



THE LOUISIANA RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

"Dedicated to promoting the game of Racquetball"

P.O. Box 80643 / BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70898 / 504-346-8657

NEWS

DECEMBER, 1991



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

The 1991 Louisiana State Doubles Racquetball tournament was a mixture of old and new. The new format of being able to play in two events proved to be challenging to the players as well as those doing the scheduling. All schedule conflicts were able to be worked out as the tournament went on. With many players competing in two divisions their racquetball adventure turned into a mini marathon. Talk to Mick Murphy and Alan Lahr. . . they had the longest known run of consecutive playing hours at 7. Congrats to them for just surviving.

The reemergence of Bill Land and Mike Almerico marked the end of their absence on the doubles scene which was refreshing as the two warmed up in preparation for their match as opponents. But in this Men's Open match, it was Lance Nelson (the 1991 State Singles Champion) and David Rahn (the 1987, 89 State Singles Champion, two time Mixed Doubles Champion) that provided the most exciting action. Their unbelievable gets and blistering serves highlighted the match long before it ended with Nelson/Land moving to the finals.

As the other end of the Open draw was filled with much excitement it was Warren Arnett and Brian Lowe who would venture to the finals against Nelson/Land. Arnett/Lowe was sure to be tough due to their extreme court coverage and quick gets.

The finals began with a tentative Arnett/Lowe losing the first game 15-4. In the second game Arnett/Lowe showed how a little hustle never hurt anyone and winning 15-14. You would almost think Nelson did not like losing that game because he came out with smoking serves in the tiebreaker to end the match with an 11-5 victory.

While the best of the best Men's Open were thrilling us with awesome playing. . . the best of the ladies were a few courts down demonstrating their abilities and their idea of how it should be done. Kim Allen/Karen Deblieux "W" began with taking the Ladies' Open title beating Richards/Shattuck with consistent team work. With this title

under their belt they went on to do battle in the Men's A division knocking off the competitors with unfailing and steady play. As they proceeded to the Men's A finals not only did they continue to execute their polished team work, but their ripping forehands and backhands ended the finals match in 20 minutes with Schof/Eschet taking second place.

Soon after Allen/Deblieux completed playing as partners they went directly to play as opponents in the mixed finals. Karen teamed up with David Rahn and Kim with Mike Almerico. Kim and Mike were able to take the title from the two time doubles champion team of Deblieux and Rahn.

A warm thanks to all the 91 Doubles participants . . . was a pleasure watching you all.

1991 LOUISIANA STATE DOUBLES TOURNAMENT RESULTS

LADIES OPEN	MEN'S C
1. Allen/Deblieux	1. Hayden/Rodriguez
2. Richards/Shattuck	2. Russo/Campbell
	3. Anastacio/Anastacio
LADIES A	MEN'S 35 OPEN
1. Ruiz/Schof	1. Chiquilin/Mazetti
2. Richard/Treme	2. Kee/Tidwell
3. Spica/Cockern	3. Scarpero/Arnold
	Cons. Lahare/Donelon
LADIES B	MIXED OPEN
1. Rodriguez/Schaefer	1. Allen/Almerico
2. Arnett/Reynolds	2. Deblieux/Rahn
3. Bloom/Hentz	3. Richards/Arnett
Cons. Reynold/Melonco	Cons. Spica/Daigle
MEN'S OPEN	MIXED A
1. Nelson/Land	1. Schof/Schof
2. Lowe/Arnette	2. Fusilie/Treme
3. Mazetti/Pecot	3. Ruiz/Eschete
Cons. Hamilton/Ashby	Cons. Corkern/Day
MEN'S A	MIXED B - C
1. Allen/Deblieux	1. Rodriguez/Rodriguez
2. Eschete/Schof	2. Berrio/Hark
3. Arcement/Ehret	3. Razza/Dedebant
Cons. Bloom/Bloom	Cons. Reynold/Meloncor
MEN'S B	
1. Zeigler/Katchik	
2. Danner/Skinner	
3. Russo/Russo	
Cons. Baldone/Poque	

CONGRATULATIONS!

Top Students Receive LRA Scholarships

Each year the LRA awards two \$500 scholarships in August. These scholarships are based upon the following criteria:

- 50% Academic
- 25% School and Community Organizations
- 25% Racquetball Participation and Service

This year's recipients are:

BRAD HAMILTON

GPA: 3.4
Organizations: Big Buddy, Key Club, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta.
Racquetball: Played 10 tournaments and worked at 9.
College: LSU

MARK JARDELL

GPA: 3.0
Organizations: U.S. Racquet Stringer, 1990 Fitness Expo Representative, Boy Scouts of America, Eagle Scouts.
Racquetball: Worked and played 8 tournaments, worked 4 clinics.
College: Southeastern

Both Scholarship recipients have bright futures ahead of them on and off the court.
From the LRA . . . **GOOD LUCK!!**

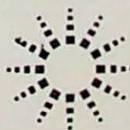


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CURRENT TOP TEN

Men's Open

Steve Martin	407
Brian Lowe	300
Brad Hamilton	205
Warren Arnett	154
David Rahn	154
Mike Almerico	150
Charles Pecot	149
Brian Daigle	134
Tim Mazzetti	128
Mark Herpin	115

Men's A

Scott Ehret	687
Ken Hood	600
Rory Arcement	594
Michael Smith	533
Neal Ashby	507
Roy Laudimey	472
Chris Ladner	421
Ted Alvendia	400
Daniel Ory	370
Jeremy Oliver	360

Men's B

Glen Duman	590
Charles DeBartolo	477
Dan Pogue	424
Wayne Skinner	377
Dolig Callon	197
Dario Berrio	196
John Peck, Jr.	136
Bill Meyer	112
Michael Fuselier	109
Damon Balooone	104

Men's C

Mark Strother	695
Chris Curow	407
Bobby Sparanded, Jr.	396
Clarence Simmons	292
Dario Berrio	243
Timothy Buisson, Sr.	225
Ken Roberts	218
Ken Davis, Jr.	176
Kenneth Tarride	159
Roger Anastasio	146

Men's D

Dwight Fortenberry	389
Jeffery Lebouef	329
Kyle Bordelon	259
Mark Burrows	241
Ronald Buckoltz	173
Jack Villa	171
Scott Wilfong	152

Men's Golden Master A

C. J. Scarpero	180
Charles DeBartolo	168
Al Reagle	120
James Anderson	94
Warren Reuther, Jr.	90
John Peck, Sr.	51

Men's Golden Master B

Ken Roberts	64
Don Ryan	56
Earl Vassan	40

Men's Junior Veteran

David Anastasio	77
Ben Enault	67

Men's Master A

C. J. Scarpero	147
Ken Hood	128
Frank Gomila	112
Edgar Schafer	64
Neil Woodall	48
Harold Battalora	16
Adrian Lahare	16
Bob Stanton	16

Men's B

Michael Fuselier	128
Ellis Nacisse	128
Ted Bruning	112
Richard Powell	112
Bill Beyer	80
Richard Garrett	80
Fritz Owens	77
Joel Markert	64
Roger Anastasio	48
Jack Fredine	48

Men's Senior A

Jeff Kindl	90
Bill Meyer	78
Ellis Nacisse	78
Warren Reuther, Jr.	77
John Dedeabant	67
Adrian Lahare	56
Dan Mock	48
John Pease	38

Men's Senior B

Richard Garrett	187
Oscar Rodriguez	166
Bill Meyer	125
Ted Bruning	104
Roger Anastasio	42
John Dedeabant	42
Dan Mock	42
Bob Sharshan	42
Albert Kovatch	21

Ladies' Open

Karen Saunders Deblieux	288
Vicki Garrett	241
Sandra Zulli	217
Gail Woods	154
Kim Allen	128
Karen Taylor	96
Marcia Richards	80
Bonnie Bee	58
Jo Shattuck	58
Shelly Ruiz	14

Ladies' A

Phyllis Trahan	195
Sharon Lester	101
Patti Schof	58
Johanna Zuppardo	48
Bonnie Bee	16
Denise Sheldon	16
Karen Taylor	14

Ladies' B

Janice Owens	90
Candice Chiquelin	78
Anne Meyer	67
Helyn Ingram	56
Lou Reynolds	45
Claudia Eschete	43
Margie Putnam	43
Donna Embree	34

Ladies' C

Margie Putnam	112
Ellen Cool	90
Ashley Cooper	78
Tracy Munson	56
Barbara Naquin	34

Ladies' D

April Bailey	192
Daren Ladner	90
Caroline French	78
Laurel Dill	56
Celeste Gallegos	51

DOUBLES

Men's Open

Warren Arnett/Steve Martin	230
Steve Martin/Tim Mazzetti	230
Brian Daigle/Jack Gromee	157
Neal Ashby/Brad Hamilton	129
Mike Almerico/David Rahn	128
Scott Davis/Jeremy Oliver	104
Art Arnold/Greg Kisse	101
Craig Campbell/Freddie Wilks	90
Warren Arnett/Brian Lowe	82
Warren Arnett/Bill Savard	78

Men's A

Rory Arcement/Scott Ehret	372
Ken Kachtic/CJ. Scarpero	341
Cyril Hentz/Vickie Garrett	264
Roy Laudimey/Daniel Ory	216
Clyde Eschete, Jr./Albert Schof	157
Jeff Bloom/Mark Bloom	115
Michael Fuselier/Larry Sharpe	115
Barry Day/Mark Jardell	104
D.J. Rieder/Fred Roth	104
Ken Hood/Freddie Wilks	58

Men's B

Alan Lahr/Mick Murphy	274
Clyde Eschete, Jr./Michael Lester	245
Ken Kachtic/Roger Zeigler	245
Bob Jepson/Gordon Murrill	230
Richard Garrett/Dan Mock	220
Glen Duman/Bobby Spernded	218
John Dedeabant/Albert Kovatch	141
Dario Berrio/Mark Strother	136
Bob Jepson/Jay Kirkland	104
Richard Powell/Tim Taylor	102

REFEREE WITHOUT *F E A R !*

9 Ways To Make It Easier

All match winners-losers are expected to referee the next match or find a suitable referee to do so for them. It's almost impossible, and sometimes the person who subs is not even in the tournament, or has little if any refereeing experience.

I have seen many matches end in controversy simply because the assigned referee didn't know the rules of the game or how to interpret, enforce or apply them to that particular situation.

No one likes to be yelled at or criticized, but if you ever refereed a racquetball match, chances are it has happened to you. There are steps you can take to help prevent this from ever happening to you.

1. Rules are constantly updated. Find a current copy of the rules of racquetball and become familiar with them. Take your copy of these rules to any tournaments you attend.

2. Many players believe that as the assigned referee to a match, all their decisions and rulings are final. This is not true? If both players in a singles match disagree with the referee's decision, and are in agreement as to what the call should have been, they can overrule the referee. The referee can be replaced if both players or teams request it.

3. When assigned to referee a match, go into the court with the players as they are warming up. Introduce yourself, make them aware of all local court hinders, and instruct them as to what you expect from each of them. Remind them not to serve until you have called the score each time. Check players equipment to be sure it conforms with the game.

4. Be loud! Let the players know you are there by being loud. Call the score, hinders, etc. in a loud voice. Never ask a viewer if your call was good or bad. You are the judge.

5. A referee is responsible for preventing possible injuries. If you see shoving, pushing or crowding, stop play and warn participants of hinders and avoidable hinders.

6. If you make a mistake, admit to it. Ask that the point be played over. Your honesty is appreciated.

7. If linesmen are being used, an appeal must be made to the ref, the ref explains the appeal to the linesmen and they vote with a thumbs up or down. (agree or disagree with the call) The only calls that may be appealed are: short serves, double bounce pickups and encroachment. Hinder calls may not be appealed.

8. Avoidable or intentional hinders occur when players take an opponent's shot away by just barely moving out of the way of the ball to allow the opponent room to swing; blocking an opponent's shot by stepping into the path of the ball; deliberately pushing or shoving an opponent during a rally; screaming or yelling as the opponent is about to shoot his shot; stamping feet to distract the opponent as he is about to shoot the shot.

9. Technical fouls may be called at any time. Usually, players are first warned that their conduct, manner, gestures, or verbal outbursts are unacceptable to racquetball play. Thereafter, technical fouls may be called. Call of three technical fouls on any one player or team during a match will result in the automatic and immediate forfeiture of that match by the offenders.

You as the referee should always control the match. You can control based strictly on how quickly you call score. Be aware of avoidable or intentional hinders. They are not being called enough in racquetball due solely to misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the rules.

For planning an ad or interested in getting your article in the LRA newsletter write to:

The Louisiana Racquetball Association
P. O. Box 80643
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

— TIPS FOR BEGINNERS —

The step taken when hitting the ball is called the stroke step. It is critical in determining time, momentum and balance. Stepping into the ball is important when serving and hitting throughout the rallies, which makes it important for this step to be constant.

Since it is the only step that carries additional momentum during the stroke, on the serve, only the stroke-step needs to be included. For beginners, additional steps into the ball are superfluous. They may distract your opponent and screen the serve to a degree, but they also distract you. Better results will come from putting the time and effort of those extra steps into another part of your stroke.

During the rally, the stroke-step is often overlooked. Moving around the court during the rally requires fast and smaller steps. Short steps are quicker and allow for better timing, better adjustment to the ball so that it falls into the stroke within the power zone.

Dropping the stroke-step from the swing during

the rally throws off timing and robs the stroke of some power. Always try to step into the ball during the rally.

When trying to follow the ball down court from a back wall rebound, be sure that the ball is at least one step ahead of you. Staying even with the shot means that you will not take that stroke-step, or, more likely, that you will take the stroke-step and overtake the ball, putting the ball further back in your swing than you intended. If all your off-the-back-wall shots are going into the side walls before the front, you have outpaced the ball on the stroke-step.

Beneath the ball is home plate. As the ball moves around the court, home plate moves underneath it on the floor like a show. To line the body and stroke up with the trajectory of the ball, you will want your stroke-step to be just past the imaginary home plate as you hit the ball.

For more tips for beginners, read Mark Kessinger's book *Unlimited Racquetball*.

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CROSS-GATES TOURNAMENT RESULTS

LADIES OPEN

1. Kim Allen
2. Jo Shattuck
3. Vickie Garrett

MEN'S A

1. Chris Ladner
2. Cyril Hertz
3. Scott Ehret

MEN'S C

1. Burt Anderson
2. Harry Cole
3. Gordon Murrill

MEN'S A DOUBLES

1. Ehret/Arcement
2. Hertz/Garret
3. Day/Jarrell

MEN'S OPEN

1. Mike Almerico
2. David Rahn
3. Tim Mazzetti

MEN'S B

1. Mike Landry
2. Chris Byer
3. John Dedeant

MEN'S D

1. Chris Melton
2. David Anastasio
3. Jeff Bayham

MEN'S B/C DOUBLES

1. Murrill/Anderson
2. Ladner/Ladner
3. Landry/Byer

TAKE NOTE:

THANK YOU to all LRA Members for their support and enthusiasm. We at Crossgates have always enjoyed the excitement LRA Tournaments and players bring to our club and we are looking to continue this excitement. Merry Christmas and see you Next Year!!

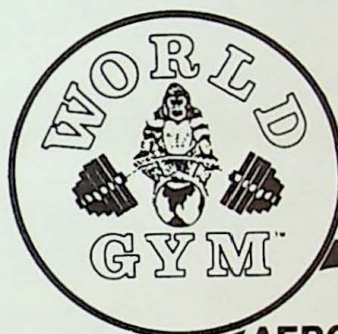
Kim Allen

A huge LRA welcome to its newest club member
...**World Gym.**

Mark Burrows and his staff have much to offer anyone interested in getting in shape, from Racquetball to Aerobics to weight lifting.

Mark plans to run his first L.R.A. Racquetball tournament in February of 1992. Take time to be a part of this 1st time Raquetball Event – it's sure to be lots of fun.

**Welcome
World
Gym!!**

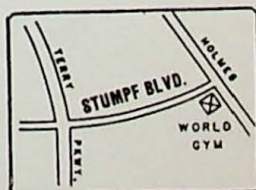


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LRA Executive Committee

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Barry Day

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Mick Murphy

LRA Executive Committee Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.,
3609 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.