***President’s Message October, 2021***

***New Mexico Racquetball Facebook NMRacquetball.com***

***World Senior Report***

**If there were one word to describe this year’s event, it would be DYNAMIC. Adjustments, compromises, conflicts, smiles, and surprises. Please follow below the highlights. The fact we persevered with the plan, operation, and reflection is reason enough to have a celebration.**

**Highlights**

1. **The most passionate and skilled group of volunteers (50) in the 36 year history.**
2. **Twelve NM Racquetball Board of Directors assisted with various duties.**
3. **‘The best banquet food ever’; words from the lips of many.**
4. **Those who battled through adversity and participated had a tremendous experience.**
5. **The most memorable testimonial from the crowd—‘I was told that this tournament**

**Is addicting. Now I know why. I will definitely come back.’**

**Club(s) New Mexico Sports & Wellness---Midtown, Downtown, and Highpoint. The mandates**

**from corporate and from the State of NM were clear; yet, adherence to them was void of**

**consistency. There were access restrictions including available court hours and**

**spectating; requiring us to use three venues.**

**Hotel Ramada Plaza---With Covid and a change in administration, a number of details**

**were compromised. We completed our 12th year of a strong relationship. The food**

**at the pre-event social, daily lunches, and awards banquet was tremendous. The**

**Embassy ballroom became a gathering and production environment. The number of staff**

**was not adequate. Staff members who did participate did a wonderful job.**

**Program Nobody can replace Felicia Duran and her attention to details as well as her body of**

**knowledge. Thirty years of continuity was lost with her passing. We were able, with**

**the assistance of Greg Dart and Forms Plus, to produce a condensed version with an**

**attractive cover.**

**Sales Emphasis was with shirts; used, new, and vintage. Floor space required was reduced**

**by over 50%. Auctions were streamlined and more energy went into raffle sales.**

**Fundraising Over $10,000 was raised collectively.**

**Financial We were fortunate to generate a significant amount of support from the**

**community. In spite of a decrease in numbers (we finished at 123), we paid the bills!**

**Priceless Honoring Edwina Waddington with the NM Racquetball Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Thoughts for the near future**

***Cost cutting on daily lunches***

***Bidding out for the host hotel***

***Continuing the raffle as a year-long process with multiple cash drawings***

***More live streaming and social media input***

**UPCOMING**

***October 8-10 Durango Colours of Autumn; Durango Rec Center, Durango, CO***

***November 14-17 National Paddleball Singles & Rocky Mnt. Doubles; Midtown***

***Sports & Wellness, Albuquerque***

***December (tba) IRF World Championships & Juniors; Complejo, Guatemala City, GUA***

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

***‘Even the bad times are good’ Tremeloes 1977***