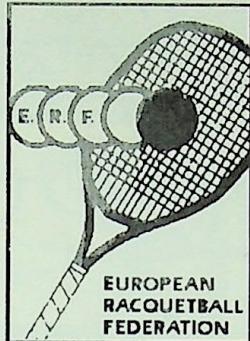


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Contents

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This issue:

- ★ World Championships
- ★ World Congress
- ★ Rule Changes
- ★ European News
- ★ European Masters

Racquetball Europe is a publication of the E.R.F. All views expressed in Racquetball Europe are those of the Editorial Staff and not necessary those of the ERF or its Executive.

Articles, photographs and advertisements are most welcome and will be considered for inclusion.

The next issue Vol. 1 No. 7 will cover Oct./Dec. 1992 and deadline for submissions is January 15, 1993.

NEXT ISSUE:

- ★ Report on IRF/ERF EXCO meeting in Montreal
- ★ Drug Testing
- ★ San Louis Potosi (Mexico) venue for 1994 World Championships
- ★ Coaching
- ★ European results
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- ★ The IRF and You
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- ★ European Masters results

Editorial



The Editor, Mr. Phillip Dulgnan

As you would expect this issue is devoted to the World Championships which were held in Montreal during August.

Apart from this being one of the most enjoyable and efficiently organised world events, it was also one of change.

The new singles and doubles format made it an even greater success with many countries bringing home medals from a world championship event for the first time.

The World Congress was interesting and reported continued expansion of our sport. While a number of rule changes were voted in.

The performance and results of the European countries was again very satisfying with many improvements on previous performances.

A well attended European Congress was addressed by the IRF President and Executive Director and the IRF EXCO in meeting with the ERF Committee members outlined future plans for the development, promotion and marketing of racquetball in Europe. An agenda which should keep us all active in highlighting racquetball across Europe.

FLORIADE

Zoetermeer, Holland
— June 1992

*by Rene Hehemann,
tournament director*



THE Netherlands Racquetball Association made European history by organising the most expensive and prestigious one-time racquetball tournament ever held outside the USA.

From 10 to 14 June, 1992, 32 men and 16 women competed in the Zoetermeer Invitational Racquetball Tournament. The participants came from Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, the United States and Venezuela.

Three world champions, four European champions and ten national champions were among the players.

On Wednesday, June 10, 1992, the Mayor of Zoetermeer, Mr. Luigi van Leeuwen officially opened the tournament.

It took the first three days for preliminary matches, singles and doubles from 1 pm to 10.30 pm. On Saturday, the quarter and semi finals were held. With one exception, all seeded players in the mens and womens managed to reach the quarter final stage.

In the womens event, the greatest upset was achieved by Bobbie Brennan from Ireland, the reigning European champion. She surprised the number one seed from Canada, Vicki Brown.

In the semi-final, Bobbie Brennan then was confronted with Yuka Tan-no from Japan. A very talented young lady. This time the consistent play by Yuka Tan-no was too much for Bobbie Brennan and the Japanese player advanced to the final.

In the other semi final, Elkova Icenogle and Heather Dunne, both from the USA, fought a close match. Elkova won by two sets to one.

The Womens final was a one way match. Elkova Icenogle overran Yuka Tan-no in the first game 15-3. In the second game she could put up some fight, but was only able to score 10 points.

For third place, Heather Dunn needed a tiebreak against Bobbie Brennan. Bobbie won the first 15-6 but Heather fought back to take the second 15-11 and won the tiebreak 15-6.

The first four seeded players in the mens all reached the semi finals. Sudsy Monchik (USA), the number one seed met with the number four seed Fabian Balmori from Venezuela. Fabian could only stay close in the first game, 15-13. In the second game Sudsy was in command, he comfortably took the second 15-5. The second semi final match between Americans Allan Engel and team-mate James Mulcock was led by the first from the beginning to the end. James Mulcock was trailing all the time. In straight games Allan Engel won 15-9, 15-7.

For third place Fabian Balmori showed that two years of going to Memphis State University in the USA and playing racquetball is paying off. He has improved tremendously. He was at no stage of the match in any danger and he set out James Mulcock to win 15-9, 15-10.

The mens final was between Americans Allan Engel and Sudsy Monchik. Engel played some marvellous racquetball to take the first game 15-11. In the second game Sudsy took command in the first half, but when Allan came back from behind, he became uneasy. In a very exciting second part of the game, Allan was back in the game at 10-10. The World Junior champion Sudsy was once more struggling at this stage as Allan dominated the remainder of the game to take the match 15-13.

The mens doubles was won by Johnson/Monchik (USA), in the final they beat Klinke/Balmori (GER/VEN). In the womens doubles, Dunn/Icenogle (USA) were too strong for Brown/R. Icenogle (CAN/USA).

As tournament director, I like to extend my warmest gratitude to Wim Vink, Karel Matla, Tim Radder, Jeroen Vink, Arjen Wildemans, Pascal Matla for helping me organise this memorable event.

And of course, all the sponsors and especially to the city of Zoetermeer, who made it all possible and very successful.



EUROPEAN CONGRESS REPORT

A WELL-ATTENDED European Congress was held in Montreal. Representatives from all European Federations participating in Montreal attended. Along with Executive Director of the IRF, Luke St. Onge; IRF Secretary/Treasurer Keith Calkins and President of the IRF, Mr. Han van der Heijden.

The meeting adopted the 1991 Congress and Special Meeting Reports from Antwerp. It was agreed that Federation affiliation fees to the ERF be increased to US\$100 per year. This change comes into effect from January 1, 1993.

The European Masters event was discussed and it was agreed that a minimum of three countries must participate before a team event can be held. The deadline for entries was agreed at September 1, 1992.

It was also decided to locate the 1993 European Championships in either Milan or Hamburg. The final decision to be made at the Masters in Strasbourg on November 4.

A motion to raise the age limit to 35 for Master events from 1994 was defeated.

European representation at the World Games (1993) in the Hague was discussed. Europe will have 6 men and 6 women representatives. The best method of selection was considered and it was agreed that the final selection and country breakdown would be agreed in Strasbourg.

David Hinton (Wheelchair Racquetball) advised the Congress that a European tour would be undertaken by a number of the world's leading players during February and March of 1993. They intended visiting the European Open in Hamburg, Zoetermeer in Holland, Paris and the Tralee International in Ireland.

Luke St. Onge spoke to the meeting about European development and progress. He emphasised the importance of European Racquetball and its development to the IRF EXCO and IRF long-term objectives. He guaranteed that the IRF would assist in any way possible with European development and support the ERF fully in its attempts to expand, develop, promote and market racquetball in Europe.

After discussion it was agreed that the ERF through its General Secretary and the Racquetball Europe newsletter would ask its membership and affiliated countries to submit their views and opinions on what they — as members expect of the European Federation and what the European Federation can do to assist them in developing racquetball in their regions.

It was also hoped that European racquetballers would contribute ideas and suggestions in a free and uninhibited manner.

Congress agreed to the separation of the Secretary/Treasurer position on the EXCO to permit the EXCO to expand as agreed at the 1991 Congress in Antwerp.

The following officers were elected to serve a further 4 year term:

PRESIDENT	Jurgen Denk, Germany
VICE-PRESIDENT	Philip Duignan, Ireland
GENERAL SECRETARY	Rene Hehemann, Holland
TREASURER	Maryke Hillen, Belgium

European News

BELGIUM

MARYKE HILLEN became only the second Belgian to hold an ERF EXCO position when elected treasurer of the ERF in Montreal. Maryke has been a significant figure in both the playing and administrative side of Belgian racquetball. A member of a number of World Championship teams, she is also the first woman to hold executive position. We wish her well.

GREAT BRITAIN

AT London's only racquetball court at Queens Park, coach and development officer Milo Hackett has been very busy during the summer, putting on programmes to attract the whole community. Working with Local Government he has put on tastier sessions for people with minor learning difficulties, physical disabilities (wheelchair users), 50+ age groups and also junior programmes. They have proved successful enough to start up clubs at Queens Park.

In 1991, racquetball received Associate Membership of the Sports Council, this year the Sports Council have fully recognised racquetball as a sport in Great Britain though the Great Britain Racquetball Federation will not get the same recognition until there are more courts in the country.

Mark Jenkinson represented Great Britain in the 1992 Paralympics as wheelchair racquetball had been given the opportunity to present itself as a demonstration sport.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS:

Queens Park RC 2nd annual tournament, C Division: Mens: Karl Moy bt Chris Malenfant 15-4, 15-12.

Womens: Caroline Garden bt Julia Kaspi 15-12, 9-15, 15-1.

US Navy London Invitational, August 22/23: Mens Open: 1, Jeff Gray, Chicksands; 2, Gary Spraggins, Chicksands; 3, Dennis Fewell, London. Mens B: 1, James Scribner, Alconbury; 2, Terry Dammer, Upper Heyford; 3, Leilani Holtzerlandt, London. Womens: 1, Karen Otter, Queens Park; 2, Sue McGuinness, Queens Park. Doubles: 1, Gary Spraggins/Jeff Gray, Chicksands; 2, James Scribner/Dennis Fewell; 3, Kevin McCarthy/Bernard Reilly, Queens Park.

HOLLAND

AFTER eight years including five World Championships and a number of European team championship successes, Rene Hehemann has announced his resignation as national team coach. Rene's retirement will allow him spend more time with his family and focus his racquetball work on his administrative tasks as Dutch National Secretary and General Secretary of the ERF.

Holland travelled to Belgium in a pre World Championship challenge. The Dutch team won seven games and lost one.

The following are the results: Daphne Wannee bt Kathy Tritsmans, 15-6, 15-6; Philomine van Pelt bt Marijke Hillen 15-14, 3-15, 15-11; Jodine van Antwerpen bt Brigitte Swolfs 8-15, 15-6, 15-9; Peters/Tritsmans bt Koen/Baart de la Faille 15-6, 10-15, 15-2; Bruno Wattenberg lt Michiel van der Holst 15-10, 15-12; Erland Schonberger lt Jeroen van der Holst 15-10, 15-12;

Tim Radder bt Floris van Marken 15-6, 15-5; Vink/Schmid bt Schonberger/van Marken 15-8, 8-15, 6-15.

The 1993 World Games will be held in The Hague. Having been dropped in 1989, racquetball will again be a participating sport. The centres at Zwydrecht and De Leyens will be used. Racquetball will be participating from July 24 to 28.

IRELAND

THE annual general meeting of the RAI saw a number of Council changes. Michael Murphy was elected president to replace Liam McCarney who retired from the position after five years. Liam was a major influence in Irish racquetball during his presidency and will continue to work as a member of the EXCO in his position as Ulster representative.

The rest of the officers appointed were: vice president Marie Duignan; treasurer, Maura Tormey; public relations Anthony Butler; general secretary Philip Duignan; assistant secretary Gillian Hipwell; development officer Martin McCone.

The positions of youth development officer and tournament secretary are yet to be filled. Michael Murphy will temporaray take over the position of tournament secretary until a successor is appointed.

The other three provincial representatives to the Council have yet to be announced. Nine motions out of the 17 submitted were approved by the delegates. The two most significant being the creation of a novice singles division which will also be included as a national championship event and a new promotion structure which

permits a player to win the same division three times.

Liam McCarney and Marie Duignan represented racquetball at the First National Coaching forum officially opened by the Minister for Sport at Limerick Universities National Coaching and Training Centre in September.

The event provided all sports and those involved at coaching and administrative levels the opportunity to discuss the future of coaching in Ireland and particularly the Coach Education System presently being developed by Dr. John Kirwan, director and Mr. Pat Duffy, head of coaching at the National Coaching and Training Centre.

The five aspects of the National Coaching and Training Centre are coach education, sports science, research, training environment and talent development.

SPAIN

NEW address for Spanish Federation is Mr. Angel Manso Ortega, Josep Tarradellas N 40 Ent, 08029 Barcelona, Spain. Tel.: 34-3-325-3694. Fax 34-3-325-3696.

SWITZERLAND

HAVING missed the 1991 Europeans in Antwerp, Switzerland will be participating in the Masters event in Strasbourg on November 4/8 according to Mansfred Kaiser. Welcome back!

AMERICANS IN EUROPE

GEORGE HAEGERTY will take over from Hal Leffler as European Commissioner of the AERA. Hal returns to the States shortly. George Haegerty may be contacted at Hohenstrasse 25, 6752 Enkenbach-Alsenborn, Germany. Tel.: 49-6303-2810.

European Masters

Strasbourg, France — Nov. 3-8

ENTRIES for the forthcoming European Masters in Strasbourg, France have been received for the womens event from Ireland, Germany, Belgium with the possibility of a team from France. Individual entries will include Great Britain.

For the mens event, teams include Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland and holders Ireland.

Hotel reservations should be made direct with Pascal Muller at Hotel Le.

Entry fee is 25 dollars per player to European Federation members. This covers entry and tournament T shirt only. Costs are single room 210 francs, double 130 per person. The tournament will be held from November 3 to 8. The hotel will provide lunch for 60 francs and the tournament dinner/banquet on November 7 will cost 100 francs.

NOTE: Entry fees must be paid either direct to Maryke Hillen, European treasurer or at the start of the championships.



A smiling group pictured at Level 3 Coaching Course in Montreal.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MONTREAL

THE World Championships again arrived in North America, this time the venue was the Nautilus Plus Club in Ville d'Anjou, Montreal.

"The event was dominated by the USA, who brushed aside the challenge of Canada and Mexico when capturing the team events and completing a clean sweep of the singles and doubles. Canada, our hosts, took second place in team and individual events.

The facility had 20 courts including an exhibition court which was used extensively during the tournament by the TV networks who provided coverage of the feature games at the championships. Europe was represented by France, Holland, Italy, Belgium, newcomers Australia, Great Britain, Ireland and Germany.

In the Mens team event, Germany again placed No. 1 European team with a brilliant display to finish 6th and indeed with a little more luck could have been serious medal contenders. Holland improved on their previous World Championship results to move into 8th place. While Ireland, France and Great Britain all improved on their world rankings.

The Womens event ended with Ireland placing again 5th, while the teams from Great Britain, Holland, Germany and Belgium all reached top 12 placings.

In the combined event, Ireland improved to 7th place overall with Germany and Holland placing 9th and 10th respectively.

A feature of the European teams achieving such high standards and excellent results was the fact that our teams are

becoming more confident and starting to believe in themselves. They are more skilled, a lot fitter and more determined to succeed. I have little doubt that the good results will eventually turn into medal winning performances.

The introduction for the first time of the Olympic format for the singles and doubles events was an instant success. It guaranteed a minimum of three games to each player and as you can see from the results many European countries proved to be medal winners in the red, blue and white divisions. These divisions were as hotly contested as the main events and the gold silver and bronze medals equally appreciated.

In the Mens singles, won by Chris Cole of the US. Robert Pratt GB, Trevor Hayter GER and Achim Loof GER all reached the last 16.

Michelle Gould, USA, captured her first World Championship beating title holder Heather Stubb, Canada. Nadia Verilli, Italy and Marie Duignan, Ireland reached the last 16.

Germany reached the quarter final of the mens doubles before losing 2-1 to Japan, while Ireland and Great Britain reached the womens doubles quarter finals losing to Japan and USA.

The tournament was exciting and enjoyable and we would like to express our appreciation to Racquetball Canada, Luc Chauvin manager of Nautilus Plus and his staff. In particular our thanks to all the volunteers who worked at the club and those who drove the courtesy coaches. They all made our visit to Canada a most memorable one; their friendship and hospitality will always be remembered.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM RESULTS

SENIOR EVENTS:

Senior 35: Cal Smith, Canada.

Vets 40: Gary Mazaroff, US def. Jurgen Denk, GER, 2-1.

Masters 45: Philip Duignan, IRL def. Luke St. Onge, USA, 2-0.

USA dominate world finals



USA — 1992 world champions.



CANADA — 1992 runners-up.

Photos from the championships



VI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES GOLD

Chris Cole (USA)
Tim Sweeney (USA)
Mike Bronfeld (USA)
Mike Ceresia (Canada)
Junichi Yoshida (Japan)
Roger Haripersad (Canada)
Juan Carlos Quevedo (Mexico)
Alvaro Maldonado (Mexico)

Men's Singles Blue

Oscar Bazan (Peru)
Fabian Apa (Argentina)
Luis Gomez (Costa Rica)
Bernal Pacheco (Costa Rica)

Men's Singles Red

Ray Martinez (Puerto Rico)
German Coppolechia (Argentina)
Michiel Van der Holst (Holland)
Steven Holm (Guatemala)

Men's Singles White

Han Byung Gu (Korea)
Benjamin Doniego (Phillipines)
Philippe Salaz (Chile)
Jo Young Il (Korea)

MEN'S DOUBLES GOLD

Doug Ganin/Eric Muller (USA)
Roger Haripersad/Simon Roy (Canada)
Juan Carlos Quevedo/Mario Lozoya (Mexico)
Syoichi Sakai/Tsuyoshi Hogiwa (Japan)

Men's Doubles Blue

Fabian Apa/Carlos Guardi (Argentina)
Rodrigo Naranjo/Marco Cobb (Costa Rica)
Eduardo Fernandez/Xavier Risquez (Venezuela)
Dieter Stengl/Torsten Krieger (Germany)

Men's Doubles Red

Jeroen Vink/Ronald Schmid (Holland)
Christy Slattery/Michael Murphy (Ireland)
Jo Young Il/Han Byung Gu (Korea)
Erland Schonberger/Floris Van Marcke (Belg)

Men's Doubles White

Ray Martinez/Anthony Gruska (Puerto Rico)
Aroleau/Rihn (France)

WOMEN'S SINGLES GOLD

Michelle Gould (USA)
Heather Stupp (Canada)
Kaye Kuhfeld (USA)
Jackie Paraiso Gibson (USA)
Carol McFetridge (Canada)
Masami Kofusi (Japan)
Sue MacTaggart (Canada)
Hideko Kasahara (Japan)

Women's Singles Blue

Diana Almeida (Mexico)
Guomar Matheus (Venezuela)
Birgit Klinke (Germany)
Valentina Pereira (Venezuela)

Women's Singles Red

Blasini (Puerto Rico)
Liliana Casasfranco (Colombia)
Jodine van Antwerpen (Holland)
Raquel Perez (Puerto Rico)

Women's Singles White

Maria Silva de Ruiz (Puerto Rico)
Marijke Hillen (Belgium)
Brigitte Swolfs (Belgium)
Karen Wilson (Australia)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES GOLD

Malia Bailey/Robin Levine (USA)
Vicki Brown/Josee Grand'maire (Canada)
Diana Almeida/Hilda Rodriguez (Mexico)
Toshiko Sakamoto/Rie Yamanaka (Japan)

Women's Doubles Blue

Andrea Ortiz/Rose Marie Koberg (Costa Rica)
Wendy Hackett/Angie Gurley (Great Britain)
Ciss Kennedy/Bernie Farrell (Ireland)
Lily Geyer/Mary Valentiner (Venezuela)

Women's Doubles Red

Maria Silva de Ruiz/Kim Venegas (Puerto Rico)
Marja Koen/Angeligne Baarl de la Faille (Holland)
Katrien Tritsmans/Annick Peeters (Belgium)
Lee Young Mi/Cho In Mi (Korea)

Women's Doubles White

Jodie Stevens/Karen Wilson (Australia)

BELGIQUE
BELGIUM



GRANDE BRETAGNE
GREAT BRITAIN



AUSTRALIE
AUSTRALIA



VI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAM RESULTS

MEN'S TEAM	WOMEN'S TEAM	OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP
1. United States	1. United States	1. United States
2. Canada	2. Canada	2. Canada
3. Mexico	3. Japan	3. Mexico
4. Japan	4. Mexico	4. Japan
5. Venezuela	5. Ireland	5. Bolivia
6. Germany	6. Bolivia	5. Venezuela
7. Bolivia	7. Costa Rica	7. Ireland
8. Holland	8. Venezuela	8. Costa Rica
9. Costa Rica	9. Great Britain	9. Germany
10. Ireland	10. Holland	10. Holland
11. Argentina	11. Germany	11. Great Britain
12. Great Britain	12. Belgium	12. Australia
13. Australia	13. Puerto Rico	13. Belgium
14. France	14. Australia	13. Puerto Rico
15. Chile	15. Korea	15. Korea
16. Uruguay	16. Italy	15. Chile
17. Puerto Rico	17. Dominican Republic	17. Dominican Republic
18. Belgium	18. Trinidad/Tobago	18. Argentina
19. Korea	19. Chile	19. Trinidad/Tobago
20. Panama	20. Columbia	20. France
21. Brazil		21. Italy
22. Peru		22. Uruguay
23. Austria		23. Panama
24. Philippines		24. Columbia
25. Belize		25. Brazil
26. Dominican Republic		26. Peru
27. Guatemala		27. Austria
28. Trinidad/Tobago		28. Philippines
29. Israel		29. Belize
		30. Guatemala
		31. Israel
		32. Haiti



USA NEWS

WHEELCHAIR RACQUETBALL

HAVING successfully participated in Montreal, six players (2 US, 2 Canadians and 2 British) competitors moved on to the Paralympics in Barcelona where racquetball has been slotted in as a demonstration sport.

Countries selected for the upcoming European tour (February 1993) are Holland, Germany (European Open), Ireland (Tralee International) and England.

Six thousand Canadian dollars were raised towards the tour with a very successful auction in Montreal at the World Championships.

Auctioneer Tom MacWilliams of Racquetball Canada was most entertaining and extracted maximum funds from a very happy attendance.

NEW CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR RACQUETBALL CHAMPION ENDS SEVEN YEAR JINX

JAKE SMELLIE of Winnipeg, Manitoba who, not once, not twice, but seven times finished in second place at the Canadian National Racquetball Championships has finally ascended to the winner's spot on the podium. This 30 year old Manitoba telephone dispatcher took the title with a convincing gold medal game victory in the Wheelchair "A" division over Stan Neufeld also of Winnipeg by scores of 11-4, 11-8 and 11-8.

Five time National Champion Mark Cormack of New Westminster, B.C., was satisfied with his third place finish having recently returned to competitive play after an eighteen month absence from the game for medical reasons.

MEN

MEN'S OPEN

1. Tim Hansen, FL
2. Tim Sweeney, IL
3. Brian Hawkes, CA
4. Doug Ganim, OH
5. Chris Cole, MI
6. Brian Simpson, IN
7. Michael Bronfeld, CA
8. Mike Guidry, TX
9. Jimmy Alvarado, FL
10. Kelly Gelhaus, CA

WOMEN

WOMEN'S OPEN

1. Michelle Gilman, OR
2. Martha McDonald, FL
3. Dot Fischl-Kelly, PA
4. Mary Lyons, FL
5. Lauren Sheprow, FL
6. Toni Bevelock, CA
7. Kim Russell, GA
8. Janet Grimaldi, RI
9. B.J. Ehrgott, CT
10. Robin Levine, CA

NWRA

WHEELCHAIR OPEN

1. Gary Baker, IN
2. Mark Jenkinson, VA
3. Joe Hager, PA
4. Mike Roberts, MD

WHEELCHAIR "A"

1. Steve Kuketz, MA
2. Bob Nichol, MA
3. Doug Champa, MA
4. Mike Bond, FL
5. Tom Bosco, MA
6. Dan Kilmachn, NY

RAI CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1992/93

DATE:	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT:
SEP 26-27	OVERAGE ALL-IRELANDS	Castlebar	M. Murphy
OCT 10-11	ULSTER OPEN	Belfast	L. McCarney
OCT 24-25	KILKENNY OPEN	Kilkenny	J. Comerford
NOV 07-08	UNDERAGE ALL-IRELANDS		M. Murphy
NOV 14-15	MUNSTER OPEN	Fermoy	M. Kennedy
NOV 21-22	UCD NOVICE TOURNAMENT	UCD	M. Murphy
DEC 05-06	WOMENS ALL-IRELANDS		P. Duignan
FEB 06-07	LEINSTER OPEN	Arklow	M. Kennedy
FEB 13-14	UNIVERSITIRES C'SHIPS	Galway	T. King/B. O'Connor
FEB 19-21	12th TRALEE INTERNATIONAL	Tralee	M. Murphy
MAR 13-14	TAILTEANN GAMES		M. Haverty
MAR 27-28	CASTLEBAR OPEN	Castlebar	M. Murphy
APR 09-11	ALL-IRELANDS SINGLES/DOUBLES		S. Watters
APR 24-25	CAVAN OPEN	Cavan	M. Murphy
MAY 08-09	ARKLOW OPEN	Arklow	M. McCone
MAY 25-30	NEWRY OPEN	Newry	

Participants in these events must be members of Clubs affiliated to the Racquetball Association of Ireland.

Venues for All-Ireland championships and National Club championships to be decided.



**Jimmy Gannon and Martin Rowlands (Arklow),
All-Ireland Doubles Champions.**

WORLD CONGRESS REPORT

THE 6th IRF World Congress was held in Montreal at the World Championships. Over 60 delegates attended along with senior executives from Leader Eyeguards and Ektelon Industries.

In his opening remarks, IRF President Han van der Heijden (Holland) outlined world progress to date, highlighted the importance of continuing to work towards Olympic recognition and emphasised the significant steps taken with regard to the expansion of racquetball's media profile.

He welcomed in particular those countries and federations such as Australia, Belize and Austria to their first world event.

The Congress then heard regional reports from Europe (Jurgen Denk), Central America and Caribbean (Enrique Villagran), South America (Jose Virreira), Asia (Japan Federation) and North America (Benoit Turcotte).

Congress at this stage considered the position of racquetball in Columbia and ratified the Racquetball Federation of Columbia (FEDE) as the governing body to replace FECOR.

Next item considered were a number of rule changes (see separate report in this issue). The sponsorship opportunities available to the IRF and its member countries were outlined by Leo Reilly, Vice-President Sales from Ektelon and Craig Schmitt, Director of Sales, Leader Sports products.

These were in turn followed by a presentation from the Mexican Federation and the City of San Luis Potosi who will be hosts to the 1994 World Championships.

Atlanta hosts for the 1996 World Championships, which will be held alongside the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, gave an overview of their progress to date and proposals for the World Championships of 1996.

Dave Hinton, chairperson of the Committee for athletes with disabilities covered the progress of Wheelchair Racquetball and advised the Congress that Wheelchair Racquetball had been accepted as an "unofficial" demonstration event at the 1992 Paralympics in Barcelona from September 2 to 9.

In conclusion the following were re-elected to the executive of the IRF:

President: Han van der Heijden (Holland).

Executive Vice-President: Rudolfo Echeverria (Costa Rica).

General Secretary/Treasurer: Keith Calkins (USA).

Commissioner Asia: Michikane Ishiguro (Japan).

Commissioner Europe: Jurgen Denk (Germany).

Commissioner North America: Benoit Turcotte (Canada).

Commissioner Central & Caribbean: Enrique Villagran (Mexico).

Commissioner South America: Jose Virreira (Bolivia).

New Rules agreed at World Congress

AS previously mentioned in our Congress report a number of new rules were presented to the Congress for consideration and approval.

Jim Hiser, chairperson of the IRF Rules Committee gave early warning of the changes and copied all Federations well in advance of the Congress.

A total of 10 rule changes were presented to the delegates along with explanatory notes giving the various reasons behind the changes.

In addition a number of points clarifying existing rules were highlighted. Seven of the 10 rule changes were passed and the clarification points were accepted also.

We have listed these below and it is important to note that these became effective from September 1, 1992:

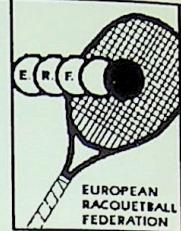
1992 IRF RULE CHANGES

1. Tie break games are reduced to 11 points.
2. In Doubles, if the serve strikes the servers partner, it is considered a fault, ie 2nd serve or side out.
3. A referee or lines judge may only be removed at the discretion of the referee in chief or his delegate. The referee in chief or his delegate may observe a match in progress to determine what, if any, action is to be taken.
4. Out of Court line: The upper edge of the out of court line is on the back wall parallel with and located 12 ft above the floor.
After return: Any ball returned to the front wall while on the rebound or on the first bounce goes above the 12 ft line through any opening in a side wall, shall be declared dead and the rally replayed.
5. In any match using linespeople, all calls are now appealable except technicals.
This includes avoidables NOTE limit of 5 appeals per game still apply.
6. In Open divisions, players will be permitted only ONE serve. Screen serves are faults, NOTE this does not apply to Underage, Overage, B, C, D and Novice events.
7. TEAM COMPETITION
 - (a) Where team competition is involved, coaches or representatives of such teams are bound by the same rules as players as far as technicals are concerned and the infractions are charged against the player.
 - (b) No Coaches or representatives are allowed in the courts at any time during a match.
Failure to observe this is a technical foul and shall be charged against their player.

CLARIFICATION OF RULES

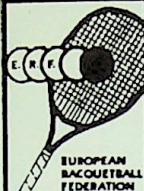
- A. APPEALS: An appeal by a player must be made directly to the referee immediately after the rally had ended and before the player leaves the court. Any appeal directed to any other person will not be recognised and the appeal forfeited.
- B. INJURY TIME OUTS: No time out shall be charged to a player who is injured during play. Injury must be as a result of contact, such as with the ball, racquet, wall or floor. Muscle cramps and pulls, fatigue and other ailments that are not caused by direct contact will not be considered an injury.
- C. EYEWEAR: Failure to wear eyewear protection designed for racquet sport is an automatic technical.
- D. The match officially begins when the referee calls the score for the first rally.
- E. Wet gloves are NOT considered equipment for timeouts, ie on a request to change glove, a player must take a time out.
- F. Three technicals against a player means that he/she forfeits the match.

EUROPEAN RACQUETBALL CALENDAR 1992/93



DATES:	TOURNAMENTS	CITIES	COUNTRIES	CONTACT/PHONE:
25-27 SEPT	12th SWISS OPEN	ZURICH	SWITZERLAND	Manfred Kaiser 01-7618633
10-11 OCT	ULSTER OPEN	BELFAST	N. IRELAND	Liam McCarney 0232-615164
16-18 OCT	6th TOP GUN TOURNEY	MUNCHEN	GERMANY	Jurgen Denk 089-4801220
23-25 OCT	7th AUTUMN OPEN	ZOETERMEER	HOLLAND	Jeroen van der Holst 079-312118
24-25 OCT	KILKENNY OPEN	KILKENNY	IRELAND	John Comerford 353-056-64181
31-01 NOV	3rd STRASBOURG OPEN	STRASBOURG	FRANCE	Pascal Muller 088-625555
04-08 NOV	4th EUROPEAN MASTERS	STRASBOURG	FRANCE	Rene Hehemann 079-413575
14-15 NOV	MUNSTER OPEN	FERMOY	IRELAND	Philip Duignan 353-1-375371
14-15 NOV	RE-OPENING TOURNEY	SOESTERBERG	HOLLAND	Willy Waters 030-312582
16-17 JAN	10th TOUR EIFFEL OPEN	PARIS	FRANCE	Philippe Lecomte 01-48200874
06-07 FEB	LEINSTER OPEN	ARKLOW	IRELAND	Philip Duignan 353-1-375371
19-21 FEB	12th TRALEE INTERNATIONAL	TRALEE	IRELAND	Tommy King 351-066-25421
19-21 FEB	7th EUROPEAN OPEN	HAMBURG	GERMANY	Helga Bebensee 040-6530064
27-28 FEB	6th ANTWERP OPEN	ANTWERP	BEGIUM	Erik Meyer 03-2318019
26-28 FEB	7th SCHINNEN OPEN	SCHINNEN	HOLLAND USM	Ger van der Kleut 04493-7561
05-08 MAR	3rd ANNUAL TOURNAMENT	SOESTERBERG	HOLLAND	Willy Waters 030-312582
19-21 MAR	15th DUTCH OPEN	ZOETERMEER	HOLLAND	Wim Vink 079-317586
27-28 MAR	CASTLEBAR OPEN	CASTLEBAR	IRELAND	Michael Haverty
07-11 APR	2nd SOUTH-WEST OPEN	BIARRITZ	FRANCE	Philippe Lecomte 01-48200874
16-18 APR	2nd BRUSSELS OPEN	BRUSSELS	BELGIUM	02-3491411
24-25 APR	CAVAN OPEN	CAVAN	IRELAND	Seamus Watters
08-09 MAY	ARKLOW OPEN	ARKLOW	IRELAND	Michael Murphy 353-0402-39950
25-30 MAY	NEWRY OPEN	NEWRY	N. IRELAND	Martin McCone 0693-839788
MAY/JUNE	7th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS		ERF 079-413575	
23-27 JULY	WORLD GAMES IV	THE HAGUE	HOLLAND	IRF 719-635-5396
1994 05-13 AUG	7th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	S.L. POTOSI	MEXICO	IRF 719-636-5396

Corrections/additions, contact RENE HEHEMANN
Dates for the season 1993-1994 are most welcome too!!



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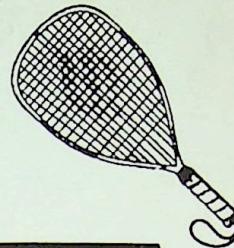
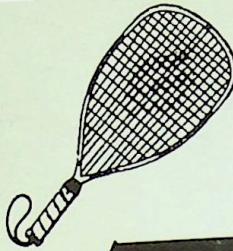
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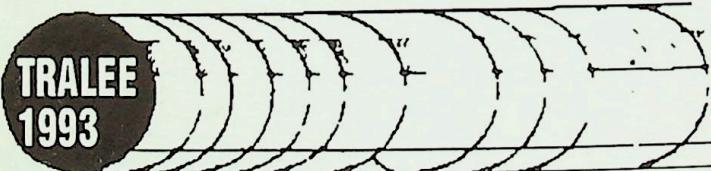




12th ANNUAL **TRALEE** **INTERNATIONAL** **(IRISH OPEN)** **RACQUETBALL** **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

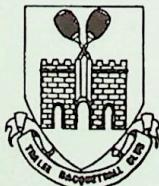
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 19, 20 & 21, 1993

TRALEE
1993



TRALEE SPORTS CENTRE

Further details and entry forms from Tournament Directors:
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Ireland.
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21666 (W)



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