



NCRA, Inc.

P.O. Box 14035

New Bern, NC 28561

NCRA BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Bryant	Sneads Ferry	910-327-4441
Debbie Bryant	Sneads Ferry	910-327-4441
Doug Hale	New Bern	252-637-7619
Brad Harmon	Wilmington	dhale@ncracquetball.com
Jan Stelma	New Bern	910-509-1340
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Wayne Sweatt	Charlotte	courtplus@always-online.com
Lee Tart	Fayetteville	stepco@mindspring.com
Andreas Winston	Fayetteville	704-523-7887
		910-864-3303
		910-487-6398
		isc@fayettevilleenc.com
		dreas@netquick.net

Anyone interested in serving on this volunteer Board can submit a petition with 25 valid USRA dues paying member signatures OR ask a Board member to recommend your name to the election committee.

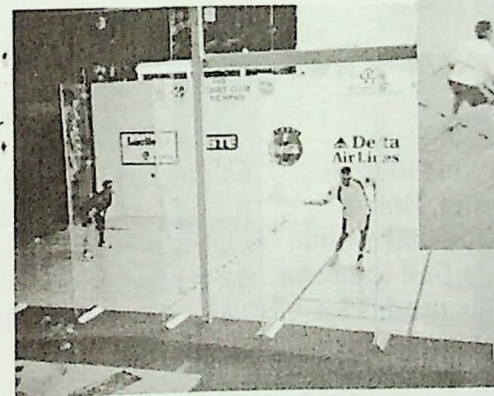
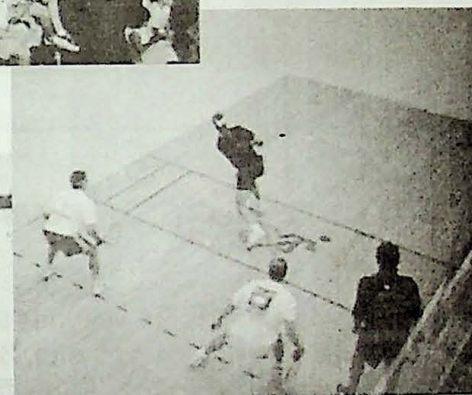
LYNN STEPHENS
1046 LAMMS RD.
CARTHAGE

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NC 28327

THE WALL NUT JOURNAL

The official Newsletter of the North Carolina Racquetball Association, Inc.



INSIDE:

- Rankings • What's the Call • Presidents message
- New AmPRO Director • Upcoming Tournament Schedule
- Tournament Results: Elon College, New Bern, and Asheville

Notes and Quotes from the prez:

In January I had the honor of attending the 1999 USRA Leadership Conference representing North Carolina. It is a jam-packed three-day event. The state of our sport, our National organization, and how our state stacks up against all others is discussed in detail.

North Carolina currently has about 421 NCRA members. We are ranked 14th. Each state was challenged to increase their numbers by the year 2000. Our goal was set at 600. Indiana is currently ahead of us by 21 and Virginia by 26. Another interesting point was that about 25% of the names that cross the national desk when tournaments are reported are not members of the USRA. Every tournament and state needs to do a better job monitoring their memberships.

North Carolina was one of 31 states that had 100% tournament compliance. Your board works hard to make sure we comply with the rules of the USRA and the laws of NC.

The tournament calendar is filling!! We are excited to see Greenville giving a tournament this year. Winston-Salem has also contacted the board about a sanctioned tournament next year. Pretty soon we will have a slate of tournaments for our players year round. This is very exciting for our players, our state, and the state of our sport.

Remember that the States is also the site of our annual board meeting. All

NCRA members are encouraged to attend the meeting; meet your board members, submit your name to become a board member – and just be involved. Elections would be held if all slots on the board were filled, since this is not the case no formal elections will be held, but nominations from the floor will be taken!!!! Let's hope that next year we need elections!

I thought it might help everyone to know the duties of the current board members.

1. Doug Hale; Treasurer and helps with the internet site (Kristi Hale as a volunteer is also instrumental in this)
2. Wayne Sweatt; Vice President; works on state calendar and updates the sanctioning kits – runs meetings if President is not available – rankings
3. Debbie Bryant; Secretary; does all secretarial duties; also director of referees for NC
4. Jan Stelma; President; conducts all meetings; acts as liaison for all members; sanctions tournaments; runs business of the NCRA; contact with the Nationals
5. Bruce Bryant; Director of rankings; has worked to establish new ranking system for NC and ensures each tournament director gets most current list before tournament
6. Andreas Winston; publishes the newsletter; research and establishes guidelines for the business of the newsletter
7. Brad Harmon; Director of junior programs for the state
8. Lee Tart; assists with the junior program; helps with the newsletter
9. Lynn Stephens; Director of the newsletter

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

March 12-14, 1999	Kevin Banks Memorial	Pulse Athletic Club	Greenville	252-756-9175
March 19-21	Spring Classic	The Sports Club of Ashville	Asheville	704-252-0222
April 9-11	NCRA State Championship	Courts Plus	Jacksonville	910-346-3446
April 30-May 2	Atlantic Coast Rac. Championship	Wilmington Athletic Club	Wilmington	910-763-9655
June 11-13	Crystal Coast Classic	Sports Center	Morehead City	919-726-7070
June 18-20, 1999	Summer Bash	The Sports Club of Ashville	Asheville	704-252-0222
July 16-18	Big Brother /Big Sister Tourn.	Courts Plus	New Bern	252-633-2221
September	NCRA State Doubles	TBA	Charlotte	704-333-7771
Sept. 17-19	Outback Blast It!	The Sports Center	Fayetteville	910-864-3303
Oct. 22-24	Tournament of Champions	Elon College	Elon College	336-229-1433
Nov. 5-7	Hurricane Classic	Courts Plus	Jacksonville	910-346-3446
Nov. 19-21	Turkey Shoot	The Sports Club of Ashville	Asheville	704-252-0222
Jan. 15-17	ARC Tournament	Courts Plus	New Bern	252-633-2221

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ELON COLLEGE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

October 1998

With 102 players in their 3rd year this tournament just keeps getting better and better. Brad Harmon along with the students at Elon make sure that you never have to look very far to find someone to help you out with anything you may need. This year's tournament featured the State Champions from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Maryland in a battle to see who would take home the prize money. When the smoke cleared it was Matt Gehling from Maryland with the win. This is one tournament you don't want to miss this year.

Results	1st place	2nd place
MEN'S		
Open	Matt Gehling	Allan Shepherd
A	Keith Taylor	Tim Hardison
B	Juan Cageao	Mike Norelli
C	Carl Russell	Dan Naff
D	Brandon Balwanz	John Behun
25+	Tim Hardison	Keith Taylor
35+	David Steiger	Jon Ferguson
35+ B/C	Lorne Burry	Doug Brown
45+	Steve Silverman	Ron Halloran

ASHEVILLE TURKEY SHOOT

November 1998

Asheville upheld its reputation again for holding one of the best tournaments of the year. It's always great to see a tournament that can field such a good cross section of players from Open to the many age and doubles divisions they offer. This tournament truly has something for everyone.

Results	1st place	2nd place
MEN'S		
Open	Joel Bonnett	Jason Thoerner
A	Keith Taylor	Rick Lee
B	Chris Crockett	Mike Adkins
C	Adam Podolac	Tommy Sink
D	Bradley Vaughan	Mark Redisill
Novice	Mark Redisill	Ed McCall
25/35+	David Smith	Phil Olson
25/35+B	Roberto Cantos	Gene Gibson
35/40+	Mark Lackey	Dave Hibbard
40+B	Kerry Hugh	Jim Sims
45+	Rick Lee	Adrian Snyder
45+B	Robert Floyd	Glenn Cassle
50+	Gary Bierderman	Chuck Lew
55/60+	Bill Watkins	Ulf Hellsten

NEW BERN ARC TOURNAMENT

December 1998

With 60 players in this tournament it may not be the biggest in the state but its always one of the most fun. With good racquetball, sportsmanship, friendship, and food, you couldn't ask for much more in a tournament.

Results	1st place	2nd place
MEN'S		
A	Ashley Conway	Kevin Webb
B	Lorne Burry	Robert Meyer
C	Mike Rice	Mike Bourgeois
D	Jason Kellum	Jackson Wong
Beg's	Wesley Webb	Morris Wilks
WOMEN'S		
A/B	Pam Avery	Catherine Land
C/D	Michelle McFadden	Sharon Wilks
DOUBLES		
MOAD	Powell/Bryant	Felumlee/Triplett
MBCD	Hale/Moye	Conway/Conway
MDD	Morales/Stelma	Trochanowski/Wong
XOAD	Land/Webb	Cook/Schramm
XBCD	Wilson/McFadden	Bourgeois/Helsel
XDD	Jones/Wilson	Trochanowski/Hale

WOMEN'S

Open	Leah Redwine	Meena Evans
A	Phyllis Bishop	Stephanie Walker
B	Grace Ann Kane	Julia Dial
D	Stephanie Byars	Jennifer Ziegler

DOUBLES

MOD	Alberty/Day	Davis/Young
MAD	Grunstra/Silverman	Fry/Harmon
MBD	Foreman/Quinn	Heathman/Heathman
XD	Christensen/Troutman	Oates/Thore

WOMEN'S

Open	Paula Carter	Holly Remen
A	Tricia Brown	Maria Medina
B	Grace Ann Kane	Melanie Bianucci
C	Sharon Wilks	Joy Anne Peters
D	Colleen Bates	Kim Trujillo
Novice	Carol Blackwelder	Colleen Bates
35+B	Julia Dial	Sharon Wilks

DOUBLES

MOD	Thoerner/Henline	Bonnett/Williams
MBD	Mckinley/Saucier	Forman/Schlangee
MCD	Haltiwanger/Barrier	Willis/Good
WOAD	Sims/Carter	Redwine/Sheppard
XOAD	Remen/Remen	Buffum/Ginn
XBD	Sims/Sims	Moore/Bianucci

You may have noticed that the new rankings have been posted on the NCRA's Web site. (ncracquetball.com) We hope to have a complete explanation on the new ranking system by the time the next issue comes out. Bruce Bryant and Wayne Sweatt have worked many long hours putting the system together and getting everyone entered in it. Doug Hale is in the process of putting together a computer program so we can update it quickly and efficiently. Please be patient while all this is being done. Everyone has to remember that these people have full time jobs and must do all this work in their spare time.



Board Member and Newsletter Director Lynn Stephens with No.8 ranked Professional Racquetball player Derek Robinson at the US Open

NEW DIRECTOR OF AMPRO

The USRA announced the hiring of Gary Mazaroff as their new Director of AmPRO. Wilson Racquet Sports also announced that they are now the Corporate sponsors for AmPRO. All the major companies are gearing up to require their sponsored players to become certified at some level with this organization. This is a major step to improving our sport at the grass roots level. Pulse Athletic Club out of Raleigh is investigating bringing a certification course to North Carolina. This will be a great opportunity for all the players in our state!!

WHAT'S THE CALL

NCRA would like to have more members apply to become certified referees. We have an unlimited number of openings. Pay—depends on host of tournament. Benefits—Knowledge of the game you love so much and knowing that when you do something (refereeing) that you have to do anyway you're doing it right. Apply at the next NCRA sanctioned tournament. For those not interested in becoming certified the NCRA holds a free rules clinic at every sanctioned tournament. We highly recommend you attend. For information call—Debbie Bryant 910-327-4441

CORRECTION

The answer to question # 1 in the last WallNut Journal should have been **TRUE**.

False was an incorrect answer but only one person called me to correct it!

1. If the ball hits a designated court hinder, but does not take a bad bounce, the referee should:

- a. allow play to continue, but call a hinder if either player hesitates or stops playing
- b. allow play to continue and refuse any claim of hinder by the players
- c. call hinder immediately even though the bounce was good
- d. allow play to continue unless one of the players calls hinder

The answer is C.

This is a frequently misunderstood rule. If the ball hits a designated court hinder, it's a hinder whether or not it takes a bad bounce. See Rule 3.14(a)(1)

1. Player A realizes that his first serve, a soft lob, is going to give his opponent a setup. To avoid the setup, Player A jumps over the serve(front) line before the ball crosses the short line. Player B kills the serve return. What should the referee call?

- a. avoidable hinder on Player A
- b. foot fault on Player A
- c. nothing, because the rally was legal
- d. foot fault and technical foul on Player A

The answer is D.

The foot fault is covered by Rule 3.9 (a). The concept of calling a technical foul for intentionally foot faulting over the service (front) line is covered in Rule 3.9(a)(7)

3. If a player intentionally holds up, indicating a safety hinder, but the referee feels that she could not have gotten to the ball, the referee should declare her opponent to be the winner of the rally.

The answer is TRUE.

A safety holdup is always subject to referee acceptance, but in most cases the player should receive the benefit if doubt exists. Only if the referee feels that the player could not have gotten to the ball, a hinder should not be allowed. See Rule 3.14 (a)(6)

AmPRO Certified; Debbie Bryant