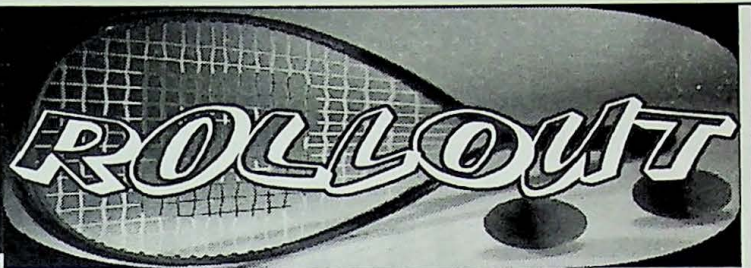




The New Hampshire Racquetball Association



Vol. 6, Issue 4



The USRA Affiliate in New Hampshire

January 2004

Don't Stand Still This New Year!!

Hi Everyone,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope this new year will be filled with good health and happiness. This is always a time for both reflection and looking forward, you know, out with the old, in with the new! Looking back we have accomplished some great things as the NHRA. Looking forward, I can only imagine where we can go.

In the immediate future, the B/C Challenge at Great Bay is coming as well as State Doubles in Portsmouth and "The Mitch" held at Manchester and Nashua. This is a very good start to a great year, so Lets GO! Enter some tourneys, bring some friends to play! You will either move forward or move backward, but just don't stand still! Improve on what you can, and accept the things you can't control and work around them. Let's play some racquetball, have some fun, and have a great 2004!

Happy New Year!
Kelley

The Wide Angle Pass: It's a Killer!

By: Rick Sorenson
Reprinted from RacquetballCatalogue.com

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Is there a shot that feels better than blasting a kill shot from the back wall while your opponent stands there watching it roll back to him or her? Probably not, but there is a shot that can get the same result without the relatively high degree of difficulty that goes along with back wall kill shots. That shot is the wide-angle cross court passing shot.

A wide-angle passing shot is a shot that originates from one side of the court, striking the opposite side wall on the fly, eighteen inches high, even with your opponent's relative court position. There are numerous reasons to go with this very effective shot when you're presented with the option of a kill versus a wide-angle pass. As mentioned earlier, low, hard kill shots inherently have a very small tolerance for error, especially when attempted from the back wall. When you miss "low" on a kill, you've skipped the ball and lost the rally. If your opponent has made the correct "read" and you miss your kill shot high, then they're probably in good position to either retrieve the kill shot effectively or even re-kill your shot. In either case, your opponent is probably in the front court and you're in the back court, thus leaving you in a potentially vulnerable position.

The wide-angle pass, on the other hand, offers these advantages: If you miss low, the shot will still be high enough to avoid a skip, and, if hit with the correct angle, can still be a winning shot. If you miss high, but hit the correct

(Continued on page 3)

NHRA Board Members

Tips & Tidbits from the Board

BASIC RATINGS

Ratings reflect skill levels and differ from rankings and seeding

(reprinted from the Colorado Racquetball Association Publication)

LEVEL & EXPERIENCE COMPETITION	TECHNIQUES	ABILITY
Pro... is the highest level of play.	May retain amateur eligibility if all prize money is deposited with the USRA & applied against expenses.	Plays Pro Tour, Pro/AM and any tournaments that offer prize money.
Open... is the highest level of Amateur play.	Rated higher than an 'A' player and probably coaches or gives lessons.	Plays in most tournaments—local, state, regional. National...has completed clinics or attended Elite Camp.
"A" ...is someone who plays regularly & is a top club player.	Trains regularly, backhand/forehand strokes are nearly equal, can hit many shots, can kill the ball, and re-kills opponent's offensive shots!	Plays sanctioned events, may seek to participate in Elite Camp, has a coach or is seeking a coach.
"B" ...is someone who plays regularly and finds time to practice on their own to perfect shots.	Has a good knowledge of the game, possesses court strategy, selects proper shots most of the time, is inconsistent, seeks help from others to improve.	Shows interest in lessons & clinics, plays in most club leagues, tournaments, shuttles and round robins.
"C" ...is someone who has played over 6 months, plays frequently, and is developing strength in the basics.	Can execute some shots with precision, knowledge of the game is rising, can safely attempt pinches, passing shots, and an occasional kill shot!	Has taken lessons & attended clinics, has started to play small tournaments & has a 2d racquet.
"D" ...is someone who is just starting to receive instruction but lacks playing experience.	Is learning safety rules, forehand & backhand strokes, experiments with Z serves, back wall shots, angles and passing shots.	Is ready to start playing in the club leagues and participate in friendly competition.

Kelley
Beane

Tony
Bruzzese

Chris
Zalegowski

Mike
Normand

John
Varrill

Owen
McGarrahan

Suzanne
Gale

Ron
Bouchard

Ron
Bye

Newsletter

Editor

Stacey
Bruzzese

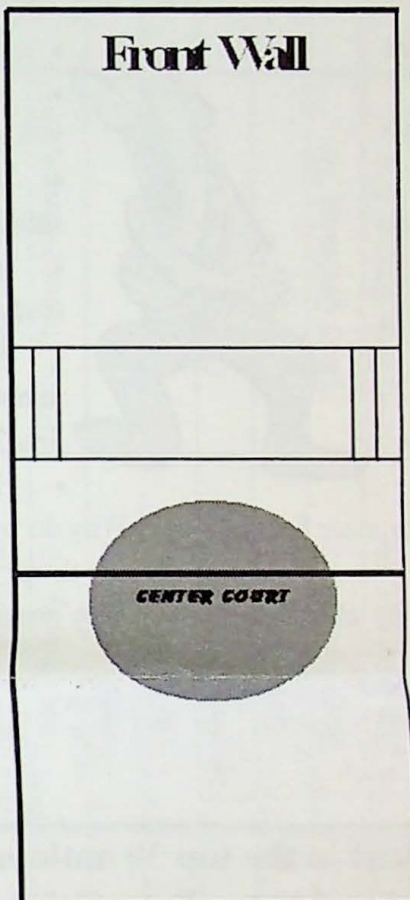
The Magic Circle

By: Steve Parker
Reprinted from RacquetballCatalog.com

Are you running around the court chasing every ball? Do you always feel like you're out of position? Well, you probably are. I bet you haven't found the Magic Circle. What's the Magic Circle? It's a 3' circle located in center court just behind the dotted receiving line. Why do I call it a Magic Circle? Well, stand in the circle and hit a few balls around the court and see where the balls go. Unless the ball is a down the line, the majority of balls will come

I am not advocating planting yourself in the Magic Circle, but you should fight for this position to retrieve a high percentage of shots. You should always watch your opponent to determine shot selection from their feet, hand and ball position. And, you should always have your hands up in a ready position, like a short stop ready for a hit. All of the techniques will assist you in setting up for a killer shot.

Find a little voodoo in the Magic Circle. Try it out today.



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Wide Angle Pass Cont'd

By: Rick Sorenson

(Continued from page 1)

angle, your opponent may be able to track the ball down off the back wall, but will most probably be hitting it while on the move, and will definitely be in the back of the court. In this case, at least they will be playing from 35 feet while you're at 25 feet. Of course the tolerance for error on the wide-angle cross court pass is much higher in terms of skipping the shot prior to the front wall. Also, a healthy diet of wide-angle passes goes a long way toward keeping your opponent on the move and prevents them from covering too aggressively up front. It also provides you the opportunity to move to the front of the court each time your opponent vacates the front to retrieve a wide-angle pass.

Overall, the wide-angle cross court passing shot, while not as sexy, or even fun, is a very solid alternative to the back wall kill shot. You can hit the wide-angle pass consistently, safely, and with just as much effectiveness as a kill shot, and you can do it while routinely moving your opponent around the court and having them hit on the run. So when you're warming up, don't just hit back wall kill shot after kill shot. Try a few wide-angle cross court passes. You'll be glad you did!

Avoiding the Avoidable

By: Steve Parker
Reprinted from RacquetballCatalog.com

Wow, where do you begin on Avoidable Hinders? The quick and dirty answer from the USRA is "If your court position or manner takes away an offensive shot from your opponent, the right thing to do is call an avoidable hinder on yourself." If you hinder your opponent's offensive shot, intentional or not, then you lose the rally. The key word in all this is offensive, not defensive.

If your opponent has a "true" kill shot, then well, you lose. If they are off balance moving into position and trying to make a defensive play on the ball, it's probably just a hinder. Unless of course, you're playing #1 Jason Mannino, the dive master. So remember, offensive equals avoidable hinder and defensive is just a gold old fashion hinder.

Questions to Ponder for the New Year!

Submitted By: Ron Bouchard
Reprinted with permission from Racquet Racket

- Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?
- Why is the third hand on a watch called the second hand?
- If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
- If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he get the words?
- Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?
- Why do "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?
- Why do "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing.
- Why do tug boats push their barges?
- Why do we sing "Take me out to the ballgame" when we're already there?
- Why are they called 'stands' when they are made for sitting?
- Why is it called 'after dark' when it is really 'after light'?
- Doesn't 'expecting the unexpected' make the unexpected expected?
- Why are a 'wise man' and a 'wise guy' opposites?
- Why do 'overlook' and 'oversee' mean opposite things?
- Why is phonics not spelled the way it sounds?
- If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it?
- If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
- If you are cross-eyed and have dyslexia can you read all right?
- Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?
- How come 'abbreviated' is such a long word?
- Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?
- Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?



The Local Favorites

**NH Players ranked in the top 30 nationally, as of 9/15/03
from November—December 2003 online edition of *Racquetball* magazine**

Chris Zalegowski: Men's Open, #20; 25+, #20
 Gary Walsh: Men's B, #28
 Scott Stoodley: Men's C, #4
 Ken Scherer: Men's C, #17
 Carl Hassum: Men's D, #18
 Greg West: Men's Novice, #1
 Chuck Gates, Men's 40+, #28
 Sid Bird: Men's 50+, #24
 Mitch Milewski: Men's 60+, #8
 Bob Drouin: Men's 65+, #8
 Dick Lowell: Men's 65+, #30
 Norbert LeCompte: Men's 70+, #12; 65+ A/B, #3(T)
 Ken Hardman: Men's 70+, #21; 60+ C/D, #8(T); 65+ A/B, #3(T)
 Lee Monks: Men's 25+ C/D, #6(T)
 Joe Richards: Men's 45+ C/D, #21(T)
 Ron Bouchard: Men's 55+ C/D, #16; 60+ C/D, #8(T); 65+ A/B, #1(T); 65+ C/D, #1(T)
 Kian Fuertes: Boy's 8-, #16
 Beau Breton: Boy's 12-, #14; Boy's 14-, #30
 Gavin Bennett: Boy's 14-, #21
 Mike Keddie: Boy's 16-, #3; Men's 24-, #20; 24- A/B, #16

Pat Sims: Women's A, #4
 Deb Irvine: Women's A, #17; B, #20; 45+ A/B, #8(T)
 Jean Lerch: Women's C, #3; 45+ C/D, #3
 Teresa LaBrie: Women's C, #4
 Sharon Shapiro: Women's C, #7; 40+ C/D, #1
 Suzanne Gale: Women's C, #14
 Cathy Doucet: Women's D, #6; 35+ C/D, #8(T)
 Kim Roy: Women's D, #9
 Martha Robinson: Women's D, #21; 35+ C/D, #12(T)
 Ceci Carpenter: Women's D, #24
 Tracie Madore: Women's Novice, #12
 Lisa Koolman: Women's 30+, #19
 Ann Doucette: Women's 30+, #26
 Kelley Beane: Women's 30+, #30; 35+, #26; 40+, #20
 Diane Weissbach: Women's 35+, #23
 Patty Thomas-Danos: Women's 45+ A/B, #16(T)
 Lauren Lydon: Girl's 8-, #4
 Rebecca Nader: Girl's 8-, #8
 Shannon Larkin: Girl's 8-, #16

2003 CAPITOL OPEN

At The Racquet Club of Concord, Oct. 31st - Nov. 2nd

DIVISIONS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
MENS OPEN	Scott Reiff, NH	Dave Barnes, RI	Troy Bloom, NH	Alok Mehta, MA
MENS A	Scott Robinson, NH	Tom Christy, NH	Jerome Jackson, MA	Lee Bailey, NH
MENS B	Matt Sicilia, MA	Jon Dyer, NH	Steve Foote, NH	Greg West, NH
MENS C	Andy Whitman, NH	Greg West, NH	Ed Gauntt, NH	Carl Hassum, NH
MENS D/NOV.	Timothy Whitman, NH	Gavin Bennett, NH	David Lynch, NH	
MENS 35+	Don Barrows, MA	John Badger, MA	Jeff Parsons, NH	Bruce Gagnon, NH
WOMENS A	Pat Sims, ME	Kim Skerry, RI	Patty Thomas-Danos, MA	Deb Irvine, NH
WOMENS B	Ruth Brady, NH	Jean Lerch, NH		
WOMENS C	Jean Lerch, NH	Ruth Brady, NH	Sara Schultz, NH	Shelli Boucher, NH
WOMENS D	Jane Scobi, NH	Martha Robinson, NH	Christy Ebbs, NH	Tia Merrill, NH
WOMENS NOV.	Christy Ebbs, NH	Deb Cole, NH		
<u>MENS OPEN DOUBLES</u>	Rick DeCastro, MA	Dave Barnes, RI	Larry DeSorbo, NH	John Varrill, NH
	Alok Mehta, MA	Don Barrows, MA	Troy Bloom, NH	Scott Robinson, NH
<u>MENS 'A' DOUBLES</u>	Murray Aldous, NH	Norm Boucher, NH	Dave Lane, NH	
	Dick Dyer, NH	Jerome Brewer, NH	Peter Oliver, NH	
<u>MENS 'B/C' DOUBLES</u>	Jon Dyer, NH	Steve Foote, NH	Ed Gauntt, NH	Eric LaFleur, NH
	Bob Burgess, NH	Bill Taranovich, NH	John Lynch, NH	Mike Michaelis, NH
<u>WOMENS 'A' DOUBLES</u>	Cindy Aldous, NH	Pat Sims, ME	Cathy Desmarais, NH	Ana Veiga, NH
	Carmen Dyer, NH	Deb Irvine, NH	Judy LaFrance-Foote, NH	Patty Thomas-Danos, MA
<u>WOMENS 'B/C' DOUBLES</u>	Chris Sabbow, NH	Jean Lerch, NH		
	Doris Tweedy, NH	Sara Schultz, NH		
<u>MIXED A/B DOUBLES</u>	Cathy Desmarais, NH	Judy LaFrance-Foote, NH	Ana Veiga, NH	Doris Tweedy, NH
	Dan Story, NH	Tom Christy, NH	Dick Dyer, NH	Norm Fecteau, NH

2003 REGIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

November 8th at the Nashua Athletic Club, Nashua, NH

DIVISION	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH
<u>MEN'S 'A'</u>	BRIAN FARRAR	DICK DYER	MARCO LABONTE	STEVE PROVINS
	BRIAN PYNN	SEAN O'LEARY	RON DELLAGATTA	CARL SAVAGE
<u>MEN'S 'B'</u>	JON DYER	GREG STEEVES	LEE MONKS	BRYAN LESIEUR
	GREG WEST	TODD ANDERSON	CARL DICICCO	JAY EICHMAN
<u>MEN'S 'C'</u>	BRIAN LESIEUR	RICH NEVIUS	RON BOUCHARD	GAVIN BENNETT
	GREG WEST	STEVE MIRLOCCA	BOB HALL	DON HUSSMAN
<u>MEN'S 'D/NOV'</u>	GAVIN BENNETT	DON RIVARD		
	DON HUSSMAN	DAVID FISHER		
<u>MEN'S 25/30+</u>	MIKE COLE	CHRIS ANDREWS	MARCO LABONTE	LEE MONKS
	PAUL WALLACE	BOB GUIDABONI	RON DELLAGATTA	DAVE BRETTON
<u>MEN'S 35+</u>	BOB COTTER	PAUL CINO	BERNIE GOODMAN	BRIAN FARRAR
	JIM GRANT	PHIL ROBBINS	RALPH GRILLONE	BRIAN PYNN
<u>MEN'S 40+</u>	PAUL CINO	DAVE BRETTON	TOM HANRAHAN	
	PHIL ROBBINS	STEVE PROVINS	MIKE SCHAFFER	
<u>MEN'S 45+</u>	CARL SAVAGE	TOM HANRAHAN	DICK DYER	
	PAUL WALLACE	MIKE SCHAFFER	MURRAY ALDOUS	
<u>MEN'S 50+</u>	MARK GRIFFIN	JACK BENEWAY	ERIC STRAUSS	
	CHARLIE MONROE	SAM GALLO	STEVE MONSEN	
<u>MEN'S 55/60+</u>	BOB FERRARA	ERIC STRAUSS	JACK BENEWAY	BILL BISCHOFF
	BRANDT PACE	STEVE MONSEN	CHARLIE MONROE	DICK LOWELL
<u>WOMEN'S DOUBLES</u>	KIM SKERRY	CINDY ALDOUS	JANE MCLUNG	
	LISA RILEY	CARMEN DYER	JUDY LAFRANCE-FOOTE	
<u>MIXEDOPEN</u>	KIM SKERRY	LISA RILEY	KELLEY BEANE	
	RALPH GRILLONE	BOB COTTER	MIKE KEDDIE	
<u>MIXED 'A'</u>	CINDY ALDOUS	CARMEN DYER	PATTY THOMAS-DANOS	JANE MCLUNG
	MURRAY ALDOUS	SEAN O'LEARY	WILKEN TOM	MIKE NORMAN
<u>PRO MIXED DOUBLES</u>	<i>Justin Wallace & Patty Thomas-Danos defeat Kelley Beane & Mike Keddie</i>			

NH State Rankings

Updated January 1, 2004

Men's Open		Men's Novice		Men's 65+		Boys 10	
ZALEGOWSKI, CHRIS	435	WEST, GREG	400	DROUIN, BOB	400	FUERTES, ERROL	100
REIFF, SCOTT	280	GERVAIS, BRUCE	100	LOWELL, DICK	175	GETTEL, TUCKER	80
BLOOM, TROY	205	BENNETT, GAVIN	75	BOUCHARD, RON	75	NUTTALL, GRIFFIN	75
ROBBINS, PHIL	100	WHITMAN, TIM	50	Men's 70+		CARPENTER, RYAN	70
DREW, ARON	50	LYNCH, DAVID	30	LECOMPTE, NORBERT	300	KNOX, SEAN	50
BOUCHER, JAIME	45	CHABOT, JOSH	10	HARDMAN, KEN	175	LYNCH, DAVID	50
SAFFO JR., RICH	30	LAWRENCE, JORDAN	10	BENNETT, RUSS	100	LARKIN, CONNOR	30
KEDDIE, MIKE	15	O'SHAUGHNESSY, JOHN	10	BUSCHNER, CARL	75	MARTIN, TRAVIS	30
DESORBO, LARRY	10	PEPIN, JOHN	10	Women's Open		Boys 12	
HUSSON, JOE	10	Men's 24		KOOLMAN, LISA	150	BRETON, BEAU	310
Men's Elite		KEDDIE, MIKE	250	BEANE, KELLEY	20	MARTIN, TRAVIS	165
KEDDIE, MIKE	130	Men's 25+		Women's A		LIVINGSTON, MARSHALL	50
MORSE, JEFF	50	ZALEGOWSKI, CHRIS	100	IRVINE, DEB	380	TREMBLAY, KYLE	50
WALLACE, PAUL	20	Men's 30+		PALADINO, LISA	100	GETTEL, TUCKER	20
BLOOM, TROY	10	BLOOM, TROY	150	SMITH, LYNN	75	CARPENTER, KEVIN	10
CHRISTY, TOM	10	MORSE, JEFF	50	LA BRIE, TERESA	50	CARPENTER, RYAN	10
Men's A		Men's 35+		MCCOLE, JUDY	50	NUTTALL, GRIFFIN	10
BRETON, DAVE	225	WALSH, GARY	150	GALE, SUZANNE	20	Boys 14	
CHRISTY, TOM	150	PEREZ, RICK	100	ZIELINSKI, KAREN	10	BENNETT, GAVIN	325
DELLAGATTA, RON	100	PARSONS, JEFF	20	Women's B		BRETON, BEAU	215
VAILLANCOURT, DENIS	100	GAGNON, BRUCE	15	IRVINE, DEB	250	MARONEY, RYAN	125
STORY, DANIEL	60	BIANCO, GREG	10	LA BRIE, TERESA	250	KEDDIE, MATT	100
ROBINSON, SCOTT	50	BRETON, DAVE	10	GALE, SUZANNE	100	MARTIN, TRAVIS	85
WALSH, GARY	50	Men's 40+		VIEGA, ANA	100	LYNCH, DAVID	30
SAVAGE, CARL	45	GATES, CHUCK	250	SHAPIRO, SHARON	90	NUTTALL, GRIFFIN	20
GUIDABONI, BOB	35	WALLACE, PAUL	150	SMITH, LYNN	75	CARPENTER, KEVIN	10
LABONTE, MARCO	30	VAILLANCOURT, DENIS	100	BRADY, RUTH	50	Boys 16	
Men's B		PEREZ, RICK	75	LAFRANCE-FOGTE, JUDY	50	KEDDIE, MIKE	450
WALSH, GARY	250	ROBBINS, PHIL	70	PALADINO, LISA	45	BENNETT, GAVIN	90
LANE, DAVID	200	CHRISTY, TOM	50	LEE, SUE	30	O'SHAUGHNESSY, JOHN	20
RAWLINGS, BRUCE	150	BYE, RON	10	Women's C		Boys 18	
TARANOVICH, BILL	105	PARSONS, JEFF	10	LERCH, JEAN	755	KEDDIE, MIKE	50
LEE, JEFF	85	Men's 45+		LA BRIE, TERESA	420	BENNETT, GAVIN	15
FOOTE, STEVE	70	WALLACE, PAUL	200	SHAPIRO, SHARON	350	CHABOT, JOSH	15
GUIDABONI, BOB	50	VARRILL, JOHN	195	GALE, SUZANNE	230	BEERS, ADAM	10
SCHERER, KEN	45	GATES, CHUCK	160	VIEGA, ANA	125	Girls 8	
CONROY, KEVIN	30	SAVAGE, CARL	100	GOBAR, GRETCHEN	95	LYDON, LAUREN	280
DYER, JONATHAN	30	ROBBINS, PHIL	80	SABBOW, CHRIS	90	NADER, REBECCA	150
Men's C		BRETON, DAVE	10	ROY, KIM	80	LARKIN, SHANNON	50
STOODLEY, SCOTT	400	DYER, DICK	10	CARPENTER, CECI	70	Girls 10	
SCHERER, KEN	125	Men's 50+		COLE, KIM	55	LARKIN, SHANNON	20
MORRISSEY, JIM	100	BIRD, SID	260	Women's D		LYDON, LAUREN	20
WHITMAN, ANDY	100	MILEWSKI, MITCH	60	DOUCET, CATHY	350	LAWRENCE, KRISTEN	15
BUCKLEY, CASS	90	GAUNTT, ED	10	ROBINSON, MARTHA	270	NADER, REBECCA	15
BYE, RON	80	KARWOCKI, ANDY	10	ROY, KIM	250	Girls 12	
HASSUM, CARL	80	SAFFO SR., RICH	10	CARPENTER, CECI	200	LAWRENCE, KRISTEN	115
WEST, GREG	80	Men's 55+		MADORE, TRACIE	110	GETTEL, ELIZA	85
DICICCO, CARL	50	MILEWSKI, MITCH	250	MERRILL, TIA	100	LA BRIE, CAITLIN	10
KEDDIE, JAY	40	DICICCO, CARL	100	SCOBI, JANE	100	Girls 14	
Men's D		LANGLOIS, RICK	75	DOUCET, JOYA	80	GETTEL, ELIZA	50
HASSUM, CARL	290	DICICCO, CARL	20	DESMARIAS, JAMIE	75	Girls 12	
WEST, GREG	175	HARDMAN, KEN	15	COLE, KIM	50	LAWRENCE, KRISTEN	115
SNELL, BART	150	Men's 60+		Women's Novice		GETTEL, ELIZA	85
LYON, JASON	110	MILEWSKI, MITCH	500	MADORE, TRACIE	150	LA BRIE, CAITLIN	10
BENNETT, GAVIN	60	LOWELL, DICK	100	EBBS, CHRISTY	60	Girls 14	
LA BRIE, GREG	60	VERCAUTEREN, ROBERT	75	MERRILL, TIA	50	GETTEL, ELIZA	50
BUCKLEY, CASS	50	BOUCHARD, RON	20	ZIELINSKI, KAREN	50	Girls 14	
DEPNER, SCOTT	50			COLE, DEBBIE	30	GETTEL, ELIZA	50
LALIBERT, DAVID	50			DOUCET, JOYA	30		
LESIEUR, BRIAN	50			GETTEL, ELIZA	20		

The NHRA Spotlight Player



Name: Tia Lori Merrill
Age: 36
Playing Since: 2002
Club Affiliation: Racquet Club of Concord
Level: D

Tia is the Assistant Director of New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Assn. (NHIAA) The NHIAA is a non-profit organization formed 57 years ago to govern and administrate high school athletics. The mission of the NHIAA, as the leader of high school athletics, is to ensure fair play in competition and equal opportunity in interscholastic programs. There are (20) different sanctioned sports at this time. As the Assistant Director, I am responsible for the supervision of the operations, marketing initiatives, conference management, corporate sponsor relations, media support, and technology implementations. I am the liaison to the NH Athletic Director's Association and the NH Coaches Association and assist in the operation of their associations.

How long have you been playing racquetball?

I started playing for the first time about 1 ½ years ago, most serious in the last 6 months.

What got you started?

I was looking for a new competitive fast paced sport. As you get older, it is hard to find organized basketball leagues as it requires more individuals. The opportunity to play one on one or on a doubles team is more attainable.

What do you love about the game?

I love the challenges it provides as you strive to improve your game. The camaraderie that exists amongst racquetball players is great. There is so much support for new players.

What frustrates you most about the game?

Sometimes it is difficult to find a variety of players at your skill level to allow you to push to the next division. Tournaments have provided this experience for me.

Describe your tournament experiences.

My tournament experiences have been very rewarding. I have had the chance to play a lot of different people from all over New England which has helped my personal game tremendously. The tournament management personnel have been very welcoming which alleviates some of the anxiety one may feel in a new environment. The new personal relationships I have formed through this venue have been wonderful.

What are your personal goals for yourself in this sport?

I want to continue to work hard to improve my game and move up the divisions when appropriate.

You've organized a weekend getaway for racquetball players at a place called the Racquetball House. What is the Racquetball House and what are the plans for the weekend?

I have organized a weekend trip for 15 of my racquetball enthusiast friends at a place called the Racquetball House in Killington Vermont. The house sleeps 16, is over 3200 square feet including a full kitchen, 2 living room areas and an 8 person hot tub outside. The best feature is a regulation size racquetball court.



Tia on a great forehand shot!

There will be an individual's tournament based on mixed doubles play which begins Friday night with a crowning of the champion on Saturday night. We are all looking forward to making this an annual event.



Tia on the court

USRA Rules & Regulations - A Quiz!

By: John Varrill

In the November 2003 newsletter, everyone was invited to answer four rules/refereeing questions taken from a referee certification test and to send their answers to John Varrill. Well, no one got the answers right....because....no one e-mailed their answers to him! (By the way, the answers were as follows: Q1, d; Q2, d; Q3, b; and Q4, e.)

Test your knowledge of the rules by answering the multiple choice questions below. The correct answers are at the bottom of the page.

- Q1. Line judges use a 'thumbs up' or 'thumbs down' signal to show that they agree or disagree with the player's call?
A. True
B. False
- Q2. If one line judge agrees with the referee and one line judge disagrees with the referee the result is?
A. Call overturned, no appeal used
B. Call stands, one appeal used
C. Call overturned, one appeal used
D. Call stands, no appeal used
- Q3. An out of order serve in doubles results in a hand out and?
A. The last point scored is deducted
B. All points scored are kept
C. All points scored are deducted
D. Two points are deducted
- Q4. If a player hits the ball and his/her vibration dampener flies out and onto the court, and the shot is retrievable, the proper call is?
A. No call
B. Stop, avoidable hinder
C. Stop, replay the point
D. None of the above

Classifieds

The NHRA wants to post your
classified ad.

If you have items for sale, would
like to make an announcement

or would like to

advertise a service here,

please e-mail the board at

NHBoard@NHRacquetball.com

If you're a business professional looking to get ahead in your field - this ad is for you.

Would you like to be:

- One step ahead of your colleagues?
- Two steps ahead of the competition?
- Number 1 in your field?

Find out how "branding" can make you more recognizable. Call for more information on the "Business Branding Program" and start setting yourself apart from the rest!

The Final Details

Taking care of the details, so you can take care of business!
P.O. Box 1656, Salem, NH 03079
603-490-6898
Info@thefinaldetails.com



VISITOR'S DAY

If you would like to increase the volume of your business or do "better" business through personal referrals,

BNI is for you!

Attend the Visitor's Day meeting at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, January 20th at 7:00 AM. For more information call Stacey at 603-490-6898.

BNI, where personal referrals are the best way to get AND keep business!

(Rules Quiz - The correct answers are: Q1, B; Q2, D; Q3, C; Q4, B)

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YOUR JANUARY 2004 NHRA NEWSLETTER
INCLUDES CURRENT RANKINGS



Upcoming Events

January							February						
				1	2	3	1 Man- chester, NH	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9 B/C Challenge	10 Great Bay AC	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11 New- market, NH	12	13	14	15	16 NH State Doubles	17 Gold's Gym	15	16	17	18	19	20 Rail- yard Classic	21 Rail- yard AC
18 Ports- mouth, NH	19	20	21	22	23	24	22 Woods -ville, NH	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30 Mitch Nathanson	31 Execu- tive HSC	29						
March							April						
	1	2	3	4	5 NH State Doubles	6 Execu- tive HSC					1	2	3
7 Man- chester, NH	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16 NE Regionals	17 Exec. HSC
21	22	23	24	25	26 Granite State Cup	27 Nashua AC	18 Manches- ter, NH	19	20	21	22	23	24
28 Nashua, NH	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	