



RACQUET RACKET

FALL 2011

Official Newsletter of the National Masters Racquetball Association (NMRA)

NMRA Chapter Two

By Amos Rosenbloom

The Minneapolis, Minnesota, tournament in the winter of 1975 was the start of the expanded (singles) NMRA. **Amos Rosenbloom** convinced **Ivan Bruner** of the New Castle group that he could challenge thirty players to come to Minneapolis in the winter. They did come. And it as quite a winter and quite a tournament—four-foot-high snowdrifts, 30-degrees-below windchill, with highways closed.

But the tournament prospered with 29 out of the 30 players making it to play. There were no age brackets—just three groupings of 10, 10 and 9 players. Each player played first for group positions and then played across for tournament position. Matches were two games to 21 and a tiebreaker game to 21.

Dr. Bud Muelheisen, the lefty legend from California, won the tournament trophy, which was a bronze racquetball player cast by **Ralph Stillman's** son, Bruce. Today, Bruce is nationally known and is still creating.

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Layout and design by Birgitte Designs,
karinbirgitte@gmail.com

John O'Donnell and Ben Marshall Elected to NMRA Hall of Fame

By Bruce Adams

At the July 2011 NMRA tournament in Fullerton, California, we inducted two worthy members into the NMRA Hall of Fame. The beautiful Embassy Suites in Brea served as the host hotel and held our event banquet. Participation at the tournament was 127 players, competing in age group singles and doubles divisions.

The banquet was a little different for this event because we had TWO inductees into the prestigious NMRA International Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame was started in 1996 and had 37 members before this ceremony. The latest inductees were **Colonel Ben Marshall** of San Antonio, Texas, in the category of Outstanding Service and Leadership, and **John O'Donnell, Jr.** of Champaign, Illinois as an Athletic inductee. Ninety-four-year-old Ben Marshall has been playing for a few years and has served in five wars. John O'Donnell served in two wars and started playing on military bases 40 years ago. Both inductees were fighter pilots in the service. (Look for more information on the NMRA website.)

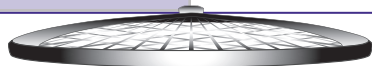


John O'Donnell and Ben Marshall



Cindy Tilbury and Ben Marshall

Both inductees have been very positive and strong supporters of the NMRA and racquetball in general. John and Ben were humble in being selected to the Hall of Fame. John mentioned many other Hall of Famers that he had played with and against during his NMRA career. His award was presented by **Cheryl Kirk**, USAR President and fellow member of the Illinois State Racquetball Association. Cheryl surprised John by flying in just for this banquet and presentation. Ben's award was presented by NMRA President and close friend **Tom Curran**. Ben's daughter Alison was his attendance, as was his son Jack, who served with his dad during the Vietnam War. **Congratulations to both Ben and John for their athleticism and service to the NMRA and the racquetball community.**





The President's Corner

By Tom Curran, President, NMRA Board of Directors

Another whirlwind tournament year is coming to a close. We will be getting together in *Arlington, TX* for the 2011 December *Doubles Championship*. **Pat Gibson** and **Howard Walker** are the *Tournament Directors* for the event. I'm sure it will be another great *NMRA* tournament with all of the best of what our members have come to expect.

We are moving into another great year (2012) with plans already set in stone for our return to *Orem/Provo Utah* in March, 2012 for our *National Championship*; *North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC*, in July, 2012 for our *International Championship*, and *Pleasanton, CA* in December, 2012 for our *Doubles Championship*. All three events are sanctioned and available for registration on the *NMRA* website (www.nmra.info) and at *R2Sports* (www.r2sports.com). As always, we recommend that you make your hotel and travel arrangements early and register at the same time. We have limited rooms at all of the host hotels for the 2012 tour year.

There are some great new things happening with our *Membership System*. **Carmen**, our *Membership Director*, has been working with **Ryan** at *R2Sports* to make the system more user-friendly and to provide all of the best features of an automated system. Don't worry... for those of you who are not 'computer friendly', we will still have our paper system in place for membership renewals and processing new members.

Membership is one of the most important elements in any organization. It is especially true with the *NMRA*. Over the years, there have been a number of statistics given to the membership regarding membership numbers. The fact is that, for years, there was no clear idea on how many 'active' members we had. In some cases, membership numbers included counting everyone who was ever a member...active or not. The board has been focused over the past couple of years on resolving this issue and getting the most accurate count available for active members. We honor all our members, past and present, but an organization cannot sustain itself on membership numbers that are not accurate. The new membership system will help solve this problem and we ask your help and patience while we sort through all of the steps required to get us to an accurate count.

In the meantime, we ask every active and past member of the *NMRA* to help us grow our membership. There are over 5,000 (at last count in 2009) *USAR* members who are over the age of 45. Although we don't have an accurate count of our present membership

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NMRA Chapter Two continued from page 1

After the tournament, players challenged each other for bragging rights. Players watched from the balcony and occasionally money changed hands.

The tournament committee members of **Amos Rosenbloom**, **Bob McNamara** and **Ralph Stillman** were all at the tournament. Committee member **Gordon Bakken** from *Fergus Falls, Minnesota*, was restrained by the *Minnesota Highway Patrol* from driving down in the storm. He was the only no-show. **Pilot Dr. Gordon Ira** flew in from Florida and was the last plane that was allowed to land because of the storm. **Ralph Stillman's** wife picked him up. **Al Rossi** arrived California-style in T-shirt and shorts, and was forced to purchase a whole new wardrobe.

After the Minneapolis tournament, the size of subsequent tournaments increased. The number of tournament players was unlimited and qualification for playing changed from "having won" a tournament somewhere, to players who "loved to play."

Ivan Bruner became the *Commissioner of the NMRA* and *Madison, Wisconsin*, became the *NMRA* office. It is probably the first loss his construction business suffered. Much thanks to Ivan for keeping the *NMRA* visible for many years.

Minnesota hosted many tournaments in later years, and other players will tell their stories. ○

NMRA Tidbits...

By Cindy Tilbury

Eating Healthy-But-Deliciously Tip –

To jazz up a plain salad, while you're in your grocery store produce area, pick up a small container of salad bar items that are already chopped. Beets, celery, olives, peas, corn, sprouts and broccoli can be added to your lettuce and peppers at home to make a fantastic salad for the next few days.

It's time to get your application in for the Lomonaco Grant!

You may remember that this grant winner gets to go to his/her first *USA Racquetball National Singles* in Fullerton with all expenses paid. Contact the *USA Racquetball* board member, **Larry Haemmerle**, for details on how to apply. Good luck!

More action photos are located on the *NMRA Facebook* page.

We would love to highlight your state in our NMRA newsletter.

I can help you write an article, but I need to hear from you and what your state *NMRA* players are up to. Contact me if you would like to share. Cindy.tilbury@att.net

Don't forget about the NMRA on Facebook.com!

It is a great place to find doubles partners and roommates for upcoming *NMRA* tournaments. Check out the photographs and the buzz. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/NMRA/201937559824871?sk=wall>

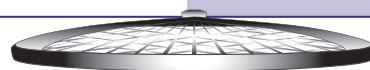
If you would like to put up at your club posters that highlight any NMRA tournament,

please contact us and we will get you in touch with the right person on the *NMRA Board*. It would be great if all surrounding clubs for each tournament location would make our tournament known. We would love to see new members who don't have to spend a fortune in travel dollars. Consider putting up a poster at your home club, even if your club is very far from the tournament venue!

There will be a short town hall meeting for players

at the December Arlington tournament. If you would like to bring up any issues that the *NMRA* Board of Directors should address, you might want to do it there. Details will be available at the beginning of the tournament.

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NMRA Tournament Results

NMRA International Championships

Fullerton, CA / Steve Cohen, Tournament Director

July 27-30, 2011

Division	Place	Names	State	Points
M45	1	Salvador Acosta	TX	30.67
	2	David Tedeschi	CA	29.33
M50	1	Ken Stone	CA	Playoff
	2	Mike Lubbers	AZ	Playoff
	3	Joe Hassey	NV	Playoff
	4	Jim Yodanza	CA	Playoff
	5	Tim Hennessy	CA	Playoff
	6	Edward Roffey	CO	29.50
	7	Bobby Friedman	CA	26.83
	8	Charles Hallenbeck	CA	23.67
M55	1	Stephen Wattz	CA	35.86
	2	Howard Walker	TX	35.14
	3	Sirous Shahin	CA	34.29
	4	John McManamon	CO	24.86
	5	David Aguirre	CA	22.86
	6	Rob Craig	AZ	21.00
	7	Henry Bruckman	NV	19.00
	8	Roy San Miguel	CA	
M60	1	Thomas Rall	AZ	33.44
	2	Frank Taddonio	AZ	32.22
	3	Darryl Warren	CA	29.22
	4	Pete Chmielewski	CA	26.89
	5	Dean Ritter	CA	23.78
	6	Michael Wouk	CO	21.78
	7	Dave Briski	CA	13.33
	8	Greg Kearney	CA	12.89
M65	1	Dave Warner	MN	38.00
	2	Mickey Bellah	CA	35.25
	3	Hank Estrada	CA	28.13
	4	Kevin Dorr	MD	28.00
	5	Robert Lattanzio	CA	25.00
	6	Russell Deegan	FL	24.13
	7	Ed Andrews	CO	18.75
	8	Nelson Adams	NY	14.38
M70	1	Mitch Milewski	NH	38.00
	2	Steve Covey	CA	33.71
	3	Ed Andrews	CO	30.57
	4	Jim Underwood	CA	23.71
	5	William Baker	CA	23.14
	6	John Eliot	NC	20.57
	7	David Rogers	IN	14.29
	8	Dave Shelburne	CA	12.29
M75	1	Lewis Edwards	UT	31.20
M80	1	John O'Donnell	IL	35.40
	2	Armand Matern	UT	20.00
	3	Hank Schone	CA	12.20
M85	1	Victor Sacco	NY	30.40
	2	Bill Gencarella	CA	9.40
MD45	1	Marko Perez / Sam Neer	CA / CA	36.67
	2	Gabriel Medina / John Wong	CA / CA	33.33
	3	David Tedeschi / Ramon Valerio	CA / CA	31.50

Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	4	Jerry Hines / Myron Hicks	AZ / AZ	26.50
	5	Scott Kraemer / Leon Jackson	WI / VA	25.00
	6	Eric Carranza / Jeff Powell	CA / CA	11.67
	7	Alan Weiner / Kevin Watson	CA / CA	26.50
MD50	1	Gene Pare / Ken Stone	CA / CA	37.00
	2	Sam Neer / Marko Perez	CA / CA	35.11
	3	Joe Hassey / Mike Lubbers	NV / AZ	33.78
	4	Adalberto Aguilar / Jose Luis Islas	CA / CA	32.22
	5	Leon Johnson / Tyrone Gilmore	VA / VA	29.11
	6	Hatch Saakian / Ruben Gonzalez	NY / CA	29.00
	7	Erick Carranza / Jeff Powell	CA / CA	22.56
	8	Bobby Friedman / Richard Aal	CA / CA	15.89

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President's Corner continued from page 2

(somewhere between 600 and 800 is our best guess); you can see that we are nowhere near the number that are 'active players' of our sport as evidenced by the *USAR* statistics.

We are an aging sport and the focus of the *NMRA* is on the aging player. We are asking each of our members to do their best to bring one new member into the fold during the coming year. You know we have a great story to tell about an organization that focuses on the perfect blend of competition and friendship. We have to believe there are many more players out there who are missing out on a great opportunity to be involved with a truly great organization.

I am asking that you help us with this membership effort at the same time that I will be ending my 'tour' as President of the *NMRA*. I can assure you that, this time, my farewell is both sincere and accurate.

At the March 2012 Board meeting in *Provo, UT*, I will attend the beginning of the meeting as the President and Member of the Board. The first order of business will be to welcome in the 'new' board members and that will be the official close of my duties as both the President and Member of the Board for the *NMRA*.

I am proud of what we have accomplished as a board and organization over the past six years of my term. I am most proud of the changes that we have made to the bylaws that ensure new and fresh ideas and individuals are given an opportunity to continue the great tradition of the *NMRA*. It is a daunting task for whoever accepts the responsibility and they will need the full support of every member of the *NMRA* to be successful during their term.

I am leaving the board, but not the organization. I have a love for our sport and for the *NMRA*. I am excited about going back to the same position I had when I first joined the *NMRA*, to play in our events and to volunteer my services to the organization in any way needed. I did that for a number of years before I was elected to the board. I will watch the progress of the *NMRA* as a member and provide full support to those who are serving on the board. I am hoping that I will be able to continue to provide my services in tournament planning and administration, just as I have in the past, working with **Steve Cohen** and **Jim Elliott** (who we will see at the March event in *Provo, UT*).

I am leaving a board that has the ability to move the organization forward. I am confident of that overall. One concern I have is that this board and the new members yet to be elected (a ballot is in this newsletter), are duty bound to the *NMRA*, and, by accepting a board position make it their only goal to preserve and protect the mission and vision of the *NMRA*. They should not, and our membership should not allow them to, change the core values of the organization.

We are a sport that is very competitive and that is proven in the bravado of those who play on the professional circuit. The amateur player is our focus and for those who believe the 'MEDAL' is the ultimate goal, then I believe they will never understand the true purpose of the *NMRA*. And that would be a pity.

This is not so much an issue for our general membership, but it can become a serious problem if the leadership of the *NMRA* loses focus on the most important more ➤

NMRA Tidbits... continued from page 2

The International Racquetball Federation, who puts on the World Senior Racquetball Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico each August, offers champions the opportunity to purchase a ring or pendant commemorating their victory. What a great way to reward your efforts and remember the special win!

The Comments and Suggestions box at the July Fullerton tournament was a hit. We had lots of good comments and suggestions for improvements. Thanks to everyone who took time to give us some feedback. We will try to have a box at future tournaments, as well.

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aspect of the *NMRA*. *Friendship, Fellowship, and Fun* displayed in our personal relationships and great sportsmanship. These traits must be more precious than the number of medals won... More precious than "GOLD".

I want to say a personal thank you to all of you who have allowed me to serve this organization for so many years.

I especially want to thank past *President Paul Banales* for the moral courage he showed literally saving the *NMRA* six years ago and in supporting me through very difficult times; **Steve Cohen** for stepping up and giving freely to the *NMRA* of his time and expertise as our Treasurer. Without Steve, we would not be the most financially secure organization in our sport. Next is **Bruce Adams** for his tireless work in the roles of *Secretary and Public Relations*; and **Cindy Tilbury** who has made our *Newsletter* the envy of our sport. These folks fully embody the true meaning of the *NMRA*. They are a model of 'service before self'.

My offer of support goes out to those who will take over the leadership of the organization. You are being left with a great tradition and an expectation of making it greater through your selfless efforts.

I wish all of you good health and safe travels. ○

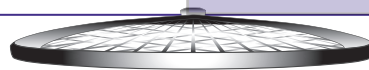
First Annual Men of October 80+ Tournament

By Jan Warren

On October 21st and 22nd, we held the first annual racquetball tournament honoring octogenarian athletes. The tournament was in beautiful *Sun City West, Arizona*, and was hosted by the *Sun City West Racquetball/Handball/Whisperball Club* and sponsored by the *National Masters Racquetball Association*.

The format was "rotating doubles" but we also offered a singles event at no extra charge. For results, refer to the <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8759> website. For more information, please contact the tournament director, **Greg Steger**, at 563.271.3053 or email at ipowerfade@yahoo.com.

If you missed this great event, make a note to sign up for 2012! ○



Not For Ladies Only — Let's Go To The Beach!

By Cindy Tilbury



Hello to all of the special ladies who play NMRA racquetball tournaments! Have I told you lately that you are THE BEST?!?!?

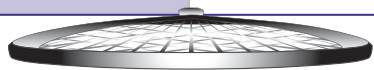
You may already know about the big yearly January WSMRA tournament for ladies only, 35 years old or greater. This tournament moves around the country, where each tournament director tries to outdo the previous year's event to make this the premier choice for a national-level tournament. Last year, it was in chilly *Denver*, and 2012 will see the tournament in sunny, warm *Sarasota, Florida*. *Siesta Key* is the beach of choice during this three-day tournament. Fly into town a few days early or stay a few days afterward to enjoy some mid-winter relaxation with your old and new racquetball BFFs. The details can be found at www.wsmra.com. You can sign up for the tourney at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8164>.

Our NMRA tournament statistics for ladies playing is a little down lately, hovering around 19 or 20 percent. The recent *IRF World Senior Racquetball Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico* has a round-robin, self-refereed format similar to ours, and the percentage of women participants was over 30 percent. Perhaps that is because it is held in August, during the summer vacation season, but maybe they just have more New Mexico women to round out the ladies who come from all over the world. Let's promote our NMRA tournaments to all of the ladies you know, share hotel rooms with them, and make sure they have a great time. I try to meet all of our lady players, too, so if there is anything I can do to make the tournaments more welcoming to your women friends, please let me know. ○



NMRA International Championships Results continued from page 3

Division	Place	Names	State	Points	Division	Place	Names	State	Points
MD55	1	Hatch Saakian / Ruben Gonzalez	CA / NY	35.00		2	Bill Gencarella / John O'Donnell	CA / IL	23.83
	2	Steve Cohen / Stephen Wattz	CA / CA	34.33	MD85	1	Victor Sacco / Ivan Bruner	NY / WI	21.50
	3	John Davidson / Mike Alderson	CA / CA	33.22	W45	1	Jean Halahan	NY	36.63
	4	Mike Cram / Rudolph Lara	CA / CA	32.89	W50	1	Debra Tisinger-Moore	CA	35.25
	5	Mario Nido / Tony Alfaro	CA / CA	30.11		2	Kathy Gluvna-Isett	CA	33.13
	6	Howard Walker / Patrick Gibson	TX / TX	29.67		3	Aiaga Roffey	CO	22.00
	7	Adalberto Aguilar / Jose Luis Islas	CA / CA	24.44		4	Julia Mouser	CA	17.63
	8	Donald Guggia / Jim Gutierrez	CA / CA	17.22	W55	1	Elaine Dexter	CA	28.50
MD60	1	Leonard Marsocci / Steve Meltsner	FL / CT	Playoff		2	Melanie Newsome	NC	16.25
	2	Thomas Rall / Russell Mannino	AZ / CA	Playoff	W60	1	Terry Sue Voboril Newport	MO	20.25
	3	Steve Cohen / Curt Alatorre-Martin	CA / VA	Playoff	W70	1	Marquita Molina	CA	9.13
	4	Michael Wouk / David Dosch	CO / VA	Playoff	WD45	1	Debra Tisinger-Moore / Jean Halahan	CA / NY	37.17
	5	Darryl Warren / Pete Chmielewski	CA / CA	Playoff	WD50	1	Gladys Leonard / Kathy Gluvna-Isett	VA / CA	34.00
	6	Mike Pawka / Tony Alfaro	CA / CA	Playoff		2	Carolyn Hollis / Sherron Boyea	CA / CA	31.17
	7	Larry Brunner / Mark Newport	MO / MO	25.80		3	Grace Jaworsky / Melanie Newsome	MO / NC	20.50
	8	Donald Guggia / Jim Gutierrez	CA / CA	24.50		4	Vickey Utter / Vicky Birkmann	NC / CA	15.50
MD65	1	Dave Warner / Mike Pawka	MN / CA	38.00	WD55	1	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Leslie Pawka	VA / CA	30.17
	2	David Olson / Price Thomas	MN / CA	31.25	WD60	1	Carolyn Foster / Marquita Molina	NE / CA	6.33
	3	Richard Barrieau / Warren Bailey	CA / AK	24.88	XD45	1	Elaine Dexter / Myron Hicks	CA / AZ	35.50
	4	Leonard Sonnenberg / Steven Lavorgna	CA / NJ	19.63		2	Gladys Leonard / Scott Kraemer	VA / WI	31.25
	5	Hank Estrada / Russell Deegan	CA / FL	17.00		3	John Wong / Vicky Birkmann	CA / CA	26.75
MD70	1	Luis Guerrero / Mitch Milewski	CA / NH	37.50	XD50	1	Tyrone Gilmore / Sherron Boyea	VA / CA	34.00
	2	Steve Covey / William Baker	CA / CA	31.38		2	Aiaga Roffey / Edward Roffey	CO / CO	26.75
	3	Gene Wright / Jim Underwood	CA / CA	24.25		3	David Dosch / Grace Jaworsky	VA / MO	24.63
	4	John Eliot / David Rogers	NC / IN	21.13		4	Carolyn Hollis / R Curtis Perry	CA / DC	23.13
	5	Paul Banales / Anthony Toby Dicesare	AZ / NV	12.50		5	Bruce Adams / Julia Mouser	OK / CA	19.00
MD75	1	Paul Banales / Anthony Toby Dicesar	AZ / NV	34.17		6	David Nelson / Susan Schatz	MN / MN	16.38
MD80	1	Armand Matern / Lee Goldstein	UT / CA	27.00	XD55	1	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Patrick Gibson	VA / TX	38.00
						2	David Nelson / Susan Schatz	MN / MN	27.67
					XD60	1	Carolyn Foster / Kevin Dorr	NE / MD	22.50
						2	Thoms Curran / Vickey Utter	NC / NC	12.17



NMRA 2011 Doubles-Only Championships

Maverick Athletic Club – Arlington, Texas

December 1-3, 2011 (Thursday, Friday & Saturday)

**** Round Robin Age Divisions Starting at 40 Years Young ****



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION SHEET www.nmra.info

Tournament Directors / Staff Mail-In Registration to: Steve Cohen 714.767.4622 scohen@nmra.info
Tournament Director – Howard Walker 682.365.3655 hwrball@aol.com
Tournament Director – Patrick Gibson 817.451.3380 prgibson5@hotmail.com
Bruce Adams – Banquet Program
Carmen Alatorre-Martin – Membership Director
Melanie Newsome – Medals and First Time Players and/or New Members
Leo Vasquez – Maverick Athletic Club Contact
Vickey Utter and Howard Walker – Rules Committee

Primary Host Club



Maverick Athletic Club (10 Panel Courts) www.themav.com 1919 W Pioneer Parkway, Arlington, TX 76013 714.961.0400
Bring a lock. Towel service available free.
All club facilities are available to tournament players and paid guests. Great club and locker room amenities available during the event.

Host Hotel **La Quinta Dallas** (Arlington South) 4001 Scots Legacy, Arlington, TX 76015
Direct Reservation Telephone 817.467.7756 - within three miles of the Maverick Club; Reservation Code: NMRA - Make reservation by November 14, 2011
Rate: \$79 plus tax per night for up to 4 people per room. Included in the rate is free parking, free hot breakfast, free internet, hair dryer and swimming pool; laundry facility available. Free scheduled hotel van service provided to/from club. Guests of hotel will be entered into a free-room-night lottery.

Enter Online Maximum of Two Divisions Enter online by November 17, 2011, at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8504>; First event--\$140 Second event--\$40 Two Doubles Division Limit. Guests Fee \$65 for the week (Must sign waiver for club use).

We can help find doubles partners and/or roommates.

Enter via US Mail Maximum of Two Divisions Fill out the entry form at www.nmra.info (Tournament Info page).
Mail completed entry form and fees by November 14, 2011, to:
NMRA c/o Steve Cohen, 5832 E Bluebonnet Court, Orange, CA 92869
Two Doubles Division Limit.

Limited Entries In order to accommodate scheduling of this all-round-robin event, tournament entries will be capped at about 120 -- Enter early!

Doubles Partners/Roomates Contact Cindy Tilbury for a doubles partner (cindy.tilbury@att.net) or roommate request.

Nearest Airport Dallas Fort Worth (DFW); Twenty minutes north of the Maverick Club; Book flights at www.dfwairport.com; Super Shuttle Approx \$20.00 – Taxi Approx \$40.00

Airlines Flying into DFW Airport Air Canada; Air Tran; Alaska Airlines; American Airlines; Continental; Delta; Frontier; Spirit; Sun Country; United; US Airways; Virgin America

Alternate Airports Dallas Love Field (DAL); Five miles northwest of downtown Dallas; Southwest Airlines flies here.

Airport/Taxi Shuttle Ground Transportation Shuttles are not provided from the airport to the host hotel. Public ground transportation can be found at: <http://www.dfwairport.com>

Shuttle from Hotel to Maverick Athletic Club Host hotel will provide a complimentary shuttle to the club for hotel guests. The club is approximately 5 minutes from the hotel.

more ➤

Directions from DFW Airport to Host Hotel La Quinta Dallas 20 Miles – 26 Minutes
Exit DFW South (drive around the airport loop if you miss this); Merge onto International Parkway S / Texas 97 Spur S via the ramp on the left toward Texas 183/ Texas 360 .9 mile; Texas 183 W/Texas 360 ramp to Ft Worth/Grand Prairie/Arlington .7 mile; Merge onto Texas 360 S/Angus G Wynne Jr Freeway toward Texas 360 S/ Arlington/FAA Road/Grand Prairie 11.8 miles; Merge onto Interstate 20 W/Ronald Reagan Highway to Ft Worth 3.2 miles Exit 449 toward FM 157/Cooper Street/UofT Arlington .4 mile; Slight left onto W Interstate 20 Highway .1 mile; Right onto Scots Legacy Drive .1 mile; Hotel is on the right.

Directions from La Quinta Host Hotel to Maverick Club 20 3.69 Miles – 7 Minutes
North on Scots Legacy .1 mile; Right onto W Arbrook Boulevard .6 mile; Left onto Matlock Road 1.6 mile; Left onto W Pioneer Parkway/Texas 303 Spur W 1.4 mile; Club will be on the right.

Directions from Maverick Club to La Quinta Host Hotel 4.73 Miles – 8 Minutes
Make a U turn from Pioneer Parkway to go East Go 1.7 mile; Right onto Matlock Road 2.0 miles; Veer right onto Interstate 20 Highway .5 mile; Right onto Scots Legacy Drive .1 mile; Hotel will be on the right

Parking at Host Club Free.

Tournament Check-In Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 5 pm to 8 pm, at the Maverick Club.

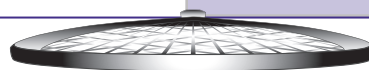
Play Begins/Ends Starts at 8 am every day. Ends by 10 pm Thursday; Ends 5 pm Friday and Saturday. Every division plays every day (Thursday through Saturday) Please show consideration for all players and remember that we play every bracket every day of the event. Schedule your travel arrangements accordingly. Sign-In waiver is required at club.

Practice Courts Courts may be available free of charge November 28-30, 2011. Special guest fee \$5 for tournament-related guests.

Tournament Ball Ektelon Classic Black is the official ball of the NMRA.

Tournament Scoring All round robins, self-refereed matches. Every division will play two games to 15. Large "pool play" divisions will have Saturday playoff matches. Playoff format

continued on Page 8...





ENTRY FORM

NMRA DOUBLES-ONLY CHAMPIONSHIPS



DECEMBER 1-3, 2011 (Thursday, Friday & Saturday)

** Round Robin Age Divisions Starting at 40 Years Young **

MAVERICK ATHLETIC CLUB - 1919 W Pioneer Parkway - Arlington, TX - 817.275.3348

Mail-In Entry Must Be POSTMARKED NLT NOV 14, 2011

Online Entries Must Be COMPLETED BY NOV 17, 2011

Online entries at: <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8504> Limit of 120 Players - ENTER EARLY

Tournament Directors: Howard Walker 682.365.3655 & Pat Gibson 817.319.0080

Please Print — Be Legible, Complete & Accurate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: Cell _____

Home _____

Work _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

DOB: m____ / d____ / yr____ Age on 12/1/2011 _____

Waiver: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive & release any & all rights and claims that I may have against the NMRA, USAR, Maverick Athletic Club Arlington and their staff, and all sponsors or their respective agents, for any and all injuries or damages of any nature which I, my spouse or my guest(s) may incur as a result of my participation in this tournament. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USA Racquetball Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ENTRY FEES:

First Event	\$ 140	\$ _____
Second Event	\$ 40	\$ _____
Spouse/Guest(s)* (each)	\$ 65	\$ _____
NMRA Membership ** (3 years)	\$ 45	\$ _____
USRA Membership (1 year)	\$ 50	\$ _____
Additional Tournament Jacket	\$ 25	\$ _____
Future Fund Donation:		\$ _____
Total Due:	\$	\$ _____

* Spouse/Guest(s) Name(s): _____

****Check here if your first NMRA tournament**
First time participants do not have to join the NMRA, but we hope you do. New NMRA members receive a T-Shirt.

Registration Wednesday night 5-8 PM at the Maverick Club
Includes complimentary reception featuring cocktails and hors d'oeuvres

PAYMENT: Send entry form & payment in U.S. dollars, made payable to **NMRA**. Mail to:

Steve Cohen, 5832 E. Bluebonnet Court,
Orange, CA 92896, 714.767.4622

NO REFUND OF ANY FEES AFTER 11/17/2011

NMRA Official Website: www.nmra.info and [Facebook](#)

Players may enter a maximum of two (2) doubles events.

DOUBLES

	MEN	WOMEN	MIXED
40+			
45+			
50+			
55+			
60+			
65+			
70+			
75+			
80+			
85+			
90+			

Doubles Partner(s): Please print

Name/Div/Age Bracket: _____

Name/Div/Age Bracket: _____

____ Check if you need us to find a doubles partner.

JACKET SIZE: MENS _____ WOMENS _____
S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2X ___ 3X ___

Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number:

NMRA (FUTURE) Foundation

By Tom Curran

As I hope all of you know, separate from our General Fund, the *NMRA* has set up a *Foundation* that is designed to ensure the *FUTURE* of the *NMRA* and our Sport.

It is covered under our 501 (c)(3) IRS designation as a Charity. All donations to the *Foundation* are fully Tax Deductable.

Since the *Foundation Fund* was established separate from the General Fund, the interest generated by the fund is the only money available to the *NMRA*. Each year, the *Foundation Fund* transfers the interest to the *NMRA General Fund* by sending a check to the Treasurer to be deposited.

The *Foundation Fund* is under the direction of the *Future Fund Executive Director*. This is a volunteer position. Since it is a separate entity of the *NMRA*, it does not come under the direct control of the board, but rather is administered by the Director. The principal (that money donated by the *NMRA* members) is never used, except with the full approval of the board and the Executive Director. This has happened only once in our history and it was later discovered to not have been done with the proper authority. The situation was fixed immediately and the designated funds returned to the *Foundation*.

In the event that the *NMRA* was to ever cease to exist as the *NMRA*, the bylaws of the *Foundation* require that the funds be donated to another 501 designated charity at the direction of the Executive Director.

We have had a number of members pledge and donate to the fund over the past few years. We have also had members remember us in their *Estates* when they passed. The *Foundation* was named in one member's will with a gifting of \$10,000 and, just recently, another member gifted \$2,000.

Gifting is different from donating to the *General Fund of the NMRA*. If a member wants to donate to a specific program or project (for example, *Junior Program*), they can identify that their donation can 'only be used' for that one purpose.

Every *Foundation* gift is recognized by a letter of 'charitable donation' to the person who honored us with a gift.

We are grateful and thankful to everyone who donates to the *NMRA Foundation* and *General Fund*. It is a sign of their support both in the present and honoring us by identifying the *NMRA* as so important in their lives that they remember us in their *Wills* and *Estates*. That is truly being dedicated to the *NMRA* and racquetball. ○

NMRA Tidbits... continued from page 4

I am always on the lookout for references to racquetball, as you probably are, too. I am always completely dismayed when I see a sport or activity highlighted on a newsreel and it is not half as exciting or globally known as racquetball. Usually, the reporter's kid is a participant, or the reporter participated as a kid. Aaaaaaargh! Well, there were two unexpected racquetball sightings for me this week. The first was an October episode of the new NBC show, *Whitney* (or at least the preview of that upcoming episode). Her boyfriend is teaching her how to play and they spend some time in the court. The other was in my friend's "What to expect during your knee replacement" book. She is expected to stay away from racquetball for quite awhile. Most sports didn't even get a mention, so I felt gratified.

Steve Cohen, our treasurer, reports that we are financially healthy, having made small profits for the last several tournaments. We recently bought a supply of medals, and that is a significant expense for us, but we hope to save some printing and postage dollars by not mailing out a newsletter to every member in the future and that should allow us some extra dollars to provide better tournaments or donate to junior programs, etc. In addition, many of you add a few extra dollars when you enter our tournaments. As always, we appreciate your contributions.

continued on Page 16...

Arlington Tournament Info continued from page 6

will be two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11 if needed. Bonus points are awarded for winning games (2 per game) and the match (4). Ties will split the extra four match points. Points are automatically calculated by the *R2sports* tournament software. When any team or player must forfeit, average scores will be used to determine final results of the division or pool. If a forfeit occurs during a match, the opposing team or player will be awarded points required to finish the match.

Appeals The *NMRA* has a rules committee that can be used by the players to submit an appeal on a rule or issue that arises during the event. The decision of the rules committee is final and binding on all parties concerned. Committee members for this event are **Vicky Utter** and **Howard Walker**.

Eligibility *USAR*-sanctioned; Current *USAR* membership is required to participate. Your membership must be valid thru the last day of the tournament, December 3, 2011. Entries will not be accepted without payment for *USAR* membership. *USAR* membership is available at <https://webpoint.usra.org/wp15/IntraLock/Login.asp> Membership forms will also be available on Registration night. *NMRA* membership is required for all EXCEPT players who are playing in their FIRST *NMRA* event. Special recognition and gift for first-time players and new *NMRA* members. You must be a current member as of the last day of the tournament.

Tournament Awards *NMRA* medals will be awarded to First through Fourth place winners for each age division. Combined divisions will be awarded medals based on separate age divisions.

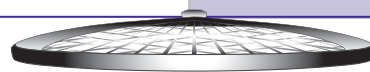
Morning Hospitality Breakfast is available at the hotel for hotel guests. Fruit and drinks available at the *Maverick Athletic Club*.

Lunch Lunch is served at the *Maverick Athletic Club*; you will need to present your tournament pass.

Evening Hospitality on Thursday Not a substitute for dinner. Will be served at the *Maverick Athletic Club*. You will need to present your tournament pass.

Banquet on Friday Night Will be held at the *Maverick Club*. Cash bar at 6:30 pm; BBQ dinner and program from 7 pm to 10 pm.

more ➤



Local Activities

www.arlington.org

Average Temperature

Year – 77° F; December –

High 56° F – Low 37° F

Average December Precipitation 2.57"

RV Parks

RV parks near the club are:

KOA Kampground, 2715 S Cooper, Arlington, TX 817.277.6600; Lakeview RV, 4793 E

Loop 820 S, Fort Worth, TX 817.457.6771



Things to Do in Arlington...

By Howard Walker

Arlington, Texas, is considered “the entertainment district” of the Dallas/Fort Worth area, due to the malls, sports



arenas and amusement parks. It is about 20 minutes south of the airport, and is centrally located between Dallas and Fort Worth. Make sure you check out the attractions in both cities while you're in Arlington for the tournament.



Arlington Area

Hyena's Comedy Club; Six Flags Amusement / Roller Coaster; Dallas Cowboys NFL Stadium Football Tour; Texas Rangers MLB Stadium Tour; Shopping / Ice Skating at Parks Mall; Wax Museum; Movie Theaters; Restaurants

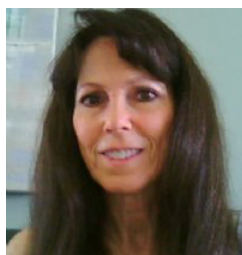
Dallas Area

JFK Dealey Plaza Site / Museum; Dallas Aquarium; NBA Mavericks American Airlines Arena / Shops; Restaurants

Fort Worth Area

Billy Bob's; Stockyards; Dallas Fort Worth Zoo; Restaurants

FORT WORTH



Tournament Director's Corner — Low on Resources?

By Cindy Tilbury

Many of our NMRA members run tournaments in their home towns—small shootouts, 500-player monster events, and everything in between. Of course, we NMRA board member people applaud your efforts! Although sponsors make the events extra great, without tournament directors willing to put in the

work, there would be no tournaments.

For you special people who have the ambition and energy to put on tournaments, I'd like to make you aware of a special resource of which you might want to take advantage someday. I can't remember when I first became aware of this resource, but I hope you'll keep this secret weapon in mind.

I'm talking about **Joe Williams**, who is currently retired from his full-time career and is volunteering for *USA Racquetball* in *Colorado Springs*. He moved there when he realized that this was really what he wanted to do, and when *USA Racquetball* staff members realized they needed his help. Joe can do almost any task needed to pull off national tournaments, but he is happy to stay in the background. You have probably seen him at *National Singles*, *National Doubles*, the *US Open* and other major tournaments. He never stays in one place. One minute, he is replenishing the VIP hospitality food, and the next he is cleaning the glass court walls for maximum clarity during the live streaming. He wrangles the players' kids and runs the tournament desk. With his expert *R2Sports* tournament software skills, he can reschedule matches or print match cards. There is nothing Joe cannot do.

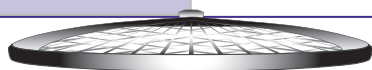
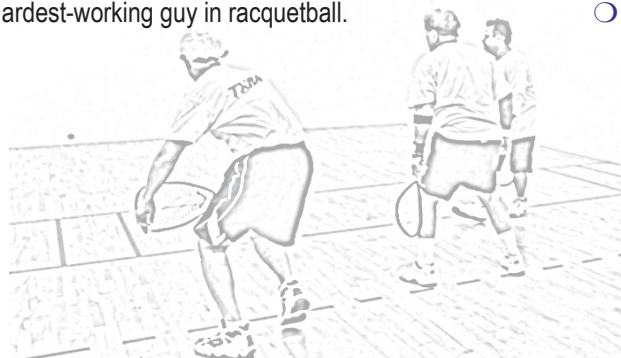


If you are ever in a position where you have a little budget to cover expenses, but are short of tournament help resources, consider bringing in Joe Williams. He can save the day and make sure you have time to play in your own tournament.

Last January, when we had the *Women's Senior Masters* tournament in Denver, Joe proved to be invaluable to me at the desk. He printed match cards and updated draw sheets overnight, he checked for incorrect score entries, and helped track down people who owed money. I wrote about this in previous issues of our newsletter, but Joe then became my driver and baggage handler for the after-tourney ski trip to *Breckenridge*. I can't say enough good things about Joe's help and enthusiasm for the sport.

I recommended Joe to our December 2011 NMRA *Doubles-Only* tournament directors, **Howard**

Walker and **Patrick Gibson**, who will be doing the up-front scheduling and arranging in *Arlington (Dallas)*. They will then let Joe run the desk and keep things running smoothly with the other tournament volunteers. When you see Joe in *Arlington*, do yourself a favor and introduce yourself to the hardest-working guy in racquetball.



The Importance of Voting

By Tom Curran

In this issue you will find a ballot for the upcoming election of officers of the *NMRA Board of Directors*.

Over the past couple of years, the *BOD* instituted term limits for both the board members and officers of the board. The reason for taking this action was to ensure that everyone got an opportunity, if they wanted, to run for the board. There is a three-year term limit for everyone who serves and they can only serve two consecutive elected terms before they have to come off the board. After one year, they can, if they choose to, run for election again for election to the board.

The *Officers of the Board* are elected by the sitting members of the Board. The *Officers of the Board* are the *President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer*. The Officers are elected at the annual meeting in March of each year. They serve a one-year term. There is a motion to amend the *NMRA Constitution* to have the Officers fill the position for two years. That motion was made at the July 2011 board meeting and will be voted on at the 2012 meeting in March.

It is very important that each member of the *NMRA* understand how our system works, since it should direct the way you *VOTE* for those who have expressed an interest in being a board member.

The *NMRA Board* is a very active board that requires not only attendance at meetings, but being actively involved in tournaments and providing articles to the newsletter. On the board, there are specific duties like *Election Director, Newsletter Editor* and *Membership Director*. We also offer additional volunteer positions like *Awards Coordinator*. This person is responsible for keeping a stock of tournament medals and special awards like the *Hall of Fame*, and *Sportsmanship*.

In addition to all of these duties, the entire board participates in tournaments by staffing the registration desk the night before the event and helping cover the tournament desk during our events, then packing up and closing out the event. We, as members of the *NMRA*, are very fortunate to have folks who are willing to take on these responsibilities rather than having to pay for these activities to be accomplished.

It is for these reasons that your *VOTE* is so important. It is your right to *VOTE* for the individuals that have stepped forward to be considered for a board position. Without your *VOTE*, the process is not complete and the *NMRA* suffers.

In the past years the turn out for *VOTES* has been very low. We cannot force you to *VOTE*, but we can encourage you to *VOTE*.

As the old saying goes, 'If you do not *VOTE*, you can't complain about the outcome'.

An alternative to voting by paper ballot is to vote online. This makes voting even easier. The instructions for online voting are found in this edition of the newsletter.

Please help us help you by *VOTING* for the individuals you feel will best represent the *NMRA* and keep it a strong and vital part of our sport. Did I mention that you should *VOTE*???



Fullerton 2011 Banquet

Things NOT to ask the Tournament Director

By Bruce Adams

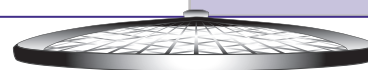
HOW MANY OF THESE HAVE YOU ASKED BEFORE?

1. Can I enter past the deadline [you can enter early?]
2. Can I let you know (at the deadline time) if I am playing. [Yes, you can enter early!] And then you do not call!!!
3. Can I play my first match Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.?
4. What time do I play?
5. Who am I playing?
6. What court am I playing on? Does it have back glass?
7. Is my opponent any good?
8. What is my seeding?
9. Who is seeded number one?
10. Where is the food?
11. What time is the food showing up for lunch/dinner?
12. What food are we having?
13. What are we having tomorrow for food?
14. Can I move the time of my match?
15. Can I pay at the door, even though the application says send fee with the entry?
16. When am I up next?
17. How far down am I before I play again?
18. What time will we be finished?
19. Can I play on a different court? – I do not like the glass!
20. Are you behind schedule? (even though you do not come “early”).
21. Why are we behind?

Things you CAN ask the Tournament Director

HOW MANY OF THESE HAVE YOU ASKED BEFORE?

- A. Can I help with anything now or while I am waiting for my next match?
- B. Are there any matches that need to be posted on the drawsheets?
- C. Do you need a referee to call a match?
- D. Can I help at the tournament desk?
- E. Do you need a sponsor for the next event?
- F. Can I help run a tournament from beginning to end?



Election Candidates for the 2012 through 2015 Terms

By Cindy Tilbury

The presentations at our *NMRA* tournament Friday night banquets have turned into quite an event. As happens each year, there are three *NMRA* Board of Directors' positions open as of March, 2012. Those board members are:

- **Tom Curran**
- **Steve Cohen**
- **Carmen Alatorre-Martin**

Due to the *NMRA* provision to limit terms for board members and officers, **Tom Curran** will be going off the board, but will continue to work hard negotiating club and hotel contracts for our tournaments planned for the next several years. Tom has experience and negotiating skills that the rest of the board members hope to gain soon, but for now, we are immensely grateful to Tom for the time and skill he brings to the most important part of our organization—the three tournaments we hold each year.

Steve Cohen and **Carmen Alatorre-Martin** have decided to run for a second elected term, and for this we are extremely happy. In addition, **Fred Roe** is running to fill the spot left open with Tom Curran's departure. Below are some of their qualifications. Of course, you may write in a candidate's name, too. Please read the election information before you vote, then cast your ballot using the new r2sports.com online election tool, or by sending in your paper ballot located on the inside cover of this newsletter. Remember that if you do not include your address label on the back side of your ballot, your vote will not be counted. We recommend you vote online, using your regular r2sports.com user account (the one you log into when you sign up online for all *USAR* tournaments). Our membership coordinator can help you access or create an account, if you need help.

Vote online at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8919>.

VOTE

CANDIDATES:



Carmen Alatorre-Martin, Virginia

Carmen has been our membership coordinator for the past three years, and just recently, took on co-tournament-director duties for several tournaments. Her first *NMRA* tournament was such a positive experience that she wanted to get involved to keep it great. At home, Carmen is a director of a company that does many large government projects. She heads up a group of racquetball players at *Fort Myer*, where they play lots of doubles and work hard to get ready for *NMRA* tournaments. While on active duty in the *Air Force*, one of Carmen's assignments was being an Associate Professor teaching at the *Air Force Academy*. Our 2000 *Colorado Springs* tournament site was where she first picked up the sport of racquetball. If elected to another term for the *NMRA*, Carmen will turn over her membership duties and teach them to another board member, and get involved in new projects. Carmen's email address is: calatorre-martin@nmra.info



Steve Cohen, California

NMRA was very lucky to have found Steve Cohen. After some turnover of *NMRA* volunteers and board members in 2007, Steve volunteered to help with the day-to-day accounting and finances. In a special meeting, the board elected Steve and appointed him Treasurer. Steve brought the current *R2Sports* tournament software to the *NMRA* and has worked diligently to make improvements specific to *NMRA* tournament formats, as well as computerizing our membership database. Steve is deeply involved in *World Outdoor Racquetball*, where he runs tournaments and acts as *WOR's R2sports* director. Steve is a board member of *USA Racquetball*, the national governing body of racquetball. Steve serves as tournament director for many *NMRA* tournaments and, as *NMRA Treasurer*, has direct responsibility for receiving and entering all mailed entries and communicating with our members. Steve hopes you will reelect him so he can continue to make contributions for the growth of racquetball and represent the *NMRA* at local, state and national meetings and events. Steve can be reached at: scohen@nmra.info



Fred Roe, California

Fred Roe is one of our top 65+ players who lives in *Santa Monica, California*, but plays all over the US. He has been a regular traveler since he retired a few years ago from his job with *Los Angeles County*, where he worked with high-risk youth and young offenders. One of Fred's claims to fame is that he is the only person who has played in every *IRF World Senior tournament* in *Albuquerque*—that is an amazing 27 years of staying healthy. Fred is not only *AmPro/IPPro* certified to teach racquetball, but he also recently acquired his *USAR IP* certification, as well. He would like to work on recruiting new members and possibly handle some of the membership duties, if elected. Contact Fred at: jfredrickroe@aol.com



NMRA 2012 National Championships

Provo/Orem, Utah

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION SHEET MARCH 7-10, 2012

Check <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8505> for updates. Please read carefully.

Tournament Directors / Staff Tom Curran, 513.490.7472, tcurran@nmra.info – Venue Director
Steve Cohen, 714.767.4622, scohen@nmra.info – Registration
Vicky Utter and Howard Walker + One Additional Member – Rules Committee

Primary Host Club **Orem Fitness Center** – 14 courts
580 West 165 South, Orem, UT 84058; 801.229.7154 / 801.229.7156
Local Contact: Kaye Buehler, Recreation Division Manager
<http://www.oremrecreation.com/>
Bring a lock and towel; No alcohol will be permitted onsite; Evening hospitality will be available at this club only.

Secondary Host Club **Utah Valley University** – 8 courts
800 West University Parkway, Orem, UT 84058
Local Contact: Kristen Bellows, Racquetball Coach 801.641.9501
<http://www.wolverinegreen.com/facilities/utva-facilities.html>
Bring a lock and a towel ??; No alcohol will be permitted onsite

Host Hotel **Provo Marriott Hotel & Conference Center**
101 West 100 North, Provo, UT 84601 801.377.4700 or 800.777.7144
<http://www.provomariott.com> ; \$95 (Plus tax) Per Night Regular Room (Single); \$105 (Plus tax) Per Night Regular Room (Double)
Shuttle scheduled service to and from the hotel to both clubs
Rates available until February 18, 2011, but please reserve early
Call 800.777.7144 and request the NMRA discount (Code: NMRA)
Rate includes free breakfast buffet, free parking, fitness center, 15% discount at the hotel café and restaurants for lunch or dinner, more
Registered guests will be entered into a “free night” lottery.

Enter Online Enter online by February 25, 2012, at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8505> First event--\$140 Second event--\$40
Guests \$65 for the week; Banquet-Only--\$45; You may request a doubles partner and/or roommate and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Enter via US Mail Fill out the entry form at www.nmra.info (Tournament Info page).
Mail completed entry form and fees by February 20, 2012, to:
Steve Cohen, NMRA Treasurer; 5832 E Bluebonnet Court, Orange, CA 92869; 714.767.4622 Cell.

Nearest Airport Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC)
Northwest Salt Lake, between I-80 and I-215 www.slairport.com

Airlines Flying Into Salt Lake City American Airlines; Continental Airlines; Continental Airlines; Delta Airlines; Frontier Airlines; Hawaiian Airline; Horizon Air; Jet Blue Airways; SkyWest Airlines; Southwest Airlines; United Airlines; US Airways.

Alternate Airport Boise International Airport (BOI) — 5 hours (350 miles) north of Salt Lake

Airport Taxi/ Shuttle SLC to Hotel Renting a car is a nice convenience at this tournament, but not necessary
Medallion (Hotel Preferred) – 801.364.8788 \$85 for up to four people;
American Taxi – 801.427.9448 \$65 per person; Express Shuttle – 801.596.1600 \$30 per person and \$14 for each additional person in the same party; <http://www.slairport.com/ground-transportation.asp>

Shuttles to Clubs Shuttle service is scheduled to and from the hotel to both clubs.

Parking at Host Clubs Orem Fitness Club – Free
Utah Valley University – Designated lot????

[more](#) ➤

Directions from Airport to Host Hotel (Provo Marriott) 50 miles (one hour) south of airport; Exit airport toward the south; Take I-80 south for 1.6 miles; Merge onto I-215 south for 10.8 miles; Merge onto I-15 south for 33.2 miles
Take Exit 265, Center Street, toward Provo for 1.4 miles; Turn left onto N500 W / US-89 for .09 mile; Turn right onto W 100 N for .4 miles; Hotel is on the right.

Directions from Host Hotel to Primary Club (Orem Fitness Center) 7.4 miles (11 minutes) northwest of the hotel; Start out going west (away from University Avenue) on W 100 N for .4 miles; Turn left onto N 500 W / US-89 for one block; Turn right onto W Center Street / UT-114 for .4 miles; Merge onto I-15 N for 5.2 miles; Take the Center Street exit toward Orem for .3 miles; Turn right onto W Center Street for .5 miles; Turn right onto S 800 W for .2 miles; Turn left onto W 165 S for .2 miles; Club is on the left.

Directions from Host Hotel to Secondary Club (Utah Valley University) 6 Miles (9 Minutes) Northwest of the Hotel; Start out going west (away from University Avenue) on W 100 N for .4 miles; Turn left onto N 500 W / US-89 for one block; Turn right onto W Center Street / UT-114 for .4 miles; Merge onto I-15 N for 3.5 miles; Take the UT-265 University Parkway exit for .2 miles; Turn left onto S 800 W for .2 miles; Enter roundabout and take the third exit onto College Drive for .5 miles; Continue following along the interstate, around the parking lots; Turn into the NMRA-designated lot and display correct parking sticker; Walk to the Liberal Arts/Physical Education Building on College Drive.

Directions from Primary Club to Secondary Club (Orem Fitness to Utah Valley University) Start out going west on W 165 S toward S 600 W for .2 miles; Turn left onto S 800 W for .8 miles; Turn right onto W 800 S for .1 miles; Turn left into NMRA-designated parking lot; Park with proper sticker displayed, if necessary; Walk to Liberal Arts/Physical Education building.

Tournament Check-In/Registration Night Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 5 to 8 pm at the Provo Marriott Hotel; Light food and beverages will be provided; Check www.nmra.info for latest updates.

Play Begins/Ends 8 am Wednesday, March 7 to 5pm Saturday, March 10, 2012; Every division plays every day (Wednesday through

continued on Page 14...



NMRA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

MARCH 7 - 10, 2012

OREM FITNESS CENTER & UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY – OREM, UT

Mail-In Entry Must Be POSTMARKED NLT FEBRUARY 20, 2012

Online Entries Must Be COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 25, 2012

Online entries at: <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=7959>

Tournament Directors: Tom Curran 513.490.7472 & Steve Cohen 714.767.4622

Registration Tuesday night 5-8 PM at Provo Marriott Hotel and Conference Center



Please Print — Be Legible, Complete & Accurate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: Cell _____

Home _____

Work _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

DOB: m____ / d____ / yr____ Age on 03/07/2012 _____

Waiver: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive & release any & all rights and claims that I may have against the NMRA, USAR, the host clubs and their staff, and all sponsors or their respective agents, for any and all injuries or damages of any nature which I, my spouse or my guest(s) may incur as a result of my participation in this tournament. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eye guards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USA Racquetball Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ENTRY FEES:

First Event	\$ 140	\$ _____
Second Event	\$ 40	\$ _____
Spouse/Guest(s)* (Each)	\$ 65	\$ _____
NMRA Membership ** (3 Years)	\$ 45	\$ _____
USRA Membership (1 Year)	\$ 50	\$ _____
Additional Tournament Shirt	\$ 25	\$ _____
NMRA Junior Grass Roots Program (\$20 increments):	\$ 20	\$ _____
NMRA Future Fund Donation (\$25 increments):	\$ 25	\$ _____
Total Due:	\$	\$ _____

* Spouse/Guest(s) Name(s): _____

____ ****Check here if your first NMRA tournament**
First time participants do not have to join the NMRA, but we hope you do. New NMRA members receive an embroidered logo NMRA T-Shirt.

PAYMENT: Send entry form & payment in U.S. dollars, made payable to **NMRA**. Mail to:

Steve Cohen
5832 E. Bluebonnet Court,
Orange, CA 92896, 714.767.4622

NO REFUND OF ANY FEES AFTER FEBRUARY 20, 2012

NMRA Official Website: www.nmra.info for Information Sheet and Tournament updates.

Players may enter a maximum of two (2) events.

SINGLES DOUBLES

	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN	MIXED
45+					
50+					
55+					
60+					
65+					
70+					
75+					
80+					
85+					
90+					

Doubles Partner(s): Please print partner(s) names below

Name / Age Div: _____

Name / Age Div: _____

____ Check if you need us to find a doubles partner.

SHIRT SIZE: MEN _____ OR WOMEN _____
S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2X ___ 3X ___

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR SHIRT SIZE ON YOUR USAR PROFILE
www.r2sports.com/membership/login.asp

Please provide Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number:

Name _____

Phone # _____

Provo/Orem, Utah Nat'l Championships Tournament Info *continued from page 12*

Saturday); Please show consideration for all players and remember that we play every bracket every day of the event. Schedule your travel arrangements accordingly. Courts will be available at the Orem Fitness Center ???? for early practice/play. ID will be required at both clubs.

Tournament Ball Ektelon Classic Black is the official ball of the NMRA.

Tournament Scoring All round robins, self-refereed matches; Every division will play two games to 15. Large "pool play" divisions will have Saturday playoff matches. Playoff format will be two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11 if needed. Bonus points are awarded for winning games (2 per game) and the match (4). Ties will split the extra four match points. Points are automatically calculated by the R2sports tournament software. When any team or player must forfeit, average scores will be used to determine final results of the division or pool. If a forfeit occurs during a match, the opposing team or player will be awarded points required to finish the match.

Appeals The NMRA has a rules committee that can be used by the players to submit an appeal on a rule or issue that arises during the event. The decision of the rules committee is final and binding on all parties concerned.

Tournament Awards NMRA medals will be awarded to First through Fourth place winners for each bracket. Combined brackets will be awarded medals based on age.

Eligibility USAR-sanctioned; Current USAR membership is required to participate. Entries will not be accepted without payment for USAR membership. NMRA membership is required for all EXCEPT players who are playing in their FIRST NMRA event. Special recognition and gift for first-time players and new NMRA members.

Breakfast Breakfast is included in the price of the host hotel and we encourage you to take advantage of the buffet. Fruit and drinks available at both clubs.

Lunch Available at both clubs via the Utah Valley University catering service. More details will be available at check-in time.

Evening Hospitality Available at the Orem Fitness Center only—not a substitute for dinner.

Banquet Friday night, March 9, 2012, at the Provo Marriott Hotel. Cash bar at 6:30 pm; Dinner and program from 7 to 10 pm.

Utah Activities and Attractions Skiing, snowboarding, other snow activities, national parks, Great Salt Lake, Mormon Tabernacle, Sundance, museums, shopping, and many other geological sites to see. The Utah Valley Tourist Bureau would be a great place to start to plan your tournament free time. Julia Currey is the contact in Provo. juliac@utahvalley.org www.utahvalley.org

RV Parks There are four RV parks with hookups within 10 miles of the host hotel.

Doubles Partners Contact Cindy Tilbury for a doubles partner cindy.tilbury@att.net or 303.888.4461

Player Profiles It is **extremely important** that you keep your **player profile, including shirt size**, up-to-date in the www.r2sports.com system. The profile is used to help you enter tournaments online and, more importantly, to contact you with the latest tournament information and changes when you enter tournaments. This profile is now the same as the www.usra.org profile. Contact the USAR staff in Colorado Springs at 719.635.5396 if you need a little help getting started or remembering your password for this feature.

Average Temperature Provo in March – High 57° F – Low 33° F – Average 45° F Precipitation 2"

Things to Do in Orem/Provo...

By Lee Adamson, Sales Manager

Welcome, *National Masters Racquetball Association*, from the *Utah Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau!*

We are excited to host the *NMRA* and look forward to seeing you soon. March is an excellent time of year to explore our magnificent mountains, enjoy our unique festivals, or take in the rich history and artistic expression of our museums. Take a look below at a few of our favorite activities and events -- or begin your exploration of our area at [UtahValley.com!](http://UtahValley.com)

Hotels

We have secured reduced room rates for you at the *Provo Marriott*. To book a room, call the hotel at 801.377.4700 and mention *National Masters Racquetball Association* to get the reduced rate.

Robert Redford's Sundance Resort
Located just 15 minutes from Downtown Provo, Robert Redford's Sundance Resort offers unforgettable activities for everyone. Ski (downhill or cross country) Utah's "Greatest Snow on Earth" on the majestic slopes of Mt. Timpanogos. Not a skier? Take in a flick at the Sundance Institute's screening room, dine at the renowned Tree Room restaurant, try your hand at creating jewelry or pottery at the Art Shack, or relax at the Sundance Spa.

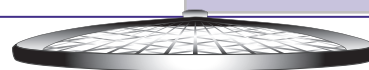
For Night Owls

NMRA night owls can explore the illuminated beauty of *Mt. Timpanogos'* winter landscape during Full Moon Snowshoe on March 8 and 9. Finish the evening with food and drink at *Sundance's Famous Owl Bar*. The restored 1890's bar (moved to Sundance from Thermopolis, WY) is the original *Rosewood Bar* once frequented by *Butch Cassidy's Hole-in-the-Wall Gang*.

US DanceSport Championships at BYU March 7-10, 2012

Hundreds of ballroom dancers of all ages will sweep into Provo to compete as Brigham Young University hosts the United States Amateur DanceSport Championships. Be part of the 12,000 spectators to watch the largest amateur ballroom dance event in the country.

continued on Page 18



World Senior Doubles in Santa Fe

By Cindy Tilbury

Each June, the *International Racquetball Federation (IRF)* puts on the *World Senior Doubles championships*. They move it around the world, and this June, it was finally close to home in *Santa Fe, New Mexico*. Previous years' locations include *Canada, Mexico, and France*.

The competition was stiff and the schedule was brutal, as several hundred matches had to be completed in four days with only four courts. I can't remember the last time we had such great host hotel accommodations, with everyone staying at the *Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino* in *Pojoaque*, right outside of *Santa Fe*. If matches ran late, we went to the pool or down to the casino to gamble for awhile. The food was great and the weather warm and dry.



George Rivera, the mayor of *Pojoaque*, is not only a racquetball player, but also a world-renowned sculptor. The *IRF's Gary Mazaroff* and Mr. Rivera arranged for a seriously stylish tournament. Maybe they didn't realize it was just us regular tournament players. The banquet and medal ceremony was held at the *Buffalo Thunder Resort*. Winners of those medals can be found at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/viewResults.asp?TID=8110>.

We can't wait to go back and enjoy the wonders of *Santa Fe* again soon.

The *2012 World Senior Doubles* will be held June 14-17 in *Honduras*. More details will be available at www.internationalracquetball.com or through Gary Mazaroff gmampro@gmail.com.



Racquet Master Still Driving to be All That He Can Be

An Army Veteran finds that a healthy exercise and diet regimen keep him on top of his game.

By Mike Yuen / Special to the Star-Advertiser

At 61, **Joe Lee** has a lean and muscular build. He looks half his age. With his solid 6-foot-3, 183-pound frame, he still seems capable of competing with high-school athletes in basketball and football, just as he did more than 40 years ago in rural *Statesboro, Ga.*, 55 miles northwest of *Savannah*.

But since 1978, racquetball has been Lee's game. And now, at a time when Lee is eligible



for senior discounts at places such as *Foodland* and *Consolidated Theatres*, he is one of *Hawaii's* elite racquetball players in a class with others who would need another 20 to 40 years before they can get their senior discounts.

Lee, an Army retiree who was stationed at *Schofield Barracks* for five years, was just at *USA Racquetball's U.S. Open* in *Minneapolis* Oct. 8-13 to

defend his title in the 60-and-older category, where he claimed his sixth consecutive age-group title. He already has four 55-plus championships.

"This is the big one," Lee said of the *U.S. Open*. "You not only have to go through the best in the nation, but also from 18 other countries. The gold medal means a lot to me because the *U.S. Open* is a world championship. I was ready for the challenge."

Lee's training regimen and competition preparation are built on conditioning, high-repetition weightlifting with lighter weights "not to get bigger, but to stay strong," and Army-style mental toughness that treats each match as "a mission."

"In the *Army* we have a saying: 'We are not going to break down in the heat of battle,'" explained Lee, who in 1980 was named to the *All-Army racquetball team*.

And there are aspects of his training and lifestyle that are beneficial to anyone, senior or not, even if they are not competitive amateur or professional athletes, Lee believes. And it begins with a healthy diet that is high in protein and low in fat.

For breakfast every day, Lee has a bowl of cereal with no sugar, low-fat yogurt and a banana. For lunch it is a tuna sandwich or fish or chicken, which he will only eat grilled. For dinner, it is fish or pasta with chicken topped with a red sauce. "No cream sauce goes on my pasta. I am very disciplined," he said. "I had good food growing up, but that stuff will kill you," Lee said of his tasty Southern-style meals that included fried chicken and ribs.

Lee continued with his advice: "Make sure you wake up every day with a positive attitude. See the glass half full, not half empty. Be positive with people."

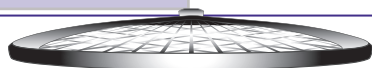
"Exercise. It doesn't have to be an athlete's workout. Walk. Do aerobics. Make exercise a regular part of your life. Also make it an important part of your companion's life. When you make exercise a part of her life, you can do it as a team. As the *Army* says, 'Together, everybody can accomplish more.'

"Make your partner a part of eating healthier, too. That way each of you is accountable to the other."

Jimmy Lowe, a *U.S. Open* champion who is considered the state's best racquetball player, said when you first see Lee competing, he can appear intimidating. "But when you get to know him off the court, he's the nicest guy. He's a fair, kind and sensitive person," Lowe said.

Perhaps that's why Lee has given some of his older racquetball trophies to youngsters.

"Man, that lifted up their worlds. I did it to touch their lives because they're the future," Lee said. "I wanted to inspire them to do well."

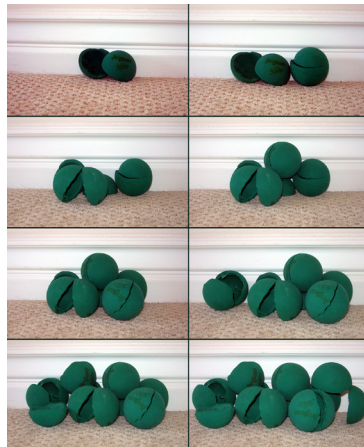


MRF Big Player at 3 Wallball Championships

By Hank Marcus, MRF

The Military Racquetball Federation (MRF) played a major role at the September 23 weekend Three-Wall Ball Championships at the Stratosphere Hotel in Vegas.

- **MRF CHARITY DOUBLES:** Wednesday night kicked off the event with a charity doubles that raised over \$1,200 for MRF. Special thanks to pros **Cliff Swain, Clubber Lane, Aimee Ruiz, and Brian Pineda** for their support. In addition to the doubles event, **Steven Harper** was interviewed by local news who covered the event. Next year's event will include the addition of a handball and paddleball MRF doubles.
- **SATURDAY COLOR GUARD:** Over 500 people attended the ceremony, which included a color guard, inclusion of all those who have served our country, and the introduction of *Wounded Warrior Staff Sergeant (SSG) US Army Marcia B. Morris-Roberts*, who is involved with MRF's Racquetball Rehabilitation Clinics.



Editor's note: Many of our members are active duty or retired military people. We encourage you to get involved with the MRF for both outdoor and indoor racquetball camaraderie. –Cindy Tilbury



Photos courtesy of Julian Gomez and the MRF.



Things to Do in the Raleigh Area

By Cindy Tilbury

- Civil War Museums / Cemeteries
- Goodnight's Comedy Club
- Downtown Segway Tours
- Golf
- Atlantic Beaches (Two Hours East)
- Barbeque Restaurants

NMRA Tidbits...

continued from page 8

Our membership director, **Carmen Alatorre-Martin**, wanted to remind you that if you need membership information, she can send it to you. If you have just one name you need, she would be the contact for that, too.

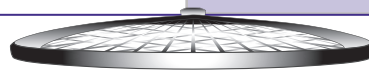
I recently found that, when someone is drive serving at me, I can return the ball better if I just raise my racquet above my ear as they are serving the ball. I would do it sooner, but I don't want the server to think I am taking ten seconds. I have been blistering the drive serves back at my opponents since I started doing that. This works for singles or right-side doubles.

If there is anyone out there that knows of a program where a lot of small girls need to wear the same jacket, please forward their information on to me. I have about 40 reddish knit jackets left over from my January Women's Senior Master tournament, and they are too small for average-sized women. I am hoping to get them re-embroidered and sold (inexpensively, of course) to a team of young, enthusiastic ladies.

After last June's article about coaches, I had an email from **Bev Supanik** who would like to add her name to the list of available coaches for the 45+ set. Bev can be reached via email at mastersteacher59@yahoo.com. Bev and other potential coaches/teachers should also post that information on the NMRA Facebook page.

Overheard at a M65 match at **Albuquerque World Seniors**: "You would not believe how many timeouts I have in the bank!"

continued on Page 18





NMRA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

JULY 18 - 21, 2012

NC STATE UNIVERSITY, RALEIGH (APEX), NORTH CAROLINA

Mail-In Entry Must Be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN: 6/30/2012

Online Entries Must Be COMPLETED BY: 7/12/2012



Online entries at: <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8870>



Please Print — Be Legible, Complete & Accurate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: Cell _____

Home _____

Work _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

DOB: m ____ / d ____ / yr ____ Age on 7/18/2012 ____

Waiver: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive & release any & all rights and claims that I may have against the NMRA, USAR, NC State University and their staff, and all sponsors or their respective agents, for any and all injuries or damages of any nature which I, my spouse or my guest(s) may incur as a result of my participation in this tournament. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eye guards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USA Racquetball Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ENTRY FEES:

First Event	\$ 140	\$ _____
Second Event	\$ 40	\$ _____
Spouse/Guest(s)* (Each)	\$ 65	\$ _____
NMRA Membership ** (3 Years)	\$ 45	\$ _____
USRA Membership (1 Year)	\$ 50	\$ _____
Future Fund Donation (\$5 increments):	\$	\$ _____
Total Due:	\$	\$ _____

* Spouse/Guest(s) Name(s): _____

****Check here if your first NMRA tournament**

First time participants do not have to join the NMRA, but we hope you do. New NMRA members receive an embroidered logo NMRA T-Shirt.

PAYMENT: Send entry form & payment in U.S. dollars, made payable to NMRA.

Mail to: Steve Cohen
5832 E. Bluebonnet Court,
Orange, CA 92896, 714.767.4622

NO REFUND OF ANY FEES AFTER 7/8/2012

Limit of two events only; singles & doubles or two doubles.

	SINGLES		DOUBLES		
	MENS	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN	MIXED
45+					
50+					
55+					
60+					
65+					
70+					
75+					
80+					
85+					
90+					

Doubles Partner(s): Please print partner(s) names below

Name / Age Div: _____

Name / Age Div: _____

____ Check if you need us to find a doubles partner.

SHIRT SIZE: MENS _____ WOMENS _____
S ____ M ____ L ____ XL ____ 2X ____ 3X ____

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR SHIRT SIZE ON YOUR USAR PROFILE
www.r2sports.com/membership/login.asp

Please provide Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number:

Name _____

Phone # _____

Teachers/Coaches Corner — Beware of Scammers

By Cindy Tilbury

I recently had an interesting thing happen to me. In fact, I guess I am still in the midst of it. I thought I would share this, in case you feel tempted to get involved in a similar situation.

I got an unsolicited email that was obviously from a foreign person, but it was specific to me. It asked me if I would provide racquetball lessons to a new student who would come to my club. The inquirer wanted to know how much it would cost to provide two months of lessons for two hours a week, and where my club was located. My name is on the internet as an *AmPro* teaching professional, so I assume they searched the internet and found my name. I'm sure the person also emailed other teaching pros, too. It is not my goal to make money teaching racquetball lessons, but I love to introduce people to the sport, of course, so I would be happy to provide some lessons to anyone, including a free introductory lesson.

I wrote back to the person, whose name I still do not know, asking what their goals would be after two months, and how they decided to take up the sport, etc. The email I got back was short and angry—the student would be the inquirer's daughter, and just tell him the price and location. I was quite sure by then that the emailer was trying to scam me, but just in case it was a real student, I went along with him and quoted him a price of \$50 x 16 lessons, or \$800. I asked how old the daughter was and if she needed any help finding a hotel.

Finally the emailer revealed the scam—he would be sending a check for more than the \$800 and I could deposit the check and he would trust me to give the extra money to the person housing the 18-year-old daughter. I told him I would be happy to do that if he wrote two checks. After some back and forth emailing, he sent a check for \$2,500 written on a US bank account in *New Jersey* belonging to an owner of one or more *McDonaldses*. I did not cash the check.

At this point, I never expected any young woman to show up needing lessons, but I thought it would be cool to catch a cybercriminal in the act of scamming people, so I filled out a cybercrime report on the *FBI's* website and will give them the check if they contact me. I have not yet heard from them, so I doubt this scammer will ever pay any consequences for trying to take my money. I haven't yet lost contact with my criminal, and there is a chance that I will actually give a lesson, but I'll let you know if there is some kind of conclusion to my little story. If you get a similar email—poor/foreign English and not a specific club or city where the racquetball lessons would be given, you might want to ignore it.

Happy teaching!

Things to Do in Orem/Provo continued from Page 14

Thanksgiving Point

Thanksgiving Point offers a variety of activities for the whole family.

- Explore the Museum of Ancient Life's interactive exhibit and witness the largest display of mounted dinosaurs in the world!
- Experience the green acres of *Farm Country* and interact with critters from geese and goats to cows, pigs, and horses and everything in between.

Peaks Ice Arena

As a venue for the *2002 Winter Olympics*, the *Peaks Ice Arena* has two *Olympic-size* ice sheets. This attraction provides fun year-round activities for all ages like ice skating, ice hockey, broom ball, floor hockey, figure skating and indoor soccer.

Please feel free to contact me, **Lee Adamson**, at 801.851.2110 or lee@utahvalley.com with any additional questions, marketing cooperative ideas or suggestions that you might have before or during your stay. ○

Online and by US Mail, many of our members send along donations with their entry fees. We sincerely appreciate each and every dollar you all donate.

Thank you!

NMRA Tidbits...

continued from page 16

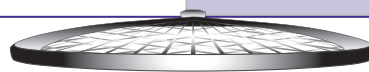
At the IRF World Senior Racquetball Championships in Albuquerque this last August, Paula Sperling reported that over 30% of the 126 participants were women. As you might imagine, none of the ladies had any trouble finding a *Mixed Doubles* partner. In fact, the *Mixed 80s* were a delight to watch. This tournament is always held in *Albuquerque*, and offers **ONLY** singles and *Mixed Doubles*. Like our *NMRA* tournaments, it is round-robin. You can be as young as 35 and enter this one. Consider joining the fun in 2012. Details can be found at www.internationalracquetball.com.

There were no free room winners during our July Fullerton NMRA International Championships, as the hotel contract did not include extra comp rooms in the negotiations. We will continue to provide that service to our *NMRA* members, so if you are lucky and you are staying at the host hotel for the tournament, you may get a notice under your hotel door informing you that your last tournament night at the hotel is **FREE**.

We are looking for an online screenprinting/trophy/awards company that might like to help us with an online NMRA store. Our original vendor fell victim to the tough economy, and we are interested in finding another person, in order to provide 365-days-a-year *NMRA* merchandise for you. You can contact any of the *NMRA* board members with your candidate names.

You can use www.nmra.info to print your NMRA membership card. From the home www.nmra.info site, click the left-hand Membership/Join link. Click the link that says Click here to Manage your *NMRA* Membership Account. Type in your R2sports.com user ID and password. Click the Login button to bring you to your *USAR* profile. If you have the choice of being a commissioner or member, choose "member" and click the login button. If you are not a commissioner of any racquetball organization, you will not see that screen. In your profile, you will see your information and picture on the

more ►



TIDBITS continued from page 18

right-hand side of the screen. Scroll down below that information and click the link labeled "Print NMRA Membership Card." When the printing options box appears, click the Print button. Fold the card and tuck it in your wallet. If you need help finding your R2sports.com user ID, **Carmen Alatorre-Martin** or someone from R2sports.com can assist you.

As always, we need nominations for future sportsmanship awards. We know you are all out there experiencing heroic acts of fair play and on-court decency, and we want to hear about them! Let one of the board members know about players in your life who impress you with their sportsmanship.

Have you ever thought about what you can do for racquetball? You might consider getting more involved in the NMRA tournaments and causes. Setting up for tournaments and tearing down and getting items shipped are huge chores and we need all the help we can get. If you like volunteering for the NMRA, your next step might be to run for the NMRA Board of Directors. We hold elections each year with the voting happening between November and February. If this sounds like something you might enjoy, contact a Board Member and we will see where you can get to work for the organization. Consider yourself invited!

We are also looking for a communications director person (or several people from different parts of the country) who would coordinate press releases, solicit sponsorships, add updates to the website, and maybe help with pictures and banquet slideshows. It is very important that we keep great communications going with our players and sponsors, so if you are interested in helping publicize the NMRA and racquetball, contact one of the board members for more details.

Overheard at a WD45 match in Portland: "FYI—It's best to get 38s."

Overheard at a M55 match in Portland: "Let's get playing—I have 15 minutes left on my Five-Hour Energy drink."

There are currently about 600 NMRA members. We hope to get that number up a little by sending out more timely expiration notices.

Election Ballot and Voting Process

By Steve Cohen

Our yearly election is at hand. This year, we solicited players at the July Fullerton tournament for NMRA board member candidates and made a few email and phone call communications to find qualified candidates for the open positions. If you would like to run and you are NOT listed in this newsletter, we can do several things to further your campaign:

- Send a blast email with your intent to run, along with your bio and picture. In addition to phone calls/emails you initiate, you can run an effective write-in campaign.
- Invite you to run for the Board in one year. We welcome your involvement before the next election, and you can get a feel for the group's efforts.

If you are considering running for the board in the future, please contact a current or past board member to ask about the duties and commitment. You might have in mind an area of interest where you feel you can contribute. We sincerely welcome that.

BALLOT

OFFICIAL NMRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT

Postmark Deadline – February 1, 2012

October, 2011 -- Vote for a maximum of three (3) candidates

Review the candidates' qualifications in this newsletter, or online at www.nmra.info. Election questions can be directed to Cindy Tilbury at cindy.tilbury@att.net or cell phone 303.888.4461.

To make your vote count, you may vote online at the link below, or send in a paper ballot using the following exact steps: <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=8919>

1. Cut this ballot out of the newsletter
2. Keep the address label on the back of it
3. X your candidate choices.
4. Put it in an envelope by February 1, 2012
5. Send it to Cindy Tilbury, 23308 Bocana Street, Malibu, CA 90265 303.888.4461 Cell

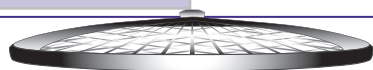
Vote X	Name	State
	Carmen Alatorre-Martin	VA
	Steve Cohen	CA
	Fred Roe	CA
		Write-In
		Write-In
		Write In

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WHAT IS RACQUETSKINZ
 RacquetSkinz are vibrant high resolution graphics, light weight and tear resistant skinz that covers 100% of the racquet frame offering complete customization of your racquet. Select from hundreds of designs, add your signature, customize your grip, tether color and string for the ultimate custom racquet. Complete customization for **only \$10 more** than the stock frame.

RACQUETSKINZ ON ALL BRANDS
 Now RacquetSkinz is offered for all major brands of racquets! With OverSkinz you send us your existing racquet and we transform it into a completely new design for only \$40. Upgrade your racquet design, bumper, grip, and tether. Refresh your old beat up racquets like new with OverSkinz.

EKTELON **E-FORCE** **HEAD** **GEARBOX** **PRO KENNEX**

YOU GOTTA CHECK IT OUT!
WWW.RACQUETSKINZ.COM
 TOLL FREE 877-998-8770



NMRA TOURNAMENT Trail 2011-2012

Check the www.nmra.info website or Facebook for the latest updates.

Nov 11-14	All Military National Championships	San Diego, CA	Steven Harper	www.usra.org
Dec 1-3	NMRA Doubles-Only 40+	Arlington, TX	Pat Gibson	www.nmra.info
2012				
Jan 13-15	WSMRA Singles 35+	Sarasota, FL	Kendra Tutsch	www.wsmra.com or kdtutsch@wisc.edu
Feb 8-12	USAR National Doubles	Phoenix, AZ	USAR	www.usra.org
Mar 7-10	NMRA National Championships	Orem, UT	Tom Curran	www.nmra.info
Apr	USAR Regionals	Various, US	USAR	www.usra.org
May 24-29	US National Singles	Fullerton, CA	USAR	www.usra.org
Jun 14-17	IRF World Senior Doubles	Honduras	Gary Mazaroff	www.internationalracquetball.com
Jul 18-21	NMRA International Championships	Raleigh, NC	Tom Curran	www.nmra.info
Dec 7-9	NMRA Doubles-Only	Pleasanton, CA	NMRA	www.nmra.info



Board of Directors

Tom Curran, President
Wilson, NC Tom1947@aol.com

Howard Walker, Vice President
Austin, TX hwrball@aol.com

Bruce Adams, Secretary
Tulsa, OK Badams@citgo.com

Steve Cohen, Treasurer
Orange, CA NMRA_treasurer@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Carmen Alatorre-Martin Memberships, Tour. 's
Arlington, VA Teamalamar@verizon.net

Patrick Gibson Tournaments
Fort Worth, TX prgibson5@hotmail.com

Melanie Newsome Medals, New Members
Waynesville, NC news0303@bellsouth.net

Cindy Tilbury Newsletter, Ladies Events, Dbls
Malibu, CA Cindy.tilbury@att.net

Dave Warner
Minn., MN/Fort Myers, FL Daw4labs@aol.com



NMRA RacquetRacket Newsletter
Cindy Tilbury, Editor
23308 Bocana Street
Malibu, CA 90265



Be sure to check the www.nmra.info website for updates and immediate election results!