



THE RACQUETBALL REPORTER

VOL. 7, NO. 2

321 VILLAGE, LANSING, MI 48911

WINTER 1990

NEW NEWSLETTER

-Dianne Easterling

RAM is beginning the new decade with the publication of a new type of newsletter. This new mini-newsletter will be published twice a year and will run in addition to the four quarterly issues of the RACQUETBALL REPORTER that you as RAM members already receive. This new newsletter will be used to bring you current events to keep you informed on the latest happenings in racquetball. It will not, however, be in as much detail as the quarterly issues of the newsletter due to space considerations.

This first issue of the mini RACQUETBALL REPORTER is being used to bring you the information on the 1990 RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Contained in this newsletter is the entry form for the tournament. This way we can not only bring you information on the tournament, but you can have the entry form at your fingertips at the same time. Do not throw this newsletter away as this is the only copy of the entry form that will be mailed to your home.

As you can see this year's STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP will be at the Coliseum II Racquet Club in Taylor. The tournament will be April 27-29 and is open to Michigan residents only. The entry deadline for the tournament is **April 18, 1990**. So mark your calendars now as the tournament promises the same high level of competition as in past years.

Other important news contained inside the newsletter will be the latest scoop from the AARA headquarters in Colorado Springs. On January 18-21, Tom Blakeslee and Jim Easterling attended the 1990 Leadership Seminar. Among discussions at the Seminar were the State Grant Program and the Class A status of racquetball with the Olympic movement.

I hope you enjoy this latest edition to the RACQUETBALL REPORTER newsletter family. The second edition of this mini-newsletter will be published in the fall of 1990. Any comments on the newsletter as always are welcomed. Please address them to RAM at 321 Village, Lansing, MI 48911.

SENIORS/MASTERS EVENTS SET FOR 1990-91

-Jim Easterling

Three Seniors/Masters tournaments in the mid-west have been set for the 1990-91 tournament season. These tournaments will be held in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana and are open to all players nation-wide.

These events feature the round robin format for each division so you play everyone in your division at least once during the weekend. This guarantees a lot of play. Another feature of these tournaments is that there are no referees. Players are required to ref their own matches. These tournaments provide a way to play some of the best players in the country and then you don't go home after playing only one match.

The dates and states for each tournament are listed below. At press time no cities or clubs had been selected, but mark your calendars and contact each of the tournament directors for more information. Last year all three tournaments were very successful.

September 21-23 — Indiana

Mike LaBonne — 317-255-7730

November 9-11 — Michigan

Jim Easterling — 517-887-0459

January 18-20 — Ohio

Jerry Davis — 216-751-5575

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

MARCH 9-11

Super 7 #7

Backwall

Madison Heights, Michigan

MARCH 16-18

Grand Rapids City Championship

Grand Rapids Racquet Club

Grand Rapids, Michigan

APRIL 6-8

Super 7 #8

Racquetime

Livonia, Michigan

APRIL 20-22

Riverview Spring Classic

Riverview Racquet Club

Grand Rapids, Michigan

APRIL 27-29

RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Coliseum II Racquet Club

Taylor, Michigan

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MAY 18-20

Super 7 Finale
Davison Racquet Club
Davison, Michigan

VIEW OF THE PRESIDENT

-W. T. Blakeslee

Mid-seasons greetings! Some good things have been happening to racquetball lately. The Detroit News - Free Press recently published two articles, highlighting Tim Doyle, "Racquetball Rebounds in the Nineties" and one profiling Mike Yellon. Locally the AARA has approved two of RAM's grant requests. One grant is to fund a membership drive and the other is to promote junior racquetball. More details later. Did you know that this year the AARA will televise five national events which will reach potentially 300 million viewers!!! Look for the action on PASS and maybe on ESPN after next year's Junior Olympics.

Finally, I thought you might be interested in some demographics: ten million Americans play racquetball every year. Almost 20% of these players participate more than 25 times a year. Racquetball is 17th among sports participated in, bowling is number one. 70% of the players are age 18-34, and 20% are 35-54 years of age. Lastly, 70% of all racquetball players make less than \$50,000. Until next time.

HAVE A SAY IN MICHIGAN RACQUETBALL

-Jim Easterling

Many Michigan racquetball players would like to have a say in some of the things that go on at a tournament, without the hassle of physically running a tournament or joining the RAM Board of Directors and travelling to monthly board meetings. Well here is your chance to be heard. Take a few minutes, answer the questions below and mail the form back to RAM. This will help us run the kind of tournaments you want to play in.

1. When should a person be bumped to the next higher division?
 - a. after winning the division once
 - b. after winning the division twice
 - c. after winning the division in the State Singles
 - d. _____
2. Should a person be allowed to play two skill divisions i.e. B and C? Why?

3. Should a tournament director place two or three divisions together to make them run such as 30B and 35 B and call it 30/35B?

4. What should be the latest date a person should be able to enter a tournament?

- a. the deadline (adhere to strictly)
- b. the Monday before the tournament starts
- c. the Tuesday before the tournament starts
- d. Anytime until the tournament startse
- Other _____

5. In divisions of 12 or more should 3rd & 4th place trophies be given or two semi-finalist trophies?

6. Should a division be run with only ...

- a. 3 people
- b. 4 people
- c. 5 people

7. Under what conditions should a player be allowed to drop back to the next lower division? Why?

8. What award would you like to see given out at the tournament?

- a. trophies
- b. plaques
- c. medals
- d. other

9. What type of souvenir would you like to see given out at tournaments?

- a. shirts
- b. shorts
- c. sweatshirts
- d. socks
- e. bags

Please mail the results of this questionnaire to RAM, 321 Village, Lansing, MI 48911. Results will be published soon.



STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

APRIL 27-29, 1990

SITE:

COLISEUM II RACQUET CLUB
8715 Telegraph
Taylor, MI 48180
313-292-3940

ENTRY FEE:

\$35 - First event adults
\$25 - First event juniors
\$15 - Second event
Players may enter two events.
One age & one skill or two
different age divisions.
Make checks payable to RAM
NO REFUNDS!! Non AARA
members add \$10 fee

LENSED EYEGUARDS ARE MANDATORY!!
ALL PLAYERS RECEIVE A SWEAT SUIT!!!

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

RAM, 321 Village
Lansing, MI 48911

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:

TOM BLAKESLEE
313-468-2787

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Received by **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18.**
ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL. No entries
will be accepted after this date. Call
the club, Wednesday, April 25 after
5:00 pm for starting times.

HOTEL:

HOLIDAY INN 313-728-2800
31200 Industrial Expressway
Romulus, MI (Special Rate - \$55)

PLEASE ENTER ME IN THE EVENT(S) CIRCLED BELOW. PLAYERS MAY ENTER TWO EVENTS -
ONLY ONE SKILL LEVEL. **YOU MUST BE A MICHIGAN RESIDENT TO ENTER.**

MEN**WOMEN**

OPEN	D	30A	35C	45B	65	16B	10
A	NOVICE	30B	40A	50	18A	14A	8
B	19	35A	40B	55	18B	14B	8 No bounce
C	25	35B	45A	60	16A	12	Wheelchair

NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ AMT. PAID: _____

CITY STATE ZIP: _____

PHONE DAYS: _____ PHONE NIGHTS: _____

CLUB AFFILIATION: _____ ALTER DIVISION: _____

DONATION FOR MICHIGAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND: _____

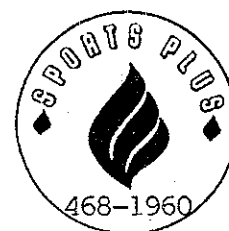
SHIRT SIZE: _____ PANT SIZE: _____

Waiver - I hereby for myself, heirs, etc. waive & release all rights & claims for damages I may have
against RAM & its sponsors for all injuries which may be suffered by me at said tournament.

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

ALL PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A SWEAT SUIT

MARC
HENRY
INSURANCE



RULES: AARA rules apply. All matches are 2 games to 15 with a tiebreaker to 11.

TOURNAMENT BALL: EKTELON SPEED FLITE

HOSPITALITY: Will be provided throughout the tournament. A nominal charge for guests.

LOCKERS AND TOWELS: Bring your own locks. Towels provided with a \$2 deposit and a \$.50 charge for use.

AWARDS AND PRIZES: Awards given for the 1st 4 places in division of 12 or more; the 1st two places in divisions of 5-11 and 1st in consolation. Door prizes will be provided. Each player will receive a souvenir **SWEAT SUIT.**

PLAY MAY BEGIN as early as 3:00 on Friday. Special requests for starting times will be honored if possible, but no refunds will be given if a player cannot make his/her starting time.

FORM IS NOT COMPLETE OR IS ENTRY ACCEPTED UNLESS MONEY FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS ENCLOSED AND ALL INFORMATION IS COMPLETE.

ENTRY DEADLINE - APRIL 18, 1990

AARA REGION 9
321 VILLAGE
LANSING, MI 48911

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 42

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