

The Racquetball Reporter

November 1997

Volume VII Issue 4

Ann Arbor to host State Doubles

The 1997 RAM State Doubles Tournament is set for December 6 & 7, 1997 at the One on One Athletic Club in Ann Arbor.

Again this year, RAM looks forward to hosting this event which typically draws about one hundred players.

The entry fee remains the same as last year at \$25 per entrant and each is guaranteed a high quality sweatshirt. Of course, hospitality, stiff competition and trophies will be readily available.

Tournament directors Tom Blakeslee and Lou Ellen Fecher will again this year try to keep the

need to play on Sunday to a minimum.

RAM would like to thank sponsors PENN and Ektelon for their help in supporting this event, as well as the staff at the One on One Athletic Club, who always gives their best in making sure the tournament runs smoothly.

The entry form is available in this issue. Questions, can be directed to tournament directors Tom Blakeslee at (810) 468-2787 or Lou Ellen Fecher at (810) 658-8097.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this event.

Farmington YMCA Hosts rules clinic

by Don Sepanski

On Saturday, October 18, 1997, Jim Easterling held a USRA Racquetball Rules and Referee Clinic for the Farmington YMCA racquetball players. Also in attendance were two Michigan State Racquetball Champions, Mark Casey and Ed Barter.

Those in attendance enjoyed the energetic presentation about rules and the opportunity to discuss their interpretations. One participant, Dwight Teachworth even sponsored his regular racquetball partner (who wishes to remain nameless). As Dwight explained, "(sponsoring his partner) would be good for a few more points each game when his partner learned what a hinder was and that (paying) the \$10 fee would be worth it." With that theory, the rest of us wish we would have thought of it for some of our opponents.

If any one is interested in learning more about or participating in the Farmington Y racquetball program, or any of our scheduled tournaments,

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1997 Racquetball Association of Michigan State Doubles Tournament

December 6 & 7, 1997
One on One Athletic Club
Ann Arbor

For information contact:
Tom Blakeslee (810) 468-2787

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**View of the President
State Doubles Entry Form**

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View of the President

by W.T. Blakeslee

Welcome back to the racquetball season. I hope everyone had a good summer and are ready to play in our upcoming calendar events.

Ken Bonnett and Racquetball One continue to have the biggest and best series. There are also some good dates for sanctioned events that will be excellent if you give them a try.

The RAM State Doubles will again be at the Ann Arbor One on One Athletic Club on December 6 & 7, 1997. We will do everything possible to limit play on Sunday, but as usual, that depends on the sizes of each draw and court availability.

The RAM Board is happy to announce that Randy Minto and the

Farmington players enjoy rules and referee clinic

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please contact me at (313) 513-9430.

Currently we have regular tournaments scheduled for February 7-9 and March 21-22, 1998. A charity event to benefit the UM Trauma Burn Center is also planned for December 13-14 of this year. YMCA membership is not required to play, so mark your calendars.

Davison Racquet Club will once again host the RAM State Singles on April 25-26, 1998. Please plan on attending this event as well as the upcoming Doubles Championships.

There are a couple of new rule changes in effect this season. First, if the ball leaves the court, it is now considered a fault, which translates into a side out or point. This is a good rule that Jim Hiser experimented with in the old days of the Super 7 Series. Another rule which has been strongly supported by the manufacturing companies, allows the racquet to be another inch longer.

As many of you may have heard, I recently had a conversation with Scott Winter of Ektelon and Prince. During this conversation, I pointed out how it seems a player had to be a pro or former pro to win in Houston and how I believed that it was curtailing overall participation. As a major sponsor of the tournament, he assured me that sometime in the near future an "A" division will be forming so that you wouldn't have to play a pro unless you wanted to.

Finally, I beg your forgiveness on the lateness of the newsletters. The RAM board is made up of volunteers and appreciate your patience and support.

Racquetball Association of Michigan

RAM Board of Directors

Tom Blakeslee
President
(810) 468-2787

Rick Crawford
Vice-President
(313) 371-4812

Sharon Huczek
Secretary
(810) 373-5255

Lou Ellen Fecher
Treasurer
(810) 658-8097

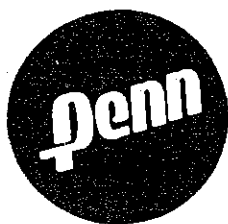
Nick Rallis
Board Member
(810) 926-5911

Sanctioning
Tom Blakeslee
(810) 468-2787

Racquetball One Series
Ken Bonnett
(616) 975-9080

Junior's Committee
Sharon Huczek
(810) 373-5255

Newsletter
The Racquetball Reporter
2834 Yale St.
Flint, MI 48503



Racquetball Association of Michigan
presents the
STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

December 6 & 7, 1997

at

One on One Athletic Club, 2875 Boardwalk Dr., Ann Arbor, MI

Phone: 313-761-4440



Directors: Tom Blakeslee (810) 468-2787 and Lou Ellen Fecher (810) 658-8097

Fees: \$25.00 per person/\$50.00 per team/per event **Lodging:** Courtyard Marriot (313) 995-5900
\$15.00 per person/second event Holiday Inn Holidome (313) 665-4444
Non-USRA members add \$20.00

USRA Sanctioned: *Yearly USRA membership required. USRA Rules will prevail. Two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11.*

Trophies and Awards: Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners in all divisions. Semi plaques will be awarded in full (draw of 16) divisions only. Each entrant will receive a complimentary **SWEATSHIRT**.

Starting Times: Play begins Saturday, December 6, 1997. Divisions are limited to draws of 16. Call the club Thursday, December 4, 1997 after 6:00 PM for starting times. **NO Friday play. Efforts will be made to reduce Sunday Play.**

Referees: Losers must referee or pay \$5.00

Tournament Ball: PENN ULTRA BLUE

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1, 1997

Name _____ Partner 1 _____
Address _____ Partner 2 _____
City _____ Zip Code _____ Club Affiliation _____

Phone: days _____ nights _____
Date of birth ____/____/____

Sweatshirt size (circle one) M L XL XXL*

*Please enclose \$2.00 for XXL

Make checks payable to RAM and mail to

RAM STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

3152 S. Henderson Rd.

Entry Fee: _____

Davison, MI 48423

USRA: _____

Extra XXL: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Waiver clause: I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all claim for damages I may have against RAM, the host club, tournament staff and their agents, for all injuries suffered by me in conjunction with my participation in this tournament.

DIVISIONS

circle correct choices/limit two events

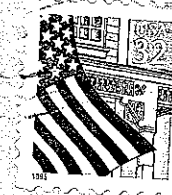
MENS WOMENS

Open	25+	40B	60+
A	30A	45A	Mixed Open
B	30B	45B	Mixed A
C	35A	50A	Mixed B
D	35B	50B	Mixed C
	40A	55+	Mixed D

Divisions may be combined if less than 8 teams enter a division
Alternate Division _____

Racquetball Reporter

3152 S Henderson
Davison, MI 48423



DIANNE & JIM FASTERLING 1198
321 VILLAGE
LANSING MI 48911

Racquetball Reporter

Racquetball Association of Michigan 1997-98 Tournament Schedule

November 22-23	Racquetball One Michigan Athletic Club East Lansing, MI	February 21-22	Racquetball One Michigan Athletic Club Grand Rapids, MI
December 6-7	RAM State Doubles One on One Athletic Club Ann Arbor, MI	March 7-8, 1998	Madison Athletic Club Madison Heights, MI
January 17-18	Players Athletic 2nd Annual Challenge Warren, MI	March 21-22	Racquetball One Grand Finale Jewish Community Center Southfield, MI
January 24-25	Racquetball One Jewish Community Center Southfield, MI	April 17-18	Adult Regional Canton, OH
February 7-8	Total Sports Mt. Clemens, MI	April 25-26	RAM State Singles Davison Athletic Club Davison, MI