

# RACQUETBALL EUROPE

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## 2008 14TH IRF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MOVED TO KINGSCOURT, IRELAND!!



The International Racquetball Federation will hold its 14<sup>th</sup> World Championships 2008 in Kingscourt, Ireland. The IRF Executive Committee has just voted on the venue change recently.

The 2008 Worlds were originally granted to Paris, France but financial reasons forced the European Racquetball Federation (ERF) to 'search' for another venue, while other bids from around the world were already eager to host the Worlds as well.



"We were much delighted to receive a bid from Ireland to host the 2008 Worlds", says ERF President Erik Meyer, "Irish Racquetball is the backbone of European Racquetball and we are more than confident to have the best Worlds ever in 2008 in Ireland".

The Kingscourt Racquetball Club has been chosen as the host venue for several reasons. The club offers state of the art racquetball courts with great spectator seatings. The facility has been built only a few years ago while a fitness gym is currently under construction and will be ready by 2008. The club hosts several National racquetball events every year.

The town of Kingscourt is a busy market town in County Cavan, Ireland. It is located in the east of the county near Carrickmacross, County Monaghan. The town was founded towards the end of the 18th century. The town has a rich and varied history. Cabra Castle, is a fine example of a Norman-style castle, and is located nearby the town. Ireland's capital Dublin is only 45 minutes drive away.

40 countries from around the globe are expected to qualify for the 14th IRF World Championships and compete for the World Title.



## RECENT RESULTS:

### Xmas 2006, Hamurg, Germany:

Mens Singles: Oliver Bertels def. Arne Schmitz  
 Doubles Open: Oliver Bertels/Lara Ludwig def. Marcel Czempisz/Ingo Beiler

### French Open 2007, Nanterre, France:

Mens Open Singles: Victor Monserrat (Catalonia) def. Ian Chin (USA)  
 Womens Open Singles: Anna Ventura (Catalonia) def. Kim Heheman (Ned)  
 Mens B Singles: Niklass Deboutte (Belgium) def. Farid Kaid (Fra)  
 Mens C Singles: Jim Kimbrough (USA) def. Ronald Jones (USA)  
 Mens 35+ Singles: Tim Hardison (USA) def. Ian Chin (USA)  
 Mens 45+ Final: Rico Southee (USA) def. Bruno Bouillac (Fra)  
 Mens Doubles: Hardison/Chin (USA) def. DeJong/Timmermans (Ned)

### Leinster Open 2007, Arklow, Ireland:

Mens Open Singles: Jimmy Gannon (Arklow) def. Noel O'Callaghan (Kilkenny)  
 Mens D/Novice Singles: Brian Byrne(Arklow) def. Tony Neary (Arklow)  
 Mens Over 40 Singles: Anthony Butler (Clones) def. Michael Murphy (Arklow)  
 Boys Under 18 Singles: Kevin O'Regan (Arklow) def. Graham Young (Arklow)  
 Mens Open Doubles: Joe Farrell/Jimmy Gannon (Arklow) def. Clom O'Regan/Adam Neary (Arklow)  
 Mens C/D/Novice Doubles: Michael Barnes jnr/ Pa O'Donnell def. Vincent Fitzgerald/Thomas Fitzgerald (Arklow)

### 26th German Nationals, Hamburg:

Mens Singles: Martin Klippel (Hamburg) – Oliver Bertels (Hamburg) 15-5, 15-6  
 Ladies Singles: Yvonne Kortess (Hamburg) – Renate Hartmann (Barsbüttel) 15-3, 15-3  
 Mens Doubles: M. Klippel/O. Bertels – M. Czempisz/A. Schmitz 15-5, 15-8  
 Ladies Doubles: Y. Kortess/J. Ullmann – L. Ludwig/S. Krieger 15-11, 15-11  
 Seniors 30+: Mike Mesecke (Hamburg) – Julio Alvarado (Hamburg) 15-6, 15-7  
 Masters 40+: Marc Scheffler (Hamburg) - Torsten Krieger (Grönwohld) 15-7, 8-15, 11-6  
 Veterans 50+: Gisbert Göde (Ahrensburg) – Ingo Beiler (Hamburg) 15-6, 15-1  
 Senior Doubles 35+: M. Scheffler/T. Krieger (Hamburg) – J. Sattler/J. Ludwig (Hamburg)  
 Juniors U17: Jan Jensen (Hamburg) – Lara Ludwig (Hamburg) 15-2, 15-3  
 Juniors U15: Niklas Krieger (Hamburg) – Benjamin Göde (Ahrensburg)  
 Beginners : Bodo Heinrich (Hamburg) – Jan-Hendrik Köster (Hamburg) 15-8, 15-11

RACQUETBALL EUROPE is a publication of the European Racquetball Federation. All views expressed in RACQUETBALL EUROPE are those of the editorial staff and not necessary those of the ERF or it's executive.

## FROM THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES....



An international tournament will be held in Istanbul on March 23-25. Contact Ms. Ayten Kececi for information on this event which will be called 'Turkey Open'.



The NRA showcased the sport on a sports exhibition, according to NRA officials it was successful and hopefully the interest in racquetball will increase now again.



Ireland's participation at the 2006 World Juniors increased international interest in European RB. Thanks to the RAI for putting alot of work in sending over 19 juniors.



The Italiens are busy.... The Italian Open, an ERT event for the first time and the European Championships in July/August will take alot of time at the moment....



Martin Klippel and Yvonne Kortess are the winners of the 26th German Nationals this year. Kortess claimed her 8th singles title already while it is the 5th for Klippel.



Good news from Great Britain: An agreement has been worked out with the owners of the club in Rendlesham, 2 courts will be ready for tournaments by spring.



Some good news again from Poland. Some meetings have been conducted for the construction of a sports club in Poland, including 2 racquetball courts.

## ERT RANKINGS

SEE COMPLETE RANKINGS ONLINE

### Ladies Singles

1	Kortess, Yvonne	GER
2	Skehan, Julie	IRE
3	Gibney, Elma	IRE
4	Van Rijn, Mirjam	NED
5	Gibney, Ailish	IRE
6	Hartmann Renate	GER
7	Majella Haverty	IRE

### Mens Singles

1	Chin, Ian	USA
2	Hardison, Timothy	USA
3	Montserrat, Victor	CAT
4	Bouillac, Bruno	FRA
5	Klippel, Martin	GER
6	Hickey, Tristan	IRE
7	Morgan Curtis	USA

### European Racquetball Federation Executive Committee:

*President:*  
 Mr. Erik Meyer (Belgium)      *Vice President:*  
 Mr. Mike Mesecke (Germany)

*General Secretary:*  
 Mr. Michael Haverty (Ireland)      *Treasurer:*  
 Mr. Karel Matla (Netherlands)

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 Technical Director: Pascal Matla (Netherlands)

## ...ERF NEEDS YOU IN 2007

„2007 has just begun you may think. 2007 will be just another year with some great and not so great racquetball experiences....“

### Wrong.....

2007 marks the beginning of a new era for the ERF and European Racquetball!! Why? Because many new and positive developments are currently going on in European Racquetball:

#### 1. New countries = new blood

With Italy, Catalonia (Spain) and Turkey, 3 new countries became members of the ERF. All members already sent players to the ERT events and this fresh blood will make our tournaments much more interesting.

#### 2. European Championships 2007

The Euros 2007 will be held in Brembate, Italy. While some of us do not even know where Brembate is, everybody is aware of the fact that Italy has never been the host of the Europeans before. It will be a premiere and the ERF hopes that all ERF countries will support those Europeans with mens and ladies teams, senior and juniors.

#### 3. World Senior Doubles 2007

The second edition of the World Senior Doubles will be held in Hamburg, Germany. Timing for this event, with the Europeans only 7 weeks away, could have been better. However, interest from overseas is great and hopefully even more European seniors will make plans to also attend this 4 day event.

#### 4. ERT Tournaments

Italian Open, Dutch Open, Turkey Open, German Open. The whole spring is already filled with some very exciting and great tournaments. It is good to see the 2nd Italian Open on the calendar as well as another premiere in Turkey with an international tournament. The Dutch Open are also back on the calendar and will attract many players as well.

#### 5. World Championships 2008

The sensational announcement from the beginning of the year will have a major impact on 2007 already. No question that interest in Irish Racquetball and tournaments will increase. No question that many meeting and discussions will take place in 2007.

*To summerize, we need you, we need you to be part of 2007, be active, make plans to attend the events and make sure to keep Racquetball in Europe alive! It is certainly worth the effort.*

## ERF INSIDE...

### ... ERF elections

The ERF will have elections this year in Italy at the European Congress. All positions on the Executive Committee will be up for elections. ERF members are asked to propose candidates for the the position of President, Vice President, General Secretary and Treasurer of the ERF.

### ...New Editor wanted

The ERF is looking for an

### **Editor for Racquetball Europe**

Racquetball Europe is an official publication of the European Racquetball Federation. It is published every 2-3 months, only 4 pages each and contains a latest update on whats going on with European Racquetball.

The ERF is looking for a volunteer who will succeed the current editor from the next newsletter (April) on.

#### Requirements:

- A passion for racquetball
- A computer
- Some (!) creativity

Applications may be sent to the ERF by March 15th



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## European Tournament Calendar 2007

2007				
12-14 Jan	<b>French Open</b>	Paris	France	Jean Pierre Boudart
02-04 Feb	German Nationals	Hamburg	Germany	Jörg Ludwig
10-11 Feb	Moylagh Open	Moylagh	Ireland	Paddy Traynor
- Feb	<b>UK Open</b>	Rendlesham	England	Alan Aburrow Newman
24-25 Feb	National Dbls & Overage C'ships	Arklow	Ireland	Pat Keane
16 - 18 Mar	<b>Dutch Open</b>	Schinnen	Netherlands	Erik Timmermans
03 - 04 Mar	<b>2nd Italian Open</b>	Brembate	Italy	Marco Arnoldi
10-11 Mar	National Sgls & Even Junior C'ships	Kingscourt	Ireland	Pat Keane
23-25 Mar	<b>Turkey Open</b>	Istanbul	Turkey	Ayten Kecici
30 Mar-1 Apr	<b>German Open</b>	Hamburg	Germany	Jörg Ludwig
24-25 Mar	Munster Open	Munster	Ireland	Triston Hickey
13-15 Apr	<b>Castlebar Open</b>	Castlebar	Ireland	Michael Haverty
21-22 Apr	8th Irish Junior Open	Fermoy	Ireland	Liam Hughes
4-7 May	<b>Irish Open</b>	Arklow	Ireland	Vanessa Barnes
18-20 May	<b>Antwerp Open</b>	Antwerp	Belgium	Niklaas Deboutte
19-20 May	Kilkenny Open	Kilkenny	Ireland	John Comerford
06-09 June	2nd IRF World Senior Doubles	Hamburg	Germany	Gary Mazaroff
29 Jul- 4 Aug	14th ERF European Championships	Brembate	Italy	Pascal Matla



# 2ND IRF WORLD SENIOR DOUBLES RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007

**HAMBURG, GERMANY**

**June 6-9, 2007**

### VENUE

#### Sport Department

Barsbuetteler Strasse 43  
22043 Hamburg, Germany  
Tel: +49 40 6530065  
Fax: +49 40 6522626  
www.sport-department.de

### ELIGIBILITY

Those 35 years of age and older. Each player represents his or her own country and individual and country points will be awarded. Birth certificate or passport from one's homeland must be available for verification

Special: **30+ Friendship Doubles Division** will be offered

### MEMBERSHIP

Players must present proof of current membership with their respective National Association.

### ENTRY FEE AND DEADLINE

Entries: \$70 for one event; \$100 for two events (limit of two events each); Individual guest packages \$35 (includes banquet).

### OFFICIAL HOTEL:

Ibis Hotel Hamburg-Wandsbek  
Pappelallee 61  
22089 Hamburg, GERMANY  
Tel: + 49 (0) 40 65 80 20  
Fax: + 49 (0) 40 65 26 603  
E-Mail: H3282-AM@accor.com  
Mention "Racquetball"

Deadline: Registration forms and fees must be RECEIVED by **May 28, 2007**. Late entries that are accepted will be assessed a \$15 charge. All entries are final.

### AWARDS

The top 4 finishers in each age group receive Olympic-style medals. Other special awards.

**CHECK [WWW.WORLDSENIORDOUBLES.RACQUETBALL.DE](http://WWW.WORLDSENIORDOUBLES.RACQUETBALL.DE)**