



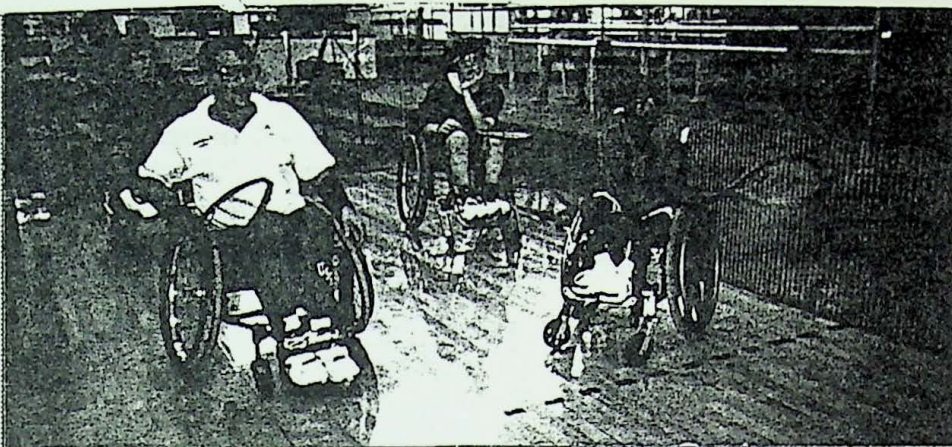
# DOWN THE LINE

## LOUISIANA RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

"DEDICATED TO  
PROMOTING THE GAME  
OF RACQUETBALL"

Dec. '94/Jan. '95 Vol 16, No. 10

The Louisiana Racquetball Association  
P.O. Box 669  
Mandeville, Louisiana 70470



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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ten to Fifteen years ago racquetball was at its peek in Louisiana. Our state was highlighted in the AARA--"Do it the LOUISIANA WAY!" There are a number of reasons we feel there has been a decline. The board is trying to address them and we need the help of its members.

Debbie Spica has stepped in as our Promotions Chairman, replacing Barry Day. This position will go up for election at the state singles tournament. In the meantime, she is "recruiting racquetball enthusiasts to assist with the promotion of racquetball" and acting as a liaison between the clubs and LRA. We feel that networking will give us a better line of communication and we can better service our members this way. If you are interested, please contact Debbie at (504) 296-8117.

The bread and butter of the LRA are sanctioned tournaments. These tournaments are where we get to see each other not only socially, but competitively. They give us a chance to play different people around the city and state. Tournament directors pride themselves on the quality of their events and how successful they turnout. The LRA receives the majority of its memberships at these events. The money from the memberships pay for the newsletters and for implementing programs. We would like to be able to implement more grassroots programs this upcoming year.

Tournaments that get sanctioned are also recognized by the American Amateur Racquetball Association on the national level. We would like to get back to having at least one to two tournaments per month. Right now only a handful of clubs are actively hosting tournaments. When playing in a non-sanctioned tournament the players are not insured. When you play in a sanctioned tournament you are covered by the LRA/AARA insurance policy. Also, when a player plays in non-sanctioned tournaments he will not accumulate points towards his ranking. **Encourage your club to host an event soon.**

The Association recognizes its limitations and boundaries and the LRA has come a long way this past year because of the support of it members. We can only hope that you continue to support this organization. As the Chairman of the Association, I can tell you that we are dedicated to promoting the sport of racquetball. **We welcome your suggestions, ideas and comments.**

MARCIA RICHARDS

### 1994 LRA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### Chairperson

Marcia Richards  
11622 Delray, Baton Rouge, 70814  
H (504) 275-4114 W (504) 753-3180

#### Scheduling

Pattie Schof  
1749 42nd St., Apt. D, Kenner, 70065  
H (504) 468-2813

#### Programs

Vicki Garrett  
4313 Alabama Ave., Kenner, 70065  
H (504) 464-4896  
W (504) 733-1600

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#### Publications

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1749 42nd St., Apt. D, Kenner, 70065  
H (504) 468-2813  
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H (504) 296-8117 W (504) 273-6400

#### Rankings/Membership

Gordon Murrill  
317 Davenport Dr., Baton Rouge, 70808  
H (504) 766-1428

#### Rules

Jamie Arroyave

#### State Program Directors

Juniors	Seniors
Gene Ferris	Jules Sachs

#### Women

Carrie Landry-New Orleans  
Mandy Farris-Baton Rouge

#### Area Representatives

Al Schof-New Orleans  
Barry Day-Baton Rouge  
Kim Allen-North Louisiana



## 1994 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

### **ELMWOOD FITNESS CENTER TURKEY SHOOT**

***November 18, 1994 - November 20, 1994***

#### **Men's Open**

1st Mark Bloom  
2nd Charles Pecot  
3rd Lance Landry  
Cons Ted Alvendia

#### **Men's A**

1st Chris Ladner  
2nd Kenny Tarride  
3rd Mark Volterre  
Cons Terrance Pierce

#### **Men's B**

1st James Bixler  
2nd Rusty Roussel  
3rd R.J. Tamplain  
Cons Barbara Burger

#### **Men's C**

1st Mark Higdon  
2nd Bill Boada  
3rd Ryan Rogers  
Cons Doug Ledet

#### **Men's D**

1st Arnesto Rodriguez  
2nd Jareth Rosman  
3rd Elliott Mistich  
Cons Michael Ladner

#### **Men's 35+B**

1st Al Reagle  
2nd Mike Fusilier  
3rd Roger Anastasio  
Cons Matt Warren

#### **Boys 10 & Under**

1st Jareth Rosman  
2nd Michael Ladner

#### **Women's A**

1st Delilah Huelsing  
2nd Carrie Landry  
3rd Daren Ladner

#### **Women's C**

1st Christine Quinn  
2nd Christine Rola

#### **Men's Open/A Doubles**

1st Mark Bloom/Rory Arcement  
2nd Charles Pecot/David Rahn  
3rd Mark Volterre/Tyrone Martin  
Cons Terrance Pierce/Clarence Simmons

#### **Men's B Doubles**

1st Ray Ronquillo, Jr./Ray Ronquillo, III  
2nd Delilah Huelsing/Jeffrey Ruberti  
3rd Brian Recasner/Jeffrey Griffin  
Cons Al Reagle/Lynn Dominique



## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the LRA, I would like to apologize for any inconvenience resulting from the 1994 State Doubles Championships.

In an effort to cut costs and encourage more clubs to hold major tournaments, the LRA initiated an "Open Door" policy which allowed clubs to secure their own sponsors, i. e., food, shirts, awards, etc. In the past, state championship tournaments were run by the LRA ("Type A Tournaments"). This proved to be very expensive for the LRA and was driving up the cost of championship tournaments. Initiating the "Open Door" policy seemed like a good idea and it worked very well; the last four state championships (singles and doubles) were the least expensive and the most successful in many years.

The 1994 State Doubles Championships was also a big success and a lot of fun. Unfortunately, there was one major problem that eluded the LRA. While the LRA was not responsible for this mishap, we are taking steps to see that this problem is rectified. The LRA board is in the process of seeing that all awards are received by the division winners

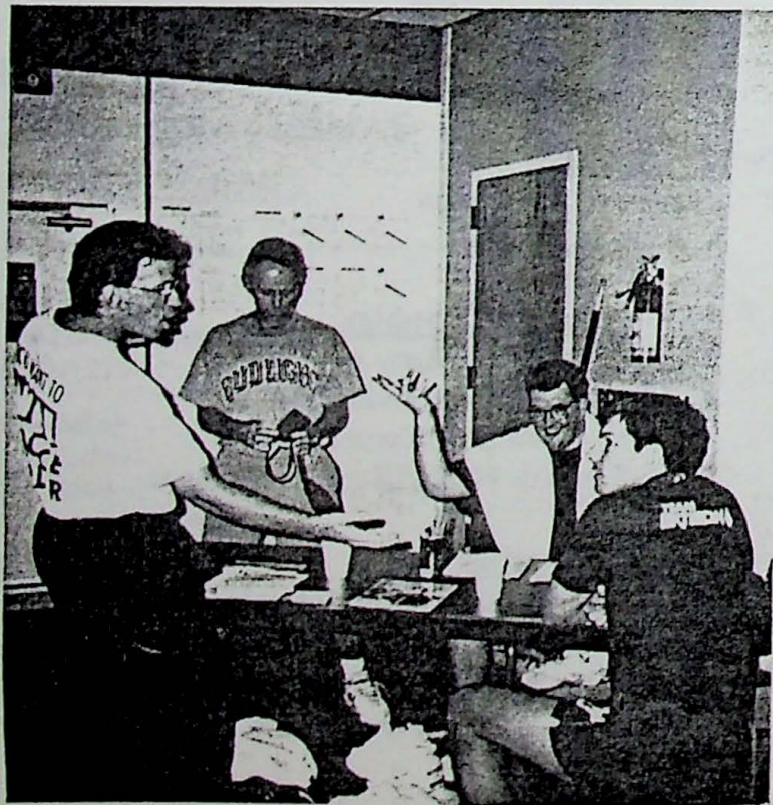
and all future championship tournaments will again be considered "Type A Tournaments" and directly overseen by the LRA.

The current board has worked very hard over the last three years to rebuild the LRA and secure the trust of its members. Without its members there is no LRA!

Everyone works hard to develop their game to its fullest potential and deserves recognition. The 1995 season will prove to be an excellent year with new clubs hosting tournaments as well as the **20th Anniversary State Singles Championships.**

**KEEP PRACTICING!** We want the 20th Anniversary of The Louisiana Racquetball Association to be the best year ever with continued dedication to promoting the game of racquetball.

AL SCHOF





## RACQUETBALL CAMP - FUN AND REAL RESULTS

After a particularly disappointing racquetball tournament in which I lost **again** in the finals, I was having a discussion with my coach, Paul Bruno. It went like this: "Look, Fritz, you've beaten Mr.'s A, B and C, right?" "Uh huh." "And Mr.'s A, B and C have all beaten Mr. D, right?" "Yeah." "Then how come you lost to Mr. D?" "I don't know, coach."

I started thinking about the six years of tournaments I had played in and the twenty-five trophies I had brought home, none of which was for first place. I figured I'd really improve my game--I would attend a racquetball camp. The ideal situation presented itself. Two of my favorite Pro's, Andy Roberts and Ruben Gonzalez, were hosting "America's Most Wanted Racquetball Camp" in Atlanta, Georgia. It was at a time when I could get off because of the Mardi Gras holidays, it wasn't too far and the price was right--fourteen hours of intensive instruction for less than \$15.00 per hour. What a bargain!

My wife and I left New Orleans on Thursday evening and drove to Atlanta. Along the way my apprehension kept growing. The usual "am I crazy?" and "how did I get into this?" conversations with myself. Finally, I decided that I'd give it my best shot and see what happened. Friday evening at the Cobb Court Club in Atlanta, twenty-five of us had an introductory session with Andy Roberts. Then everyone had an opportunity to play him for five points. I actually scored legitimate point on him (I have the scorecard to prove it) and had an absolute blast. There I was, on the court with my favorite Pro. It was terrific!

The next day we started with the lessons. They were all extremely well organized around the very excellent video tape, "Play With The Pros," that you get to keep as part of the camp. You get a thirty to forty-five minute lesson then get out on the court to go through what was just covered in the video. Andy and Ruben circulate around from one court to another emphasizing what was taught in the lessons. They make a video of each person playing five points with an opponent. Then more instruction. More practice. By 5:00 p.m. we were all dragging anchor. Saturday night there was an exhibition match between Andy Roberts and Ruben Gonzalez. It was breathtaking, to say the least.

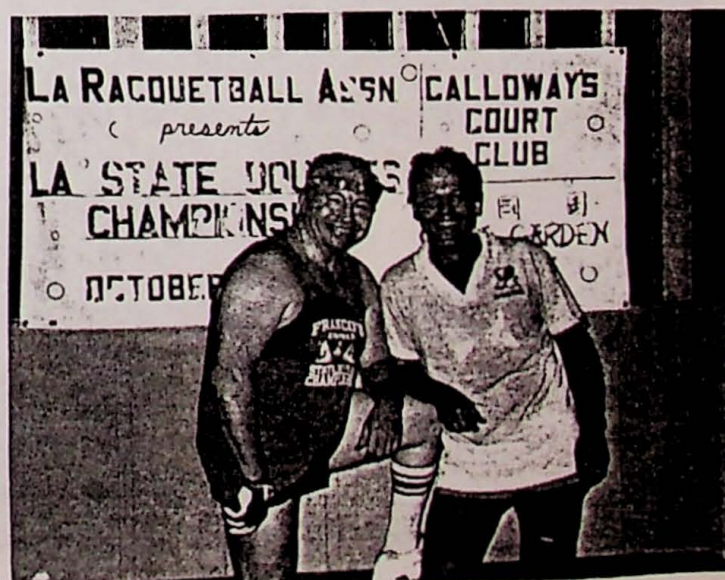
Sunday we got to watch the video made the day before and it was amazing to see the different things that we were learning to correct in just a short time. By the end of the Sunday session, I was really revved up and convinced that I now had some real ammunition to improve my game.

Let me warn you just as Andy Roberts warned the camp members on several occasions: you come away from the camp with a lot of new ideas and techniques but the minute you attempt to change what you have been doing for several years your game gets worse. Yeah, I didn't like that aspect of it at all, but the very fact that the Pro had given us the warning was enough to set my mind at rest and keep me practicing.

It seems to be paying off because going to this camp has changed my game radically. I won my first "D" Division tournament on July 15, 1994--my sixtieth birthday. On October 22, 1994, I won Third Place in the Louisiana Senior Olympics in the 60+ Division. I am now eligible to play in the National Senior Olympics in San Antonio, Texas in May, 1995. My partner and I won The Louisiana State Doubles Championship, "C" Division, in October. Right now I am aiming for The Louisiana State Singles Championship in March, right after I make the camp in Atlanta again! This time with Jack Newman and Andy Roberts.

Why don't you put a new look in your racquetball game and join me? It's a load of fun and it **REALLY** gets results.

### FRITZ OWENS





**1994 LOUISIANA STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
***Calloway's Court Club***  
***October 28, 1994 - October 30, 1994***

**Men's Open Doubles**

1st Richard Broadwell/Al Schof  
 2nd Rick Chiquelin/Joe Kadi  
 3rd John Davis/Steve Rogers  
 Cons Mike Whatley/Eric Fuselier

**Men's A Doubles**

1st Ken Kachtik/Johnny Alvendia  
 2nd Gary Fontenot/Larry Sharpe  
 3rd Kenny Tarride/Ken Hood  
 Cons Chris Pellerin/Neal Ashby

**Men's B Doubles**

1st R. J. Tamplain/Mike Harris  
 2nd J. D. Dedebant/Tim Taylor  
 3rd Jeff Griffin/Brian Reacasner

**Men's C Doubles**

1st Fritz Owens/Joe Henning  
 2nd Gordon Murrill/Ricky Willis  
 3rd Joe Austin/Richard Butler

**Men's 35+ A Doubles**

1st Bo Champagne/Steve Rogers  
 2nd Rick Chiquelin/Joe Kadi  
 3rd Gary Fontenot/Larry Sharpe  
 Cons Dodd Berrio/Jay Kirkland

**Men's 35+ B Doubles**

1st J. D. Dedebant/Tim Taylor  
 2nd Jeff Griffin/Brian Reacasner  
 3rd Richard Powell/ York

**Women's Open Doubles**

1st Debbie Spica/Vicki Garrett  
 2nd Helen Seigel/Beth Ford  
 3rd Marcia Richards/Pattie Schof

**Women's B Doubles**

1st Rosie Bloom/Rena Rodriguez  
 2nd Neyda Leslie/Anne Schaeffer  
 3rd Davina Bloom/Paige Holstein

**Mixed Open Doubles**

1st Vicki Garrett/Charles Pecot  
 2nd Debbie Spica/Ken Hood  
 3rd Marcia Richards/Mark Jardell  
 Cons Pattie Schof/Al Schof

**Mixed B Doubles**

1st Neyda Leslie/Mike Harris  
 2nd Anne Schaeffer/J. D. Dedebant  
 3rd Joe Austin/Clara Simien  
 Cons Mandy Farris/Kevin Bettles





# 1995 CALENDAR

## LANCE NELSON ANNUAL MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

The Courtyard Health and Racquet Club - Alexandria, LA  
February 3, 1995 - February 5, 1995 (non-sanctioned)

## ELMWOOD FITNESS CENTER JUNIOR TOURNAMENT AND CLINIC

Elmwood Fitness Center - Harahan, LA  
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - February 18, 1995

## ELMWOOD FITNESS CENTER 8TH ANNUAL OPEN

Elmwood Fitness Center - Harahan, LA  
March 3, 1995 - March 5, 1995 (LRA/AARA)

## VIDEO GAME LESSON AND CLINIC

Club to be Announced - Baton Rouge, LA  
March 11, 1995 - Marcia Richards

## 20TH ANNIVERSARY LOUISIANA STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tentatively Scheduled at Franco's Athletic Club - Mandeville, LA  
March 24, 1995 - March 26, 1995 (LRA/AARA)

## LOUISIANA SPORTS AND FITNESS SECOND ANNUAL ST. JUDE HOSPITAL/BISHOP HUGHES RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

Louisiana Sports and Fitness Center - Baton Rouge, LA  
April 7, 1995 - April 9, 1995 (LRA/AARA)

## 1995 ADULT METRO REGIONALS

Maverick Athletic Club - Arlington, TX  
April 20, 1995 - April 23, 1995 (AARA)

## GOING FOR THE ONE

Foxy's Health Club - Baton Rouge, LA  
May 5, 1995 - May 7, 1995 (LRA/AARA)

## 1995 EKTELON ADULT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Downtown YMCA - Houston, TX  
May 24, 1995 - May 29, 1995 (AARA)

## LOUISIANA GAMES/JUNE CLASSIC

Elmwood Fitness Center - Harahan, LA  
June 9, 1995 - June 11, 1995 (LRA/AARA)

### ATTENTION CLUB OWNERS/PRO'S:

Please contact Pattie Schof, (504) 468-2813, regarding scheduling 1995 tournaments. Tournaments added to the schedule early will receive added coverage in *Racquetball U.S.A.*

## **GOT A GRIPE? FULL OF PRAISE?**

We want to hear from you!

This is your organization and the LRA Board is only trying to do the best for you, but without your input, we cannot.

Every letter that is received will be responded to in writing from the LRA Board and both the letter and the response will be published in the next issue of *Down the Line*.

Al Schof



## Renew Your AARA Competitive License Today Through the LRA

You become eligible to compete in all State Tournaments  
and receive

Ranking Points from Entry Into Each Tournament Through Finish  
Four to Six Issues of "Down The Line"

PLUS

Become eligible for over 1200 additional AARA sanctioned tournaments held in the U.S. each year. You'll also receive: Membership Kit - Personalized Competitive License - Competition Accident Insurance - Six Issues of "Racquetball USA" - State Publications & Entry Forms - AARA Official Rulebook - National Ranking Points for Quarterfinals, or Higher Finishes in Sanctioned Play - Industry, Product & Service Discounts

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

LRA # \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail This Form To:

LRA

P.O. Box 669

Mandeville Louisiana 70470

\*By renewing your AARA Membership directly with LRA, the State organization receives the larger portion of the renewal fee

LRA/AARA MEMBERSHIP - \$25.00 Per Year