

The Sharpshooters . . .

KEELEY



ZEITMAN



STRANDEMO



SEROT



SCHMIDTKE



HILECHER



. . . gunning for Brumfield

RACQUETBALL

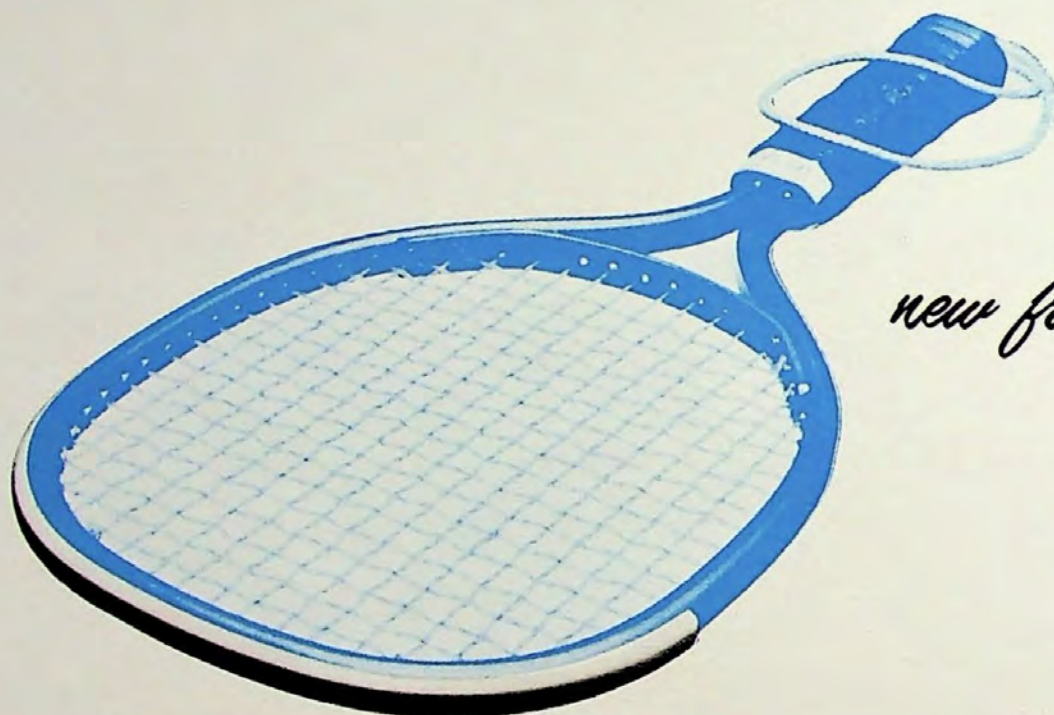
OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

MARCH 1974

93 1/2

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NEW



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RACQUETBALL Magazine is sent free to all members

Singles Reset to June 6-9

The sixth annual International Singles Championships of the IRA have been postponed from Memorial Day weekend to June 6-9, because of construction delays at the tournament site.

In announcing the new dates, IRA executive director Myron Roderick apologized to the membership for any inconvenience and declared that no future tournaments would be awarded or scheduled until the prospective facility is complete and ready for play.

The 1974 Championships will be held at Brown's Handball & Racquetball Club, located at 5205 Kearney Villa Way in San Diego.

Tournament headquarters will be the LeBaron Hotel, 250 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, Calif. 92110, telephone 714-291-1777.

Activity will start on Tuesday, June 4, with the annual meeting of the Board of Directors at 10 a.m.

First competition will be the Preliminary Open Singles, scheduled at 8 a.m. Wednesday, a qualifying tournament to complete the 64 bracket in the Open. Eight or more positions will be available.

Entry deadline for all events, including the preliminary, is May 20. Entry fee is \$20 with a limit of one singles event. The entry fee for the preliminary singles will cover each contestant who qualifies for the Open.

Anyone who failed to qualify for the Open Singles may compete in the preliminary event, but he MUST register at Brown's from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, or verify his entry by telephone during that time.

The registration desk will open at the LeBaron Hotel from 1 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

Thursday's play, starting at 8 a.m., will include Open Singles, Women's Singles, 35-over Seniors and 45-over Masters. All players in those events must register Wednesday.

Friday's action, also starting at 8 a.m.,

Continued on Page 2



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Zeitman upset in South, but Garfinkel, Porco, Stran-
demo, Hilecher and McCoy win Open titles.

PAGE 13 The Masters Touch

John Halverson recovers from a first round defeat to win
National Invitation Masters Singles.

PAGE 14 Inside Racquetball

This month's instructional article covers fundamentals of
serve and return, by the book.

PAGE 20 Practice by Yourself

Jan Campbell, a highly regarded women's star, outlines
methods of improving your game.

PAGE 30 Meet Mr. Racquetball

Response to last fall's recreation survey draws a picture
of the "average" racquetball player.

IRA Board of Directors

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RACQUETBALL

Volume 3, Number 2, March 1974

The official voice of the International Racquetball Association, published
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San Diego . . .

Continued From Page 1

includes 18-under Junior Singles, 55-over
Golden Masters Singles and Women's
Doubles, the only doubles event in this
tournament. Entry fee for Women's
Doubles is \$20 per team. These players
must register by 8 p.m. Thursday.

The annual general meeting for the
IRA membership will be an 8:30 a.m.
breakfast on Saturday, June 8, with the
business session following at 9:30 a.m.
Four positions on the Board of Directors
will be filled. Other topics for discussion
are outlined in the Director's Message on
Page 4 of this issue.

The official entry blank for the In-
ternational Singles Championships will
be found on Page 5. When completed,
send it with the entry fee to Dr. Bud
Muehleisen, 9333 Loren Drive, San Diego,
Calif. 92041, telephone 714-442-7333.
Deadline for all events is May 20.

Preliminary qualifying is required
only in Open Singles. Other events are
open to anyone eligible under the rules.

Consolations will be held in each event,
open to anyone who loses his first match
played. Trophies will be awarded for four
places in each class, plus consolation
champion.

Reservations at the tournament hotel
may be made in advance through the
IRA office, PO Box 1016, Stillwater, Okla.
74074. Two types of rooms are available:

In the motor court, singles are \$13,
doubles \$15 and twins (two doubles) \$18.
In the plaza tower, singles are \$17,
doubles \$19 and twins \$22.

For reservations, send one night's
deposit, your name, home address and
arrival date to the IRA office before May
15.

For transportation from the airport to
the hotel, advise the hotel of your arrival
time and flight number and you will be
met at the airport. The hotel must
receive this information directly from
you by May 15.

If you have any additional questions,
consult the IRA office in Stillwater,
telephone 405-377-2676.

Daffy Days

The second annual Daffy Open tour-
nament will be held May 24-27 at Pacific
Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash.

Entry deadline is May 10 and the fee is
\$12 for one event, \$8 for a second event.
Classes scheduled are Open, Class B,
Class C, Women's and Masters Singles
and Open Doubles.

For information and entry blanks,
write or call Sid Williams, 1120 South
Seventh, Tacoma, Wash. 98405, telephone
206-272-1029.

RACQUETBALL

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NEW REGIONAL LINEUP PROPOSED



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1016 • Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074 • (405) 377-2676

Dear Racquetball Friends:

I hope this magazine will find everyone in good health and having lots of fun playing Racquetball.

I would like to apologize for the lateness of the last magazine and I know it caused some problems with the Regionals. The problem we had was getting information from the regions so we could print it in the magazine. I can assure you we will have the next issue out on time.

We have reports back from the Regionals and I think they were a success, but we had some problems in each of them. I am going to recommend to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting the following proposal:

Anyone hosting a Regional must hold all classes, both singles and doubles. Also, each Regional must have a referees' clinic the night before the tournament starts so we can have some uniformity within our organization as far as officiating is concerned.

I also feel it is important to break our Regionals down into more realistic areas. The present breakdown is as follows:

East—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, D. C., West Virginia, Ohio.

Central—Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa.

South—Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Puerto Rico.

Southwest—Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota.

West—Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, Alaska.

East Canada—Quebec, Ontario.

West Canada—British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba.

I propose to have the breakdown in the United States in eight regions instead of five, keeping the Canadian regions as they are. This is the proposed lineup:

East—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware.

Central—Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan.

North—Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota.

Mid-South—North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Maryland, D. C.

South—Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Puerto Rico.

Southwest—Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana.

Northwest—Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska.

West—California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Hawaii.

If you have any ideas or comments concerning this proposal, please let me know. I think this will give us more opportunity for participation and lots less travel involved.

As you know, our International Championships have been set back to the first weekend in June, due to construction delays on the Brown's facility. I hope this doesn't inconvenience you as far as the tournament is concerned. It will be a beautiful facility and I think you will enjoy playing as well as visiting San Diego.

We have had two offers to hold the International Doubles Championships, one in Dallas and the other in Cleveland. Both facilities are outstanding and the tournament will be held October 10-13.

I hope the ball situation is improving in your area.

Be sure to let me know if you have any ideas that you want presented at the General Membership meeting during the Internationals in San Diego.

If we can be of any further help to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Myron Roderick
Executive Director





95 1/2

Official Entry Blank

Sixth Annual

International Singles

Championships

June 6-7-8-9, 1974
San Diego, Calif.

Please enter me in the event checked:

☐ **Open Singles**

Contestant must be an accredited qualifier through one of seven IRA regional championships.

☐ **Preliminary Open Singles**

Any contestant who failed to qualify through an IRA regional may compete in the preliminary tournament June 5 from which eight or more will advance to fill an Open Singles bracket of 64.

☐ **Junior Singles, 18-Under**

Contestant must have been 18 years old or younger on March 1, 1974.

☐ **Senior Singles, 35-Over**

Contestant must have been 35 years old or over on March 1, 1974.

☐ **Masters Singles, 45-Over**

Contestant must have been 45 years old or over on March 1, 1974.

☐ **Golden Masters Singles, 55-Over**

Contestant must have been 55 years old or over on March 1, 1974.

☐ **Women's Singles**

☐ **Women's Doubles**

Partner's Name _____

SEND THIS PAGE WITH ENTRY FEE TO DR. BUD MUEHLEISEN, 9333 LOREN DRIVE, LA MESA, CALIF. 92041

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ IRA Card No. _____

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the International Racquetball Association, its affiliated clubs and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my participation in Regional or International tournaments.

Date _____ Signature _____

ELIGIBILITY

Contestant must show, or obtain, current IRA membership card

ENTRY FEES

\$20 singles, limit one event

\$20 team, women's doubles

Payment must accompany entry blank

ENTRY DEADLINE

Monday, May 20, 1974

TOURNAMENT SITE

Brown's Handball-Racquetball Club

5205 Kearney Villa Way

San Diego, Calif. 92123

TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

LeBaron Hotel

250 Hotel Circle North

San Diego, Calif. 92110

100 rooms reserved for players on a first-come, first-served basis.

Single \$13-\$17

Double \$15-\$19

Double-Double \$18-\$22

For reservations, see instructions contained in tournament story starting on Page 1 of this magazine

BE READY TO PLAY

8 a.m. Wednesday, June 5:
Preliminary Singles

8 a.m. Thursday, June 6:
Open, Women's, Senior,
Masters Singles

8 a.m. Friday, June 7:
Junior, Golden Masters,
Women's Doubles

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spot in the game, and offers a one-piece extruded frame.

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For the best in racquetballs and racquets see ours at your pro shop or sporting goods store. To get our newest catalog write: Seamco Sporting Goods, New Haven, Connecticut 06503.

The best reason for you to buy our racquets is our racquetball.



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The Regionals...

East

Garfinkel Rally From 10-20 Subdues Kutas for 'Double'

With a brilliant display of high-pressure racquetball, Charlie Garfinkel of Buffalo, N. Y., came from way out in left field to win the last 11 points and defeat Tom Kutas of Cincinnati in the open singles finals of the IRA East Regional at State College, Pa.

The field of 130 players, including 60 in open singles, doubled the 1973 entry list and was the largest East Regional yet. And the finals provided enough excitement to last for years.

The first game went to Garfinkel in a good, close struggle, 21-20, but Kutas zipped through the second, 21-9, and was

rolling at high speed in the third until was 20-10, match point serving.

The Gar did not break, although Tom had lots of chances to get that last elusive point. Charlie was hitting ceiling balls well to Tom's right side and waiting for the best percentage opportunity.

He pulled slowly to 17-20 and kept applying the pressure. Kutas' passes were coming off the back wall and Gar didn't have to run them down as he did earlier. Finally, it was 20-20 and Garfinkel showed absolute concentration as he battled successfully for the final point.

There was only one hinder the entire



Tom Kutas . . . afterward

match, each player called all questionable skips and referee Tom Sweeney had high praise for both the quality of racquetball and the sportsmanship shown by both.

There was plenty of competition in the semifinals, too, where Garfinkel turned back Charlie Shapiro of Pennsylvania, 21-19, 21-10, and Kutas nipped Mike Luciw of Connecticut, 21-15, 11-21, 21-18.

Shapiro had a bad break in the first game when a ball skidded on a sweat drop on the floor, jumped Gar's racquet and struck Shapiro. The mishap broke Shapiro's concentration and disrupted his beautiful soft-touch play just long enough.

Kutas' speed made the difference over Luciw, whose kills off Tom's serve made it difficult for Tom to run him as much as he'd have liked.

Only a few people saw the third place match between Luciw and Shapiro, but it was a bell-ringer. With Gar expected to go senior singles in the Internationals and a possibility Kutas might not make it to San Diego, there still was a chance for the winner to pick up full cross-country transportation.

Luciw won 16-21, 21-19, 21-17, strictly on deisre. Both players were out of gas and played a match of the heart. Shapiro's soft shots worked well throughout, but in



Charlie Garfinkel showed 'em how to play under pressure.

the last crunch several hard kills won for Luciw.

Roundout the 10 qualifiers were Carmen Fellicetti of Pennsylvania, fifth (he surprised Rob Adams in the first round); much improved Mike Romano of Massachusetts, sixth; Tom Sweeney of Pennsylvania, seventh; Mark Hiudt of Ohio, eighth; Craig Guinter of Pennsylvania, ninth; and Jerry Davis of Ohio, 10th.

Craig is a power-hitting lefty with little tournament experience, but he took Kutas to a 21-19 game.

Garfinkel completed a "double" by defeating Ken Mitchell of Ohio, 21-5, 21-11, for the senior singles title and now must choose in which division he will play at the Internationals. Gar passed well and Mitchell flicked the ball back up to the front wall, which doesn't win against Garfinkel.



Charlie Shapiro models the East Regional's red souvenir T-shirt.

Gene Grapes, still one of the pure shooters in the game, took masters singles over John Leech of Ohio, 21-7, 21-10. Gene entered only the masters singles and the extra rest proved valuable.

Gerri Stoffregen of Ohio had to go three games to win women's singles over Camile McCarthy of Indiana, 6-21, 21-12, 21-15. Richie Wagner of New Jersey outclassed a double elimination field of eight to win junior singles, taking Don Salvatore of Ohio, 21-10, 21-2, for the title.

Jack Bowling of New York won the golden masters round-robin, with Sam Alacca of Ohio second.

The open doubles provided a mild surprise as Luciw and Romano overwhelmed Abrams and Hiudt, 21-11, 21-12. Romano was killing and covering Abrams well. Hiudt couldn't connect with his Z-ball and Luciw didn't have to provide much help for Romano, who killed right side-wall very well.

OPEN SINGLES

Semifinals: Charlie Garfinkel, New York, def. Charlie Shapiro, Pennsylvania, 21-19, 21-10; Tom Kutas, Ohio, def. Mike Luciw, Connecticut, 21-15, 11-21, 21-18.

Finals: Garfinkel def. Kutas, 21-10, 9-21, 21-20. Third: Luciw def. Shapiro, 16-21, 21-19, 21-17.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Finals: Gerri Stoffregen, Ohio, def. Camile McCarthy, Indiana, 6-21, 21-12, 21-15. Third: Patti Wallisch, Pennsylvania.

JUNIOR SINGLES

Finals: Richie Wagner, New Jersey, def. Don Salvatore, Ohio, 21-10, 21-2. Third: John Moshides, New York.

SENIOR SINGLES

Semifinals: Charlie Garfinkel, New York, def. Pat Columbo, New York, 21-9, 21-19;



Richie Wagner . . . junior champ

Ken Mitchell, Ohio, def. Joe Jackman, Pennsylvania, 7-21, 21-20, 21-20.

Finals: Garfinkel def. Mitchell, 21-5, 21-11. Third: Columbo def. Jackman, 21-5, 20-21, 21-19.

MASTERS SINGLES

Semifinals: Gene Grapes, Pennsylvania, def. Pat Deighan, Ohio, 21-6, 8-21, 21-20; John Leech, Ohio, def. Charlie Levine, Pennsylvania, 21-15, 21-9.

Finals: Grapes def. Leech, 21-7, 21-10.

GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES

Round Robin: 1—Jack Bowling, New York; 2—Sam Alacca, Ohio; 3—Ray Cuneo, New York.

OPEN DOUBLES

Finals: Luciw-Romano def. Abrams-Hiudt, 21-11, 21-12. Third: Dick Cuneo-Al Schattner def. Tim Grapes-Al Miller, 21-17, 21-15.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Round Robin: 1—Gerri Stoffregen-Camile McCarthy.

South Porco Overpowers Hennen; Zeitman Upset in Early Round

Veteran Ken Porco of Louisville turned Cinderella's coach back into a pumpkin and stroked to the open singles championship of the IRA South Regional with a convincing 21-7, 21-7 victory over Johnny Hennen of Chattanooga.

Hennen, the No. 13 seed, had all but stolen the tournament spotlight by knocking off pre-tourney favorite Mike Zeitman of Louisville in the round of 16.

Hennen then turned back Chuck Cooper of Louisville and Joe Ycaza of Atlanta to reach the finals.

Zeitman, regarded a top contender in the Internationals at San Diego, was third in the recent National Invitation tournament and was top-seeded in the regional. But he may have taken the left-handed restaurant operator from Chattanooga too lightly.

After dropping the first game, 20-21, Hennen came back to win the second, 21-19, and kept rolling them out for a 21-15 decision in the finale.

Zeitman did squeeze into the field for San Diego when he was one of the two chosen from the round of 16 to join the eight quarterfinalists among the 10 qualifiers. The other selectee was Jim Cullen of Memphis State, beaten in the 16's by Cooper, 21-14, 21-19.

Hennen downed Cooper, 21-9, 21-18, in the quarters; Ycaza stopped Dave Bledsoe, 21-20, 21-15; Porco trimmed Marc Auerbach, 21-7, 21-4; and Steve Smith of Memphis State won his latest duel from Randy Stafford of Tennessee-Knoxville, 21-18, 21-14.

Hennen had quite a struggle with Ycaza in the semis before pulling out a



Bill King . . . masters king

21-17, 13-21, 21-20 decision and Porco passed his only real test of the tournament, 21-6, 16-21, 21-11, over Smith.

Porco, the Senior Invitation champion, suffered a letdown at the start of the second game, fell far back, rallied to tie, then let Smith pull away again. But the finale was a convincing 21-11.

Ycaza outbattled Smith for third place, 21-8, 13-21, 21-20.

Evie Morguelan of Louisville repeated as women's champion, Bill King of Memphis won senior singles, Herman Abramovitz of Louisville took masters singles, Ike Gumer of Louisville was golden masters champion and Dean Nichopoulos of Memphis captured the junior singles title. Allan Hyman and Fred Michels of Louisville downed Porco and Auerbach, 21-8, 21-10, in open doubles champions were Luther Green and Larry McGee of Raleigh, N. C., in seniors; Abramovitz and Gumer in masters; and Sarah Green and Krissy Nichopoulos of Memphis in women's.

The tournament at Birmingham YMCA drew 110 contestants.

King had a pair of tough three-gamers before he could nail down the senior championship, getting past J. E. Matheson in the semifinals, 15-21, 21-6, 21-13, and Norman Chambers of Raleigh, 21-12, 13-21, 21-11, in the finals.

Abramovitz turned back Tom Stidham of Clearwater, Fla., 21-15, 14-21, 21-16, in a closely contested struggle for masters honors. Gumer took golden masters in a round-robin format with Alex Guerry second.

Nichopoulos defeated Hal Broderson of Louisville, 21-19, 17-21, 21-19 in the junior singles finals as the seedings held up. Dean also had to go three games in the semifinals with D. Gordon, who wound up third.

Evie Morguelan was defending women's champion, but you'd never know it from the scores. She had to go overtime in all three matches, losing her first game of the semifinals to Lucy Fryar and the first game of the finals to Sarah Green, finally pulling out an 11-21, 21-20, 21-7 win.

OPEN SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Johnny Hennen, Chattanooga, def. Chuck Cooper, Louisville, 21-9, 21-18; Joe Ycaza, Atlanta, def. Dave Bledsoe, Knoxville, 21-20, 21-15; Ken Porco, Louisville, def. Marc Auerbach, Decatur, Ga., 21-7, 21-4; Steve Smith, Memphis, def. Randy Stafford, Knoxville, 21-18, 21-14.

Semifinals: Hennen def. Ycaza, 21-17, 13-21, 21-20; Porco def. Smith, 21-6, 16-21, 21-11.

Finals: Porco def. Hennen, 21-7, 21-7. Third: Smith def. Ycaza, 21-8, 13-21, 21-20.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Semifinals: E. Morguelan def. L. Fryar, 15-21, 21-7, 21-12; S. Green def. S. Graham, 21-12, 21-2.

Finals: Morguelan def. Green, 11-21, 21-20, 21-7. Third: Fryar def. Graham, 21-8, 21-18.



South commissioner Barry Cox presents award to Ken Porco.

JUNIOR SINGLES

Semifinals: Nichopoulos def. Gordon, 21-15, 20-21, 21-18; Broderson def. Gilbert, 21-3, 21-14.

Finals: Nichopoulos def. Broderson, 21-19, 17-21, 21-19. Third: Gordon def. Gilbert, 21-18, 21-14.

SENIOR SINGLES

Semifinals: Chambers def. Self, 21-3, 9-21, 21-12; King def. Matheson, 15-21, 21-6, 21-13.

Finals: King def. Chambers, 21-12, 13-21, 21-11. Third: Self def. Matheson, default.

MASTERS SINGLES

Semifinals: Stidham def. G. Nichopoulos, 21-10, 21-12; Abramovitz def. Obman, 21-11, 21-13.

Finals: Abramovitz def. Stidham, 21-15, 14-21, 21-16. Third: Obman def.

Nichopoulos, default.

GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES

Round Robin: 1—I. Gumer; 2—A. Guerry; 3—K. W. Aungst.

OPEN DOUBLES

Semifinals: Michels-Hyman def. King-Hennen, 21-11, 21-15; Auerbach-Porco def. Zeitman-Cooper, 21-11, 6-21, 21-16.

Finals: Michels-Hyman def. Auerbach-Porco, 21-8, 21-10. Third: Zeitman-Cooper def. King-Hennen, default.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Finals: Nichopoulos-Green def. Rentz-O'Connell, 21-20, 21-5.

SENIOR DOUBLES

Finals: McGee-Green def. Elsasser-Hullender, 21-9, 21-10.

MASTERS DOUBLES

Finals: Abramovitz-Gumer def. Stidham-Frank, 21-5, 21-11.

Central Strandemo Shoots For the 'Big One'

Steve Strandemo, enjoying his best year on the racquetball trail, boomed into the International Championship picture by winning the IRA Central Regional at Minneapolis.

Strandemo defeated home town rival Ron Strom of St. Cloud, Minn., 21-6, 21-18, in the open singles finals.

Starting with the Klondike championship last summer, Strandemo's experience in San Diego has been paying off with a string of victories over the top players and he definitely looms as a high seed and championship contender at San Diego.

The other eight open singles qualifiers

from the Central Regional are John Rude, Paul Ikier, Gordon Kelly, Tom and Joe Wirkus, Mark Hegg, Jim Santinos and Mike Bergen. Bill Schmidtke of Minneapolis, fourth last year, was exempt from the qualifying process.

Kelly, the airline pilot from Michigan who is another top young challenger, captured third place from Hegg of Sioux Falls in a comeback 19-21, 21-11, 21-10 performance.

The tournament drew 187 entries to the Court House facility and so many excellent matches were played that it would be impossible to single out a "best" encounter. The official black ball showed good consistency and only a small amount of breakage.

Schmidtke didn't play in the qualifying open singles, but teamed with Strom to win the doubles title over Schultz and Fancher, 21-15, 21-8. Bob Adam, Jr. and Mark Domarque, the junior singles

finalists, captured third place in open doubles with a 21-18, 21-5 victory over Gil Schmidt and Moore.

The Adams family produced two champions. Bob Jr. defeated Domarque, 21-9, 6-21, 21-10, in the see-saw finals of junior singles. And Bob Sr. won senior singles over Bernie Nielsen, 21-11, 21-18.

Kathy Williams downed K. Porter, 21-10, 13-21, 21-9, in the women's singles finals with Sue Carrow taking third.

Jim White, who went to the finals of masters doubles in last year's Internationals, won masters singles in the regional with a 21-7, 8-21, 21-9 victory over Diz Kronenberg.

Ben Wirkus downed Don Johnson, 21-7, 21-6 in golden masters singles.

OPEN SINGLES

Finals: Steve Strandemo def. Ron Strom, 21-6, 21-18. Third: Gordon Kelly def. Mark Hegg, 19-21, 21-11, 21-10.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Finals: Kathy Williams def. Keri Porter, 21-10, 13-21, 21-9. Third: Sue Carrow def. Sue Vostal, 21-5, 21-6.

JUNIOR SINGLES

Finals: Bob Adam Jr. def. Mark Domarque, 21-9, 6-21, 21-10. Third: Charlie Rish def. Hart Johnson, 13-21, 21-11, 21-11.

SENIOR SINGLES

Finals: Bob Adam Sr. def. Bernie Nielsen, 21-11, 21-18. Third: Bernie McNamara def. Ron Haskvitz, 21-13, 21-4.

MASTERS SINGLES

Finals: Jim White def. Diz Kronenberg, 21-7, 8-21, 21-9. Third: Bill Schultz def. Ivan Brunner, 21-14, 21-11.

GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES

Finals: Ben Wirkus def. Don Johnson, 21-7, 21-6. Third: Bob Smith def. Frank Chesly.

OPEN DOUBLES

Finals: Schmidtke-Strom def. Schultz-Fancher, 21-15, 21-8. Third: Adam Jr.-Domarque def. Gil Schmidt-Moore, 21-18, 21-5.

Southwest

Hilecher Outshoots Wong; Peggy Shows She's Ready

"Danny's Gang" from St. Louis, led by Jerry Hilecher, dominated this year's IRA Southwest Regional at Fort Worth, with Hilecher defeating home town rival Ken Wong, 20-21, 21-4, 21-12, for the open singles championship.

The 10 courts on the Texas Christian University campus served as the battleground, and a battle it was, although familiar names topped the charts at the close of the three-day event.

With nationally ranked players in nearly all of the seven divisions, the St. Louis crowd found themselves viewing most of the deciding matches from inside the courts.

The 40-man open draw was strong from top to bottom, with names like Luther Bernstein, Tom McKie, Roland Treat and Virgil Thurmond giving the top four seeds all they could handle.

However, when semifinal time came around Saturday night, Jerry Hilecher was matched against Jim Austin of Houston on one court and Ken Wong was paired against Pete Wright of Fort Worth right next door.

Hilecher's power against Austin's smoothness provided an interesting contrast. It was close all the way, but Jerry's devastating rollouts proved the difference, 21-17, 21-15, although Jim continues to show the outstanding backhand control which is his trademark.

On the other side of the bracket, it was



Jerry Hilecher . . . champion

a question of Wong's stamina and pass shots against Wright's backhand rollouts. Again, the match was tight but convincing, 21-14, 21-19, for Wong.

From the first game of the finals, won by Wong 21-20, one would have expected another long, drawn-out affair. But Hilecher had other ideas.

Leaving Kenny and everyone else shaking their heads, Jerry shot everything that moved in the second game to the tune of 21-4. The deciding game was not much different. With Wong anticipating kill, Jerry went to the pass with 21-12 results.

Everyone knows who won the women's singles. Peggy Steding is quite simply the best female racquetball player in the world and showed it. Outside of San Diego, it's difficult for her to find a decent match within the ladies' division.

She did find a surprise in newcomer Shannon Sweeney of Fort Worth. Showing an excellent ceiling and backhand game, this young lady put together scores of 5 and 8 against Peggy in the finals.

The St. Louis onslaught was started by Jerry Zuckerman, who dominated fellow St. Louisite Marty Hogan in the junior singles finals, 21-3, 21-9.

Zuckerman was extended only by Houston's Kevin Meyer in the semis, 21-16, 21-15. Meyer came back to take third place over Mark Sandler, 21-8, 21-19.

The Seniors belonged to Myron

Roderick of Stillwater, Okla., who just had too much for Bill Sellars in the finals, 21-15, 21-7. Dr. Bill graciously stayed out of the masters division and most players were glad he stayed out of open singles, too, because he's always tough.

In the masters bracket another Hillecher found his way into the finals against Richard Walker of Dallas. Danny scored 15 twice in a row against Richard. Bill Reese defeated Don Van Fossen for third place, 21-17, 21-16.

Perhaps the most exciting match of the tournament took place in the golden masters finals, in which Henry Lesky of Houston put up a courageous fight against David Shoss of Dallas. Dave's superb conditioning outlasted Henry's kill shots for a 21-8, 21-14 score.

The doubles event produced several tight matches and much fan interest, as expected. From the outset, it appeared as though the nationally ranked team of Luther Bernstein and Tom McKie would dominate the event.

After beating Jerry Linton and Wallace Hardy, 21-12, 21-15, in the quarters, they proceeded to destroy a fine Stillwater team of John Jobe and Marvin Keener, 21-7, 21-18, in the semis. The other half of the division found Roderick and Wright in charge after a 21-20, 21-18 semifinal win over Houston's Richard Speer and Bob Hill.

The finals featured the control and hustle of McKie-Bernstein against Roderick and Wright's power. This time Myron and Pete put together the necessary kill shots in a close 21-19, 21-17 win.

Thanks go to referees John Miller, Phil Kolb and V. Z. Lawton, along with Steve Edie and Laura Allen for scheduling and hospitality.



Peggy Steding

West

Deadline Toughest Hurdle for McCoy

Craig McCoy of Riverside, Calif., survived a first round protest and won the open singles championship of the IRA West Regional at Salt Lake City.

McCoy handled Trey Sayes of Logan, Utah, 21-10, 21-7, in the finals.

The protest developed on opening day when McCoy, arriving directly from the airport, was 17 minutes late for his first match. His opponent insisted the match be forfeited, but tournament officials ruled that there were extenuating circumstances and decided the match should be played. McCoy won, allowing a total of nine points in two games.

Rule 3.5 d-3 of the official IRA rules states:

"A match may be forfeited by the referee when any player for a singles match, or any team for a doubles match fails to report for play. Normally, 20 minutes from the scheduled game time will be allowed before forfeiture. The tournament chairman may permit a longer delay if circumstances warrant such a decision."

There were 29 entries in the open singles, with 12 qualifying for the Internationals at San Diego.

In the semifinals, McCoy defeated Bob Lund of Portland, Ore., 21-13, 21-9, while Sayes ousted Paul Lawrence of San Diego, 21-18, 21-5. Lawrence had placed 10th in the IRA National Invitation and had won the Montreal Open last month.

Howard Ringwood and Harold Turley of Salt Lake City won the open doubles crown by injury default from Charlie Drake and Steve Trent of San Diego. Drake suffered a severe ankle injury during a semifinal victory over Lund and Pete Lubisich of Portland, 21-16, 21-20, and was unable to play in the finals.

Ringwood and Turley reached the title match by defeating Sayes and Ron Mills of Salt Lake City, 21-8, 21-4.

Other champions in the West Regional were:

Junior Singles—Steve Trent, San Diego.

Women's Singles—Jan Pasternak, Tempe, Ariz., last year's runner-up in the International Championships.

Senior Singles—Howard Ringwood, Salt Lake City.

Master's Singles—Rick Warner, Salt Lake City.

Golden Masters Singles—Luzelle Wilde, Salt Lake City.

Women's Doubles—Jennifer Harding and Sue LaLonde, Portland, Ore.

The singles divisions drew a total of 53 entries, somewhat fewer than expected, but the quality of play was generally high.

Tournament director Wayne Player said sportsmanship in almost all instances was really good. "Also, the women added much to the tournament and we are very pleased we added doubles for them," he said.

OPEN SINGLES

Semifinals: Craig McCoy, Riverside, Calif., def. Bob Lund, Portland, Ore., 21-13, 21-9; Trey Sayes, Logan, Utah, def. Paul Lawrence, San Diego, 21-18, 21-5.

Finals: McCoy def. Sayes, 21-10, 21-7.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Semifinals: Jan Pasternak, Tempe, Ariz., def. Janell Mariott, Salt Lake City, 21-17, 8-21, 21-5; Bette Weed, El Cajon, Calif., def. Ruth Knudson, Salt Lake City, 21-8, 21-7.

Finals: Pasternak def. Weed, 21-14, 21-16.

JUNIOR SINGLES

Finals: Steve Trent, San Diego, def. Hank Marcus, Portland, Ore., 20-21, 21-11, 21-12.

SENIOR SINGLES

Semifinals: Howard Ringwood, Salt Lake City, def. Bob Peterson, Boise, Idaho, 21-11, 21-12; Ron Hastings, Scottsdale, Ariz., def. Will Sanders, Portland, Ore., 21-13, 17-21, 21-15.

Finals: Ringwood def. Hastings, 21-9, 21-8.

MASTERS SINGLES

Finals: Rick Warner, Salt Lake City, def. Harold Price, Phoenix, 21-5, 21-6.

GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES

Finals: Luzelle Wilde, Salt Lake City, def. Wayne Player, Salt Lake City, 21-6, 21-3.

OPEN DOUBLES

Semifinals: Howard Ringwood-Harold Turley, Salt Lake City, def. Ron Mills, Salt Lake City-Trey Sayes, Logan, Utah, 21-8, 21-4; Charlie Drake-Steve Trent, San Diego, def. Bob Lund-Pete Lubisich, Portland, Ore., 21-16, 21-10.

Finals: Ringwood-Turley def. Drake-Trent, injury default.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Finals: Jennifer Harding-Sue LaLonde, Portland, Ore., def. Bette Weed, El Cajon, Calif.-Ruth Knudsen, Salt Lake City, 21-18, 12-21, 21-13. Third: Pam Steele-Jan Marriott, Salt Lake City, def. Jan Pasternak, Tempe, Ariz.-Sonja Sharp, Portland, Ore., 21-11, 11-21, 21-12.

Dunn Reigns Supreme

Chabot's Bill Dunn won the Supreme Court's inaugural racquetball singles tournament at Sunnyvale, Calif. The new eight-court facility hosted 120 northern California players for the three-day event which included a clinic by Bud Muehleisen.

Semifinal action in the open singles saw Dunn clash with Deryck Clay, recent fourth place finisher in the National Invitational Seniors at San Diego. Bill jumped to an early lead only to find himself down 20-18 with Clay serving. A backhand kill off the serve, two passes and a kill allowed Dunn to slip by Deryck 21-20. Bill was red hot the second game and raced to a quick 21-7 win.

In the other half of the semifinals, hard-hitting Mark Wayne met Len Stream. Mark's strong drives and booming kill shots kept Len off balance as



Pouring for the winners is Len Stream, fourth, for Bill Dunn, champion; Mark Wayne, second; Deryck Clay, third.

The Green Ball Is Hard to See

Mr. Chuck Leve
National Racquetball Club
Skokie, Illinois

Dear Chuck:

I read with interest your claims for the green ball in the last issue of "National Racquetball" and especially how the green 559 raises the quality of the black 558 ball and "improves visibility."

You neglected to mention that Seamco has been working to improve the black ball, through the urging of the IRA, and that now the problems of breakage are much improved. I have just returned from the Masters Invitational at St. Louis, where the new black Seamco 558 was used. Throughout the entire 3-day tournament, I saw only one (black) ball break.

Before selecting the color green for your new improved ball, the NRC would have been well advised to consult a basic

textbook on Physiology* for some facts about color that have been known for a long time:

"When with the eyes of the subject looking straight ahead a colored patch (green, yellow, red or blue) is moved peripherally in the different meridians of the visual field, the sensation of green is the first to be lost, next yellow, then red, and finally blue."

In other words, the human retina has the smallest field of vision for green, and green is the worst possible color you could have chosen.

I am submitting this letter to both the IRA and NRC for publication.

Sincerely,
William Sellars, M.D.

* Taylor, N. B. "The Physiology of Vision" in: The Physiological Basis of Medical Practice. Edited by Best, C. H., and Taylor, N. B., Baltimore, Maryland. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Fifth Edition, 1950, Chapter 75, p. 1120.



Women Supreme are, from left: Denise Bray, champion; Linda Siau, third; Mary Simon, second; Lottie O'Neal, fourth.

Ballard. Gitt came out on top after three tough games, 19-21, 21-9, 21-6. Both players showed lots of promise and they will be heard from again.

TOURNEY NOTES: The Supreme Court is a very pleasant "happening" in the San Francisco bay area. The plush and spacious facility is a great situation for a tournament . . . Don Jackson's hospitality room was superb, absolutely first class . . . Bud Muehleisen gave a clinic on Sunday highlighted by a showing of his new instructional film on racquetball. Then Bud and Tom Kutas played an exhibition doubles match against Dave Charlson and Len Stream with DC and Len pulling out a routine 21-20 win . . . Thanks to Tom Kutas, in the bay area for a job interview, for his invaluable assistance to Bill Dunn in running the tournament.

OPEN SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Wayne def. Blanding, 21-11, 21-18; Stream def. S. Dunn, 21-9, 21-20; Clay def. Krause, 17-21, 21-7, 21-14; W. Dunn def. Johnston, 21-11, 21-11.

Semifinals: Wayne def. Stream, 21-9, 21-12; Dunn def. Clay, 21-20, 21-7.

Finals: Dunn def. Wayne, 21-12, 17-21, 21-12. Third: Clay def. Stream, 21-13, 21-14. Consolation: Huff def. Schumacher, 21-13, 21-13.

B SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Schumacher def. Gibbs, 21-12, 21-14; S. Dunn def. Crosley, 21-9, 21-6; Krause def. Avila, 21-10; 21-10; Arrillaga def. Suvoy, 21-16, 14-21, 21-11.

Semifinals: S. Dunn def. Schumacher, 21-8, 21-16; Krause def. Arrillaga, 21-12, 20-21, 21-12.

Finals: S. Dunn def. Krause, 21-11, 21-6. Third: Schumacher def. Arrillaga, forfeit. Consolation: Gurnoe def. Mucha, 21-7, 21-11.

C SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Zweigenhaft def. Kernes, 21-3, 21-7; Ballard def. Waltz, 21-19, 21-1; Gitt def. Vega, 21-16, 21-17; Kondo def. Gallant, 21-16, 21-17.

Semifinals: Ballard def. Zweigenhaft, 21-12, 21-12; Gitt def. Kondo, 21-8, 21-15.

Finals: Gitt def. Ballard, 19-21, 21-9, 21-6. Third: Zweigenhaft def. Kondo, 21-10, 21-4. Consolation: Levine def. Dommeyer, 21-17, 21-5.

By Joe Zelson

John Halverson of San Diego recovered from a first round loss and won the balance of his round-robin matches to capture the National Invitation Masters Singles championship at St. Louis.

Halverson lost to Giles Coors of Memphis, 31-16, but the other players kept knocking each other off on a head-to-head basis. The match which gave Halverson first place to keep was Bill Sellars' eighth round victory over Richard Walker, who had held the lead from the fifth round.

Halverson amassed 296 points on a basis of one point for each scored in 31-point games and a four-point bonus for each game won. Sellars edged his Dallas rival, Walker, for second place, 290-285. Other standings:

4—Coors, 279; 5—Gene Grapes, Pittsburgh, 257; 6—Earl Dixon, Indianapolis, 240; 7—Joe Zelson, St. Louis, 208; 8—Chet Howard, Madison, Wis., 193; 9—Sam Caiazza, New Castle, Pa., 161.

Marlowe Phillips of St. Louis, tournament co-chairman, was injured and unable to play on the final day. So, all of his previous results were cancelled and he was placed 10th.

Tournament Highlights: We drew the pairings Friday morning and my first day's schedule was Sellars-Coors-Grapes. How's that for a first-day start?

Coors started out strong with his decisive first round victory over Halverson, who was fresh(?) off the night-hawk flight into St. Louis.

Grapes and Sellars had everyone on the edge of their seats in their second round match. Sellars was in to serve three or four times at 30, but couldn't get that last point—meanwhile Gene kept creeping up, getting to 29 before Bill was able to finally get that last match-winning point.

At the end of the third round, there were only two undefeated players, Sellars and Coors.

Fourth round—Coors left the ranks of the undefeated, losing to Walker, who seemed to play progressively stronger as the tournament went on (as did Halverson).

Howard was involved in probably the two closest matches of the tournament—first, his 31-29 loss to Dixon, which went back and forth, and then later on that same day, his 31-30 loss to Phillips.

Friday night the players were presented with keys to the city by Harold Dielmann, mayor of Creve Coeur.

Fifth round—Halverson beat Sellars (31-10) knocking him from first place into fifth place (with one defeat), putting Walker in first place.

Sixth round—Sellars beat Coors (31-27), moving back up into third place. (Sellars started the day in first place, moved down to fifth, and then up to third by the end of the day). At the end of the sixth round, Walker was in first place,



John Halverson . . . Champion

FINAL STANDINGS

1—John Halverson, San Diego (296): def. Sellars, 31-10; def. Walker, 31-18; lost to Coors, 16-31; def. Grapes, 31-14; def. Dixon, 31-19; def. Zelson, 31-3; def. Howard, 31-12; def. Caiazza, 31-4.

2—Bill Sellars, Dallas (290): def. Walker, 31-22; def. Coors, 31-27; def. Grapes, 31-29; def. Dixon, 31-11; def. Zelson, 31-16; def. Howard, 31-11; def. Caiazza, 31-21.

3—Richard Walker, Dallas (285): def. Coors, 31-15; def. Grapes, 31-27; def. Dixon, 31-13; def. Zelson, 31-11; def. Howard, 31-4; def. Caiazza, 31-12.

4—Giles Coors, Memphis (279): lost to Grapes, 27-31; def. Dixon, 31-22; def. Zelson, 31-17; def. Howard, 31-17; def. Caiazza, 31-26.

5—Gene Grapes, Pittsburgh (257): lost to Dixon, 25-31; lost to Zelson, 22-31; def. Howard, 31-18; def. Caiazza, 31-17.

6—Earl Dixon, Indianapolis (240): def. Zelson, 31-21; def. Howard, 31-29; def. Caiazza, 31-12.

7—Joe Zelson, St. Louis (208): def. Howard, 31-12; def. Caiazza, 31-15.

8—Chet Howard, Madison, Wis. (193): def. Caiazza, 31-14.

9—Sam Caiazza, New Castle, Pa. (161).

Halverson second, Sellars third, Coors fourth, Grapes fifth.

Seventh round—Grapes came from behind to beat Coors (31-27), to move back into fifth place. As you can see from these highlights, the final standings weren't really determined until the end of the final match.

Eighth round—Sellars beat Walker (31-22), knocking Walker out of first place (down to third). Halverson took over first place which he held through the end of the tournament.

Special thanks: To Phil Smith and Sid Fleishner of the St. Louis JCCA Health Club for their hospitality and cooperation in making the players at home . . . to Bruce Hendin for his efforts in doing all the many things that needed to be done . . . to all the others who helped the players in the tournament with rides, with refereeing, with the many other things to be done . . . And most of all, to Ann Hilecher who ran the hospitality room with the attitude of a Jewish mother taking care of all of her "children"—the players.

Halverson Masters Masters

Some personal observations:

John Halverson played strong throughout the tournament. He dug, he chased, he was patient, and when he got his shot, he put it away—that's a pretty good recipe for winning.

Bill Sellars played strong all the way, even including his match with Halverson. Bill's "Sunday shot," his forehand kill around the right wall, was a consistent winner for him.

Richard Walker probably was the dark horse of the tournament. He has improved tremendously, particularly his deep court forehand—he's strong and tenacious. In his eighth round loss to Sellars, Bill got a big early lead which Richard could never overtake.

Giles Coors played well throughout the tournament, being the only one to defeat Halverson. Giles played strong games throughout the tournament, costing himself in letting Grapes overtake him and beat him.

Gene Grapes—one of the fine shooters of the game, but the physical demands of the tournament took their toll on him. Gene's close defeat by Sellars, and his loss to me cost him dearly in his tournament finish.

Earl Dixon—the "road-runner" was his usual quick, hustling self—unfortunately for him, against the players who finished above, their shooting was just too tough.

Joe Zelson—Well, everybody above me deserved to be where they were. An interesting sidelight, I've met Earl Dixon in three different tournaments and I'm currently 0-3. If this keeps up, I'm liable to start believing that it isn't just luck.

Chet Howard had lost some weight, and his game has improved substantially. It showed, as he made real contests out of a couple of his matches, unfortunately ending up losing them closely, one 31-30, another 31-29.

Plaques listing all the player-participants were awarded to the top four finishers, as well as Ektelon racquets (courtesy of Ektelon). In addition, a special "Master of Courtship" award racquet was awarded to Sam Caiazza.

inside racquetball

chapter 3

SERVE AND SERVE RETURN

Reprinted from
INSIDE RACQUETBALL
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International Racquetball Association

In racquetball the player who has the serve has the advantage. The server is the only player who can score points during the rally. A good server plans his serve carefully and takes full advantage of his mid-court position to put his opponent in the worst possible situation.

The serve return is also an important factor in determining the winner of the game. Practice and concentration on the proper serve return will prevent you from missing your serve return attempts and will reduce your chances of continually losing games by a slim margin. Often a player loses a game through his overeagerness to attempt difficult kill shot returns instead of making safer offensive shots.

The serve and the serve return are the most important shots in racquetball. If you learn the proper fundamentals of the serve and serve return and practice them constantly, you'll be well on your way to becoming a better player.

SERVE

The mid-court serving position (Diagram 3) gives the server an advantage. He can move more quickly and directly to any position on the court for the return, remembering, of course, to keep his eye on his opponent and the ball at all times. When you're serving, don't lose the serve and your advantage by being inattentive for even a second.

To serve the ball, you must bounce it on the floor within the service zone at least once, but no more than three times. You may serve from any place in the service zone, but you must stand with both feet within the service zone as you strike the ball. The served ball must then hit the front wall and go past the short line to any position on the court. The ball may hit one of the side walls, but if it hits two side walls after hitting the front wall, it is considered a fault.

After you serve the ball, watch your opponent retrieve and strike it. Don't stand facing the front wall, back wall, or your opponent. By simply peeking over your right or left shoulder, you'll be able to see where your opponent is striking the ball. Keep moving and anticipating your opponent's return shots.

The server wins a point and the right to continue serving when his opponent fails to return the ball before it hits the floor twice. The server loses the serve when he fails to return his opponent's shot or when he commits an avoidable hinder. Loss of serve is an out, sometimes called a hand-out.

There are three basic serves in racquetball: the drive serve, the lob serve, and the cross-court serve. The reverse cross-court serve (Garfinkel) is a variation of the cross-court serve. The effect of your serve will vary depending on whether you use a forehand, backhand, or overhand stroke and where you stand in the service zone.

Most players feel more confident using the forehand stroke to serve since the backhand and overhand strokes normally give a player less control of the ball.

Drive Serve: The drive serve (Diagram 3) is the most common serve in racquetball. The term "drive" may bring to mind a hard-hit ball, yet it is also a ball that hits the front wall and rebounds in a straight line, without the

use of any of the other walls. When hit correctly, the drive serve is an ace—a serve that is impossible for the receiver to return, which results in a point for the server.

To execute the drive serve, stand near the middle of the service zone and face the right side wall. Hold the racquet in the proper forehand ready position, with your weight shifted slightly back on your right foot and the ball in your left hand. Now bounce the ball on the floor about a racquet's length in front of you and begin to pivot your lower body forward onto your left foot, shifting your weight forward in a flowing motion. Pivot your body so that your racquet comes into the hitting area as the ball bounces up into the air. Hit the ball at knee level or slightly higher.

If hit correctly, a drive serve will hit the front wall and land in two possible places: low on the side wall just behind the short line in the crotch (point where any two court surfaces join), or low and deep into the backhand corner of the court. The first area, low on the side wall, is especially effective when your opponent is playing in deep court or if your opponent is expecting you to serve the ball with a soft touch. When you hit the ball into the second area, the deep backhand corner, your opponent will have to rush to set up and retrieve it.

Use the drive serve cautiously, however. If you serve the ball so hard that it rebounds high on the side wall, the ball will come off the side wall and rebound to the back wall, giving your opponent time to set up for the return. If your opponent is expecting you to use a hard drive serve, he will get in position to kill the low serve or hit an effective pass shot on either side of the court.

A variation of the drive serve is the three-quarter speed (or off-speed) drive (Diagram 4). This type of serve, hit more softly than a hard drive, is often very difficult to return since the receiver believes he has been set up for a kill return. The ball is hit into deep court, where it begins to slow down. The receiver, overanxious to kill the shot before it drops to the floor, miscalculates

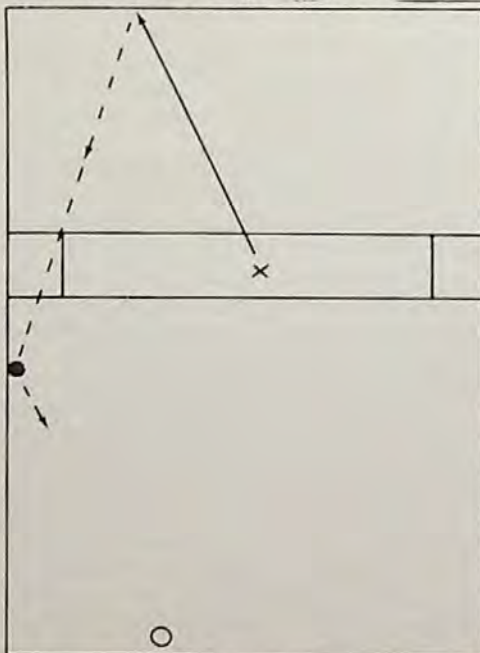


DIAGRAM 3 The drive serve.

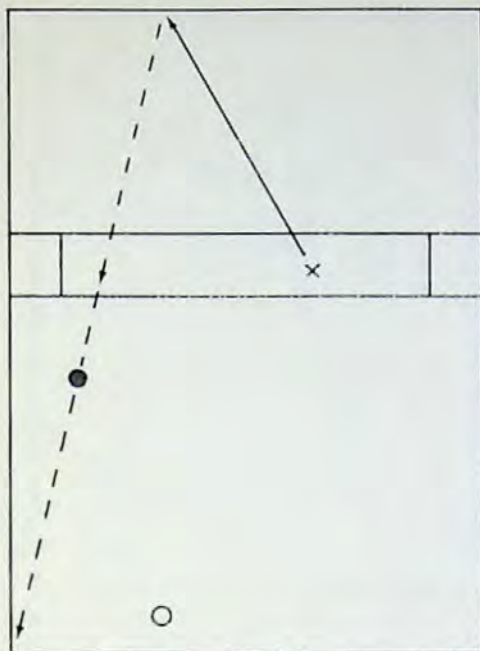


DIAGRAM 4. The three-quarter speed drive serve.

his return, and the ball drops short of the front wall.

Lob Serve: The lob serve (Diagram 5) is used often by many of the nation's top players. When correctly executed, the lob serve is a softly hit, low-speed shot to the side of the court opposite the server.

When using the lob serve, stand slightly off-center in the service zone. If you want the ball to land in left court, stand off-center to the right. For a right court shot, stand off-center to the left.

Choosing the exact spot on the front wall where you want the ball to hit and using the proper forehand stroke, hit (don't push) the ball hard enough so that it hits the front wall and rebounds onto the side wall high and deep (about 7-8 feet from the back wall). A lob serve will spin slowly after its impact with the front and side walls and will tend to slow down as it drops in or near your opponent's backhand corner. A proper lob serve must rebound off the front wall onto the side wall, your opponent will rush up into mid-court, take the ball out of the air, and smash it past you. Also, a lob serve that doesn't hit the side wall won't slow down enough and may even hit the back wall, giving your opponent a perfect setup and plenty of time to choose his return shot.

Cross-Court Serve: In the cross-court serve (Diagram 6)—also called scotch or Z serve—the server uses a forehand stroke to hit the ball to the front wall near the crotch so that it rebounds sharply onto the side wall and bounces deep into the receiver's backhand corner.

Execute a cross-court serve from a slightly off-center serving position. If you serve off-center, you have a better angle of delivery, and the receiver won't be able to determine whether the ball will rebound to the back wall or deep opposite the side wall. The receiver who tries to anticipate where the ball will rebound usually makes the wrong choice and gets

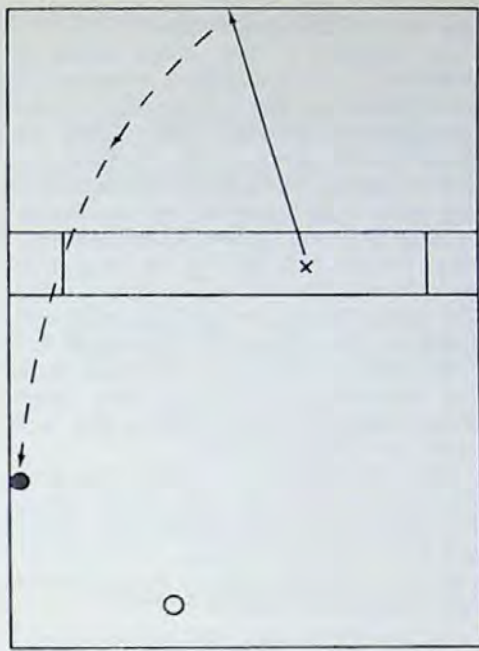


DIAGRAM 5. The lob serve.

in a court position that results in an ineffective return.

When you use the cross-court serve, be careful not to hit the side wall or ceiling first, rather than the front wall. This is an illegal, nonfront serve, which results in an out. Another pitfall of the cross-court serve is the three-wall serve—a serve that hits three walls before it strikes the floor. The penalty for a three-wall serve is a fault, and two faults in succession are an out.

Reverse Cross-Court Serve (Garfinkel): The reverse cross-court serve—Garfinkel—(Diagram 7) is a variation of the cross-court serve hit to your opponent's forehand. The serve is named after Charlie Garfinkel, the first player to use this serve in international competition.

To execute the Garfinkel serve, stand

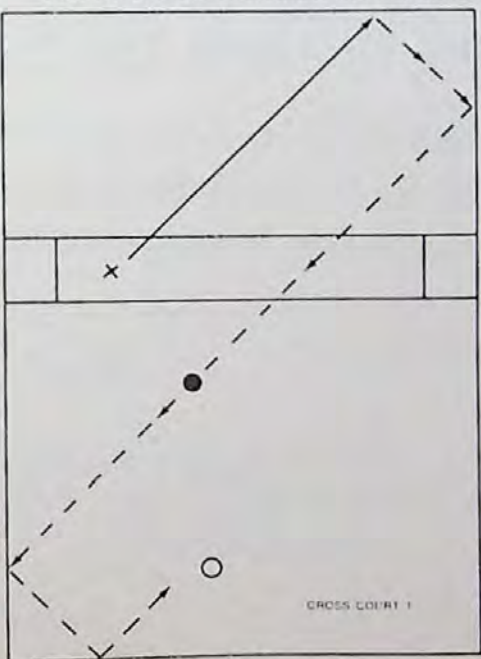


DIAGRAM 6. The cross-court (scotch or Z) serve

slightly to the right of center in the serving zone. Using the forehand stroke, hit the ball with medium-hard firmness toward the left front wall near the crotch. The ball will rebound at a sharp angle off the front wall and will land deep in your opponent's forehand corner.

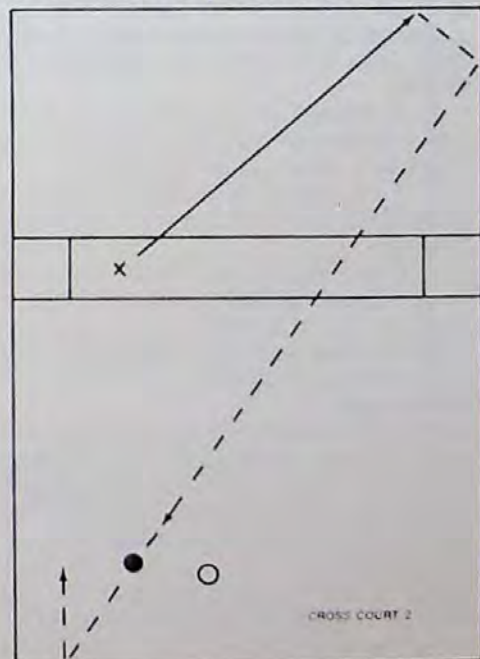
Since the forehand area of the court is normally a player's strongest hitting area, the Garfinkel serve is admittedly more of a gamble than other serves. If you execute a Garfinkel serve expertly, however, your opponent will attempt a kill return off a ball too high to be killed effectively. If this occurs, you will have challenged your opponent on something he thought he could do quite well. This disturbing fact may cause him to lose a bit of that all-important concentration.

Yet even if your opponent does manage to return your Garfinkel serve, his return is not likely to be an effective one. If the receiver is standing close to the back wall, he won't be able to extend his arm high enough to return the ball offensively. A kill shot return is quite ineffective on such a high and deep serve as the Garfinkel.

The Garfinkel must be perfected before it is tried since there is little margin for error when you use it. Always keep in mind that you are playing into your opponent's strength. A weak Garfinkel usually will be returned, and you may lose your serve.

Doubles Serve: Doubles players first must decide which players will be partners. Sometimes a right-handed player will pair up with a left-handed player so neither will have to play his backhand. Whenever two right-handed players pair up, the more skillful backhand player plays the left side of the court.

The serve in doubles, as in singles, is the most important shot in a rally. To serve, the server stands within the service zone. His partner must stand in



CROSS COURT 2

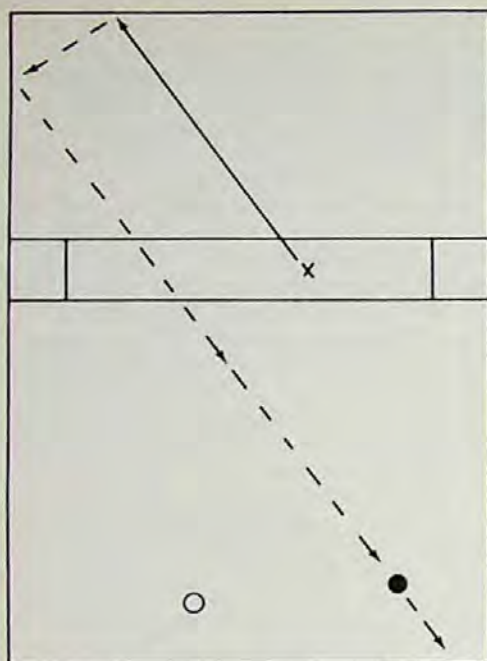


DIAGRAM 7. The reverse cross-court (Garlinkel) serve.

the service box with his back to the side wall and must not leave the service box until the served ball has passed the short line.

The drive and cross-court serves are very effective in doubles. Lob serves are used occasionally but are slower and easier for your opponent to retrieve. Also, a poorly hit lob serve invites your opponent to strike it on the fly, perilously close to your partner.

Serving Tips: The following are general tips based on the rules, and you should keep them in mind when practicing your serve.

1. After the server bounces the ball, he must hit it directly to the front wall. If the ball strikes any other surface first, it is a nonfront serve and an out.
2. After the ball strikes the front wall, it must not strike the server on the rebound. If the server gets hit with the ball while it is in the air, he loses his serve.
3. In doubles, if a served ball hits the server's partner in the serving box, it is a dead ball and must be replayed.
4. A served ball that hits the floor in front of the short line is a short serve and a fault.
5. A served ball that strikes the back wall without hitting the floor first is a long serve and a fault.
6. A served ball that strikes the front wall and then the ceiling is a ceiling serve and a fault.
7. A served ball that hits the front wall and rebounds, hitting two side walls on the fly, is a three-wall serve and a fault.
8. A foot fault is committed when the server steps beyond the service line when serving or when, in doubles, his partner steps beyond the service box before the served ball passes the short line.
9. The server who commits two faults in a row loses the serve.

SERVE RETURN

An effective return of the serve is essential in racquetball because it determines whether you give up a point or whether you gain the serve and the opportunity to score. As the receiver, you are on the defensive. You want to regain the center-court position and the serve.

After the ball is served, the receiver must hit the ball back to the front wall before it hits the floor twice. You may hit the ball in the air (on the fly) or after it bounces once. If the ball bounces on the floor again on its way to the front wall, the receiver loses the rally. The action stops, and the server serves the ball again for the next point.

The receiver may return the ball directly to the front wall. More often, however, he uses one or both side walls, the back wall, the ceiling, or any combination of these surfaces to return the ball to the front wall.

Many players use both hands to hold the racquet and strike the ball. However, this is a matter of preference. Use one or both hands on the racquet but don't switch the racquet from hand to hand at any time or you will lose the volley, and the server will get the point.

If you swing at the ball and miss, you have not automatically lost the point. If you can recover quickly enough from your original miss and still return the ball before it hits the floor, you are okay.

An ineffective serve return gives your opponent the advantage. Practicing effective serve returns will enable you to survive what is often the worst of the battle on the court.

A player may use any of the basic strokes to return serves. Keep in mind, however, that most serves are hit to the receiver's backhand.

The type of serve return you use depends on the type of serve you receive. There are six basic serve returns: the

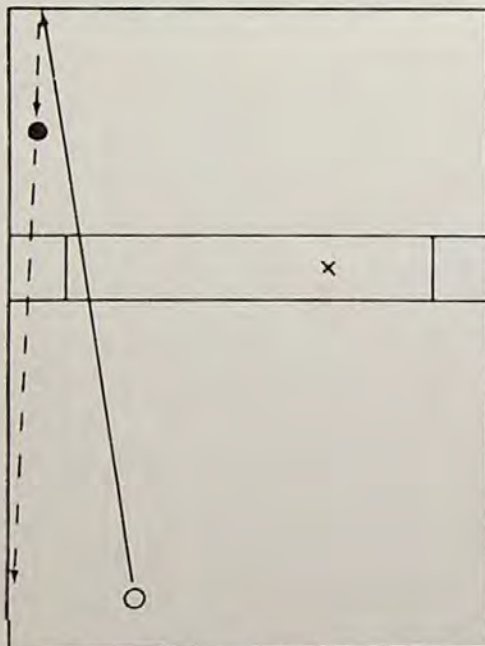


DIAGRAM 9. The down-the-line drive return.

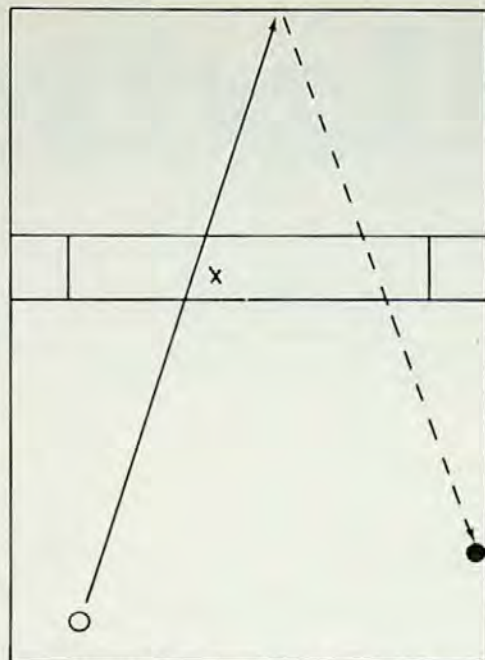


DIAGRAM 10. The cross-court drive return.

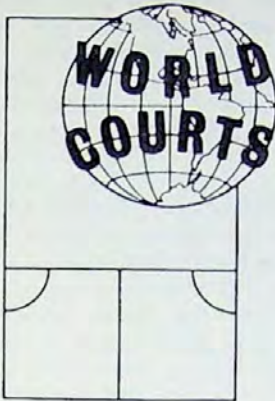
drive return, the ceiling return, the lob return, the kill return, the Z ball return, and the around-the-wall return. Skillful execution of these serve returns will greatly improve your ability to win games.

Drive Return: The drive return (Diagrams 9 and 10) is most successful when used to return a drive serve. The ball already is traveling at a high rate of speed so that a drive return will give even greater speed and force to the ball, moving the ball past the server before he can react. If your opponent is slowing down the game by using three-quarter speed drive or lob serves, a good, hard drive return will quicken the pace of the game enormously.

There are two possible drive returns that the receiver may use: the down-the-line drive return and the cross-court drive return. In the down-the-line drive return, as the ball comes into the backhand hitting area, use the backhand stroke to hit the ball squarely and forcefully in a straight line to the left front wall so that it rebounds deep into the backhand corner. Some players angle the ball slightly toward the left side wall, yet sometimes this is not a good technique. If the ball hits the side wall at too sharp an angle, it may bounce out into mid-court. Otherwise, if the server is in mid-court, and the server is will be able to pick the ball out of the air.

The drive return also may be hit cross-court. This variation of the regular drive return is particularly good when the server is not in mid-court. Otherwise, if the server is in mid-court, as he should be, he will be in a perfect position to step into the path of the ball and kill it.

To execute the cross-court drive return, you must use your strongest backhand stroke to hit the ball on an angle to the right front wall so that it comes off the wall and carries into the



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deep forehand corner. If you hit the ball to the front wall at too wide an angle, it will hit the side wall and bounce into mid-court, where the server will pick it off. If you hit the ball to the front wall at too narrow an angle, it will rebound directly to the server in mid-court. Never hit a drive return above knee or thigh level on the front wall. A drive return that is hit too high on the front wall will carry to the back wall and give the server a perfect setup.

Use the drive return to catch the server off-guard. If he always serves from one side of the service zone, use a drive return to the opposite side of the court.

Ceiling Return: Probably the most common serve return used today by tournament players is the ceiling return (Diagram 11). It is used primarily to return lob, three-quarter, or Garfinkel serves. When you can't kill the ball, the ceiling return is your best defensive shot.

The ceiling return is a medium-hard shot hit with the face of the racquet angled upward so that the ball strikes the ceiling about 2 feet in front of the front wall, drops down to the front wall, rebounds out into the court near the short line, and dies near the back corner of the court.

A variation of the straight ceiling return is the front-wall-first ceiling return—a shot in which the ball hits the front wall first, about 2 feet below the ceiling, and then rebounds onto the ceiling and drops into back court. This variation is especially good when the server is close to the front wall in short court.

As with all serve returns, however, if poorly executed, the ceiling return will

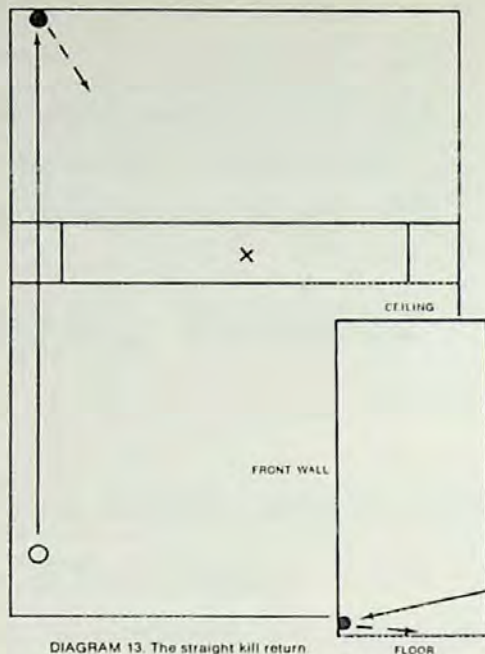


DIAGRAM 13. The straight kill return.

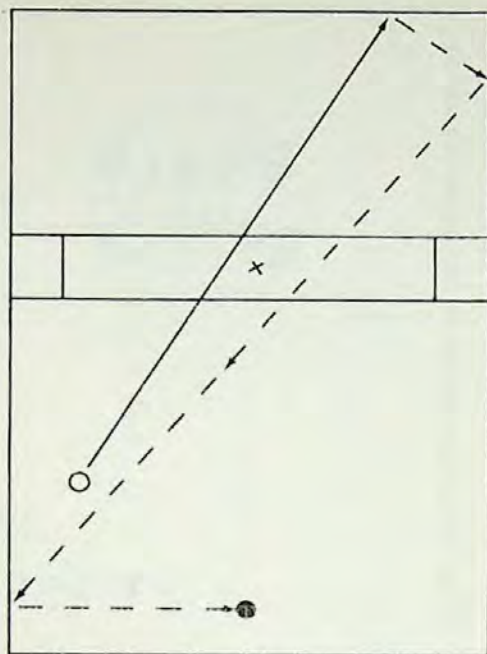


DIAGRAM 14. The Z ball return.

give your opponent an excellent setup. If you hit the ball too softly, the ball will not carry deep enough, and your opponent will hit the ball from front court. If you hit a ceiling return too hard, the ball will come off the back wall for the setup.

The ideal ceiling return is a wallpaper ball—a ball that clings to the side wall as it drops down in deep court.

A well-hit ceiling return will bring the server out of his advantageous center-court position. Also, a ceiling ball usually can't be returned with anything but another ceiling ball. Thus a good ceiling ball seldom will be killed by the server.

Lob Return: Once the most frequently used return in the game, the lob return

has dropped off considerably since 1971 with the invention of the live racquetball. The newer balls bounce higher than the original ones and are more challenging to control. Though still considered an effective return shot, the lob has been replaced primarily by the ceiling return.

The lob may be used effectively to return any type of serve. It is a good defensive shot because it moves the server out of center court and allows you to regain the position.

The lob return is hit with a soft backhand from left back court. The ball should hit high on the left front wall and hug the left side wall behind the short line as it bounces on the floor and drops down into the deep backhand corner. If your lob return does not strike or scrape the side wall, it will not slow down in time to avoid hitting the back wall for the setup.

A proper lob return will not hit the ceiling or the back wall. Do not attempt to hit a cross-court lob return; the ball has to travel so far so slowly that your chances of making an effective shot are very slim.

The difficult, delicate nature of the lob return is best summed up by Charlie Brumfield: "When I can't do anything else, I'll lob."

Kill Return: The kill return (Diagram 13) is one of the more difficult serve returns to execute properly. A good kill return will strike the front wall so low that the server will not be able to get to the ball before it rolls on the floor. The ideal kill return is the flat rollout, which is a shot that comes off the front wall so close to the floor that the players barely can see it bounce.

The best opportunity to use the kill return is provided by a hard-hit serve that comes off the back wall in a setup. The kill return also is used to return any poorly executed serve.

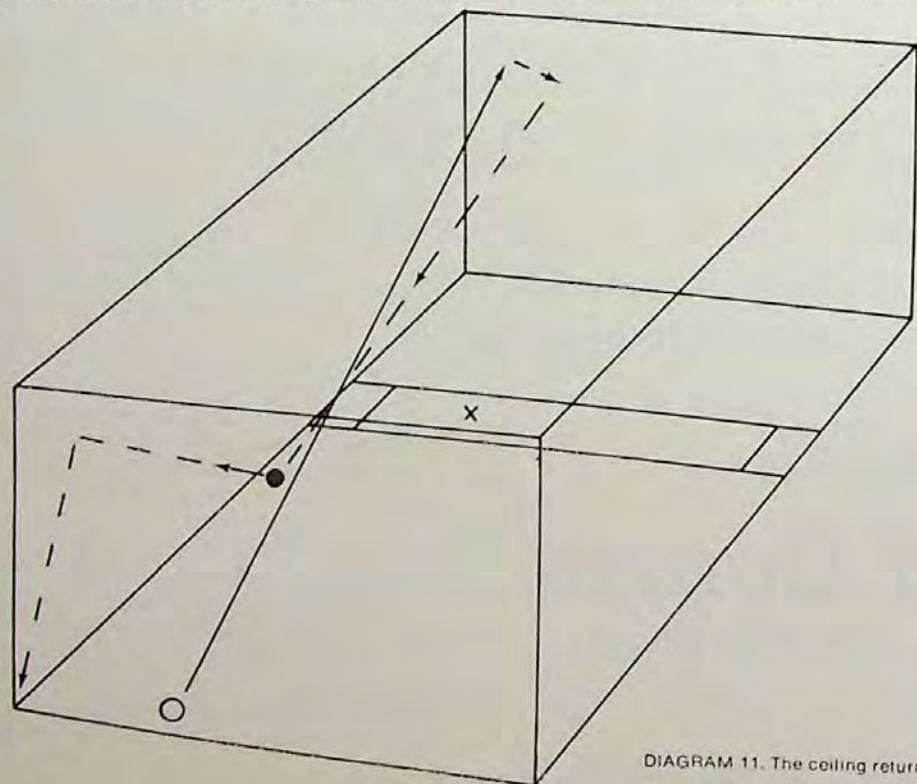


DIAGRAM 11. The ceiling return.

Charlie Brumfield estimates that he attempts approximately one kill return out of every 10 balls served to him, "just to keep 'em guessing." His cautious attitude is undoubtedly due to the fact that a kill return is a low-percentage shot—the server is in the optimum retrieving position. If the server anticipates a kill shot, he can return it easily. Since the ball must be returned to the front wall first, it is a skip-in, or skip, ball and gives the server a point.

Z Ball Return: The Z ball (Diagram 14) is extremely effective but is also the most difficult of all the returns to hit correctly. A player must have a great deal of strength and pin-point accuracy to hit a good Z ball return.

The receiver stands in deep left court and strikes the ball backhand to the right front wall near the side wall crotch. If the Z ball return is hit high and hard enough, it will angle to the right side wall, rebound to the left side wall in deep court, and come off parallel to the back wall. An ideal Z ball return will rebound so close to the back wall that the server will find it impossible to return the ball. A proper Z ball return never should hit the ceiling because the ceiling will slow it down and make the ball drop in mid-court after it comes off the side wall.

The Z ball return is best used to retrieve lob, scotch, or Garfinkel serves.

Around-the-Wall Return: The around-

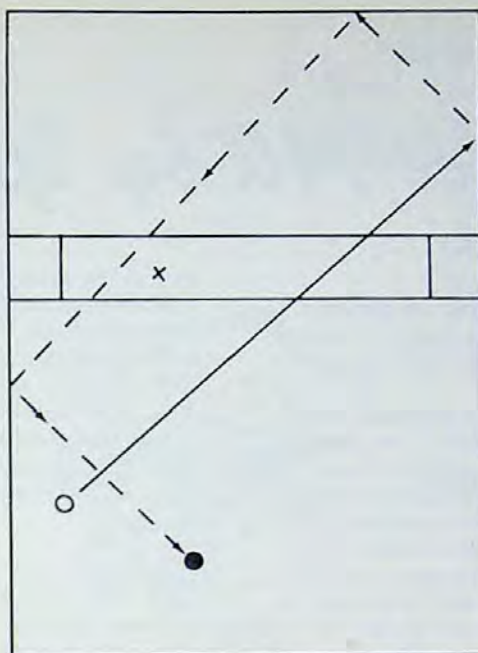


DIAGRAM 15. The around-the-wall return.

the-wall return (Diagram 15) is similar to the Z ball but much easier to hit. Like the Z ball, it is used to return lob, scotch, or Garfinkel serves.

The receiver stands in left court behind the short line. The ball is hit backhand to a point on the right side wall. The ball then rebounds on a sharp angle to the front wall, comes off the front wall, and

angles toward the left wall, striking the floor at three-quarter court.

Like any good defensive serve return, the around-the-wall return moves the server out of center court and gives you the advantage.

Doubles Serve Return: The objective of the serve return in doubles is to force one or both opponents out of center court. This can be accomplished most effectively by using the ceiling or Z ball return.

In doubles it is usually a mistake to attempt to kill the ball on a serve return. A receiver in deep court has the opposing team in front of him when he attempts to kill the ball. If his kill attempt is not perfect, one of the opposing players will find it quite easy to re-kill the ball successfully for the point.

Serve Return Tips: If followed carefully, these general tips based on the rules will improve your serve return while you are learning the game.

1. When the ball is being served, the receiver must stand at least 5 feet in back of the short line and must not return the ball until it passes the short line.

2. Even if you think the serve was illegal, don't touch the ball until it hits the floor twice.

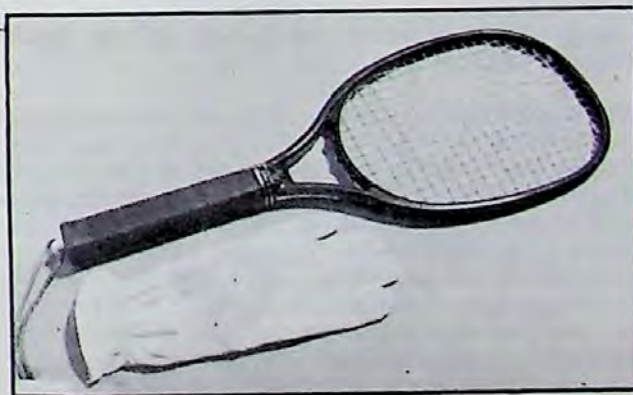
3. When you hit the ball on the fly as the serve comes off the front wall, don't step into the service zone or you'll lose the rally.

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Tips From the Top

Practice All by Yourself

By Jan Campbell

It isn't necessarily the hours put into playing racquetball that lead to improvement (although perseverance is important), but what you do with the time you put into the game.

It is my belief that a player cannot acquire adequate improvement merely by playing hours of racquetball, but must take time by himself in the court, with all stigma of competition removed so he (or she) can concentrate on learning or polishing individual shots, footwork, form or whatever. When one enters the court with another player, there is a tendency to concentrate on points rather than improvement.

I have established my own routine for practice sessions which I'd like to share with anyone interested. It isn't entertaining or exciting to do, and can be tedious, but it has helped me very much.

When I reach a plateau or fall into a slump I stop playing games altogether and run for conditioning while my time on the court is spent alone, practicing. I believe slumps are caused by picking up bad habits which often are hard to detect. These habits are reinforced and magnified if they are ignored and the player continues playing instead of taking time off to iron out the kinks through critique and analysis.

My routine is divided into four basic parts. As you probably will conclude, I do not cover all parts in any one practice session. One shot must be practiced over and over again to gain any reward from it. This is an over-all program in which I usually can count on finding a cure for any physical problem I might develop in my game.

KILLS

This applies for your front, middle and back-court game.

A. Drop-kill: Women, especially, have a tendency not to get down low to the ground when they shoot. Instead of bending low, they take the ball when it is higher in the air and stroke downward, which—in my opinion—is extremely low percentage, especially when things get tight.

This exercise develops timing (when to hit the ball at what part of the bounce) as well as judgment as to how far to stand away from the ball. The exercise entails simply dropping the ball, stepping into it, allowing it to drop and shooting it. I have found this to be one of the most successful methods of teaching women to get low to the ground.

B. Side-wall Setup: This develops timing and footwork as well as your kill. This involves tossing the ball gently against the side wall and moving backward, around the ball to establish position, stepping into the ball and shooting. The ball should be allowed to drop before shooting.

C. Front-wall Setup: The ball, in this exercise, is set up off the front wall. The player learns how to move backward and diagonally to align himself with the ball, allowing it to drop as he steps into the ball to shoot. I believe timing and footwork are the essentials of this exercise.

D. Side-wall, Front-wall, Side-wall Set: This, in my opinion, is the BEST exercise for getting your feet to move. Hit the ball into one of the side walls close to the front wall, like a low round-the-wall shot. It will hit that side, front and the other side and come out diagonally into or toward the center court. If you don't move quickly enough, you'll find yourself jammed with the ball much too close for an accurate swing.

E. Back-wall Set: First, toss the ball into the back wall (while standing within three or four feet of the wall), set up

by moving around the ball, keeping the ball IN FRONT OF THE FOOT CLOSEST TO THE FRONT WALL, allowing it to drop and shoot. Then practice by standing about mid-court and hitting an off-the-back-wall shot off the front wall, running back, setting up and shooting.

On all of these exercises, I first practice down-the-line kills, then cross-court kills, then pinches. Footwork for each is different. When they get fairly accurate, mix them up and imagine various court situations, setting up the appropriate response.

CEILING BALLS

I think the best way to practice these is to hit a ceiling ball rally with yourself and try these objectives:

- Keeping it close along the left wall and deep court.
- Keeping it close along the right wall and deep court.
- Hitting it deep cross-court.

I have found this to be great for footwork and racquet position while you're setting up. It also can be done by hitting a ceiling ball rally with a partner, alternating shots between the two players, which actually is a lot of fun. Try to hit a ceiling ball your partner can't return.

RETURNS OFF CEILING BALL

So what can you do off of a ceiling ball? There are a variety of different responses, depending upon the type of ceiling ball you're up against. In this drill, I set myself up with ceiling balls and practice the following shots:

- Down-the-line drive; cross-court drive.
- Down-the-line kill; cross-court kill.
- Down-the-line ceiling ball; cross-court ceiling ball.
- Round-the-wall ball.
- Overhead drive; overhead kill (however, I consider an overhead kill an extremely low percentage shot).

CEILING BALL OR OVERHEAD FAKE

Since the beginning of their execution is very similar, it often becomes difficult for your opponent to anticipate which you will revert to, the ceiling ball or overhead. Set yourself up with a ceiling ball and work on a smooth alternation between the two shots. Also work on faking one and executing the other.

Aside from the fact that these drills and routines will sharpen up your game, another valuable aspect is that they are done alone and you don't have to depend on getting a partner to do them. Your most valuable improvement is made in the court by yourself.

Uniform Rule Modified

Rule 2.5—Uniform has been amended by the IRA Board of Directors to be more specific on colors and to permit wearing of insignia of any organization within limits on size and location.

The rule now reads:

"All parts of the uniform shall be clean and white or of pastel color. Warmup shirts and pants, if worn in actual play, also shall be white or pastel color, but may be of any color if not used in actual match play. Insignia no greater than 5 inches in any dimension may be worn only on the front of the shirt and/or pants. No insignia or lettering may appear on the back of the uniform. Players may not play without shirts in tournament competition.

"Doubles partners should always try to wear approximately the same colors for identification purposes. The final decision is up to the referee."

Lawrence Hooks Gar In Canada

Reversing the outcome of their recent meeting in the National Invitation, Paul Lawrence of San Diego defeated Charlie Garfinkel of Buffalo, N. Y., 21-16, 21-15, to win the singles championship of the second annual Montreal Open.

Sixty-two entries, including many of the top players from New York and the New England states, made up the field and a full schedule of 98 matches was played from Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon.

Garfinkey and Lawrence both had stiff tests in the semis, "Gar" taking out Ivan Velan of Montreal, 21-17, 21-14, and Lawrence going three games to subdue Mike Romano of Massachusetts, 21-16, 18-21, 21-16.

The tournament came to a spirited conclusion in the doubles finals, pitting Garfinkel and Mike Luciw against Velan and Manny Gregorio. Charlie was determined both to win and to catch a 5:30 flight.

The match went 21-20, 21-20, for Luciw-Garfinkel after the Canadian duo had led 19-10 and 20-17 in the second game. The Big Bird made the final point and his plane.

Ed Chalmers of Toronto was awarded the Abominable Racquetman trophy. The tireless police sergeant from Toronto celebrated his first round victories in singles and doubles by participating in an all-night game of chance, then managed to survive to the B singles semifinals before falling asleep in the whirlpool for the rest of the tournament.

Facilities of the new Cote de Liesse Racquet Club were widely praised and no one seemed perturbed by the 22-foot ceiling. Plans already are under way for the third annual Open next year.

John Spencer comments: Many thanks are due Ivan Velan for his 50 or so hours thrown into the tournament, and to his lovely wife for putting up with him and leaving the door open after midnight. My wife skipped town during the tournament.

To Paul Lawrence—If your forehand was as smooth as your manner of speech, you could have talked yourself into first place without going onto the court against Charlie.

To Charlie Garfinkel—You should have come to the court with a pair of red



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earmuffs. Then you wouldn't have heard Paul's backhand kill shots.

To Mike Romano—This is the second tournament at which I have met you and both times you have placed fourth. Both times your lovely wife was present. I think I'm trying to say something.

To Mike Luciw—You lost to Mike Romano by exactly as many points as you should lose pounds. Multiply this by three and divide by five . . .

To Joe Carderelli—Next time you want to team up with me, leave your left arm in the whirlpool, give me your racquet, you referee and I'll play both sides.

To Emmanuel Gregorio, Steve Millstein, Bob Eastman, Lou Scheuer and Denny McCann—All you guys performed just beautifully. I was very proud of you.

To the IRA and CRA—Now that we have the courts, we are placing a bid for the 1976 International Championships at the same time as the Olympic Games. We feel this would be a great promotion of the sport and coverage will be superb.

Everybody was satisfied with the courts. The ceiling did not hinder play at all, except for Charlie Garfinkel, who just realized he has been playing for years in courts where the ceiling was two feet too low.

CLASS A SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Garfinkel def. Hill, 21-7, 21-6; Velan def. Tyree, 21-12, 21-17; Romano def. Luciw, 21-18, 16-21, 21-19; Lawrence def. Carderelli, 21-11, 21-4.

Semifinals: Garfinkel def. Velan, 21-17, 21-14; Lawrence def. Romano, 21-16, 18-21, 21-16.

Finals: Lawrence def. Garfinkel, 21-16, 21-15. Third: Velan def. Romano, 10-21, 21-19, 21-5. Consolation: Marsocci def. Cranston, 21-11, 21-7.

CLASS B SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Chalmers def. Eastman, 21-19, 21-15; Reuschel def. Cain, 15-21, 21-16, 21-12; Scheuer def. Kondur, 21-18, 21-5; Bruzas def. Wells, 21-7, 21-5.

Semifinals: Reuschel def. Chalmers, 21-16, 21-18; Bruzas def. Scheuer, 21-16, 21-16.

Finals: Reuschel def. Bruzas, 21-14, 21-18. Consolation: Dutil def. Caines, 21-10, 21-11.

OPEN DOUBLES

Quarterfinals: Luciw-Garfinkel def. Scheuer-Eastman, 21-2, 21-7; Carderelli-Spencer def. Romano-Buckley, 21-16, 6-21, 21-13; Gregorio-Velan def. Marsocci-Palermo, 21-12, 21-7; Hill-Tyree def. Bruzas-Fonseca, 21-17, 21-19.

Semifinals: Luciw-Garfinkel def. Carderelli-Spencer, 21-4, 21-4; Gregorio-Velan def. Hill-Tyree, 21-16, 21-13.

Finals: Luciw-Garfinkel def. Gregorio-Velan, 21-20, 21-20.

OFFICIAL ENTRY

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- SITE: University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
- FACILITIES: 7 Courts, two with glass backwalls.
- DATES: July 17, 18, 19, 20, (All players to be ready for July 17 a.m. play)
- ENTRY FEE: \$16.00 for one event, \$8.00 for second event (Limit 2 events)
- ELIGIBILITY: Current 1974 CRA members (Canadian residents only)
ALL entrants current 1974 IRA members.
- OFFICIAL BALL: Seamless No. 558
- RULES: IRA rules and regulations apply. If two events entered, players may have back to back matches. ENTRIES MUST BE SIGNED.
- TROPHIES: To first three places in each event, and first place Consolations.
- PLUS: Consolations in all events excluding Senior Open and Senior Doubles.
If you advise your arrival time, we will meet your flight.
- NOTE: Entry fee is all inclusive (Banquet, hospitality rooms, souvenir, refreshments, finals viewing). Banquet July 20, 1974 at Kempo's.
Banquet guests \$6.00 each.
- ENTRY DEADLINE: In our possession by midnight July 5. Prescribed fee must accompany signed entry form. Entries received after the deadline or unsigned, or without the fee will not be accepted.

MAIL ENTRIES TO: Edmonton Racquetball Association,
10325 - 114 Street #22,
Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 1S2.
Cheque must accompany signed entry form.

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B - SINGLES () SENIOR OPEN ()
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We reserve the right to up-grade any entrants who do not enter the classification best suited to their calibre of play.

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Same must accompany entry.

MARCH

29-31: IRA National Intercollegiates, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Limited to matriculated students at an accredited college or university. (AS, BS, D, team scoring on four-man teams.) Dr. Ben Plotnicki, School of Health, PE & Recreation, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn. 37916.

APRIL

5-7: Dallas YMCA Metro Open, Downtown YMCA, 605 N Ervay, Dallas, Texas. (OS, BS, CS, 45-over MasS, cons all singles, AD, BD. Novice, boys, women play in CS. Limit 1S, 1D.) Jim Hamby, Physical Director YMCA, 605 N Ervay, Dallas, Texas 75201.

5-7: King's Court Invitational, King's Court, Edina, Minn. (OS, OD, SS, SD, WS, WD.) Wendell Ottum, King's Court, 7001 Cahill Road, Edina, Minn. 55435

10: Buffalo B Singles Open, Downtown YMCA, Buffalo, N.Y.

19-20: Pennsylvania State YMCA Championships, Greater Scranton YMCA, Dunmore, Pa. Lloyd T. Capwell, Greater Scranton YMCA, 706 N Blakely St., Dunmore, Pa. 18512.

19-21: Alberta Open, Canadians only, Calgary.

Calendar

22-27: Buffalo Masters Open, Athletic Club, Buffalo, N. Y.

25-27: Second annual Idaho State Championships, Boise, Robert J. Petersen, 1475 West Hays St., Boise, Idaho 83702.

26-28: Shreveport Holiday in Dixie, Central YMCA, Shreveport, La. Charles Croft, Central YMCA, 400 McNeil, Shreveport, La.

MAY

9-11: Edmonton City Closed Edmonton, Alb.

24-27: Second annual Daffy Open, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Wash. (OS, OD, BS, CS, WS, MaS, deadline May 10, limited brackets.) Sid Williams, 1120 South Seventh, Tacoma, Wash. 98405.

JUNE

6-9: IRA International Singles Championships (postponed from May 24-27), Brown's Handball-Racquetball Club, San Diego, Calif. (Open, 18-under Junior, 35-over Senior, 45-over Masters, 55-over

Golden Masters, Women's, also Women's Doubles.) Preliminary qualifying tournament June 5 to fill 64 bracket for Open Singles, no qualifying required in other events. Regional qualifiers in Open Singles must confirm entry by May 17. Entry deadline for other division May 31. Dr. Bud Muehleisen, 1085 Camino del Rio South, Suite E, San Diego, Calif. 92110.

JULY

17-20: Canadian Klondike, Edmonton, Alberta. (OS, OD, BS, NovS, WS, WNovS, SS, SD.) For complete information, write Edmonton Racquetball Association, 10325-114 St. No. 22, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 1S2

OCTOBER

10-13: IRA International Doubles Championships, site to be determined. No qualifying required. (Open, 18-under Junior, 35-over Senior, 45-over Masters, 55-over Golden Masters.)

NOVEMBER

7-10: Canadian National Championships, Cote de Liesse Racquet Club, Montreal. Ivan Velan, Cote de Liesse Racquet Club, 8305 Cote de Liesse Rd., Montreal, Que. H4T 1G5. For full information on any Canadian tournament, write CRA, 10325-114 St., No. 22, Edmonton, Alb., Canada T5K 1S2.

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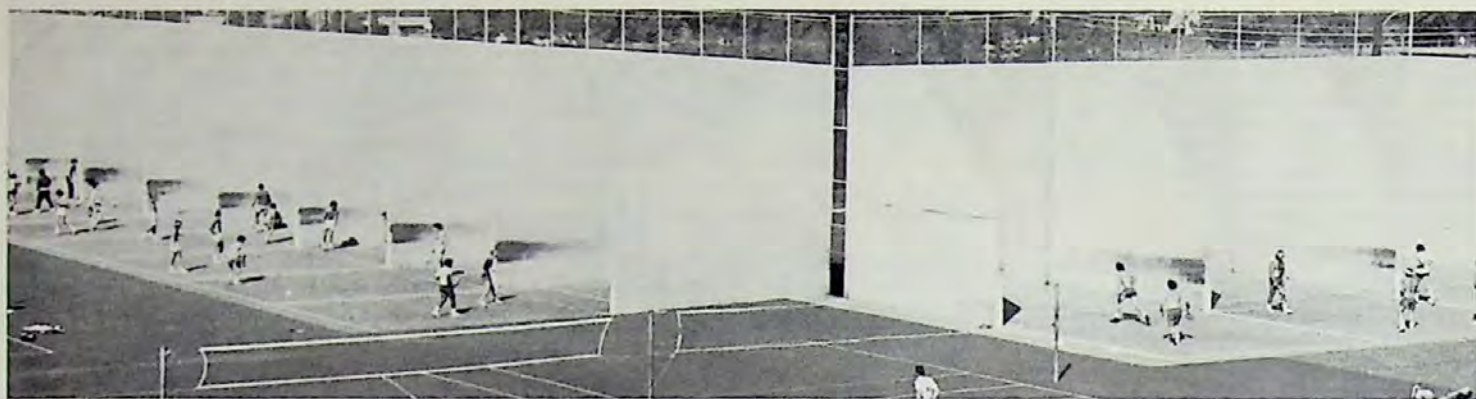
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Orange Coast College's outdoor facility with 13 oversize courts will host three-wall tournament in June.

National Three-Wall Tourney Set

Orange Coast College of Costa Mesa, Calif., will host a national three-wall outdoor singles tournament June 28-30 and has applied to the IRA for sanction as the first annual International Three-Wall Singles Championships.

Competition is planned at present in Open, 35-over Senior, 45-over Masters, Class B, Class C, Women's and Women's B divisions.

IRA sanction as an International Championship is under consideration, according to Myron Roderick, executive director. If it becomes an official IRA championship event, 18-under Junior and 55-over Golden Masters classes must be added, Roderick said.

Orange Coast College is located on the California coast, 39 miles southeast of the Los Angeles Civic Center and 89 miles northwest of San Diego. The school has sponsored singles and doubles state tournaments in recent months with huge success.

Barry C. Wallace, Orange Coast College physical education instructor

Family Affair

The Lethbridge Family Y Racquetball Club has been formed in Alberta, Canada, with Stan Pisko serving as president, Enzo Piccini as vice president, Laverne Dzuren as second vice president and Ev Nowlin as secretary treasurer.

"Pic" reports high enthusiasm and at least 50 women players are pleased with their progress. Canadian National Champion Wayne Bowes is from Lethbridge and gives lessons to all players.

Court Clubs

Dates for the second annual National Court Clubs Association seminar have been changed to May 17-19 at Steamboat Springs, Colo. For any information concerning the seminar, write Mort Leve, NCCA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

and director of the tournament, says the school has the best outdoor facility in California.

"We have 13 oversize handball-racquetball courts that measure 23 by 46 feet with 20-foot-high walls. They are ideal for racquetball. Six beautiful indoor courts will be constructed in September to make this the best indoor-outdoor

facility in the nation. The college has complete locker and shower facilities in a building adjacent to the courts.

Entry deadline is June 21 and entry fee is \$10. Further information may be obtained from Barry Wallace, Orange Coast College, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, Calif. 92626, office telephone 714-556-5890, home telephone 714-556-0515.

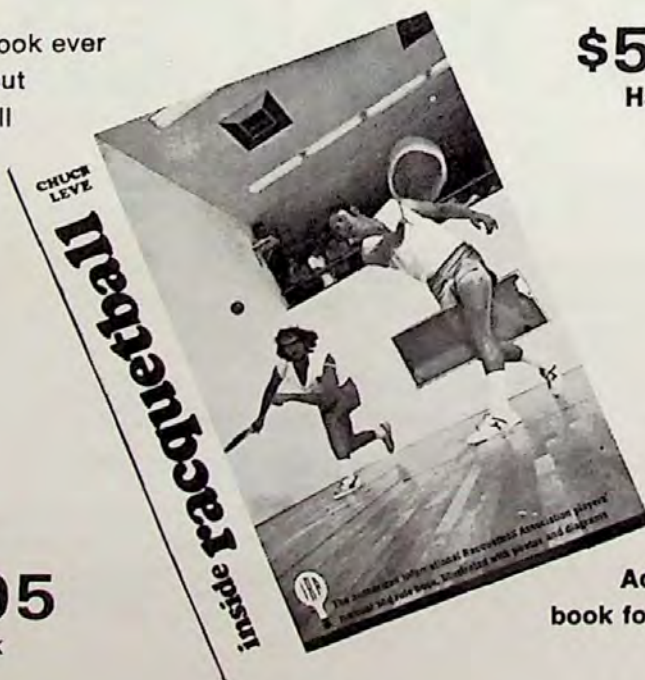
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Cedar Rapids

Bob Sheldon of Waterloo won the Cedar Rapids Open. Bob got in a little more practice than anyone else, since three of his four matches went three games. But he showed his class and was in complete control at all times, and won going away.

Jerry Lucas of Keokuk was second, Helmut Braun of Waterloo third and Floyd Gallogly of Waterloo fourth. Burdette Hansen of Cedar Rapids defeated Gary Icenogle of Marshalltown in the consolation finals.

The tournament was well run by YMCA program director Gary P. Vangen, assisted by Joe Pusateri.

In a letter to Iowa members, state chairman Hansen strongly endorses the use of double elimination bracketing to assure more competition.

Golden Bear

Defending National Champion Wayne Bowes of Alberta defeated Bob Bear of Edmonton in the A singles finals of the third annual Golden Bear tournament in Edmonton. Howie Rankin won consolations.

John Robbins took B singles over Neil Dempsey, with Mike Szkorupa taking consolations. C winner was Bill Miller over Jim Groff, Bob Barton winning consolations.

Canadian women's champion Ellie Bell prevailed over Brenda Crockett, with the consolation title going to Gail Hutchinson.

There were 115 entries, 69 in the novice section, with good out-of-town support from Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Don Crawford did an excellent job in his first try as tournament draw chairman.

Others who played key roles were Chuck Moser, Marilyn Rankin, John Robbins, John Van Riper and Sandy Shenton.

League Upset

Niagara Falls YMCA, led by Joe Tyree and Joe Tarantino, upset Buffalo Athletic Club to win the Western New York Racquetball Association's league championship with a 26-6 record.

It was the first time in four years Buffalo AC, with Charlie Garfinkel and Jack Bowling, had not won the regular season title. Downtown YMCA was third with a 22-10 record.

Expressway YMCA and Niagara Falls Y No. 2 tied in the White Division of the standings with 33-7 records. The top eight of the 11 teams participating in league play now move into post-season playoffs.



Schmidtke Again

For the second straight year, Bill Schmidtke of Minneapolis dominated the fourth annual Woodson YMCA tournament in Wausau, Wis. Schmidtke beat Paul Ikier of Minneapolis for the singles crown, 17-21, 21-8, 21-2, then teamed with Ikier to win doubles, 21-16, 21-9, over Tom and Joe Wirkus of Fond du Lac.

Schmidtke won both singles and doubles last year, the latter title with Tim Lattimer as his partner.

Ikier took the first game of the finals, but appeared to tire after that, probably because of a tough semifinal with Joe Wirkus, 21-19, 14-21, 21-10.

Joe Wirkus downed Chuck Schafer, 17-21, 21-17, 21-18, for third place and Don Gemoll won consolation over Tom Fancher.

The tournament was under the direction of Ron Peck of the Woodson YMCA.

Bama's First

John Ed Mathison of Montgomery is the first state champion of Alabama, after winning the Alabama championships in Montgomery.

Mathison won both the open singles, 21-7, 21-15, over Jim Jordan of Birmingham, and the masters (35-over) singles, 21-12, 21-8, over Andy Smith of Birmingham.

One of the top matches of the tournament came in the open semifinals, where Mathison handed Bill Slaughter of Maxwell AFB his first loss in two years, 21-15, 17-21, 21-8. Slaughter came back to take third place.

Bill Hotze was third in masters, with consolation titles going to Jerry O'Neal and Mike Clegg.

The first annual state tournament at the Central YMCA drew entries from all over Alabama. Barry Coxe, Jerry O'Neal and Andy Smith helped make the tournament a big success.



Alabama State trophy winners, standing from left: Mike Clegg, consolation; Jim Jordan, second Open; John Ed Mathison, champion; Jerry O'Neal, consolation; Bill Slaughter, third Open; kneeling, Bill Hotze, third Masters; Andy Smith, second Masters.



Luciw Reigns

Mike Luciw of New Britain defeated Tom Waltz of New Canaan, 21-17, 21-18, to win the championship of the Connecticut state tournament at New Britain YMCA.

Luciw advanced to the finals by downing Jerry Gaudet, 21-10, 21-11, and Jack Olcott, 21-2, 21-6.

Don Wallace and David Yurgaitis captured the sizzling doubles finals from Bob Yellin and Frank DeMauro, 11-21, 21-14, 21-16.

Co-chairmen of the two-day event, Deniz Fonseca and Phil Panarella, provided a hospitality room for all players where sandwiches and soda were available. Don Anderson, physical director of the YMCA, said more than 200 people watched the 22 matches played. Anderson also commended chief official Mossy Levine and his crew.

New Facility

The Manhattan Athletic Club for Men will open April 1 at 3421 Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach, Calif., with six regulation courts for racquetball and handball. Gallery facilities are included and the club will be open to tournaments.

For information, call Giorlando Castronovo at 213-545-6618.



Doubles winners in Connecticut were Don Wallace, left, and Dave Yurgaitis over Bob Yellin, third from left, and Frankie DeMauro. Below, Mike Luciw, right, won singles over Tom Waltz.



Bishop Wins

Dick Bishop of Keokuk swept through the Iowa state singles tournament at Burlington without giving up more than 10 points in a single game. He defeated Bernie Nielsen of Marshalltown in the finals, 21-8, 21-7. Nielsen didn't lose a game until the finals.

Jerry Lucas of Keokuk was third, Helmut Braun of Waterloo fourth and Steve Chase won consolation over Burdette Hansen.

Lucas, Bill Kelly and Craig Cullins combined to run a superior tournament in two days, with both first and second round losers going into the consolation bracket, a popular move.

Gar Conquers

Charlie Garfinkel of Buffalo breezed through the early rounds and then won a couple of tough ones to capture the second annual New York state open tournament.

The first real test for "Gar" came in the semifinals, where he defeated Michael Romano of Fitchburg, Mass., 21-14, 21-6. Gar was down 8-1 in the first game, but rallied after a time out and a spirited conversation with himself.

Joe Tarantino put up a better fight than the score indicates, but bowed in the finals, 21-11, 21-8. Tarantino had a big semifinal with Ivan Velan of Montreal, trailing 20-16 in both games before pulling out a 21-20, 21-20 decision.

Pat Colombo of Scarsdale defeated Tony Palermo of Fairport, 21-11, 13-21, 21-10, in the consolation finals.



Charlie Garfinkel, kneeling, is New York state champion. Others, from left, Pat Colombo, consolations; Michael Romano, fourth; Ivan Velan, third; Joe Tarantino, second; Tony Palermo, second consolations.

The 32 players and their wives were entertained at a beef-dinner banquet at Howard Johnson's, where various door prizes were handed out.

Tournament director Paul G. Traver of Niagara Falls YMCA extended hearty thanks to the referees, scorers and committee members and to Paul Lawrence and Ektelon for donating racquets and charts.

Waterloo

Mark Hegg defeated John Rude in the all-Souix Falls singles finals of the Waterloo tournament, 21-11, 21-5, as the event directed by Helmut Braun drew a strong field of out-of-state talent.

Waterloo players dominated the doubles, with Bob Tonkin and Bob Sheldon downing Monte McCunniff and Dean Bradfield, 21-18, 18-21, 21-12, in the finals.

It's Steve Smith

Steve Smith, a member of Memphis State's team, won the Tennessee state championship in Nashville by defeating Davey Bledsoe, 16-21, 21-17, 21-13, in the finals.

You're the Referee

What Would You Call?

By Tom Sweeney

Given the following situations, all of which occurred during the recent National Invitation Masters Doubles at New Castle, Pa., what call would you have made as referee? Answers, by Bud Muehleisen, national rules commissioner, appear on the next page.

1. Two players on the same doubles team are rushing madly toward a player obviously "trapped" along the side wall with the ball coming off the front wall directly toward him. You fear he may be struck by a racquet, but the chances are 100 per cent he also will be hit with the ball. You don't know which will happen first.

2. One member of a doubles team has been given a good set-up near the short line and, while he prepares for a sure roll-out, you see his partner vigorously elbow his way past an opponent near the back wall.

3. The score is 30-28, Gene Grapes has just tried a forehand kill from the short line area, the gallery starts applauding, three of the players begin shaking hands, but you have said "skip" so that only a very few people have heard you (and they look at you in a pained manner).



Randy Stafford and Steve Smith

Smith had downed Randy Stafford in the semifinals, 21-10, 6-21, 21-20.

Smith's victory over Stafford was a reversal of their outcome in an epic dual meet between Memphis State and the University of Tennessee, won by Tennessee, 4-1.

Stafford downed Smith, 21-16, 21-19, in No. 1 singles for two team points. In B singles, Jim Cullen of Memphis and Larry Zeitman of the Vols staged a whirlwind struggle, with Cullen pulling out Memphis' point 21-20, 20-21, 21-20. You can't get any closer.

Tennessee wrapped up the dual with a two-point doubles victory by Walter Mullins and Emile Catignani, 21-20, 21-15, over Mike Fleming and A. B. Henry.

4. Player A recommends you announce the score after both teams are ready to play and to do it deliberately as a signal that play will resume. Player B says he's being held too long and wants the score repeated more quickly.

5. Player A "dumps" the ball directly in front of himself and you can't see it. He maintains, along with his partner, that it was a good shot but one of his opponents questions it.

6. Players B-1 and B-2 have decided B-1 (also known as Dixon) is going to play about 85 per cent of the court. B-1 accelerates dramatically from front-wall left to back-wall right, knocking down A-1 (also known as Loveday) and A-2 as he zooms by. B-1 complains he's not being given a fair chance to go directly to the ball as covered in the rules.

7. During an exciting rally, player A-1 suddenly stops, turns toward the ref and asks, "What did you say?" Almost at the same time, his opponent rolls one out. A-1 contends someone yelled "Hold it," but you have said nothing and all other players had kept playing. The score is 29-29, the courts are back-to-back in location, as are the galleries, and the noise level is high.

High Point

Paul Saperstein overhauled defending champion Ed Wheelless in three games to win top honors in the High Point, N. C., tournament. Jerry Williamson was third.

Johnny Thomason displayed a strong two games to defeat Milford Noe for the Senior title. George Athanas took Jimmy Millis in two games for the Masters crown.

Peggy's No. 1

International women's champion Peggy Steding of Odessa won the Class A (men's) championship of the second annual Regency Health Club tournament in Lubbock, Texas, defeating Tom Heiting of Odessa in the finals.

Max Brownlee of Abilene was third and David Tate of Wichita Falls won the consolation trophy.

Jeff Carter of College Station defeated John Mayer of Reese AFB in B singles, with Sam Samples of Hobbs, N. M., third and Rob Almon of College Station winning consolations. In C singles, it was Paul Petterson of Hobbs over Joe French of Lubbock, with Bob Vinson of Hobbs third and Morris Usry of Lubbock in consolations.



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It's High Time... Play Racquetball

By Paul Lawrence

What's Racquetball? If there is any more irritating yet accepted question to a player of racquetball, that's it. In this era of booming leisure sports and in particular, tennis, there are so many new and subtly different racquet sports that the subtle differences are often obscure even to the accomplished veteran.

Depending on whatever is popular in your area, you can play tennis, squash, badminton, racquetball, paddle tennis, paddleball, platform tennis, handball, fatball, or even hybrid combinations of these games. All of these games are similar in that they involve some combination of a ball, a racquet (or paddle), a net, or four walls. However, along with the established giants of tennis and squash, one other sport, racquetball, is showing very strong success all over the country.

To clear up the question of "What's Racquetball?", racquetball is played in a handball court (dimensions 40 feet long, 20 feet wide, 20 feet high) and each player has a racquet with which to hit the ball. The racquets are about 18 inches long and are specially designed for the sport. The ball is hollow rubber and while being slightly livelier than a tennis ball, is also designed especially for the sport.

The object is to hit the ball to a main wall, designated the front wall, and then your opponent must return the ball to the front wall before the ball touches the floor twice, as in tennis. The interesting part is that any combination of walls or ceiling may be used in order to get the ball up to the front wall, and when hit hard, the ball can reach speeds of up to 120 m.p.h. The game thus contains all aspects of a truly competitive sport; quickness, stamina, coordination, court sense and strategy.

How racquetball got started is rather unclear, but the reasons for its rapid growth are evident. Somewhere, probably in some YMCA in the East during the 1920's, someone deserves the credit for cutting down a tennis racquet and sneaking it into a deserted handball court. For years, the game existed this way mostly among older men who had grown too tired to play handball. Then as a result of the increased interest in physical fitness during the 60's, many

EDITOR'S NOTE: At the request of Time Magazine for an article on Racquetball, this summary of the sport and its progress was prepared by Paul Lawrence of San Diego and submitted to the editors of Time for publication.

colleges and clubs revitalized the game under various names to the point where younger players became interested and tournaments were being held.

By 1969, an association called the International Racquetball Association (ironically abbreviated the IRA) had been formed to organize and govern the game. In that same year, the first international tournament was held in St. Louis, and the participation even then

was encouraging. About the same time, several companies began designing racquets especially for racquetball, and the improvements over the old sawed-off tennis racquet were so overwhelming that the sport now had a pride and identity of its own.

Since then, racquetball has grown consistently at the rate of 100 per cent per year, and all future estimates seem to predict the same growth for several years to come. Why? There are several reasons. Racquetball is excellent physical exercise and it is fun right from the start. The racquet is short enough that it immediately feels like an extension of your hand. It is not as cumbersome or heavy as a squash or tennis racquet. The ball is large enough to follow easily and since you play within four walls (and a ceiling), you don't have to worry about chasing the ball across six courts and a highway or hitting over any fences. In fact, you don't even need an opponent to enjoy just hitting the ball. Just go into a court alone and practice, the real thing.

Since the sport is indoors, weather has no affect on when you can play. Court time is usually cheap, one or two dollars per hour at most clubs or free at most

Answers to Rules Quiz

By Bud Muehleisen

National Rules Commissioner

These are somewhat unusual situations, but they do happen and the referee must use good judgment and come up with a decision which is fair.

Referees should bear in mind, where there is a situation involving a judgment call and the official is not sure as to a decision, he should rule the point a "let" and replay it. In this way, a point or side-out is not awarded unfairly. Trouble arises when one makes an award of a point or side-out on a decision where there is a degree of uncertainty on the part of the official.

1. If a player is obviously "trapped" so he is impeded in his attempt or effort to get out of the way, it should be ruled a hinder. Also, if a dangerous safety situation is imminent in any way, a hinder should be called immediately.

2. This is a judgment call on the part of the referee, dependent on the result of the shot just hit. For instance, (a) if it was a flat roll-out, with no chance for return, the point would stand as a winner; (b) if the shot was left up enough where a return might be possible with a clear path to the ball, the point should be ruled either an "avoidable" or "unavoidable" hinder, depending on whether the player attempting to return the ball was intentionally interfered with.

3. The referee's judgment is final and could only be overturned by the unanimous agreement of all the players involved. A good referee never will be influenced by a gallery, or players.

4. The referee makes his own decision as to his pace of announcing the score between points and should not be influenced by the players.

5. If a referee does not happen to "see" a particular shot and the players are in disagreement over it, then the point is determined to be a "let" and is replayed.

6. This situation occurs quite often in doubles, when one player is attempting to cover areas of the court which normally would be done by his partner. The problem arises because the other team is moving usually in another direction to allow the player normally in the area to play the shot. The judgment call is made depending on (a) whether or not the players involved were making an attempt to get out of the way, (b) they were constituting a block, or (c) just plain taken by surprise.

7. This is a very difficult situation and is not uncommon. First of all, the rules state that the play should be continuous. However, sometimes a noise does occur which sometimes can be misconstrued to be a "hinder" or "hold it" call. This would have to be up to the judgment of the referee at the time. If a player had obviously held up on some play that he easily could have made, definite consideration should be given to that player. On the other hand, if a player is looking for "help" or an excuse on a tough play, No!

The referee should always remember his function is to assure smooth, orderly progress of the match, while the players should determine the winner. When the referee's calls tend to help determine the winner, then he is not doing his job correctly.

High Time . . .

universities, and two businessmen, professors, housewives, students or doctors can get one heck of a workout in an hour. Because the racquet is so intuitive to swing, many women and children, with sparse athletic backgrounds, can rapidly develop enough ability to enjoy the game. In fact, at several universities like Michigan and Illinois, almost 40 per cent of racquetball court time is reserved by women. And obviously, the game is both a teaching instrument and carry-over for games like tennis and squash.

Although the sport is relatively young, June 1974 will bring the fifth annual

International Tournament to be held in San Diego, which by the way, is the acknowledged capital of racquetball. The sport is not without its own colorful athletes such as the conservative dentist Dr. Bud Muehleisen, the first singles champion (1969) and the motor mouth Charlie Brumfield who is the reigning singles champion, and will gladly tell anyone of that fact. However, make no mistake, these are each exceptional athletes with talents any professional would admire.

In recent years, the entries to the national tournament had to be limited to only regional qualifiers because the number of entries made the tournament prohibitively long and grueling. If any factor has limited the growth of the sport it is the relatively small spectator

capacity of most courts. Because the court is almost totally enclosed, there is barely space for more than 50 people to watch any match through an opening at the upper half of the back wall. However, the advent of glass courts such as the one at the Long Beach Athletic Club and in other cities such as Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, Salt Lake, Minneapolis, etc., have made tournament matches viewable to up to 1,200 spectators.

Also, the number of available courts in the U.S. has nearly doubled in just the past two years and so players and families no longer have to endure the aroma of the turn of the century athletic clubs. So, now that the question of "What's Racquetball?" has been answered, follow the 1974 IRA slogan and "Take a friend to play racquetball!"

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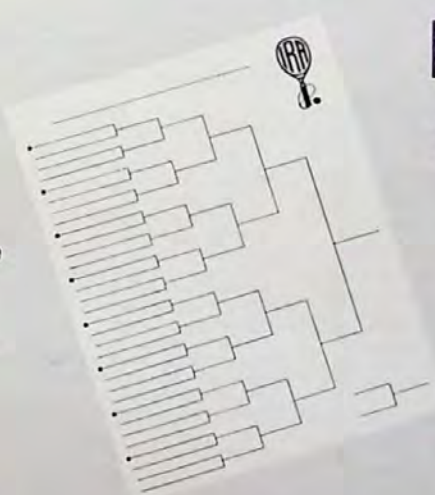
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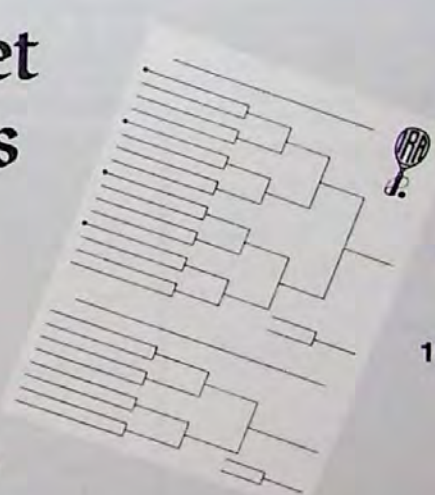
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Recreation Survey

Meet Mr. Racquetball

How do you picture the "average" racquetball player?

Well, first, there isn't any such animal. But response to the recreation survey sent to IRA members last fall draws this somewhat shadowy picture:

Mr. Racquetball is a married man with

two or three children, a professional man between 21 and 50 with at least a college degree and an income upwards of \$15,000 a year.

He plays anywhere from one to five times a week, feels the court facilities in his area are overcrowded and either pays

a fee to play, or is willing to do so.

Only a fourth of the replies show that his wife plays, but a third show that the children do.

The above silhouette is drawn from the majority or high-percentage responses to the survey. More than 1,100 were returned and tabulated, representing approximately one-third of the IRA membership at the time the survey was sent out.

Here is the actual breakdown on the response to key questions. Totals differ for individual questions because not all members answered every question on the blank.

SURVEY RESULTS

1. Marital status:			
Single	223	19.4%	
Married	924	80.6%	
2. Sex:			
Male	1069	94.2%	
Female	66	5.8%	
3. Annual income level:			
Under \$10,000	157	14.2%	
\$10,000 to \$14,999	248	22.4%	
\$15,000 to \$19,999	221	19.9%	
\$20,000 to \$24,999	131	11.8%	
\$25,000 or more	352	31.7%	
4. Number of children in family:			
No children	115	12.8%	
One child	103	11.4%	
Two children	315	35.0%	
Three children	183	20.3%	
Four children	108	12.0%	
Five or more children	77	8.5%	
5. Occupation:			
Business	379	34.1%	
Profession	585	52.7%	
Self-employed	19	1.7%	
Other	127	11.4%	
6. Age:			
20 and under	37	3.3%	
21 to 30	331	29.3%	
31 to 40	441	39.1%	
41 to 50	244	21.6%	
51 and over	76	6.7%	
7. Level of education completed:			
High school	159	14.6%	
College	733	67.3%	
Post-graduate	197	18.1%	
8. How often do you play racquetball, per year?			
50 or fewer times	165	14.8%	
51 to 100 times	257	23.0%	
101 to 150 times	243	21.7%	
151 to 200 times	157	14.0%	
201 or more times	296	26.5%	
9. Are court facilities overcrowded in your city?			
Yes	763	72.0%	
No	297	28.0%	
10. Do you pay to play?			
Yes	435	41.3%	
No	619	57.8%	
11. Would you pay to play?			
Yes	437	89.2%	
No	53	10.8%	
Either paying or willing to pay	872	94.3%	
Not paying now and not willing to pay	53	5.7%	
12. Does your spouse play?			
Yes	224	25.8%	
No	664	74.2%	
13. Do your children play?			
Yes	253	35.7%	
No	456	64.3%	

Here's Where the Action Is

One of the questions in the recreation survey was, "Where do you play racquetball?" The accompanying list, compiled from survey replies, does not pretend to show all the places you can play, and some of the sites listed may not be open to the general public, but the list will give you some idea of where the action is.

ALABAMA	
Birmingham—Dawson Memorial Rec. Center, YMCA, Jewish Community Center.	
Fort Rucker—Gym.	
Montgomery—YMCA.	
Prattville—Air Force Facility, YMCA.	
ALASKA	
Anchorage—Elmendorf Base Gym.	
ARIZONA	
Mesa—Golden Health Club.	
Phoenix—Downtown YMCA, High School outdoor courts.	
Sierra Vista—Fort Huachuca.	
Tempe—Temple Jr. College.	
Tucson—East YMCA.	
ARKANSAS	
Little Rock—YMCA.	
CALIFORNIA	
Alameda—South Shore Beach & Tennis Club, Jewish Comm. Center.	
Alhambra—Calif. State Univ.	
Anaheim—Orange County Athletic Club.	
Ben Lomond—Univ. of Calif.	
Camarillo—Port Hueneme.	
Costa Mesa—YMCA.	
Danville—U. C. Berkeley.	
El Cajon—San Diego Handball & Racquetball Club.	
San Diego State College.	
Emeryville—Clipper Club.	
Escondido—Gorham Sports Center.	
Fountain Valley—Long Beach Athletic Club.	
Fremont—Chabot College.	
Hermosa Beach—Manhattan Athletic Club.	
La Mesa—YMCA, Carmen Ranch Club.	
Lakewood—Long Beach City College.	
Livingston—SOS Club.	
Lomita—YMCA.	

ON AGE GROUPS . . .

In IRA-sanctioned tournaments, there is no "upper limit" to the Senior, Masters and Golden Masters age groups.

To clarify, any players 35 or over may compete in Senior events, any players 45 or over in Masters and any players 55 or over in Golden Masters, age determined as of the first day of the tournament.

For the IRA International Singles, the age determination date was March 1, 1974, opening day of the first regionals. Any player 18 years old or younger on March 1 may compete as a Junior at San Diego, any player 35 or over on March 1 as a Senior, etc.

LONG BEACH	
Long Beach—Long Beach Athletic Club, McBride's Gym, Calif. State College.	
Los Altos—Supreme Court No. 1, Elks Club.	
Los Angeles—YMCA, L. A. Athletic Club, Manhattan Health Club, West L. A.	
Modesto—SOS Club, Sportsmen Club.	
Mountain View—YMCA.	
Newport Beach—Park Newport Health Spa, YMCA.	
Oceanside—Oceanside Health Club & Gym, Gorham Sports Center.	
Pomona—Cal. Poly College.	
Redding—Elks Club.	
Reedley—Reedley Jr. College.	
Redlands—YMCA.	
Riverside—YMCA.	
Sacramento—Calif. State Univ.	
San Francisco—Ambassador Health Club.	
San Mateo—Woodlake Spa.	
San Diego—Gorhams, San Diego Racquetball Club, Kona Kai Club, YMCA, Jewish Community Center, San Diego State College, S.D. Handball & Racquetball Club, JCC, San Carlos Club, Brown's, Pacific Paddle Ball Assoc.	
San Jose—Corners Apt. Complex.	
Santa Ana—Orange County Spa & Athletic Club.	
Santa Barbara—YMCA.	
Santa Cruz—Saunaland.	
Stockton—YMCA.	
Tustin—MCAS El Toro.	
Union City—Chabot College.	
Vandenberg—AFB Gym.	
Yuba City—Beale Air Force Base.	
COLORADO	
Boulder—Univ. of Colorado Rec. Center.	
Colorado Springs—Peterson Field Base Gym, Pikes Peak YMCA, USAF Academy.	
Denver—Lowry AFB, Denver Athletic Club, Executive Club.	
Fort Collins—Ft. Collins Athletic Club.	
Steamboat Springs—Storm Meadows Athletic Club.	
CONNECTICUT	
Bridgeport—YMCA.	
Hartford—YMCA.	
Meriden—YMCA.	
New Britain—YMCA.	
New Canaan—YMCA.	
New London—U.S. Coast Guard Academy.	
Stamford—Port Chester YMCA.	
West Hartford—Hartford Jewish Community Center.	
DELAWARE	
Newark—Kirkwood Fitness Club, Univ. of Delaware.	
FLORIDA	
Clearwater—YMCA, Morningside Rec. Center.	
Delray Beach—YMCA.	
Fort Walton Beach—Base Gym.	
Gainesville—Westwood Park.	
Homestead—AFB.	
Jax Beach—Naval Station Gym.	
Key West—Naval Air Station.	
Lakewood—Cleveland Heights Cts.	
Miami—Miami Dade Jr. College, YMCA.	
Middlehope—YMCA.	
Orlando—Central Branch YMCA.	
Panama City—Base Facilities.	
Pensacola—Naval Air Station.	
Sarasota—YMCA.	
Tallahassee—Tallahassee Athletic Club, Fla. State Univ.	
Tampa—YMCA.	
GEORGIA	
Athens—University of Georgia.	
Atlanta—Jewish Community Center, Nob Hill Club Apts., Capital City Country Club.	
Macon—Macon Health Club.	
HAWAII	
Hickam AFB—Hickam AFB Gym.	
Honolulu—Central YMCA.	
IDAHO	
Boise—Boise YMCA.	

ILLINOIS

Aurora—Aurora YMCA.
Bloomington—YMCA.
Buffalo Grove—Tam Tennis Club.
Burbank—Businessmen's Club, LaGrange YMCA.
Champaign—University of Illinois Intramural Building.
Chicago—McClurg Court Sports Center, Ryall YMCA, University of Illinois Circle Campus, Bernard Howvich JCC, Roseland YMCA, Meyer Kaplan JCC, Central YMCA, Hyde Park YMCA, Northwest YMCA, Duncan YMCA, Trebooshire Tennis Club, LaSalle Street Club (YMCA), Illinois Athletic Club, Evanston YMCA, Deerfield—Lake Forest College.
Elmhurst—Chicago Athletic Association, The Courts.
Evanston—Evanston YMCA.
Highland Park—Northbrook YMCA.
Homewood—Harvey YMCA.
Jacksonville—YMCA.
Quincy—Quincy YMCA.
Rockford—Rockford YMCA.
Springfield—Springfield YMCA.
Urbana—IMPE Building, University of Illinois.

INDIANA

Anderson—Anderson YMCA.
Bloomington—Indiana University.
Fort Wayne—Fort Wayne YMCA.
Peru—Grissom AFB Gym.
South Bend—YMCA.

IOWA

Ames—Iowa State University.
Charles City—Charles City Family YMCA.
Dubuque—YM-YWCA.
Des Moines—Des Moines YMCA.
Davenport—Davenport YMCA.
Iowa City—University of Iowa.
Keokuk—YMCA.
Marshalltown—YMCA.
Sioux City—YMCA.
Spencer—YMCA.
Waterloo—YMCA.

KANSAS

Fort Riley—Fort Riley Gym.
Merriam—JCC.
Salina—YMCA.
Topeka—YMCA.
Wichita—West YMCA, Central YMCA, Downtown YMCA.

KENTUCKY

Ashland—YMCA, Oil Executive Building.
Berea—Seabury Gymnasium, Berea College.
Lexington—Medical Heights, Seaton Center Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington Storage Athletic Club, YMCA.
Louisville—YMCA, Louisville Athletic Club, JCC, Murray—Murray State University.

LOUISIANA

DeRidder—Fort Polk Field House.
Lafayette—Lerille's Health & Racquet Club.
New Orleans—Tulane University, JCC.
Shreveport—Barksdale AFB.
Southern—YMCA.

MAINE

Portland—University of Maine.

MARYLAND

Baltimore—JCC, YMCA.
Bowie—Whitemarsh Tennis & Recreation Center.
Columbia—Columbia Athletic Association.
Salisbury—YMCA.
Washington, D.C.—JCC, Welch Park (Outdoor), Rockville, University of Maryland, Pentagon Officer's Athletic Club.

MASSACHUSETTS

Leominster—YMCA.
Worcester—Worcester YMCA.
Springfield—Air Base Gym.

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor—University of Michigan.
Detroit—YMCA, JCC.
Drayton Plains—Northern H. S. Pontiac, Waterford Hill Courts.
Lansing—Michigan State University, YMCA.
Flint—YMCA.
Grand Rapids—YMCA, Kawasaki Midwest Office.
Grosse Pointe Park—YMCA.
K. I. Sawyer AFB—Base Gym.
Kalamazoo—YMCA.
Menominee—YMCA.
Midland—Midland Community Center.
Port Huron—YMCA.
Rochester—Oakland University.
Southfield—Southfield Athletic Club.
Taylor—Schoolcraft College.

MINNESOTA

Brainerd—YMCA.
Edina—Kings Court of Edina.
Fergus Falls—YMCA.
Mankato—YMCA.
Minneapolis—The Court House, Olympus Courts, YMCA, JCC, Decathlon Athletic Club, University of Minnesota, St. Anthony's Mens Club.
Red Wing—YMCA.
Redwood—Redwood Falls High School.
Rochester—YMCA.
St. Cloud—St. Cloud State College, St. Cloud Athletic Club, Elks Club, JCC.
St. Paul—YMCA, JCC.
Winona—YMCA.

MISSISSIPPI

Meridian—Naval Base, Northwood Country Club.
Tupelo—Lee Acres Center.
Worcester—YMCA.

MISSOURI

Fort Leonard Wood—Gym.
Kansas City—YMCA, JCC.
St. Louis—Missouri Athletic Club, JCCA, Spaulding Racquetball Club.

MONTANA

Butte—YMCA.
Missoula—University of Montana.
Ralspell—Three Fountains Recreation Center.

NEBRASKA

Grand Island—YMCA.
Omaha—JCC, YMCA.
Lincoln—YMCA.

NEW JERSEY

Patterson—YMCA.
Montclair—YMCA.
Margate—JCC.

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque—Elks Lodge, University of New Mexico, Tennis Club of Albuquerque.

NEW YORK

Albany—YMCA.
Amsterdam—YMCA.
Brockport—Brockport State University.
Buffalo—YMCA, Canisius College.
Niagara Falls—YMCA.
Rochester—YMCA, JCC.
Schenectady—YMCA.
Wantagh—US Navy Gym.

NORTH CAROLINA

Charlotte—YMCA, University of North Carolina.
Concord—YMCA.
Ft. Bragg—Gym.
Greensboro—YMCA.
High Point—YMCA.
Raleigh—YMCA.
Winston-Salem—YMCA.
Shelby—Downtown Shelby, Inc.
Wilmington—YMCA.

NORTH DAKOTA

Fargo—YMCA.
Grand Forks—YMCA.
Minot—YMCA.
Williston—Williston Recreation Building.

OHIO

Akron—YMCA Athletic Club.
Alliance—Mount Union College.
Canton—YMCA, North Canton.
Cincinnati—Blue Ash YMCA, Cincinnati Athletic Club, University of Cincinnati, JCC.
Cleveland—Brooklyn YMCA, JCC, Cleveland State University, Executive Court Club.
Columbus—Ashland Chemical Co, Executive Club East, Executive Club West.
Cuyahoga Falls—YMCA.
Delaware—Smith Hall on Campus.
Fairborn—Dodge Gym.
Fairlawn—Central YMCA.
Girard—Youngstown State Univ.
Mansfield—YMCA.
Painesville—Central YMCA, Executive Club.
Heisley Racquetball Club.
Piqua—YMCA.
Stow—YMCA.
Toledo—YMCA.
University Heights—JCC.
Warren—YMCA.

OKLAHOMA

Altus—Air Force Base.
Edmond—Southern Industries.
Mustang—YMCA.
Norman—Oklahoma University, Southern Industries.
Oklahoma City—Grand Slam, Inc., Southern Builders Supply, YMCA, Tinker AFB Gym, YMCA.
Stillwater—Colvin Center on campus.
Tulsa—Athletic Club, Thornton Family Y, Oral Roberts Univ., YMCA.

OREGON

Albany—YMCA.
Corvallis—Oregon State Courts.
Hillsboro—Pacific Univ.
Lake Oswego—Athletic Club.
Milwaukie—Portland Elks Club.
Portland—Jewish Community Center, Athletic Club, Portland State, YMCA, Mt. Hood Community College.

PENNSYLVANIA

Alltoona—YMCA.
Clarion—College.
Dalton—YMCA of Scranton.
Indiana—Indiana Univ.
Kennerdell—Butler YMCA.
Mountain Top—YMCA.
New Castle—YMCA.
Pittsburgh—Univ. of Pittsburgh, Golden Triangle Y.
Rochester—Old Church.
Scranton—JCC, YMCA.
State College—Penn State.
Williamsport—YMCA.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson—YMCA.
Columbia—YMCA Health Club, Army Gym.
Florence—YMCA.
Fort Jackson—2nd Bde Gym.
Greenville—YMCA.
Hilton Head—YMCA.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Aberdeen—YMCA.
Sioux Falls—YMCA.

TENNESSEE

Chattanooga—YMCA.
Jackson—Memphis State Athletic Complex.
Knoxville—Univ. of Tenn. PE Bldg., YMCA.
Lebanon—Vanderbilt Univ.
Lookout Mtn.—YMCA.
Maryville—College.
Memphis—Stratton YMCA, Memphis State, Naval Air Station, Southwestern College, JCC, Country Club, Baptist Church, Medical Units Univ. of Tenn.
Nashville—Downtown YMCA, Country Club.

TEXAS

Austin—University of Texas, Bergstrom AFB.
Dallas—Garland Health Club, Richard Walker Athletic Club, YMCA.
Denton—NTSU Collisium.
Fort Worth—YMCA, Carswell AFB Gym.
Galveston—YMCA.
Garland—Garland Health Club.
Houston—Athletic Club of Houston, JCC, YMCA.
Irving—Senter Park-Irving Recreational Facility.
Lake Jackson—Lake Jackson Parks & Recreation Dept.
Midland—YMCA.
Odessa—YMCA.
San Antonio—Air Force Base Gym, Turtle Creek Country Club, Trinity Univ.
Wichita Falls—YMCA.

UTAH

Logan—Utah State University.
Salt Lake City—Deseret Gym.

VERMONT

Burlington—University of Vermont.
Randolph—Randolph Athletic Club.

VIRGINIA

Alexandria—YMCA.
Arlington—YMCA, Pentagon Officer's Athletic Club.
Blacksburg—VPI, College Coliseum.
Fort Eustis—Gym, Anderson Field House.
Lynchburg—YMCA.
Norfolk—YMCA, JCC.
Richmond—University of Richmond, YMCA.
Roanoke—YMCA.
Salisbury—YMCA.

WASHINGTON

Aberdeen—YMCA.
Olympia—YMCA.
Seattle—Washington Athletic Club.
Spokane—Central Park Racquet Club, Spokane Elks.
Tacoma—565 Club, McChord Air Force Base, Elks, YMCA.
Vancouver—Oxford Athletic Club.
Westchester—YMCA.

WISCONSIN

Appleton—YMCA.
Eau Claire—YMCA.
Green Bay—YMCA.
Jamesville—YMCA.
Kenosha—Kenosha Youth Foundation.
LaCrosse—YMCA.
Madison—YMCA, University of Wisconsin.
Milwaukee—Milwaukee Racquetball Club, JCC, YMCA, Milwaukee Athletic Club, Midland Bank.
Oconomowoc—YMCA.
Waukesha—YMCA.

WYOMING

Cheyenne—Cheyenne Athletic Club.
Laramie—Slim & Swim Health Spa.

ALBERTA

Calgary—University of Calgary.
Edmonton—University of Alberta, YMCA, Royal Glenora Club.
Lethbridge—YMCA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver—YMCA, Marc, Argutus Club, Vancouver Athletic Club, New Westminster, JCC.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg—University of Winnipeg, University of Manitoba.

NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax—YMCA.

ONTARIO

Toronto—YMCA.

QUEBEC

Montreal—YMCA, Cote de Liesse Racquet Club, YMHA.

SASKATOON

Saskatoon—YMCA.

BELGIUM

Genly—SHAPE Gym.

GERMANY

Hahn AB—Gym.
Munich—McGraw Kaserne US Army Gym.
Ramstein—Ramstein Air Base Gym.
Wiesbaden—Wiesbaden Air Base Gym.

GREECE

Iraklion, Crete—Base Gym.

GUAM

Mariana Islands—Anderson AFB Gym.

ICELAND

Keflavik—Naval Station Gym.

ITALY

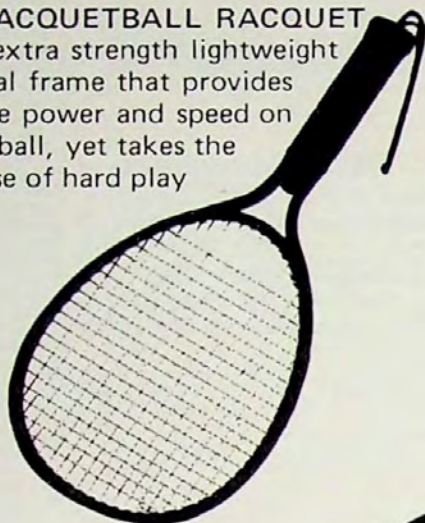
Tirrenia—Camp Darby Army Post.

JAPAN

Misawa—Air Base.
Okinawa—Army Base.
Tichikawa—Air Base.
Tokyo—Base Gym.
Yokosuka—Gym.

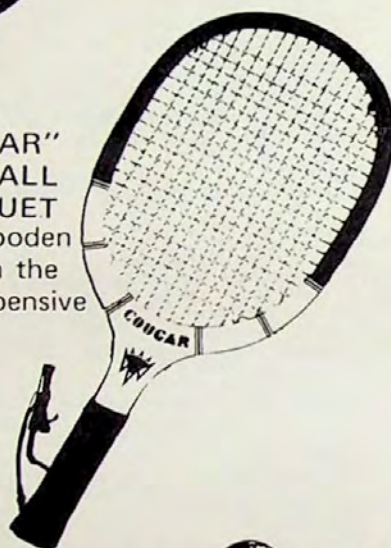
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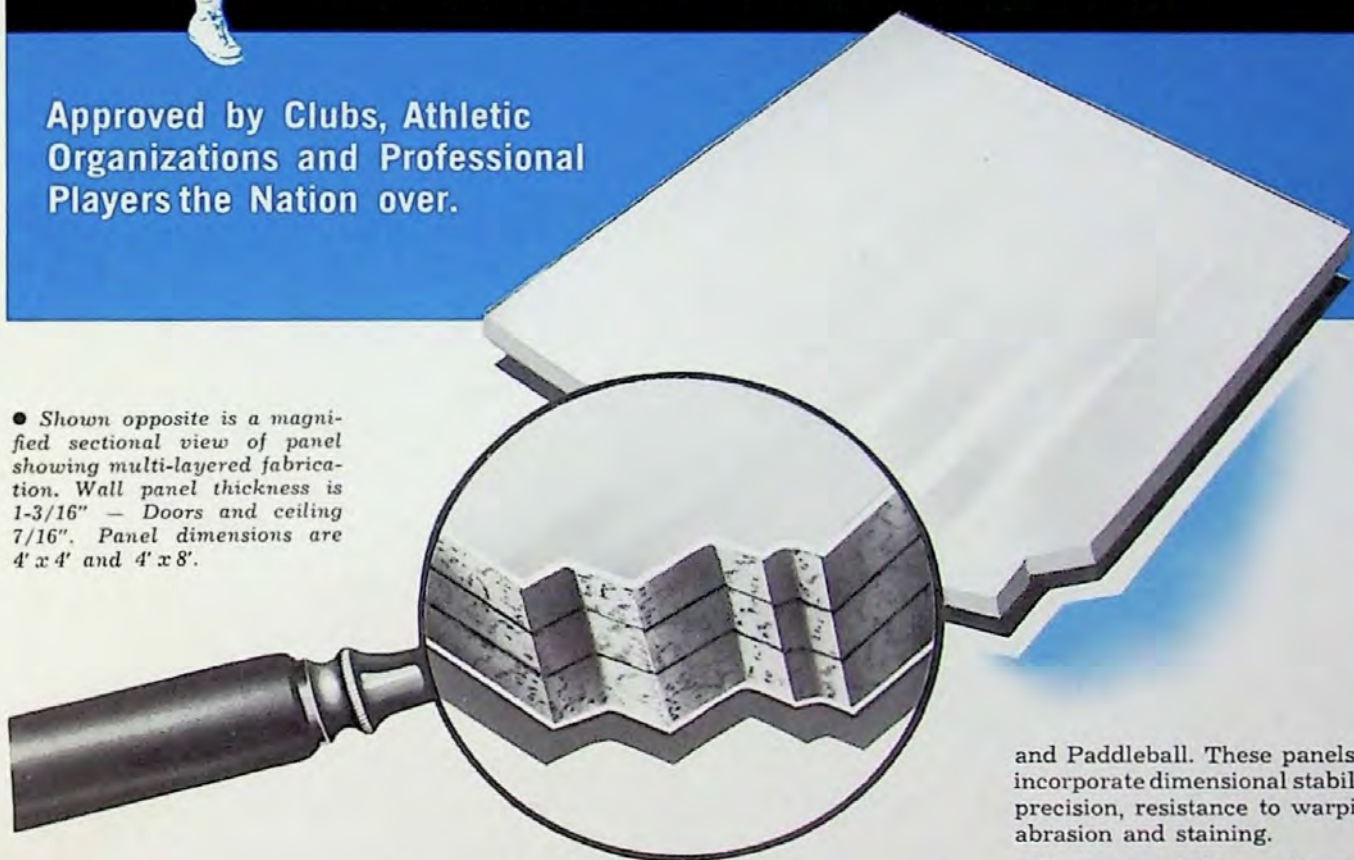


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