Newsletter

Vol. 16 No. 5 September, 1999



From The President

Guess What?? It's already time to dust off those racquets and get back to the racquetball courts. Each summer seems to get shorter and shorter.

So, I'm sure you want to know what's on tap for the new season. For those of you in the Chicagoland area, the ISRA Travel League will begin play during the week of October 4, 1999. An organizational meeting was held on Wednesday, September 8th at 7:30 p.m. at the Glass Court Swim & Fitness Club in Lombard. If you missed the meeting, there is still time to get involved. Please call Pam Grace (630) 462-0244 for questions or details.

A calendar is enclosed in this issue with the tournament and junior clinic dates. If you aspire to be a national doubles champion, the annual tournament will be held in Baltimore on October 6-10.

The USRA (United States Racquetball Association) is in the midst of a year-long membership drive. In support of that drive, the ISRA will offer a special incentive to any current member who brings in a brand new ISRA member. Names of the new member and the existing member will be placed in a drawing so that each can win an entire bag of racquetballs! That's enough racquetballs to last an entire season. The drawing will be held at the Revie Sorey Tournament at the Nordic Hills Resort on January 14-16, 2000. Make sure that the new member puts your name down on the membership application so that you both receive a chance to win!

Some people played over the summer and played very well. Congratulations go once again to **Cheryl Gudinas**. Cheryl is a champion once again. This time she won the **Pan American Games** which were held in **Winnepag, Canada**. Great job, Cheryl! If Cheryl wins the U.S. Open in Memphis, she would be the first person in racquetball history to win all three of the sports "majors" (the Nationals, the Pan Ams, and the Open) in the same year. Check out our ISRA web site for additional details on Cheryl's dramatic win (http://www2.eos.net/isra/indep.htm).

Get the racquets out, get back to the courts, and get your game in gear! We'll see you there.

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1999 HEAD/USRA Junior Regional Racquetball Championships———

This year's Region 8 Junior Regional Tournament was held this past May at Athletic Club of Bloomingdale in Bloomingdale, Illinois. The event, though smaller than last year in number of participants, was still high in energy as 27 of the most enthusiastic junior players from four different states participated in both singles and doubles divisions. The tournament also attracted about an equal number of family, friends and spectators to watch the event, which kept the atmosphere charged with enthusiasm.

If you have never had the opportunity to watch junior racquetball, I encourage you to come out and see for yourself the future of our sport. Not only is the caliber of play high, but the level of sportsmanship is to be commended. Many of our local players did well in this year's competition:

BOYS 18 & 16 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Andy Hawthorne (IL), 2nd place - Shannon Kohl (MI)

(Blue Div.): Ist place - Robert Gates (IL), 2nd place - Joe Klibowitz (WI)

(Red Div.): Ist place - Brandon Cortese (MI), 2nd place - Ben Croft (IL)

BOYS 14 (Gold Div.): Ist place - Ben Croft (IL), 2nd place - Andy Klibowitz (WI)

BOYS 12 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Brad Starken (WI), 2nd place - Natalie Starken (WI)

(Blue Div.): 1st place - Tad Dallas (IL), 2nd place - Joey Calvi (IL)

(Red Div.): 1st place - Cameron Leiting (WI), 2nd place - Andre Phillip (IL)

(White Div.): 1st place - Tom Molitor (IL), 2nd place - Bob Pennisi (IL)

BOYS 10 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Bradley Starken (WI), 2nd place - Justin Fleck (IL)

BOYS 8 & UNDER

MULTI-BOUNCE: Ist place - Brad Falvey (WI), 2nd place - Julia Negrete (IL)

BOYS 6 & UNDER

MULTI-BOUNCE: 1st place - Brad Falvey (WI), 2nd place - David Negrete Jr. (IL)

BOYS 16 DOUBLES: 1st place - Robert Gates Jr. (IL)/Ben Croft (IL),

2nd - Joe Klibowitz (WI)/Andy Klibowitz (WI)

BOYS 12 DOUBLES: 1st place - Cameron Leiting (WI)/Mike DeGonia (IL),

2nd place - Tad Dallas (IL)/Justin Fleck (IL)

GIRLS 18 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Krystal Csuk (IL), 2nd place - Sara Borland (IA)

GIRLS 16 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Krystal Csuk (IL)

GIRLS 12 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Natalie Starken (WI), 2nd place - Amanda Grill (IL)

GIRLS 10 (Gold Div.): 1st place - Amanda Grill (IL)

GIRLS 8 & UNDER

MULTI-BOUNCE: Ist place - Julie Negrete (IL)

MIXED 18/16 DOUBLES: 1st place - Krystal Csuk (IL)/Andy Hawthorne (IL),

2nd place - Sara Borland (IA)/Robert Gates Jr. (IL)

As you know, these events don't run on their own. They take both time and money. We couldn't have done it without the generosity and commitment of several key sponsors such as Head, Penn and Gatorade for their continued support of racquetball in general. Then there's the Athletic Club of Bloomingdale and Dave Negrete who not only donated his time, but the facility as well, all weekend. Parents, as well as juniors, were invited to sleep over at the club which proved to be an enjoyable party. Racquetball, wallyball, movies, pizza and ice cream were just some of the participants' choices of activities. Hospitality was again terrific all weekend long as no one left hungry thanks to Tony Cosmano (Anthony's Pizza) who supplied one great meal after another. A special thanks goes out to T.J. Ferro for securing tasty treats from Entemanns, chips from Frito-Lay, and pop from the Coca-Cola Company. Other products donated from the ISRA, Wilson, Ektelon, Python Grips, Head, and others made our drawing a huge success.

Thanks again for making the junior tournament so enjoyable!

Rich Clay, Junior Regional Director



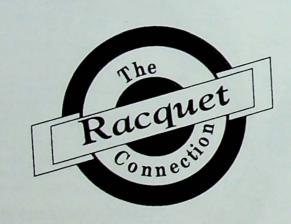
Southlake Club Under New Management —

The Southlake Club in Mundelein has been purchased from longtime owners Sal Catanese and Tom Newberg by an investor group led by Geoff Peters and Sean Nelson!

The club will retain its focus on racquetball (seven courts) and fitness (full array of cardio and weight training equipment) while marketing its convenient location, just north of the intersection of Rt. 45 and Rt. 60, to individuals and corporations in the Mundelein and Libertyville area.

"We're doing some major work to the HVAC system, whirlpools, and building infrastructure," said Peters. "In addition, we will be going a lot of cosmetic improvements such as painting and cleaning the facility from top to bottom." The club is launching a membership drive during the months of September and October as the work is completed. "We think that current members will be proud to refer friends and coworkers to the updated facility," said Manager Kathy Logic. "We'll be increasing our programming this fall and adding additional leagues and fitness programs for all levels. Our members and staff are excited about all of the positive changes taking place!"

For more information on the newly renovated Southlake Club, give Kathy a call at (847) 949-8180. Don't forget to ask her about weekly challenge courts!



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Racquetball Websites

ISRA Website: http://www2.eos.net/isra/index.htm
Check out the ISRA website for updated tournament information,
tournament results, ranking information, and to find out what's
happening at Illinois Clubs. Stop in and check it out soon!

USRA Websites: http://www.racquetball.org htttp://www.usra.org

Racquetball Magazine Website: http://www.racqmag.com

Jordan Kahn's Home Page:

http://members.aol.com/Jordanisra/index.html

E-Force Racquetball: http://www.e-force.com

Ektelon Racquetball: http://www.ektelon.com

Wilson Racquetball: http://www.wilsonsports.com

Courtesy Sports: http://www.courtesysports.com

Gemini Racquetball: http://www.craiga.home.mindspring.com

PENN Racquetball: http://www.pennracquet.com

National Masters Racquetball Association: www.genesinetwork.net/users/nmra

IRT/WIRT Pro Tours: www.irt-tour.com

Meet and Play: http://www.meetandplay.com

1999/2000 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

GUIDELINES:

- The ISRA Board of Directors has established a formal policy of not allowing advertisements to include product pricing.
- All ads are assumed to be camera ready. They can be accepted electronically in .tif, .pcx, or .ppt formats.
- If ads are run for the entire season, AND payment is received with the first issue, the sixth ad is FREE!
- These rates are in effect until December 30, 2000.
- · Ad deadlines are as follows:

Issue Mail Date	Article/Releases Due	Stuffers/Inserts Due
11/1/99	10/12/99	10/20/99
1/1/00	12/9/99	12/13/99
3/1/00	2/12/00	2/20/00
5/1/00	4/12/00	4/20/00
7/1/00	6/12/00	6/20/00

- All stuffer/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307
 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.
- Ad rates:

Full page: \$300/issue. Half page: \$175/issue. Quarter page: \$100/issue.

Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.

For any questions or submission:

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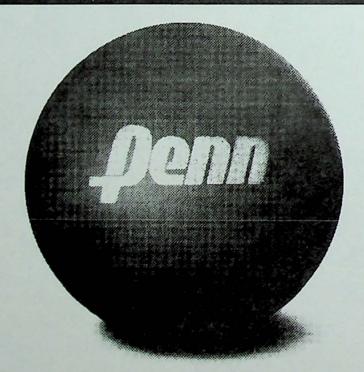
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1999-2000 INSRA Tour

Indiana	State Racquetla	ll Association———
Sept. II-I2	10th ISU Open	Terre Haute
	Indiana State University	Rex Lawler (812) 235-3701
Sept. 24-26	Midwest Seniors/Masters	Indianapolis
	Greenbriar Athletic Club	Mike Arnolt (317) 926-2766
Oct. 16	Noblesville Fall Classic	Noblesville
	Noblesville Athletic Club	Rick Kilion (765) 935-5169
Oct. 22-24	Summit City Open	Ft. Wayne
	Summit City Fitness	Fred Bojarb/Scott McQuery (219) 485-1671
Nov. 5-7	Omni 41 Classic	Scherreville
	Omni 41	Theuressa Henschen (219) 865-6969
Nov. 19-21	Greenbriar Classic	Indianapolis
	Greenbriar Athletic Club	Chris Gallagher/Chad Bird (317) 257-3261
Jan. 14-16	INSRA State Doubles Char	npionships Indianapolis
	Greenbriar Athletic Club	Chris Gallagher/Chad Bird (317) 257-3261
Jan. 28-30	Sycamore Open	Terre Haute
	Indiana State University	Rex Lawler (812) 235-3701
Feb. II-I3	22nd Indy Open	Noblesville
	Noblesville Athletic Club	Chris Gallagher (317) 255-3321
Mar. 3-5	Omni 41 Amatulli Open	Scherreville
	Omni 41	Theuressa Henschen (219) 865-6969
Mar. 10-11	March Madness Open	Shelbyville
	Shelby County Athletic Club	Debbie Chaney/Dede Freeman (317) 897-5481
Mar. 24-26	INSRA State Singles Cham	pionships Indianapolis
	Greenbriar Athletic Club	Chris Gallagher/Debbie Chaney
		(317) 257-3261





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Moving Up 1998-99

Full Draw Tournament Winners 1998-99 Tournament Results

Here are last season's tournament winners moving up on up for the 1999-2000 racquetball year.
Congratulations to all of the winners.
Remember to move up, it has to be a full draw division. A full draw is a division of 12 in a men's event and 8 in a women's. Mixed

doubles move up on 8. Win one full draw tournament and you move up next season. Win twice (or win state's) and you move up with your next event. The only exception is Regionals. Due to the stronger level of competition and the ability to qualify for the Nationals, you get to play Regionals at your initial tournament level.

For tournament players there is no better feeling than accomplishing a long sought after goal. For those moving on up, the challenges get harder, the rewards better. Good luck to all tournament players for the up coming season.

Full Draw Tournament "A" Winners Moving to Open

Tun Braw Tournament A Willies Flowing to open				
NAME	TOURNAMENT	NEW LEVEL		
Kent Hadraba	Negrete Open	Men's Open		
John Kundrot	Regionals and St. Valentine's Day	Men's Open		
Mike Davern	Shamrock Shootout	Men's Open		
Tom Griffith	State Singles and			
	Revie Sorey	Men's Open		
Kimberly Irons (OH)	Revie Sorey V	Vomen's Open		
Ron Scaduto	Palos Olympic Open	Men's Open		
John Bartholomey	Buehler Open	Men's Open		
Robert Gates, Jr.	Illini Open and Turkey Shoot	Men's Open		
Mike Bryce	Palos Holiday Open	Men's Open		
Ron Dim	Wilson Classic	Men's Open		
Mitch Slater	Summerfest 1998	Men's Open		

Full Draw Tournament "B" Winners Moving to "A"

NAME	TOURNAMENT	NEW LEVEL
Dennis Bonn	Negrete Open	Men's A
Tony Mangiaracina	Oak Park March Madness	Men's A
Larry Venna	Regionals	Men's A
Cary Slade	State Single's	Men's A
Dave Collier	Shamrock Shootout	Men's A
Jill Nelson	Shamrock Shootout	Women's A
Bob Morrison	St. Valentine's Day Massacre	Men's A
Keith Wiener	Buehler Open	Men's A
Sean Nelson	Turkey Shoot	Men's A
Nancy Schum	Turkey Shoot	Women's A
John Petros	Buehler Fall Classic	Men's A
Rene Ledesma	Wilson Classic	Men's A

Full Draw Tournament "C" Winners Moving to "B"

NAME	TOURNAMENT	NEW LEVEL	
Joel Nelson	Oak Park March Madness	Men's B	
Also won	at Buehler Fall Classic and at Wils	on Classic	
Dick Heithoff	Regionals	Men's B	
Bob Ayres	Shamrock Shootout	Men's B	
Ben Croft	State Singles	Men's B	
	Also won Men's C at Buehler Open		
Ray Meisner Revie Sorey		Men's B	
Todd Lester	Turkey Shoot	Men's B	

Full Draw Tournament "D" Winners Moving to "C"

NAME	TOURNAMENT	NEW LEVEL
Tony Roselli	Regionals	Men's C
	Also won Men's D at State's	
Mike Belvidere	Shamrock Shootout	Men's C
Joyce Burzloff	Shamrock Shootout	Women's C
Bill Hawkins	Palos Olympic Open	Men's C
Daniel Moon	Revie Sorey	Men's C
Charles Naber	Turkey Shoot	Men's C
John Dalby	Wilson Classic	Men's C
Steve Zeitlan	1998 Summerfest Open	Men's C

Novice Players Moving to "D"

Novice players move up automatically to Men's D after their first event. The Novice division is to get a player's feet wet, so to speak, at the tournament experience. We look forward to seeing the following players in future Men's D tournaments: Jim Schevers, Scott Wadas, Tony Gonzales, Robert Woycheese, Roger Clark, Jerrell Watson, and Bob Schultz.

DOUBLES TEAMS ON THE MOVE

The following doubles teams must move up one level based on their winning a full draw tournament division. A full draw doubles division is one with 12 teams for the men, 8 for the women and 8 for the mixed doubles divisions. Remember, doubles eligibility is determined by the highest ranked player's SINGLES eligibility or the team's doubles eligibility — whichever is higher.

Full Draw Doubles Winners Moving Up

ville Ob	
TOURNAMENT	NEW LEVEL
Shamrock Shootout	Mixed A
Revie Sorey	Men's Open
Revie Sorey	Men's A
Revie Sorey	Men's B
Revie Sorey	Mixed A
Turkey Shoot	Men's Open
Turkey Shoot	Men's A
Turkey Shoot	Men's B
Turkey Shoot	Mixed Open
State Doubles	Men's Open
State Doubles	Men's A
	TOURNAMENT Shamrock Shootout Revie Sorey Revie Sorey Revie Sorey Revie Sorey Turkey Shoot Turkey Shoot Turkey Shoot Turkey Shoot Turkey Shoot State Doubles

6 Steps to Choosing the Right Racquet

Choosing the right racquet can make a tremendous difference to your racquetball game. However, to many players (both expert and beginner) this can be a daunting task. There are many racquets from which to choose, all with significant differences. How do you sort through all the features and benefits to find the racquet thatis just perfect for you? Follow these simple steps and you're sure to have great success.

#I Seek professional advice. A certified teaching professional can tell you what your game needs in improvement, help analyze your playing style and suggest some general types of racquets.

#2 Identify your playing style. This is essential to selecting a racquet. Once you define your playing style you can then narrow your selection to the racquets that give you the best performance characteristics to enhance your game. Start by asking yourself these questions:

Am I a player who demands all-out power? If so, you'll require a larger headsize at, or exceeding, 98 square inches; a quadriform headshape to maximize the main string length; some technologies provide still longer and more consistent main string length; open string patterns; conventional weighting of 225-245 grams and a stiffer frame construction. These are all very specific characteristics of power racquets.

Do I rely more on strategy and precise shot execution, but don't want to sacrifice power? You should seek a slightly smaller headsize (98-94 square inches) with a teardrop headshape. This will give you a lighter weight racquet for maximum maneuverability and control.

Do I play actively, but in spurts, and want the latest technology to add pop to my shots? Or, do I play for fun and exercise and want a competitive edge? If you fall into either of these categories, look primarily for easy hitting racquets with an enlarged hitting zone for effortless power.

In addition to identifying your playing style, think about how often

you play (or would like to play) and your proficiency/ability. All this will help you when it comes time to select racquets to demo.

#3 Experiment with demo racquets. Most better retail outlets and club facilities have a complete selection of demo racquets which you can rent or borrow. Often, your rental fee can be applied to a future racquet purchase. Don't be afraid to experiment with many of the racquets that fall into your playing style category. You'll find that there are also differences between headshape and headsize to consider.

#4 Select the correct headsize. As we pointed out in step 2, a larger headsize (98-112 square inches) will generate more power in a racquet. However, if the racquet is not weighted and balanced correctly, you may have a difficult time maneuvering it. If you are considering a larger headsize racquet, make sure you play with a few different headsizes. It is the only way to see what a difference headsize can make on your performance.

#5 Select the correct headshape. Depending upon your playing style, you may have some choices of headshape. The quadriform shape generally produces more power with its elongated main strings and longer string bed. In the teardrop design, the main strings are shorter which causes the string bed to have slightly less power potential. However, the teardrop shape features a more rounded head area and wider/expanded hitting zone (sweet spot) making it more forgiving on off-center hits.

#6 Select your grip size. The more advanced/expensive racquets sometimes have more than one grip size available. Racquets may be offered in supper small (3-11/16"), extra small (3-15/16") or a flared grip option. Ask to see other sizes so you know which one feels the best for you. Grab the racquet near the base of the handle like you're shaking hands with it. Now wrap your fingers around the handle so that your middle finger almost touches the palm of your hand while gripping the racquet. Remember, the smaller the grip, the more wrist snap you can get to increase your power potential!

Reprinted from Ektelon's Game Face at http://www.ektelon.com.

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16 Things to Remember on Court

Shot Selection

When selecting your shots, if the ball is chest high or higher, go to your ceiling shot.

If the ball is chest to thigh high, use a passing shot. Lower, go for your kill shot.

If your opponent is behind you, pinch (hit the frontwall, then sidewall) to the same side as your opponent. If your opponent is even with you, use a passing shot. If your opponent is in front of you, use a passing or ceiling shot.

When in doubt, go with a down the line shot as close to the side wall as possible. This should force a weak or defensive return.

Good angles are more important than hitting the ball low. By using angles and hitting higher on the front wall, you eliminate skip balls or other unforced errors.

Kill shots aren't the only offensive returns. A good passing shot that bounces twice before hitting the back wall will win a rally and is less likely to skip.

Do not force your kill shots. Use your passing shots to get yourself in better position to hit kill shots.

When hitting a passing shot, don't try to hit the ball low on the front wall. Instead, use a hitting range of 6" - 24" off the floor. Then, if your shot is low, it will still be effective.

Positioning

To get into the proper court position for an offensive return, watch the ball at all times, then move as your opponent swings.

Stroke Mechanics

Consistent ball drop and good stroke mechanics are the keys to a great serve.

Make sure to use your hips and shoulder rotation along with wrist snap to generate power in your serve.

To return serve, your racquet should be centered in front of your body in a backhand grip, as most serves are to the backhand side.

Serving

On your drive serves, it is better to be short on your first attempt, as this can be adjusted by ball drop or aim point on the front wall.

Keep your drive serves from hitting the side wall. You want to angle your serve to the corners to force your opponent to a deeper position in the back of the court.

Try to keep the service motion the same on all your serves. This will create deception and keep your opponent guessing.

When serving, the ideal first bounce range is approximately 6" in front of the short line to 2' past the short line. This range will help keep your serves from coming off the back wall and being easy setups for your opponent.

Vary your serves and speeds to keep your opponent off balance and to force them to stay in center court to receive your serves.

Reprinted from Ektelon's Game Face at http://www.ektelon.com.

1999 8th Annual Summerfest Tournament Results____

July 31-August 1, 1999

With record hot weather outside, the play inside was just as hot, if not hotter. Doug Halverson and the tournament and club staff at Glass Court did it once again, putting on a nice tournament with plenty of extra-curricular summertime activity. Even though it was mid-summer and vacation season was in full swing, the tournament got a full draw with game times running into the late evening.

Event	First Place	Second Place	Semis
Men's Open (17)	Kyle Veenstra (WI)	Ryan Homa (WI)	Eugene Coyle/Dave Negrete
Men's AA (8)	Jason Bronson	Mike Kinkin	Bob Graf/Tom Fehsel
Men's A (23)	Eric Rieman	Kurt Mankle	Mike Bryce/Dennis Bischoff
Men's B (18)	Ed Gutierrez	Ray Meisner	Jeff Jovien/Steve Sacks
Men's C (26)	Charley Naber	Luis Monsreal	Larry Schum/Grant Macuba
Men's D (26)	Miguel Saavedra	Dan Freeman	Gary Pescrillo/Dan Offerman
Mens Novice (6)	Richard Barton	Jerry Roloff	Matt William/Seth Moran
Men's 30/40 + (12)	Carl Kissel	Tom Griffith	Kent Hadraba/Greg Hasty Sr.
Men's 45 + INT (5)	Matt Malley	Mike Padavic	Bill Patten/Lou Gagliano
Men's 50 + (9)	Joe Silius	Greg Hasty Sr.	Rick Robles/Tom Fehsel
Women's Open/A (10)	Sara Borland	Laurel Davis	Kathy Dunham/Nancy Rocha
Women's AA (6)	Nancy Schum	Pandora Nelis	Pam Grace/Mary White
Women's D (3)	Susan Wojnowski	Terry Johnson	Elizabeth Janda
Mens Open Doubles (13) Bill Lyman/Boris Ca	rvallo	

Dylan Wick/Ryan Homa (WI)

Dave Bachar/Nick Radloff

Mens A Doubles (10) Dennis Negrete/Eric Rieman

Todd Lester/Kurt Mankle

Geoff Peters/Dan Peterson

Mens B/C Doubles (10) Roy Orr/Steve Hannon

Greg Benjamin/Charlie Naber

Kit Lawson/Mike Mahon

Women's Open Doubles (7)

Laurel Davis/Liz Molitor

Kathy Dunham/Patrice Calvi

Pandora Nelis/Barb Utterback

Women's A Doubles (2) Pandora Nelis/Barb Utterback

Mary White/Karen McCauley

Women's B/C Doubles (2)

Char Borre/Sharilyn Pope

Cheryl Kirk/Lynn Hiorns

Mixed Open Doubles (6)

KC Jones/Sara Borland

Tom Utterback/Nancy Rocha

Joe Silius/Patrice Calvi

Mixed A Doubles (4) Jeff Grace/Pam Grace Joan Harris/Geoff Peters

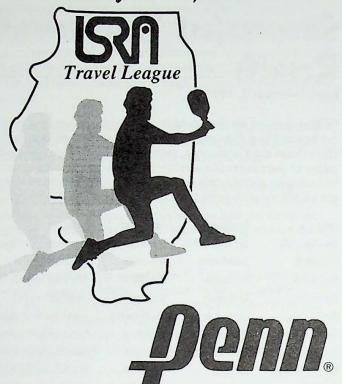
Kevin Yeazell/Lynn Hiorns

Mixed B/c Doubles (4) Mike Mahon/Cheryl Kirk

Sandy McIntyre/Jim Rogers

Tom Pope/Sharilyn Pope

Travel League Update





Captain's meeting will be on September 8th at 7:30 p.m. at the Glass Court in Lombard. This will be the kick-off for the Millennium ISRA Travel League Season. Play is expected to begin the second week of October and there may still be time to get your team entered.

For more information, call Pam Grace at 630-462-0244.

Come Play Friday Nights!

Palos Olympic Health and Racquet Club offers a great Challenge Court every Friday night from 7-11 p.m. for only \$5! Stop by, or call (708) 974-1900 for more information.



Illinois State Racquetball Association

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