



N.M.R.A. NEWS

NEW MEXICO RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

MAY/JUNE 1995

President's Message: The "Business" of Racquetball

It's time for a 'Midsummer Nite's' reflection after the completion of the 1994-95 racquetball year. Originally, the NMRA was organized as an educational association, as its incorporation papers filed with the State of New Mexico will attest. Under the 501c3 not-for-profit umbrella of the IRS, most of its activities are geared to attract the greatest number of individuals across ages, sexes, backgrounds and interests. The vision for the NMRA has not changed; yet it has had to expand into the realm of a "business."

The reality exists that WE ARE A BUSINESS. If we intend to grow according to our five- and ten-year plans, then we have no other choice than to use sound business practices. This stance is reflected in areas of budget, promotions & fundraising, and due process. Apart from non-profit status, the basic differences between other 'businesses' and the NMRA is that we do not pay our personnel and that at the end of our fiscal year we strive for a break-even bottom line.

The NMRA has worked hard for, has earned, and has enjoyed a strong alliance with the American Amateur Racquetball Association (national governing body) over the better part of two decades. Our history includes some noteworthy events: the first of the member states to incorporate; the first to establish a mandatory officiating program, and the wherewithal to attract a talented board of directors who promote our sport. We have developed a continuity in our organization, based on having had only two presidents in nineteen years, and having a constitution and by-laws which have served our needs over time.

Our membership base has crossed many decades, has served both sexes and has enjoyed a wide array of programs. Yet, to this day, we continue to strive towards accessing others in our programs, including the able-bodied, the disabled and the less fortunate. As times have changed, stances and philosophies have had to change.

These changes have not come without criticism and some soul searching. For example, the NMRA took a stance years ago that those under 18 and all players in doubles were required to wear protective

eyewear in our sanctioned events. While presently not an issue in tournaments, this issue continues to warrant debate at the club level. Another example is the inclusion and subsequent withdrawal of a mandatory rules exam for all tournament players. Finally, the opening of our geographic borders to include other states' and Mexico's players has stirred up debate, criticism and envy.

The World Senior Racquetball Championships (WSRC), under the auspices of the NMRA, grosses annual figures of many thousands of dollars. During the spurt period in its growth, a small committee was replaced by an elected council, and for the most part unilateral and bilateral decisions were replaced by a more equitable and democratic decision-making process. Fortunately, with a hard-working crew dishing out and absorbing verbal abuse, professional and business common sense persevered over individual interests. Today, a successful track record is being enjoyed by the WSRC team.

Long-term success, not short-term failure, is the NMRA's aim; we therefore adhere to the advice of our attorneys and accountants by keeping records and books open and available.

Playing racquetball does not necessarily mean playing in racquetball tournaments. This stance must be internalized if the NMRA (and other state associations) wish to grow their memberships to levels enjoyed five years ago. Perhaps some basic reasons for membership decline are: expanding choices for spending one's discretionary dollars, time constraints due to family and work considerations, and the fact that racquetball is enjoyable inside or outside the tournament arena.

There is an enormous number of joggers who do not participate in organizational

Quote of the Month:

"I don't think I've ever missed anything as much as I've missed playing racquetball."

-----Steve Etkind

fun runs and there are millions of bridge players who shy away from duplicate tournaments. Personally, I love the game of golf; yet, I prefer to play at a casual rather than at a highly competitive level. This choice does not preclude me from being a card-carrying member of the USGA, which helps to grow the sport and to grow my own participation and appreciation for the game.

There are other ways to access our racquetball 'participants' and it is our obligation to find them and to bring them into our membership base. If for no other reason, bringing at-large members into our association will broaden our base of support, will enhance our reader circulation in periodicals, and will help to sell more advertising to our vendors.

While membership and membership fees have declined, our expenses have still increased. The inclusion of new programs and the expansion of existing programs have elevated our cost of doing business. A clear example of the latter is the increased cost of paper for printers, which is passed on to the consumer. **NMRA News** now goes to print six times per year (four previously). We are still publishing during summer months, when incoming membership fees are not sufficient to offset some fixed expenses of operation, such as publications and telephone. The bottom line is that a membership and fundraising campaign must be constant, even though it can be an ongoing headache for volunteers who are not reimbursed for their time.

In conclusion, the NMRA and other racquetball associations face the reality that the for-profit and the not-for-profit organizations must subsist and hopefully thrive within a business environment. Our trust continues to be enjoyment and education for the masses, cutting across many sectors of the community. We must be cognizant that our fundraising efforts compete directly with the United Ways and Heart Associations; yet we must continue to cut a niche in the recreational/educational community, building our membership by offering value through a life-long sport and adhering to basic business principles.

---Gary Mazaroff

UNM Racquetball

This coming September will mark The University of New Mexico Racquetball Team's one-year birthday. Although the team is still young, it has grown and improved significantly. Formed in September, 1994, by **Jeff Wilson**, the team has grown from under ten players to around twenty regular players.

In March, 1995, four UNM Team Racquetball players; **Devin Cannady**, **Brock Perkins**, **David Trillo**, and **Leonard Haran**, competed in the Regional Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships held at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Supported by the NMRA, the team finished an impressive sixth place overall. In 1996 the UNM team aims to better this feat at the Regionals, and wants to go a step farther by fielding a women's team and competing in the National Intercollegiate as well.

The UNM Racquetball Team is currently seeking players of all skill levels. The team practices weekly from 7PM until 9PM Monday nights. **Jeff Wilson** is the coach, and he promises to incorporate fun, competition and skill enhancement. In the Fall, the team hopes to build the practice schedule to twice weekly. So if

you are interested in joining the team, or in making another contribution, please contact **David Trillo**, President, at 291-8647 or **Jeff Wilson**, Coach, at 255-1981.

—**Brock Perkins**

You Make The Call

A player loses her shoe during a rally, yet continues to play until she executes a rally-ending kill shot. What's the call? Answer in the next issue of **NMRA News**.

From Last Issue...

In divisions where the one-serve rule is played, is a screen serve ruled an Out Serve?

In these divisions; men's and women's open singles and doubles in AARA Regionals and Nationals, plus International Open divisions, two successive fault serves must occur for a side out/hand out. Note: The NMRA includes the AA division for men's and women's singles and doubles as one-serve divisions; all mixed doubles divisions have been one-serve divisions for 15 years.

• NEWS NOTES •

NM SENIOR OLYMPIANS SHINE...**Terry Lauritsen** of Albuquerque defeated **Roy Rudichuk** of Tulsa to capture the racquetball portion of the U.S. Senior Olympics, held in June in San Antonio, Texas. Lauritsen also was a medalist in badminton. Other New Mexicans performing WELL in racquetball were **Louise Kiss**, **Barbara Bowman**, **Ann Toya** and **Clara Jelso**.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MOVED TO PHOENIX...The IRF World Championships for 1996, with probable representation from over 35 countries, have been moved from the original venue in Atlanta, Georgia, to Phoenix, Arizona. A host of New Mexico athletes will be representing their native country at the host facility, City Square Racquet Club and Hotel Complex.

WORLD SENIORS '95 GEARING FOR OLYMPIC RACQUETBALL '2000'...The eleventh World Senior Racquetball Championships, to be held in Albuquerque August 29th thru September 2nd, is the leading fundraiser for the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia, in the year 2000. Over the past six years, the WSRC has raised in excess of \$120,000. If interested in volunteering for this most prestigious *racquetball vacation*, contact **Gary Mazaroff** at (505)266-8960.

OVER \$2000 RAISED FOR THE NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND...Thanks to the good folks of Santa Fe, together with Club International and KBOM Radio (106.7 FM), the 1995 National Warmup Racquetball Tournament raised \$750 to bring the inaugural NHSF/NMRA series final figure to \$2100.

BRONFELD AND GOULD BACK ON TOP AT NATIONALS...**Michael Bronfeld** of California defeated **Dan Fowler** of Maryland in the open singles finals at Houston to capture his second consecutive title. His straight-set victory placed him in the racquetball elite as one of only five players to have won back to back titles. **Michelle Gould** of Idaho recaptured her position as the top female player by besting **Malia Bailey** of Virginia in two games. Gould has now won the open singles title six times in her illustrious career.

NMRA MOURNS LOSS...The New Mexico Racquetball Community sends its sympathy to the family of **Tom Young**, whose son **Glenn** passed away in June. Tom and his family have been successful club owners and operators in New Mexico for over 30 years.

Rules Adoption

The following rules were adopted at the recent AARA Board of Directors Meeting and become effective September 1, 1995.

1. If a server or receiver takes more than 10 seconds to serve or receive, a technical foul will result. The old rule stated that a side out or point was awarded.
2. In doubles play only, if a server hits his or her partner in the service box, it is a fault serve. Two fault serves will result in a side out.
3. The one-serve rule was defeated and will not come up for a vote again until 1997. NOTE: However, the one-serve rule will apply in all U.S. Team qualifying events: National Singles and Doubles, U.S. Olympic Festival, Intercollegiate, and Juniors (18 yrs).
4. Other: AARA Board terms have been reduced from 3 years to 2 years; Qualifying waivers for the adult metro regionals have been eliminated (the exception is the medical waiver); All collegiate players wishing to participate in the National Intercollegiate Championships must compete in an Intercollegiate Regional.

EDITORIAL NOTE:

The March/April issue of **NMRA News** included an article on the "NMRA Point System." A pertinent bit of information that should have been included in that article is the following: "Once a player in divisions of A, B, C and D earns 10 points or more in that category, he or she must move into the next higher category."

Upcoming Events

- **August 29-September 2. World Senior Racquetball Championships**, Tom Young's Athletic Club, Midtown Sports & Wellness, and Kirtland Air Force Base East, Albuquerque, NM, **Gary Mazaroff: 505/266-8960.**

Contact Your Local Club for a Schedule of In-House Events This Summer.

Look for the 1995-96 NMRA Schedule of Events in the Next Issue of NMRA News.

Tournament Results

NEW MEXICO OPEN

February 23-26, 1995
Roswell Spa & Court Club
Roswell, NM

MEN'S OPEN

1ST Louis Vogel
2ND Jeff Wilson

MEN'S AA

1ST Terry Brown
2ND Brian Bamal
3RD Dude Burrola

MEN'S A

1ST Lee Torres
2ND Jalme Sexe
3RD Bruce Cunha

MEN'S B

1ST Joe Villa
2ND John Hooper
3RD Marko Vasquez

MEN'S C

1ST Jerry Lagestam
2ND Ernie Herrera
3RD Anthony Torres

MEN'S D

1ST David Kennedy
2ND Louis Valdez
3RD Richard Romero

MEN'S NOVICE

1ST Alfredo Carrera
2ND Jason Torres
3RD Martin Torres

MEN'S 40+

1ST Jorge Maya
2ND Bruce Cuntla
3RD Gary Coston
Tony Marquez

WOMEN'S OPEN

1ST Rachel Gellman
2ND Cyd Hill

WOMEN'S C

1ST Anne Hamblin
2ND Cheryl Sullivan
3RD Rosella Rodriguez

WOMEN'S D

1ST Jennifer Gonzales
2ND Candida Gonzales
3RD Rita Espinosa

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1ST Jesi Fuller
2ND Flo Darby
3RD Eve Marquez

MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES

1ST Gary Mazaroff
Jeff Wilson
2ND Ray Maestas
Randy Webster

MEN'S A/B DOUBLES

1ST Terry Brown
Michael Parker
2ND Gary Coston
Ernie Herrera
3RD Tommy Garcia
Arthur Torres

MEN'S C DOUBLES

1ST Charlie Sioasi
Chad Whitehead
2ND Nathan Bowles
Jerry Lagestam
3RD Jay Gluck
Ty Thatcher

MEN'S D DOUBLES

1ST Alfredo Carrera
Tony Marquez
TIE Shane Carlson
Efrain Hernandez
3RD Nathan Brandt
Mathew Garcia

WOMEN'S OPEN DOUBLES

1ST Rachel Gellman
Cindy Wittenbrink
2ND Karen Fuller
Cyd Hill

3RD Tina Bragdon
Carol Gellman

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES

1ST Chris Evans
Cyd Hill
2ND Karen Fuller
Jerry Garcia
3RD Cindy Wittenbrink
Jorge Maya

MIXED B/C DOUBLES

1ST Rosella Rodriguez
Art Torres
2ND Cheryl Sullivan
Greg Swartz

NM STATE JUNIORS

March 2-5, 1995
Roswell Spa & Court Club
Roswell, NM

BOYS' 18 & UNDER

1ST Oscar Macias
2ND Jesse Harden
3RD Nathan Bowles

BOYS' 16 & UNDER GOLD

1ST Cesar Urquidí
2ND Cesar Carrillo
3RD Jesse Harden

BOYS' 16 & UNDER BLUE

1ST Michael MacCallum
2ND Nathan Richburg

3RD Andres Burrola

BOYS' 14 & UNDER GOLD

1ST Jorge Trevino
2ND Jorge Pasos
3RD Hector Urquidí

BOYS' 14 & UNDER BLUE

1ST Colin Boling
2ND Robert Burrola
3RD Drex Fitzwater

BOYS' 12 & UNDER GOLD

1ST Enrique Portillo
2ND Dustin Webster
3RD Blake Harden

BOYS' 12 & UNDER BLUE

1ST Nathan Brandt
2ND Roy Lee Luna

BOYS' 10 & UNDER GOLD

1ST Alex Portillo
2ND Dustin Webster
3RD Diego Robles

BOYS' 10 & UNDER BLUE

1ST Roy Lee Luna
2ND Jesi Fuller
3RD Evan Ussery

BOYS' 8 & UNDER GOLD

1ST Mark Swanson
2ND Aaron McGuire
3RD Stephen Brandt

8 & UNDER MULTIBOUNCE

1ST Mark Swanson
2ND Stephen Brandt
3RD Adril Torrez

GIRLS' 16 & UNDER

1ST Rita Espinosa

GIRLS' 14 & UNDER

1ST Jeni Fuller
2ND Rita Espinosa

GIRLS' 12 & UNDER

1ST Jeni Fuller
2ND Jesi Fuller
3RD Sarah Torrez

GIRLS' 10 & UNDER

1ST Jesi Fuller
2ND Leslie Luna

18 & UNDER DOUBLES

1ST Oscar Macias
Jorge Trevino
2ND Cesar Carrillo
Cesar Urquidí
3RD Andres Burrola
Jerry Lagestam

14 & UNDER DOUBLES

1ST Jorge Pasos
Hector Urquidí
2ND Colin Boling
Drex Fitzwater
3RD Robert Burrola
Martin Torrez

12 & UNDER DOUBLES

1ST Enrique Portillo
Dustin Webster
2ND Nathan Brandt
Mathew Garcia
3RD Rita Espinosa
Jeni Fuller

10 & UNDER DOUBLES

1ST Diego Robles
Alex Portillo
2ND Chris Burrola
Evan Ussery
3RD James Davalos
Jesi Fuller

ST. PAT'S FESTIVAL

March 17-19, 1995
Clovis Community College
Clovis, NM

MEN'S OPEN

1ST Jeff Wilson
2ND Gary Mazaroff

MEN'S AA

1ST Paul Sullivan
2ND Robert Boatman

MEN'S A

1ST Chris Johnson
2ND Brock Perkins
3RD Nathan Bowles

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More Results

MEN'S B
 1ST Charles Mestas
 2ND Brock Perkins
 3RD Cyd Hill

MEN'S C
 1ST Jesse Mendoza
 2ND Mark Poyner

MEN'S D
 1ST Ron Maestas
 2ND Alfredo Carrera
 3RD Robert Burroia

MEN'S NOVICE
 1ST Larry Cantwell
 2ND Deke McDowell

MEN'S 35+
 1ST Andy Espinoza
 2ND Charles Strebeck

WOMEN'S C
 1ST Gracie Marquez
 2ND Brenda Landers

NEW MEXICO GAMES
 June 15-18, 1995
 Midtown Sports & Wellness
 Albuquerque, NM

MEN'S OPEN
 1ST Jeff Wilson
 2ND Oscar Gutierrez
 3RD Jamie Boucher

MEN'S AA
 1ST Kent Younklin
 2ND John Rael
 3RD Joe Phillips

MEN'S A
 1ST Chris Pacheco
 2ND Steve Holliday
 3RD Alex Lizarazo

MEN'S B
 1ST Alex Lizarazo
 2ND Tony Ussery
 3RD Doug Felley

MEN'S C
 1ST Rich Gastellum
 2ND Anthony Garcia
 3RD Tucker Green

MEN'S D
 1ST Robert Sellers
 2ND Brian Easterday
 3RD Bob Anderson

MEN'S NOVICE
 1ST Doyle Hultberg
 2ND Warren Prue
 3RD Evan Ussery

MEN'S 30+
 1ST Jeff Wilson
 2ND Andy Clark
 3RD Jaime Boucher

MEN'S 40/50+
 1ST Tucker Green
 2ND Al Greiner
 3RD Bob Anderson

MEN'S 60+
 1ST Terry Lauritsen
 2ND Art Hurley
 3RD Wendell Hall

WOMEN'S OPEN
 1ST Rachel Gellman

2ND Tina Bragdon
3RD Cyd Hill

WOMEN'S AA
 1ST Nancy Kane
 2ND Cecille Bodman
 3RD Karla Barela

WOMEN'S A/B
 1ST Karla Barela
 2ND Susan Bruin
 3RD Michiko Nakashima

WOMEN'S C
 1ST Sharon Steeley
 2ND Donna Foskey
 3RD Jeni Fuller

WOMEN'S D
 1ST Donna Foskey
 2ND Sara Silverman
 3RD Jennifer Best

BOYS' 14 & UNDER
 1ST Ollie Caruso
 2ND Aaron Ortiz

GIRLS' 14 & UNDER
 1ST Jeni Fuller

BOYS' 12 & UNDER
 1ST Aaron Ortiz
 2ND Dylan Bodman
 3RD Evan Ussery

GIRLS' 12 & UNDER
 1ST Jennifer Best

8 & UNDER MULTIBOUNCE
 1ST Alex Bruin
 2ND Kyle Bruin

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES
 1ST Rachel Gellman
 Joe Wittenbrink

2ND Tina Bragdon
 Gary Mazaroff
3RD Cyd Hill
 Chris Evans

MIXED A/B DOUBLES
 1ST Cecille Bodman
 Doug Felley

2ND Gwen Easterday
 Cord Everetts
3RD Michiko Nakashima
 Alex Lizarazo

MIXED C/D DOUBLES
 1ST Nancy Nelson
 Brian Easterday
2ND Sarah Silverman
 Cord Everetts
3RD Jeni Fuller
 Doug Felley

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