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THE RACQUETBALL REPORTER

VOL. 7, NO. 6

321 VILLAGE, LANSING, MI 48911

MARCH 1991

SPRING MINI NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCES RAM's STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

As the spring mini-newsletter hits the press, the 1990-91 tournament season is almost over. The 1990-91 tournament year has seen some changes in Michigan. Gone this year are both of the Pro-Stops from the state, the ETV Trucking in Grand Rapids and the Pro Stop in Davison. A change this year saw Chris Cole take over as tournament director for the Super 7 tournaments replacing the Fechers who have handled this series previously. Also this year the number of sanctioned tournaments in the state has decreased somewhat, even though more people seem to be playing. Shortly the RAM Board of Directors will be mailing the material to sanction your tournament for the 1991-92 season, this is important to give your tournament the prestige and promotion it deserves. Watch for this information.

As 1990-91 draws to a close, there are still a few tournaments left to get in your practice time for the STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS. Be sure to check this list in the newsletter. The 1990-91 STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS entry form is enclosed as a part of this newsletter. This tournament will be held at the Coliseum II Racquet Club in Taylor on April 26-28. Sponsored by Penn Athletic Products the tournament features a warm-up for every player who enters.

This tournament promises to be very popular with play in over 30 divisions, so players are advised to enter early. The **deadline date for the State Singles is April 17, 1991**. Remember entries are not accepted without payment and that you may enter only one skill division. If you want to enter two divisions, one must be an age division and one a skill division or you may enter two different age divisions. For example you **MAY NOT** play Men's B and Men's C, or Men's 40A and Men's 40B. You **MAY** play Men's B and Men's 19, or Men's 30B and Men's 35B.

Now is also the time to republish RAM's policy concerning division entry. **If you won any of the following divisions last year at the State Singles Championships, you will be ineligible to enter these divisions this year: Men's A, B, C, D, Novice, 30B, 35B, 35C, 40B, 45B, and Women's A, B, C, D, Novice, 30B, 35B, and 40B.** Please remember this when filling out your entry form.

This year the State Singles Championship will also feature a **\$5 discount off the total entry fee for all certified referees**. This means those players who have

completed all of the requirements and have a card from the AARA to indicate they are certified. A partial list of Michigan's certified referees was published in your fall mini-newsletter. RAM hopes that by taking a stand and pushing the Referee Certification Program, that more players will take not only a Referee Clinic but the Certification Exam also. If you have any questions as to if you are a certified referee call Jim Easterling at (517) 887-0459 in the evenings.

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RULE REVIEW - - - INJURY TIME-OUT RULE 4.17 (B)

INJURY. If a player is injured during the course of a match as a result of contact, such as with the ball, racquet, wall, or floor, he will be awarded an injury time-out. While a player may call more than one time-out for the same injury or for additional injuries which occur during the match, a player is not allowed more than a total of 15 minutes of rest during a match. If the injured player is not able to resume play after a total rest of 15 minutes, the match shall be awarded to the opponent. Muscle cramps and pulls, fatigue and other ailments that are not caused by direct contact on the court will not be considered an injury.

What this rule means is if, for example, you get hit with a racquet in the nose in the middle of your first game in a match and your nose starts bleeding, you can take an injury time-out. When you come back on the court, if you have only used 7 minutes to stop your nose bleed, you are entitled to 8 more minutes for an injury time-out. Now if in the second game your nose starts bleeding again, you can leave the court again with an injury time-out. When you return on the court this time, having used only 5 minutes to stop your nose bleed, you are still entitled to 3 more minutes for an injury time-out. Now in the tie-breaker if **your nose starts to bleed again or if you hit your head on the wall**, you are only allowed 3 minutes at this point for an injury time-out. If after the 3 minutes, you are unable to continue, the match will be forfeited and your opponent will be the winner.

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INTERESTED IN RACQUETBALL?

Are you a racquetball enthusiast? Are you interested in rules, tournaments, junior programs, clinics, rankings, newsletters or women's programs (just to name a few)? If so, the RAM Board of Directors NEEDS YOU!!!

The RAM Board of Directors is responsible for carrying out the racquetball activities in the state of Michigan as well as promoting the AARA. These activities include but are not limited to the State Singles/State Doubles Tournaments, publishing "The Racquetball Reporter", running Referee Clinics and Certification Exams and running various skill clinics. Through the AARA of which RAM is the affiliate, there are many more new and exciting programs and activities to be promoted within Michigan. This all takes time and effort by many people. If you are interested, why not consider becoming a member of the Board of Directors of RAM.

The qualifications to become a member of the Board of Directors require attendance at three of the monthly Board meetings in a row and the written commitment to become active in some phase of racquetball under the auspices of the Board of Directors. This might mean working on the tournament desk at the State Singles or State Doubles or working on putting a Referee clinic or Certification Exam or working on the Tournament Sanctioning Committee for example. During the last two months we have added three new members to the Board of Directors: Gary Phipps (Mason), Jim Earley (Livonia), and Chris Cole (Flint), but we still have more vacancies to fill.

If you're interested contact one of the current Board Members either at a tournament or by phone to indicate your interest and then attend one of the monthly meetings. Current Board members include Tom Blakeslee (Mt. Clemens), Rick Hall (Kentwood), Duane Russell (Lansing), Jim and Dianne Easterling (Lansing), Lou Ellen Fecher (Davison), Chris Cole, Jim Earley and Gary Phipps.

If you can't commit the time to becoming a board member, but would like to attend meetings once in awhile, all RAM meetings are open to any RAM member. Contact Tom Blakeslee at (313) 468-2787 for the time, date and location. We need your help and would like for you to attend.

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AARA ANNOUNCES NEW RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

The AARA has announced a new membership program

designed to benefit the racquetball court facilities and the everyday or league player. This membership is designed to keep all parties informed of the up-to-the-minute news and program developments in the world of amateur racquetball.

Beginning in 1991, this new recreational membership requires participation by both the racquetball court facilities and by its members. First of all the racquetball court facility must sign up to be a court club member of the AARA. This will require a membership fee from the racquetball court facility of \$150.00. In return, the racquetball court facility will receive:

- Bi-monthly AARA publication "Racquetball USA"
- Newsletter "Racquetball Programming & Promotion"
- Club Profile feature in "Racquetball USA"
- 8 x 10 wall certificate of membership
- Tournament Director & League Guidebook
- Junior Handbook
- 25 AARA Official Rulebooks
- 25 AARA Media Guides

Once the racquetball court facility joins the AARA, they may begin offering a \$3.00 recreational membership to its members and league players. This \$3.00 membership will give the benefits below to the club/league player. (NOTE: this membership will not allow these members to play in sanctioned tournaments without joining the AARA for the \$15 Competitive license fee.)

- Six issues of "Racquetball USA"
- Official rulebook, hip kip and membership card
- 20% discount on AARA instructional manuals
- 10% discount on AARA videotapes
- 10% discount on PARI certification of instructors
- 50% discount on US Amateur, Inc.
- (includes equipment discounts)
- Option to apply for AARA Visa card
- (includes no fee for first year)

If you have any questions on this program or wish to sign up as a racquetball court facility, contact Jim Easterling at (517) 887-0459 in the evenings.

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1990-91 RAM TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Mar. 22-24	Super 7 #7 Livonia Racquettime
Apr. 12-14	Super 7 Finale tba
Apr. 26-28	RAM STATE SINGLES Coliseum II Racquet Club

RULES/REFEREE CLINIC & REFEREE CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

SITE: **MICHIGAN ATHLETIC CLUB**

2500 Burton SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

DATE: **Saturday, April 20, 1991**

9:00 - 12:00 Rules/Referee Clinic
1:30 - 3:30 Referee Certification Examination

FEE: \$10 - Rules/Referee Clinic
\$10 - Referee Certification Examination
\$15 - Both Clinic and the Exam
(make checks payable to RAM)

MAIL TO: **RAM**
321 Village, Lansing, MI 48911

INFORMATION: **Rules/Referee Clinic** (9:00 am - 12:00) - is a lecture/question & answer session, lasting three hours. The clinic deals with the interpretation of the rules, & an in-depth look at refereeing. Discussion is on how to start & control match, use of linesmen, hindlers, & technicals.

Referee Certification Exam (1:30 pm - 3:30 pm) - is a 100 question multiple choice test dealing with rules & refereeing situations. There are questions on fault serves, time-outs, appeals, technicals, & hindlers. To qualify as a certified referee, you must get 85 questions right. Certified referees receive discounts on State Singles entry fees.

QUESTIONS: Jim Easterling - (517) 887-0459 or
Todd Sikkema - (616) 956-0944

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE DAYS: _____ **PHONE NIGHTS:** _____

RULES/REFEREE CLINIC - \$10/person _____

REFEREE/CERTIFICATION EXAM - \$10/person _____

CLINIC & EXAM - \$15/person _____

TOTAL _____



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penn**STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS****APRIL 26-28, 1991****SITE:**

COLISEUM II RACQUET CLUB
8715 Tekegraph
Taylor, Michigan 48180
313-292-3940

ENTRY FEE:

\$40 - First event adults
\$25 - First event juniors
\$15 - Second event
\$5 discount to all certified referees
Players may enter two events - one age &
one skill or two different age divisions
Make checks payable to RAM
Non AARA members add \$15

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

RAM, 321 Village
Lansing, MI 48911

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:

TOM BLAKESLEE - (313) 468-2787

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Received by **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1991.**
ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL. NO ENTRIES
ACCEPTED WITHOUT PAYMENT. No phone
entries. Call the club Wednesday, April 24,
after 5:00pm for starting times.

HOTEL:

HOLIDAY INN
31200 Industrial Expressway
Romulus, Michigan
(313) 728-2800

RULES:

AARA rules apply - 2 games to 15,
tiebreaker to 11
**LENSED EYEWEAR FOR RACQUET SPORTS
IS MANDATORY.**
ALL PLAYERS RECEIVE A SWEAT SUIT!

TOURNAMENT BALL:

PENN ULTRA BLUE

PLEASE ENTER ME IN THE EVENT(S) CIRCLED BELOW. PLAYERS MAY ENTER TWO
EVENTS - ONLY ONE SKILL LEVEL. **YOU MUST BE A MICHIGAN RESIDENT TO ENTER.**

MEN**WOMEN**

OPEN	NOVICE	35A	45A	65	16B	8
A	19	35B	45B	70	14A	8 Multi bounce
B	25	35C	50	18A	14B	Wheelchair
C	30A	40A	55	18B	12	
D	30B	40B	60	16A	10	

NAME: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AMT. PAID: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE DAYS: _____

PHONE NIGHTS: _____

CLUB AFFILIATION: _____

DONATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND: _____

ALTERNATE CHOICE DIVISION: _____

SWEAT SHIRT SIZE: _____

PANT SIZE: _____

Waiver - I hereby for myself, heirs, etc. waive & release all rights & claims for damages I may have against RAM & its
sponsors for all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in said tournament.

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

REFEREES: Losers must referee the next match or pay \$5.00

LOCKERS AND TOWELS: Bring your own locks. Towels provided with a \$2 deposit and a \$.50 charge for use.

HOSPITALITY: Will be provided throughout the tournament. Free to players and a nominal charge for guests.

AWARDS AND PRIZES: Awards given for the 1st 4 places in divisions of 12 or more; the 1st 2 places in divisions of 5-11 and 1st in consolation. Each player will receive a souvenir **SWEAT SUIT**.

PLAY MAY BEGIN as early as 3:00 pm on Friday. Special requests for starting times will be honored if possible, but no refunds will be given if a player cannot make his or her starting time.

FORM IS NOT COMPLETE OR IS ENTRY ACCEPTED UNLESS MONEY FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS ENCLOSED AND ALL INFORMATION IS COMPLETE.

ENTRY DEADLINE - APRIL 17, 1991

RAM
321 VILLAGE
LANSING, MI 48911

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT #42

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1991 RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS