



NEW HAMPSHIRE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION'S

NHRA's Rollout

The USAR Affiliate in New Hampshire - Winter 2006

Message from the President

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As we continue on with our 2005/2006 racquetball season you will be seeing some changes in our approach to major tournaments. These changes we hope will make our tournaments here in New Hampshire better in the long run. Please bear with us while we try to change the way we do things.

We are just coming off the worst Mitch Nathanson event in its 14 year history. Yes we raised money for the kids, yes the talent was the best we ever saw, but dealing with some of the players was the worst job we could VOLUNTEER for.

Some facts you should know.

Less than 150 players had signed up at the entry deadline. Over 200 competed. That's 50 late entries. This makes planning a large tournament difficult because we need time to coordinate 2 clubs for draws, and times.

More importantly the clubs that are DONATED need to coordinate their staffing. They need to know hours for their employees, and they need to know food and numbers. We had no clue at the deadline of what are real numbers would be. There is a lot involved

in putting together a major event and we just ask that you remember the early deadline when entering tournaments.

We offered on-line signup this time, and it went quite well. The downside of that is that there is 0 cash flow pre event. With the Mitch we give out almost all the money we take in from donations to keep our 501 C3 status. We have to pay out about \$5000 in expenses pre event which means a lot of that comes from personal accounts.

If you enter early and pay in advance it would be so much easier especially for this event.

We pay out over \$10,000 in prize money. This comes from entry fees. But we don't get the entry fees until you get here on Saturday. Again this means scrambling for money pre-event. So, even though you can enter on-line, it would be great if you could also make an attempt to mail payment in pre-tourney. This also saves you time when you check in at the tournament desk.

Continued next page .

CONTACT US

NHRA

91 Lancaster Avenue

Manchester, NH 03103

Phone: (603) 641-6116

Fax: (603) 627-4552

Email:

nhboard@nhracquetball.com

www.nhracquetball.com

Mitch Recap

As far as talent goes the 2006 Mitch Nathanson was at its best in 14 years.

Cliff Swain asked for a waiver from the IRT to come and play the event for the first time in years. He and Mitch were very good friends and played together in the juniors. The tournament is very special to him. In addition to Cliff we have our own top dog, Scott Reiff that gave Cliff a run for his money in the semis. Rick Sledzick Jr of Brockton, Mass lost to Cliff in the quarters in a great tiebreaker, and in the final Jason Thoerner #9 on the pro tour lost to Cliff in a tiebreaker. Also here were Ben Croft #16 on the Pro Tour and his doubles partner Charlie Pratt from Oregon, both were on team USA last year.

Other men's Team USA players in attendance were the current World Champion Team of Danny Lavelly and Chad McGuffey from Ohio. They went on to win the Men's A doubles event.

In the Women's Open, Cheryl Gudinas #3 Womens Pro Tour beat Adrienne Fisher #9 on the tour in 2 games. Adrienne was a 6 time member of Team USA. She teamed up with current team member Sara Hettesheimer, Ohio to beat the hometown favorites of Beane/Pomodoro in the first round... Gudinas teamed up with current US Team member Shannon Inglesby, Oregon to win the Women's Open doubles. Jo Shattuck #11 on the Women's Tour came in from Colorado and lost to Adrienne Fisher in the semis.

The junior divisions were low in attendance this year, I know a lot of them play adult events, but we had a lot of new faces in the juniors. They included the Alvarados, Daniel, David and Jonathan playing in their first tournament. Taylor Allen playing in his second tourney and of course the Carpenters and the Francis brothers all trying to win the juniors.

We hope to have the event again, sponsors are crucial in making this a success. Thanks to Northeast Delta Dental, Bernstein and Shur, The Black Brimmer, The Executive Health Club and Nashua Athletic Club for donating their respective facilities. Thank you to the many volunteers who put themselves through hell to make this work. Also, thanks to all of you that bought raffle tickets and those of you who turned around and donated your prize money back to the cause. You know who you are and thank you.

President's Message continued.....

We ran very late on Saturday. We will take some of the blame for over booking courts and wanting to bring the tourney back to one site on Saturday so all the players could be at the same club. Going beyond club hours means we must pay overtime, so that hurts all the way around. Some of the other reasons for running behind were many people were walking in to the club five minutes prior to their match time. Then they would take 15-20 minutes to get changed, warm up, etc. This holds everything up. We also had to spend a great deal of time hunting down refs, and begging people to help us out. This leaves the courts empty.

On a positive note, we had some good conversations about how we can improve our tournament efficiency - We have 2 changes that will be happening starting with the State Singles tournament.

Our desk will be located downstairs to watch the court situation better. You will be limited to a 5 min warm up and will be forfeited if not ready to go. Forfeit time is 10 minutes after the hour and we will start enforcing that to make sure we run on time. We will stop overbooking courts and with the combination of the two we should be fine. Another new change will be losers will ref. Please see the article inside for more explanation of that. If you walk off and don't ref, you will not be allowed to compete at future events.

Please remember that the people that run all of the events all over the state do it for the love of the game and to give back to their sport. Please don't take your frustration out on them, or the staff at any of the hosting clubs. If we want to continue to have major events here in New Hampshire we need everyone's support and no more of attitudes that came with the Mitch. We listen to you, and we have made 2 changes that you all suggested. If you have any other ideas we are happy to hear them. If things don't change when it comes to the big events, then I am quite sure it will become more difficult to find volunteers to run them and that will jeopardize the 2006/2007 season. Kelley

2006 MITCH NATHANSON CLASSIC

Jan. 27th - 29th at the Executive Health & Sports Center, Manchester NH (Co-hosted by the Nashua Athletic Club)

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
MENS OPEN	Cliff Swain, MA	Jason Thoerner, GA	Ben Croft, IL	Scott Reiff, NH
MENS ELITE	Brad Kirch, NY	Tim Wilson, CT	Scott Pickett, NY	Gary Walsh, NH
MENS A	Brad Kirch, NY	Brett Lane, MA	Jon-Craig Chisholm, MA	Chad McGuffey, OH
MENS B	Ken Hepburn, VT	Jim Picchi, RI	Steve Groccia, MA	Bill Taranovich, NH
MENS C	Jim Picchi, RI	Ryan Maroney, VT	Peter McNamara, MA	Todd Anderson, NH
MENS D	Josh Smith, VT	Chris Francis, NH	David Alvarado, NH	Michael Loudin, RI
MENS NOVICE	Michael Onishuk, RI	Jeff Duchesne, MA	Sam Allen, VT	Kevin Carpenter, NH
MENS 30+	Tim Kirch, NY	Sean Klingaman, NH	Intiaz Vohra, MA	Scott Pickett, NY
MENS 40+	Tim Kirch, NY	Russ Bonnano, NY	Jim Bove, MA	Dave Barnes, RI
MENS 50+	Jim Bove, MA	Mitch Milewski, NH	Bruce McCumber, VT	Lynn Stephens, NC
WOMENS OPEN	Cheryl Gudinas, IL	Adrienne Fisher, OH	Lorraine Feeney, MA	Jo Shattuck, CO
WOMENS ELITE	Heather Dunn, MA	Shannon Inglesby, OR	Jennifer Lynch, MA	Kara Mazur, CT
WOMENS A	Jolene Sullivan, NH	Samantha McGuffey, OH	Sharon Shapiro, NH	Gail Valuk, RI
WOMENS B	Courtney Chisholm, MA	Jolene Sullivan, NH	Samantha McGuffey, OH	Jackie Rosado, CT
WOMENS C	Samantha Rosado, CT	Jackie Rosado, CT	Ceci Carpenter, NH	Keri Guarino, NY
WOMENS D	Helga Mispelblom, NH	Tracie Madore, NH	Julie Richards, MA	Ali Dooley, RI
JUNIOR <12	Ryan Carpenter, NH	Jeff Duchesne, MA	Ryan Francis, NH	Daniel Alvarado, NH
JUNIOR <14	Sam Allen, VT	David Alvarado, NH	Ryan Francis, NH	Ryan Carpenter, NH
JUNIOR <16	Tim Albert, CT	Jonathan Alvarado, NH	Kevin Carpenter, NH	
MENS OPEN DOUBLES	Sanjay Laforest, NY Shane Wood, MA	Russ Bonnano, NY Jason Thoerner, GA	Ben Croft, IL Charlie Pratt, OR	Mike Pettoruto, MA Joe Palazzo, RI
MENS 'A' DOUBLES	Dan Lavelly, OH Chad McGuffey, OH	Marco Labonte, NH Jay Vallieres, VT	Brett Lane, MA Tony Luz, MA	Rob Longo, MA Jack Murphy, MA
MENS 'B/C' DOUBLES	Rob Longo, MA Jack Murphy, MA	Neil Brodien, NH Ken Hepburn, NH	Matthew Slater, NH Joe Vogel, MA	Ryan Maroney, VT Richard Smith, VT
MENS 40+ DOUBLES	Frank Gibson, MA Ralph Grillone, MA	Mike Washburn, NH Frank Zabbo, MA	Robert Lecompte, MA Dave Morse, MA	
WOMENS OPEN DOUBLES	Cheryl Gudinas, IL Shannon Inglesby, OR	Lorraine Feeney, MA Roz Petronelli, MA	Adrienne Fisher, OH Sarah Hettesheimer, OH	Kara Mazur, CT Samantha McGuffey, OH
MIXED 'A' DOUBLES	Deb Hunter, MA Ryan Hunter, MA	Teri Labrie, NH Marco Labonte, NH	Lynn Smith, NH Mike Normand, NH	Gail Valuk, RI Bill Sabadosa, MA

Tips from Fellow Racquetball Players

Kelley Beane — Racquetball is a chess game played at 100mph. Control center court, play the percentages!

Jean Lerch — Communication and chemistry between partners is essential for a successful doubles team. Doubles partners should enjoy playing together— they should respect and trust one another on and off the court. If not, the team will not work well together. Communication during rallies is a must. You should feel comfortable discussing strategies as needed and be open to comments from your partner.

Gary Walsh — Do not beat yourself on the court, many games are won and lost on the amount of unforced errors you have or how many free points you give your opponent. Do not try to hit winners from all over the court. Play percentage racquetball. Shot selection is key, ceiling balls can be used as an offensive shot. Where is your opponent positioned? If she/he is in front of you, pass down the lines—if she/he is in back of you, use the pinch shot.

Sharon Shapiro — A tip I learned from Cheryl Guidinas is that when playing in tournaments, always make sure to have protein bars, plenty of Gatorade and water, and if possible a chicken sandwich for protein. Don't rely on tournaments to provide you with the food/fuel you'll need to play.

Mike Normand — Happy feet!!! Up on the balls of your feet and perpetual motion. By keeping your feet moving on the court, you create more opportunities for yourself, so get them going and watch your game go to the next level.

Greg LaBrie — Early racquetball preparation: as soon as the ball leaves the front wall, you should know whether it is coming to your forehand or backhand, so at that point you should get your racquet in the ready position. Keep your eye on the ball at all times: if your opponent is behind you, you won't know what shot he will take or if you are in the way. If you watch you will know if your opponent is going offensive or defensive and you can follow the path of the ball to the front wall, giving you more reaction time. Control center court: Hit your shot and move towards center court in one fluid motion. If your opponent has center court, choose shots that will move him out of center court.

Dick Lowell — How do I select my shot? If ball is chest high or up, ceiling shot. If the ball is chest high to thigh high, passing shot. Below thigh high, kill shot. Where's your opponent? If behind you, pinch to the same side as your opponent. Beside you, passing shot. Front of you, passing or ceiling shot. Not sure? Passing down the lines as close to the side wall weakens the defensive return. What about angles? Use angles and hit higher on the front wall to eliminate skip balls or unforced errors. What are good offensive shots? Kill shots and passing shots that bounce twice before hitting the back wall. Use passing shots to get in better position for kill shots. Hit passing shots 6" to 24" off the floor.

John Acampora — Variety. Try not to be too predictable or one dimensional. Keeping your opponents thinking keeps the pressure on. Mixing power with touch can take your opponent out of their rhythm.

NHRA Board

- Kelley Beane
- Chris Zalegowski
 - Ron Bye
 - John Varrill
- Ron Bouchard
- Dick Lowell
- John Acampora
 - Lee Monks
 - Jean Lerch
 - Teri LaBrie
 - Greg LaBrie
 - Gary Walsh
- Sharon Shapiro
- Mike Normand

Please contact us at
NHBOARD@

NHRACQUETBALL.COM

with any questions
or suggestions.



Player Profile - The Dyers

New Hampshire's "First Family" of Racquetball

For all those who routinely attend racquetball tournaments throughout New Hampshire, one thing is for certain, you are bound to see a Dyer. Carmen, Dick, Jeff, Jason, Jon and Justin. The Dyers have been extremely active racquetball players, playing in tournaments throughout the region, as well as The Granite Cup, and most recently even participating in Nashua's travel team. What makes the Dyer's so special is the fact that they just don't play in tournaments, they win tournaments. Top to bottom, each and everyone in this family has won a tournament.

Where do we start? The matriarch of the Dyer family is Carmen. A solid Women's A player, she has been a steady force in tournaments, with her share of wins in both Women's and Mixed doubles. Next is Dick, the proud father who has the distinction of having won with each of his four sons. Dick, a Men's A player, is the defending New England Regional Men's A Doubles champion with his son Justin. Quite the accomplishment! Then the kids. The two older brothers, Jeff and Jason, are Men's B players. They have won several Men's B and C tournaments between them. Father's themselves, it probably won't be far fetched to believe that another generation of Dyer's playing racquetball is down the road. Finally, the two younger brothers, Jon and Justin. Over the last 3-4 years, these two have certainly taken it up a notch. Jon, now a Men's Open player, has seen his game take off like only a select few has seen. Dominating the B's a couple of years ago, he followed that up with an impressive season last year duplicating his success in Men's A's. This season, playing as an Open player, he already has a doubles win under his belt. Great job Jon! Last is Justin, a very tough Men's A player. Like Jon, Justin has seen his game elevate the past couple of years. Justin is nipping at his brother's heels, playing solidly in the A's. Knowing the competitive fire he shares with his family, it's only a matter of time before Justin moves along to join the Elite ranks.

I asked the Dyers some questions, here were their answers.....

How many years have you been playing?

Carmen — 28 years

Dick — 28 years

Jeff — on and off since he was 12

Jason — 14 years

Jon — 5 years

Justin — 4 years

What got you started?

Carmen — Seeing it at the Nashua Athletic Club

Dick — After playing paddle ball in college, wanted to keep playing

Jeff, Jason and Jon — Watching our parents play in tournaments while growing up

Justin — Watching my brother Jon rise through the ranks quickly

What has been your highlights?

Carmen — Becoming a teaching professional and having so many good memories, winning memories, with so many different people. Women's doubles, Mixed double's, and some singles in the early years. One of the most interesting wins was when Dick and I won a mixed tournament when I was 5 months pregnant. The game is a way of life for me and I can't imagine life without it.

Dick — I'm very proud to have won a B or A doubles tournament with each of my sons. It was great to see each of them develop as players while I was playing steadily for all these years. I was able to coach them all, compete with them all, and most recently, win a tournament with them all. My favorite coaching moment was teaching Jon to shoot off the dive :) What a great sport!

Player Profile — The Dyers (continued)

Jeff — My highlight was winning a tournament with my dad. I don't have the time to play often, but my father is so good in doubles (in particular with his serve and his strategies to beat each team) that he can carry my lack of playing to victory. There's nothing like winning a match or a tournament with your mother or father.

Jason — When I was at the Air Force Academy, I blew out my knee playing football. Looking for a way to stay competitive, I reverted to the childhood game that my parents brought me up with; racquetball. I joined the Academy team as C player and grew steadily over the next two years. The highlight was when the Academy racquetball team went to the Amateur National tournament my junior year. We got to see the best and get away from the academy for a full week.

Jon — Making it to the opens. Some memorable tournaments were winning my first open doubles tournament with Jeff Hill in the Ground Hog open last month. We were an unseeded team and took the field by surprise. Also, I think back to the Regional A Singles last year where I had to win five grueling matches.

Justin — In singles, winning the B's at the Mitch. In doubles, winning the Regional A's this year with my Dad.

Describe Tournament experiences

Carmen — The thing I like most about tournaments is beating the favorites. My mixed partner and I (Peter Messier) beat two top open players. It gives you a sense of pride and confidence that translates into every day life. Meeting and becoming friends with players from all over

Dick — On the positive side of my tournament experiences was to have come back from a 10 - 1 deficit in the tie-breaker of a singles tournament. On the negative side of a tournament experience, the worst feeling I've ever had was getting shut-out in a game. How can you not score one point!

Jeff — Having not played many tournaments lately due to my work and kids, I have to think back to one time when I had to grind out my second C tournament victory which put me in the B's. You have to outlast people, outsmart them, and outplay them in each match and in the C's, those games can take a long time.

Jason — Winning the Mass State B Doubles tournament with my youngest brother Justin. We had never played together and we didn't even know who should play the back-hand side. Turned out that we switched throughout depending on what serve our opponents were giving us. Other than that, I've had many B Doubles wins with my father that we laugh about all the time. He and I have many, "Remember whens."

Jon — Playing successfully with all the family members. Its always great to win a tournament with a family member for the first time. I've been lucky enough to do that with my mom, dad, and all brothers.

Justin — The friendships I have made and the camaraderie among the players.

What are your goals?

Carmen — Stay healthy enough to play well as we get older. Go to Nationals at some point.

Dick — My goal is to play into my 80s. I love reading racquetball magazine and seeing features on seniors that are still going strong. At this point in my life, staying healthy enough to keep playing is on the forefront of my mind.

Jeff — Getting a chance to play more often and hopefully getting my kids started in the game.

Jason — My goal is to play more now that kids are getting older. I'd like to chase my younger brothers who have become very good. In just 3 years of working at it Jon has become an open player and in two years Justin has become a solid A player. I'm still in the B's after all these years and if I can play more, I think I can catch up to Justin -- or at least stay competitive with him. Jon now kills me and playing him is a bit of a joke.

Jon — First and foremost to win an open singles tournament. Continue to improve yearly.

Justin — To keep improving and become the best player I can be. Try and catch Jon and play with him in an Open doubles event

2006 'B/C' CHALLENGE

January 14th & 15th, at Great Bay Athletic Club, Newmarket NH

DIVISIONS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
MENS 'B'	MIKE GIRARD	CASS BUCKLEY	BRETT ELMORE	HOWIE MOULTON
MENS 'C'	HARRY WESSON	GEORGE ALLEN	STEVE CICCONE	MICHAEL WILKINS
MENS 'D'	CHRIS WHEELER	FRANK HUREAU	LEE MONKS (Lefty)	CARL HUSSEY
MENS NOVICE	KEVIN CARPENTER	RYAN CARPENTER	TED JEFFREY	JAMIE BEAVER
WOMENS 'B'	JOLENE SULLIVAN	JEAN LERCH	SHARON SHAPIRO	
WOMENS 'C'	HELGA MISPELBLOM	LAURIE BOX	SHAUNA JOHNSTON	
WOMENS 'D'	HELGA MISPELBLOM	SHAUNA JOHNSTON		
JUNIOR <10	RYAN FRANCIS	RYAN WESSON		
JUNIOR <12	RYAN CARPENTER	RYAN FRANCIS	TAYLOR ALLEN	
JUNIOR <16	KEVIN CARPENTER	TRAVIS MARTIN		
MENS B/C DOUBLES	JIM DEYO	RON BOUCHARD	SCOTT DEPNER (Tie)	JOHN BRATZ (Tie)
	MICHAEL WILKINS	DAVE WAIN	HOWIE MOULTON (3rd)	JIM PATTON (3rd)
WOMENS B/C DOUBLES	CECI CARPENTER	CATHY GREEN	LAURIE BOX	
	JEAN LERCH	SARA SCHULTZ	JAN EDMANDS	
MIXED B/C DOUBLES	JOLENE SULLIVAN	JEAN LERCH	SHARON SHAPIRO	SARA SCHULTZ
	BOBBY SULLIVAN	MIKE GIRARD	LEE MONKS (Lefty)	HARRY WESSON



Team USA

Mexico – The Junior World Championships

Our own Mike Keddie competed this year for Team USA at the 2005 Junior World Championships in Juarez, Mexico.

We arrived in Juarez a day early to prepare ourselves for the elevation, food, and to get some time to hit on the courts. We have 20 athletes and 4 coaches that make up Team USA and we took lots of parents with us, I know we counted 65 on the trip back, maybe we had some stowaways...

We all landed in El Paso coming from every part of the country all within about 30 minutes, and coordinated at the airport with our drivers to take us over the border. We loaded up all of our people and gear and proceeded over the border. Our driver advised us not to look the guards in the eyes and we drove right through. It took us about 40 minutes to get to the hotel, which we were very pleased with. Last year we rented an apartment and had no heat and it never got over 50. We unpacked had something to eat that looked familiar, for me its 10 days of pancakes...and got some rest.

Day 2 We went to see this new club that was opening today, what a journey! It was only a couple of miles away but there was not a road to it yet. Our van driver was very creative and went around brush and trees and we ended up at the club. The workers were burning brush to make a road, and by day 4 they had made a nice road out of cocoa bean shells. You had to be there. We didn't know what to expect, again last year the club also had no heat so we froze. I was dressed with my long johns on, and sure enough no heat in the building. That wasn't that bad, since I thought it was worse that we didn't have any running water (read no toilets). Live wires dangled from the ceiling, but other than that the club was pretty nice with 11 courts and lots of viewing, we would need it.

We went back after a good practice, everybody got to hit, and had something to eat and off to Opening Ceremonies. They were quite nice, held at a local mall that has a racquetball court in it. It was nice to see all of the countries, 16 total, in their respective warm-ups. We didn't understand anything they said.

Day 3 Round Robin Matches started today, we play those for the first few days and how you finish there is how you get seeded in the draw. The good news is that they were working on the heat, and the running water was next. The bad news is some countries throw matches to seed themselves better in the draw. Team USA does not do that. We go to compete. Mike Keddie did just that and won all of his round robin matches. He played with intensity and looked very good.

The format for the event is 8 days long, too long in my opinion. After going to the regular draw, unfortunately we had 6 USA team members playing against each other in early rounds of the straight draw. I knew early on our chances didn't look good after that. One of those matchups was Chris Coy against Mike Keddie. Chris had dropped one of his round robin matches to Costa Rica, so he ended up playing Mike in the quarters. I didn't see Chris play Mike, as coaches if USA vs USA we don't coach it. We have 20-30 matches to coach a day, so we just let them play. The scores were good, and I heard it was a well fought match. Chris Coy won it, then went on to lose to Mexico's #1 Gil De Los Rios.

This was a great team, one of the closest I have seen. It's a young team, that's good news for next year. We made lots of new friends, Team Ireland, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador.

On the last night after the closing ceremonies we finished 2nd and caught our vans to take us back to the states. The USA border was a welcome sight! There were lots of mixed emotions, we were so happy to be "home" and even though it was late we all knew it was our last night together and we walked to the nearest Applebee's for some real food. It was nice to see the kids be able to act like kids without all of the pressure of trying to win a World Championship. I am very surprised we didn't get tossed out. We got back to our hotel at the airport and had our last team meeting, which is always very sad. It hits the kids that we will never all be in the same room again. We had gone through so much together as a team in the last year. Some kids are graduating and are too old to return, some just may not make the cut.

I know that a trip like this always makes me appreciate home more.

I know that I am very lucky to have had a chance to work with the best kids in the US.

I know I am better person for having known them.

I know I wouldn't trade this team for any other.

I know its time to get to work on next year...

Kelley



Welcome Wagon

The NHRA would like to welcome the following new members:

David Wain

John Kenney III

Ken Gelinas

Rick Stecchi

New Juniors

Jonathan Alvarado

David Alvarado

Daniel Alvarado

Did You Know?

Racquetball is on TV

The Tennis Channel will rebroadcast several exciting matches from The U.S. Open. Here are tentative air dates:

March 8th - Men's Quarters Waselenchuk vs. Gutierrez

March 15th - Men's Semis Swain vs. Huczek

March 22nd - Men's Semis Waselenchuk vs. Carson

March 29th - Men's Finals Waselenchuk vs. Swain

April 5th - Women's Finals Van Hees vs. Rajsich

NEW REFEREE POLICY

The NHRA would like to institute a new refereeing policy at all our NH tournament. This change is being made per the suggestion of many of our players over the years. For as long as I can remember it had been the policy that all winners must referee or find a suitable replacement. This means a player could possibly have to referee several matches throughout the weekend as long as he or she keeps winning – AND have to deal with getting ready for their next match. The popular opinion of the players is that it just isn't fair to make the winners referee while they are trying to prepare for their next round of matches.

So we have decided to get on board with what many other states are doing throughout the country – to have the losers referee – and it makes a lot of sense. It is not a new concept and it does work; it's just a matter of us buying into the idea and making it work for us. Here are some of the ideas behind this whole refereeing theory and how it should be approached...

You play your match and win – great, that's what we all want. Now you can get ready and concentrate on your next round without worrying about going up to referee. But if you should happen to lose, you now have the obligation to referee a match. The good part about this is that you only have to referee only ONCE per division – that's it (with the exception of round robins). So you referee your match and then you can go about your business, whether it's to get ready to play in your other division, hit the locker room to relax, or even go out to dinner. The old way you have to keep refereeing until you lose; now is that being fair to anyone?

This is in no way a penalty for losing and by no means is rubbing salt in a wound. It is just a true way of being fair to ALL the players – both winners & losers alike. When you sign up for a NH tournament, you will now be committing to perform this one task if you should happen lose. So bolting out the door is NOT an option and this conduct will not be tolerated by the tournament directors. In the true spirit of this great game – especially in NH – we all practice good sportsmanship and accepting your responsibility to referee definitely falls into that category. Just think how you would feel if the person who was supposed to referee your match was ticked off after losing their match and left you hanging? Put yourself in this situation and 'hitting the door' will never be an option.

Remember that this change is being made for YOU the players - to be fair to everyone – so your utmost cooperation is requested. IT CAN WORK! It has shown great success throughout the country and it's about time that New Hampshire comes on line with this winning idea. So please work with us to make this new referee concept successful, and I think we will all be quickly won over by this great idea.



www.nhracquetball.com

Check us out on the Web!

11/1/2006
NHRA
KELLEY BEANE
91 LANCASTER AVE
MANCHESTER NH 03103

Email: nhboard@nhracquetball.com

Fax: (603) 627-4552

Phone: (603) 641-6116

Manchester, NH 03103

91 Lancaster Avenue

New Hampshire Racquetball Association

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UPCOMING RACQUETBALL EVENTS

March

3/3-3/5

NH State Singles

Executive Health & Sports

Center

Manchester, NH

3/24-3/26

NH State Doubles

Concord Athletic Club

Concord, NH

April

4/7-4/8

Granite State Cup

Nashua Athletic Club

Nashua, NH

4/21-4/23

New England Regionals

Executive Health & Sports Center

Manchester, NH