

# RACQUETBALL



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U.S. Racquetball Association  
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Junior All-Americans at the California National Guard Junior Olympic Championships.  
Photo by Gallemore Photography

#### ON THE COVER

18 & Under Singles Finalists at the California National Guard Junior Olympic Championships: Jordan Cooperrider, Wayne Antone, Daniel Rojas, and Hollie Scott  
Insert: Facility Partner - Life Time

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#### Submissions

Racquetball Magazine welcomes submissions from our members and readers. If you have an idea for an article, propose it by email to: [magazine@usaracquetball.com](mailto:magazine@usaracquetball.com). All submissions are subject to editing.

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## USA RACQUETBALL MISSION STATEMENT

*USA Racquetball, recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as the National Governing Body for the sport, is committed to our members and the growth of racquetball from recreational play to international competition.*

## USA RACQUETBALL CORE VALUES

*Communication • Customer Service • Dedication • Excellence • Integrity*



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## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & TEAM QUALIFYING

All future National Championship details remain tentative until entries are published.

### U.S. NATIONAL TEAM QUALIFYING

In an effort to help ensure that the top American racquetball players have an equal and fair opportunity to qualify for the U.S. National Team, USA Racquetball adopted changes to the qualification process beginning with the 2017-2018 U.S. National Team.

While the process for qualifying for the Team as a doubles team is generally the same, the singles selection procedure will be determined by performance at three selection events.

- UnitedHealthcare US OPEN Pro Division
- U.S. Team Singles Qualifying Division at USA Racquetball National Doubles Championships
- U.S. Team Qualifying Division at USA Racquetball National Singles Championships

To learn more and for complete details, including the process to qualify for Elite Athlete Health Insurance, please visit <http://www.teamusa.org/usa-racquetball/programs/team-usa>.



FROM THE  
Executive Director

By Jason Thoerner

## National Headquarters

# HEADING INTO THE FINAL QUARTER

As we head into the final quarter of the 2017 calendar, we have two more exciting national/international events being hosted here in the United States. The first is the 22nd Annual UnitedHealthcare US OPEN, the sport's biggest tournament of the year. Over 800 players attend this spectacular event annually that showcases the best racquetball in the world at Life Time - Healthy Way of Life inside the Target Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

For the first time since 2012, the International Racquetball Federation's World Junior Championships will be back in the United States this November, also in Minneapolis. Over 200 of the World's top junior players will take the stage at Life Time inside the Target Center. USA Racquetball is proud to support this event, and we ask our local members to come out and cheer on our US Junior Team to victory! The kids will truly appreciate the home court advantage, and I hope to hear the chants of "USA, USA, USA" throughout the club!

I know the coming months bring family and friends together on and off the courts. In this time of giving I would like to ask you to consider making a donation to the Team USA Challenge which goes directly to supporting our U.S. Team players and coaches as they represent all of us on the world stage. Unlike many of the countries we compete against, we do not receive monetary support from our government for attending these events. We have some great gift items for those of you who pledge \$100 or more. Additionally, for every donation in excess of \$100, our generous Team USA Challenge benefactors will match your donation up to a maximum of \$15,000. Every donation is greatly appreciated, and even if you can only donate \$5, you will be added to our Team USA Challenge donation list which is published in *Racquetball* magazine and online at [www.USARacquetball.com](http://www.USARacquetball.com).

I would like to extend our wish to you for happy holidays from all of us at USA Racquetball. USA Racquetball is more than a community of racquetball players -- we are family. I hope you enjoy your time together on the courts and as you gather off the courts to celebrate. We appreciate your being a part of USA Racquetball, and we look forward to growing the sport together!

Together, We Are Racquetball!

## Congratulations to the Newly Elected Utah Board of Directors

Andrew Gale - President  
David H. Diaz - Vice President  
Mallory Parry - Secretary  
Katherine Affeltranger - Treasurer

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# STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

## ***“What is the USA Racquetball Board of Directors working on? What does the Board of Directors do?”***

I have been serving on the Board for over a year now, and these are questions that I am often asked. To be candid, I also wondered the same things prior to joining the Board.

Our intention is to act as advocates for our members. Our goal is to move racquetball forward with the best interests of the sport and our members in mind. We meet once a month via conference call and discuss an agenda full of topics ranging from financials to national event summaries, marketing plans, staff metrics, and new strategic initiatives.

At our Board of Directors Annual Meeting at National Singles, we met for nearly 10 hours. We focused on creating new initiatives for the 2017-2018 season that align with our USA Racquetball mission statement and core values. They are as follows:

“USA Racquetball, recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as the National Governing Body for the sport, is committed to our members and the growth of racquetball from recreational play to international competition.”

Our core values are:

- Excellence
- Customer Service
- Integrity
- Dedication
- Communication

Every Board member contributed suggestions for initiatives at our meeting. We brainstormed together and built upon the ideas that were shared. We narrowed down our list and came up with five areas we wanted to improve for the 2017-2018 season. Our intent is to set quarterly goals to assure we are moving forward to achieve our targets. As long as we are moving forward, we gain traction, and we benefit from the progress.

Let me share with you this season's five strategic initiatives:

1. Committees. I've written about committee involvement in a previous magazine article. We want to better support our committees. We need to optimize currently active committees and re-start inactive or less active committees. We are currently connecting with chairs to ensure a meeting rhythm, obtain feedback from meetings, and encourage recruiting new committee members. If you are interested in joining a committee, please do not hesitate to reach out to a committee chair. We welcome your interest and help! This information can be found on [www.usaracquetball.com](http://www.usaracquetball.com).

2. Marketing. We are establishing better branding with a new cohesive and dynamic look and feel. Look for improvements in our emails, social media, website, and newsletters.

3. US Team. We want to enhance awareness and increase fundraising for our US Team. We are working to increase visibility of our adult and junior team players at events. We are establishing a mentorship program to partner past and present adult team members with US Junior Team players. We are also continuing to seek additional benefactors for the Team USA Challenge. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to our Executive Director, Jason Thoerner, at [jthoerner@usaracquetball.com](mailto:jthoerner@usaracquetball.com). We can use your help!

4. Junior Programs. We are working to foster growth at the junior level by developing more new young players, especially girls. We are utilizing our ambassador program to identify five regions that possess a key individual and resources (kids, courts, and state association support) to start new junior programs. If your area sounds like a match, or if you know of an area that would be ideal, please reach out to us.

5. College Programs. We want to generate more collegiate members and create new collegiate teams. We have set the ambitious goal of identifying five states that could create new racquetball programs at four colleges each and coordinate with them to host a free collegiate tournament this season. In addition, we are searching for five colleges, located anywhere, that offer racquetball as a course. We want to coordinate with their instructors to help create team programs at those colleges, too. If you know of a college that would be a perfect fit, please reach out to Nick Irvine at [nirvine@usaracquetball.com](mailto:nirvine@usaracquetball.com). We would really appreciate your help with this.

If you can help or are a fit to help gain traction on any one or more of these items, please don't hesitate to reach out!



# ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE CAN RAISE MORE THAN **\$30,000 FOR THE TEAMS!**

**S**upport the U.S. Adult and Junior National Teams with a tax-deductible contribution today. Your support is vital to the players and coaches as they prepare to represent the United States in international competition. Funds are primarily used for travel expenses, entry fees, and training.

Donations of \$100 or more, made in 2017 to the TEAM USA CHALLENGE, *will be doubled* by the group of generous Team Benefactors at right, who have each pledged up to \$2,500 to support the cause. With your support, the USA Racquetball family can raise more than \$30,000 for your U.S. National Teams!

## TEAM USA CHALLENGE BENEFACTOR

*Usher Barnoff • Rick Betts • Cheryl Kirk & Kit Lawson • Michael Lippitt • Chris Poucher • Jason Thoerner*

*Under the TEAM USA CHALLENGE, donations will be used to support direct travel costs of U.S. Junior and Adult National Team Members.*

*To become a benefactor for the 2017 Team USA Challenge, please contact USA Racquetball at 719-635-5396, ext. 129.*

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# Juniors Shine in the 209!

## 2017 USA Racquetball California National Guard Junior Olympic Championships Presented By: Penn & Visit Stockton

By Jason Thoerner

Photos By: Gallemore Photography

The 2017 USA Racquetball California National Guard Junior Olympic Championships presented by Penn and Visit Stockton were held in Stockton, California, June 21-25, 2017. Close to 200 junior players from 24 states attended this event that was hosted by the In-Shape West Lane and Quail Lakes clubs. These young athletes competed for coveted spots on the U.S. Junior National Team that will represent the United States at the 2017 IRF World Junior Championships to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in November.

The event is run in Olympic format to ensure players get to compete in at least three matches in their respective age divisions. Players start out in the Gold section of their divisions but drop down to either Red, White, or Blue based on which round they lost. Medals are awarded in each of these divisions. Parents and coaches beamed with pride as players received their medals and had a chance to get a picture taken in front of the championship banner.

The Girls 18 & Under Singles Gold division was highlighted by returning champion Jordan Cooperrider (Palm Harbor, Florida) as the #1 seeded player. In the absence of current 18 & Under World Champion Erika Manilla (Centennial, Colorado), who was on a mission trip for her university, the #2 seeded player was Hollie Scott (Bellingham, Washington). These two outstanding young ladies battled in front of a packed house with Jordan pulling out the match in the tiebreaker 15-4, 12-15, 11-2. Both players faced each other in the Girls 18 & Under Doubles gold final as well. This time Hollie and her partner, Megan Carver (Spokane, Washington), were victorious over Jordan and her partner Kaitlyn Boyle (Beaverton, Oregon) in a close 15-12, 15-11 match.

In the Boys 18 & Under Singles Gold division, Wayne Antone IV (Eugene, Oregon) came in as the returning champion and the #1 seed, with his doubles partner, Kevin Vazquez (Miami, Florida), as the #2 seed. Wayne battled his way through a tough Justus Benson (Austin, Texas) in the semifinals to secure his spot on the U.S. Junior National Team. On the other half of the draw, Kevin Vazquez faced the local #3 seeded player, Mauro Daniel Rojas (Stockton, California). These two players showed class and athleticism all match long as they went the distance with Daniel pulling out the victory and earning a spot on the U.S. Junior National Team, 14-15, 15-6, 11-4. In the finals, Wayne and Daniel didn't let the packed stadium court crowd down as they both flew around the court chasing down every ball. In the end, Wayne dug deep and came back from four match points down in the tiebreaker to reclaim his title, 4-15, 15-14, 11-10.



Left: David "Bobby" Horn offering some words of wisdom to Nikita Chauhan during the competition  
Below: Annie Roberts in action



The Boys 18 & Under Doubles final was another barn burner with the #1 seeded team of Daniel Rojas and Lukas Le (Arlington, Texas), facing off against the #2 seeds, Dane Elkins (Los Angeles, California) and Ricardo Diaz (Stockton, California). Both teams were pumped up in front of the huge crowd that gathered for the match. In the end, it was the team of Rojas and Le that prevailed in the tiebreaker, 13-15, 15-6, 11-8. This marks the first appointment for Lukas Le to the U.S. Junior National Team.

The action didn't stop with the Boys and Girls 18 & Under divisions as the 16-, 14-, 12-, 10-, 8- divisions had some great matches as well. Akul Ramayani (Poughkeepsie, New York) captured three gold medals by winning the Boys 16 & Under Singles, 14 & Under Singles, plus the 14 & Under Doubles with partner Antonio Rojas (Stockton, California). Briana Jacquet (Port Arthur, Texas) won the Girls 16 & Under Singles and Doubles titles with her partner Graciana Wargo (Clearwater, Florida). Annie Roberts (Gresham, Oregon) defeated Heather Mahoney (Penngrove, California) in the Girls 14 & Under Singles Gold final before Heather went on to defeat Ava Kaiser (Stillwater, Minnesota) in the Girls 12 & Under Singles final.

USA Racquetball would like to thank our generous sponsors who helped provide such a great experience for all players. Thank you to our

Title Sponsor, California National Guard, for stepping up to help make this a great event, as well as Penn Racquetball and Visit Stockton who were our official Co-Presenting sponsors. Our players and families were treated to a spectacular banquet hosted by Visit Stockton at the University Plaza Waterfront Hotel where our World Cup and Esprit Cup Team members were announced along with our Junior All-Americans. We would also like to thank In-Shape Health Clubs for hosting our players and their families all week. Hosting a national event puts a lot of pressure on the clubs, but the In-Shape staff went above and beyond to make sure everyone had a great experience. Lastly, a huge thank you to Pat and Dave Ellis plus the Galvan family for arranging, preparing, and serving our competitors' lunch and dinner each day in the over 100-degree heat outside the club. A great time was had by all, and we look forward to seeing many of these competitors and families next year, June 20-24, 2018, in Des Moines, Iowa!



Top: Girls 16 & Under Finalists Briana Jacquet & Nikita Chauhan

Middle Right: Andrea Perez-Picón proudly showing her medals

Above: Boys 14 & Under Finalists Vedant Chauhan/Josh Shea

Right: Players enjoying the Saturday Evening Banquet

BOYS SINGLES		GIRLS SINGLES	
18 & Under	<b>Champion</b> Wayne Antone	<b>Runner-Up</b> Daniel Rojas	<b>Champion</b> Jordan Cooperrider
16 & Under	Akul Ramayani	Sahil Thakur	Hollie Scott
14 & Under	Akul Ramayani	Antonio Rojas	Nikita Chauhan
12 & Under	Vedant Chauhan	Josh Shea	Heather Mahoney
10 & Under	Joseph Marshall	Angel Eden Galvan	Ava Kaiser
10 & Under DB	Alexander Gomez	Nathan Rykhus	Ava Naworski
8 & Under MB	Alexander Gomez	Nathan Rykhus	Andrea Perez-Picon
6 & Under MB	Ayan Sharma	-	Andrea Perez-Picon
12/14 & Under Challengers	Cody Thomas	Tanner Hunt	Natalia Canchola
12 & Under Challenger	-	-	-
10 & Under Challenger	Ashton Guiraud	Jordan Haley	-
8 & Under Challenger	Taij Singh	Gael Trejo	Aanshi Thakur
			Leah Trejo



BOYS DOUBLES		GIRLS DOUBLES	
<b>Champions</b>	<b>Runners-Up</b>	<b>Champions</b>	<b>Runners-Up</b>
18 & Under	Lukas Le/Daniel Rojas	Ricardo Diaz/Dane Elkins	Hollie Scott/Megan Carver
16 & Under	Julian Singh/Mitchell Turner	Ben Baron/Micah Farmer	Graciana Wargo/Briana Jacquet
14 & Under	Akul Ramayani/Antonio Rojas	Nathan Soltis/Cole Hartman	Julia Stein/Heather Mahoney
12 & Under	Vedant Chauhan/Josh Shea	Nikhil Prasad/Gatlin Sutherland	Arya Cyril/Esha Cyril
10 & Under	Angel Eden Galvan/Eshan Ali	Caleb Marshall/Joseph Marshall	Sonya Shetty/Ava Naworski



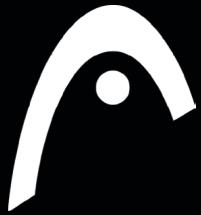
MIXED DOUBLES	
<b>Champions</b>	<b>Runners-Up</b>
18 and Under	Elena Dent/Dane Elkins
16 and Under	Madison Kerzel/Nathan Buring
14 and Under	Estefania Perez / Jose Perez
12 and Under	Cayden Akins / Kaitlyn Boyle
10 and Under	Alondra Canchola / Julius Ellis
	Hudson Farmer / Lily Caldwell
	Alyssa Gonzalez / Joseph Marshall
	Ashton Akins / Raina Hartman
	Bobby Singh / Sonya Shetty
	Advait Kartik / Ashlyn Carver

For complete results visit: <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/viewResults.asp?TID=20286>

2017 USA RACQUETBALL JUNIOR ALL-AMERICANS	
Eshan Ali Wayne Antone IV Ben Baron Justus Benson Kaitlyn Boyle Hannah Carver Megan Carver Vedant Chauhan Nikita Chauhan Jordan Cooperrider Esha Cyril Arya Cyril Elena Dent Ricardo Diaz Dane Elkins Jordan Ellis Micah Farmer Angel Galvan Kristine Holman Benjamin Horner Briana Jacquet Ava Kaiser Advait Kartik Lukas Le Heather Mahoney	Joseph Marshall Caleb Marshall Kareena Mathew Elena Mathew Ava Naworski Estefania Perez Adriana Perez Nikhil Prasad Akul Ramayani Annie Roberts Daniel Rojas Antonio Rojas Hollie Scott Josh Shea Sonya Shetty Bobby Singh Julian Singh Julia Stein Gatlin Sutherland Sahil Thakur Krish Thakur Aanshi Thakur Mitchell Turner Kevin Vazquez Graciana Wargo



Top: Girls 18 & Under Finalists: Jordan Cooperrider & Hollie Scott  
 Middle: Vedant Chauhan accepting his award for Male Esprit Athlete of the Year  
 Right: Some fun with bubbles at Saturday's banquet  
 Photos By: Gallemore Photography



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*Markie Rojas*

**Markie Rojas**  
US Open Doubles Champion  
US National Intercollegiate Champion



Extreme 155

Extreme 165

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# 2017 USA National Junior Training Camp

By Renée Gundolff  
Photo By Jim Hiser



**T**eam members and alternates of the 2017 Junior National Team were invited to attend the Junior National Team Camp in Colorado Springs in August to prepare for the IRF World Junior Championships. Staying at the Hotel Elegante', the Junior Team trained at the Pikes Peak YMCA and the United States Olympic Training Center.

The fifteen athletes who attended were put through an intense regimen consisting of morning practice at the Pikes Peak YMCA in downtown Colorado Springs. They also participated in other training exercises, including a three-mile evening run around Prospect Lake at Memorial Park, a run up the infamous Incline in Manitou Springs, yoga, and a day of conditioning at the U.S. Olympic Training Center. The coaching staff -- Head Coach Charlie Pratt, Jody Nance, Robert Collins, David "Bobby" Horn, and Jim Hiser -- provided excellent training that emphasized mental preparedness. Each evening, players attended lectures facilitated by the coaching staff.

Daniel Rojas of Stockton, California, and Hollie Scott of Lynden, Washington, were elected Team Captains by their fellow team members, while Annie Roberts was named the Camp MVP by the coaching staff.

"It was actually a tough choice for MVP, with so many deserving players. They all worked hard, listened well, and asked great questions. In the end, the coaches were just most impressed with Annie's fitness and way she played the game," said Coach Charlie. "She plays hard and smart, like a professional. This is the first time any of the coaches have gotten to see her train and play; it was her fundamentals that caught our attention." As Camp MVP, Annie got to throw out the first pitch at the Colorado Springs Sky Sox baseball game where the Team had dinner and was honored pre-game on the field.

Catching up with Coach Charlie, he had this to say about the Team after camp: "I hope the biggest takeaway from camp was how to properly train and prepare for Worlds in two months. The players learned strategies that will undoubtedly make them better competitors now and in the future. This Team is going to bring it!"

USA Racquetball thanks the local restaurants that provided meals to the Junior National Team Camp: WhichWich, Jason's Deli, Olive Garden, and Qdoba. Thank you to the local businesses that supported the Team as well: Costco, Sam's Club, Safeway, and Swire Coca-Cola.

Make plans to follow the U.S. Junior National Team as they compete at the IRF World Junior Championships in Minneapolis, November 5-11, 2017. To support the Team in their quest to bring home gold, please consider a donation to the Team USA Challenge at [www.usaracquetball.com/donate](http://www.usaracquetball.com/donate). Donations provide direct athlete funding.

## 2017 WORLD TEAM ROSTER

Cayden Akins	Lukas Le	Hollie Scott
Wayne Antone	Heather Mahoney	Julian Singh
Megan Carver	Akul Ramayani	Julia Stein
Nikita Chauhan	Annie Roberts	Sahil Thakur
Jordan Cooperrider	Antonio Rojas	Mitchell Turner
Briana Jacquet	Daniel Rojas	Graciana Wargo

## 2017 ESPRIT TEAM ROSTER

Eshan Ali*	Ava Kaiser*	Nikhil Prasad
Ashlyn Carver	Advait Kartik	Josh Shea*
Vedant Chauhan*	Heather Mahoney*	Sonya Shetty*
Arya Cyril*	Joseph Marshall*	Bobby Singh
Esha Cyril*	Caleb Marshall	Gatlin Sutherland
Angel Galvan*	Kareena Mathew	Aidan Weller
Camila Gomez	Ava Naworksi*	
Benjamin Horner	Adriana Perez	

The World and Esprit Team Rosters represent those athletes that will be representing Team USA at the upcoming IRF Junior World Championships in Minneapolis, MN.

\*Denotes Point Earners.



# Getting to Know: U.S. National Team Member

By Aimee Ruiz

## Jose Diaz

Photo by Roby Partovich



**Can you tell us a bit about how you got started in racquetball?** My father introduced me at age six. He had back surgery in 1998 and was recommended to join a health club to build up his strength. My father soon picked up a racquet and introduced me to racquetball shortly afterward. I joined a very strong junior program run by Jody Nance. Just six months after that, I was competing in my first Junior Worlds in Los Angeles! One of the reasons we attended was because we had family members in LA we had never met. My dad was trying to kill two birds with one stone. Little did he know how racquetball would have such a great impact: I now play racquetball professionally.

**You just graduated from college. From what school? What is your degree?** I graduated from University of the Pacific, completing my undergraduate degree in Health and Exercise Science.

**What are your future plans?** I plan to play racquetball full time for the 2017-2018 season. While I'm playing the tour(s), I will substitute teach, conduct personal training, and teach and promote racquetball. Be on the lookout for clinics, lessons, and demos while traveling to tournaments and also when you are in the Northern California area.

**What has been your biggest win to date thus far?** That has to be winning the Men's US Team Qualifying Division at National Doubles with two different partners!

**Favorite international country, and why?** It would probably have to be Colombia. I really enjoyed the country's landscape and was actually able to experience Colombia from a local's point of view. Jake Bredenbeck and I stayed for two days after an event and were shown around the city by Sebastian Franco. We went on an adventure into the mountains and found a hidden waterfall. The view was amazing, and the food we had in the local village was out of this world!

**As you've grown up in racquetball, who have you looked up to most?** This question is hard to answer. There are a lot of players I admired growing up. John Ellis, Cliff Swain, Sudsy Monchik, Jason Mannino, and Adam Karp, just to name a few. I have tried to incorporate a little of everyone's game into mine.

**You serve on the USA Racquetball Board of Directors. What made you want to be on the Board?** I wanted to be more involved with racquetball and be more knowledgeable about our sport. As an athlete representative, I have a player's perspective on issues players have within our sport, and I share them with the Board. What better way to assist than to be on the Board and have a voice in our National Governing Body? If you are a player and have concerns, feel free to contact me. I'm here to help grow racquetball!

**What does being able to play for Team USA mean to you?** Representing my country is a huge honor! It is hard to explain in words the emotion you feel while wearing those three letters. I played for the Junior team for quite a while, but when I made the Adult team the feeling intensified. At the opening ceremonies when you hear "USA" being announced, it adds a different element to competing. Stepping onto the court, we are playing for something more than just ourselves: we are playing for our country. Maybe one day our sport will make the Olympics, but for me representing the USA is equivalent to playing in the Olympics. For all the people who donate and support the team U.S. Team, I thank you on behalf of us all! We appreciate the support.

**What do you do when you're not playing racquetball?** When I'm not playing racquetball, I'm probably out with my girlfriend, or you can find me at the gym working out, teaching racquetball, or doing something involving physical activity. I enjoy doing things outdoors, but I also enjoy a good movie on Netflix.

**Can you tell us something about yourself that most of the racquetball world wouldn't know?** I was vice president of my senior high school class -- 2011 Franklin Yellow Jackets!

**If you could step on the court and play a game of racquetball with anyone in the world (anyone!), who would it be?** I have two answers. One person would be my father. He introduced me to the sport, and any time I can get on the court with my hero, it's pretty cool. We don't keep score anymore, but playing with my dad is very special for me. He is the hardest-working man I know!

Also, Bill Gates! I think the reason is pretty obvious. I would introduce him to racquetball and have him in return help bring awareness to our sport. I figure he might be able to make a donation to help racquetball grow!

**Singles or Doubles?** I'm going to have to say doubles. Not sure why, though (ha ha)!

**Cross Court or Pinch?** Cross court.

**Lob or Drive Serve?** Neither! SLOP! Half lob all the way, baby!



Photo by Restring Magazine



## It's All In Your Mind... **REALLY!!**

By Toni Bevelock Delos Santos

Wasn't it fun when you were a kid and you would daydream about making the game-winning shot at the buzzer, hitting the walk-off home run to win the World Series, or hitting a backhand splat from 40 feet to win the US Open! Often, it would feel so real that you would even have the post-game interview. One of the most powerful tools that we possess is our ability to visualize different scenes in our mind. It is always easier to go somewhere that you have already been than to try to find a new place for the first time. After you hit the game-winning shot once, it gets easier to do it again and again.

When we visualize a body movement, there is a region of the brain that is activated, creating pathways through the brain cells as if you were actually doing the movement. Imagery is used for everything from practicing a particular shot that you are working on in practice to playing a match in an upcoming tournament. Okay, so I just daydream about playing and it creates the pathways, well, not quite, but it's a start! In order to establish strong pathways the visualization has to be as real as possible. The visualization does not have to be long and can be done at any point in the day when you can relax and clear your mind.

Let's walk through visualizing a racquetball match:

- Sit in a chair and take some deep breaths, concentrating on the inhale through your nose and the exhale out of your mouth until you feel relaxed.
- The most important aspect of visualizing is to incorporate all of your senses. Put yourself on the court...feel what the temperature is like (hot, cold)...what does it smell like (the ball, sweat)...what do you see? Are there people watching? Do you hear anything (echo of the ball from another court, people talking)? How does your body feel (anxious, calm, adrenaline)?
- Now you are ready to start the match.
- Always visualize yourself being successful (to create the pathways that you want!).
- Put yourself in different situations in the match and see yourself hitting a great serve or a winning return. Put yourself in a 10-10 tiebreaker and see yourself serving an ace to win the match. See yourself shaking hands with the opponent and everybody cheering and congratulating you on winning the tournament. Feel the excitement in your body!

This is just one example. Always start with steps 1 and 2 and then move on to whatever you would like to work on: maybe it is hitting 10 awesome down-the-line shots or a new Z serve you've been working on.

Visualization is a key part of any mental routine and is used by elite athletes all over the world!

About Toni: Toni Bevelock Delos Santos, former National Racquetball Champion, has an extensive background in sports and fitness. Toni has a unique gift of relating to athletes of all ages and skill levels. Toni partners with teams, coaches, and facilities across the nation, including Athletic Republic, Matchpoint Tennis Academy, Tony Zuniga Baseball, Winterton Racquetball, Elite Pitching Performance, Tustin Western Little League and Orange County Nutrition Coaching. Toni is available for coaching thru Facetime or in-office appointments. For more information on 90% Mental: <http://www.tonidelossantos.com/services/> or contact Toni at [tonimentalgame@gmail.com](mailto:tonimentalgame@gmail.com).

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# "Playing With Heart"

By Stefan Rudolph

In 2010, I awoke outside the racquetball court in pain. With my head pounding furiously, my memory shot, and every muscle in my body aching, I realized the inevitable had happened again in my life. My epilepsy had returned.

The last words I remember were "11 serving 4." I awoke surrounded by paramedics asking me all-too-familiar questions as I struggled for consciousness and even the memory of my name. Tears began to roll as paramedics removed my racquetball glove and reality hit home. My playing days were over for now, if not forever.



My fellow racquetball players surrounded me with glazed looks as I murmured, "Oh, not again," in a nauseated post-epileptic shock, fighting for my memory and reality to return. This was my third grand-mal in two years -- in the weight room, the locker room, and now the racquetball court. From playing with the top players in San Diego County to being hauled off on a gurney, my emotions flowed.

In 1988, I suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and a three-day coma as a result of a high school football injury that started my epilepsy. For 15 years afterward, I successfully handled and controlled it through various medications. Then in 2003, the stress of dramatic life-changing events prompted my seizures to return and take over my life. Brain surgery became my only option in "achieving normality." I made the conscious choice to give up racquetball, make my "Rocky" comeback, and never have to wake up again to the gut-wrenching look of horror in another person's eyes after witnessing a seizure.

In 2007, I survived "Left Temporal Lobe, Awake Craniotomy" brain surgery. Three months later, I walked back onto the court, knelt down, and kissed the floor, thankful to be alive and to play again. Yet still, I could feel the small signs of the auras as epilepsy still lingered. Silently holding onto my dream of freedom from the "Dis-Ease," I told no one. I chose denial through fear and avoided reality. The surgery was complete, but the disease was not.

Over the next three years, I continued to experience small-mal seizure feelings. After my 2010 grand-mal seizure, I gave up on racquetball, gave up on life, and gave into escape. The next two years led to depression, anger, guilt, fear, and a daily escape to avoid reality through alcohol and partying.

During my battles with epilepsy, alcoholism, and financial distress from 2002-2012, I lost numerous jobs, my home, my car, my wife, and all of my earned assets. I was at the unhealthiest point of my life in a constant blurred state of chaos and escape. Then on the morning of October 10, 2012, I awoke from being passed out on the cold cement floor of the San Diego jail, arrested for a DUI.

In the past I had prayed, asking, "Why is my life so difficult?" In jail, I was scared straight as I saw the other side of life. I stopped asking and started doing. Through hard work, determination, and dedication, I began telling myself, "Enough is enough! I'm done giving in to excuses!" Regarding both alcohol and epilepsy, I took action. *I stopped escaping through excuses and started growing through possibilities.*

Over the next five years, I made a dramatic mind shift and overall life change. I began helping others by working in the personal growth industry with life coaches, authors, speakers, and transformational specialists such as John Assaraf at MyNeuroGym.com in promoting health, wellness and personal growth. Through this process and my journey, I began to heal and develop a new way of life. Excuses prevent growth, and the day I woke up in jail was the day I grew up in life.

## ***"Excuse the Excuses Out of Your Life"***

Over the next two years I developed the M.A.P. System. Through Meditation & Manifestation, Awareness & Affirmations, combined with Prayer & Positive Thinking, I cured myself holistically of the "Dis-Ease" of epilepsy by following a pattern of healthy eating, alkaline water, regimented sleep patterns, meditation, and an "Attitude of Gratitude" in every moment of every day of my life. "Control+Alt+Delete" is what I call this process for resetting my mind and rebooting my life by using my heart as the center source of power for personal growth.

I've lost 50 pounds and am now in the best shape of my life. Taking sixth place in California in B's in 2016 led me to taking fourth place in the 2017 National Singles Championships in the Men's 40+A division. By remembering that "Everything Happens for a Reason" and that we are the masters of our own destiny, ***I found that giving up is no longer an option and with an "Attitude of Gratitude" anything is possible.*** I then turned the imbalanced to I'mBalanced, the impatient to I'mPatient, the impractical to I'mPractical and the impossible to I'mPossible in the Blink of an Eye!

**Addiction is a Choice. Excuses are a Choice. Change is a Choice. Action is a Choice.**  
**Success is a Choice. Choose Wisely, Take Action and the Future is Limitless.**

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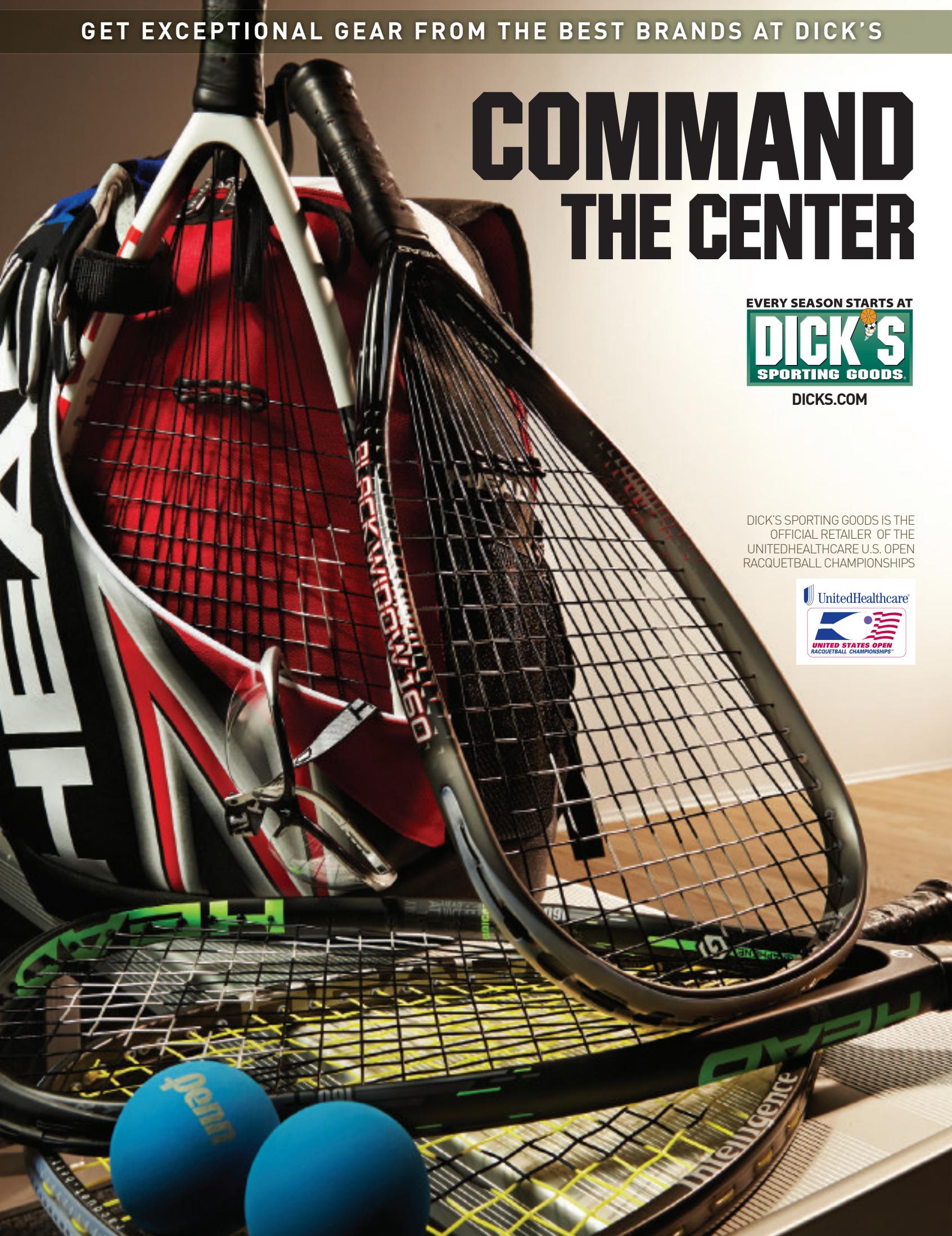
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# Life Time Goes All In

FORGES AHEAD WITH WORLD-CLASS EVENTS AND COACHING STAFF

By Dale Gosser



Like two heavyweight boxers slugging it out in the ring, six-time world No. 1 Cliff Swain and five-time world No. 1 Sudsy Monchik battled on the racquetball court as they traded world championship honors during their legendary careers on the pro tour.

Now, the two legends are joining forces with another heavyweight in the health club industry, Life Time - Healthy Way of Life, to promote racquetball and all of the health and wellness benefits the sport has to offer.

Swain, Monchik, and Life Time are a combined powerhouse in the industry like no other. Their collaboration in hosting camps, clinics and lessons at Life Time destinations across the country, as well as promoting a healthy way of life, is leaving a lasting impression on players of all ages and skill levels.

Life Time CEO and founder Bahram Akradi recently described his vision on the future of the company to the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*.

"Our goal is to build as a company a brand that is just like Disney," Akradi told the Journal. "If you look at Disney, it's about a 100-year-old company. Where were they when they were 25 years old? Life Time is on year 25. There's no reason why we wouldn't be at 100,000 employees 25 years from now."

"We want to have a macro impact on the health and well-being and happiness of people who live in North America. That's the goal. We're in a place where we can really build a great company but yet feel so fantastic about what we're doing for the community and people."

Life Time has more than 127 resort-style clubs in 27 states and Canada and has more than 30,000 employees, with a plan to open about 30 more clubs by the end of 2019. Forty-three

clubs in 12 states have racquetball — 125 total courts — and are maintained by 45 racquetball coordinators. The racquetball programs conduct 210 league sessions per year and 62 tournaments with more than 20,000 players.

Gearbox, Life Time's national partner and sponsor, provides sponsorships for racquetball coordinators and its ball is the official ball for all leagues. Life Time sells Gearbox products exclusively, and the two companies share the common goal of growing racquetball. Gearbox's professional team visits Life Time clubs and conducts exhibitions, demos, and shootouts.

## Life Time Athletic Target Center - National and International Event Host

Racquetball and its resurgence across the United States plays a significant role in Life Time's vision, including hosting the annual UnitedHealthcare US OPEN Racquetball Championships in Minnesota eight years in a row, since 2010.

"Life Time has made a tremendous commitment to the sport of racquetball on many different levels," said Doug Ganim, Director of the UnitedHealthcare US OPEN. "However, at the top of the list is the fact that they have stepped up to be the official host site for the UnitedHealthcare US OPEN, the world's largest and most prestigious racquetball event."

"Life Time is so much more than just a host for the US OPEN. They are a true partner in every way. The leadership team is committed to participating in the year-round planning of the event and is always at the forefront to improve the experience for players and fans. We could not have asked for a better partner."

Not only is Life Time making its mark on racquetball in the United States, it's impacting players from all over the world.

"Life Time Athletic Target Center is the home for the 2017 IRF

World Junior Racquetball Championships (November 5-12), and it is a pleasure for the IRF to bring a major international event back to the United States," said Luke St. Onge, Secretary General of the International Racquetball Federation. "The venue is an excellent place to showcase the best junior players in the world. We are happy to partner with Life Time on this event, and we applaud their commitment to expanding the sport worldwide."

Life Time hosted the 2016 Junior Olympics at the Fridley, Minnesota, location and has hosted three World Racquetball Tour (WRT) Pro/Am tournaments in 2017 with a fourth scheduled for December in Dallas.

### World Class Coaching Staff

Bringing in racquetball big guns like Swain and Monchik is another way Life Time is asserting its dominance in racquetball as well as in the health and fitness industry. Their accolades on the court are endless. Their battles on the court are legendary. Now, Swain and Monchik are coaching some of the most well known up-and-coming players in the world through their extensive tour of camps at Life Time locations everywhere. Swain and Monchik are providing camps, clinics, and lessons throughout the United States in 2017 and 2018.

And no one is left behind. Swain and Monchik may coach some of the top players in the world, but the clinics at Life Time are for everyone — junior players just getting started or the recreational player wanting to step on the court with a couple of legends. No man, woman, or child is excluded from a chance to participate. "We love racquetball to the extreme at Life Time," said John Wilinski, National Manager of racquetball and squash at Life Time. "We've been working hard for the last 10 years to build the best-in-class courts, leagues, lessons, tournaments, camps, and junior programs. We're seeing growth and forging new partnerships every year. It goes to show, if there's a will there's a way. We won't give up until racquetball is on top

again, recognized as the premier sport that it is."

With 11 world titles between them, Swain and Monchik are two of the greatest of all time. Now, they have joined Life Time to promote racquetball, grow the sport, and provide members and non-members alike with a chance to step on the court with a pair of world champions.

"Life Time has been a great experience for me," Swain said. "The facilities are stunning, especially the club at the Target Center. It's one of the nicest facilities in the world, and I'm lucky to call it a home club. John Wilinski is an expert in promotion and advertising, and his work ethic is spectacular. I love learning from him. After visiting here two years ago and seeing all of the potential here for racquetball, I was hooked immediately."

"When I travel around the country to other Life Time clubs, the experience is great. The facilities are always impressive, and the team is always ready and waiting and willing to assist upon my arrival." Monchik is relatively new to Life Time after spending time coaching the national team in Ecuador. But to him it was an easy decision to join Swain and Life Time.

"It was a no-brainer," Monchik said. "Life Time's vision and commitment to racquetball made it obvious that I need to be part of their team. My goal and only agenda is the growth and success of racquetball. Life Time does well, racquetball does well. Sudsy does well."

Although the duo of Swain and Monchik may appear to be an odd pairing because of their on-court rivalry in the past, both say this is a match made in heaven — with each other and with Life Time. But the intensity won't wane when they meet on the court.

"Sudsy and I have always been vicious rivals, but now we're friends and on the same team ... until we play each other at these events," Swain said. "I'm looking forward to learning from him on the court myself, but when we play each other, it'll be with the same desire as before. There's no off switch for either of us on that one."

Monchik said he has no doubts about the partnership. "Cliff and I have been rivals for years on the court, but we have always had so much respect for each other off the court as well," Monchik said. "Now we are friends and allies. All we want to do is share our knowledge, experiences, and stories with all. Any level, any game style, any age ... anyone who loves racquetball, we will make them better. Guaranteed. Cliff is a dear friend. This was meant to be. Should have happened a long time ago."

Also on staff is Jim Winterton, legendary Hall of Famer and coach of the current world No. 1 Kane Waselenchuk. Winterton has been providing camps, lessons, and junior training at Life Time clubs for the past two and a half years and is headquartered at the Life Time in Scottsdale, Arizona.

"Life Time provides the perfect family atmosphere for racquetball," Winterton said. "It's one of the few clubs to allow juniors on the courts anymore. In fact, they don't just allow it, they encourage it. Plus, they provide clean courts, comfortable locker rooms, and competitive leagues that make for a great instructional atmosphere. It is the definition of racquetball excellence for players of all levels."



Sudsy Monchik & Cliff Swain

# Interference With The Stroke Is Surely A Penalty Hinder.

by Otto Dietrich, USA Racquetball National Rules Commissioner

Some of you may have wondered why there was no new "What's the Call" article in the last issue? Well, it had to do with my recovering from quadruple bypass heart surgery. I have recovered to some extent and look forward to being back in shape to attend our next major event – the US OPEN. Thanks to those of you who reached out to express your wishes and prayers for my speedy recovery – every little bit helped I'm sure. The other complete surprise I experienced at about the same time was being inducted into the USA Racquetball Hall of Fame as a Contributor. That honor also came totally out of the blue and offered an experience that I will always cherish.

It's now time for me to get back to talking about the rules and refereeing. I sure appreciated the Internet streaming of both National Singles and Junior Olympics. It really helped to pass the hours in bed. Leo Vasquez and his staff of volunteers did a great job. I even got to answer a couple rules questions via the chatbox. One I recall is, how many appeals does a player get in a tiebreaker? The answer is three; players get only two timeouts but three appeals plus the game-ending rally in the tiebreaker!

This brings to mind that if someone tells you something that seems wrong, be sure you ask them to show you where it says that in the rulebook. Always carry one with you (as I always recommend at the end of my article).

Do you realize that racquetball play should be virtually continuous? The receiver (and server) have only 10 seconds to be ready and serve the ball after the

referee calls the score or second serve. Controlling this time element, as well as the timeouts and time between games, are keys to keeping matches on time.

## Now for some Q&A:

**Russ B. asked:** If playing on a court with a glass back wall that is open to the ceiling and the ball strikes the corner of the glass and pops up but stays in the court is that an out or a replay?

**I responded:** While it's not specifically covered in the rulebook, I would declare that shot to be OUT OF COURT unless it takes a perfectly true bounce off the glass. Of course, the Men Pros would still have to play that shot since the ball would still be on the court -- there are no court hinders in IRT and LPRT play.

**Richard wondered:** Does the drive serve rule (3.6) apply to doubles play?

**I responded:** Yes, it certainly does, as do most other singles rules!

**Rob F. said:** I have a question on stroke interference.

Rule 3.15(b) states the following is a penalty hinder:

(b) Stroke Interference. This occurs when a player moves, or fails to move, so that the opponent returning the ball

does not have a free, unimpeded swing. This includes unintentionally moving in a direction that prevents the opponent from making a shot.

Rule 3.14(a)(3.) says the following concerning racquet follow-through:



Wayne Antone diving for the ball in the Boys 18 & Under Singles at the USA Racquetball California National Guard Junior Olympic Championships

Photo By Gallemore Photography

Contact with the racquet on the follow-through normally is not considered a hinder for either player.

My question concerns the case where a player holds up (does not swing) because the opponent is clearly situated where

## DO YOU HAVE A RULES/REFEREEING QUESTION?

Be sure to email it to me at [ODietrich@usaracquetball.com](mailto:ODietrich@usaracquetball.com) and you might find it featured in an upcoming issue of *Racquetball Magazine*. I will personally answer every question I get, no matter how simple or complex it may be!

## Always Play by the Rules

... I encourage you to go online where you can find, review, and/or download them especially to your Smartphone – at: [teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/How-To-Play/Rules](http://teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/How-To-Play/Rules).



he would be hit with the stroke follow-through. My interpretation is that my opponent has not given me a free, unimpeded swing—therefore I may be entitled to a penalty hinder. However, if I swing through and smash this person with my racquet, then play goes on because I contacted the ball as though my swing were unimpeded. I have also heard the interpretation that holding up because an opponent will be hit with the follow-through is always just a safety holdup, and therefore always a replay hinder.

**I replied:** There are three basic parts to the player's swing. As the player draws



the racquet back to hit the ball, that portion is known as the "backswing" and it ends as soon as the backward motion of the racquet stops and the forward swing begins. Any interference with this portion of the swing is most likely a penalty hinder. From that point until the racquet

contacts the ball and then eventually departs from the racquet is known as the "stroke." Interference with the stroke is surely a penalty hinder.

After the ball leaves the racquet is when the follow-through portion begins. Contact during this portion of the swing is generally not a hinder of either kind for either player because the stroke and the flight of the ball is not affected by this contact.

A player is allowed to hold up his swing at anytime he thinks he might contact his opponent with either his racquet or with the ball he intends to hit. This is at least a replay hinder and is intended to encourage sportsmanlike and injury-free play. But please note that if the opposing player is in either of the two paths mentioned in Rule 3.15(a) the proper call is a penalty hinder and the opponent wins that rally.

**Peter G. wrote:** I know a player can only play left OR right handed during a game; however, can a player use both hands on the racquet when returning a ball?

**I answered:** As long as the wrist cord complies with Rule 2.4(d) (refer to the rulebook), as long as that cord remains firmly attached to one of your wrists from the moment the service motion begins until the ensuing rally is declared to be over, then you can use both hands on the racquet if you wish. Your swing will necessarily be hampered a bit by that action, but do as you please. You can also change the wrist that the cord is attached to between rallies, during a timeout, or between games.

**Scott F. emailed me asking:** I'm looking for some relief from a situation where the opposing player was standing in front of me and as a result of his swing and miss, the ball passed behind him and hit me and he then wanted to call a point on

me. I couldn't see the ball because of the offensive player and, thus not able to get out of the way and as a consequence, I was hit by the ball.

**I wrote back:** In racquetball, the ball stays in play until it bounces on the floor a second time, so even though the opponent missed it and has no hope of ever getting to it, if that ball hits the player or team that hit that ball before it bounces twice, then they lose the rally. Therefore, since the ball stays in play, the person/team whose turn it is to hit that ball can keep trying to hit it until the second bounce occurs.

Always "Play by the Rules" and, if you don't have a copy of them, I encourage you to go online where you can find, review, and/or download them. Do you have a rules/refereeing question? Be sure to email it to me at [odietrich@usaracquetball.com](mailto:odietrich@usaracquetball.com), and you might find your question featured in an upcoming issue of *Racquetball* magazine. I answer every question I receive, no matter how simple or complex it may be!

# CONTINUING THE Making of a Champion



■ **By Fran Davis** (The Coach) • **Diana McNab** (Sports Psychologist) • **Dan Obremski** (Fitness Expert)

**L**et's continue "Making You a Champion" using the core principles of "Building Your Racquetball Dream House" as you build your championship racquetball game one assessment at a time.

In this issue, I am going to discuss "Goal Setting," a concept people ask me about all the time.

I can't stress enough how important it is to have goals for yourself not only in life, but in racquetball, too. Goals give you something to strive for, something to accomplish. Goals keep you focused, grounded, and they give you purpose.

Here are some quotes that I thought would set the tone to my article:

***"A dream is a commitment made in your mind; a goal is a commitment made on paper."***  
By Unknown

***"A man without a goal is like a man without a heart...For we are goal-setting animals in constant pursuit of our dreams."***  
By Unknown

After reading these quotes, let's really delve into goal setting because it truly is the only access to self-actualizing our dreams.

First things first...let's set a few parameters:

**A) Goals Must:**

- Be realistic
- Have a target date
- Be attainable (50/50 chance of success)
- Be visualized
- Be in a positive light
- Be believable

**B) General Time Frame of Goals:**

- 0 – 3 months – Immediate
- 3 – 6 months – Short Range
- 6 months – 1 year – Short Term
- 1 – 3 years – Long Range
- 3 – 5 years – Long Term
- 5 + years – Ultimate

**C) Sport-Specific Areas:**

- 1) Physical Skills
- 2) Mental Skills
- 3) Physical Conditioning
  - Weights
  - Aerobic/Anaerobic
  - Strength/Power
- 4) Nutritional Skills
- 5) Footwork
  - Speed
  - Agility
  - Plyometric

In order for you to reach your Ultimate Goal, I recommend you focus on having many smaller goals within each one of the Sport-Specific Areas using the General Time Frame above.

Let's look at an example:

If you want to be a National Champion in five years within your age group, you would need to do the following in order to move one step closer to that goal. You would need to set up immediate goals within the areas of Physical Skills, Mental Skills, Physical Conditioning, Nutritional Skills, and Footwork, then short range goals for each one of those same areas, then short term goals for each one of those same areas, then long range goals for each one of those same areas, then long term goals for each one of those same areas, and finally the ultimate goal for each one of those same areas.

Wow, that's a lot of work, you might be thinking. Just keep in mind, all successful people, in all walks of life, not just sports:

A) Know who they are, know what they want, and set goals to get there.

B) Use the process of thinking it, feeling it, believing it, and visualizing the end result. Nothing in life comes easy. I was taught early on you have to work for everything you want...and racquetball is no different. If you want to Be the Best You Can Be and Rise to Your Own Potential, take these very steps on goal setting that I've laid out for you.

The best of the best like Rocky Carson, Paola Longoria, Jason Mannino, and my juniors Wayne Antone, Jordan Cooperrider, and Mitchell Turner (who are all 2017 Junior National Champions) all have goals that have led to their accomplishments. Follow in their footsteps -- their records speak for themselves.

For more details on "Goal Setting" see my book, *Championship Racquetball*.

**Fran Davis** coaches Paola Longoria (6X #1 LPRT, 5X World Champion, 4X Pan American Champion, 7X US Open Champion), Rocky Carson (#2 IRT, 5X World Champion, 2X Pan American Champion, US Open Champion), and junior sensations Jordan Cooperrider (Junior National Champion & USA Junior National Team), Wayne Antone (Junior National Champion & USA Junior National Team), and Mitchell Turner (Junior National Champion & USA Junior National Team). Fran's achievements include USAR Hall of Fame 2004, Woman of the Year 2009, former U.S. National Team Coach, and Master Professional (USAR-IP).

# Championship Racquetball

*If you want to play like a champion, turn to the champions!*

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- Core Principles discussed
- Advance your skills, tactics and toughness for a winning game

## Video

- Learn to vary serves / returns
- Learn the perfect strokes
- Improve shot selection/court position
- Game plans/Strategies a must



## Using the Core Principles of "Building Your Racquetball Dream House"

Jason Mannino  
#1 Pro Player 2003

Rocky Carson  
#1 Pro Player 2008

Paola Longoria

Paola Longoria  
8X #1 Pro Player

## Fran's Credentials

- 30+ Years Camp Experience
- 2004 Hall of Fame
- U. S. National Team Coach 1989-1996, 2002
- Coaches Rocky Carson & Paola Longoria.
- USAR-IP Master Professional

## Jason's Credentials

- #1 IRT Professional Player 2003
- 2X U.S. Open Champion
- IRT Most Improved Player 1998
- IRT Rookie of the Year 1996

## 2017 / 2018 Camp Schedule: Weekend Camps

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November TBD	Chicago, IL
January 26-28	Seattle, WA
March 9-11	Ocala, FL
April 13-15	Las Vegas, NV
April / May TBD	NY/NJ
June TBD	San Francisco, CA
TBD	Dallas, TX
TBD	PA
TBD	New England
TBD	St. Louis, MO

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# WHERE ARE THEY NOW? -- DAN OBREMSKI



**W**here Are They Now? Is a column in *Racquetball* magazine that features past pros from both the men's and women's tours throughout the years. We will interview them and see what they have been up to since they stepped away from playing professionally. We'll also see what they think of today's game and the players who are currently competing.

Our third interview is with former U.S. National Singles & Doubles Champion Dan Obremski. Let's check in with Dan:

**When was your last year on tour and what have you been up to since then?** I'm not sure of the last year that I played on the tour (mid 90's), but my greatest memory of that time in my life was making the decision to stop traveling. My kids were jumping up and down crying on my bed as I was packing for a tournament, and I could see it in their eyes that it was time for me to stay home and focus on my family and not continue to travel the country pursuing my racquetball goals! Although I feel I was in my prime and had signature racquets, gloves, eyeguards, and the potential for great marketability, I don't regret the decision to be home with my family.

Fortunately, Jim Hiser had me training at his Elite Racquetball Camp in Colorado Springs for 18 years. During that time, I learned an awful lot about speed and agility training with Scott Phelps and started "DanO's Fastfit Training System," a sports performance program geared towards helping athletes achieve their movement skill goals. I have been blessed to train nearly 30,000 athletes since then.

**Can you tell us a bit about your family?** I have the most amazing family! First, my better half is my wife Tami. We've been together and married for more than 30 years and have four amazing children and four grandchildren. Tami and I own a hair salon/day spa, Artisan Colour Spa Salon, in Murrysville, Pennsylvania, and we employ 25 team

members. The salon/spa industry has always been Tami's passion and expertise.

My oldest son Kelton is 41 years old. He is married to Leanne, and they have given us three wonderful grandchildren, Devin, Gavin, and Maya. Kelton works as a successful hair designer in our salon.

Daniel, our 30-year-old, is a professional golfer aspiring to break into the PGA tour. He recently made the cut at the Greenbrier Classic and golfed his final round with Phil Mickelson!

My daughter Chandra is 28 years old. She is married to her husband Nate, and they had an amazing child named



By Aimee Ruiz  
Photos Courtesy of Dan Obremski

Nathaniel, who at two months old became an angel, blessed our lives, and is severely missed. Chandra is also an exceptionally gifted hair tech at our salon.

Braydon, 25, is our youngest son. He was also a Division I golfer, is an expert level RC car racer, and now lives in Myrtle Beach pursuing his goals as an entrepreneur.

**Who was a player that you looked up to when making your start on the tour?** When I started, I looked up to all of the guys! After a year, it was clear that Mike Yellen had the character, the game style, the mindset, and the winning character that I aspired to have. I called Mike one day and asked if I could live with him for a week to experience what he does to become the best in the world. He was a "legitimate" five-time world champion on the pro tour for a reason! To that point, he was the best our sport had seen since folks like Charlie Brumfield, Marty Hogan, and Bud Muehleisen.

Mike accepted my request and allowed me to get a peek into what a champion does to get to that level, a valuable lesson in my progression.



**You were known as the "Fitness Expert" within the sport. Why was fitness/training so important to you?** I initially got into fitness and training because I was so small coming out of high school. I read

every article I could get my hands on and asked every type of athlete and bodybuilder what the best movements were to develop my body. I was unable to travel and practice with the best players in the world, so I thought that by getting myself in supreme physical condition and working on my speed and agility, I could hang with the best players. This was invaluable as I was able to make my way into the top six by training as smart and as aggressively as I could and hitting every tournament as well. I think I established myself as the fitness expert, because I took it upon myself to write for the magazines, produce fitness videos, and give lectures on why training was so important to become the best athlete that you can be. My goal with athletes now is to train them properly and educate them on what it takes to be injury free and compete at the highest level in their sport.

**You work with athletes in multiple sports. What are some common speed training misconceptions amongst athletes?** When I developed my sports performance program 20 years ago, there were very few franchises and trainers focusing on speed and agility. Now there are five franchises within 10 miles of me. For any athlete, it's imperative to know what you should do to perform at your highest level, based on what your body can handle. If you're a young athlete who hasn't gone through their growth spurt, for you to perform Olympic lifts and heavy duty squats and movements is a recipe for

injury. Overtraining seems to be the cause of many injuries these days. There are movements that are good for athletes, but each and every athlete should still focus on flexibility, core strength, and movement skills to take them to the level required.

**How important is speed/agility training in professional racquetball?** I break my sports performance program down into nine categories. Racquetball requires some of the most intense variations of speed and agility compared to many other sports. First, you need to have great footwork, but more importantly you need to have change-of-direction skills like no other sport. Jumping ability is imperative as well as overall speed. Then, include the fact that core strength relates to not only how you move but how you rotate and strike the ball. This is a recipe for why Fastfit training is perfect for our sport.

**What do you find different about the game now than when you played?**

When I competed, there were more than 15 guys who could win an event. Those players had different game styles, mental outlooks, and skills that made them exciting to watch. Now, I feel that because it's difficult to make a living, the depth of play unfortunately isn't where it was 15 to 20 years ago.



**Is there anyone in today's game who impresses you or who has a similar game style to yours?** I'm impressed with Kane, Rocky, and Alvaro. Kane is so dominant with all facets of the game; Rocky is a hard-core training phenomenon, a family man who makes the most of his ability; and Alvaro is a smooth-moving athlete who will capitalize on his opponents' mistakes. Alvaro, I feel, is similar to me: he glides around the court and uses his athleticism to make his mark.

**You have been all over the world playing for Team USA in international competitions. What was one of your fondest memories representing Team USA or one of your favorite countries to visit?** Everywhere I've been holds great sentiment. South America was amazingly hospitable. Japan was the most amazing place to visit because the people were so accommodating, and I learned so much about respect.

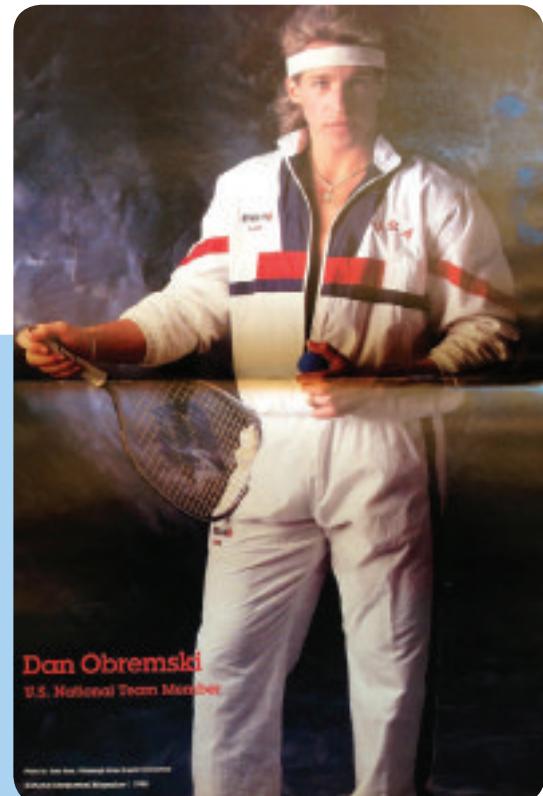
Places in Europe like Brussels, Belgium, and Hamburg, West Germany, were also so much fun to visit, and to experience the culture. I would say, though, that my proudest moment in competition for the U.S. Team was actually at the Olympic Sports Festival. Doug Ganim and I won the gold medal against three of the best doubles teams in the world. When the national anthem was played, the gold medals were hung around our necks, and the roses were handed to us, I felt an overwhelming sense of accomplishment and pride in representing our country. At that time, everyone in that event could have been considered the best players in the world, and Doug and I were able to come out on top!

**Is there anyone you still communicate with from your days on tour?**

I have communication with several players I competed with, such as Corey Brysman, Jack Newman, Sudsy Monchik, and Cliff Swain. Now, because of social media, I also interact with other players who post about their families and business ventures.

**What would you say to someone that wants to break into that next level and begin playing the pro tour full time?** Playing any sport at a full-time professional level full-time, requires commitment. It's a job, which means you have to dedicate your entire day to that particular goal. If you're going to try to do it in racquetball, you need a sponsor who will pay for your expenses, including rent, car, food, insurance, travel expenses, entry fees, and more. From there, you need to travel and find the best competition you can play, and you want to enter every tournament you can to experience every level of game style and competition.

I would also recommend playing every event you can to get involved on the international level with the U.S. Team! Because of folks like Jim Hiser and Luke St. Onge, you can use your amateur status with the Olympic Committee to parlay that into other ventures within our sport! This might include training, camps, instruction, and potential sponsorships.



## Dan's Highlights

- 1998 World Racquetball Champion – Two Gold and One Silver Medal, Bolivia
- 1998 Athlete's Representative to the USOC Athletes Advisory Council
- 1998 Captain of the World Champion U.S. Racquetball Team
- 1998 Racquetball's "Athlete of the Year" as voted by USA Racquetball
- 1998 Pan American Trials, Two Gold Medals, Winnipeg, Canada
- 1997 National Champion, USRA Men's Open Singles Championships, Houston
- Professional Tournament of Champions back-to-back winner 1991 and 1992, Portland
- US Olympic Sports Festival – Gold Medalist, Minneapolis
- Five-time National Doubles Champion – Men's Open Division
- 1990 World Champion – Gold Medal, Hamburg, West Germany
- 1988 World Champion – Two Gold Medals, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2005 USA Racquetball Hall of Fame Inductee
- Nine-time member of the US National Racquetball Team
- 17 years featured lecturer and instructor for the Elite Training Camp, held at the Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs (camp features the top 50-100 prospects from around the country)
- Weight Training Advisor for the US National Racquetball Team
- ESPN National Fitness Challenge, Nassau, Bahamas (winner of two events)

## MILITARY RACQUETBALL FEDERATION



Article & Photo By Terry Rogers

### Racquetball Rehabilitation Team Challenge – Tempe, AZ

In conjunction with the USA Racquetball National Singles Championships, the Military Racquetball Federation hosted their third Racquetball Rehabilitation Team Challenge featuring teams from the Phoenix Veterans Association and the Prescott Veterans Association. After five rounds of matches, the Phoenix Veterans Association team emerged victorious, and several individual winners were crowned. These players are proud participants in MRF's Rehabilitation Clinic program coached by Raymond Bierner and Jerry Northwood in conjunction with the Veterans Administration.



### Rhonda Rajsich Makes Awesome Donation to MRF in Memory of Her Dad

A staunch supporter of the MRF, Rhonda graciously gathered all of her dad Dennis Rajsich's racquetball equipment, packed it in boxes and bags, and delivered it during the recent MRF event in Tempe. Much of the equipment was given to the Phoenix and Prescott programs. The rest will be put to good use going forward as other programs are established and needs are identified. The MRF cannot thank Rhonda enough for thinking of our organization while dealing with Dennis' untimely passing.

## NATIONAL POLICE RACQUETBALL



By Bill Bearden, NPRA President  
Photo Courtesy of Cheryl Kirk

### NPRA Goes to Chicago

On May 6th, an NPRA fundraiser event was held at the famous Glass Court Swim & Fitness club operated by Dan Jaskier in Lombard, Illinois. This event helped raise funds in support of two Chicago police officers who were shot during their course of duty.

Players crossed state lines from Iowa, Indiana, and Texas to help support this cause that featured divisions in singles, doubles and also a Heroes division. As customary in every NPRA event, players were provided food and drinks while they in turn provided the entertainment. These events are always self-officiated. Sportsmanship and camaraderie are the only two requirements needed to participate.



L to R: Gene Daigle, NPRA President Bill Bearden, Lester Dean, Cheryl Kirk, Josh Paul, Gallagher Garcia, and Brett Chidester

Players did not waste a minute as the first serve was heard at 8:00 a.m. and the final sounds at 6:20 p.m. Many players were seen departing with towels across their shoulders, a limp in their step, but most importantly, medals around their necks! Names, phone numbers, and emails were exchanged for future play and another successful NPRA tournament was in the books.

After the smoke had cleared from the battlegrounds at Glass Court, those left standing with gold medals were state locals Arun Baskaran, Eric Battaglia, Michael Fornero, Jeff Grace, Dolores Lamberson, Alok Mehta, Susan Mueller, Vickie Onesti, and hometown favorite Dan Jaskier.

Players from Iowa and Texas who stomped into Illinois territory and challenged some of what Illinois had to offer were Josh Paul (gold in the Heroes division) and the Texas tag-team of Bill Bearden and Gene Daigle who took home silver. Indiana contributed Chris Cerny who drove over to play both women's singles and doubles, earning silver in the doubles with local partner Julianne Valentino.

Special thanks go to Nancy Bearden who braved airport TSA's bag check (identifying but not confiscating suspicious celery stalks) to make it to Glass Court in time to shoot many great photos throughout the course of the day, then ensuring players had online access the following week.

NPRA would like to thank everyone who participated. We look forward to having another tournament in the near future. We would also like to give a special shout-out to Cheryl Kirk, her crew of volunteers, and Dan Jaskier's staff. Without them, this tournament would not have been as successful as it was!

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# MARKIE ROJAS

LEAVING HIS MARK  
 ON THE IRT CIRCUIT

**M**arco “Markie” Rojas turned 24 on July 16, and in just four years on the men’s professional International Racquetball Tour (IRT) this resident of Stockton, California, has risen to become the #7-ranked player in the world.

During this 2017 off season, Rojas is training five days each week and strengthening his body through targeted weight training, expanding his cardiovascular capacity and explosive quickness through a variety of intense workouts, refining his body through a well-conceived diet, and developing another serve to supplement his already-effective “wallpaper” lob serve down the right wall.

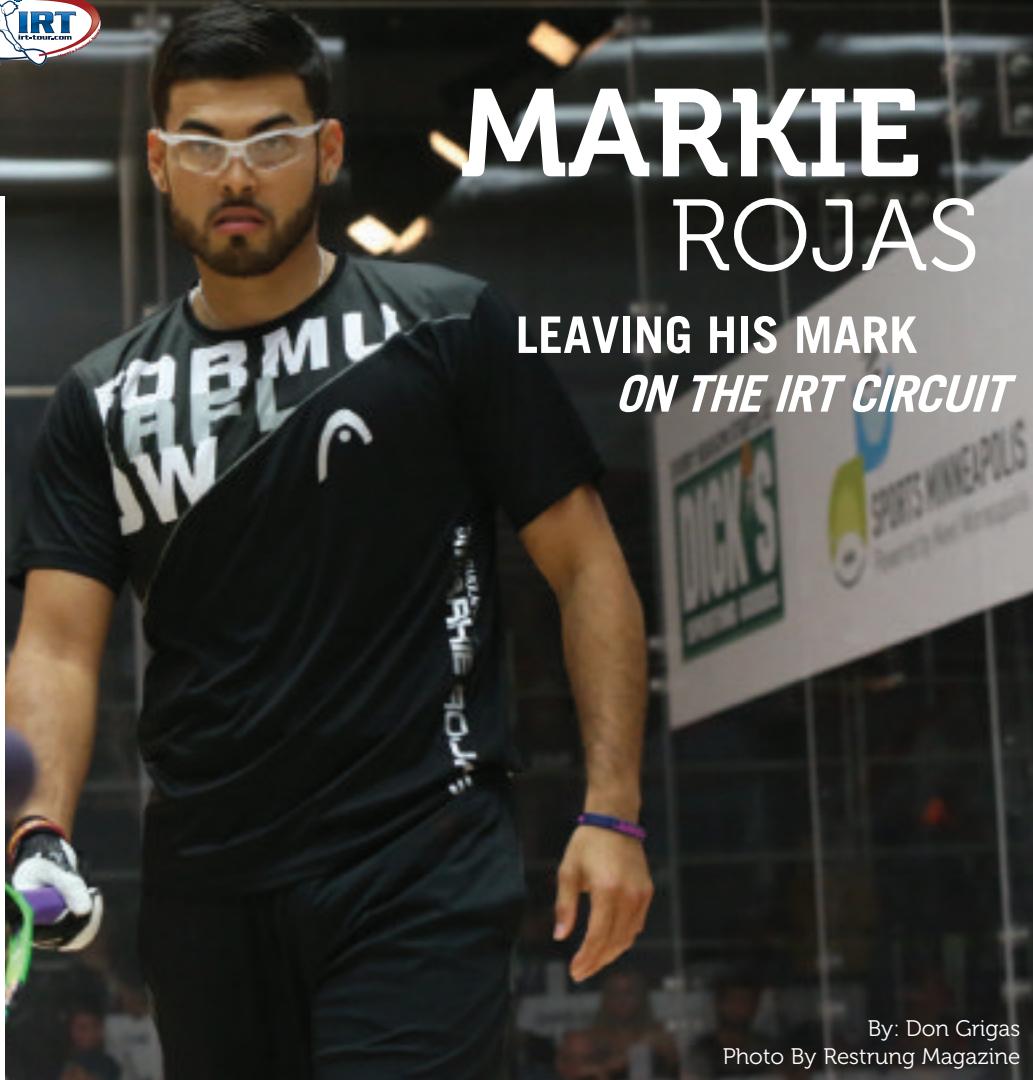
In addition, he is spending hours each week developing something that he has come to realize will take him into the next phase of his professional career: his own unique brand.

Over the past year, Rojas’ branding efforts have included developing a strong social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube along with his own website ([markierojas.com](http://markierojas.com)) and a very visible profile in his community helping underprivileged kids get—and stay—healthy. This is in addition to becoming one of the most recognizable stars on Tour. The branding has come while being focused on becoming the best professional racquetball player possible, challenging top IRT players like #1-ranked Kane Waselenchuk and the five others ranked above him.

That would seem to be a heavy load for some, but for Rojas it feeds right into his work ethic.

“I knew I had to make a change.” (Referring to branding himself.) “No racquetball manufacturer or tour can promote or market me as well as I can. I know myself best, and with access to social media it was my best opportunity to take full control this past season,” said Rojas, a former national and international juniors champion prior to joining the IRT. He also won the 2016 USAR Intercollegiates singles title after finishing as runner-up the previous season.

Carrying a full workload over the past few years—training regularly, playing on a gruel-



By: Don Grigas

Photo By Restrung Magazine

ing IRT schedule, taking college courses before graduating from the University of the Pacific in 2016, and getting involved in several community service-based projects—restricted his efforts during the branding process. “I wish I had been more focused on it when I was 18 years old. I had many people in my ear [telling me] about it until I realized how important it truly was,” Rojas said.

Now he attacks image-making every bit as intensely as he prepares for any IRT Tier 1 Pro Stop tournament.

“I work hard every day to promote, and the goal is to be recognized and respected as a professional athlete,” Rojas said. “It’s a process, and I know it is not going to happen overnight.”

Rojas realizes one of the best ways to promote himself is to perform as a top professional player, and this past season he became a steady competitor who solidified his hold on a top IRT ranking. At the end of 2014 he was ranked 10th, then he

rose to the eighth spot in 2015 and has ended each of the last two seasons as the #7-ranked player on Tour. The sky is the limit, and at 24 years of age he already has several top-quality sponsors in his corner including Head Racquetball.

During the 2016-2017 IRT season, Rojas enjoyed a successful campaign, with his best performance an 11-9, 11-9, 11-6 quarterfinal loss in the 2017 Shamrock Shootout IRT Pro-Am to Waselenchuk, the dominant force on the Tour the past 10 years. Earlier in the season-opening Novasors Ghost of Georgetown Kansas City Open, he served notice to the professional racquetball community of his potential by extending #2 ranked Rocky Carson to four games in an exciting quarterfinal loss by scores of 8-11, 5-11, 11-4 and 10-12. A few weeks later he faced Carson again in the UnitedHealthcare US OPEN and dropped another hard-fought match by scores of 2, (9), 6, 2.

In the pro doubles bracket at the 2016 UnitedHealthcare US Open Racquetball

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Championships, Rojas teamed up with brother José to win over Daniel De La Rosa and Edson Martinez, 15-10, 15-5.

The Rojas brothers suffered a disappointing 11-10 tiebreaker loss to Rocky Carson and Jose Diaz at the 2017 USA Racquetball National Doubles Championships in February. Marco said the defeat set him back emotionally but also reinforced in his mind the notion that tough losses are teachable moments.

On his website, Rojas spoke of the loss and how it stayed with him for a while after the tournament. He realized that "these tough losses are emotional and can be difficult [to recover from]. However, I always play with purpose, and I am constantly reminded that I live to play another day."

Rojas' website and social media pages are key tools in branding, and he wants to achieve more than just additional followers and customers who are intent on taking racquetball lessons or hiring him as a personal trainer. In time, Rojas wants his brand to convey specific and lasting meaning.

"The things I want people to associate with me and my brand are transition, journey, being ready for new stages in life and -- most importantly -- my faith in God," Markie Rojas said. "I trust God with my career, whether it is racquetball, my career afterward, my life transitioning and to be a devoted husband."

About the Author: Don Grigas is an award-winning journalist who grew up on the south side of Chicago and is now living in Bolingbrook, Illinois, where he first developed a passion for racquetball.



Markie Rojas, Doug Ganim, and José Rojas



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# E.J. Promotions Inc. Purchases IRT and IRT Network

## The IRT and IRT Network Join Forces, Kulback named Tour Commissioner



**T**he men's professional International Racquetball Tour (IRT) and the IRT Network will combine forces. E.J. Promotions Inc., an investor group led by John Scott, will now own and operate the IRT and IRT Network. The investors include Cindy Tilbury and Rick Betts of Malibu, California; Sal and Dee Perconti of St. Petersburg, Florida; Robert Blumenshine of St. Louis, Missouri; and Dean Baer of Long Island, New York. All are longtime supporters of the sport.

This exciting merger will leverage synergies between the men's pro Tour and broadcast channel. IRT President Jason Mannino will step into a consulting role and IRT Network Owner John Scott will become the IRT CEO. The collaboration will allow for more free streaming matches, streamlined business opportunities for partners, and a new approach to the sport of professional racquetball.

Scott said that this new entity has several plans to help create what he calls a renaissance of the sport. "There are a lot of initiatives planned, and people will quickly see the new trajectory as we roll out the new model. One thing I'm most excited about for is our new junior player initiative, which will create exposure for young players that has never been seen in the sport before. We have also been contacted by an inner city youth program that has interest in building indoor and outdoor courts to allow children to get off the streets and learn a new sport." Scott added that these are just some examples of the many exciting things to come.

"I've said for years that we must unite, and this is a great step towards that," he said. "I'm excited for this amazing opportunity and cannot be more thankful for this opportunity.

First, I want to thank Jason and the current IRT Board for their years of loyalty and support, the investment group that has put a lot of faith in me, my wife and my family, but mostly the fans. Your support in the past as well as with this new endeavor means the world to me professionally and personally. We have a good foundation out there, and it is time as a sport to come together and work together for the same goal. I believe there is still good left in this sport...and it's worth fighting for."

"The merger comes at the perfect time, as we approach a new and exciting IRT season," Jason Mannino said. "John Scott and I have been discussing combining forces for the past few years, and it wasn't until recently that the prospect started to take shape. This is great news for the sport as it combines two of the leading organizations that already had a close affiliation. This formalizes it. I'm excited to see what the future of the combined entity will bring."

The IRT also announced that Andy Kulback has been named the IRT's new commissioner. Kulback brings a wealth of racquetball experience to his new position. He previously served as the Deputy Commissioner of both the Women's Professional Racquetball Organization (WPRO) and the Ladies Professional Racquetball Tour (LPRT). Kulback is also an avid racquetball player and has competed in tournaments at every level.

"I just want to take the experience that I have and the knowledge that I have to help grow the IRT into something bigger than it is today," Kulback said. "I also want to take some of those good and bad experiences I had as a player and build an even better product. I want to make it a great experience for the players at the events."

That includes marketing racquetball to younger players and addressing the ability to

have a professional career on the IRT. "If we had to quantify a few things, one of the big things is to turn the professional side of the sport into something that young players can look at and say they want to do it for a living," Kulback said. "I think if we accomplish that, we've done a good thing."

Scott said Kulback will be a great addition to the Tour as the new commissioner. "Andy is one of the good guys in the sport," Scott said. "He comes to the IRT at a very important time, and his experience is greatly welcomed. He is not only a racquetball fan and a player himself; he has dedicated many years of professional management in and out of the sport. This announcement is one that will have an immense positive ripple effect in racquetball for years to come."

Scott said that the addition of Kulback to the IRT team provides an even larger headcount and adds additional experience and high-level management to the Tour. "Andy coming on board means that I can focus more on the business growth and corporate opportunities while he runs the day-to-day side of the business. Together we will tackle the events. I really couldn't be happier to have him working with us side-by-side."

Scott and Kulback, along with the E.J. Promotions investment group, have very lofty goals in this new chapter of the IRT. Stay tuned for more!

# Major Accomplishments

## Conclude LPRT 2016-2017 Season

By T. J. Baumbaugh



“Music, food, games, and tons of racquetball” best describes the Battle at the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas. Tournament Director Mike Canto and volunteers from the Texas Racquetball Association worked tirelessly again this year to put on a stellar event. Special thanks to all involved including sponsors Sandy Rios of San Rio Billing and Joe Hall of Splathead Racquetball.

The draw was competitive starting with the Round of 32 where, marking her return to the LPRT, Nancy Enriquez took #8 ranked Carla Muñoz to five games. Muñoz advanced, upsetting #2 seed Jessica Parrilla in the quarters and making her third pro semi-final. All three of Muñoz’ semi-finals appearances happened this season (Atlanta and Greenville were the prior two). The other three Alamo semifinalists were Samantha Salas Solis, Rhonda Rajsich, and Paola Longoria. Longoria defeated Solis in a four-game final. Longoria and Solis paired up to take the doubles final, defeating the team of Parrilla and Muñoz.

The Paola Longoria Open marked a first-time LPRT trip to Guadalajara, Mexico. The event opened with a welcome dinner at the beautifully unique restaurant of Santo Coyote, where upon entering the lobby, guests were offered samples of Jalisco-style tequila. Delicious food and margaritas along with dancers and the event sponsors all contributed to make the evening enjoyable. Special thanks go to Longoria and her team, along with sponsor and Minister of Sports State of Jalisco, Lic. André Marx Miranda Campos.

The Guadalajara draws were marked with upsets starting with the singles Round of 32: #24 seed Montserrat Perez bested #9 seed Susy Acosta; #25 seed Nancy Enriquez won the 5th game this time against #8 seed Carla Muñoz; and #19 Ana Laura Flores bested #14 Cecilia Pratt. Upsets continued through the 16’s where Enriquez and Natalia

Mendez defeated higher seeds. The singles final was another season match-up between Paola Longoria and Samantha Salas Solis, where Longoria prevailed for tour win #82. The major doubles upset was by the young superstar team of Alexandra Herrera and Monserrat Mejia. This duo defeated the #1 ranked doubles team of Longoria/Solis in the semis, 15-12, 15-14. In a tough-fought final, Herrera/Mejia lost to winning team Frédérique Lambert and Jessica Parrilla.



Above: Sandy Rios, Mike Cantu, and Joe Hall  
Photo By Restrung Magazine  
Right: Samantha Salas Solis, post victory  
Photo By: T. J. Baumbaugh

This Grand Slam Event was broadcasted throughout Mexico and South America on the Claro Sports Network along with our regular main court broadcast on our LPRT Livestream and YouTube channels. If you missed any of the upset action in Guadalajara or any of our other events, you can find the matches archived here: <https://www.lprt.org/com/live>.

It was back to Mexico for the final event of the season, this time Chihuahua, home to several LPRT players. The Paola Longoria Challenge was a steamy event, as the high temperatures each day were over 100 degrees. This was a dual event with the World Racquetball Tour (WRT), so the main court action at Club Britania hosted both men and women.

After 47 straight losses to #1 Paola Longoria, #5 Samantha Salas Solis earned a major upset. Playing for well over two hours, full of intensity, and after losing the first two games, Solis won (7-11, 7-11, 11-8, 11-9, 11-9). She went on to win the Chihuahua singles title, facing off against #6 Rhonda Rajsich, and secured her #3 season-ending ranking. Longoria and Solis paired up for the doubles final, defeating regulars Herrera and Mejia.

Paola Longoria's accomplishments are extensive. Her name is a brand in Mexico, she makes regular television appearances, she was a television host for the 2016 Olympics in Rio, she is featured throughout fashion magazines, and Forbes Mexico has named her (more than once) "One of the Most Powerful Women in Mexico." And these are just off-court accomplishments! For the eighth time, Longoria finished

an LPRT season as the #1 ranked player. She won her 82nd pro title and her eighth UnitedHealthcare US OPEN title. She hosted four events this season, where she typically sets up her own portable court and offers plenty of junior divisions. She is already preparing to host the season opener for the 2017-2018 season. Congratulations to Paola on another top finish!



Carla Muñoz and Samantha Salas Solis at the Battle of the Alamo in San Antonio  
Photo By Restrung Magazine

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## The Summer Heats Up at the 2017 WOR Championships Presented by Pro Kennex

By Geoff Osberg

Photos by Roby Partovich



Alvaro Beltran - Men's Pro Singles Champion

This year's WOR Championships presented by Pro Kennex was another great Outdoor event in Huntington Beach, California. The event once again had a great turnout of players of all skill levels including a great showing by the juniors. The weather was hotter than it has been in the past several years, but hey, it's Huntington Beach, so how bad could that be?

One of the highlights of this year's event was the Pro Doubles repeat of last year's finals with Jesus Ustarroz and an injured Rocky Carson (he had just pulled a muscle playing to Alvaro Beltran in the Men's Pro Singles final that Alvaro won in a tiebreaker) vs. Alvaro and Daniel De La Rosa. The finals match went to a tiebreaker with the team of Rocky/Jesus pulling it out. Jesus played his best match of the past two years, covering more ground then he was used to in support of Rocky's injury. Congrats to both teams on a great final -- they really got the crowd into it!

In an upset, the Women Doubles final saw sisters Jacqueline Paraiso-Larsson and Joy Paraiso defeat Janel Tisinger and Aimee Ruiz. Janel has been the Queen of Women's Outdoor the past several years, virtually winning everything she's played including this year's Women's Pro Singles division. Congratulations to Jacqueline and Joy!

Paddleball made its first appearance at this year's event, and it really went over big on the massive courts at Marina Park. Emmett Coe (the Great of Paddles) and Alvaro Beltran took it to another great team, Dale Valentine and Chris McDonald, the latter a relative newcomer to paddleball. They tried valiantly but fell short as Emmett and Alvaro took the first Men's Pro Doubles Paddleball Title at the WOR Championships.

The year 2017 was a special one for WOR Hall of Fame with Scott Hirsch getting the first inductee nod in front of Florida audience as the original founder of WOR Florida and the leading contributor to the sport. He is a long-time director and sponsor of many events.

Next up was Lynn Adams Clay who is arguably the greatest combined outdoor/indoor player in history of the sport and the most dominant outdoor player in the 1980's winning frequently, usually in some epic final matches against fellow outdoor Hall of Fame Martha McDonald.

Then came legendary Dan Southern, whom Brian Hawkes said was his greatest nemesis. The two split every singles title during the 1980s and even a few doubles titles, too. Dan was a pro surfer, bowler, and is in the international woodworking Hall of Fame as the ultimate Renaissance man. This is quite a trio, to say the least!

A big thank you goes to the tournament crew who once again did an amazing job of keeping the event on time the entire week (and often running ahead of schedule). Also, thank you to DOGZ/Gary & Jimbo for delivering such great food for everyone all week. To our sponsors -- Dr. Duddey, Melissa's, Penske Toyota, Pro Kennex, Gearbox, HEAD/Penn, 3 Wall Ball, Coca Cola, and Ustarroz Construction -- we couldn't have done it without you!

Mark your calendars for next year's event -- July 12-15, 2018. For anyone who hasn't played at the WOR Championships, you need to get here!



Left: Rocky Carson & Heather Mahoney  
Center: Hall of Fame Inductees Dan Southern & Lynn Adams Clay  
Right: Hugo Rodriguez in action

## CARRIE HOEFT NAMED MID ATLANTIC DIRECTOR

Photo By: Kristine Bayron



World Outdoor Racquetball is excited to announce Carrie Hoeft as Mid-Atlantic WOR Director. Hoeft, from Chesapeake, Virginia, will join WOR immediately and lead one of the fastest-growing outdoor markets in the country.

Carrie started playing racquetball eleven years ago at her local YMCA and quickly became involved in tournament play, leagues, and attendance at national events. She was introduced to Outdoor racquetball in 2015 while attending Beach Bash with a friend. Since then she has regularly attended WOR events while promoting Outdoor growth in Virginia. "I love the Outdoor community and am excited to be a part of the growth in the Mid-Atlantic region. We have some beautiful facilities, and I'm thankful to have such a strong support system in place and for Tony Gambone and Ruben Gutierrez to be laying the groundwork in our area. It's amazing to see how Outdoor racquetball in this region has grown within the last year, and I'm looking forward to continued growth and development."

Greg Lewerenz, WOR National Director, commented, "We are so happy to have Carrie step up and accept a WOR leadership role in this key market. The Mid-Atlantic region is one of the fastest-growing markets with several pristine facilities that include each type of outdoor court: one wall, short wall, and long wall. Carrie will bring a high level of enthusiasm, professionalism, dedication, and years of experience in athletic organization to the role. She will leverage her unique blend of talent on the court and the respect she commands within both the indoor and outdoor racquetball communities to bring new players outside. We are looking forward to the positive impact Carrie will have on the sport in the Mid-Atlantic Region."

Hank Marcus, WOR Executive Director, added, "Carrie is a leader in the racquetball community as a player, tournament director, and promoter. Her enthusiasm brings everyone together. She reflects all the qualities that will make Outdoor fun for all levels of player."

## MITZI SMITH NAMED KANSAS DIRECTOR



World Outdoor Racquetball is excited to announce Mitzi Smith as WOR Director in Kansas. Smith hails from Kansas City and will join WOR immediately, following Anthony Cioli who started and built up Outdoor along with WOR.

Mitzi was introduced to racquetball in the early 80's and played for many years at the Salina YMCA. She continued her love of racquetball when living in Huntsville, Alabama, and finally back home in Kansas City, Kansas. She had driven by an outdoor court just a few blocks from her KC home for years and finally noticed another local player who mentioned a group was going to meet up and play there. She joined in and immediately fell in love with Outdoor. "The play is somewhat different, the vibe is totally different, and the way I feel afterwards is awesomely different. I think it's the combination of sunshine, great music, and the laughter and warmth from the other players that just keeps me coming back."

Mitzi continued, "I'm excited to dig in and progress with the fire Anthony Cioli has ignited in our area. We have a lively Outdoor community with lots of opportunity for growth. Getting the word out, welcoming newcomers, and introducing local youth to the sport are a few areas we'll be focusing on here in Kansas City. I can't wait to be a part of it."

WOR National Director Greg Lewrenz commented, "We are pleased to have Mitzi step up and accept a leadership role with WOR in Kansas. We all want to thank Anthony Cioli for his years of service to WOR and Outdoor. Mitzi brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, and the ability to bring all players together. Her relationships with indoor and outdoor players will only help bring new players and opportunities to WOR Kansas. Mitzi continues a trend of female WOR directors of whom we are so proud."

Hank Marcus, WOR Executive Director, added, "Mitzi represents the welcoming spirit that makes Outdoor so special. Her interest in welcoming all players for camaraderie and competition makes her perfect to continue the growth that Anthony started. The growth of WOR and Outdoor can be directly attributed to directors who love the sport like Mitzi does."



# ALL-TIME RECORD BOOK OF SINGLES **CHAMPIONS**



## PROFESSIONAL TOUR CHAMPIONS

### IRT MEN

2016 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2015 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2014 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2013 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2012 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2011 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2010 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2009 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2008 Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2007 Rocky Carson (Calif.)  
2006 Jason Mannino (Calif.)  
2005 Kane Waselenchuk (Can.)  
2004 Kane Waselenchuk (Can.)  
2003 Kane Waselenchuk (Can.)  
2002 Sudsy Monchik (N.Y.)  
2001 Cliff Swain (Mass.)  
2000 Sudsy Monchik (N.Y.)  
1999 Jason Mannino (Calif.)  
1998 Sudsy Monchik (N.Y.)  
1997 Cliff Swain (Mass.)  
1996 Sudsy Monchik (N.Y.)

### IRT Men's Pro Doubles

2016 José Rojas (Calif.)/Marco Rojas (Calif.)  
2015 Ben Croft (III.) / Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)  
2014 Ben Croft (III.) / Kane Waselenchuk (Texas)

### LPRT Women's Pro Doubles

2016 Paola Longoria (Mexico) / Samantha Salas (Mexico)  
2015 Paola Longoria (Mexico) / Samantha Salas (Mexico)  
2014 Paola Longoria (Mexico) / Veronica Sotomayor (Ecuador)

## USA RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONS

### Men's Open

2016 Mario Mercado (Colombia)  
2015 Adam Manilla (Colo.)  
2014 Coby Iwaasa (Canada)  
2013 Andree Parrilla (Mexico)  
2012 Carlos Keller Vargas (Bolivia)  
2011 Daniel De La Rosa (Mexico)  
2010 Vincent Gagnon (Canada)  
2009 Vincent Gagnon (Canada)  
2008 Gilberto Mejia (Calif.)  
2007 Alejandro Landa (Texas)  
2006 Gil De Los Rios (Mo.)  
2005 Gilberto Mejia (Calif.)  
2004 Agustin Tristan (Mex.)  
2003 Polo Gutierrez (Mex.)  
2002 Josh Tucker (Mo.)  
2001 Jack Huczak (Mich.)  
2000 Jack Huczak (Mich.)  
1999 Jack Huczak (Mich.)  
1998 Ruben Gonzalez (N.Y.)  
1997 Aaron Embry (Calif.)  
1996 Joel Bonnett (Mich.)

### Age Divisions

#### Men's 24-

2016 Set Cubillos (Colombia) Andrea Martinez Gonzalez (Guatemala)  
2015 Edwin Galicia (Guatemala) Maria Renee Rodriguez (Guatemala)  
2014 Cristian Chavez (Ecuador) Maria Renee Rodriguez (Guatemala)  
2013 Andres Gomez (Colombia) Cristina Amaya (Colombia)  
2012 Sebastian Franco (Colombia) Cristina Amaya (Colombia)  
2011 Joel Barshaw (Oregon) Mariana Paredes (Venezuela)  
2010 Roland Keller (Bolivia) Cristina Amaya (Colombia)  
2009 Alex Ackermann (Texas) Cristina Amaya (Colombia)  
2008 Jansen Allen (Texas) Cristina Amaya (Colombia)  
2007 Chris Coy (Okla.) Kara Mazur (Conn.)  
2006 Armando Lando (Texas) Sharon Jackson (Ind.)  
2005 Charles Pratt (Ore.) Da'Monique Davis (Ala.)  
2004 Alejandro Herrera (Fla.) Da'Monique Davis (Ala.)  
2003 Travis Woodbury (Va.) Janel Tisinger (Calif.)  
2002 Ben Croft (III.) Adrienne Fisher (Ohio)  
2001 Mitch Williams (N.C.) Rhonda Rajsich (Ariz.)  
2000 Andy Hawthorne (III.) Adrienne Fisher (Ohio)  
1999 Jack Huczak (Mich.) Aimee Roehler (Pa.)

### LPRT WOMEN

Paola Longoria (Mex.)  
Rhonda Rajsich (Calif.)  
Rhonda Rajsich (Calif.)  
Paola Longoria (Mex.)  
Rhonda Rajsich (Ariz.)  
Christie Van Hees (Can.)  
Christie Van Hees (Can.)  
Cheryl Gudinas (III.)  
Rhonda Rajsich (Ariz.)  
Cheryl Gudinas (III.)  
Kerri Wachtel (Ohio)  
Christie Van Hees (Canada)  
Jackie Paraiso (Calif.)  
Jackie Paraiso (Calif.)  
Michelle Gould (Idaho)  
Michelle Gould (Idaho)

1998 Jeff Bloom (Texas)  
1997 Jeff Bloom (Texas)  
1996 Rocky Carson (Calif.)

### Men's 25+

2016 Joel Cassens (Minn.)  
2015 Nick Hand (Fla.)  
2014 Andrew Gale (Utah)  
2013 Dennis Myers (N.C.)  
2012 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)  
2011 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)  
2010 Bryan Crosser (Iowa)  
2009 Francisco Gomez (Colombia)  
2008 Ignacio Jaimes (Texas)  
2007 Ignacio Jaimes (Texas)  
2006 Jason Bledsoe (N.C.)  
2005 Matthew Davenport (Mo.)  
2004 Cesar Carillo (Tenn.)  
2003 Dale Valentine (Calif.)  
2002 Dale Valentine (Calif.)  
2001 Kyle Veenstra (Wis.)  
2000 Dale Valentine (Calif.)  
1999 Sameer Hadid (Calif.)  
1998 Mike Locker (Minn.)  
1997 Kevin Graham (N.D.)  
1996 Mike Locker (Minn.)

### Men's 30+

2016 Garrett Tyler (Utah)  
2015 Mike Harmon (Fla.)  
2014 John Goth (Minn.)  
2013 John Goth (Minn.)  
2012 John Goth (Minn.)  
2011 John Goth (Minn.)  
2010 Kevin List (Fla.)  
2009 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)  
2008 Dale Valentine (Calif.)  
2007 Cary Slade (III.)  
2006 Andy Gross (Ga.)  
2005 Aaron Metcalf (Fla.)  
2004 Brian Fredenberg (Texas)  
2003 Eric Williams (N.C.)  
2002 Brian Fredenberg (Texas)  
2001 Dale Valentine (Calif.)  
2000 Kevin Graham (Wis.)  
1999 Jim Minkel (Texas)  
1998 Lance Gilliam (Texas)  
1997 Dan Llacer (Del.)  
1996 John Amatulli (Ind.)

### Men's 35+

2016 Jonathan Burns (Fla.)  
2015 Kevin List (Fla.)  
2014 Aaron Granberg (Minn.)  
2013 Aaron Metcalf (Fla.)  
2012 Aaron Granberg (Minn.)  
2011 Wesley Miller (Fla.)  
2010 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
2009 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
2008 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
2007 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
2006 Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)  
2005 Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)  
2004 Chris Wright (Mo.)  
2003 Jimmy Lowe (Alaska)  
2002 Jim Minkel (Texas)  
2001 Jim Minkel (Texas)  
2000 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
1999 Tim Hansen (Fla.)  
1998 Dave Watson (Okla.)  
1997 Mitch Smith (Pa.)  
1996 Marty Hogan (Mo.)

1998 Jeff Stark (Calif.)  
2015 Brad McCunniff (Iowa)  
2014 Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)  
2013 Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)  
2012 Woody Clouse (Colo.)

Aimee Roehler (Pa.)  
Shannon Feaster (D.C.)  
Amanda McDonald (Can.)

### Women's 25+

No division  
Donna Ryder (Ireland)  
No division  
Youngock Lee (Korea)  
Emily Coorse (Idaho)  
No division  
Sarah Warhaftig (Colo.)  
No division  
Carolyn Peddle (Can.)  
Shannon Feaster (Md.)  
Shannon Feaster (Md.)  
Claudia Ramirez (Fla.)  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
Debra Bryant (N.C.)  
No division  
Mukai Youku (Japan)  
Michelle Wiragh (Md.)  
Michelle Wiragh (Md.)

### Women's 30+

No division  
Michelle Sikorski (Co.)  
No division  
Shannon Feaster (Md.)  
No division  
No division  
Tracey Hawthorne (Ohio)  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
Vallana Perrault (Minn.)  
Vallana Lundstrom (Pa.)  
Vallana Lundstrom (Minn.)  
Claudia Ramirez (Fla.)  
Etsuko Noda (Japan)  
Heather Dunn (Mass.)  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Lori Lepow (Fla.)  
Shigemi Yasuda (Japan)  
Debbie Tisinger (Calif.)  
Kersten Hallander (Fla.)

### Women's 35+

No division  
No division  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
Vallana Perrault (Minn.)  
Bernadette Zimmerman (Texas)  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
No division  
Tammarrian Rogers (Wash.)  
No division  
No division  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Kelley Beane (N.H.)  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Lorraine Galloway (N.Y.)  
Debra Tisinger (Calif.)  
Kim Machiran (Mo.)

### Women's 40+

Vallana Perrault (Minn.)  
T.J. Baumbaugh (Va.)  
Tammarrian Rogers (Wash.)  
Tammarrian Rogers (Wash.)  
No division

Men's 45+	
2016	Jeff Stark (Calif.)
2015	Keith Minor (I.I.)
2014	Brad McCunniff (Iowa)
2013	Brad McCunniff (Iowa)
2012	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2011	Brad McCunniff (Iowa)
2010	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2009	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2008	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2007	Scott Cullins (Ga.)
2006	Scott Cullins (Ga.)
2005	Richard Mordachini (Miss.)
2004	Miguel Santiago-Cruz (Texas)
2003	Miguel Santiago-Cruz (Texas)
2002	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
2001	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
2000	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1999	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1998	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1997	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1996	Mitt Layton (Fla.)

Men's 50+	
2016	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2015	Doug Ganim (Ohio)
2014	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2013	Jimmy Lowe (Hawaii)
2012	Richard Eisemann (Texas)
2011	Ivan Sanchez (Texas)
2010	Daniel Pischke (Wash.)
2009	Edward Fink (Texas)
2008	Glenn Bell (Texas)
2007	Patrick Gibson (Texas)
2006	Thomas Travers (Fla.)
2005	Greg Campbell (Ore.)
2004	Howard Walker (Texas)
2003	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
2002	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
2001	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
2000	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1999	Mitt Layton (Fla.)
1998	Rick Fusari (Fla.)
1997	Rick Fusari (Fla.)
1996	Ed Remen (Va.)

Men's 55+	
2016	Brian Phillips (S.C.)
2015	Tim Hansen (Fla.)
2014	Wes Snead (N.C.)
2013	Ivan Sanchez (Texas)
2012	Mike Grisz (Texas)
2011	Mark Gilmore (Texas)
2010	Jim Luzar (Wis.)
2009	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2008	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2007	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2006	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2005	R.E. Montague (Pa.)
2004	Ed Remen (N.C.)
2003	Greg Hasty (I.I.)
2002	Dwayne McKnight (Md.)
2001	Ed Remen (N.C.)
2000	Ed Remen (N.C.)
1999	Ray Huss (Ohio)
1998	Warren Reuther (La.)
1997	Glenn Allen (Va.)
1996	Les Barbanell (N.J.)

Men's 60+	
2016	Dave Azuma (Ariz.)
2015	Mark Baron (Va.)
2014	Frank Taddonio (Ariz.)
2013	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2012	Frank Taddonio (Ariz.)
2011	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2010	Joe Lee (Hawaii)
2009	Frank Taddonio (Ariz.)
2008	Greg Hasty (I.I.)

Women's 45+	
2007	Tammarrian Rogers (Wash.)
2006	Marie Gomar (Guatemala)
2005	Marie Gomar (Guatemala)
2004	Marie Gomar (Guatemala)
2003	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2002	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2001	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2000	Debra Tisinger (Calif.)
1999	Debra Tisinger (Calif.)
1998	Debra Tisinger (Calif.)
1997	Debra Tisinger (Calif.)
1996	Debra Tisinger (Calif.)

Women's 50+	
2016	Marie Gomar (Guatemala)
2015	Laura Fenton (Calif.)
2014	Joanne Pomodoro (Mass.)
2013	Meena Evans (N.C.)
2012	Joanne Pomodoro (Mass.)
2011	Meena Evans (N.C.)
2010	Joanne Pomodoro (Mass.)
2009	Shelley Ogden (Ohio)
2008	Janet Myers (N.C.)

Women's 55+	
2016	Marie Gomar (Guatemala)
2015	Laura Fenton Kovanda (Ohio)
2014	Janice Kennedy (Ga.)
2013	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2012	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2011	Linda Moore (Neb.)
2010	Kelly Kirk (Minn.)
2009	Linda Moore (Neb.)
2008	Linda Moore (Neb.)
2007	Linda Moore (Neb.)

Women's 60+	
2016	Robin Whitmire (Georgia)
2015	Janet Tyler (Fla.)
2014	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2013	Debra Tisinger-Moore (Calif.)
2012	Linda Moore (Neb.)
2011	Jill Mitchell (Calif.)
2010	Elaine Dexter (Calif.)
2009	Gerri Stoffregen (Ohio)
2008	Gerri Stoffregen (Ohio)
2007	Terry Rogers (Calif.)

Women's 65+	
2016	Russ Montague (Penns.)
2015	Frank Taddonio (Ariz.)
2014	Gregory Hasty (I.I.)
2013	Jeff Leon (Panama)
2012	Donald Gunderson (Wis.)
2011	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)
2010	Mitch Milewski (N.H.)
2009	Patrick Taylor (I.I.)
2008	Patrick Taylor (I.I.)
2007	Leland Rents (Minn.)

Men's 65+	
2016	Russ Montague (Penns.)
2015	Frank Taddonio (Ariz.)
2014	Gregory Hasty (I.I.)
2013	Jeff Leon (Panama)
2012	Donald Gunderson (Wis.)
2011	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)
2010	Mitch Milewski (N.H.)
2009	Patrick Taylor (I.I.)
2008	Patrick Taylor (I.I.)
2007	Leland Rents (Minn.)

Men's 70+	
2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)
2015	Dave Zabinski (Minn.)
2014	Gordon Kelly (Fla.)
2013	David Zabinski (Minn.)
2012	Howard Nellor (Fla.)
2011	Dave Lund (Mich.)
2010	Lee Graff (Ore.)
2009	Joe Lambert (Texas)
2008	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)
2007	J.D. Driver (Mich.)

Men's 75+	
2016	David Zabinski (Minn.)
2015	No division
2014	Jerry Holly (Calif.)
2013	Jerry Holly (Calif.)
2012	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)
2011	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)
2010	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)
2009	Earl Acuff (N.C.)
2008	Earl Acuff (N.C.)
2007	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)

Men's 80+	
2016	Francis Florey (Colo.)
2015	No division
2014	John O'Donnell Jr. (I.I.)

Women's 70+	
2016	No division
2015	No division
2014	Marquita Molina (Calif.)
2013	Marquita Molina (Calif.)

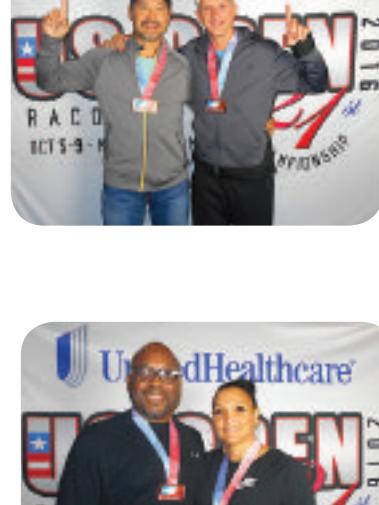
Women's 75+	
2016	No division
2015	No division
2014	Jerry Holly (Calif.)
2013	Jerry Holly (Calif.)

Women's 80+	
2016	No division
2015	No division
2014	No division



## ALL-TIME RECORD BOOK OF SINGLES CHAMPIONS





# ALL-TIME RECORD BOOK OF SINGLES **CHAMPIONS**



## Skill Divisions

Men's Elite	Women's Elite	Men's D	Women's D
2016 Andrew Clarke (New Mexico)	Michele Morissette (Canada)	2016 Jesus Lopez	Marina Yurik (Minn.)
2015 Jose Ubilla (Costa Rica)	Valerie Fallu (Canada)	2015 Gerald Stigall (Minn.)	Nawal Moatassem (Ohio)
2014 Nicolas Bousquet (Canada)	Danielle Drury (Canada)	2014 Darryl Lewis (Ga.)	Jessica Kisling (Minn.)
2013 Alejandro Romo Garcia (Mexico)	Sofia Soley (Costa Rica)	2013 Jose Miramontes (Mexico)	Maria Munoz (Ecuador)
2012 Andres Acuna (Costa Rica)	Melania Sauma (Costa Rica)	2012 Nils Mogensen (III.)	Jennie Jones-Huggins (Ga.)
2011 Kurtis Cullen (Canada)	Natalie McCann (Minn.)	2011 Richard Naidenoff (Venezuela)	Dragana Bulatovic (Texas)
2010 Rob Carey (Minn.)	Melissa McElfresh (Calif.)	2010 Ricardo Ruiz Matus (Chile)	Graciela Gonzalo (Fla.)
2009 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)	Jocelyn Loredo (Mex.)	2009 Leon Rivera (Mich.)	Marilyn Lemmon (Miss.)
2008 Roland Keller (Bolivia)	Jessica Parrilla (Mex.)	2008 Fernando Padron (Mex.)	Sabrina Martinez (Ven.)
<b>Men's A</b>		<b>Women's A</b>	
2016 Javier Martinez (Guatemala)	Felicia Green (Ga.)	2007 Kerry Clark (Ariz.)	Marilyn Lemmon (Miss.)
2015 Ricardo Gomez Barandela (Venezuela)	Maria Riquelme (Chile)	2006 Angel Munoz (Ven.)	Brenda Granados (Mex.)
2014 Juan Francisco Cueva (Ecuador)	Kanesha Madison (Ga.)	2005 Fabian Caballero (Fla.)	No division
2013 Craig Herr (Ala.)	Hollie Scott (Wash.)	2004 Carlos Duran (Dom.Rep.)	Tia Lecland (Mich.)
2012 Jose Ubilla (Costa Rica)	Alexis Iwaasa (Canada)	2003 Jeff Van Horn (Pa.)	Ashley Loyd (Tenn.)
2011 Nick Hand (Fla.)	Michele Morissette (Canada)	2002 Joseph Lee (La.)	Janice Bell (Ga.)
2010 Missael Leija (Mexico)	Natalie McCann (Minn.)	2001 Tom Tierney (Texas)	Viviana Reveron (Venezuela)
2009 Chase Robison (Tex.)	Madeleine Edwards (Tenn.)	2000 Bryan Shaw (Mo.)	Marcelo Moreno (Mexico)
2008 Eric Vought (Ohio)	Ashley Loyd (Tenn.)	1999 Sid Harshavat (III.)	Jamie Johnson (Ohio)
2007 Ignacio Jaimes (Texas)	Cristina Amaya (Colombia)	1998 Lance Hudson (S.C.)	Dominique Winfrey (Ohio)
2006 Cesar Castillo (Ven.)	Jennifer Lynch (Mass.)	1997 Joe Schmitz (Ark.)	Rhonda Lindenman (Okla.)
2005 Allan Hernandez (Texas)	Shannon Inglesby (Ore.)	1996 Leonard Toth (Texas)	Terry Truvillion (Mich.)
2004 Darrel Miller (Wis.)	Fabiola Marquez		
2003 Joe Klibowitz (Wis.)	Harumi Kajino (Japan)		
2002 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)	Claudia Ramirez (Fla.)		
2001 Joey Lakowske (Ore.)	Candi Hostovich (Va.)		
2000 Cory Martin (Wis.)	Robyn Perrin (Tenn.)		
1999 Andy Babinchak (N.D.)	Akiko Saito (Japan)		
1998 Jason Jansen (N.Y.)	Jennifer Hunter (Tenn.)		
1997 David Guentert (Kan.)	Deb Fiordilino (N.Y.)		
1996 Daniel Pischke (Wash.)	Michele Kinan (Calif.)		
<b>Men's B</b>		<b>Women's B</b>	
2016 Tyler Peterson	Heather Mahoney (Calif.)	2016 Jay Ferrer (Fla.)	No division
2015 Brett Eksuzian (Mass.)	Jennie Jones-Huggins (Kentucky)	2015 Alejandro Santos (Venezuela)	No division
2014 Jake Ryan (III.)	Maria Munoz (Ecuador)	2014 Set Cubillos (Colombia)	Ana Velez (Ecuador)
2013 Juan Francisco Cueva (Ecuador)	Sara Leon (Calif.)	2013 Cristian Chávez (Ecuador)	Nawoo Kim (Korea)
2012 Diego Pimentel (Dom.Republic)	Kanesha Madison (Ga.)	2012 Jose Ubilla (Costa Rica)	No division
2011 Jay Mathis (Ga.)	Kathryn Iwaasa (Canada)	2011 Jordan Barth (Minn.)	Michele Morissette (Canada)
2010 Jerry Evarts (Wash.)	Therese Zadnik (Minn.)	2010 Clint Mehta (Texas)	Kelly Gremley (Ind.)
2009 David Walker (Tenn.)	Elizabeth Selaya (Mo.)	2009 Christian Wer (Guatemala)	Mariel Salcido (Calif.)
2008 Armando Vasquez (Calif.)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)	2008 Sebastian Franco (Col.)	Viviana Reveron (Texas)
2007 Chase Stanley (La.)	Sarah O'Brien (Ga.)	2007 Miguel Wiggins (N.M.)	Cristina Amaya (Col.)
2006 Joseph Lee (La.)	Melissa McElfresh (Fla.)	2006 Jorge Nassar (Mass.)	Haley Rollins (Ga.)
2005 Alan Martin (Tenn.)	Holly Hettesheimer (Ohio)	2005 Jansen Allen (Texas)	Sharon Jackson (Ind.)
2004 Erik Becker (Mo.)	Lori Good (III.)	2004 Luis Reveron (Ven.)	Kara Mazur (Conn.)
2003 Brandon Stanley (La.)	Shannon Inglesby (Ore.)	2003 Alberto Donado (Mexico)	Laurie Fisk (Mo.)
2002 Erik Beltran (Canada)	Diana Courtney (Mich.)	2002 Juan Rivas (Mass.)	Keely Franks (Texas)
2001 Andres Ramirez (Fla.)	Kyoko Hirobayashi (Japan)	2001 Joey Lakowske (Ore.)	Kelley Fisher (Ohio)
2000 John Dill (Texas)	Rosario Kelley (Texas)	2000 Shannon Kohl ((Mich.)	Kelley Fisher (Ohio)
1999 Brian Shwer (Tenn.)	Kelley Fisher (Ohio)	1999 Justin Jones (Ohio)	Brenna Bilbrough (Ore.)
1998 Jon Albright (Tenn.)	Akiko Saito (Japan)	1998 Nantille Boards (Tenn.)	Adrienne Fisher (Ohio)
1997 Anthony Borden (Texas)	Kristen Kovar (Neb.)	1997 Andrew Babinchak (N.D.)	Kristen Kovar (Neb.)
1996 Sam Ryder (Wis.)	Yessenia Delbusto (Fla.)	1996 Alain Pujolar (Fla.)	Vallana Perrault (Minn.)
<b>Men's C</b>		<b>Women's C</b>	
2016 Tim Hansen (Fla.)	Laurie Welsh (Fla.)	2016 Srikrka Peelukhana (Minn.)	No division
2015 John Lager (Mich.)	Rei McCormick (Iowa)	2015 Brett Eksuzian (Mass.)	No division
2014 Nicholas Zhindon (Ecuador)	Kelly Johnson (Minn.)	2014 No division	Ivana Sempertegui (Ecuador)
2013 Carlos Acuna (Costa Rica)	Paulina Sempertegui (Ecuador)	2013 Juan Francisco Cueva (Ecu)	Maria Renee Rodriguez (Gua)
2012 Dawud Akbar (Ga.)	Kelly LeBlanc (Ga.)	2012 Diego Pimentel (Dominican Republic)	No division
2011 Craig Sadowski (Minn.)	Yolet Mendez (Venezuela)	2011 Felipe Arenas (Colombia)	No division
2010 Christian Longoria (Mexico)	Raelene Ostberg (Minn.)	2010 Jordan McKnight (Fla.)	Liane Bissonnette (Canada)
2009 Jesus Lara (Fla.)	Emily Brickell (Tenn.)	2009 Gregoria Machado (Ven.)	Rachel Smith (Colo.)
2008 Gregorio Machado (Ven.)	Julia Mouser (Calif.)	2008 Armando Vasquez (Calif.)	No division
2007 Sebastian Franco (Colombia)	Jackie Wray (Ohio)	2007 Chase Stanley (La.)	Monica Escobar (Guatemala)
2006 Chase Stanley (La.)	Tia Lecland (Mich.)	2006 David Perez (Fla.)	No division
2005 Dayan Yamin (Fla.)	Rita Stewart (Ky.)	2005 Teobaldo Fumero (Costa Rica)	No division
2004 Steven Short (La.)	Tori Davis (Calif.)	2004 Jansen Allen (Texas)	Sharon Jackson (Ind.)
2003 Barry Cruthirds (Mich.)	Janice Bell (Ga.)	2003 Carlos Olvedo (Mex.)	Sarah Hettesheimer (Ohio)
2002 Brandon Stanley (La.)	Tomoko Muromachi (Japan)		
2001 Bryan Shaw (Mo.)	Petra Allen (Colo.)		
2000 Drew Toland (Ark.)	Dyan Anderson (Md.)		
1999 Gilbert Said (Calif.)	Lynn Hiorns (III.)		
1998 Phil Gebert (S.C.)	Rhonda Kochis (Okla.)		
1997 Marc Clayton (Ohio)	Terry Truvillion (Mich.)		
1996 Kazushige Oikawa (Japan)	Heather Elliott (Fla.)		
<b>Men's 24- B</b>		<b>Women's 24- B</b>	
2016 No division		2016 No division	
2015 No division		2015 No division	
2014 No division		2014 No division	
2013 No division		2013 No division	
2012 No division		2012 No division	
2011 No division		2011 No division	
2010 No division		2010 No division	
2009 No division		2009 No division	
2008 No division		2008 No division	
2007 No division		2007 No division	
2006 No division		2006 No division	
2005 No division		2005 No division	
2004 No division		2004 No division	
2003 No division		2003 No division	
<b>Men's 24- C</b>		<b>Women's 24- C</b>	
2016 No division		2016 No division	
2015 No division		2015 No division	
2014 No division		2014 No division	
2013 No division		2013 No division	
2012 No division		2012 No division	
2011 No division		2011 No division	
2010 No division		2010 No division	
2009 No division		2009 No division	
2008 No division		2008 No division	
2007 No division		2007 No division	
2006 No division		2006 No division	
2005 No division		2005 No division	
2004 No division		2004 No division	
2003 No division		2003 No division	

2002 Brandon Stanley (La.)  
 2001 Bradley Butler (Tenn.)  
 2000 Drew Toland (Ark.)  
 1999 Brandon Cortese (Mich.)  
 1998 Rex Fisher (Ohio)  
 1997 Shannon Kohl (Mich.)  
 1996 Fabrizio Avelar (Fla.)

**Men's 25+ A**  
 2016 Nic Koch (N. Dakota)  
 2015 Andy Wiegand (Minn.)  
 2014 Kyle Smith (Ind.)  
 2013 Kipp Atwell (La.)  
 2012 Bryan Shaw (Mo.)  
 2011 Quentin Mieure (Fla.)  
 2010 Andrew Kulback (Ohio)  
 2009 Ryan Graham (Wis.)  
 2008 Jose Roldan (Fla.)  
 2007 Ignacio Jaimes (Texas)  
 2006 Francisco Perez (Fla.)  
 2005 Brent McDade (Tenn.)  
 2004 John St. Pierre (Fla.)  
 2003 Jeff Marmer (Ohio)  
 2002 Jason Linnell (Va.)  
 2001 John Halpin (Conn.)  
 2000 Corbin Dirks (N.C.)  
 1999 Bob Jackson (Miss.)  
 1998 Tony Rosales (Alaska)  
 1997 John Ledig (Fla.)  
 1996 Ken Blalock (Texas)

**Men's 25+ B**  
 2016 Srikara Peelukhanna (Minn.)  
 2015 Brett Eksuzian (Mass.)  
 2014 Nic Koch (N.D.)  
 2013 Samuel Gomez (Ill.)  
 2012 Jason Korbol (Minn.)  
 2011 Steven Koshiol (Minn.)  
 2010 Christopher Conrad (Calif.)  
 2009 Jesus Lara (Fla.)  
 2008 Joshua Purdy (Fla.)  
 2007 Mauro Barbosa (Fla.)  
 2006 Aaron Lovering (Ga.)  
 2005 Jason Levoy (Fla.)  
 2004 Jeff Johnson (Mich.)  
 2003 Carlos Ramirez (Fla.)

**Men's 25+ C**  
 2016 Yash Maini (Wisc.)  
 2015 Cole Hartman (Minn.)  
 2014 Aby Thottiyil (Texas)  
 2013 Adam Paulson (Minn.)  
 2012 Dawud Akbar (Ga.)  
 2011 Rudy Olivares Jr. (Texas)  
 2010 Fernando Rodriguez (Venezuela)  
 2009 Yuri Machuca (Md.)  
 2008 Dennis Yamin (Ven.)  
 2007 Josh Gibson (Tenn.)  
 2006 Tyler Scott (Calif.)  
 2005 Jeff Nungesser (Tenn.)  
 2004 Felton Cox (Bahamas)  
 2003 Robert Goldsmith (Fla.)  
 2002 Filipe Veracocchea (Texas)  
 2001 Sid Harshavat (Ill.)  
 2000 John Halpin (Conn.)  
 1999 Emmanuel Drege (Texas)  
 1998 Richard Wells (Ill.)  
 1997 Jesus Inigo (Fla.)  
 1996 No division

**Men's 35+ A**  
 2016 Bill Hall (Texas)  
 2015 Noel O'Callaghan (Ireland)  
 2014 Bryan Shaw (Mo.)  
 2013 Ted Rohlwing (Minn.)  
 2012 Kipp Atwell (La.)  
 2011 Andy Wiegand (Minn.)  
 2010 Paul Krueger (Wis.)  
 2009 Andrew Kulback (Ohio)  
 2008 Marco Mijares (Ga.)  
 2007 Ray Cordero (Colo.)

Holly Hettesheimer (Ohio)  
 Wesley Toland (Ark.)  
 Kiromi Iida (Japan)  
 No division  
 No division  
 Kristie Gisiner (Mo.)  
 No division

**Women's 25+ A**  
 2016 Stephanie Bankes (Wisc.)  
 2015 Heather Olson (Texas)  
 2014 Heather Hojat (Texas)  
 2013 Heather Hojat (Texas)  
 2012 Rebecca Bowman (Ind.)  
 2011 Penny Hietala (Colo.)  
 2010 Yayoi Nagasue (Japan)  
 2009 No division  
 2008 Karen Simon (N.Y.)  
 2007 No division  
 2006 Kimberly Glansberg (Calif.)  
 2005 No division  
 2004 Paula Saad (Mich.)  
 2003 Felicia Mann (Mich.)  
 2002 Hilary Anderson (Ohio)  
 2001 Nathania Stewart (Ga.)  
 2000 Vivian Gomez (Fla.)  
 1999 No division  
 1998 Jill Nelson (Ill.)  
 1997 Ann Doucette (Maine)  
 1996 Angela Burth (Va.)

**Women's 25+ B**  
 2016 No division  
 2015 No division  
 2014 No division  
 2013 Elizabeth Levine (Minn.)  
 2012 Kanessa Madison (Ga.)  
 2011 Yolet Mendez (Venezuela)  
 2010 Penny Hietala (Minn.)  
 2009 No division  
 2008 No division  
 2007 Tish Rodgers (Texas)  
 2006 Ashley Ward (Del.)  
 2005 Dorsinayer Thompson (Fla.)  
 2004 Marci Laramee (Tenn.)  
 2003 Dorsinayer Thompson (Fla.)

**Women's 25+ C**  
 2016 No division  
 2015 No division  
 2014 Victoria Martinez (Texas)  
 2013 Brenda Granados (Mexico)  
 2012 No division  
 2011 No division  
 2010 Heather Olson (Texas)  
 2009 Emily Brickell (Tenn.)  
 2008 No division  
 2007 Brenda Granados (Mexico)  
 2006 Rachel Wolff (Ohio)  
 2005 Tracie Valentine (Md.)  
 2004 Tracie Valentine (Md.)  
 2003 Carolyn Watkins (Ill.)  
 2002 Priscilla Krammer (Fla.)  
 2001 Viviana Reveron (Venezuela)  
 2000 Emilse Cuartas (Argentina)  
 1999 Lynn Hiorns (Ill.)  
 1998 Rhonda Kochis (Okla.)  
 1997 Rhonda Lindemann (Okla.)  
 1996 Tammy Leiting (Wis.)

**Women's 35+ A**  
 2016 Emily Fausser (Ill.)  
 2015 Cari Mory (Ill.)  
 2014 Dragana Bulatovic (Texas)  
 2013 Cindy Herceg (Calif.)  
 2012 Clara O'Brien (Texas)  
 2011 Bernadette Zimmerman (Texas)  
 2010 Clara O'Brien (Texas)  
 2009 Marie Gomar (Guatemala)  
 2008 Thao Le (Va.)  
 2007 Hiroko Asari (Japan)

2006 Rod Van Dyke (Fla.)  
 2005 Mark Davis (Fla.)  
 2004 Edward Fink (Texas)  
 2003 Oscar Barraza (Mex.)  
 2002 Stanley Shaw (Mass.)  
 2001 David Marrero (Puerto Rico)  
 2000 Bill DiGregorio (N.J.)  
 1999 Ron Fowler (Ga.)  
 1998 Don Sanderson (Utah)  
 1997 Gavin Higgins (Tenn.)  
 1996 Geoff Hunter (Fla.)

**Men's 35+ B**  
 2016 Ken Kirkpatrick (Fla.)  
 2015 Paul Dingwitz (Mass.)  
 2014 John Starks (Mo.)  
 2013 Tom Janke (N.D.)  
 2012 Hector Garcia (Mexico)  
 2011 Lorne Renouf (Canada)  
 2010 Jerry Everts (Wash.)  
 2009 Rich Mattheis (Mo.)  
 2008 Ricardo Gutierrez (Mex.)  
 2007 Robert Cole (Okla.)  
 2006 James Campbell (Va.)  
 2005 Stephen Rapp (Mo.)  
 2004 Barry Cruthirds (Miss.)  
 2003 Rom Resendez (Calif.)

**Men's 35+ C**  
 2016 Mark Anderson (Minn.)  
 2015 Glen Bero (Ill.)  
 2014 Roberto Mercillo (Ecuador)  
 2013 Jorge Bacallao (Fla.)  
 2012 Jim Unterberger (Minn.)  
 2011 Richard Naidenoff (Venezuela)  
 2010 Rudy Olivares, Jr. (Texas)  
 2009 Leon Rivera (Mich.)  
 2008 David Wiles (Tenn.)  
 2007 Daniel Russell (Tenn.)  
 2006 Jacques Boisvert (Can.)  
 2005 Jeffrey Van Horn (Pa.)  
 2004 Gonzalo Castillo (Texas)  
 2003 Bill Pobega (Ohio)  
 2002 Jeff Johnson (Mich.)  
 2001 Garry Carter (Calif.)  
 2000 Jeff Bell (Conn.)  
 1999 Kery Hughes (Tenn.)  
 1998 Juan Soto (S.C.)  
 1997 Peter Kochis (Okla.)  
 1996 Preston Gaster (N.C.)

**Men's 45+ A**  
 2016 Mark Crowther (Nebr.)  
 2015 Ted Rohlwing (Minn.)  
 2014 Giovanni Luciano (Minn.)  
 2013 Ryan Rowlands (Texas)  
 2012 Jerry Lis (Mo.)  
 2011 Kipp Atwell (La.)  
 2010 Ryan Rowlands (Texas)  
 2009 Alan Nichols (Ga.)  
 2008 Charlie Andrews (Tenn.)  
 2007 Andrew Kulback (Ohio)  
 2006 Edward Fink (Texas)  
 2005 Derek Kazakos (Fla.)  
 2004 Paul Whitten (Calif.)  
 2003 Edward Fink (Texas)  
 2002 Sal Perconti (Fla.)  
 2001 David Gross (S.D.)  
 2000 Ernesto Cisneros (Mexico)  
 1999 Steve Conn (La.)  
 1998 Walter McDade (Tenn.)  
 1997 Robert Hantske (Md.)  
 1996 Thomas Rall (N.Y.)

**Men's 45+ B**  
 2016 Timothy Pladson (Minn.)  
 2015 Rick Moses (Calif.)  
 2014 Kurt Ross (N.D.)  
 2013 Tom Janke (N.D.)  
 2012 Daan Klem (Minn.)  
 2011 Terry Delaney (N.D.)

Debra Lynn Kahik (Calif.)  
 Paula Saad (Mich.)  
 Vivian Rodriguez (Wash.)  
 Karen Mickel (Ga.)  
 Felicia Mann (Mich.)  
 Karen Green (Mich.)  
 Laura Woodbury (Va.)  
 Madeleine Edwards (Tenn.)  
 Mary Crawford (Ill.)  
 Lori Edmonds (Neb.)  
 Rose Cornelius (Calif.)

**Women's 35+ B**  
 2016 Esmeralda Graham (Louis.)  
 2015 Jennie Jones (Kent.)  
 2014 Joy Herth (Ill.)  
 2013 Nancy Davis (Mo.)  
 2012 Nancy Davis (Mo.)  
 2011 Nancy Davis (Mo.)  
 2010 Tracie Valentine (Md.)  
 2009 No result  
 2008 No division  
 2007 Beth Gainer (Pa.)  
 2006 Eva Alle (Ga.)  
 2005 Lynn Yeazell (Ill.)  
 2004 Sue Hunt (Miss.)  
 2003 Jeannette Clark (Can.)

**Women's 35+ C**  
 2016 No division  
 2015 Esmeralda Graham (Louis.)  
 2014 No division  
 2013 Felicia Green (Ga.)  
 2012 Jennie Jones-Huggins (Ga.)  
 2011 Dragana Bulatovic (Texas)  
 2010 Becca Brinkman (Minn.)  
 2009 No result  
 2008 Nancy Davis (Mo.)  
 2007 Nancy Davis (Mo.)  
 2006 Laya Lee (Ga.)  
 2005 No division  
 2004 Laurell Burrows (Fla.)  
 2003 Eunsook Kim (Korea)  
 2002 Susan Simmons (Tenn.)  
 2001 Jessica Hamlin (Fla.)  
 2000 No division  
 1999 Sharon Curran-Wilks (N.C.)  
 1998 No division  
 1997 Terri Truvillion (Mich.)  
 1996 Kassi Herr (Fla.)

**Women's 45+ A**  
 2016 Georgette Blomquist (Oregon)  
 2015 Therese Zadnik Klecker (Minn.)  
 2014 No division  
 2013 Hiroko Asari (Japan)  
 2012 Barb Hoffner (Minn.)  
 2011 Marie Gomar (Guatemala)  
 2010 Laura Woodbury (Va.)  
 2009 Sandy Long (Texas)  
 2008 Laura Natividad (Hawaii)  
 2007 Chizuko Furuta (Japan)  
 2006 Diane Chappel (N.Y.)  
 2005 No division  
 2004 Karen Green (Mich.)  
 2003 Beth Sacco (La.)  
 2002 Karen Green (Mich.)  
 2001 Cheryl Kirk (Ill.)  
 2000 Kay McCarthy (Tenn.)  
 1999 Kay McCarthy (Tenn.)  
 1998 Sharon Huczak (Mich.)  
 1997 Kay McCarthy (Tenn.)  
 1996 Margaret Hoff (Ill.)

**Women's 45+ B**  
 2016 Anita Johnson-Pena (Texas)  
 2015 Marsha Johnson (Georgia)  
 2014 Esther Lozano (Calif.)  
 2013 Robbie Mack (Wis.)  
 2012 Zia Yang (Texas)  
 2011 Therese Zadnik (Minn.)



## ALL-TIME RECORD BOOK OF SINGLES CHAMPIONS



**Due to space limitations, doubles divisions could not be reported in this issue.**



ALL-TIME  
RECORD BOOK OF  
SINGLES  
**CHAMPIONS**



2010	Steve Carroll (Minn.)	Therese Zadnick (Minn.)	2008	Ronald Harris (Texas)	Kathy Krueger (Mo.)
2009	Girish Vallabhan (Texas)	Elaine Ransom (Ariz.)	2007	Navin Deo (Ill.)	Judy Huneycutt (Ark.)
2008	Ron Wheeler	No division	2006	Alfredo Radillo (Mexico)	No division
2007	Mark Candy (Mich.)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)	2005	Bob Lampley (Miss.)	No division
2006	Allen Lawrence (Miss.)	No division	2004	James Douglas Key (Ala.)	No division
2005	Michael Nichols (Ark.)	Loretta Seager (Kan.)	2003	Charles Van Hoose (Mich.)	Patty Caldwell (Tenn.)
2004	Rick Grace (Texas)	Grace Jaworsky (Mo.)	2002	Don Russell (Miss.)	Aurora Bocanegra (Kan.)
2003	Joerg Leinemann (Md.)	Alyse Cori (Calif.)	2001	Ben Brewster (Texas)	No division
			2000	Willie Davenport (Va.)	No division
			1999	Leo Kouremetis (Alaska)	No division
			1998	Ralph Temple (Ga.)	No division
			1997	Norman Copeland (Ala.)	No division
		<b>Men's 45+ C</b>			<b>Men's 65+ A</b>
2016	Darrin McNally (Calif.)	Laurie Welsh (Florida)	2016	Doug Hammonds (Calif.)	No division
2015	Ray Cornell (Colo.)	Chris Cerny (Ind.)	2015	David Wolfson (Georgia)	No division
2014	Kevin Deyo (Colo.)	Jackie Wray (Ohio)	2014	Tony Alfaro (Calif.)	No division
2013	John Provan (Calif.)	Marsha Johnson (Ga.)	2013	Ron Miller (N.D.)	No division
2012	Samir Music (Neb.)	Kimberly Franklin (Ga.)			
2011	Ben Howell, III (Ala.)	Denise Berto (Va.)			
2010	Darrin McNally (Ore.)	Rosa Smith (Texas)			
2009	John Peloso (Fla.)	No division			
2008	David Mimms (Ky.)	Elaine Ransom (Ariz.)			
2007	Navin Deo (Ill.)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2006	Ed Garrison (Tenn.)	Marilyn Lemmon (Miss.)			
2005	Danny Borden (Ky.)	Tia Lecland (Mich.)			
2004	Tom Gibbons (Can.)	Tia Lecland (Mich.)			
2003	Terrance Holt (Ind.)	Deborah Reauso (Mich.)			
2002	Larry Knetzger (Ga.)	Genie Martin (N.C.)			
2001	Sez Ozden (Ga.)	Jessica Hamlin (Fla.)			
2000	Garry Carter (Calif.)	Jan Stelma (N.C.)			
1999	Donald Acklin (Pa.)	No division			
1998	Jack Morgenroth (Ohio)	No division			
1997	Peter Kochis (Okla.)	Martine Dorner (N.C.)			
		<b>Men's 55+ A</b>			<b>Men's 65+ C</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	Cari Mory (Ill.)	2013	Kyle Smith (Texas)	No division
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	No division	2012	Ron Miller (North Dakota)	Kelly LeBlanc (Ga.)
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2011	Bill Stein (Minn.)	No division			
2010	Brad Cress (Texas)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2009	George Henshaw (La.)	Kathleen Ruzicky (Ill.)			
2008	Kim Keltner (Mo.)	Shirley Parsons (Colo.)			
2007	Tyrone White (Ala.)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2006	Robert Steele (Va.)	Sandy Gross (Tenn.)			
2005	David Gross (Tenn.)	Susan Kieffer (Minn.)			
2004	Garry Carter (Calif.)	Dee Stribling (N.C.)			
2003	Thomas Curran (Ohio)	Andee Glansberg (N.Y.)			
2002	Leo Klimaitis (Ill.)	Sharon Brockbank (Iowa)			
2001	Jerald Kriger (Va.)	No division			
2000	Paul Pearce (Texas)	No division			
1999	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1998	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1997	George Tashie (Tenn.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
1996	Jay Krevsky (Pa.)	No division			
		<b>Men's 55+ B</b>			<b>Men's Military Singles</b>
2016	Richard Seaberg (Ill.)	No division	09-11	No division	
2015	Lamon Marchbanks (Minn.)	Dotti White (Texas)	2008	Justin James (Miss.)	
2014	Bob Mayo (Neb.)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2013	Ronald Harris (Texas)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2012	No result recorded	Dotti White (Texas)			
2011	Ray Redelman (Ill.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2010	Chris Poucher (Ga.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2009	Gary Buckmaster (Texas)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2008	George Henshaw (La.)	No division			
2007	Billy Askins (Texas)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2006	Darrell Crocker (Mo.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2005	Billy Askins (Texas)	No division			
2004	Kenneth Foster (Texas)	No division			
2003	Garry Carter (Calif.)	No division			
		<b>Men's 55+ C</b>			<b>Men's Heroes Singles - Open / A</b>
2016	David Hurt (Oregon)	No division	2016	Paul Julbes (Wash.)	
2015	Jeff O'Hern (Iowa)	Cindy Barnes (Georgia)	2015	Gerry Price (Calif.)	
2014	Brian Rissinger (Pa.)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2013	J. Hancuch (Minn.)	Joyce Satorius (Ill.)			
2012	David Olson (Minn.)	Diane Martin (Ga.)			
2011	Ron Berquist (Minn.)	No division			
2010	Kevin Webb (N.C.)	No division			
2009	David Roth (Tenn.)	No division			
		<b>Women's 55+ B</b>			<b>Men's Heroes Singles - B / C</b>
2016	Richard Seaberg (Ill.)	No division	2016	David Bandelier (Ariz.)	
2015	Lamon Marchbanks (Minn.)	Dotti White (Texas)	2015	Adam Paulson (Minn.)	
2014	Bob Mayo (Neb.)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2013	Ronald Harris (Texas)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2012	No result recorded	Dotti White (Texas)			
2011	Ray Redelman (Ill.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2010	Chris Poucher (Ga.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2009	Gary Buckmaster (Texas)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2008	George Henshaw (La.)	No division			
2007	Billy Askins (Texas)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2006	Darrell Crocker (Mo.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2005	Billy Askins (Texas)	No division			
2004	Kenneth Foster (Texas)	No division			
2003	Garry Carter (Calif.)	No division			
		<b>Women's 55+ C</b>			<b>Men's 70+</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	Cari Mory (Ill.)	2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	No division	2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2011	Bill Stein (Minn.)	No division			
2010	Brad Cress (Texas)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2009	George Henshaw (La.)	Kathleen Ruzicky (Ill.)			
2008	Kim Keltner (Mo.)	Shirley Parsons (Colo.)			
2007	Tyrone White (Ala.)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2006	Robert Steele (Va.)	Sandy Gross (Tenn.)			
2005	David Gross (Tenn.)	Susan Kieffer (Minn.)			
2004	Garry Carter (Calif.)	Dee Stribling (N.C.)			
2003	Thomas Curran (Ohio)	Andee Glansberg (N.Y.)			
2002	Leo Klimaitis (Ill.)	Sharon Brockbank (Iowa)			
2001	Jerald Kriger (Va.)	No division			
2000	Paul Pearce (Texas)	No division			
1999	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1998	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1997	George Tashie (Tenn.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
1996	Jay Krevsky (Pa.)	No division			
		<b>Men's 75+</b>			<b>Men's 80</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	Cari Mory (Ill.)	2016	Francis Florey (Colo.)	
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	No division	2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Cheryl Jones (Minn.)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2011	Bill Stein (Minn.)	No division			
2010	Brad Cress (Texas)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2009	George Henshaw (La.)	Kathleen Ruzicky (Ill.)			
2008	Kim Keltner (Mo.)	Shirley Parsons (Colo.)			
2007	Tyrone White (Ala.)	Sharon Huczek (Mich.)			
2006	Robert Steele (Va.)	Sandy Gross (Tenn.)			
2005	David Gross (Tenn.)	Susan Kieffer (Minn.)			
2004	Garry Carter (Calif.)	Dee Stribling (N.C.)			
2003	Thomas Curran (Ohio)	Andee Glansberg (N.Y.)			
2002	Leo Klimaitis (Ill.)	Sharon Brockbank (Iowa)			
2001	Jerald Kriger (Va.)	No division			
2000	Paul Pearce (Texas)	No division			
1999	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1998	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1997	George Tashie (Tenn.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
1996	Jay Krevsky (Pa.)	No division			
		<b>Men's Military Singles</b>			<b>Men's 70+</b>
09-11	No division		2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2008	Justin James (Miss.)		2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
		<b>Men's Heroes Singles - Open / A</b>			<b>Men's 75+</b>
2016	Paul Julbes (Wash.)		2016	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2015	Gerry Price (Calif.)		2015	Donald Sperber (Fla.) - 75/80 Combined	
		<b>Men's Heroes Singles - B / C</b>			<b>Men's 80</b>
2016	David Bandelier (Ariz.)		2016	Francis Florey (Colo.)	
2015	Adam Paulson (Minn.)		2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
		<b>Women's 55+ B</b>			<b>Men's 70+</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	No division	2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	Candi White (Texas)	2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2011	Bill Stein (Minn.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2010	Brad Cress (Texas)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2009	George Henshaw (La.)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2008	Kim Keltner (Mo.)	No division			
2007	Tyrone White (Ala.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2006	Robert Steele (Va.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2005	David Gross (Tenn.)	No division			
2004	Garry Carter (Calif.)	No division			
2003	Thomas Curran (Ohio)	No division			
2002	Leo Klimaitis (Ill.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
2001	Jerald Kriger (Va.)	No division			
2000	Paul Pearce (Texas)	No division			
1999	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1998	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1997	George Tashie (Tenn.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
1996	Jay Krevsky (Pa.)	No division			
		<b>Women's 55+ C</b>			<b>Men's 75+</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	No division	2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	Candi White (Texas)	2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2011	Bill Stein (Minn.)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2010	Brad Cress (Texas)	Susan Schatz (Minn.)			
2009	George Henshaw (La.)	Nancy Hodges (Ohio)			
2008	Kim Keltner (Mo.)	No division			
2007	Tyrone White (Ala.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2006	Robert Steele (Va.)	Marquita Molina (Calif.)			
2005	David Gross (Tenn.)	No division			
2004	Garry Carter (Calif.)	No division			
2003	Thomas Curran (Ohio)	No division			
2002	Leo Klimaitis (Ill.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
2001	Jerald Kriger (Va.)	No division			
2000	Paul Pearce (Texas)	No division			
1999	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1998	Ken Foster (Texas)	No division			
1997	George Tashie (Tenn.)	Pauline Kelly (Ill.)			
1996	Jay Krevsky (Pa.)	No division			
		<b>Men's Military Singles</b>			<b>Men's 70+</b>
09-11	No division		2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2008	Justin James (Miss.)		2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
		<b>Men's Heroes Singles - Open / A</b>			<b>Men's 75+</b>
2016	Paul Julbes (Wash.)		2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2015	Gerry Price (Calif.)		2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
		<b>Men's Heroes Singles - B / C</b>			<b>Men's 80</b>
2016	David Bandelier (Ariz.)		2016	Francis Florey (Colo.)	
2015	Adam Paulson (Minn.)		2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
		<b>Women's 55+ B</b>			<b>Men's 70+</b>
2016	Stanley Sisson (Texas)	No division	2016	Robert Lattanzio (Calif.)	
2015	Tom Neal (Ill.)	Candi White (Texas)	2015	David Zabinski (Minn.)	
2014	Larry Matula (Texas)	Ly Abbott (Texas)			
2013	Rick Betts (Calif.)	Dotti White (Texas)			
2012	George Brewer (Wash.)	Dotti White (Texas			

USA RACQUETBALL PRESENTS



HEAD



2018

# NATIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

FEBRUARY 7TH-11TH, 2018 • TEMPE, AZ  
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# CALENDAR of EVENTS

For the latest in USA Racquetball Sanctioned Events visit [USARacquetball.com](http://USARacquetball.com)

Date	Event	City	State	Location	Email
Oct. 6-8	Tucson Open	Tucson	AZ	Tucson Racquet and Fitness Club	maximus@utmax.com
Oct. 6-8	Killer Open	Centennial	CO	Goodsen Rec Center	bruceb@ssprd.org
Oct. 7-8	Scarlet Night Open	Piscataway	NJ	Rutgers Racquetball Club	matt@mfontanilla.com
Oct. 7-8	Aces of Antioch	Antioch	CA	In-Shape Sport: Antioch	ellistyle@comcast.net
Oct. 11-14	Huntsman World Senior Games	St. George	UT	St. George Rec Center	kevin@kbdesign1.com
Oct. 12-15	Jerry Bower Memorial	Salem	OR	Courthouse Athletic Club North	Henderson_ang@yahoo.com
Oct. 20-22	Glass Court Invitational	Lombard	IL	Glass Court Swim & Fitness	dan@glasscourt.com
Oct. 20-22	Orange and Blue Shootout	Gainesville	FL	University of Florida, Southwest Rec Center	gatorsball@gmail.com
Oct. 20-22	Inland Empire Classic	Spokane	WA	Spokane Club - Downtown	premierracquet@gmail.com
Oct. 20-22	Ghostly Classic	Herndon	VA	Worldgate Sport & Health	billracquetball@gmail.com
Oct. 20-22	Texas State Doubles Racquetball Championships	Arlington	TX	Maverick Athletic Club	leo@themav.com
Oct. 20-22	Tournament of Terror	Reseda	CA	USA Fitness MegaCenter	rjlam@hotmail.com
Oct. 20-22	PSRA Free USAR Membership Tournament	Feasterville	PA	AFC Fitness - Feasterville	josh@pa-racquetball.com
Oct. 20-22	Arizona State Racquetball Doubles Champs.	Tempe	AZ	Arizona State University Sun Devil Fitness	darin.randles@cox.net
Oct. 21	HOPE for a Cure Breast Cancer Shootout	Lilburn	GA	Recreation Atl	womensball@gmail.com
Oct. 28	Annual Ghostly Doubles	San Antonio	TX	Gold's Gym HCV	venitamitchell@hotmail.com
Oct. 27-29	Boston Open LPRT Stop	Peabody	MA	Latitude Sports Clubs	solomonracquetandsports@gmail.com
Oct. 28-29	Dare to Dream Shootout	Stockton	CA	In-Shape Sport: West Lane	ellistyle@comcast.net
Nov. 4	Midwest Shootout Challenge Series	Huber Heights	OH	The Heights Racquet & Fitness Club	fabriziomora75@gmail.com
Nov. 2-5	Atlanta IRT Pro-Am	Lilburn	GA	Recreation Atl	auchad99@hotmail.com
Nov. 3-5	Virginia State Doubles Championships	Midlothian	VA	American Family Fitness - Midlothian	ewatkins@amfamfit.com
Nov. 3-5	Marigold Resources Quad City Open	Edridge	IA	Eldridge Rec & Fitness	joshpaul1982@gmail.com
Nov. 11	Maryland State Doubles Championship	Laurel	MD	SportFit Total Fitness Racquet Club	msfeb14th@icloud.com
Nov. 11-12	Long Island Open	Bay Shore	NY	World Gym	jonathan@wearrollout.com
Nov. 1-18	Ochsner Fitness Center's Turkey Shootout	Harahan	LA	Ochsner Fitness Center, Harahan	racpres99@aol.com
Nov. 18-19	Concord Turkey Shootout	Concord	CA	In-Shape Sport: Concord	ellistyle@comcast.net
Nov. 18-19	Aggieland Classic Fall	College Station	TX	Texas A&M Student Recreation Center	jrugger99@tamu.edu
Nov. 30 - Dec. 3	John Pellham Memorial / Pro Kennex TOC	Portland	OR	Multnomah Athletic Club	jeffclark1111@comcast.net
Dec. 1-3	NMRA Doubles	Pleasanton	CA	ClubSport Pleasanton	cindy.tilbury@att.net
Dec. 1-3	WRT Alamo City Open	San Antonio	TX	Thousand Oaks Family YMCA	tournamentdirector@alamoracquetball.org
Dec. 2-3	Florida International Senior Games	Port Richey	FL	Richey Racquet Club	jtrimble1255@gmail.com
Dec. 8 -10	Mountain Madness Racquetball Tournament	Gatlinburg	TN	Gatlinburg Community Center	melissaw@gatlinburgtn.gov

# CALENDAR of EVENTS



Date	Event	City	State	Location	Email
Dec. 11	WOR San Ann Shootout	San Antonio	FL	San Antonio City Park	vaulthigh26@hotmail.com
Jan. 5 - 8	Georgia State Doubles Championships	Atlanta	GA	TBD	grp@tournaments@earthlink.net
Jan. 5 - 8	Pennsylvania State Doubles Championship	York	PA	Athletic Club of York	N/A
Jan. 12 - 14	WSMRA National Championships	Tucson	AZ	Tucson Racquet & Fitness Club	cindy.tilbury@att.net
Jan. 12 - 14	New Jersey Open	Warren	NJ	The Racquet Club at Warren	jonathan@wearrollout.com
Jan. 18 - 21	Beaver Classic	Corvallis	OR	Timberhill Athletic Club	durbin_rob@comcast.net
Feb. 15 - 18	Mt. Hood Doubles	Sandy	OR	Mt. Hood Athletic Club	N/A



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## UPDATES FROM THE 40+ NMRA CROWD

### Courting the 80+ Group

The NMRA is committed to hosting high-quality tournaments for players 40 and over. We try to be competitive, via our round-robin format, as well as collegial, by way of self-refeing and lots of interaction.

We are particularly proud of our 80+ players! We are giving all 80+ players free tournament entry fees for the next year to encourage them to continue to play, participate, and grace us with their presence, perspectives, and unique personalities. As someone who helps run the tournament desk, I appreciate their courtesy, politeness, and charm.

We are honored to have inducted one of their cohorts, Mike Martin from Colorado, into the NMRA Hall of Fame. Mike has been an unflagging supporter of the NMRA as well as a constant participant and frequent victor in our events. His efforts at encouraging his fellow 80+ players to play are greatly appreciated.

Speaking for the NMRA Board of Directors, we want NMRA players to continue to follow the example of our 80+ members: to play, to have fun, to promote the game, to remain fit, and to enjoy life to the fullest.



Top: 2017 Milwaukee Men's 80 Doubles Medal Winners James Funk and Mike Martin  
Photo by Cindy Tilbury

### Next NMRA Events

Think about joining us at one of the upcoming events and we will make sure you have a great time!

- December 1-3, 2017, Pleasanton, California: 40+ Doubles Only (It's early, but you can sign up on R2Sports now). For this event, we are trying something a little different -- Friday, Saturday, and Sunday play only. We know 40+ people have jobs and kids, so for this one event, we are seeing if we can draw some players who don't have extra vacation time.
- May 2-5, 2018, Warren, New Jersey: 40+ (Online registration soon). This will be the first time we have been to Warren and the Warren Health and Fitness Club. With help from Jonathan Clay, we will be part of their Rollout series of events in the region.
- July 25-28, 2018, Denver, Colorado. More information to come soon.

Look for updates on the new NMRA website soon: [www.nmra.info](http://www.nmra.info)

### Special Congratulations

In addition to Mike Martin, two more people were recently inducted into the NMRA Hall of Fame, and we are proud of their accomplishments within our organization. Gladys Leonard of Alabama accepted her plaque in Milwaukee, and Andy Gomer of Virginia got a big surprise when our group went to Virginia to honor his contributions to the NMRA. Ralph Stillman of Minnesota will be formally inducted soon.



Above: NMRA 2017 Hall of Fame inductees Mike Martin and Gladys Leonard  
Photo by Bruce Adams

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES/INSTRUCTORS



Coaches/instructors exert a profound impact on our junior and collegiate athletes. As such, whether coaches are compensated or work solely as volunteers, they are responsible for providing professional coaching.

The USAR-IP program strives to provide the most up-to-date information available in our sport as well as guidance to eliminate any negative impact associated with improper instruction. USAR-IP Instructors are required to pass the SafeSport Education and a background check to further ensure the safety of their athletes. The following Code of Conduct outlines optimal behaviors as well as do's and don'ts for professional coaches/instructors.

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES/INSTRUCTORS

1. Coaches/instructors take responsibility for athletes' well-being and development.
2. Coaches/instructors accept that they serve as role models, and as such, their actions must live up to their words.
3. Coaches/instructors exemplify ethical behaviors including honesty, integrity, fair play, and sportsmanship. These are life-long lessons that take precedence over any emphasis on winning.
4. Coaches/instructors recognize the power and influence of their position with respect to athletes. Therefore, they are careful to avoid and refrain from exhibiting behaviors that could develop into personal relationships or even create the perception of intimacy with athletes.
5. Coaches/instructors refrain from direct physical contact with players. The coach will ask permission from the student before touching him/her while illustrating certain mechanical techniques.
6. Coaches/instructors prohibit the use of alcohol, tobacco, and any illegal or recreational drug.
7. Coaches/instructors practice safe training and conditioning techniques that are current as well as exhibit sound injury and risk management practices.
8. Coaches/instructors are knowledgeable (certified) in basic first aid and injury prevention.
9. Coaches/instructors place athletes' needs and interests above their own.
10. Coaches/instructors understand that players' well-being has priority over winning.

### USA Racquetball Hall of Fame Memorabilia

USA Racquetball in conjunction with Past President Randy Stafford is collecting racquetball memorabilia to be displayed at the 25th Annual UnitedHealthcare US Open. Under Randy's leadership, these items will also find their way to a new USA Racquetball Hall of Fame located in Memphis, Tennessee, after the event. If you have a significant item that you would like to have included in this display, please contact Randy Stafford at [thecourtcompany@aol.com](mailto:thecourtcompany@aol.com) for more information.



## ASHAWAY ADDS FOUR PROFESSIONAL RACQUETBALL PLAYERS To Its 2017 Sponsorship Team

Ashaway has added four new players to its 2017 Professional Sponsorship Team for racquetball. They include Felipe Camacho, Alejandro Herrera, Daniel Rojas, and Gabriela Martinez. The Ashaway Sponsorship Team is designed to support rising professional players in the sport of racquetball. The member package includes the player's choice of Ashaway Racquetball String as well as significant performance incentives. Ashaway has been the "Official String of USA Racquetball" for over 15 years and supports more than 100 top amateur players nationwide with string sponsorships.

Currently #14 in singles on the IRT Tour, Felipe Camacho lives in Pueblo, Colorado, but is originally from San Jose, Costa Rica, where he began playing in 1998 at the age of 10. Since then, he has risen steadily, just as the sport has all over Latin America. Of his success, Camacho says, "I don't think about success when I go to tournaments. I am not thinking about winning the match, just about each point at a time. More than numbers, I have goals mentally." Felipe uses Ashaway UltraKill® 17 in his E-Force Dark Star 170 at 33 lbs. tension.

Alejandro Herrera ranks #36 on the IRT Tour in singles. He lives in Miami but hails from Cali, Colombia. He recently won the Sioux Falls Open Doubles tournament and plays with a Head Radical 170 frame, strung with Ashaway PowerKill® 17 at 31 lbs. for the mains and 29 lbs. for crosses. He says he's, "proud and very happy" to be part of the Ashaway Sponsorship Team.

Gabriela "Gaby" Martinez, is currently ranked #15 in singles on the LPRT Tour and plays out of Guatemala City, Guatemala. Her goal is to move into the LPRT top 12 by the end of 2017. Gaby strings Ashaway PowerKill 17 in her E-Force Dark Star 160 frame at 35 lbs. Gaby will be competing in Girls 18 & Under singles and doubles as a member of Guatemala's Junior National Team at the IRF World Championships in November.

Mauro Daniel Rojas is from Stockton, California, and is a cousin of José and Marco Rojas who are both ranked in the IRT top 10 in singles. Daniel will be competing in Boys 18 & Under singles and doubles as a member of the US Junior National Team at the IRF World Championships in November. He is currently ranked at #33 and uses SuperKill® 17 at 38 lbs. in his HEAD Radical 170 XT frame. He hopes to break into the IRT Top 20 next season.

## Ladies' Day A Big Success

By Frank Taddonio

Photo Courtesy of Susan Boulanger

Susan Boulanger, Chairperson of the Women's Activities Committee of the Racquetball Players Association Arizona (RPAA), planned, coordinated, and conducted a special ladies' day event on July 15th at the Marana LA Fitness (northwest of Tucson). The event was intended to promote racquetball in Arizona as well as to increase the number of ladies on the courts and increase participation in organized events. There was no charge for the event, the courts were scheduled in advance, and the format was doubles to ensure everyone was active and having fun.

Susan had conducted a successful initial activity a few months earlier with a small group of ladies and decided to try to increase the level of participation by announcing the event using several forms of media. She initiated the advertising with Facebook, then added the support of RPAA by announcing the event on the association's website. We also received support from USAR to use R2 Sports to notify RPAA ladies that they were all invited for a fun activity and to socialize with the other ladies. All this worked very effectively. The turnout was great! Twenty-one enthusiastic and fabulous players participated in the event. They ranged from first-time players to veteran competitors. All levels were welcome.

"Pistol Pete" Prucha and Michelle Couch attended the event to lend their support and assistance. Pete provided the game balls and led the cheerleading efforts. Once the fun doubles play was finished, the group celebrated with Mexican food and margaritas: a perfect end to a perfect day!

This activity was designed for fun and to let the women racquetball players know they are very important to our sport and much appreciated. Arizona has a great deal of racquetball talent, and we hope to see more and more ladies at our upcoming events. Having the RPAA Board of Directors' support and encouragement for this special day was very beneficial and greatly appreciated.

We can't wait to see these fierce and talented ladies at future competitions! Finally, special thanks to Susan Boulanger for seizing the initiative and organizing such a worthwhile and fun event.



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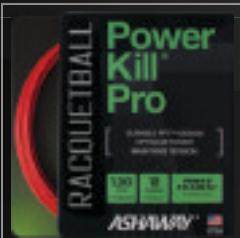
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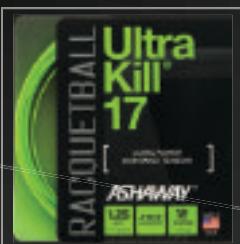
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