



NCRA, Inc.

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Anyone interested in serving on this volunteer Board can submit a petition with 25 valid USRA dues paying member signatures OR ask a Board member to recommend your name to the election committee.

THE WALL NUT JOURNAL

The official Newsletter of the North Carolina Racquetball Association, Inc.

2001 North Carolina State Singles Champions



Meena Evans & Mitch Williams

Inside:

- Notes and Quotes • What's the Call • Tournament Schedule
- Tournament Results

Notes and Quotes from the prez:

Congratulations to all the winners in the 2001 North Carolina State Singles Championships. There were 129 players, who played a total of 211 matches. Matches ran ahead all weekend. The raffle and silent auction were a success. I think everyone had a good time. I'd like to thank the NC Board of Directors, Lynn Moffitt and the entire Sports Center staff for coming together to make this a great tournament. The State Doubles will be held August 10 - 12 this year. We don't have a site yet but letters have been sent to clubs within the state to solicit interest. We're going to try some-



thing different this year to determine where the tournament will be held. I hope this will give the NCRA more control over the tournament and give the players a better all around experience.

The work is almost completed on having our rankings automatically updated on our web site. We appreciate your patience and hope to have it up and running in the next 30 days.

We were pleased to learn at the Leadership Conference that North Carolina's membership was up to 552 and we had moved from 14th to 12th place in the nation in members. Our goal for next year is 650. We need everyone's help to meet this goal. Bring a friend to racquetball. Tell them about the great member pack we give to all first time members. Tell them about Racquetball magazine. They don't have to be tournament players to join. Everyone can benefit from a NCRA/USRA membership.

I have had several requests from players to rerun an article I wrote in a previous Wall Nut Journal. So here it is: I'd like to address respect at a tournament. Not respect for the other players. I think most of the players in this state do that now. I'm talking about respect for the club where you're playing. Many times we don't realize the extra burden we put on a club when we play a tournament. We increase the load on the facilities, the personnel, and the club owners. Clubs often have to stay open extra hours to accommodate us. Employees have to work extra hours that they

would normally be spending with their families. Club members may not be able to attend classes they normally would because we're using their aerobic room for hospitality.

So remember when you're at the next tournament: Put your towels in the proper hampers or return them to the desk. Don't leave them on the floor of the locker room or shower. Don't leave trash (water bottles, empty ball cans, broken balls, food plates) lying around. Put it in the trash can. Don't abuse the facility. (Slamming court doors, hitting your racquet against anything) Remember that we are their guests. Keep your children under constant supervision or put them in childcare. Besides the liability involved should your child get hurt, children running free around the club is very disrespectful to the club's members.

So have fun at your next tournament, but remember to have RESPECT. Keep 'em rolling, the prez.

National Board Nominee



Jan Stelma, immediate past president of the NCRA, has been nominated for the Board of Directors of the USRA. This gives North Carolina a chance to have a voice in the issues that we face on the national level. When you see the ballot in your Racquetball Magazine please take the time to vote for Jan. We know she'll do her best to make positive changes for the country, the same way she did for North Carolina in her term as President.

Upcoming Tournaments

May 18 - 20	Crystal Coast Classic	Sports Center	Morehead	252-726-7070
June 15 - 17	Summer Slammer	Courts Plus	Jacksonville	910-346-3446
June 22 - 24	Summer Bash	Vision Sports	Asheville	828-252-0222
July 13 - 15	Big Brothers/Big Sisters	Courts Plus	New Bern	252-633-2221
August	Christy Foundation Summer 2001			
Aug. 10 - 12	NCRA State Doubles Championships	TBA		
Sept. 14 - 16	OutBack Blast It!	The Sports Center	Fayetteville	910-864-3303
Sept. 21 - 23	Fall Classic	Central YMCA	Charlotte	704-333-7771
Oct. 19 - 21	Racquetball October Fest	Family Y	Goldsboro	919-778-8557
Nov. 9 - 11	Turkey Shoot	Vision Sports	Asheville	828-252-0222
Nov. 30 - Dec. 2	Big Brothers/ Big Sisters	Courts Plus	Jacksonville	910-346-3446

December 1-3, 2000

Big Brothers / Big Sisters

Jacksonville, NC

MEN

OPEN	1 Brent Walters	2 Bill Savoy
A	1 Ron Sutek	2 Tommy Pugh
B	1 Warren Davis	2 Vic Corey
C	1 Brian Jacoby	2 Al Justice
D	1 Asher Hoffman	2 Jonathon Justice
Novice	1 Glen Strickland	2 Ron Mathias
25/35+	1 Tim Wayt	2 Ron Sutek
45+	1 Charlie Hauser	2 Norm Bottoms

WOMEN

Open	1 Catherine Land	2 Kristen Sutek
C	1 Molly Hedgecock	2 Cherie Lamb
All Age	1 Molly Hedgecock	2 Jan Stelma

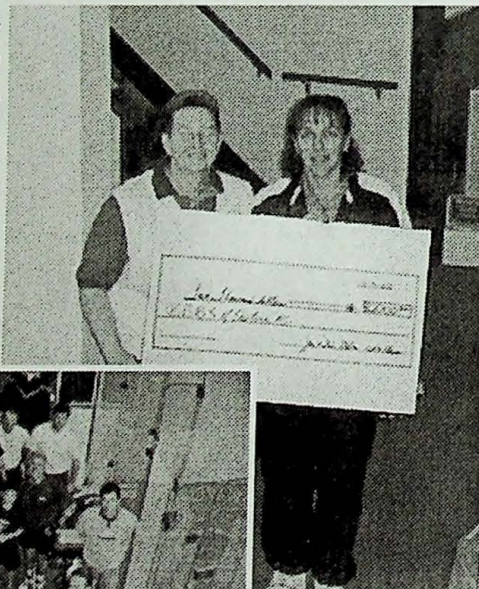
JUNIORS

1st	1 Nick Cumbo	2 Thomas Savoy
2nd	1 Dawn Jones	2 Jonathon Savoy
3rd	1 Kalin Goriup	2 Tim Savoy

DOUBLES

MEN O/A	1 Savoy/Bryant	2 Hauser/Wayt
MEN B/C	1 Bottoms/Fisher	2 Justice/Bourgeois
WOMEN O/A	1 Norris/Hale	2 Land/Sutek
MIXED O/A	1 Wayt/Bryant	2 Walters/Land
MIXED B/C	1 Davis/Samuel	2 Stephens/Stelma

Jan Stelma &
Debbie Bryant
presenting
check to Big
Brother Big
Sister
organization.



Good turnout at
the Jacksonville
tournament.

February 23-25, 2001

Shultz Classic

Fayetteville, NC

MEN

MO	1 Dan Fowler	2 Dan Llacera
MA	1 Rob Humphreys	2 Dave Hibbard
MB	1 Lorne Burry	2 Greg Pittillo
MC	1 Miquel Fiqueredo	2 Brian Jochim
MD	1 Jeff Chapman	2 Serge Jaitapker
M24-	1 Jon Brinson	2 Jason Wright
M25+B/C	1 Andy Poplin	2 Brad Vaughan
M35+B/C	1 Lorne Burry	2 Greg Pittillo
M All Age	1 Dereck Dirks	2 Tim Wayt
M60+	1 Grant Morrill	2 Robert Shoptaw
Juniors 12-	1 Tripp Isley	2 Eric Noble
Juniors 14-Beg	1 Kory Heyer	2 Jonathan Savoy

WOMEN

WO	1 Doreen Fowler	2 Meena Evans
WA	1 Connie Honeycutt	2 Coleen Winyard
WB	1 Sharon Wilks	2 Edith Smith
WD	1 Janice Martin	2 Paula McKinnis
W All Age	1 Connie Honeycutt	2 Jennifer Cook
DOUBLES		
MOD	1 Lowe/Llacera	2 Alberty/Williams
MAID	1 Wayt/Bryant	2 Young/Hauser
MB/CD	1 Poplin/Brinson	2 Pittillo/Bottoms
XO/AD	1 Bryant/Walters	2 Anderson/Dirks
XB/CD	1 Cook/Bottoms	2 Smith/Hunt
WB/CD	1 Smith/McFadden	2 Newman/Martin
WO/AD	1 Evans/Bryant	2 Winyard/Oates



Brent Walters
Lorne Burry &
Tommy Pugh
hanging out.



Bobbi & Bobby

January 12-14, 2001

Build the Arc

New Bern, NC

MC 1 Brent Walters 2 Tim Hardison

February 2-4, 2001

North Carolina State Championships

Fayetteville, NC

MEN

	WINNER	2ND PLACE
OPEN	Mitch Williams	Brent Walters
A	Todd Cook	Ron Sutek
B	Vic Corey	John Brodland
C	Jon Brinson	Paul Moore
D	Eli Villanueva	Serge Jaitapker
JR 12-	Tripp Isley	
JR 14-	Jordan Walters	Tripp Isley
JR 14- Beg	Thomas Savoy	Adam Corey
24- A/B	Mack Lanning	Bryan Jacoby
24- C/D	Paul Moore	Jon Brinson
25+ OPEN	Corbin Dirks	John Rhodes
25+ A/B	Eric New	Moises Martinez
25+ C/D	Miquel Fiqueredo	Curtis Smith
30+ OPEN	Wayne Sweatt	Dave Hibbard
35+ OPEN	Dereck Dirks	Alan Sheppard
35+ A/B	Moises Martinez	Mike Norelli
35+ C/D	Miquel Fiqueredo	John Cronin
40+ OPEN	John Panepinto	Peter Popovich
45+ OPEN	Claude Wiggins	Curt Geller
45+ A/B	Charles Foster	Preston Gaster
45+ C/D	Mark Von Latta	Tony Smith
50+ OPEN	Charles Lew	Lorne Burry
60+ OPEN	Thomas Broadwater	Ulf Hellsten
65+ OPEN	Ulf Hellsten	

WOMEN

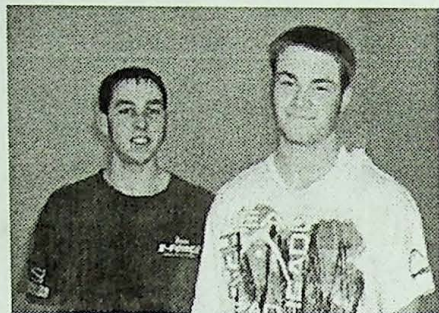
	WINNER	2ND PLACE
OPEN	Meena Evans	Rosemary Anderson
A	Kristen Sutek	Connie Honeycutt
B	Jennifer Cook	
C	Sharon Wilks	Molly Hedgecock
D	Paula Belcher	Janice Martin
25+ OPEN	Debbie Bryant	Catherine Land
25+ A/B	GraceAnne Kane	
25+ C/D	Sharon Wilks	Cicely Samuel
30+ OPEN	Debbie Bryant	Catherine Land
35+ OPEN	Christine Norris	
35+ A/B	Melanie Newsom	
35+ C/D	Sharon Wilks	Molly Hedgecock
40+	Molly Hedgecock	
50+	Jan Stelma	
55+	Mildred Gwinn	
65+	Mildred Gwinn	



Lynne Moffitt gives
Dan Fowler first
place prize money
at the Shultz
Classic

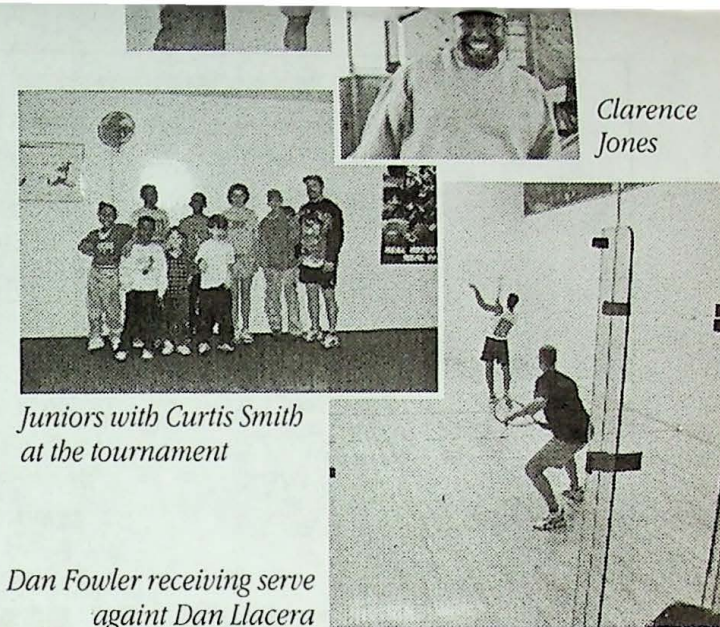
Junior National Doubles players speak

You can tell if most people have won or lost a match by the looks on their faces. Unless you're at a national event and the players are Brent Walters and Mitch Williams. With them, you sometimes have to count the number of bags they are carrying. Brent and Mitch have a rivalry with Michael Harmon and Matthew McElbiny, both of Florida, who recently beat them at the Junior World Racquetball Championships in Fountain Valley, California. The two teams have met three times at past national and world events, and this time it was in the finals of the



boys' 18s. "We beat them in nationals, then lost in a tiebreaker at worlds. Whoever loses has to carry the other team's bags until we play again," Mitch said. The silver-medalists did not have an easy road to the finals. They met, and banded an upset to, the number one-seeded team of Shane Vanderson and Stephen Lewis along the way. Vanderson and Lewis were two-time defending champions going into the tournament. "We kind of knew what to expect— we jumped on them pretty quick," Mitch said. "They are both really good singles players but since we played more together in doubles, that helped us." Although both Brent and Mitch say they are better singles players than doubles players, Brent said, "We work well together. We know we can cover the court really well." They did cover the court well, despite have to adjust to playing against people their own age. Brent said, "The pace of the shots is so much faster at the junior level—everyone hits it so hard and they are so much quicker." The pair capitalized on their strengths; Mitch's drive serves, Brent's anticipation of opponents' shots, and both of their speed and power. Both did well in their other divisions, also. Mitch and mixed doubles partner, Jeni Fuller of New Mexico, took second place, while Brent and Janel Tisinger of California, placed third. In singles, Mitch placed fifth, and Brent, eleventh. — While this is the last juniors event that they are eligible for, they will continue playing doubles together. Perhaps Adam Karp and Andy Roberts (current adult doubles champions) will be carrying their bags before long.

MA	1 Tom Vincent	2 Dave Hibbard
MB	1 Vic Corey	2 Warren Davis
MC	1 Kelly Staton	2 Erick Cooper
MD	1 Steve Fredrickson	2 Jonathan Justice
MBeg	1 Edgar Verdejo	2 Jon Tumas
M24-	1 Jonathan Justice	2 Jordan Cox
M25+	1 Randy Taylor	2 Bradley Vaughan
M35A/B	1 Dave Hibbard	2 Tom Vincent
M35B/C	1 Robert Josiah	2 Jack Gibson
M45B/C	1 Bill Koos	2 Chuck Dale
WO	1 Catherine Land	2 Kristi Hale
WA	1 Cheryl Gentile	2 Jennifer Cook
WC	1 Edith Smith	2 Molly Hedgecock
WBeg	1 Janice Martin	2 Renee Pearson
W25+	1 Judy Justice	2 Jan Stelma



Juniors with Curtis Smith at the tournament

Dan Fowler receiving serve against Dan Llacera

Whats The Call

In order for tournaments to run effectively I would like to review some of the tournament responsibilities for directors and players.

Tournament Directors may have the discretion in the following instances:

1. Move a player from one division to another for the fairness of competition.
2. Forfeiture of Match- the normal time limit is 10 minutes, but there are always extenuating circumstance that may occur. If you are going to be late due to a family emergency, traffic, car accident or inclement weather please call the tournament director so they may make an informed decision about holding the match or forfeiting the match. They do have the right to change or hold a match for extenuating circumstances.
3. Referee Change- he/she needs to make sure the referee is capable of refereeing the level of competition and if there needs to be a change find a suitable referee for the fairness of competition.
4. Rules interpretation
5. Notify you if there has been a change with the divisions you signed up for
6. Call matches earlier than their scheduled match time

Tournament Player's responsibilities:

1. Notify the tournament director for late arrival
2. Referee your matches
3. Ask to see the tournament director as soon as there is a problem with rules interpretation. Do not wait until the game or match is over. It will be to late.
4. Arrive at least 60 minutes prior to your scheduled match and be prepared to play at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled match time.
5. If you are unable to attend a tournament after you have registered please contact the tournament director ASAP to cancel in case there may be a waiting list of players wanting to enter the tournament.
6. Ask "Do you need any help or can I get you anything?"
7. Thank them for all their hard work and for a great tournament.