



THE SERVICE LINE

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MICHIGAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION
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MY SIDE OF THE COURT

by Bob Szuch

Four times a year, I sit down at my kitchen table and start to write an article for the MRA newsletter. Often the words come easily, but on occasion I'll sit for hours not knowing what to write. This is one of these times. So, I hope you'll forgive me, if I tend to jump from topic to topic in this issue.

I would like to praise the MRA Board for a job well done. I have never been associated with such a group of fine people. All of the people on the Board have the interest of racquetball for Michigan foremost in their minds. Admittedly, each person on the Board serves with a specific goal in mind, but collectively they form a very dynamic group of concerned people. I am proud to say that I am associated with such a group.

I would like to go through the MRA Board and briefly describe each to you as I see them. Jim Easterling and Dianne Driver (soon to be Mrs. Easterling) are the two mainstays on the Board. They serve tirelessly and without whom the MRA Board would not function as well. I am constantly amazed at the initiative that they take upon themselves. I would like

to publically thank them for all their work.

Gary and Peggy Doty form our husband/wife combination on the Board. This couple too has done much to promote racquetball in Michigan as well as help the Board function as well as it does. Gary and Peggy have been on the Board for many years, and their insights and logic have helped the Board through rough times. I would like to thank them for the stability that they have given the Board through the years.

Jim Emerson and Ted Dutcher are two of our more mature Board members. Ted is involved with the Team Concept this year while Jim is primarily serving as a tournament director and devil's advocate. These two individuals will often put problems and concerns into perspective. They were both instrumental in the formation of new player divisions (Masters B and Seniors C). I am pleased to have been associated with these two fine gentlemen.

Judy Gonyea and Bill Gottlieb are two relatively new members. Judy

serves as Secretary and Bill as primarily a tournament director. These two people are evolving into strong Board members. Bill and Judy are two of the Board's more silent members, but when they speak, they usually provide insight into a situation. Bill's big concern is seeding of the players. The Board often teases these two for their silence, but they are in the position of most new Board members--still feeling their way around and finding a place with the established Board members.

The Board's two newest members, Lee Frederickson and Jack Iobaido are the idealists of the Board. Lee promoted and held the Pro-Open division in Grand Rapids and he and Jack are featuring doubles stops this year. These two have not yet realized that sometimes the wheels of an organization turn slowly. They are asking "Why?" or "Why not?" when certain items get tabled or vetoed. I admire their spirit and their enthusiasm. They are where I was five years ago. It is encouraging to have new blood on the Board to help us grow.

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News from the Vice President

by Jim Easterling

National Racquetball Organizations!!! Are you confused?? It seems that every six months there is a new racquetball organization (and a new set of letters) being formed. What I hope to do in this article is to help you understand what each organization is.

In the beginning there was the IRA (International Racquetball Assn.). This was the first national racquetball association and it was founded by Bob Kendler in November, 1968.

Bob Kendler then resigned from the IRA and formed the NRC (National Racquetball Club) in June 1973, which started professionalism in racquetball (money for pro players).

In July of 1974, the USRA (United States Racquetball Association) was formed. This was another national organization geared toward the amateur player.

In October 1979, the IRA became the AARA (American Amateur Racquetball Assn.). The AARA is now recognized as "the" national racquetball organization. The first president of the AARA was Keith Calkins and the executive director is Luke St. Onge.

In May 1982, the USRA went bankrupt leaving the AARA as the

sole national organization.

OK on the National level--now on to the state level. As always, Michigan has been a hotbed for racquetball and this is shown by the fact that there are three organizations operating in the state.

The MARA (Michigan Amateur Racquetball Association) is the state affiliate of the AARA. The MARA was formed in July 1982 and its president is Larry Cole from Flint. The goal of the MARA is to promote racquetball at all levels (especially juniors) in Michigan.

The MRA (Michigan Racquetball Association) was formed in the summer of 1976. The MRA was the state affiliate of the USRA until the fall of 1980 when the MRA felt it could better serve the Michigan player by existing independently. The first president of the MRA was Dennis Wood from Lansing.

The goals of the MRA are to promote racquetball at all levels in Michigan and to run a series of nine state-wide tournaments which culminate in a state championship.

The MCRA (Macomb County Racquetball Association) was formed in the summer of 1983. This organization was formed by and is run by Mike Witherspoon and Pancho Gutierrez. The MCRA is supported by Petitpre, Inc., distributor

of Bud Light Beer in Macomb County. The goal of the MCRA is to promote all levels of racquetball in Macomb County.

I hope this cleared up the alphabet soup of racquetball organizations for you. In my next article I will explain the state organizations and their activities in more detail.

MRA Board of Directors

BOB SZUCH	PRESIDENT
JIM EASTERLING	VICE PRESIDENT
JUDY GONYEA	SECRETARY
DIANNE DRIVER	TREASURER
GARY DOTY	LANSING
PEGGY DOTY	LANSING
WILLIAM GOTTLIEB	LANSING
JACK LOBAIDO	MI. CLEMENS
JIM EMERSON	BRIGHTON
TED DUTCHER	TROY
LEE FREDERICKSON	WAYLAND
CAHIE FREDERICKSON	WAYLAND
LARRY ROBERTS	IVONIA

The MRA and you

One of the questions most often asked of Board members of the Michigan Racquetball Association is: "What does the MRA do for me?" As a neophyte player, I was extremely critical of those dedicated individuals attempting to provide QUALITY tournaments and organize racquetball in our state. Now, from the inside, is the time to answer this question from a fresh perspective.

There are this year, as there have been for the past five years; nine high-quality, well run tournaments which are geographically placed throughout Michigan for your convenience. These tournaments are placed throughout the state irregardless of which areas will draw the most players. Men's, Women's and Junior divisions are offered at each stop. The State Championship is decided by the MRA Singles, Doubles and Juniors' tournaments. **WHEW!!!!** That alone is an unbelievable amount of time and effort by a group of volunteers who all hold other full-time jobs.

Rating each player every month for each tournament that they enter is a statistical nightmare. Up to 600 computer entries are done monthly along with name and address changes. The rating print-out is available monthly at the tournament desk.

Quarterly newsletters with the latest information for the player are mailed to your home. Ratings, tournament results, articles, pictures, opinions, future tournaments and general information are all routine in your newsletter.

Rules are set down in a well-organized booklet available to all members upon request. Complex rules are further explained in each newsletter. Referee clinics are held all year at tournaments, clubs and on college campuses.

Grievances and special requests from members are handled at each Board meeting, providing the player will put the problem in writing or attend the meeting. (Board meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at the Oak Park YMCA in Lansing and are open to all members and guests.)

New to the MRA this year, is the membership card and the mailing of entry forms to each member's home. This membership card will help the player achieve special discounts at clubs, on housing, and for a national magazine. Just making sure each member receives his/her card requires a lot of time in preparing and organizing the cards. (see articles on 50-Mile Radius Discount and on National Racquetball Discount)

Also, this year the MRA has published the First Court Club Guide of Michigan. The effort taken to develop a survey that court club owners would respond to, mail the survey, receive and compile the results as well as type the book are some of the time consuming activities not readily seen by the player.

The MRA continues to operate a tournament clearinghouse. Through this clearinghouse, conflicts of major tournament dates are held to minimum. This gives you, the player, a chance to compete in as many fine-quality tournaments in Michigan as you choose to.

The MRA, long criticized for not having prize money tournaments, has scheduled two prize money events this year for any player who wishes to compete in the Men's Pro Open or Women's Pro Open events. These prize money events are funded only by the players who participate in them and through local sponsor contributions. No money from other division players is funnelled into a prize money event. The same is true for the Team Concept this year. It is a money event supported by the teams who enter. First prize in the Team Concept this year is 50% of all the money collected in the Team Concept during 1983-84.

All these activities are carried on for you, the player, by eleven other players from Michigan who donate their time each month to promote racquetball. The MRA is a totally state-wide and state-based organization with you, the player in mind. So get involved and support and promote racquetball in Michigan.

New MRA Board Members

The MRA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the addition of a new Director. Cathie (Stellema) Frederickson was named to the MRA Board of Directors at the December 6, 1983 meeting. Cathie, a women's open player, is from Wavland and has been active in the Grand Rapids Patrons Association and in promoting racquetball in Western Michigan.

With the addition of Cathie to the Board, there are still three vacancies remaining to be filled. Qualifications for becoming a MRA Director include attendance at monthly Board meetings and a willingness to become actively involved in MRA activities and on committees.

All interested MRA members are urged to attend the monthly Board of Directors meetings held the first Tuesday of each month at the Oak Park YMCA in Lansing. For further information, please contact Bob Szuch, President, MRA, PO Box 23035, Lansing, MI 48909 or call (313) 683-3497.

The MRA Board of Directors is also pleased to announce the selection of Larry Roberts who was also named to the Board at the December 6, 1983 meeting. Larry, a men's seniors player is from Livonia and has a high degree of interest in the refereeing aspect of the game. Larry will soon be a very active Board member. With the addition of Larry Roberts, there still remain two vacancies on the MRA Board of Directors.

MRA Sponsors

The MRA is proud to present the sponsors for MRA #4, #5, and #6 of the 1983-84 State Championship Series. We extend a hearty welcome to our new sponsors and welcome back those from 1982-83. The MRA urges all players to support the sponsoring companies who support your tournaments.

Returning to the State Championship Series this year is AMF Voit. The Voit Rollout Bleu ball will be the official ball for MRA #4, #5, and #6. MRA #4 marks a return to the Court Players Club in Lansing. Joining Voit in sponsoring MRA #4 are Athletes Village and University Olds, both of Lansing. Athletes Village and University Olds will donate a new look to the MRA trophies for this event. Wheels Inn will donate five 2-night/3-day stays as door prizes.

January and MRA #5 mark a new club site to the MRA Schedule--Oakland Racquet Club in Birmingham. Joining Voit in sponsoring this event, which will be the second prize money event, will be Miller Lite Beer and AMF Head. Wheels Inn will also donate the door prizes.

MRA #6 in February marks the return of the MRA to Kalamazoo and the Court Players Club. This means this year three MRA stops are in Western Michigan. MRA #6 will be sponsored by Voit and Wheels Inn. By this tournament the team concept should be in full swing. Just a reminder: It's NOT TOO LATE to enter your team and possibly win the first prize of 50% of all team concept money collected during 1983-84.

Also, our thanks to the following hotels for agreeing to act as tournament headquarters for MRA tournaments. Remember, when reserving your rooms mention that you are a MRA tournament player and ask if they have special rates. Thanks to The Red Roof Inn of Lansing; The Ramada Hotel of Southfield; and The Southgate Motor Lodge in Kalamazoo.

Failure to "Ref"

Due to a small minority of players who when they lose seem to think they do not have to referee, the MRA has adopted the following policy:

Failure to referee or to find someone to referee for you, will result in that tournament not counting as one of your three stops to participate in the State Singles.

The tournament director will keep lists of who does not referee and those persons will be notified by letter that the tournament will not be counting as one of their three. We regret this policy had to be adopted, but in all fairness to those who do referee a policy had to be adopted. IF YOU LOSE REPORT BACK TO THE TOURNAMENT DESK IMMEDIATELY!!!!

TOURNAMENT RESULTS...

MRA No. 1

by Bob Szuch

This past September 16-18, 195 members of the MRA took part in the first stop in the MRA Series which decides the State Champions. Petoskey remains the finest stop on the tour, with many players combining racquetball with a short autumn vacation. Many players, including myself, ventured further north to take in the sights of Northern Michigan.

Sponsoring this event gave maximum exposure to Bata Shoes, Wilson Sporting Goods and radio station KHQ. KHQ provided numerous radio spots prior to and after the event. The club management provided excellent hospitality throughout the tournament and made every effort to see that the needs of the players were always met. The MRA is proud to have Petoskey as its starting point each year. It gives the northern players a chance to compete and the other MRA members a chance to escape for a fantastic weekend, including bond fires on the beach. Everyone can honestly say, "A good time was had by all."

Highlights of the tournament had to include the play of Troy Van Bemmelen (now of Houghton). Troy knocked off Tom Brownlee then Radiation Man before losing in a tie-breaker to Ray Vanover. Nice going Troy!!

Other Division winners were:

Open - Randy Anderson d. Ray Vanover 21-11, 19-21, 11-1
A - Bryan Smith d. Mark Kelley 21-5, 21-10
B - Mark Casey d. Dan Veith 21-16, 21-16
C - Tim Bos d. John Fitzgerald 21-12, 21-18
D - Mike Carlson d. John Bakalis 21-7, 21-13
Seniors B - Pete Jordan d. John Patrick 21-20, 21-9
Seniors C - Jerry Gray d. Dave Chrenka 21-20, 21-11
Masters A - Gundars Strautnieks d. Chuck Hise 21-11, 21-19
Masters B - Gary Nash d. Gerry Malleck 21-13, 21-13
Juniors 17 - Scott Tessmar d. Pete Fisher 21-3, 21-18

Open - Judy Gonyea d. Sheri Anderson 9-21, 21-15, 11-9
A - Linda Lutze d. Denise Gravelyn 21-9, 21-17
B - Kim Steinbach d. Dianne Driver 21-17, 21-18
C - Judy Carson d. Marlene Goss 21-14, 21-10
D - Cindy Belongie d. Cindy McDaniel 21-9, 21-7

MRA No. 2

by Judy Gonyea

MRA #2 was held at Woodland Racquet Club in Brighton during the weekend of October 14-16. This tournament was sponsored by Wilson Sporting Goods who provided the nice collared shirts for all tournament entrants. Over 280 MRA members participated with 10 of the entrants being junior players in the 15 and Under and 13 and Under divisions.

We would like to thank the staff at Woodland Racquet Club for providing all with excellent hospitality during the entire weekend as well as having beer available on Saturday evening. The staff assisted the MRA in every way possible to make the tournament a very enjoyable weekend for all.

Highlights of the tournament included Randy Anderson (Grand Rapids) defeating Radiation Man (Lansing) in the finals of the Mens Open. This was Randy's second tournament win in the MRA series as he captured the Mens Open title in Petoskey the month before. In the Womens Open, two familiar faces were in the finals as Cathie (Stellema) Frederickson defeated Donna Henry. Cathie continues where she left off last year when she won the State Championship. Not to be outdone, Kathy Stellema (Wayne--cousin to Cathie Frederickson) captured the Women's A crown by defeating Mary Ann Szpont. Congratulations to all who took part in MRA #2.

Other Division winners were:

Open - Randy Anderson d. Radiation Man 21-15, 21-6
A - John Pfeffer d. Ernie Matties 21-18, 21-15
B - Mark Carson d. Dan Veith 12-21, 21-20, 11-8
C - Stan Tuckwell d. Gilberto Martinez 21-16, 21-18
D - John Morrison d. Ron Liikala 21-19, 21-20

Seniors A - Stuart Leff d. Ron Pudduck 21-16, 21-13
Seniors B - Bob Tessmar d. Dennis Kitchen injury forfeit
Seniors C - Morris Penner d. Larry Shriner 21-14, 21-11
Masters A - Richard Sewell d. Milo Karhu 17-21, 21-7, 11-7
Masters B - Ron Knockeart d. Ray Mitchell 21-10, 21-15
Golden Masters - Duane Russell d. Joe Charette 21-9, 18-21, 11-6
Juniors 15 - Ashley Burt d. Scott Tessmar 21-14, 21-5
Juniors 13 - Brian Flowers d. Jeff Kummier 21-5, 21-15

Open - Cathie Frederickson d. Donna Henry 21-20, 21-8
A - Kathy Stellema d. Mary Ann Szpont 21-10, 21-13
B - Nancy Uniacke d. Janet Insko 21-16, 21-8
C - Carol Collins d. Carol Marshall 21-18, 21-14
D - Karen Richwine d. Vicki Schulte 21-14, 21-11

MRA No. 3

by Lee Frederickson

This year's MRA #3 proved to be very successful for the 200 plus entrants. Each contestant found excellent competition in their respective divisions. Sponsored by Wilson Sporting Goods, Bud Light, WJPM and Viking Sports, the tournament provided excitement for all. A new division found a home with the MRA, and several new champions were crowned. The debut of the Men's and Women's Pro Open saw 14 men and 8 women vying for a \$1400 pot. John Amatulli (Chicago) took home \$400 by defeating Brian Mitchell (Rochester) in the finals in front of a sell out crowd on Sunday afternoon. Cathie Stellema Frederickson (Wayland) defeated Cathy Thompson (Mt. Clemens) and took home \$225.

Opening up the pro division had a very positive effect on the Men's Open with a draw of ten intense players that for all intents and purposes looked like they were playing for money instead of a shirt, trophy and glory. Rick Vanderlind (Grand Rapids) made an excellent come back by defeating Big Z, Radiation Man and Jim Easterling to get in the finals against Stu Hastings. Rick hung in their until the final point, but was defeated by Hastings (Sterling Heights). In the Men's A, Dave Austin (Bloomfield Hills) will be moving up a division after defeating Marc Van Dis in a tie-breaker 11-5. In the Men's B it was Kelly vs. Kelly with Brian defeating Chris 21-17, 21-17. For Brian (Grand Rapids) welcome to A. Mike Carlson defeated Pat Brady to take home the trophy in the Men's C. Mark Myers went to a tie-breaker with Jim Ohanesian before winning 11-9 in the largest division. Some feel that to win in Men's D is truly an endurance and fitness trial.

Ken Bonnett outlasted Bob Gravelyn 20-21, 21-13, 11-6 in a hard fought match where the cheering spectators were as much a part of the action as the players. Seniors A remains one very tough division. Masters A player Lynn Hahn playing the first time in Seniors B defeated Bob Smith 21-13, 21-13 in the finals. Join the boys in Seniors A, Lynn. Gundars Strautnieks handled Tom Rensberrv in the Seniors C finals 21-17, 21-11. Henry Bult keeps the Masters B trophy in Grand Rapids after a hard match with Jack Markward 21-14, 9-21, 11-9.

The boys in the 13 and Under represented Grand Rapids well with Joel Bonnett defeating Lee Steinbach in the finals 21-19, 21-18. That is two trophies for the Bonnett family, not shabby for a family weekend outing.

Women's A crowned a new champion who has just been dying to join

(Con't. page 4)

Pro open debuts at Grand Rapids

by Lee Frederickson

This new division proved itself in its first outing at Grand Rapids. Fourteen men and eight women battled it out at Racquetball Plus for \$1400 in prize money. Budweiser Light, Wilson, Viking Sports and WJFM and WZZM-TV all helped to promote this new professional spectator-oriented division. These Pro's play for money only, no shirt or trophy; however, Mike Anderson of BE A SPORTI donated custom T-shirts to each pro.

The seedings for the Men's Pro Open were (1) Brian Valin, (2) Brian Mitchell, (3) Bob Wilhelm, (4) John Amatulli, (5) Chris Cole, (6) Mike Anderson, (7) Ray Vanover and (8) Randy Anderson.

The seedings for the Women's Pro Open were (1) Cathie Stellema Frederickson, (2) Joetta Hastings, (3) Cathy Thompson and (4) Judy Gonyea.

Brian Mitchell played through Ray Vanover and Mike Anderson to meet John Amatulli in the Finals. John had to defeat Mark Heckman, Ken Harper and Randy Anderson to get to Finals. Amatulli then defeated Mitchell 18-21, 21-19, 11-10. The scores tell the story for even a novice racquetball player. The crowd, standing room only, completely enjoyed the match. Brian and John entertained and played to the crowd, both proving that they were true gentlemen and the best athletes that day. John took home a hefty \$400, Brian \$250 and semi-finalists Mike and Randy Anderson each took home \$65.

On the women's side, Cathie Frederickson breezed through Sheri Anderson and Cathy Thompson to take home first place money of \$225. Cathy Thompson defeated Irene Ackerman-Chmura to get to the finals and took home \$150. Semi-finalists Anderson and Ackerman-Chmura both

took home \$40 each.

From a spectator viewpoint, other than the finals, perhaps the most exciting match was played Saturday evening. This saw home town favorite Mike Anderson defeat Bob Wilhelm 21-11, 21-17. Both men were making exceptional shots and exceptional gets. They had the crowd "ooing" and "aughing" on every point. The match was intense and both players exhibited a high degree of sportsmanship throughout making it very enjoyable to watch.

Congratulations to all of the players who helped kick off the MRA's Pro Open division at Grand Rapids. The second Pro Open event will take place at MRA #5 to be held in January at Oakland Racquet Club in Birmingham.

RULES

by Jim Easterling

There are a few racquetball rules that people still are confused about at tournaments. This article is an attempt to clarify them.

Foot Fault - This is when the server has his/her foot outside or partly over, the short line when he/she begins the serve. And also when the server steps outside, or partly over, the service line on the serve. And finally, when a person serves a ball (usually a lob) and steps out of the service zone before the ball has passed the short line plane.

Deliberate or not, all of the above are fault serves. A foot fault is like a short or long serve. It is a fault (bad) serve with one more serve coming. Yes, the foot fault is appealable.

Receiving line violations - The receiver may not infringe on the receiving lines (5 foot hash marks on the walls) until the ball has either bounced beyond the short line or passed the receiving lines. Therefore, the receiver may NOT execute a fly return within the 5 foot safety zone.

This means that when returning a lob serve (which is going to bounce behind the receiving lines) the receiver must have his feet behind the receiving lines and make contact with the ball BEHIND the receiving line plane.

The receiver, after making contact, behind the receiving line, may follow through and break the receiving line plane. At no time

on the serve, is the receiver allowed to break the short line plane with either his racket or his body. Violation by the receiver results in a point for the server. THIS IS A JUDGEMENT CALL WHICH CANNOT BE APPEALED.

This receiving line rule is a MRA (USRA) rule and is used at all MRA tournaments. The "Super Seven" Series has also adopted this rule this year. Rumor has it that the AARA may soon adopt this version of the rule.

Time Outs - Between the first and second games and also between the second and tie breaker are all five (5) minutes.

MRA Doubles No. 1

New to the MRA tournament schedule this year are two doubles tournaments leading up to the State Doubles/State Juniors Championship on March 30, 31, April 1, 1984.

MRA Doubles #1 was held on November 18-20 at Racquetball Plus in Grand Rapids. Run by Racquetball Plus the tournament provided competition for 32 teams in the following divisions: Mens Open, Mens B, Mens C/D, Womens A and Mixed Doubles.

Winners were in the Open - Mark Heckman/Scott Reid d. Roy White/Rick Vanderlind. Mens B - Todd Leuthjohann Dennis Karkau d. Neal Goodman/George Agin. Mens C/D - Mike Jahn/Ed Thomas d. Oville Butzin/David Michaelson. Womens A - Ann Jahn/Kris Hengel d. Kelly Schmelter/Marlene Goss. Mixed Doubles winners - Greg Hodges/Judy Dunbar.

Congratulations to all. MRA Doubles #2 will be January 20-22, 1984 at Oakland Racquet Club in Birmingham. See you there.

MRA No. 3 (con't.)

the open ranks. Congratulations to Laura Lozon for defeating Jean Heckman 21-20, 5-21, 11-4. Women's B winner Joy Barry beat Robin Latreille 14-21, 21-18, 11-6. Betty Ann Gilliland defeated Peggy Hoshield 21-11, 21-17 and in Women's D Cindy Gill defeated Sharon Huczek 21-16, 21-20.

Winners from MRA #3 include:

Pro Open - John Amatulli d. Brian Mitchell 18-21, 21-12, 11-10.

Open - Stu Hastings d. Rick Vanderlind 20-21, 21-13, 11-6.

A - Dave Austin d. Marc VanDis 21-13, 13-21, 11-9.

B - Brian Kelly d. Chris Kelly 21-17, 21-17.

C - Mike Carlson d. Pat Biady 21-12, 21-8.

D - Mark Myers d. Jim Ohanesian 21-11, 18-21, 11-9.

Seniors A - Ken Bonnett d. Bob Gravelyn 20-21, 21-13, 11-6.
Seniors B - Lynn Hahn d. Bob Smith 21-13, 21-13.
Seniors C - Gundars Strautnieks d. Tom Rensberry 21-17, 21-11.
Masters B - Henry Bult d. Jack Markward 21-14, 9-21, 11-9.
13 & Under - Joel Bonnett d. Lee Steinbach 21-19, 21-18.

Pro Open - Cathie Frederickson d. Cathy Thompson 21-7, 21-16.
A - Laura Lozon d. Jean Heckman 21-20, 5-21, 11-4.
B - Joy Barry d. Robin Latreille 14-21, 21-18, 11-6.
C - Betty Ann Gilliland d. Peggy Hoshield 21-11, 21-17.
D - Cindy Gill d. Sharon Huczek 21-16, 21-20.

Clubs waive guest fees

by Dianne Driver

Your 1983-84 MRA membership card is now good at selected clubs throughout Michigan. Present this card at the desk of the clubs listed below and if you live 50 miles away or farther, they will allow you to use the club without paying a guest fee, being a member or coming with a member. So if you travelling in Michigan, pack your gear and check out some of Michigan's finest racquetball clubs.

Participating clubs include:

Racquet King Courts, Ironton, MI (313) 676-5850
Crescent Lake Racquet Club, Pontiac, MI (313) 674-0368
Salt River Racquet Club, New Baltimore, MI (313) 725-4200
Maple Courts, Troy, MI (313) 362-3777
Keatington Racquetball Club & Spa, Pontiac, MI (313) 391-3334
Rochester Athletic Club, Rochester MI (313) 652-2110
Waterford Courts, Waterford, MI (313) 623-9622
Franklin Racquet Club & Spa, Southfield, MI (313) 352-8000
Players Club, Warren, MI (313) 774-6900
Warren tennis Club, Warren (313) 754-8300
Backwall Racquetball Club, Madison Heights, MI (313) 589-0900

Highland Park YMCA, Highland Park MI (313) 868-1946
Racquettime, Livonia, MI (313) 591-1212
Southland Recreation Center, Taylor, MI (313) 287-9010
Court Players Club, Flint, MI (313) 733-8840
Grand Blanc Court Club, Flint, MI (313)
Court Rooms North, Port Huron MI (313) 385-4475
Woodland Racquet Club, Brighton MI (313) 227-7373
Coliseum II, Taylor, MI (313) 292-3940
Racquettime, Southfield, MI (313) 358-2040
Dearborn Athletic Club, Dearborn, MI (313) 274-2337
All Seasons Sport Center, Flint, MI (313) 635-7219
Court House Club, Flint, MI (313) 743-4510
Racquetball Plus, Muskegon, MI (616) 733-1147
Central YMCA, Grand Rapids, MI (616) 458-1141
North Courts Racquet Club, Holland, MI (616) 396-6541
Sports World, Holland, MI (616) 392-1417
Racquetball Unlimited, Grand Rapids, MI (616) 784-3900
Little Traverse Racquet Club, Petoskey, MI (616) 347-5450

Grand Rapids Racquet Club, Grand Rapids, MI (616) 949-4700
Grand Valley State College, Allendale, MI (616) 895-3663
Minges Creek Racquet Club, Battle Creek, MI
Bay Area Family Y East, Bay City MI (517) 686-9660
Bay Area Family Y West, Bay City MI (517) 895-8596
Saginaw Valley Health & Racquet Center, Saginaw, MI
Aquarius Athletic Club, Toledo, OHIO (419) 476-4884

Grand Valley State College and Highland Park YMCA charge a guest fee; however, there is no charge for racquetball courts at these facilities.

Harbor Springs Realty in conjunction with Little Traverse Racquet Club will offer members a 10% discount on the rental of Harbor Cove Condominium units with your membership card. Certain availability dates apply, so check with the Realty Company in Petoskey.

My side of the court

(continued from page 1)

As for myself, who knows what the other Board members think? I have always been fair with them. But I have been called a "staunch conservative" at one meeting. I really don't see myself as that--but I do play the "devil's advocate" more often than not. Maybe, in a future issue someone will rake me over the coals.

I will now make my quarterly plea for more participation by the general membership. It's your organization and you should be involved. Even if you only come to one meeting a year, it will be a step in the right direction. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to write to me or any Board member and tell us. If you don't tell us, we may not know a problem needs addressing.

As you probably noticed, "The Service Line" has a new format. This change will cut costs plus allows to put pictures in the newsletter. I hope that you enjoy the new format and will become involved in writing articles or "Letters to the Editor" to which we can respond. Write to me at the address on page 1.

I would now like to wish all the MRA members, their families and friends a very joyous and happy NEW YEAR. I hope you get what you want from life and that all your problems are small!!!

MRA No. 4

by Judy Gonyea

MRA #4 took place at the Court Players Club in Lansing on the weekend of December 2-4. This tournament was sponsored by University Olds Datsun, Athlete's Village and AMF Voit. There were over 240 entrants in the tournament all playing some real exciting and tough racquetball. The tournament was a success and the beer provided on Saturday evening was a way to relax and watch some of the interesting matches.

We would like to thank our sponsors for this event as well as the Court Players Club for their help in making this a tournament to remember. Athlete's Village provided again this year a new look to the trophies which goes a ways to make the Lansing stop a little more unique.

Highlights of the tournament--perhaps for the writer and the editor of the newsletter had to include the play and the sportsmanship of Mark Heckman of Portage. Mark played in the quarter-finals in a tough match against Mike "Big Z". Both players were diving and shooting and making good gets. It was a long match and one neither player wanted to lose. In the tie-breaker at 10-10 with Big Z serving, Mark Heckman called a double bounce on himself that the referee could not see. This gave Big Z the game and the match.

Our hats are off to Mark for this display of sportsmanship on the glass court in Lansing.

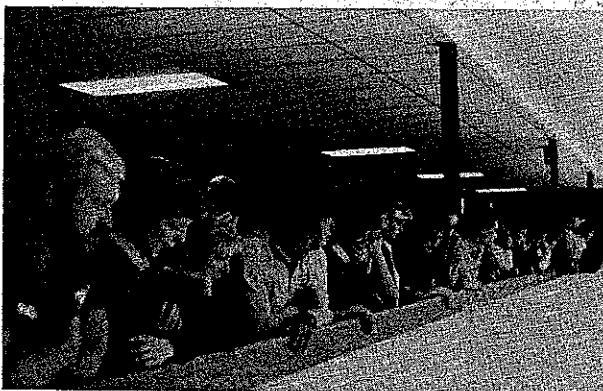
Division winners were:

Open - Stu Hastings d. Steve Jeziorski 9-21, 21-8, 11-8
A - John Kaber d. John Bishop 15-21, 21-20, 11-4
B - Gary Iuczak d. Jack White 18-21, 21-17, 11-6
C - Gilberto Martinez d. Steve Burgdorf 13-21, 21-20, 11-5
D - Jeff Wise d. Dan Verbeck 21-9, 20-21, 11-2
Seniors A - Bob Lipin d. Larry Jackson 21-11, 21-11
Seniors B - Neal Goodman d. John Patrick 21-3, 21-18
Seniors C - Dave Chrenka d. Ron Justice 21-15, 16-21, 11-9
Masters A - Lynn Hahn d. Gundars Strautnieks 21-11, 21-5
Masters B - Don Kaufmann d. Jim Emerson
Golden Masters - Fred Rapoport d. Duane Russell 21-20, 21-4
19 & Under - Ryan Covell d. Brad Heckman 21-14, 21-14

Open - Cathie Frederickson d. Joetta Hastings 21-14, 21-18
A - Jean Heckman d. Donna Murray 21-13, 21-12
B - Carol Collins d. Dianne Driver 13-21, 21-15, 11-8
C - Carol Kneller d. Carol Burt 21-17, 21-5
D - Dorothy Burgdorf d. Cindy Sonk 21-11, 21-7

Congratulations to all who participated in MRA #4 -- including the Burgdorf family for a 1st and 2nd place trophy, to the Heckman family for 1st, 2nd and semi-final trophies, and

to the Hastings family for 1st and 2nd place trophies.



Spectators enjoyed the action at MRA #2 Woodland Racquet Club

Referee Dave Matyas in action

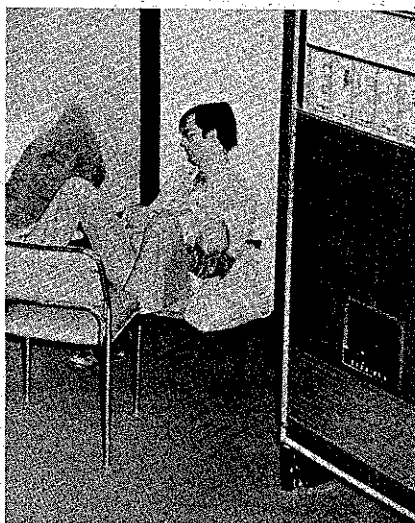
3 Tournament Rule

Again this year, to be eligible for the MRA State Singles Championship to be held at Franklin Racquet Club in April 1984, a player must have participated in 3 MRA tournaments. The State Doubles/State Juniors Championship will again count as one of the three tournaments necessary. This means that there are still 4 tournaments left to qualify: MRA #5 - Oakland Racquet Club in Birmingham, MRA #6 - Court Players Club in Portage, MRA #7 - Racquet King Courts in Ironton and the State Doubles/State Juniors in Birmingham.

Any player forfeiting in the first round of a MRA tournament will be considered as NOT having participated and that tournament will not count as one of the three required. Also, MRA Doubles #1 held in Grand Rapids, and MRA Doubles #2 held in Birmingham do not count as tournament stops to qualify for the State Singles Championship.

Any requests for special consideration or requests to have this rule waived should be addressed to the MRA Board of Directors in writing at the following address: MRA, PO Box 23035, Lansing, MI 48909. All such requests must be received by March 31, 1984 and will be discussed for approval or denial at the April 3, 1984 MRA Board of Directors meeting.

A young racquetball player to be catches a quick nap with his Dad (Mark McDaniel - Men's D) at Lansing.

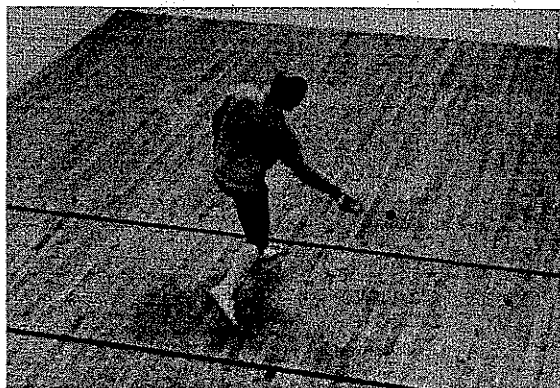


Court Club Guides Available

"Where to Play in Michigan: A Guide to Michigan's Racquetball Facilities" is now available from the MRA. This guide lists all racquetball clubs in this state in divisions by telephone area code. It also describes the facilities each club has as well as some of the types of programs that they offer to their members.

Court Club Guides are available for purchase from the MRA for \$15 plus \$1 for postage and handling. They can also be purchased at any upcoming MRA tournament at the tournament desk from Jim Easterling for \$15.00.

Who's the new DP Leach entry at MRA #4 in Lansing? Why its President Szuch



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Voit



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RANKINGS

(Current after MRA #3 in Grand Rapids)

2175	Vanover Ray	1605	Fecher Julian	1255	King Mark	1905	Garvaglia Carl
2115	Wilhelm Bob	1605	Ferguson Mike	1245	Gentile Bill	1905	Woodcox David
2095	Anderson Mike	1605	Luczak Gary	1235	Schultz Martin	1905	Graham Dale
2090	Hastings Stu	1605	McClinchey Michael	1230	Falvo Jack	1900	Jordan Pete
2070	Cole Chris	1605	Bos Timothy	1230	Liikala Ronald	1900	Tessmar Bob
2055	Anderson Randy	1605	Witherspoon Mike	1230	Hine Gene	1900	Tessmar Ken
2055	Dutcher Dan	1605	Smith Richard	1230	Dutton Ed	1900	Davis Dave
2050	Easterling Jim	1605	Vrosh Rick	1225	Bailey Glenn	1900	Hahn Lynn
2045	Radiation Man	1605	Ruiz Iino	1225	Flessner Rob	1780	Patrick John
2035	Kelly Gordon	1605	Callow Doug	1225	Moreno Joel	1760	Kitchen Dennis
2035	Vanderlind Rick	1600	Carlson Mike	1220	Sisson Terry	1760	Hagedorn Bill
2025	Brownlee Tom	1600	White Jack Jr	1220	Bakalis John	1750	Weber Alan
2020	Lobaudo Jack	1600	Finley Claude	1220	Kroeger Dan	1735	Corinti Mike
2020	Heckman Mark	1600	Whaley Richard	1220	Mullin Joe	1730	Szuch Bob
2015	Frankel Tom	1600	Fitzgerald John	1220	Hussain Satwat	1730	Sawyer Tom
2015	Harper Ken	1600	Fitzpatrick Mark	1215	Verbeck Dan	1720	Parkhurst Rick
2015	Santino James	1600	Luethjohann Todd	1215	Susitko Doug	1720	Henry Chris
2015	Zwierzchowski Mike	1600	Graham Todd	1215	Banner Thomas	1715	Appel Jan
2015	VanBemmelten Troy	1600	Trieweller Jim	1215	Bridgewater Bruce	1715	Smith Robert
2010	Stephens Mike	1600	Scott Ed	1215	Pleins Mark	1710	Goodman Neal
2010	Blackersher Bobby	1600	DeCamp John	1215	Tierney Patrick	1710	Hagensh Robert
2010	Reid Scott	1600	Dimond Paul	1215	Bertler Mark	1710	Sharum Thomas
2005	Chapell Charlie	1600	Horan Mike	1210	Kallins Joseph	1705	Eldred Jerry
2005	Loew David	1600	Johnson Michael	1210	Skinner Jim	1705	Gray Jerry
2005	Gallagher Gordon	1600	Eichenberg Dale	1210	Hamilton James	1700	Stitt Ray
2005	Hay Pat	1455	Zarins Erik	1210	Frego Mark	1700	Strautnieks
2005	Rylee Craig	1455	Burgdorf Steve	1210	Scavo Richard	1700	Biniecki Joseph
2000	Smith Bryan	1450	Nead Ron	1210	Hinshaw Tom	1700	Peacock Joseph
2000	Musback Dane	1430	Lubbers Paul	1205	Iazzaro Howard	1700	Paquette Jerry
2000	Paskar David	1425	Esshaki Steve	1205	Bitnar Larry	1700	Gutierrez Pancho
2000	Pfeffer John	1425	Zamanian Zaman	1205	Willett Bruce	1700	Penner Morris
2000	Austin Dave	1425	Lively Mike	1205	Bielecki Tom	1700	Danna Joe
1855	Blakeslee WI	1420	MacNeil Doug	1205	Brown Richard	1700	Shriner Larry
1830	Darin Bill	1420	Manion Clyde	1205	Colonel Jim	1535	Chrenka Dave
1825	Harris Mitch	1420	Wray Jim	1205	Hilson Allan	1530	Lafferty Daniel
1825	Eck Bob	1420	Martinez Gilberto	1205	Kocsis Rudy	1530	Justice Ron
1820	Matties Ernie	1420	DeGooman Richard	1205	Gaseor Mike	1525	Reusberry Tom
1820	Van Dis Marc	1420	Kan Jim	1205	Slater Paul	1525	Wise Mike
1820	Oberg Roy	1415	Evasic Bill	1205	Burt Ryan	1525	Gaffke James
1820	Dion Bill	1415	Fusco Joe	1205	Thomas Danny	1525	Roberts Larry
1820	Malley Mark	1410	Williams Jerry	1205	Stallmer John	1520	Riesterfeldt Walt
1815	Hotra Mike	1410	Conklin Rick	1205	Wise Jeff	1515	Nash Gary
1815	Doty Gary	1410	Mayer Bill	1205	Preifer Henry	1510	Dosenbach Ken
1810	Cstari William	1410	Michel Tim	1205	Couch Chuck	1510	Wietecha Gerald
1810	Schermer Bob	1410	Wisniewski Mike	1205	Hlavaty Don	1510	Hord Grant
1810	Targowski Cliff	1405	Felsing Richard	1205	Quenneville David	1505	Dionese Al
1810	Kaber John	1405	Cotter Mike	1200	Bartholomy Marty	1505	Jewell Denny
1810	Yates Thomas	1405	Smith Vaughn	1200	Jacobs Scott	1505	Knauff Ken
1805	Kummer Mike	1405	Hamet Robert	1200	Zarins George	1505	Mullin Randy
1805	Bishop John	1405	Schwartz Mike	1200	Sigler Ronald	1505	Berg Ron
1805	Tackett Alan	1405	Rozier Cut	1200	Lovachis Tom	1505	Brown Don
1805	McNitt Scott	1405	Dietz Steve	1200	Kamer Jack	1500	Stephens Don
1805	Cravelyn Bob	1405	Underwood Calvin	1200	Padalino Anthony	1500	Steinbach Tom
1805	Stringer Fed	1405	Tann Bill	1200	Musto Rick	1500	Taylor Mike
1805	Henry Chris	1405	Dunbar Chet	1200	Summer Mike	1500	Stewart Paul
1805	Dimatteo Mike	1405	Jahn Mike	1200	Kummler Bradley	1500	Brown Gary
1800	Farrell Steve	1400	Kretschman Steve	1200	Adams Gerald	1500	Lamb Paul
1800	Casey Mark	1400	Kummler Randolph	1200	Leslie Bill	1500	Kummler Ralph
1800	Zadvinskis Gvido	1400	Lawlor Terry	1200	Gordon Larry	1500	McMahon Neil
1800	Ferrell Curt	1400	Garcia Art	1200	Harte Jerry	1500	Van Andel Jim
1800	Schneck Tom	1400	McMillan Mike	1200	Koons Rick	1500	Hill Vern
1800	Martinez David	1400	Meredith John	1200	Lark John	1500	Carr Joel
1800	Thompson Doug	1400	Moloney Jim	1200	Stegmier Jeff	1500	Murdock Max
1800	Davies James	1400	Morales Ben	1200	Kisak Paul	1500	Gordon Paul
1800	Veith Daniel	1400	Morrison JA	1200	Adams Ken		
1800	Bell Patrick	1400	Brady Pat	1200	Bachman Garry		
1800	Bugarin Ronnie	1400	Guljas Rudy	1200	Edmonds Murray		
1800	Kane Mike	1400	Myers Mark	1200	Taylor Michael	1960	St. Clair John
1800	Carson Mark	1400	Strieter Dennis	1200	Hughes Kerry	1955	Matyas Dave
1800	Kelly Brian	1400	Hannon Donald	1200	Hunting Greg	1925	Strautnieks
1660	Polvi David	1400	Debay Alex	1200	Myczkowiak Rich	1925	Jaksen Dan
1660	Iranberg Dan	1400	Dell Paul	1200	Riley Jim	1920	Lund Dave
1655	Kelly Christopher	1400	Harpster Richard	1200	Moseley Daryl	1920	Sewell Richard
1635	Broucek Rick	1400	Barker Roger	1200	Jordan Harry	1910	Hise Charles
1625	Rodriguez Salvador	1400	Rallis Nick	1200	Kern Jeff	1910	Johnston Lorne
1620	Panasiewicz Jim	1400	Hose Homer			1910	Karhu Milo
1620	Richmond Steve	1400	Varga Thomas			1905	Madden Jess
1615	Rosenbergh Tom	1400	Jackson Wayne			1900	Bult Henry
1615	Sigafoose Tim	1400	Markham Doug			1900	Knockeart Ron
1610	Lepczyk Brent	1400	Raymond Matthew	2020	Lipin Robert	1900	Nash Gary
1610	Licari Paul	1400	West William	1980	Jackson Larry	1900	Roeser Fred
1610	McIntyre Doug	1400	Richards Todd	1950	Klein Matthew	1740	Mitchell Ray
1610	Goodman Neal	1400	Englehardt Steve	1950	Bonnett Ken	1730	Emerson Jim
1610	Tuckwell Stan	1285	McDaniel Mark	1935	Gravelyn Robert	1720	Dutcher Ted
1610	Sarkisian Dan	1285	Wesaw Matt	1925	Leff Stuart	1715	Wickey Phil
1610	Karkau Dennis	1280	Ohanesian Jim	1915	Slavik JR	1715	Mifsud Joe
1605	Turner Bryan	1265	Cook George	1910	Pudduck Ron	1710	Malleck Gerry

MASTERS

1960	St. Clair John
1955	Matyas Dave
1925	Strautnieks
1925	Jaksen Dan
1920	Lund Dave
1920	Sewell Richard
1910	Hise Charles
1910	Johnston Lorne
1910	Karhu Milo
1905	Madden Jess
1900	Bult Henry
1900	Knockeart Ron
1900	Nash Gary
1900	Roeser Fred
1740	Mitchell Ray
1730	Emerson Jim
1720	Dutcher Ted
1715	Wickey Phil
1715	Mifsud Joe
1710	Malleck Gerry

SENIORS

2020	Lipin Robert
1980	Jackson Larry
1950	Klein Matthew
1950	Bonnett Ken
1935	Gravelyn Robert
1925	Leff Stuart
1915	Slavik JR
1910	Pudduck Ron

1710 Wood Dan
 1710 Hulen James
 1710 Markward Jack
 1705 Whitehead Doug
 1700 Dryden Jim
 1700 Nicholson Moses
 1700 Herkimer Gary
 1700 Kreuzwieser Arnold
 1700 Rake Warren
 1700 Paluch Marv
 1700 Bewak Frank

GOLDEN MASTERS

2000 Russell Duane
 1940 Charette Joe
 1925 LeSage Noel
 1915 Ekelman Seymour
 1910 Burke Arthur
 1900 Perham Albert

JUNIORS

1715 Iessmar Scott
 1710 Fisher Pete
 1705 Burt Ryan
 1700 Lyons Troy
 1560 Burt Ashley
 1525 Fogler Robby
 1510 Iessmar Scott
 1500 Werthman Mark
 1350 Steinbach Lee
 1340 Bonnett Joel
 1325 Flowers Brian
 1320 Skinner Jim
 1315 Kummier Jeffrey
 1310 Wise Craig
 1310 Szuch Steve
 1305 Covell Ryan
 1300 Slater Scott
 1300 Davis Ryan

WOMENS

2120 Frederickson Cathie
 2080 Hastings Joetta
 2060 Henry Donna
 2060 Thompson Cathy
 2055 Gonyea Judy
 2045 Anderson Sheri
 2035 Foster Nancy
 2020 Weslock Shelly
 2020 Blakeslee Nancy
 2015 Ackerman-Chmura Irene
 2005 Kishigian Iesley
 2005 Gutowski Beth Ann
 2005 Rice Kay
 2005 Jahn Anne
 2000 Iozon Laura
 2000 Allarding Diane
 2000 Stellema Kathy
 1835 Lutze Linda
 1815 Heckman Jean
 1810 Steinbach Kimberly
 1810 Allan Arlene
 1810 Szpont Mary Ann
 1805 Hamel Lois
 1805 Swaab Barbara
 1800 VanderBroek Shirley
 1800 Foster Carolyn
 1800 Barry Joy
 1800 Zills Donna
 1800 Gravelyn Denise
 1800 Minges Jeanne
 1800 Murray Donna
 1800 Mys Courtney
 1800 Unlacke Nancy
 1660 Driver Dianne
 1635 Latreille Robin
 1620 Dolack Jan
 1615 Griffiore Sue
 1615 Insko Janet
 1610 Kreuzwieser Vonne
 1610 Gaffke Mary Alyce
 1610 Miller Darlene
 1605 Westveer Phyllis
 1605 Johnson Marlene
 1600 Fox Laura
 1600 Carson Judy
 1600 Gilliland Betty Ann

1600 Munten Peggy
 1600 Muster Eveline
 1600 Collins Carol
 1600 Page Cheryl
 1600 Reid Kim
 1600 Schmelter Kelly
 1600 Sienko Janice
 1600 Spielberger Regina
 1600 Jones Pat
 1435 Goss Marlene
 1435 Hoshield Peggy
 1435 Shore Irene
 1430 Cole Sharon
 1425 Burt Carol
 1425 Nirganakis Debbie
 1420 Maynard Linda
 1415 Marshall Carol
 1415 May Julie
 1415 Caruso Marie
 1410 Buttrey Stephanie
 1410 McAllen Jane
 1410 Hutter Jo
 1405 Farrell Brenda
 1405 Lamore Mary
 1405 McMahon Nancy
 1405 Kneller Carol
 1405 Scharchburg Martha
 1405 Erdmans Diane
 1400 Willyerd Leona
 1400 Tapani Michele
 1400 Belongie Cindy
 1400 Cariano Theresa
 1400 Magee Nancy
 1400 Gill Cindy
 1400 DeYoung Wendy
 1400 Schira Lina
 1400 Cook Rosemarie
 1400 Radinski Carol
 1400 Richwine Karen
 1400 Barr Kris
 1400 Stephens Janet
 1400 Spagnuolo Paula
 1275 Huczek Sharon
 1255 McDaniel Cynthia
 1225 Sonk Cindy
 1225 Bowman Shirley
 1220 King Cheryl
 1220 Schulte Vickie
 1220 Pingston Janet
 1215 Becker Yvonne
 1215 Wiecha Frances
 1210 Pielmeier Jan
 1210 Mazza Connie
 1210 Graebner Lynn
 1210 Theresa Brady
 1210 Wiegierink Sandy
 1210 Cox Sandy
 1210 Rapin Diane
 1210 Burgdorf Dorothy
 1205 Van Voorst Lori
 1205 Owen Diane
 1205 Keigley Marilyn
 1205 Hamel Elizabeth
 1205 Strong Jane
 1200 Youngblood Susan
 1200 Crimaldi Denise
 1200 Dick Pamela
 1200 Howe Kristine
 1200 Kelley Janet
 1200 Kerkes Sharon
 1200 Ridky Sandra
 1200 Tuttle Betty
 1200 Mifsud Patricia
 1200 Bolling Sharie
 1200 Jordan Joan
 1200 Wilson Tinsi
 1200 McPhee Sandra
 1200 Post Pat
 1200 Hord Diana
 1200 Worthington Piper
 1200 Hodgkin Kristin
 1200 Limback Sharon
 1200 Wojtas Sharon
 1200 Abner Beth

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TOURNAMENT DATES

JAN. 13-15	OAKLAND RACQUET CLUB	BIRMINGHAM (MRA 5)
Jan. 20-22	Doubles #2 - Oakland Racquet Club	
FEB. 10-12	COURT PLAYERS CLUB	PORTRAGE (MRA 6)
Feb. 17-19	Gateway Racquet Club	Sterling Heights
Feb. 17-19	Mt. Clemens Racquet Club	Mt. Clemens
Feb. 24-26	Waterford Courts	Waterford
MAR. 16-18	RACQUET KING COURTS	TRENTON (MRA 7)
Mar. 23-25	Clinton Racquet Club	Mt. Clemens
MAR. 30-1	MRA STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP	Oakland Racquet Club BIRMINGHAM
APR. 13-15	MRA STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP	Franklin Racquet Club Southfield
Apr. 27-29	Davison Racquet Club	Davison
May 3-5	Racquetball Unlimited	Grand Rapids
May 11-13	AARA Adult Regionals	Mt. Clemens
May 18-20	AARA Junior Regionals	Davison
June 22-24	AARA National Juniors	Davison

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