JANUARY 1, 1997

AARA

CHANGED TO

USRA

Item #11 Regional Report Kevin Joyce

Challenge to isolate weekend in April - had only one near miss. Numbers - 2,837 - down somewhat. Timing may be a consideration. We are going to stick with this and give it a chance. May want to be flexible about outlet weekend, East, Midwest, West. Discussion that this could be three different dates. Must be sensitive to state schedules if changing dates. Selecting sites is still the usual kind of decision, trying to be geographically diverse. We should cooperate with Pro Tour as well.

Motion: Outlets not necessarily on same weekend, sensitive to state tourneys, no other restrictions. Shelly Ogden
Second :Mike Arnolt
Passed unanimously

Gary Mazaroff requests regional with a Pro Stop. There was a lot of negotiations regarding sponsorship of regional/Pro Stop. If we could protect our sponsors, it seems like a good idea. We cannot do another regional (other than Las Vegas) without our sponsors. Don't act on this at this time.

Need to reeducate players as to the rhythm of the season, what tournament closes the season, etc.

Motion: Establish April as racquetball month. Carlton Vass
Second: Michelle Gould
Passed unanimously

Kevin wants a regional logo developed for all regionals to insure sponsorship visibility and continuity. Would be reasonable about their local sponsors.

IRT/WIRT - Sanctioning
They then have liability, have had problems with people trying to use this vehicle to get around their own state. The pro tours are not used to dealing with their state to do sanctioning; they deal with a promoter. Some states charge for sanctioning fees. Kevin should be charged with educating the Pro Tour to educate the promoter along with the benefits. Dates conflicting with pro's and amateur calendars are also a problem. May just need to get Pro schedule out to the states.
Motion: Accept regional report: Dario Mas
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimously

Presented slate for Presidential Awards -
Helen and Jack Dunsmoor X
Jeff Wright
Charlie Munroe
Mike Dimoff

Item #9 Nominating Committee Report - Shelley Ogden
Three members Gary Mazaroff, Jen Yokota, Mary Lyons, New-Andy Roberts, Darryl Warren, and Linda Moore -

Slate:
Ron Maggard
Jack Hughes
Lisa Goldman
Michelle Gould

Van would like Ethics Committee to meet to establish a Conflict of Interest opinion with regard to this slate.

Motion - Table Nomination report until tomorrow - Julee Nicolia
Second Janell Marriott
Passed Unanimously

Item #10 Scholarship Kevin Joyce

There were seven candidates this year - one of the smallest fields.
Motion to award four scholarships - Janell Marriott
no Second

Motion to award five scholarships -Keith Calkins
Second - Janell Marriott
Passed 8 votes - Otto Dietrich abstained.
(The five who scored the highest by the committee were awarded scholarships: Sadie Gross, Kori Grasha, Tommy Helfrich, Tricia Boots, and Ryan Kessler.

Money was reinvested at higher rates this year aiming to have enough money for scholarships without using capital.

Jean Chastain resigned from the committee.

Motion to accept scholarship report - Shelley Ogden
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Item #11 Rules Report Otto Dietrich
Motion - reject all proposed rules changes - Keith Calkins
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Motion: Make intercollegiate regionals mandatory for one more year perhaps linking with another event and try to increase the numbers by increasing the numbers and proximity of the regionals. Doug Ganim
Second: Neil Shapiro
Passed unanimous

Neil would like the organization to make a commitment to the intercollegiates. Doug feels that the USRA organization has not given appropriate support. Feels concern that Neil is leaving and there is no support. Mentoring is good, but would like Neil to commit to stay as long as necessary to have someone successful in taking over the program. Doug has done some calling and got back that when the national office had an intern that was the best it's been. Wants USRA to commit in some financial way to collegiate program. Mike Arnolt feels if we believe in this, we would make a change now. Dario Mas asked that Neil consider staying another year in his position and start training a successor. Doug suggested a co-chair that would train for the position. Doug wondered if a Jim Hiser took on the intercollegiates from the national office what effect would this be. Is it possible to hire someone? Luke St. Onge asks the board to please take careful consideration. There needs to be a plan made how can we implement it. Doug feels finding a little bit of money for an intern would be stabilizing to the program for now. Neil suggested an intern on campus, but need someone in national office. Interns are available, but must be paid for. It is a budget impact. Luke feels that if we do this we would need a permanent person. Doug thinks we could use an intern and get a plan in place for someone permanent in the National Office. Dario commented that the Board's job is to direct the direction of the USRA. Dario suggests getting a plan presented in a couple of months and letting the Executive Board take action. Linda mentioned the need for additional equipment with additional staff.
Doug wants Luke to develop a program, staff-driven to develop and make the intercollegiates successful. The program would emphasize the competitive player. Program would be taken to the Executive Board for approval. Staff is to report back to the Executive Committee no later than June 15 with recommendations.

Motion to accept report: Dario Mas
Second: Eric Muller
Passed unanimously

Item #23 Women's Council Linda Mojer

Gives the Women Senior Council a 1/2 page in the magazine. Is expecting this will become a paying ad. They made a donation to the Portable Court as a group. Shelly would like more effort in the women's area of racquetball. Is concerned about a women's tournament in Oregon in which the tournament was not sanctioned. It was brought out that it is because of prize money, but disallowing any pro players. Luke mentioned that AmPRO has potential to help with getting women into racquetball. (Racquetball 101)
Motion to accept: Janell Marriott
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Item #6 Financial Report - Keith Calkins
Reported a better cash flow this year. We have a very current record of what the USRA owes. Feels there are no major concerns.
Motion to accept financial report - Otto Dietrich
Second - Annie Muniz
Passed Unanimously

Approval of May Minutes - Janell Marriott

Corrections: Shelley needs to be corrected, misspelled Shelly.

Motion to accept the minutes - Keith Calkins
Second - Eric Muller
Passed Unanimously

Item #4 Executive Minutes - Janell Mariott
Motion to accept minutes - Julie Nicolia
Second - Shelley Ogden

Item #7 US Team Committee Report - Margo Daniels

Motion to accept Team Leaders for Pan Am Qualifier in Winnipeg 1998 and World Championships in Bolivia 1998 as presented (**Winnipeg-** Team Leader/Referee, Marc Auerbach; Team Manager, Rex Lawler; Trainer, Russ Kippen. **Bolivia-** Team Leaader/Referee, Otto Dietrich; Team Manager, John Faust; Trainer, Russ Keppen) - Shelley Ogden
Second - Keith Calkins
Passed 8 - Otto Dietrich abstained

Laura Finch was reccommended for sports psychologist - U.S. Team
Motion to accept - Shelley Ogden
Second - Eric Muller
Passed Unanimously

Junior Team Report

Wants a Team Leader Handbook - for U.S. Team and Juniors - Eric Muller made comments regarding junior trips - past and future.

U.S. Team Jim Winterton wants a training camp for the athletes. Would need to budget the item. Feels it's needed to meld the team. It is not a conditioning camp. They want to aim for mid June.

Much discussion regarding budget, what will work best - camp or into Worlds early? Jim Hiser

Executive Board Minutes
Phone Poll Skill Level Nationals - July 1, 1997

Motion: Incorporate the Skill Level Nationals into the U.S. National Singles Championships held in May.

Motion passed 5 to 0

Gave report on Olympic Joint Marketing - we will continue negotiating with the USOC on this. TV may be part of the trade out.

Four year agreement with Penn. This went smoothly. A million subscriptions cards out in Penn ball cans. (with free can of balls as sub bonus)

Art Wears is exclusive supplier of clothes for the USRA. Art Wears keeps the inventory and ships to the buyer at 100% mark-up.

Ektelon - we want them to extend one year and then negotiate to continue for four years.

Feels that something may still happen with Samsung

Motion to accept the marketing report - Eric Muller
Second - Annie Muniz
Passed Unanimously

Women's Report Shelley Ogden

Meeting at nationals felt the women's meeting was productive. Many suggestions. Would like women pro's not to play in Open events.

Racquetball numbers are three men to one women. Eric Muller noted that Kelly Beane has a great women's program in New England. The women need more networking out to the states.
Motion to pass the Women's report - Janell Marriott
Second - Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously.

Item #19 Communications Linda Mojer

Report was included for the board to follow. Membership form is on line at the USRAWeb site. Have had about 30 memberships from the web site.

Net billing on the last issue of magazine was $36,000 (advertising) cost was $27,000 to $28,000.

Went through the report on the magazine. Only 5,000 rulebooks were run this year (10,000 last year).

Doug Ganim gave a commendation speech to Linda Mojer on all that she has accomplished with the magazine, the web site, the advertising packets that went out, etc. etc. It was the consensus of the board that indeed this is a well deserved complement.
Motion to accept communications report - Doug Ganim
Second - Janell Marriott
Passed Unanimously

Motion to have no new rules for a two year period - Carlton Vass
Second - Janell Marriott
Six voted to pass -
Opposed - Doug Ganim, Eric Muller, Otto Dietrich

Motion to accept rules report - Carlton Vass
Second - Eric Muller
Passed Unanimously

Item #12 Hall of Fame - Janell Marriott
Candidates - Shannon Wright, Steve Keeley, and Bud Held

Discussion as to whether we should wait until we reorganize or go ahead and vote on a slate. WIRT and IRT would like some input. Decided to go to Pro tour and get their input for this year. Board agrees no need to list area for which a nominee is being recognized in Hall of Fame. It was decided it should be on placque the inductee who receives the award.

Motion to accept report - Julee Nicolia
Second - Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously

Item #13 Regionals Doug Ganim and Kevin Joyce

Kevin went over the regional report with the board. Nearly all 1998 sites are confirmed.

Margo brought forward the idea of having two junior regionals in the region where the nationals is going to be. Feels they would be able to qualify more juniors for the national tournament. The consensus was that the board did not think this was a good idea.

Adult Regionals

The regional director should have the expectations of 200 competitors. If that is not the result they may not get a regional the next year.

Only Las Vegas is tied in with a pro stop. Questions on how sponsors are going to be protected. Doug gave the background on how this first came about in 1997. Margo is negotiating for this year, nothing is decided at this time. There was much discussion regarding keeping pro sponsors and amateur sponsors satisfied. Then a question that came up was whether we would add a regional somewhere else if we don't go to Las Vegas. Would like to settle this by doubles. It's agreed that it will be very challenging to come to agreement.
Dates are locked in for 1999 as well.
Motion to accept regional report - Carlton Vass
Second Janell Marriott
Passed Unanimously

USRA Board of Directors Meeting
National Offices
1685 Uintah
Colorado Springs Colorado 80904
October 4, 1997
9:00 a.m.

Present:

Board	**Non Board Members**
Van Dubolsky	Luke St Onge, Executive Director
Otto Dietrich	Jim Hiser, Asst. Executive Director
Janell Marriott	Dalene Werner, Recorder
Keith Calkins	Linda Mojer, Racquetball Magazine Editor
Doug Ganim	Margo Daniels, National Tournament Director
Shelley Ogden	Kevin Joyce, Membership Director
Eric Muller	Kevin Vicroy, Media
Carlton Vass	Dave Peck, Ektelon
Julie Nicolia	
Annie Muniz	

Not Present:

Neil Shapiro
Dario Mas
Malia Bailey

Item #6 Finance Committee meeting Keith Calkins

Gave overview - Information requested by Eric Muller in May was provided to him. Trying to see what kind of picture can be presented for consolidated loan. Discussed what the bank would be looking at - how positive are we in those areas. Equity in the building is a big asset. Will try to increase our credit line. More desirable than paying credit card interest. Brought up the possibility of raising membership dues. Not looked on favorably by the Finance Committee. Could raise tournament fees, ads have gone up somewhat. Suggested some critical reports needed to help get a clear picture. Balloon payment will be coming due on building, $153,000. Ken Waugh concurs, consolidation would be good. Believes $125,000 would pay off everything we'd like at this time. Time line is to start now and go for it right after the U.S. Open.

Discussion regarding charging up credit cards again. The idea would be to convert to long term debt and not have short term debt. Revenues have grown, have a better understanding of our cash flow. We are going to do a better job of managing our cash flow. Finance committee is going to work very closely with the process. The board has not, in the past, taken an active role in going over the budget and making input. The finance Committee will make the effort and be

Item #24 Outreach Luke St. Onge

Explained about an Ektelon program to recycle racquets to Boys and Girls Clubs and the YW program. Ektelon wants it as an exculsive. A future program could then grow taking any racquets donated. We would apply for a USOC grant to execute the plan. USRA would ship the racquets.

Motion to support Outreach Program: Neil Shapiro
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Carlton Vass is doing a project in Charleston on outdoor courts with Boys and Girls Clubs.

Bill Hybl has agreed to get Colin Powell for us for a cover story.
Motion to accept: Janell Marriott
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimously

Item #25 Hall of Fame Janell Marriott

The Hall of Fame was opened this year to any deserving racquetball personality.

World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame in Boise - Michelle suggested looking into racquetball personalities for this honor.

Eric Muller thought we should look at many older persons who are now eligible. The gold points for Hall of Fame are no longer valid. Janell thinks we may want to add an age group category since we are opening it up to pro's as well as amateur. Linda would like a simple instruction for this honor that could be put in the magazine.

Jim Hiser talked to this year's inductees. They are very excited and honored to be honored by this. Jim believes there should be a new process for nominations. Something wider based than just the board. He feels larger would be more valid. Jim Easterling runs a committee in Michigan, and he may be interested in being involved.

Mike Arnolt submitted one he hasn't seen put up for consideration. Wants to know the procedure for getting someone on the ballot. Would like people with adequate gold points to receive pins.
Motion: Carlton Vass
Second Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Item #26 Scholarship Mike Arnolt

Mike looked into better investment opportunities for the scholarship money. Did find two vehicles. Both are callable investments at 7.74% an increase of 40% on the interest. This makes it possible to use only interest for scholarship.

Item #14 Luke St. Onge - Masters Report

Joe Jackman may take Ivan Bruner's place if Ivan steps down in near future. The Masters groups have had a huge drop in numbers. No real analyses as to why.

Motion to accept Masters report - Shelley Ogden
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Item #15 U.S. Open Doug Ganim

Lost the Samsung sponsorship that was hoped for. All else is proceeding very well. Sponsorship is up. All deals renewed. For year three - no new contracts up for renewal. Is hopeful that he will renew Promus for three more years after this year's Open (which would be four years from this date). Promus brings many other big time sponsors on their coat tails.

Television - hired Leif Elsmo to produce our television. Committed to quality of last year or better. We will have more control than in past year. Two hours including women. Is communicating with ESPN and Fox at this time. Is trying to sell the sport of racquetball, not just the U.S. Open. He felt NBC was encouraging. Feels that Rupert Murdoch - Fox Sportsnet is the future for us just starting out.

Much has gone on to upgrade and get rid of any flaws that occurred last year, mainly the shuttle service and the big party.

Shelley asked for the women if everything was addressed with regards to the women and the perks being equal to the male athletes. Doug answered yes.

Carlton asked how the progress of the plaque for the portable court is at this point.

Doug says it will be done when it is all paid and there are no more donations.

The Open logo has to be changed. The U.S. Tennis has challenged it as a copyright infringement.

Motion for board members who go to U.S. Open to have special seating section - Carlton Vass.
Second - Julee Nicolia
Passed 8 - Doug, Van, and Eric abstained.

Carlton presented a $250 check for the portable court from S.C.

Doug made comments to clarify goals of the U.S. Open. We are not putting in that much money, $18,000 last year, maybe $10,000 this year. We were prepared to put up much more than was finally required. It is such a small percentage of the USRA budget. For the money nothing could have more positive impact than has happened. He feels that it is a myth, even among board

Eligibility as addressed at the October 1996 meeting.

Motion: Make the scholarship limited to receiving one no more than four times: Mike Arnolt
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Looking at rating the applications. May want more emphasis on racquetball skills to be more important. Will make a decision by October 1997 meeting

Motion: Shelly Ogden
Second: Neil Shapiro
Passed: Unanimously

Item #28 Elections Dario Mas

Otto Dietrich	139 elected
Annie Muniz	104 elected
Carlton Vass	109 elected
Chris Evon	95
Sharon Rummel	56

About 200 ballots were cast. Luke thinks the numbers should be released.

The president formally welcomed Otto Dietrich to the Board.

Luke mentioned that the Nominating Committee must have the slate done by October.

Mike Arnolt noted that we do have a nominating policy in place. Otto said he has a copy of this. There may also be a problem with election procedure for the athletes, but it is being worked out.

Motion: Mike Arnolt
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Item # 29 Rules Committee Report Otto Dietrich

The board has the authority to change the rules.
Proposed change #1

If the referee's call of receiver encroachment is overturned on appeal AND the return of serve was judged by the referee to be irretrievable, then the outcome should be a side-out rather than a replay. (See Rule 3.8(b).)

Comment: Julee Nicolia proposing this change. Most of the general membership voted in favor of it -- 73 voted "yes" as compared to only 11 voting "no" to the question of "Should it be adopted?" The Rules Committee unanimously agreed that it should be adopted.

USRA Board of Directors March 1997

By a ballot vote the USRA Board of Directors voted the following individuals into the USRA Hall of Fame, as well as voted to expand the Hall of Fame to include the entire industry of racquetball.

Nominated for the 1997 Hall of Fame were the following athletes and contributors:

Lynn Adams
Marty Hogan
Chuck Leve
Connie Martin
Heather McKay
Dave Peck

This year's inductees are:

Lynn Adams
Marty Hogan
Chuck Leve
Heather McKay
Dave Peck

USRA Board of Directors April 1997

By a voice vote, the USRA Board of Directors voted to include Mike Yellen as an inductee for 1997.

Mike Yellen

members, that the U.S. Open is a huge investment for the USRA. Not true by the figures.

Motion to accept the U.S. Open report - Carlton Vass
Second Annie Muniz
Passed Unanimously

Item #16 National Championships' Report - Margo Daniels and Jim Hiser

Doubles is going well. The numbers are up somewhat.

Junior Olympics - a picture of a perpetual trophy that goes on to the next year's tournament club to be on display for the year was passed around for the board to review.

Skills will be added to the National Singles - details of exactly how this is to be done will be worked out.

We have signed a three year contract with the Houston Y and the Hyatt.

Margo thinks the skills may add numbers, possibly making a total of 700 to 750. Divisions were discussed. Also numbers of courts to number of divisions was a concern. It was decided to discuss the divisions to be offered with the tournament brainstorming tomorrow.

Motion - Competitors may play a third division at doubles which must be the mixed division and one consolation - Eric Muller
Second Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously

Junior Worlds

Gave report for the 1997 Worlds. Negotiating for Florida, Mike Mojer's club for 1998.

Ireland Junior Team is in Florida at this time.

California - good for Mexico but very expensive for South America. Thinking about switching back and forth - California and Florida. Houston may be possible too. Really working toward the Junior Worlds becoming really a world tournament. Ektelon ball is the official ball of the IRF and will be used in the Junior Worlds.

Motion to accept National Championships report - Julee Nicolia
Second - Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously

Item #17 Marketing Luke St. Onge

The USRA will delete eyewear from the list:

- Immediately following notice to do so by the manufacturer
- Ninety (90) days after written notice is sent to the manufacturer that the testing standard has been materially changed and, therefore, new testing of previously listed eyewear is justified
- Immediately following a determination by the Board of Directors that a reasonable basis exists to question whether a certain eyewear actually meets the criteria, irrespective of manufacturer claims

Manufacturers of eyewear that complies with the criteria, will clearly display by prominent graphic or lettering on the outside packaging that the eyewear inside is designed for racquetball and that it meets or exceeds the full ASTM F803.94 standard or Canadian (CSA) impact standard.

In laymen's language the USRA will now publish a list of eyewear which is warranted by the manufacturer's warrant that their specific models meet the USRA eyewear requirements. If there is a question concerning the dependability of the information regarding a certain model the USRA Board of Directors will determine if additional information or testing will be required.

Passed Unanimously

Penn Contract

A long discussion took place regarding the proposed contract with Penn Racquet Sports recently negotiated for a new four year period. Highlights included the same basic current financial package and a new joint project of soliciting subscriptions for *RACQUETBALL Magazine* through Penn's products and marketing division.

Motion: Adopt the new four year "Official Ball" contract with Penn through 2001.

Motion by: Janell Marriott
Second by: Keith Calkins

Passed Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned.

AGENDA
1997 USRA Board of Directors Meeting
USRA National Offices
May 19 - 20, 1997

Monday				**Pg #**
8:00 a.m.	1.	Welcome	Van Dubolsky	
8:05	2.	Roll Call	Janell Marriott	
8:10	3.	Approval of Executive Board Minutes	Janell Marriott	8 - 11
8:15	4.	Approval of October minutes	Janell Marriott	12 - 28
8:25	5.	Legislative Action	Van Dubolsky	
9:25	6.	Financial Report	Keith Calkins	
9:45	7.	Budget 97-98 (preliminary)	Keith Calkins	
10:30	8.	Executive Director Report	Luke St. Onge	35 - 56
10:45	9.	USOC Report	Luke St. Onge	
11:00	10.	Membership Report	Kevin Joyce	59 - 73
11:30	11.	Regional Report	Kevin Joyce	74 - 79
12:00N		Working lunch		
12:30 p.m.	12.	National Tournament Commissioner Report	Margo Daniels	80 - 92
		a) High Schools		
		b) Intercollegiates		
		c) National Singles		
		d) Junior Olympics		
		e) National Doubles		
1:00	13.	AmPRO/Court Club Report	Jim Hiser	93 - 107
1:30	14.	U.S. Team Report	Van Dubolsky	108 - 114
			Jim Hiser	115 - 144
2:00	15.	Junior U.S. Team Report	Tim Storey	
			Jim Hiser	
		a) Summer Tour - Location		
		b) Summer Tour - Financing		
2:30	16.	U.S. Open Update	Doug Ganim	
3:15	17.	Communications Update	Linda Mojer	147 - 210
		a) *RACQUETBALL Magazine*		(147-158)
		b) *RACQUETBALL Magazine ONLINE*		(159-166)
		c) Websites, Internet, e-mail		(167-170)
		d) Publications (house, AmPRO, updates)		(171)
		e) Public Relations and Media	Kevin Vicroy	(173-210)
		Event promotion, media reports, placements,		
4:00 p.m.	18.	International Development	Luke St. Onge	211
		a) Tournament of Americas - 1999 . . . Houston		
		b) Tournament of Americas - 1997 . . . Mexico		
		c) World Championships - 1998		
		d) World Championships - 2000		
		e) Pacific Games		

Team manager is open for application. Rex Lawler did a great job in Mexico, but he did not have access to the stringing machine as much as we would like and he has indicated that he will bring his own stringer next time. I would like to take Rex with me to the World Championships. I am going to call people in the next few days to try to get some new managers.

Pan Am Games 1999
Jim recommends go to US Team Committee to seek woman in addition. Names recommended as team leaders - Margo Daniels and Carol Pellowski.

Motion to accept Coach Winterton's report by: Carlton Vass
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Item #15 U.S. Junior Team Eric Muller

Has tried to refocus the junior effort to make the juniors racquetball experience more of a total lifestyle. Revamped selection criteria. There are some automatic invitations to selection camp based on placing at Junior Nationals. Others will come countrywide. Juniors are to be more involved with teaching effort. Juniors will be involved in development program, each to introduce new players to racquetball. Parents are being encouraged to be more involved. They have been actively raising money for summer trips. About 1/3 of criteria is subjective for making team.

There will be three junior destinations this year - Puerto Rico, Saskatoon, Montreal.

Junior to be picked this year one male and one female from each state for special award, All Americans, who will be among those juniors picked for select camp.
Motion to accept: Eric Muller
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimously

Item #16 U.S. Open Update Doug Ganim

The initial event was successful, cost more than budgeted, but also raised more. Disappointments - TV, quality of production was not what he had looked for, time slot, was telecast so much later; party was not good. Committee working on that already, much more of a production, pro's will come and will stay. Loss of $18,000. All receivables collected. About $17,000 to pay. Neil would like a summarization of its benefits to racquetball. Doug first wanted this event to help the pro's to succeed. (get them on T.V., the U.S. Open was the first step to accomplish this). The impact on the sport in general is not an overall big effect. There were other benefits, not planned, before Open, sales of equipment were really down. This event caused the industry to have a conversation piece. Doug used this with merchandisers to get them to keep their interest in selling space of equipment. Everyone seemed to have heard about the big event. In attracting interest in TV, outside sponsorship, something interesting in the industry to sell. Neil feels the idea was that in building the celebrity that would trickle down the interest. Doug said one event a year is not enough; we need a nationally televised tour. We did not deliver enough in the TV area. He is really putting in time and effort in this area, for a good time slot, and quickly (within three weeks) after tournament, for viewing. Got sponsors to accept what the result was this

May 20, 1997 Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday

8:00 a.m.	22.	Intercollegiate Report	Neil Shapiro	223
9:00	23	Women's Council	Linda Mojer	225
9:10	24.	Outreach	Luke St. Onge	227
9:15	25.	Hall of Fame Report	Janell Marriott	229
9:30	26.	Scholarship Committee Report.	Kevin Joyce	231
9:45	27	Election Committee Report	Tim Storey.	233
10:00	28	Nominating Committee Report	Tim Storey.	235
10:15	29.	Rules Committee Report	Otto Dietrich	237
10:30	30.	Awards Selection a) Presidential b) John Halverson c) Joe Sobek d) Men's - Open e) Women's - Open f) Men's Age Group g) Women's Age Group		239
11:30	31.	Adoption of 97-98 Budget		
12:00	32.	Personnel Commission Report	Van Dubolsky	
12:30	33.	New Business		

United States Racquetball Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 03, 1997
8:00 a.m.

Present:	**Non Board Members**
Van Dubolsky	Luke St Onge, Executive Director
Otto Dietrich	Jim Hiser, Asst. Executive Director
Janell Marriott	Dalene Werner, Recorder
Keith Calkins	Linda Mojer, Racquetball Magazine Editor
Doug Ganim	Margo Daniels, National Tournament Director
Shelley Ogden	Kevin Joyce, Membership Director
Eric Muller	Kevin Vicroy, Media
Carlton Vass	Melody Weiss, Accountant
Julie Nicolia	Dave Peck - Ektelon joined meeting in progress
Annie Muniz	

Not Present:

Neil Shapiro
Dario Mas
Malia Bailey

Item #1 Welcome by Van Dubolsky

Item #2 Roll Call by Janell Marriott

Item #5 Audit Report - Ken Waugh & Associates - Ken Waugh

Ken Waugh went over the audit report before the board with explanations of how reporting is done. Mentioned that $27,000 of $109,000 accts. rec. may not be collectible. $46,000 increase of net assets. Per Diem - recommendation to use $35 as the standard in getting agreement with the IRS. (Keith stated the recommendation had been acted on) Receipts must be included with all reimbursements requests, a minimum of $20 or less may not always need a receipt. Keith stated that all would be addressed. All national events overhead expenses recommended to be in one account. USOC funding, which covered four years, will remain the same for the next three years. Keith mentioned the USOC audit done this year - that was a two year audit and every two years will continue to be the practice of USOC grant funds. Passed the recommendations around to the board. Keith stated that we have responded to all.

Motion to accept audit report - Keith Calkins
Second - Otto Dietrich
Passed unanimously

Mike wants claification regarding consolation - doesn't want to adopt policy of stating no need for consolation. Otto says it is policy not rules. Should be addressed. For now the issue shall remain. It is a rule at this time in rulebook.

Luke St. Onge commended Otto Dietrich on the job he is doing, has done on the rules job.

Item #29A Manufacturers Technical Committee Report Mike Arnolt

Eyeguards - Program established 1987 - Until that time only Juniors had to wear eyewear. Requirements have changed to qualify. ASTM (American System of Testing Materials).

1995, 1996, 1997 listed eyewear could be worn through this tournament. New 1997 list would include eyewear newly approved. Another list giving eyewear that has not been tested. Mike asked Doug to stay as a representative of an eyewear manufacturer. Mike feels strongly that the board should set the standard to keep equipment safe. Does not want list to be grandfathered at all.

Luke feels that this is all new to him. He feels that this rule has changed and would like to know how this happened.

Mike - Some manufacturers may have said they passed tests, that in fact were not made.

Luke feels that if we haven't had a charge for failure, what we have must be working. Feels Mike Arnolt is saying there is a shelf life of safe eyewear. There seem to be eyeguard rule changes without Board approval or input.

1995 list composed of approved eyewear. Manufacturers did not want to retest when asked. Did the Board make the decision to change the standards. We endorsed ASTM testing. We don't need proof, just testimony that testing did pass. There have been failures of eyewear that we thought was passed. Doug thinks the board has to change the policy. Dario stated that we cannot be the one to approve or disapprove, because then we become liable. He feels that we need to make sure that what we say is OK is in fact OK. Eric thinks making a divided list ASTM or internally tested might be the answer. Dario all we need is to have verification from the manufacturer that the eyewear has passed the ASTM standards.

Shelf life might be a factor in safety. ASTM standard has changed since 1995. Doug commented that requirements can't be changed without at least the Exec Committee. Recertification? Doug thinks this may be good. Models change, but not the name. Executives change and may make different decisions about reaffirming certification. Thinks discontinued models once certified should stay considered certified. If the manufacturer decertifies a model then it's no longer certified. Neil thinks we should recertify because of faster balls, bigger racquets.
Note: Squash call us for yeyguard questions and info

Board of Directors Minutes January 1997

By a ballot vote of 13-0, the rule change to allow the added length of one inch, from 21 inches to 22 inches, to racquetball racquets was approved. The new length would be legal as of September 1, 1997.

Second - Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Item #24 Upgrading Nationals Think Tank Luke St. Onge

Motion accept skill divisions for National Single - Annie Muniz
Second - Otto Dietrich
Passed unanimously

Discussion about changing divisions.

Poster for singles - Defined - make it nicer for everyone, attract more people, sponsor attractive. (Including hospitality) Annie gave an example of increasing numbers by increasing quality of everything. Dave mentioned that the U.S. Singles will probably be compared to the U.S. Open - really upgraded the expectation. Julee feels that competitors need more value for the money. Annie agrees - it's a vacation and must be attractive. Planning for the ones who don't win. Having the skills is very, very good. Doug recommended promotions with sponsors during the early nights. Making it attractive to bring sponsors' families to watch. May be getting kids groups from Texas in to watch. Getting a Pro exhibition. Casino night was enthusiastically received. The Spalding party some years ago was brought up - big success. Make sure the basketball court next to glass court is not used for Y's basketball games.

A place to mingle at the Y. Maybe a food court? TV with videos running? Decorations? Big posters of pro's i.e. Super Show? Ektelon athletes - involved, posters, exhibition. When the elevators open, boom posters, decorations. The gymnasium would be great for activity. Big draw sheet with Open players. Registration in small gym with food. Pro Doubles with a party in the gym at the Y would be good, maybe Sunday with consolations? Background music? Membership meetings, presidents, at the Y? What will the Y do to improve the entry? How about a balloon drop with Ektelon coupons in a portion of them. Upgrade USRA souvenir stand, mannequins, nice displays. Target contest hitting the ball at the bulls eye. Entertainment? (try for free, high energy) Get a professional photographer that they can sell. The picture of award on the cover of Racquetball Magazine, they are there immediately. The Georgia one wanted $3,500 minimum, so we didn't go with that. Hacky sack demo, jump rope, yo yo, batting cages, golf - virtual reality, free throw contest? racquetball stuff for prizes. Play Horse with Andy Roberts? Caricature artist or cartoon artist? State associations set up a display? Mike the courts? Dunk tank, specific time, perhaps three hours? (board member, pro, exec. director) Bag check? Four page entry with everything in there.
Committee of Margo Daniels, Annie Muniz, Shelley Ogden will go to work on this.

4:15	19. IRF - PARC - IOC Update	Keith Calkins	213
4:30	20. Masters Report	Neil Shapiro	217
4:45	21. Marketing Report.	Luke St. Onge	219

Adjourn

regarding the method of reporting on the budget giving a more accurate answer to what is earnings and what is really a loss as far as addressing cash flow. This brought up the question of whether membership and magazine are or are not profitable as far as making decisions about what programs to stress. The factor which makes a difference is the prorating of expenses, which are expenses for the most part that are going out in any case (utilities, salaries, etc.) Should be able to easily identify subsidized programs as opposed to those which are not subsidized. Much of the discussion was about showing a good report as far as getting a consolidation loan. It was mentioned that since it is only replacement debt at a lower interest rate that the bank would look at the report from a replacement view. It is more important to be able to show revenues and expenses for each month as far as a bank is concerned. The fiance committee should look at this and analyze and report to the board. The board charges the Executive Director to execute what the board approves. Question - is the Marketing agreement with USOC for one year contract? It is four year. Error on budget under US Team, World Championships is included but will not be a budget item in 1997. It will properly be an item for 1998, roughly $26,000. A one per cent surplus is not sufficient on a budget of this size. A target threshold should be adopted for a surplus. The cash flow must be dealt with. Board needs to take look at how much they approve. Board wants an actual budget from the previous year for comparison purposes. With new system actuals will be included. Suggested a monthly report of what is budgeted, what has been spent, how much is left. Perhaps quarterly would be more beneficial. USOC and sponsorship money is a lump sum, but USOC is mandated to certain programs. Should be presented by the Finance Committee in October if changes in the way the money is allocated are to be made.

Motion: Target the budget to be 3% lower than predicted expenses in the next cycle and increase to eventual 10% by three years from now. Dario Mas
Second: Neil Shapiro
Discussion - Keith Calkins questions whether $200,000 would be realistic. Let the Financial Committee analyze this and come back with a recommendation based upon careful consideration. It has been a pattern that when we bring in more, we spend more. There must be a minimum surplus developed. A cash flow surplus is separate from a cushion. Perhaps should be done program by program with a surplus in each area.

Vote: Defeated unanimously

Motion: Finance Committee to develop financial plan for a surplus goal to begin in 1998-1999. Eric Muller
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed: Unanimously

Committee Assignments were discussed - appointments are for two years. The president wants the board to let him know interest.

Item #8 Executive Report Luke St. Onge
It is part of the board packet. Nothing to add to written report.
Motion to accept executive report: Janell Marriott
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Motion to accept membership report: Shelly Ogden
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Item #18 International Development Keith Calkins
Trying to work with squash to get into the Olympic games (2004). No IRF meeting since last board meeting. Recommends resolution of commendation to U.S. Team for Tournament of Americas.
Motion to accept international report: Carlton Vass
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimously

Item #19 IRF - PARC - IOC Update Keith Calkins

Need to approve U.S. Team for the Pan Am Trials 1998 and World Championships in 1998.
Motion: Keith Calkins
Second: Eric Muller
Passed unanimously

Discussion about negotiations with squash for cooperation. Han van der Heijden is meeting with Britain squash leader in Monte Carlo for negotiations. We are very aggressively pursuing Olympic acceptance for a joint squash/racquetball International Federation.

Concern has been expressed to Dario regarding our position as USRA - how much of our effort is put into the Olympic Goal. Dario thinks there is much misunderstanding by many how much time is actually spent on this effort. Some feel this is a waste of time. Recommended education through magazine so they will understand the time spent and the advantages. Perhaps just publishing the agenda showing how little time was spent at the board meeting. Also not nearly as much of the budget is spent as is gotten from the USOC. Basically 10% of our time, often just personal time. The Olympics provided a path for us to follow in our sport in our early history. Luke mentioned that we do have a position paper, maybe we should take a look at that and consider using it. Perhaps something very positive about our Olympic relationship and what is derived from this for racquetball. U.S. Team and the Pro Tour should be informed also as to our mission as it relates to the Olympics and the general membership. (mission statement?) Luke will update these groups.

Support for having the T of A in Houston in 1999. U.S.
Motion: Mike Arnolt
Second: Carlton Vass
Pass unanimously

Motion to accept Keith's Item #19 (the IRF-PARC-IOC Update)
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

sure that things are done appropriately. A more detailed financial report will be discussed at Board meetings in the future. Suggestion of training for board members to be able to read the budget reports. Reports will come out on a monthly basis. Feels that with the Finance Committee has enough expertise to explain items. We will use only American Express so that it must be paid and no interest. The Finance Committee should decide how much we should make over expenses each year. Lowering the interest is not the entire solution. Doug was against raising our credit line. Trading debt for debt is good, but not more debt. We need either to raise revenues or cut our expenses. The credit line is needed to operate in a fiscally responsibly manner. We are operating too close to the bottom line. We do need to set goals. The issue is early identification. The goal was previously set (in May) at 3% surplus. The committee is looking to the future to solve the problems of not having any surplus at the end of each year. Membership increases were discussed. Doug felt it would be very negative to drop below 20,000 number. It went back to the fact that we don't collect memberships from nearly all of the competitors playing our tournaments. This is just the beginning plan. 5% was mentioned as a good number to aim for as a surplus each year. $200,000, (at 3% per year) within three years was the amount mandated by the board in May 1997. The potential to provide the guidance that is needed is being started by the board.

Motion to accept Finance Committee Report -Carlton Vass
Second Janell Marriott
Passed Unanimously

U.S. Team **Margo Daniels** **Jim Hiser**

Training camp - talked to Jim Winterton - he feels strongly that previous camps were very helpful in subsequent victories. Having the psychologist at the Worlds and going early would be the second choice and also at the doubles and singles. Probably be a savings of about $4,000 to take psychologist there.

Motion to support having psychologist travel with team, not camp - Otto Dietrich
Second - Julee Nicolia
Passed with Janell Marriott abstaining

Junior Team Committee Report Margo Daniels

Selection - take from notes It seemed to be the feeling it was a positive change.

Motion to accept report and have a play off for alternates (5 through 8 in the Gold Division) - Otto Dietrich
Second - Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously

St. One, Executive Director.

Ethics Committee report - Julee Nicolia
An ethics committee report was presented concerning conflict of interests for USRA board members. It was felt that rules must be extablished to combat conflicts or perceived conflicts of board members.

The following rules were presented as to who is eligible to serve on the board.

Any USRA member in good standing may serve on the Board of Directors, except in the following cases:
- An employee of the USRA
- An employee of a racquetball manufacturer
- An independent contractor of the USRA earning over $5,000 per yer
- Any person receiving compensation from a racquetball manufacturer in excess of reasonable racquetball expenses and bonuses

If there is a question about reasonable racquetball expenses and bonuses, it will be reviewed by the ethics committee -
Motion - to accept ethics committee report and the requirements to serve on the Board of Directors of the USRA to take effect at the end of this board meeting. - Otto Dietrich
Second - Annie Muniz
Passed unanimously

Motion to reject nominating committee's slate of nominees for the board of directors due to the rejection of one nominee by the ethics committee due to conflict of interest - Otto Dietrich
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

It was later noted that Doug would not be qualified to serve as a voting member. This criteria may not all apply to athlete representative. Eric is charged with going to athltetes and finding out how what will work. Van gave thanks and compliments to Doug on his long time service to this Board and added that Doug's contributions were outstanding. The possibility was mentioned that there could be a perception that the conflict of interest move was made to exclude persons on this slate. Michelle has been notified that her candidacy could be a conflict problem. Doug submitted a verbal resignation before the meeting. Van accepted his resignation.

As a matter of record the ethics committee made note that the absence of board members for this meeting were as follows:
Malia Bailey - Unexcused
Dario Mas - Unexcused
Neil Shapiro - Excused

Motion to accept this as a matter of record - Annie Muniz director. Doug indicated he did not know of the raise in the women's prize on the Pro tour. This is not a problem for Doug, he feels that it is more than fair if the purse is to be increased. But it raises the prize purse, which could be some problem. Eric expressed concerns about a formula to be able to expain the divisor to the men's pro tour.

Motion: Janell Marriott - (with) in addition that the women's will receive at least half of the men's pro's prize money and increase the 1997 women's prize money by $2,500 to $17,500.
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed: Abstained Eric Muller and Michelle Gould - 8-0

Motion: Site Benefits - perks should be equal for both men and women: Carlton Vass
Comment: Eric agreed, feels that the the #6 woman works just as hard as the #6 male.
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed: Abstained, Eric Muller and Michelle Gould - 8-0

Motion: If U.S. Open is Televised, women should have 25% of the time and we will make our best effort to see that that happens. Janell Marriott
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed : 8-0 Michelle Gould and Eric Muller abstained

Doug - the whole idea of getting the pro's on TV is to drive the sport. Doug believes that men's racquetball is just more exciting to the audience. Carlton agrees, but does think we need to showcase women.

The president wanted to state that we do want to see equalization in the sport.
Motion: In the U.S. Open we will always include amateur divisions by: Michelle Gould
Second: Dario Mas
Passed: Eric Muller, No. Janell Abstained. 7-1

Adjourned 4:30 p.m.

year. Cellular One just re-signed their one year contract for three years. Wants the event to break even this year. If all that happens, what does the USRA do now. Doug feels we should try to establish a second Grand Slam event. Sites would be dictated by sponsor. Does not want to ask current sponsors to do more until we deliver in the area of TV. Feels the party is the unifying social event of the tournament. It is very big with the sponsors. Dario had questions as to pay back on the party. Doug feels it is important and must be a success. Theme this year, Memphis Celebrates the Pro's.

Much discussion about how it is determined to reward athletes at U.S. Open, especially with regards to how many men and how many females get the extra benefits at the U.S. Open. Doug's response was that everything was done by the numbers of each of the tours (men's and women's) that were involved.

Carlton Vass commented that he did not think in the beginning that the division was fair. In talking to Doug, some of the ladies, etc. he came to agree in principle with Doug's view. Carlton believed that Doug does have strong reasons for his decisions. Again, Doug reiterated that he used percentages of participation, moneys on the respective tours. The final prizes were about twice the usual prize money for each tour.(IRT and WIRT) Michelle likened the amateur sport to the pro tour as a comparison in giving prize money.(equal in amateur sports) Much discussion around the table. Tickets will be sold ahead 30 days in Memphis so that locals may participate. Will oversell in order to have fuller matches. Presented the cover for the program, etc. in black and white form. St. Jude still a beneficiary. Budget question, $50,000 for court rental? Racquet Club gets commission (20%) on sponsorships sold by their staff. ($2,000 to U of Memphis).

The president summed up the discussion and charged everyone with decision on prize money. Doug did want to state that he wouldn't accept anything with this regard that he can't stand up and defend. He does want input from the Board. The president wants everything to be put on hold. Everyone consider.

Neil wants to know if Doug can quantify increased sales, etc. Doug says no, interest in the tournament, sponsorship would be his yardstick.

Luke summed up his feelings. . . it comes down to equality. Please don't lose sight of the fact that a year ago this event didn't exist. We have six pages of changes that will take place. How do the amateurs feel about their experience. I don't think we should try to resolve this here. We don't want a major rift here. We want to work through this, not kill it. When we (the then AARA) did TV in the past, we had a problem then getting the women on. I want equality for them, but we have to work with it. [The Women's Pro's were very upset that the perks were not divided in even numbers between the men's and women's pro's] We need to know about complaints ahead of the board meeting. Neil did mention previous letters on the subject. Not directly to all the many matters brought up here.

Again, from Luke, this was great event, we don't want to kill it.
Motion to accept report: Carlton Vass
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimous

Item # 20 Media Kevin Vicroy

Got a lot of results with the Junior Olympics finals from players' local media.

Jim Turner was a big hit on the news in Albuquerque at WSRA

Sent in video, clubs, etc to Dave Letterman. Local media for Open has been great.

Luke mentioned that Kevin Vicroy volunteered to go to Albuquerque and did the coverage there.

Doug suggested to board that additional media training for Kevin Vicroy would be money very well spent. Otto supported that. They agreed that research should be done and see what sort of training is available in the area.

Motion to accept media report - Otto Dietrich
Second - Eric Muller
Passed Unanimously

International Keith Calkins
Orlando meeting with USOC will be attended by Keith Calkins and Luke St. Onge. Pan Ams - all is in order. Luke went to PASO meeting in Winnipeg.

$37,000 grant from the USOC for P.A.L. to bring racquetball to youth in the inner city to be administered by teh PAL, USOC, Ektelon, and the USRA. Thanks to Ektelon for their cooperation on the P.A.L. program. Ruben Gonzalez will be involved in creating the program - the same type of program that he came from. The USOC was very impressed that a sponsor (Ektelon) was involved. This is a four year program.

Feels good about our image in the USOC. We are very involved in the political process.

Additional games which may involve racquetball will be discussed for possible support from USOC.

Luke St. Ongle was at USOC meetings last weekend. Discussed bid cities for 2007 from U.S. Finished three day weekend with city officials interested in international competitions. Feels the networking involved is very beneficial.

PASO - Our involvement in the Technical Committee is very important part of this. Athletes will be upgraded in quality for 1999 Pan Am competitions.

Ground breaking for courts for World Championships in Cochabamba, Bolivia, took place with an enormous amount of news media response.

Tournament of Americas to be in Houston in 1999. YMCA would like it. $26,000 grant from

Motion: Concensus of the board is to talk to lawyer. Request Mike Arnolt's involvement with the lawyer. What is a reasonable timeframe? As soon as possible, see what happens with the lawyer.
Eric Muller
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously
Motion to accept report: Eric Muller
Second: Neil Shapiro
Passed Doug abstained - 8 for
Have legal opinion on liability ready for October Board meeting
Jim commented about safety and liability issues for all who work at tournament.

Item # 30 Awards Selection

Presidential	Jack and Helen Dunsmoor	X winner
	Jeff Wright	
Joe Sobek	Randy Stafford	
John Halverson	Brian Simpson	
	Craig Rappaport	
	Lorraine Galloway	X winner

Mike wanted to address the issue of no entries in a division and someone winning three awards without playing a match. No discussion.

Item #31 Adoption of 97-98 Budget
Motion: Accept budget with revisions noted in the minutes: Janell Marriott
Second: Michelle Gould
Passed unanimously

Personnel Commission Report
Staff left the room
Luke asked for 4.4% increase for staff raises to distribute as he sees fit.
Motion: Dario Mas
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

No written report

Item #33 New Business

Motion: Rename All Skill Division of the National Singles with A non-championship
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Motion: U.S. Open Women's Issues

Passed out a proposal. Wish to try to make things more equitable and still defendable by the

USRA Intercollegiate Action Plan 1997

1. Immediately have the intercollegiate program run from the National Office with an Intercollegiate Council as an advisory board.
   a) The program would be placed under the Program Services Department and administered by Jim Hiser.
   b) Other departments, such as Media, Member Services, and Membership would be support groups for the program.

2. Initial concentration would be on the competitive program with the recreational program a close second.

3. The authority and responsibility for the program will be vested in the National Office.

4. Jim Hiser and NIRSA member, Tim Miller, would travel to NIRSA Headquarters in Corvales, Oregon, to discuss mutual goals with the new Executive Director of NIRSA and the current short term Executive Director, Will Holsberry. The goal of the meeting would be to reestablish a relationship with NIRSA and find out what information on clubs, IMS, contacts, etc. there are available to us through their resources.

5. Based upon the results of the NIRSA meeting a similar meeting would be held with APHERD.

6. Based upon the information from these two meetings, we would determine the manpower needs and an action plan to acquire the additional information needed.

Competition Action Plan

1. In lieu of regionals, as we now understand them, establish a working relationship with states that would run a college division as a division in a major state event, preferably the State Championships, if they fall within the time frame.

2. Any college competing in these college division events would qualify for Nationals.

3. Colleges would qualify for Nationals . . . not individuals. This is the same polity used in IRF qualifying procedures.

4. Qualifying time line - October 1 through February 28

5. Reorganize the national entry form

6. Rename the various divisions as Gold - AAAA(4A) - AAA(3A) - AA(2A) so as to have a real difference between winners versus Gold, Red, White, and Blue.

7. Revamp and update the entire intercollegiate package of - handbook, tri-fold brochure, rulebook, regulations, rules poster.

application. Panacea wants to go to Junior Nationals and show the site and get matches up as soon as they are played.

Luke gave a brief outline of our marketing agreement with Artwear on our merchandise. Artwear will ship all goods. Linda informed the board that there will be a *RACQUETBALL Magazine* line of clothes.

Neil has no trouble with the name change to National Intercollegiates.

Site location 1998 - desires (warm, inexpensive to fly to) Florida had no appropriate site, California withdrew. Students from NE were the most in favor of Phoenix. Penn State expressed an interest, but site is not acceptable. Doug suggested a permanent location if it could work with this particular tournament. Neil was favorable.

Neil feels we need to mobilize the intercollegiates in the same way as USRA took on the US Open. Requests a plan to do this.

Site 1998 - Phoenix, Arizona
Motion: Neil Shapiro
Second: Shelly Ogden
Passed unanimously

Drop the word World from tournament title [U.S. National Intercollegiate Championships]
Motion: Janell Marriott
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Mandatory Regionals - Doug asked if not mandatory, if that would be the end of them. Neil thinks this should be run similar to the new procedure for the adult regionals. Doug wondered if running these with such limited resources is the best use. Maybe putting it all into a whiz bang National Event. There is not a lot of effort in the field for the regionals. Probably two would continue even if they were not mandatory. Eric feels it might be better to back off at this time. Neil thinks it may not work to have only the National - there is not much organization in the sport in individual areas of the country. Neil thinks the National would grow. There are good models east and west and regionals just haven't taken off. Money doesn't seem to solve the problem, at least the amount available. Neil is not comfortable taking away already organized events. Janell felt there is more access to the regionals. Janell thinks it's in place, the kids expect it. Jim Hiser pointed out a lot of the trouble is getting someone to run the regional tournaments. Linda suggested going to already scheduled events and get them to include the intercollegiates with their event. It came up that state championships might be good candidates. Neil wants to think about, thinks it may be a good idea.

Motion to change Rule 3.8(b): Carlton Vass
Second: Doug Ganim
Passed unanimously

Proposed change #2

Revise Rule 4.14(f), as well as any others related to it, to declare that any ball leaving the court results in the immediate loss of the rally by the person/team that hit it last.

Comment: The general membership voted 58 to 26 in favor of adopting this change. Most of the National Rules Committee favor its adoption too. The only exception was Rich Clay who likes the current rule better. In dissenting, he stated that the backwall is lower only for the benefit of viewer. He pointed out that shots high and hard off the back wall don't always result in a setup. Often this type of shot is skipped, missed, or simply not caught up with in time to hit at all. So it's not valid to assume that if the backwall had been higher, the opponent would have won the rally anyway.

Motion to revise Rule 4.14(f): Carlton Vass
Second: Dario Mas
Passed: Van Dubolsky and Janell Marriott voted no
8 for, 2 against.

Proposed change #3

Modify Rule 3.7(a), as well as any others related to it, to provide that if there are line judges, ANY call (or non-call) may be appealed except for technical fouls and forfeitures.

Comment: The general membership voted 50 to 38 in favor of adopting this change. The National Rules Committee also unanimously favors its adoption. Mike Arnolt says that Indianan has been using this concept in Indiana since January and he is (now) an avid supporter of this rule change. He says it seems to have a mellowing effect on the players.

Motion to modify Rule 3.7(a), as well as any others related to it: Michelle Gould
Second: Eric Muller
Passed unanimously

The proposals approved by the Board at this meeting will be put into effect on September 1, 1997.
Motion: Board ask the IRF rep to present a rule change Mike Arnolt
Luke: Amend to say submit 'out of court' rule to IRF for adoption.

Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Rules are going to be separated by rules and policy. Until further notice will remain as one, but will review and have divided by July/August issue rule magazine.

Item #9 USOC Luke St. Onge
Report is in book, nothing to add.
President commended Keith Calkins and Luke on their work with the USOC. Bonus was voted still in place for meeting all markers under High Performance Plan. Have met three of five to date. Keith commented on the following committee appointments - Games Prep Committee(Keith) and Member Services(Luke); Apparel Committee(Keith). We are pushing for Olympic rings on Pan Am uniforms. The possibility of the Pan Am Only sports' athletes getting together for action was brought up. There are five Pan Am Only sports. (roller skating, water skiing, bowling, karate, racquetball) The goal is especially for respect for Pan Am Only sports. We withdrew from the Pan Am group of sports because of disagreement over nominees to send to run for the executive committee. Eric would like an alternate athlete representative to help with committee meetings so that we are better represented in the ACC. Michelle Gould volunteered to do this. They will check with ACC to see how this can be done.
Motion: Eric Muller
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Item # 10 Membership Report Kevin Joyce
Referred the Board to the membership report; add Technical Committee Report. October 2-5, 1997, for the Board meeting. January 15-18, 1998, tentative dates for Leadership Seminar. General Membership meeting, Thursday, 7 p.m., May 22. Membership - goal to stay at 20,000. Passed around list ranking states by membership numbers. Collegiates will still keep their fees for their expenses. Good in the Northeast, want to spread that more throughout the U.S. AmPRO is collecting memberships with their fees so that expirations coincide. Oregon has joined our group. Got some new members from Ektelon promotion. About 3,000 member clubs. 1,500 magazine subscriptions. Foreign are in addition. There are some retail outlets who also get the magazine. Until 1993 all magazines mailed were lumped into one number as members. Complimentaries have been separated out and that does cut our numbers. This was done so that we are not paying insurance where it is not required. The numbers who are not members who are playing in sanctioned tournaments was discussed. It was suggested that we offer players a one time fee for one tournament with no magizine, etc. This is not like the rec membership, but just a one time fee, no other benefits. They didn't think it would be a liability issue. The problem with addressing this has always been there. There was discussion that nothing would make a big difference except just enforcement at the registration. It's difficult to use volunteers to enforce membership. Kevin Joyce mentioned that we upgraded the membership brochure telling about the association. It was brought up that states should be ranked per capita. The only way to get the membership problem solved would be to check tournament roster against membership data base. Relationship between states and national is changing. For the first time this past year we sanctioned directly one tournament. Half of the memberships are signed up by the states. 671 sanctioned events in 1996. Kevin pointed out that he has put out a booklet to help states with running and maintaining the state organizations. (The State President's Guidebook) This includes, insurance, sanctioning, board meeting, incorporation, etc. Talked about benefits of incorporation. Discussed leadership attendance. Luke pointed out that since 1992 all but four states have sent representatives at some time. Kevin went over many states individually as to activity, compliance, etc. Kevin discussed possible ways of encouraging compliance, running a tournament.

Executive Committee Minutes
Conference Call - August 20, 1997
8:00 p.m. EDT

In attendance: Van Dubolsky
Keith Calkins
Janell Marriott
Otto Dietrich

Executive Director - Luke St. Onge

Absent: Doug Ganim

USRA Eyeguard policy discussion -

The following eyeguard official policy was introduced by Otto Dietrich, USRA National Rules Commissioner and Executive Vice President. The policy as written has been the eyewear policy adopted by the board, except where amended to accommodate the recommendations of the USRA attorney, Bart Enoch.
It was moved by : Keith Calkins
Seconded by: Janell Marriott

That the following policy be adopted as amended:

All players must wear lensed eyewear that has been warranted by its manufacturer or distributor as (1) designed for use in racquetball and (2) meeting or exceeding either the full ASTM F803.94 standard or Canadian (CSA) impact standard. This rule applies to all persons, including those who wear corrective lenses. The eyewear must be unaltered and worn as designed at all times. A player who fails to wear proper eyewear will be assessed a technical foul and a timeout to obtain proper eyewear. A second infraction in the same match will result in immediate forfeiture of the match. The USRA will maintain and regularly publish a complete list of ALL eyewear that manufacturers have so warranted. Eyewear NOT on the then current list CANNOT be used in sanctioned events. An eyewear list with a date more than 60 days past will be deemed invalid for the purpose of determining compliance with this eyewear rule. [Otto's note: The preceding policy will also become Rule 2.5 (a).]

The current list of such eyewear will be;

- Available upon request from the USRA National Office
- Posted on the USRA's Internet Website
- Mailed to every State President with the monthly package
- Mailed to every director of a USRA sanctioned tournament with the tournament package

Eyewear will be added to the list as soon as a manufacturer notifies the USRA National Office in writing that a specific model(s) fully complies with the above criteria.

8. Develop a generic poster promoting the college division qualifying as well as the Nationals, to be distributed to all college contacts.

9. Redo point system to make it understandable and fair

10. Leave the format as it is

11. Appoint the Intercollegiate Council at the October Board Meeting

12. Leave the financial system in system in place similar to the U.S. Open
    a) Evaluate the financial needs once our current resources have been assessed.

Motion: Keith Calkins
Second: Otto Dietrich

Mail Ballot: Passed unanimously - votes on record at the USRA Headquarters
Van Dubolsky
Otto Dietrich
Janell Marriott
Doug Ganim
Keith Calkins

USRA Board Meeting
May 20, 1997 - 8:30 a.m.
Hyatt Regency Downtown Houston
Houston, Texas

Present	Absent
Van Dubolsky	Keith Calkins
Mike Arnolt	
Janell Marriott	
Doug Ganim	
Carlton Vass	
Neil Shapiro	
Eric Muller	
Michelle Gould	
Shelly Ogden	
Dario Mas	

Non-Board Members
Luke St. Onge, Executive Director
Dalene Werner, Recorder
Kevin Joyce, Staff
Linda Mojer, Staff
Jim Hiser, Staff
Kevin Vicroy, Staff

Item #20 Dario Mas Masters Report

Third week-end of April, Master's tournament. They may consider adding 45+ in male division. Numbers are not acceptable at current age brackets. Discussion as to why the numbers are dropping off so much. Doug strongly disagrees with adding 45+ age bracket so close to USRA regionals. He feels the Masters should expand numbers in current age brackets. Tap the continual flow of players into the age bracket as it stands today. Try to find out why the numbers dropped off so much this year. Try promotion to this group as they turn 55.
Motion to accept: Janell Marriott
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Item #21 Marketing Report Luke St. Onge
Doug Ganim was asked to leave.

Discussion of the Joint Marketing program of the USOC. Olympic sports get $125,000. They are offering Pan Am Only sports $25,000. We would have to give up marketing opportunities to some categories. We have not seen a contract at this time. We are negotiating with Samsung. Verbally, Ho Kim stated there would be $50,000 for the U.S. Open. We would have to make a decision on the joint marketing. Discussed Doug Ganim's strategy in looking for sponsorship for the U.S. Open. Atlanta was not a positive experience from the point of view of joint marketing.

It was suggested that legislative committee handle follow-up on action items

Item #5 Legislative Action Van Dubolsky

Governance Manual discussed, also suggested legislative committee have the responsibility to update this document.

Code of Ethics document read to the board and discussed. Van wants board to consider using such a document for this board. Will be addressed tomorrow.

Motion: Neil Shapiro
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Item #6 Financial Report Keith Calkins

Complimented Melody Weiss on her information and the job she does in keeping up and keeping the board informed. There was a good audit in October. Feels that the financial condition is better than it has ever been. Referred the board to the report in the board book through May 12. It was noted that USRA is not spending more than is taken in. At this point virtually all bills are paid. Bad debts are going to have to be purged at approximately $23,000. Total assets at $597,000, does not include magazine. Total liabilities of $398,000. Accounts payable have been reduce by $80,000 since October 1996. A consolidation of debt of $120,000 is being applied for. Feels that financial condition will be improved by end of fiscal year, May 30, 1997.

Luke is on Member Services Committee, USOC. Base from USOC will be $284,000 for next three years. Luke gave a report on background to financial decision. Argued to the committee to have cap removed on Pan Am Only sports. As it is now new sports take a portion from existing sports. Committee voted to request that the USOC come up with money for new sports.

Mike Arnolt, referring to report, asked policy of replacing complimentary mags with subscriptions. Delay to budget discussion.

Luke St. Onge was approved for PASO Technical Committee (only US representative); position will help preserve racquetball as part of Pan Ams for next 12 years.

Motion to accept financial report: Dario Mas
Second: Carlton Vass
Additional discussion regarding joint marketing with USOC. Eric Muller requested that cash flow report to be included in financial report.
Passed: Unanimously

Item #7 Budget Keith Calkins

Budget is put together by staff. Board reviews it and allows the meeting time for changes, questions, etc. and delays approval until the last day. Page two on report - membership number is perhaps a little too high in the report. Money was collected on 20,600 members. Discussion spoke to Jim Winterton's concerns.

Motion to Table until tomorrow after Jim Hiser consults with Jim Winterton - USOTC space may be reserved for camp and decision made later.

Coach's Committee - Keith Calkins

Jim Murphy and Fran Davis 'Coach of the Year', recognized in Orlando, 1997. Will be looking for nominees for next year. Report of the Coaching seminar. We were grouped with four of the 'big' sports at that seminar. Report on the coaching development program within the committee. Coaches Association will be created.

Coaching Manual was presented to the board, recently finished, primarily written by Jim Hiser, contributing Jim Winterton and Keith Calkins. Jim Hiser presented over-heads detailing certifying coaches, with regard to risk management education, coaching competencies at levels one and two, sport safety education, and ethics. Sport Safety certification is a cooperative program with the Red Cross. Eric feels that the coach's program is more applicable for Elite Camp instructors than AmPRO certification. How could we change that? Jim says this could simply be adopted as the requirement for Elite Camp and Junior camp program instructors.

Motion to change from AmPRO to Level I coach's certification to qualify to coach at elite or junior team camps - Eric Muller
Second Julee Nicolia
Passed - Unanimously

Motion to accept U.S. Team report - Eric Muller
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Item #8 Intercollegiates - Jim Hiser

Asked for questions on new collegiate guidelines. Pat Bernardo is inputting collegiate information into a data base. Only 10 states have responded to using one of their state tournaments with a collegiate regional division to qualify colleges for their nationals. The Northeast will continue to have an Intercollegiate Regional. Eric asked for the goals using the college information. One is to try to be sure their instructors are AmPRO certified. Annie says each board member in Texas goes to a college and teaches the instructors. We are going to contact the colleges with instruction materials and book referrals. Neil would like to get a group together who would be in the field to go in and help colleges. The Texas program was suggested as a good topic for the 1998 Leadership Conference. It was a main concern to get into the colleges with qualified instructors. It was reiterated that this is the big feeder system for racquetball.

Motion to accept the Intercollegiate report - Keith Calkins
Second - Shelley Ogden
Passed Unanimously

Item #17 Communications Update Linda Mojer and Kevin Vicroy

Linda very pleased to have Kevin Vicroy with the organization. He has been very successful. New direction for the magazine, big names are going to be stressed more. To get better (more like Tennis) will cost more money. Is this how we want to go? Neil wants to know what the impact. More subscriptions, a marketable product to the rec player. Then we will have more advertisers.

Eric Muller wants to know why we separate costs with the magazine from the USRA. He doesn't want the magazine entirely separate, just as a tool of the USRA. Luke addressed this, we must allocate a value to each page, advertising, subscription. We can't look at it as costing nothing. Mike Arnolt commented that the magazine has gone way beyond a house organ. We must have the advertising to increase the size of magazine.

Doug believes that all color would be the next step before size. Mike Arnolt feels quality and quantity editorial would be first. Linda pointed out that she does have to leave out much each publication. Luke commented that the future is in subscriptions. We're pretty well maxed out in advertising.

Linda reported on the state of the Web site. This issue of the magazine is on the site. Getting the order sheet on line and a subscription form are two of the next items to be gotten on line. There were 45,000 hits last month (April) alone.

Linda will be putting on site the days results of the tournament. Also a daily newsletter will be put out throughout the tournament.

Kevin Vicroy gave a report on what progress he has been making getting in the newspapers.

Motion: Neil Shapiro
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Motion to adjourn: Eric Muller
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Comments - High Performance, in order to develop credibility will need support of manufacturers. High profile players would be a very positive addition. Commended Eric on the Junior Camp.

Item #23 Membership Kevin Joyce

Numbers have stayed stable. Kevin explained having purged non actives from active competitive members for insurance purposes (much less costly) so numbers are not actually down very much from 1993 and previous. Mentioned the fact that Oregon is progressing as a new adult membership organization. We had a graduated membership fee in order to get them started and in the organization. Illinois has a travel league, not really event, more travel leagues are signing up members - the insurance is a draw for this. New York will be coming in this year and Oregon is covered with their High School team. Asked them to refer to the insurance information in the board book. The new membership cards are now out with USRA. Told the board that an order brochure and decal with welcome brochure will be sent with membership cards. Explained and showed the board the State Presidents Guidebook. Leadership Conference Jan 15-19, 1998. Will be making some changes in what we are going to address. The Wallpaper goes out every two months as a rule. Talked about upgrading reports that we get from the USOTC. Everything is alpha by area or by state. Regional problem with rankings was addressed. Kevin would like a follow-up note sent after our Nationals, thanks, place, etc. Still get sometimes whole season memberships at end of season. It was mentioned that we really need to be firmer about this. We need to understand that sometimes it's people who are very active in USRA/State, but just not responsive in this area. Tyler may be trained to make calls to follow-up on tournaments. The board feels we should be firming following up. Annie feels a board member could have some responsibility for this area. Annie would be willing to help in this area. Kevin wants to focus on this at Leadership 1998. Annie feels making a plan to pick a number of trouble states and work with them, then keep moving to other states. It also gives the USRA a bad reputation with the membership, they paid but don't get anything for months. The Board had a sense of this needing to be addressed. People who are in arrears should not be rewarded with honored types contract employment, etc. The membership committee should be involved. The board may decide to take a different direction in dealing with this. Doug asked for a list in a letter detailing who and where the problems are. Discussion - renewal should be a renewal if they are in a tournament the month of expiration, they must remain. The contract is for 12 months and you cannot short the member a month. The sense of the board was that members go in from date of tournament. Kevin uses discretion with regard to very late returns. Manufacturers will cooperate with getting compliance. Board supports steps taken (rankings in magazine) in order not to list non-members.

Kevin addressed risk management. Kevin is keeping states apprised and referred the board to the report in the board book. Noted the reduction in costs of insurance over the years. (purging files of non active members, clubs, dignitary, etc.) Again referred the board to the Presidents Guidebook with info on this subject. Discussed the Codes of Conduct we are using. Passed sanctioning brochure around for the Board to peruse.

Motion to accept - Janell Marriott

Motion for no further comps for national tournaments - everyone pays entry fee by - Doug Ganim
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Board charged Executive Director to make a presentation on any perks to be considered in October.

Item #13 AmPRO Jim Hiser/Michelle Gould

Update from Leadership Conference included. Meeting marker on numbers of 175 new members. Certification Instructor Manual will be redone this summer. Fall 1997 Coaching Clinic. Laid out new direction of AmPRO. IHRSA is publicizing this program. Quite a few calls in response to their ad. Luke talked about IHRSA's enthusiasm for racquetball. Will highlight a club's successful racquetball program. Making a real effort to sell clubs on racquetball programmers. Real interest in the profit factor per court. Cover story CBI on club programming. Question - any effort to involve the pro's in certification? Not a big program, but Ektelon has expressed an interest in their pro's being certified. Perhaps celebrity might be worth having them certified for the benefit of the sport. Doug felt we should develop special exam for this type of certification and recruit them actively. Eric Muller feels this is a natural cooperative effort with pro's and amateurs. Doug suggested marquee players and then pro's who already teach especially at camps. Michelle mentioned a number of big names who are certified or are becoming certified.

Luke commented on the tremendous job Michelle has done.

Motion to accept AmPRO report: Mike Arnolt
Second: Carlton Vass
Passed unanimously

Item #14 U.S. Team Jim Hiser

Redistributed funds to divide evenly among the team; no additional funds. Next year two IRF events. Will have to redistribute the same amount again. Problem World's next year - singles and team. Now money is in team events. No money in singles. Markers not established yet. Much discussion as to how the Worlds will be rewarded.

Jim Winterton's recommendations for team leaders and support staff for U.S. Team travel.
"For upcoming trips I would like to suggest":

Team Leader and Level 3 referee - Pan Am Qualifying 1998 - Marc Auerbach
Team Leader and Level 3 referee - World Championships 1998 - Otto Dietrich
Team Leader and Level 3 referee - Pan Am Games 1999 - Van Dubolsky (with alternate being Otto Dietrich)

Team Trainer - Russ Kippen did an outstanding job on this trip and the athletes loved the job he did. I would like to request Russ for the Pan Am qualifying and the World Championships in 1998. If the USOC assigns us a trainer for the Pan Ams . . . I understand. I also suggest we give Russ a probationary appointment rather than tell him he has the next two or three trips. This will give him incentive.

USRA Board Meeting
Hyatt Regency
Houston, Texas
May 18, 1997 8:00 a.m.

Present

Van Dubolsky
Mike Arnolt
Janell Marriott
Keith Calkins
Doug Ganim
Carlton Vass
Neil Shapiro
Eric Muller
Michelle Gould
Shelly Ogden
Dario Mas

Non-Board Members
Luke St. Onge, Executive Director
Dalene Werner, Recorder
Kevin Joyce, Staff
Linda Mojer, Staff
Jim Hiser, Staff
Kevin Vicroy, Staff
John Kelley,
Councilman, President Houston International Sports Committee

Item #1 **Welcome** Van Dubolsky

Item #2 **Roll Call** Janell Marriott

Item #3 **Approval of Executive Board Minutes**

Corrections none

Motion: Keith Calkins
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Item #4 **Approval of October 1996 minutes as submitted** Janell Marriott
Discussion Mike Arnolt wants a synopsis of action items and some means of checking on follow-up. Suggested that these be followed and reported by the president.

Corrections none
Motion to approve minutes as submitted: Keith Calkins
Second: Mike Arnolt
Passed unanimously

New Business

Luke stated that he really appreciates the direction the board is taking. Wants to move outside the industry for sponsors. The Open has opened the door. Enjoys working with this board.

Van states that he has fulfilled the evaluation of the Executive Director using the appropriate document.

Otto commented on the fact that the board strongly feels there should either be more revenue or less expenses, or both. He wants to find out where we stand with regard to other NGBs Eric's analysis showed that that is an area where we could have the greatest gain.

Dave Peck thanked the board for inviting him to sit in. Felt it was very enlightening to be here, was impressed. On behalf of Ektelon we need to know that the economics are right with their involvement.

Van thanked Dave Peck for his attendance. We appreciate the sponsorship efforts.

Shelley Ogden wants the board to entertain the idea of an advisory staff from manufacturers - participating in board meetings, etc.

Dave Peck is here on behalf of Ektelon - from his point of view is it's good to know what is happening - important not to try to influence this organization from inside. The human tendency would be there.

Dave thinks that is valid, but does think with multi manufacturers involved. It is more of an appearance of possible conflict, but that is important.

Does think racquetball industry should be involved with feedback, with many areas - the education of the manufacturers is important. Annie feels uncomfortable with the manufacturers present. Maybe agenda items could be handled with out an advisory board, i.e. manufacturers. Agrees if they are just for part of the meetings and not get the whole book.

Motion to adjourn Keith Calkins
Second Shelley Ogden
Adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

NGBs are independent in marketing until or unless the USOC buys our rights. Eric feels we should stay independent. Doug thinks at the least negotiate for a better deal. Perhaps just include regionals, juniors, or something of that type. Samsung signed into the Olympic program with Ho Kim negotiating. Ektelon and Penn contracts will be expiring soon. Gave a brief outline of anti trust problems with ball companies some years ago. We approve balls for racquetball, beyond that we can have an official ball for the organization. Explained problems with the last negotiations with Penn, Penn can meet the highest bid for one more year; if no other bids, they may repeat one more year. Ektelon may repeat on same terms for one more year. Talked about other contracts with different manufacturers from the industry. Luke stated that our position is we will not accept less. Head's strategy is to sponsor individual players. The big future is outside the industry. We can do this in our current contracts with our tournaments. Visa MBNA Gold is coming with a mileage attachment. We expect to hear discouraging info from Ektelon and Penn, but we are going hang in there. Would like the board to authorize the Executive Board to act on the contracts.

Historical equipment from racquetball came up for discussion. Randy Stafford has a pretty complete collection. Neil wanted to know if we have filled in any gaps in our magazine. Luke invited the board to the RIA meeting on Thursday morning. The new figures from SGMA (+500,000) showing an increase in racquetball participation were mentioned as a very positive thing for the sport.
Motion: Janell Marriott
Second: Dario Mas
Passed unanimously

Item #22 Intercollegiate Report Neil Shapiro

Neil mentioned we did not go to APHERD even though it was strongly encouraged. He feels that this is something of great value. Collegiates feel regionals should not be mandatory. Neil feels they would disappear if they were not mandatory. Mary Lyon's Florida tournament did not go. Recommends finding a regional person to head up this area. National Intercollegiates were very successful, though an expensive site for Easterners to reach. ACRA, Neil feels is nearly dead. Wishes to resign at this time. Has some suggestion for transfer of obligations. Neil does feel the Intercollegiate Website was hugely successful. Intercollegiate Tournament - Jim Hiser felt the LOC was very efficient and the tournament was maybe the best all around. He felt closing on Saturday night was very positive. There was very good local press. Neil recommends Pat Barnardo may be very good with the collegiate program. He runs the Web Site. Neil would be willing to mentor him. The president brought up the issue of mandatory regionals for discussion. Task Force feels it is too expensive for college students and numbers have not increased. Money for both regionals and nationals seems to be a problem. Neil just feels that it is a good thing to nurture for developing a habit of going to regionals. Neil brought up the problem of keeping the Web Site updated, acknowledges time constraints. Neil has strong feelings about the Web Site issue; to make it accessible to as many as possible. Would like to upload instructional videos right on the site. Neil feels exclusivity is not an issue. Linda absolutely agrees on the value of the Web Site. It is a huge job with intercollegiates being one segment. Exclusivity is no longer an issue. This was taken care of at Leadership Conference. Neil feels we must update technically in the office and probably need another person to assist in the web area. Linda stressed that she is not at all unresponsive, time is a constraint. Our order sheets will go on the web and a membership

Item #12 Tournament Commissioner Report Report included in book. Jim Hiser
Accurate breakdown of tournament budgets. Oregon has asked to bid on the 1999 High Schools. Wants to propose three year plan. 98 St. Louis, 99 Oregon, back to St. Louis in 2000

Motion to accept three year plan as noted above: Carlton Vass
Second: Dario Mas
Pass unanimously

Junior Worlds would like to have a banquet. They are working on sponsorship.

Intercollegiate - eligibility problem from the Pueblo team. Non degree students (two). The registrar of their school said they were not matriculated full time students. Double checked and they could not be eligible. Had talked to the coach previously and informed him. Coaching peer group made the decision that they could not play. No reply to Jim Hiser's letter to the coach which was copied to the school president.

Neil Shapiro wants to know about the site selection (Phoenix) and the date and what went into the decision. Considerations were that it would conflict with regional weekend or an important pro stop. He thought the decision had been made to have this on the East Coast. Neil doesn't think it would conflict with the Pro Stop. Doug felt this would not be a spirit of cooperation with the pro's to have a major amateur event during one of their major events. Intercollegiate March 25-29, 1998. There is no venue large enough in the warm area of Florida. They like to finish on Saturday before the banquet. Neil Shapiro will talk to Margo Daniels regarding the site selection.

Motion to accept site and date for 1998 and accept Phoenix for Intercollegiate Nationals:
by Doug Ganim
Second: Eric Muller
Passed unanimously

Discussion as to whether the National Singles winners should continue to have to qualify at regional.

The Board felt the rule should remain, with everyone having to qualify.

Luke made the decision that the pro division in Las Vegas would qualify by playing only that division. Discussion how that's going to be handled in the future.
Motion: Any division of any regional will qualify - by Eric Muller
Second: Janell Marriott
Passed: Mike Arnolt opposed; 10 for.

Discussion Luke St Onge
All players who play in National Events must pay their entry fee . . . no comps; Doug Ganim agrees there should be no comps

Sports organization in Houston for this event.

Struggling with IOC invitation to Lausanne. Luke St. Onge feels it is very important that he be allowed to attend, thus far only Presidents are invited.

Will be sending one less team member to international competitions. It is to the benefit of poorer countries. The #3 singles player will be dropped - A team will now consist of (8) players as opposed to the current 10.
Motion to accept the International Report Otto Dietrich
Second Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Item #22 Programs Jim Hiser

Referred the board to AmPRO report, programming manual is done, coaching manual is done, we are hitting USOC markers on certifying clinicians. Doug referred to last board meeting to agreement to reach out to pro players by grandfathering in the top 10 of both male and female pro's except for the written exam. This was not done. Wants to suggest again that this be done. Van wants the board to speak on this. Annie thinks we can direct how we want this done. Doug suggested going to the IRT for support on this. The bottom line is that Jim is the supervisor... he can outline how the board wants this done.

Consensus of the board to have Luke St. Onge and Jim Hiser work out a method how to get some marquee players in the program. Direct Michelle how this is to be done.

Annie wants a method with AmPRO members not to have to renew USRA membership when they already have a membership. There was a lot of discussion with regard to AmPRO collecting USRA memberhip regardless of the status of their membership. This is Jim Hiser's area and the board wants him to resolve the problem situation between AmPRO and the states.

Motion - AmPRO should make sure all are members, if they do need to collect membership turn memberships into USRA for processing just as is done with a tournament. Otto Dietrich
Second Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

New club workbooks will have to be put out at our expense. Manufacturers will be at IHRSA to support keeping racquetball courts in the fitness industry. SGMA, USRA, RIA will have a major promotion at City Square Sports Club during the IHRSA convention.
Motion to accept programs report - Otto Dietrich
Second - Carlton Vass
Passed Unanimously

Board broke for dinner and committee meetings then reconvened 9:30 p.m. All board members were present as listed on the first page except Doug Ganim. Non-Board members present - Luke

Executive Committee Meeting
October 8, 1997
Conference Call 5:00 MDT

Attendance - Van Dubolsky
Keith Calkins
Eric Muller
Janell Marriott
Otto Dietrich

Luke St. Onge

Discussion was centered on the negotiations with Ektelon regarding the extension of the contract. Agreement was reached to have final negotiations at the National Doubles in Phoenix and to either have an agreement or not have an agreement.

Executive Committee Meeting
Lexington/City Square - Phoenix, Arizona
October 25, 1997

In Attendance -	Van Dubolsky	Absent - consulted by phone
	Eric Muller	Keith Calkins
	Otto Dietrich	Janell Marriott
	Luke St. Onge	

Motion - to accept the Ektelon extension of the USRA contract through 1998 - Otto Dietrich
Second Van Dubolsky
Passed Unanimously

Second - Keith Calkins
Passed Unanimously

Motion to adjourn - Keith Calkins
Second - Janell Marriott
Passed unanimously

Adjourned at 10:15 p.m.