 service charge. Phone entries will be accepted through the entry deadline with an \$8 service charge and a major credit card by calling the U.S. OPEN headquarters at (800) 678-5396. Maximum amateur draw is 550 players. Once filled, all additional entries received will be returned with refund.

First Event (Amateurs) (\$65) _____
 Second Event (Amateurs) (\$35) _____
 Pro Division (\$80) _____
 Late Fee (\$15) _____

TOTAL _____

AmEx*/Visa/MC _____ Exp. Date _____

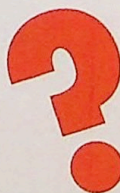
Cardholder's Name (print) _____

Signature _____

Make check payable and mail to:
 U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships
 1685 West Uintah • Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2921

ENTRY DEADLINE: All entries must be received by Saturday November 2nd. No refunds will be given after the entry deadline. All entries received after the entry deadline will be assessed a \$15 late fee if space is still available in the tournament.

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES: Limited hospitality, free access to Hospitality Village and fan fair activities at The Racquet Club, souvenir PROMUS HOTELS U.S. OPEN shirt, and discounts on tickets to all pro matches and Saturday evening "PARTY WITH THE PROS."



Have you enclosed your Pro Match Ticket Application and payment for tickets? Seating is limited. Must purchase tickets to be guaranteed a seat. One check can be written for entry fees and tickets.

*Use your American Express Card and receive a free souvenir US OPEN Poster.