



RACQUET RACKET

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Official Newsletter of the National Masters Racquetball Association (NMRA)

SUMMER 2014

Racquetball Museum Online

By Randy Stafford

Please visit the online *Racquetball Museum* and take a stroll down racquetball memory lane—or learn some history you never knew. This is a work in progress. Many of the items are stored by the *USAR* and can be brought out for special occasions. Contact me if you have questions, comments or want to suggest additions, thecourt@aol.com. You will notice on the site that there is a call for photos of old tournament shirts. If anyone could contribute to this department of the museum, it would be the *NMRA*, so please feel free to send me your old photos with information about the people and events pictured. Thanks for supporting this effort. <http://racquetballmuseum.com/>



Glenn Pirrong Passed Away

By Vickey Utter



Long-time *NMRA* member **Glenn Pirrong**, 81, of Asheville, died Sunday, April 6, 2014. Glenn was born in Chicago, IL, and was an Army veteran and former executive in

the pharmaceutical industry and CEO of *Brewer Creative Visual Inc*. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Kay Murray Pirrong and son, Craig Pirrong. Glenn asked that, in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to *The Wounded Warriors Foundation*, www.woundedwarriorproject.org/Donate. Glenn will be missed as we hold our July tournament in his home state.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Sponsor Doubles

By Cindy Tilbury

After being your Vice President for a few years, in March I was elected President of the *NMRA*. I'll do my best to make the *NMRA* tournaments the best in the sport—events not to be missed. **Carmen Alatorre-Martin** accepted the position of Vice President and she will be doing the heavy lifting (emceeding the banquets and other things I don't feel I am very good at). The other officer positions are **Leon Jackson** as the new Secretary, and co-Treasurers **Tom Curran** and **Patrick Gibson**. Get to know these people, if you haven't already done so. And please continue to make suggestions for the board. We love to hear from all of our members with positive comments and suggestions for improvement.

At the last few *IRT* and *LPRT* pro stops in southern California, I had the joyful opportunity to play *Sponsor Doubles*. Sponsors are the special people who put in money to bring the pro tournament to the club—one is paired with a top-eight professional to be a doubles team. The format for these events was a set amount of time to play with two pros and two sponsors on the court, then the sponsors would rotate to another court with other pros. Point totals were kept, but just to award a little prize for the most points scored by a sponsor.



If you ever have the chance to be on the court with the pros, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT! They aren't necessarily playing their hardest or taking the shots they would take in a pro match, but it is the most wonderful energy and racquetball camaraderie ever! And the *LPRT* ladies are a special treat because they are from all over the world and they all really like each other as friends. It was just fun to be able to put away a ball in front of a pro player, or splat away from one and get a few lucky shots that made me look good.

Put it on your racquetball to-do list, right after "Play *NMRA* tournaments."

LIMITED TO FIRST 100 ENTRIES

NMRA 2014 Doubles Championships

December 4-6, 2014

INFORMATION SHEET

A Wait List will be made available. Use the Wait List function on R2Sports.com

Tournament Cindy Tilbury 303.888.4461 cindy.tilbury@att.net
Director & Staff John Winings 209.743.6487 johnwinings@hotmail.com

NOTE: The host hotel and club are in the same building.

Direct Online Room Reservation Link (will be available soon): WWW.HILTON.COM

Registration will be held at ClubSport, 5 to 7p on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014.

Host Hotel

Hilton Pleasanton at The Club

7050 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94568-3396
p. 925.463.8000 Code is NMR

Single/Double Occupancy Rate: Tentatively \$95.00 plus tax (includes Breakfast)
Triple/Quad Occupancy Rate: Tentatively \$105.00/\$115.00 (includes Breakfast)
Deadline for these rates is sometimes in November.
Registered Guests will be entered into a "FREE NIGHT" room lottery.



Host Club



Club Sport Pleasanton

7090 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
925.463.2822

<http://www.clubsports.com/pleasanton/amenities.do>

Tournament Administration / Information

Registration Deadline(s) - available soon:

Enter online at: www.r2sports.com

Online registration end on Saturday, 11/17/2014 at 10:00 PM. (Central Time)
Call Cindy Tilbury at 303.888.4461 if you need assistance.

- Mail entries must be postmarked no later than Thursday 11/15/2014. Make check payable to: NMRA
Address completed entry form and fees to:
Tom Curran, 1015 Cardinal Dr. NW, Wilson, NC 27894.
- Phone entries will be accepted through Saturday 11/17/2014 no later than 10:00 PM. (Central Time) and must be paid by credit card by calling Cindy at 303.888.4461. Entries will not be accepted without payment for USA Racquetball (USAR) membership.
- Banquet will be at the Host Hotel on Friday, December 5, 2014. (6:00 Cash Bar, 7:00 – 9 PM, Dinner and Entertainment)
- Current NMRA membership is required for all EXCEPT Players who are playing in their FIRST NMRA event.
- This is a USA Racquetball sanctioned event and current USA Racquetball membership is required to participate. Entries will not be accepted without payment for USA Racquetball membership.
- Play begins every day at 8 am. Every bracket plays every day (Thursday – Saturday).
- We will schedule Saturday last matches to start not later than 5 pm.

Travel Information

There is no host hotel van service from the airport.
There *is* hotel van service from the BART Station

Car Service: Receive a 10% discount when you make a reservation with Tri-Valley Airport Transportation Services provides transportation to all the bay area major airports (SFO, SJC, and OAK) 925-227-1234 Make your reservation online at <http://www.trivalleyairport.com> and use the discount code NMRA in the Other Notes/Special Requests and Promo Code areas.



Travel Information continued...

Late models, Lincoln Town Cars are available for airport transfers and charters. They seat up to 4 passengers in luxurious comfort. CD/Radio, Leather seating.

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) 8 am until 11 pm 7 days a week (510-465-2278)

BART is the fast, easy and inexpensive way to get around from Oakland International Airport and San Francisco International Airport. You can find the fare from any BART Station to any other station using the BART QuickPlanner <http://www.bart.gov/>



Metropolitan Oakland International

(Distance from Hotel: 20 mi.) Drive Time: 17 min. Take 880 South to 238 East to 580 East, exit at Hopyard and turn right onto Owens. Then turn right onto Johnson Drive, the hotel is on the left.

Taxi - \$70.00; BART Subway/Rail \$6.35;
Limousine \$110.00; Super Shuttle \$85.00

San Francisco International Airport

(Drive Time: 50 min.) Distance from Hotel: 40 mi. Take 101 South to 92 East towards San Mateo Bridge, to 880 North, to 580 East, to Hopyard exit. Then turn right on Hopyard, then turn right on Owens, turn right on Johnson Drive to the Hotel.

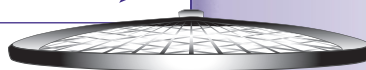
Super Shuttle 100.00 USD;
Limousine 130.00 USD; Taxi 110.00 USD;
BART Subway/Rail BART \$7.65



www.CaliforniaRacquetball.org

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LIMITED TO FIRST 100 ENTRIES
2014 NMRA DOUBLES-ONLY CHAMPIONSHIP



Registration Wednesday, DEC 3rd at ClubSport - Play DEC 4-6 at ClubSport
CLUBSPORT - PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA

Entry by Mail Must Be **POSTMARKED** No Later Than **11/15/2014**
 Online Entries Must Be **COMPLETED BY 11/17/2014**

HOST HOTEL: Hilton Pleasanton 925.463.8000 Code NMR (available soon)



www.r2sports.com

Please Print — Be Legible, Complete & Accurate

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: Day _____
 Night _____
 Email: _____
 DOB: m____ / d____ / yr____ Age on 12/4/2014 _____

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, ClubSport Pleasanton 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: No refunds of any fees after 11/21/2014		
First Event	\$140	\$ _____
Second Event	\$ 40	\$ _____
Guest* (daily hospitality & banquet)	\$ 65	\$ _____
NMRA Membership ** (Total for 3 yrs)	\$ 45	\$ _____
USAR Membership (1 year \$50 or 1-time event \$10)		\$ _____
NMRA Jr. Program \$10 increments		\$ _____
Total Due:	\$	\$ _____

* Guest(s) Name(s): _____

** **Check here if your first NMRA tournament**
First time players do not have to join the NMRA.

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

Saturday Box Lunch preference:

Turkey, Tuna or Roast Beef _____

The National Masters Racquetball Association is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization of men and women racquetball players who are age 45 to 95+ years young. Visit us at nationalmastersracquetball.org

Limit of two 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

Would you like to play a 2nd Doubles if someone needs a partner?

Would you like to play Mixed Doubles if someone needs a partner?

Emergency Contact Name:

Tel (____) _____

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

Tom Curran, NMRA
 1015 Cardinal Dr. NW, Wilson, CA 27894

**NMRA 2014 Doubles Championships
INFORMATION SHEET**

continued from page 2...



San Jose International Airport (Drive Time: 35 min.) Distance from Hotel: 25 mi. Take 101 South to 680 North, to the Stoneridge exit, turn right on Stoneridge. Then left on Johnson to the hotel.

Super Shuttle 120.00 USD;
Taxi 90.00 USD;
Limousine 120.00 USD

Tournament Scoring/Award Rules:

- *Ektelon Classic Black Ball* is the Official Ball of the NMRA.
- Every bracket will play two games to 15.
- Those 'pool play' brackets will have play off matches; two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11 if needed.
- The R2 system will automatically apply the bonus game and match points. Two extra points per game win and four extra points if you win a match. Ties split match bonus points.
- Self ref matches. Can't agree then **PLAY IT OVER**.
As a last resort go to the tournament desk and an observer may be assigned.
- Medals will be awarded to First – Fourth Place for each bracket. Combined brackets will be awarded medals based on individual age brackets.

Nearby Services:

Name	Distance	Heading
Alameda Fairground	4.0 miles	S
BART- Bay Area Rapid Transit	1.9 miles	E
Black Hawk Museum	8.0 miles	N
Bridges Golf Course	8.8 miles	N
City Center	5.0 miles	SE
Concannon Winery	11.9 miles	
Historic Downtown Pleasanton	4.0 miles	SE
Lake Del Val State Park	8.0 miles	E
Livermore Wineries	12.0 miles	E
Mitchell Katz Winery	10.7 miles	
Mount Diablo State Park	12.0 miles	N
Napa Valley	50.0 miles	
Palm Event Center	7.5 miles	SE
Poppy Ridge Golf Course	10.0 miles	E
San Francisco	35.0 miles	W
Stoneridge Mall	1.7 miles	W
Sunol Golf Course	6.0 miles	S
Wente Vineyard	15.6 miles	SE

**For Ladies Only –
WSMRA News: 2015
Women's Senior/Masters
National Championships
Adds Doubles**

By Kendra Tutsch

The *Women's Senior/Masters Racquetball Association* is pleased to announce that our *2015 Women's Senior/Masters National Racquetball Championships* will be held in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area on the weekend of January 16-18, 2015 (fun doubles January 15).



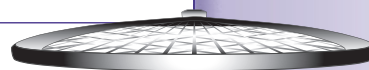
We are kicking off our next quarter century of great racquetball with very exciting news- in addition to our usual age-group round-robin singles, we are adding round-robin doubles divisions to the tournament in 2015. Players will be able to choose to play singles, doubles or both. The details and divisions are still being developed and we will have more news in the near future.

The club will be the *LifeTime Fitness Club*, 1200 E. Moore Lake Drive, Fridley, MN 55432. It is a great facility with 12 courts, on-site restaurant, and many amenities. The hotel will be the *Embassy Suites Minneapolis North*, 6300 Earl Brown Drive, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430. The hotel has many excellent features including a free shuttle to area attractions. You will fly into *Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP)*.

In other *WSMRA* news, our 25th Anniversary tournament was held in January at *Los Caballeros Sport and Racquet* in Fountain Valley, California. You can get results, story and pictures on our web site wsmra.com, and see many more pictures on our *Women's Senior/Masters Racquetball Association Facebook* page.

You can also find more information about the 2015 tournament with links to the club, hotel and area attractions on our web site. Details will soon be posted about the doubles format and divisions; online signup on www.R2Sports.com will also be available soon.

www.nationalmastersracquetball.org



NMRA Tidbits

By Cindy Tilbury

If you have player friends who should be **NMRA members**, please forward our newsletter to them and suggest they join us!

We have created a generic email address for the **NMRA**. You can always get ahold of us (me, for now) at contact@nmra.info.

Thanks for your patience! A major ice storm hit Dallas during our December 2013 NMRA doubles-only tournament. Every match was played and only a few people slipped on the ice, BUT our beautiful medals were delayed as the UPS truck could not get them delivered until Sunday—the day after the last day of play. We believe the winners received their disks that stick on the backs of the medals, but we want you to get your medal so we ask that you contact **Cindy Tilbury** via email and have her send them in the US Mail. You'll want to specify a mailing address and which place medals you won. We really apologize for the inconvenience, but hope you'll be happy with this solution.

One more note about Dallas (Arlington) medals: If you are playing in the Raleigh tournament, you can get your Dallas medal there and that would allow us to save the postage dollars. Those medals are heavy!

We hope you don't actually notice anytime soon, but the **NMRA is on a budget**. Because of this, we will soon be re-evaluating our entry fees to make sure they cover our tournament costs and provide a little profit for our fundraising activities. Our membership dues pretty well cover our newsletter costs, but tournament expenses have slowly risen over the years, making it tough to stay in the black without our great sponsors.

In March in Tucson, although it was a great event, the number of players was a little low. We had 71 men and 11 women. You may know that we try to have about 75 percent of our players play two divisions, but we only had 57 percent do that in Tucson.

Membership Update

By Carmen Alatorre-Martin

Hi Fellow Members,

Thank you for renewing your memberships in a timely manner. Currently we have 526 members: 514 Three-Year members and 12 First-Time members. We really appreciate your support of our organization!

As many of you know, you can renew your membership online on our website (www.nationalmastersracquetball.org). Just click on the left where it says "Membership / Join." You'll come to the Membership / Renewal page with two links. The first link is the actual application that you can then print, fill out, and mail to me.



The screenshot shows the official website for the National Masters Racquetball Association. The header includes the NMRA logo and the text "Official Website for the National Masters Racquetball Association". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "NMRA Home", "JOIN NMRA", "DONATE TO NMRA", "NATIONAL EVENTS", and "CONTACT US". On the left side, there is a vertical menu with links for "Tournament Info", "NMRA News", "Membership / Join", "Join NMRA", "About Us", "Past Event Results", "NMRA Sponsors", and "NMRA Hall Of Fame". The "Membership / Join" link is highlighted with a red circle. On the right side, there is a section titled "National Masters Racquetball Association Information" with a sub-section "Join NMRA". Under "Join NMRA", there is a link for "Application for Membership/Renewal" and a paragraph of text explaining the membership process. Below the text are two links: "Click here for NMRA Membership/Renewal Application" and "Click here to Manage your NMRA Membership Account".

The second link takes you to the online member profile—type in your User ID and Password (let me know if you have problems or forgot them) and this will take you to your profile. Once at your profile, you can look at Training Manuals and Videos, go to Events and see what's coming up, search for other players, View and Edit your own profile (change your email, phone numbers, shirt size, etc.), and do several other actions there. The best part is that you can renew both your **NMRA** and **USAR** memberships online here, as well as print your membership cards.

Of course, you can email me with any questions or problems you might have.

Please check your profile to make sure your current address, email, and phone numbers are correct. This really helps with our **NMRA** records.

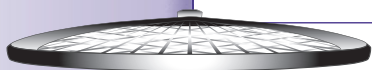
Also, take a moment to check or uncheck that you want to receive:

1. **email blasts** -- if checked, this helps keep you current on important events and happenings
2. **texts** -- if checked, this can get you court assignments at some tournaments when you are up for play, as well as provide your immediate match results (this is only if that particular tournament has set themselves up to do this).

One last note: If you have ideas about what we can do to grow our membership, please send us a note (www.nationalmastersracquetball.org) then click on the left "About Us" and then click on "NMRA Board of Directors.") You can also email us anything, including pictures, at contact@nmra.info.

We'd like to expand our membership base, and we think you might have some great suggestions.

Hope to see you at Raleigh NC in July!



NMRA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

National Championship Results March 6-9, 2014

Tucson Racquet Club, Tucson AZ / Cindy Tilbury & Carmen Alatorre-Martin, Tournament Directors



Division Place Names State Points

M45 1st Martin Corella AZ 12.57

2nd Everett Brunelle CA 12.00

M50 1st Clinton Imholte AZ 32.57

2nd Bob Wright IN 26.71

3rd Joey Egea AZ 26.00

4th Jaime Junker WI 25.29

5th Rick Dalessio AZ 19.43

M55 1st Kevin Boerup AZ 23.33

M60 1st Rick Howick WA 35.00

2nd Frank Taddonio AZ 23.17

M65 1st Karl Meisenheimer NV 32.33

2nd Tim Lavoie MN 31.78

3rd Gary Jones CA 31.22

4th Dave Briski CA 25.67

5th Donald Gunderson WI 25.00

6th Michael Wouk CO 23.00

7th Gary Williams AZ 15.22

8th John Petrek WA 13.67

M70 1st Patrick Taylor IL 37.88

2nd Ron Loehman NM 29.00

3rd Jim Calvin AZ 28.00

4th Len Sonnenberg CA 26.38

5th Frank Wall OR 16.50

M75 1st Robert Peterson AZ 32.25

2nd Jerry Raddatz MN 23.25

3rd Bill Baker CA 22.38

4th Lynn Beus UT 8.50

M80 1st Robert Rice AZ 38.00

2nd Paul Banales AZ 35.14

3rd Aaron Vederoff WA 31.86

4th Lewis Edwards UT 29.00

M85 1st Mike Martin CO 22.29

2nd David Hendricks AZ 17.71

3rd Bill Gencarella CA 15.29

4th Hank Schone CA 10.00

MD45 1st Lars Cole / Tyrone Gilmore VA 34.83

2nd Tom Cain / Myron Hicks AZ 34.17

3rd Everett Brunelle / Ravindra Bhat CA AZ 14.33

MD50 1st John Winings / Patrick Gibson CA TX 38.00



Page 6 Left to right, top to bottom - John and Marri Winings with Vicky Reyes XD50; Carmen Alatorre-Martin and Patrick Gibson XD55; Cindy Tilbury and Everett Brunelle; David Olson with his lovely wife; Paul Banales and Carole Stoll; Local club member and Joey Egea.

Page 7 Left to right, top to bottom - Bruce Bagwell MD50 and MD55; Leon's videos on YouTube.com; Grandson / future player; Mark Baron and Lars Cole; Jim Elliott and Tom Curran MD60; Mike Pawka and Greg Kearney MD65; Mark Baron, David Hendricks and relative; Ruben Gonzalez MD50 and MD55.

Division Place Names State Points Division Place Names State Points

2nd Tyrone Gilmore / Lars Cole VA VA 35.50

3rd Clinton Imholte / Steve Dufour AZ AZ 27.38

4th Rick Dalessio / Tim Ensign AZ AZ 21.63

5th David Reyes / Michael Hiles OR MN 9.75

MD55 1st Bruce Bagwell / Ruben Gonzalez ME NY 31.17

2nd Alan Baron / Mark Baron AZ VA 30.83

3rd Tim Ensign / Kevin Boerup AZ AZ 22.17

4th Jim Elliott / Mike Hiles AZ MN 14.83

MD60 1st Rick Howick / Michael Call WA WA 3188

2nd Bruce Bagwell / Ruben Gonzalez ME SC 28.00



Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	2nd	Frank Wall / Len Sonnenberg	OR CA	17.67
MD75	1st	Francis Florey / Ron Adams	WI CA	30.50
	2nd	Paul Banales / Bill Baker	AZ CA	23.33
MD80	1st	Ralph Stillman / Robert Englund	MN MN	38.00
MD85	1st	Mike Martin / John Prigmore	CO KS	24.83
	2nd	David Hendricks / Bill Gencarella	AZ CA	13.33
WD45	1st	Cindy Tilbury / Susan Boulanger	CA AZ	30.88
WD50	1st	Julia Mouser / Lisa Bu	CA AZ	31.63
	2nd	Marni Winings / Vicky Reyes	CA OR	26.50
WD55	1st	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Leslie Pawka	VA CA	34.13
WD65	1st	Laurie Kitchen / Marquita Molina	NY CA	10.00
XD45	1st	Susan Boulanger / Myron Hicks	AZ AZ	34.11
	2nd	Vicky Reyes / David Reyes	OR OR	27.00
	3rd	Bernadette Smith / Larry Castano	AZ AZ	19.89
XD50	1st	Marni Winings / John Winings	CA CA	36.78
	2nd	Julia Mouser / Bob Wright	CA IN	30.11
	3rd	Lisa Bu / Joey Egea	AZ AZ	29.22
XD55	1st	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Patrick Gibson	VA TX	33.33
	2nd	Cindy Tilbury / Bruce Adams	CA OK	25.00
XD65	1st	Laurie Kitchen / Greg Kearney	NY CA	18.33
XD70	1st	Marquita Molina / Ron Adams	CA CA	10.89

Division	Place	Names	State	Points	Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	3rd	Mark Baron / Frank Taddonio	VA AZ	22.50		4th	Jim Van Sichel / Tom Lundy	AZ AZ	27.83
	4th	Jim Elliott / Tony Alfaro	AZ CA	21.63		5th	Fred Roe / Greg Kearney	CA CA	23.83
MD65	1st	Dave Briski / Donald Gunderson	CA WI	38.00		6th	Mike Pawka / Tom McKie	CA TX	22.50
	2nd	Barry Hendricks / Jon Walker	AZ AZ	34.17		7th	Karl Meisenheimer / Tom Curran	NV NC	20.50
	3rd	Michael Wouk / Tim Lavoi	CO MN	29.83	MD70	1st	Fred Roe / Ron Loehman	CA CA	37.00

NMRA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Doubles-Only Championships December 5-7, 2013

Maverick Athletic Club, Arlington TX / Howard Walker & Patrick Gibson, Tournament Directors



Division Place Names State Points

MD40	1st	Alex Ma / Darjon Bittner	TX	36.60	
	2nd	Arturo Burruel / David Marrero	TX		35.20
	3rd	Al Gamble / Brad Justice	TX		30.60
	4th	Chris Lamakul / Chuck Glona	TX		19.60
	5th	Randy Clark / Rhett Collins	TX		19.00

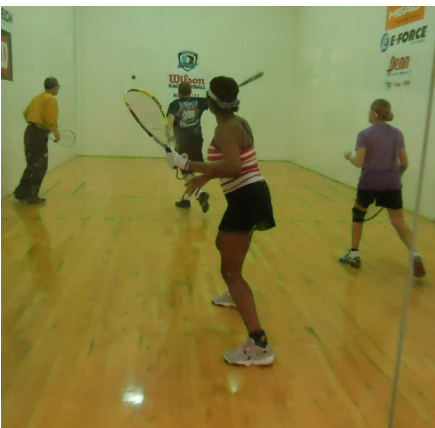
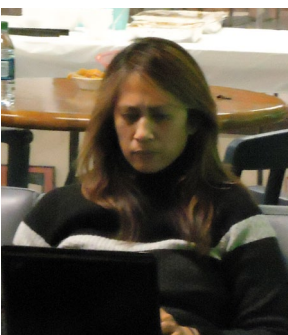
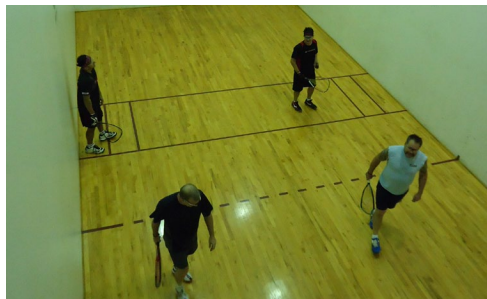
MD45	1st	Charles Cotton / John Tarr	TX	12.60
	MD50	1st	John Winings / Patrick Gibson	

MD50	2nd	Mark Gilmore / Mark Malowitz	TX	22.88
	3rd	Doug Kite / Kelly Cozzens	PA	21.88
	4th	David Marrero / Miguel Santiago	TX	21.63
	5th	Bob Wright / Jim Schenk	IN	19.13
	6th	Charles Cotton / John Tarr	TX	12.38
	7th	Chuck Glona / Dane Crisp	TX	--
	8th	Mike Grisz / Tom Cain	TX	--

MD55	1st	Doug Kite / Mike Grisz	TX	32.40
	Playoff	2nd	Hatch Saakian / Ruben Gonzalez	

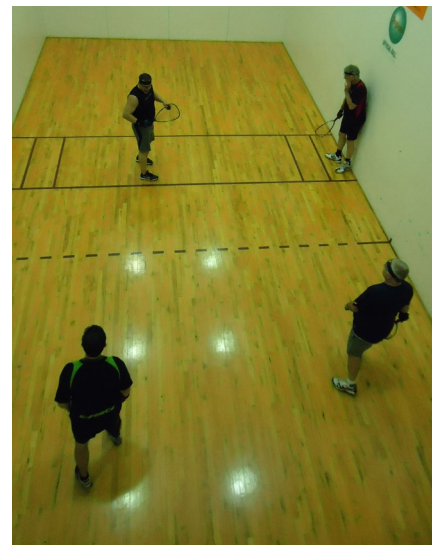
MD60	3rd	Rick Betts / Tyrone Gilmore	VA	32.80
	4th	Dane Crisp / Rick Williams	TX	22.80
	5th	Bradley Yoder / Jim Elliott	AZ	20.20
	6th	Fred Foster / Glynn Williams	TX	19.00

MD60	1st	Hatch Saakian / Ruben Gonzalez	CA	38.00	
	2nd	Dave Kovanda / Ron Woolard	OH		35.57
	3rd	Howard Walker / Jim Elliott	TX		32.29
	4th	Bradley Yoder / Chris Poucher	UT		29.00
	MD65	1st	Larry Brunner / Leonard Sonnenberg		NV



Page 8, Row 1 - Alatorre-Martin; MD45; Row 2 - Zimmerman; Draudt & Korajian; Molina; ROW 3 - XD50; Tilbury & Hollis; Row 4 - MD55.
Page 9, Row 1 - MD40; MD55; Row 2 - WD40-50; Row 3 - MD60; MD65; Row 4 - MD55; XD50; MD50

Division	Place	Names	State	Points
MD65	5th	Paul Clutts / Steve Littlefield	TX	26.43
	6th	Joe Guerra / Mike Jones	TX	15.00
	7th	Larry Brunner / Mark Newport	NV	16.57
	8th	Frank Stevens / Fred Martin	MA	13.86





Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	2nd	Frank Stevens / Ottis Campbell	MA TX	27.33
MD70	1st	George Moore / Robert Sullins	TX TX	20.50
WD40	1st	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Bernadette Zimmerman	VA TX	34.25
WD45	1st	Anita King / Patty Willyard	TX TX	38.00
	2nd	Julia Mouser / Xia Yang	CA TX	28.60
WD50	1st	Gladys Leonard / Marni Winings	VA CA	33.00

Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	Playoff 2nd	Carolyn Hollis / Cindy Tilbury	CA CA	34.50
	3rd	Dotti White / Xia Yang	TX TX	26.00
	4th	Ann Draudt / Traci Kourajian	TX TX	21.67
WD55	1st	Deb Stefandel / Dotti White	IN TX	29.20
	Playoff 2nd	Sandy Rios / Vicky Birkmann	TX CA	31.60
	3rd	Rhonda Jenkins / Rhonda Look	TX TX	15.60

Division	Place	Names	State	Points
	4th	Diane Martin / Marquita Molina	GA CA	11.20
XD40	1st	Liz Alvarado / Alex Ma	TX TX	38.00
	2nd	Sandy Rios / Rhett Collins	TX TX	24.00
	3rd	Tina Joslin / Arturo Burruel	TX TX	26.38
XD45	1st	Patty Willyard / Darjon Bittner	TX TX	30.50
	2nd	Jere Luttner / Leo Vasquez	TX TX	13.50
XD50	1st	Liz Alvarado / Mark Malowitz	TX TX	30.40
	Playoff 2nd	Gladys Leonard / Tyrone Gilmore	VA VA	35.00
	3rd	Marni Winings / John Winings	CA CA	24.80
	4th	Laura Fenton / Dave Kovanda	OH CA	34.00
	5th	Trace Kourajian / Fred Foster	TX TX	19.00
	6th	Carolyn Hollis / Kelly Cozzens	CA PA	22.20
	7th	Anita King / Howard Walker	TX TX	28.00
	8th	Deb Stefandel / Bob Wright	IN IN	21.80
XD55	1st	Carmen Alatorre-Martin / Patrick Gibson	VA TX	38.00
	Playoff 2nd	Cindy Tilbury / Rick Betts	CA CA	38.00
	3rd	Susan Schatz / David Nelson	MN MN	24.00
	4th	Rhonda Look / Paul Clutts	TX TX	32.50
	5th	Ann Draudt / Doug Draudt	TX TX	30.00
	6th	Vicky Birkmann / Rick Williams	CA TX	30.00
	7th	Diane Martin / Fred Martin	GA GA	18.25
XD60	1st	Rhonda Jenkins / Chris Poucher	TX GA	25.75
	2nd	Jere Luttner / Steve Littlefield	TX TX	18.50
XD70	1st	Marquita Molina / Len Sonnenberg	CA CA	16.25


NMRA 2014 International Championships
North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC
July 16-19, 2014



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION SHEET www.nmra.info
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Tournament Directors Tom Curran tom1947@aol.com
Carmen Alatorre-Martin teamalamar@gmail.com
Patrick Gibson prgibson5@hotmail.com

Host Club  **Carmichael Sports Complex, NC State University**
2611 Cates Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27607 919.515.7529
Between Hillsborough and Western off Dan Allen Drive
The racquetball courts are located on the west wing of Carmichael Gymnasium on the first floor, in **rooms** 1314-1320, 1323-1326, 1328-1334. There are 18 courts available for our use.
http://www.ncsu.edu/student_affairs/carmichael/gym/

Host Hotel  **Doubletree Raleigh - Brownstone - University**
1707 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27605
919-828-0811 (ask for NMRA Group Rate)
\$109.00 Per Night, (plus tax) for one or two people; \$119 for three people; \$129 for four people. Free parking, free breakfast.
Registered guests will be entered into a "free night" lottery.
Van Service to and from the host hotel to the campus facility.

Enter Online Enter online by June 23, 2014, at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=11848> First event--\$140 Second event--\$40
Guests \$65 for the week
You may request a doubles partner and/or roommate

Enter via US Mail Fill out the entry form at www.nmra.info (Tournament Info page).
Mail completed entry form and fees by June 20, 2014, to:
Tom Curran, NMRA, 1015 Cardinal Drive NW, Wilson, NC 27896

Nearest Airport Raleigh Durham International Airport (RDU) Morrisville, NC

Aternate Airports Greensboro GSO 77 Miles
Charlotte CLT 158 Miles

Airlines Flying Into RDU Air Canada; Air Tran; American; Delta; Jet Blue; United; US Airways

Airport Taxi / Shuttle No shuttle service from airport. Contact Doubletree to check for best option.

Shuttle to Clubs Shuttle van provided from host hotel between clubs for host hotel guests only. The shuttle will run on a schedule only. A van from local dealership will be available to shuttle players to and from the hotel/Carmichael Gym. More details will be available at check-in night.

Parking at Carmichael Center - NC State Covered deck parking by the hour or day. \$6 max charge

Directions from Raleigh Airport to Host Hotel 19 Minutes; 13.2 Miles; Northeast on Airport Boulevard 2.3 Mi;
Left to merge onto I-40 toward Raleigh 4.9 Mi;
Exit 289 to merge onto Wade Avenue toward I-440 3.8 Mi;
Right onto Faircloth Street .5 Mi; Left onto Hillsborough Street 1.3 Mi;
Doubletree is on the right
Doubletree Brownstone University 1707 Hillsborough St. Raleigh

<http://goo.gl/maps/WCSL8>

Directions from Host Hotel to Carmichael Center - NC State 2611 Cates, Raleigh
<http://goo.gl/maps/AanZg>
4 Minutes; 1.5 Miles; Northwest on Hillsborough Street toward Woodburn Rd .2 Mi; Take Pullen Road exit out of traffic circle .2 Mi; Take Pullen Road exit out of second traffic circle .2 Mi; Right onto Western Boulevard .5 Mi; Right onto Morrill Drive .3 Mi; Left onto Cates Avenue .1 Mi; Carmichael Gym will be on the left.

Or Walk <http://goo.gl/maps/bfcho>
16 Minutes; .8 Mile; Northwest on Hillsborough Street toward Woodburn Rd .2 Mi; Left onto Pullen Road .1 Mi; Straight on Pullen Road .2 Mi; Zig zag toward Jensen Drive .1 Mi; Right onto Cates Avenue .2 Mi; Carmichael Gym will be on the left.

Tournament Check-In Tuesday, July 15, 2014, 5:30 to 7:30 at the Host Hotel.

Play Begins/Ends 8 am Wednesday, July 16, to 5 pm Saturday, July 19, 2014
Every division plays every day (Wednesday 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.

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

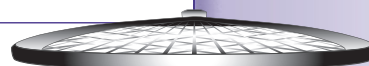
Tournament Scoring All round robins, self-refereed matches. Every division will play two games to 15. Large "pool play" divisions will have Saturday playoff matches. Playoff format will be two games to 15, tiebreaker to 11 if needed. Bonus points are awarded for winning games (2 per game) and the match (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.

continued on Page 8...

more ➤





NMRA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 16-19 — NC State University, Raleigh (Apex), North Carolina

Entry By Mail Must Be **POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN: 6/20/2014**

Online Entries Must Be **COMPLETED BY: 6/23/2014**

<http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=11848>



Please Print — Be Legible, Complete & Accurate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: Cell _____

Home _____

Work _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

DOB: m ____ / d ____ / yr ____ Age on 7/15/2014 ____

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 and 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 ** (Total for 3 Yrs) \$ 45 \$ _____

USRA Membership (required, 1 Yr) \$ 50 \$ _____

Total Due: \$ _____

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

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

(First time players do not have to join the NMRA, but we hope you do.)

SHIRT SIZE: MEN _____ OR WOMEN _____

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2X _____ 3X _____

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

Mail to: Tom Curran
1015 Cardinal Drive, NW
Wilson, NC 27896

NO REFUND OF ANY FEES AFTER 7/6/2014

Limit of two events only: singles and doubles or two doubles.

DOUBLES		SINGLES		MIXED
MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN	
		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.

Emergency Contact Name and Phone Number:

Name _____

Phone # _____

The National Masters Racquetball Association is a not for profit 501 (c)(3) organization of men and women racquetball players who are age 45 to 90+ years young. Remember to visit WWW.NMRA.INFO.

NMRA 2014 International Championships INFORMATION SHEET

continued from page 8...

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 / Morning Hosp.	Breakfast is available free at the host hotel. Fruit and drinks available at the club.
Lunch	Available at the club.
Evening Hospitality	Not to be confused with a full dinner. Available at the club.
Banquet	Friday night, July 18, 2014, at the Host Hotel Banquet Room; Cocktail hour from 6:00 till 6:45 pm; program starts exactly at 7:00 pm; reserve tables available for 5 or more guests in a party. Reservation required during Tuesday night registration or when you register for the event.
Doubles Partners	Request a partner and/or a roommate via the online list function on the tournament website (above). You may also contact Cindy Tilbury, cindy.tilbury@att.net .
RV Parks	There are two RV parks close to NC State University, and ten farther away. http://maps.google.com/maps?q=rv+parks+raleigh+nc&hl=en&fb=1&gl=us&hq=rv+parks&hnear=Raleigh,+Wake,+North+Carolina&t=m&z=11
Average Temp.	Raleigh in July – High 90°F / Low 69°F / Average 79°F / Precipitation 4 In.

NMRA Player Survey Results

During the 2014 March NMRA Tucson tournament, we asked players/guests of the banquet to fill out a short survey. We wanted to share the results with all of our members. If you would like to weigh in on the survey, please feel free to email Carmen Alatorre-Martin.

QUESTION	NO	YES
Was this tournament too close to National Doubles?	15	24
Did any of your player friends NOT come to Tucson because they had just played National Doubles?	33	12
Is the tournament too long (make it shorter with less racquetball)?	39	10
Should we eliminate the December doubles-only tournament?	18	16
For December doubles-only, would you attend if it were in Northern or Southern California?	8	33
The Tucson Doubletree hotel room rate was \$109. Was this reasonable and preferable to a budget hotel?	12	34
The banquet is a large part of the entry fee. Would you prefer it be more like a BBQ than a formal banquet?	23	29
QUESTION	SUGGESTIONS	SUGGESTIONS
What other locations would you like to see the NMRA board pursue for holding a tournament?	Tucson, Tampa, Chicago, Milwaukee, Provo, Canton, Reno, Mexico	Canada Denver, Las Vegas, Canoga Park, Kansas City, Oklahoma, Minneapolis, Phoenix

NMRA Championships Qualifier for National Singles

By Larry Haemmerle,
USA Racquetball President



Dear NMRA and WSMRA Board and Members,

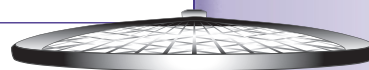
Congratulations! By vote of the USA Racquetball Executive Committee, your request for a waiver for your usual qualifying events to remain *National Singles* qualifiers for this year (2014) has been approved. I note that these events have already been conducted. In 2015, these events will no longer be qualifiers, EXCEPT that any player 50 years of age or older will not be required to play in a qualifier, effective with the 2015 *National Singles* event.

Editor's Note: In order to more accurately seed *National Singles* events, players are required to play in a tournament before that event. Even after this new guideline (above), NMRA and WSMRA (*Women's Senior/Masters Racquetball Association*) players 49 years and younger will still need to play in a regional or state tournament to qualify for *National Singles*. If you haven't played in the regional or state tourney, there are other ways to receive a waiver so that you can play *National Singles*. Contact the USA Racquetball board or staff, or the www.usra.org site for more details. You don't need to qualify to play in *National Doubles*. ○

MORE NMRA Tidbits

We love to announce free hotel room night winners, but this time, we cannot. Although we tried to plan well for hotel rooms/guests at the *Doubletree in Tucson*, we overestimated the number of room nights we would need, and we did not receive any complimentary room nights. We will plan better next time. Thanks to everyone who stayed at the *Doubletree* in support of our tournament!

I hope you are all still wearing your pedometers. A good goal is 10,000 steps per day, or approximately five miles of brisk walking. Of course, it doesn't take long to get 10,000 steps when you are playing a few hours of racquetball (or shopping at the mall). Happy stepping!



COMING AUGUST 1, 2014

REINFORCED BY
TeXtreme[®]

ALL NEW LINE OF EKTELON RACQUETS

**MAXIMUM POWER,
STRENGTH & ACCURACY**

TeXtreme[®] carbon fabrics
(Spread Tow)



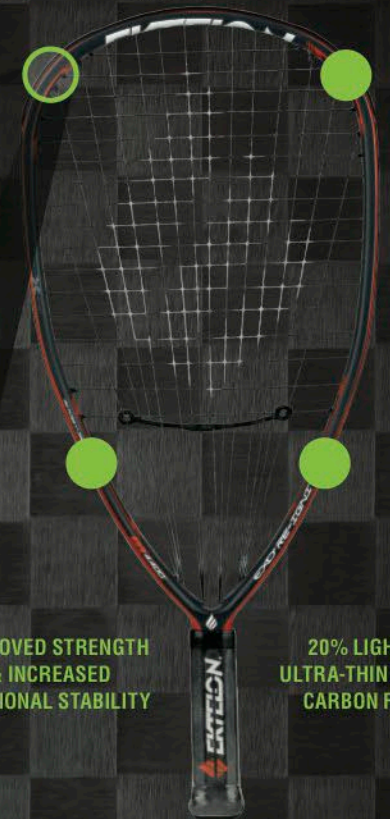
1 The Spread Tow structure makes it possible to achieve thinner laminates.

Conventional carbon fabrics
(Regular tow)



2 Straighter fibers with reduced crimp optimize and strengthen the composite.

3 Lower crimp reduce the amount of excess material thereby minimizing weight.



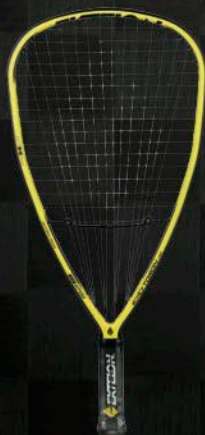
IMPROVED STRENGTH
& INCREASED
TORSIONAL STABILITY

20% LIGHTER
ULTRA-THIN WOVEN
CARBON FIBER



EXO³ TORON 150 ESP

POWER LEVEL: 4800
WEIGHT: 150g
BALANCE: Head Heavy



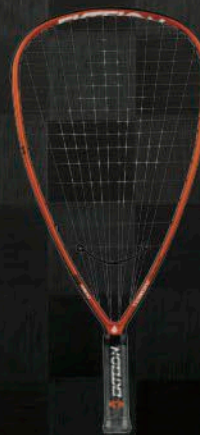
EXO³ TORON 160

POWER LEVEL: 4700
WEIGHT: 160g
BALANCE: Even



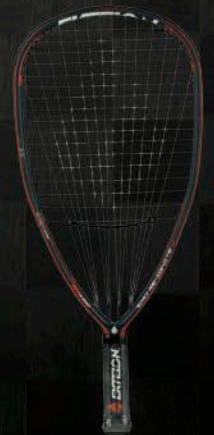
TORON PRO 170 ESP

POWER LEVEL: 4900
WEIGHT: 170g
BALANCE: Even



TORON PRO 180 ESP

POWER LEVEL: 4900
WEIGHT: 180g
BALANCE: Even





EXO³ RE-IGNITE

POWER LEVEL: 4400
WEIGHT: 180g
BALANCE: Even

 **EKTELON**[®]
THE FIRST BRAND IN RACQUETBALL
PLAY WITH FIRE[™]

Ektelon has acquired racquetball rights to the TeXtreme[®] technology that has been instrumental in NASCAR[®], Formula 1[®], the Tour de France[®], NHL and many other sports. Visit Ektelon.com to learn more about these products and find a dealer near you.

For the latest at Ektelon follow us on:  

Quit Texting Me That I Lost!

By Cindy Tilbury

At the NMRA tournament in March in Tucson, I was the "first-chair" tournament director and my email address was on all emails that were sent out. That is all set up in the R2Sports.com tournament site. Because of that, I got a few comments from people telling me that I was texting them too much. Here's what happened.

There is a recently-implemented feature in the R2Sports online tournament software that allows you to receive text messages on your phone that update you on tournament happenings. Although we recommend leaving it on, if you don't turn this feature off, you will get text messages letting you know about your court assignments and your match results, including scores. Those text messages appear to come from the tournament director, but they are AUTOMATIC! I assure you that I wasn't taking the time to individually text everyone about their scores, but there is a really good result from these auto texts.

When you receive a text with your scores, all players can look at the scores to verify that they were input correctly—while they are still fresh on your mind.

I had several people notify me that a score wasn't quite right and we got it fixed right away.

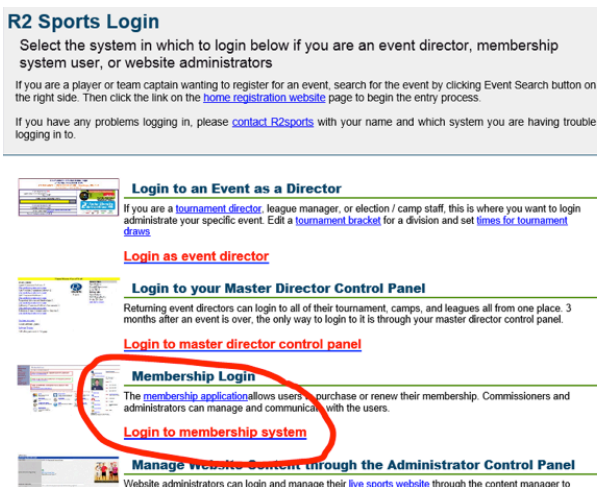
During a tournament, it is always a good idea to check the tournament scores on the R2Sports.com website to make sure you are being awarded the correct points and that the final places for each division are exactly as they should be. There is a whole lot going on on the Saturday of an event so it is easy to miss a detail like breaking a tie for fourth place (for example). We always appreciate a push in the right direction.

Want your tournament text messages on or off for all tournaments? Here is where you update it. Log into your www.r2sports.com account with your regular user ID and password using the link at the top right.

You may also make this change when you are registering for a tournament.



Next, click the link for the correct login type. Usually, you would need the Membership Login.



MORE NMRA Tidbits

The NMRA players and guests that attended the March 2014 Tucson banquet raised \$1,000 for the University of Arizona Racquetball Team, allowing them to pay some of their expenses to play in the 2014 USAR Intercollegiate Championships. U of A players helped us out during the entire week of our Tucson tournament, allowing the tournament directors to relax, play and take care of other details. This arrangement works out great for both of our groups!

A few 2014 Tucson bagtags are available, if anyone would like one. Contact Cindy Tilbury.

NMRA.info will be needing a volunteer webmaster soon. Tom Curran has been our webmaster and he would like to hand off that duty in the coming months. If anyone is interested in the position, contact one of the board members to talk about the requirements of the position. We would love to discuss it.

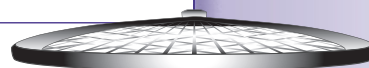
For a Christmas gift, I gave and received a pair of CourtGrabbers (available for about \$25 at Racquetball Warehouse or www.courtgrabbers.com). I can safely say that they are fantastic for dusty/slippery floors. I contacted the company and asked them for a few pairs to give

away at our Raleigh tournament, so some of you can try them for free. CourtGrabbers are like little squeegees for your shoe bottoms, making them stick to the floor, but not too sticky.



I recommend the black CourtGrabbers with the black pads, because the white ones can appear dirty between washings. Ask me for a demonstration.

Jack Hughes and all of the organizers of the Military Racquetball Federation would love for you to make yourself known to them, if you haven't already and you are active or retired military. You may want to participate in one of their events in the future, and you should get on their emailing list.



XK Sports Racquetball Machine a Hit

By Cindy Tilbury

Xia Yang was gracious enough to bring her company's *XK Sports Racquetball Feeder* machine to our *NMRA Arlington* tournament in December. Many of the players got a chance to try it out and hit a couple bins of balls. It got rave reviews and Xia sold one or two of the \$1900 remote-controlled machines before the weekend was over.



If you are serious about drilling and cannot always find a cooperative buddy, you should definitely consider the *XK Sports* ball feeder. Here is a video demonstration of the product featuring Xia herself. Contact Xia or her sales team if you want more information. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7EKYRU469U>

More information. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7EKYRU469U>

MORE NMRA Tidbits

When the USAR special committee was evaluating the 2014 winner of the *John Lomonaco Award* (who wins an all-expenses-paid trip to the *USAR National Singles* in Fullerton in May), it was a really difficult decision to decide between the 29 applicants. But the person who bubbled to the top was none other than **Josh Paul** from Bettendorf, Iowa, one of the first-responders at the *2013 US Open* when **Rick Schacht** had his heart attack. Although he isn't quite old enough to play our tournaments, we are all grateful to have him in the club if we happen to have a little medical trouble. Read Josh's story here. <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/Features/2014/March/31/2014-John-LoMonaco-Memorial-Grant> And, if you have the means and want to have a friend remembered, consider creating a memorial grant similar to the *John LoMonaco* grant with criteria and a prize of your choice. It's a great way to honor a past player. Contact the *USA Racquetball* board to get that set up.



Quit Texting Me That I Lost *continued from page 12...*

Put in your user ID and password.
Click "Remember Me" if you want to.
Click the Login button.

Your member options page will appear.
In the middle right, you can see if you have texting on or off (and to what cell number).
Click on the Modify Info link to turn texting on or off.

USA Racquetball

[Join as new member](#)

[Create profile to sign up for email notifications](#)

Returning members login below

User ID: Password: Remember Me
 Password is case sensitive

[Forgot or do not know you login info? CLICK HERE](#)

We use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) encryption technology to ensure the security of your login.

Login h
Joining membe
Event I
State I manag

Membership Home

Home Page for membership Management



Users
Search users, set user memberships



Events
Details on Sanctioned Tournaments



User Groups
Modify and select players in group



Renew Membership
Print USAR Membership Card



Accounting
Organization accounting



User History
View user statistics



Courses and Testing
Online user courses and tests



Videos
View Online Videos



Training Manuals
Download training manuals



Email
Send email blasts to players in group

Cindy Tilbury

23308 W. Bocana Street
Malibu, CA 90265

Gender: Female

Day: (303) 888-4461

Night: (303) 888-4461

Cell: (303) 888-4461

Receiving texts

E-Mail: cindy.tilbury@att.net

Receiving email blasts

DOB: 2/9/1958

Shirt: Small



CONTACT INFORMATION

Country:

State / Prov:

City:

Address:

Address 2:

Zip Code:

E-Mail:

Receive Email Blasts? YES NO

Select NO to opt out of receiving email notifications from directors

Work Phone: Ext:

Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Receive Texts YES NO

Select NO to opt out of receiving text messages. Additional fees for text messages may apply from your service provider

Mobile Carrier:

You must select your cell phone service provider and have a mobile phone number listed above in order to receive text messages.

Fax:

Contact Preference:

On the right side of your profile, you can change whether or not you receive email blasts and texts. You will need to provide your cell phone number and carrier.

Click the OK button at the bottom to update your options (or close the window if you don't want to save your changes).

Stickers Still Available

By Cindy Tilbury

Over a year ago, the NMRA had some stickers made that can be stuck to your car window to identify you as a racquetball family. We still have stickers left and want to see them on every racquetball car in the western hemisphere. Contact me if you would like to check them out. We have the following for \$5 each:

- Dad (diving or overhead shot)
- Mom (cute skirt)
- Son (ball cap)
- Daughter (little ponytail)
- Racquetball Family
- Racquetball Lovers
- Racquetball Couple



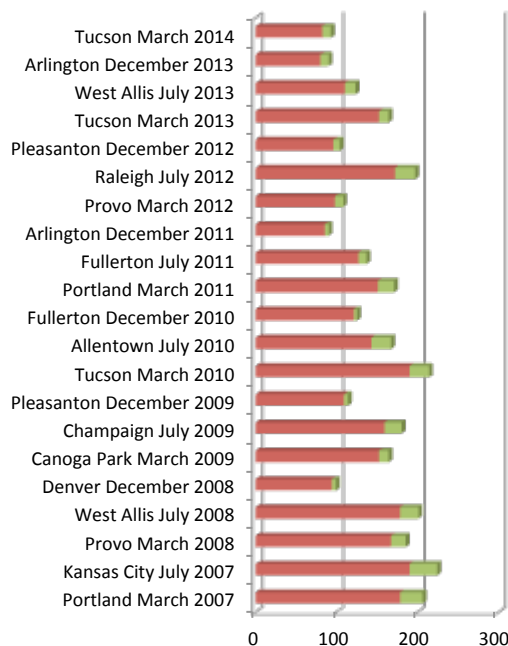
Let your neighborhood and fellow club parking lot friends know that you LOVE your sport! Get some stickers today.

R2 Sports News

Since its inception, R2sports has had to tack on a credit-card processing fee of \$4.95 per tournament entry and other transactions. As of July 1, there will no longer be an automatic processing fee, but tournament directors will have to pay credit card fees out of their budgets if they like the convenience of accepting entries using credit cards. Instead, you will see many (non-NMRA) tournament directors raising entry fee prices. For our NMRA tournaments, while we will be talking about raising entry fee prices in the next board meeting, at minimum, we do plan to add a handling fee to make up the budget shortfall. For more details on this, contact one of your tournament directors.

NMRA TOURNAMENT STATS

Total Tournament Participants and Guests

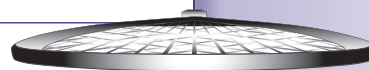


MORE NMRA Tidbits

Have you considered getting certified as a USA Racquetball Referee? If you know the rules, you can take the certification test online and follow the few other steps to become certified. Why would you do this? There is one very good reason—money! At *National Singles* and *National Doubles*, the certified referees got paid TWICE the non-certified referee rate. Getting paid \$20 an hour for watching a sport you love is a great deal. To take the test, log into your R2Sports.com profile (use the first steps for turning on/off texting) and instead of “Modifying your Info,” click on the link for Courses and Testing. Take the rules test(s) and the certification test. If you plan to referee doubles, also take that test. The other tests deal with High School and Collegiate tournament refereeing. Don’t be afraid to go through the official rule book first! <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/How-To-Play/Rules> Good luck!

New NMRA player, Rick Schacht from Minnesota, played great in West Allis in July 2013, but had a bit of a struggle at the *US Open* a few months later. On the court during a match, Rick suffered a “widowmaker” heart attack and collapsed. The good news was that Rick had about 15 things go right that day, with medically-qualified players in the next court to start CPR, a defibrillator machine nearby, and other critically-timed lifesaving measures taken to give him a chance at survival. Months later, Rick is back on the court, playing tournaments as well as he has ever played. We hope Rick will join us at another NMRA tournament soon, where you can talk to him in person about his amazing story.

If you are teaching high school or college racquetball classes, you will want to check out the *USAR* IP Collegiate Instructional Program. Teachers may use the instructional materials, but most important, the students can watch the videos and take tests online to provide a consistent learning experience across the country. So even if you aren’t the best racquetball player in the state, you can teach your students with the right techniques and examples. And, as with all *USAR* programs, you are covered by the *USAR*’s liability insurance if anything unforeseen happens. Contact the *USAR* staff for more information.



Scott Stevens

By Cindy Tilbury

I can't believe it, but another great racquetball friend of mine has passed on. Last time, it was 84-year-old **Manny Organista** and it was not unexpected. This time, however, it was a long-time player friend who was younger than I am. I have known **Scott Stevens** longer than I have been playing USAR tournaments. He was a member of my club in Minnesota when I hadn't yet discovered the joy of a state tournament. He played doubles with me before I knew how to play decent doubles. He is one of the few players I know that kept playing racquetball for the 30+ years I have been playing. Scott was a "given" in the Minnesota racquetball world. He was always smiling and happy on the court, and he was a treat to be around all the time.



Why do I bring him up to the NMRA newsletter readers? Because Scott had just recently discovered the wonderful world of the NMRA and our little family. He brought a small group of 50+ players to our July 2013 *West Allis* tournament and they all had a fantastic time. He couldn't believe he had waited 9 years when he could have been playing in the NMRA when he turned 45. He and his Minnesota buddies were coming back to the next tournament they could—probably *Raleigh* when they could get time off work in the summer. But not long after that *West Allis* tournament, Scott went in for some routine shoulder surgery and died of complications. We were all devastated and are still reeling. It's a shock that we won't see him at the *US Open* or the *Minnesota Hall of Fame* tournament. **Scott will be deeply missed.**

Program Director's Corner – Racquetball Jamboree

By Cindy Tilbury

Dave Ellis from Stockton, California, has a great idea for a different kind of racquetball league (and I understand a few *LA Fitness* coordinators are using this too). I just love it! It has all the good things of regular leagues, with lots of flexibility and some new fun twists. It's called the *Racquetball Jamboree League*. It works best when you have plenty of courts, but you may be able to adjust if you only have a few (in other words, people will sit between playing times).

All levels can compete in this league. In general, the same level players will play each other. Walk-in players and out-of-town guests are welcome too. You can use this format for singles or doubles or both.

Players can sign up in advance and register at their level (not age or gender). They would pay a league fee, suggested at \$5 per week for the eight-week period. A league time is set (suggestion of 5:30 to 8:30 or 9:00 pm).

Each week, there is a director who does not play. As players arrive, they notify the director and he notes the players that are at each level. If non-league players want to play, they may pay the nightly league fee and play at their level. When two people at the same level show up, they are put on a court by the director. Format is one game to 15, self-refereed. The winner gets three points and the loser gets one point. No makeup matches will be played. If a player does not show up, he does not get any points that week. If only two people in one skill level show up, they can play each other more than once.

Here is the flexible part: Players can arrive late and leave early. They can play as many matches as they want during the evening to get win/loss points. Once the end time of the league evening arrives, no more matches are played. Also, out-of-towners can be worked right into the group. No one sits for long and the director keeps pairings fair.

On the eighth week of the league session, the top eight players of each skill level are put into a bracket tournament. Winner gets fabulous prizes.

If you think this sounds like something your regular group would like, you can get more details from Dave Ellis at daveellis665@comcast.net. You can also ask him how best to adapt this to doubles (teams or individuals put together to be teams).

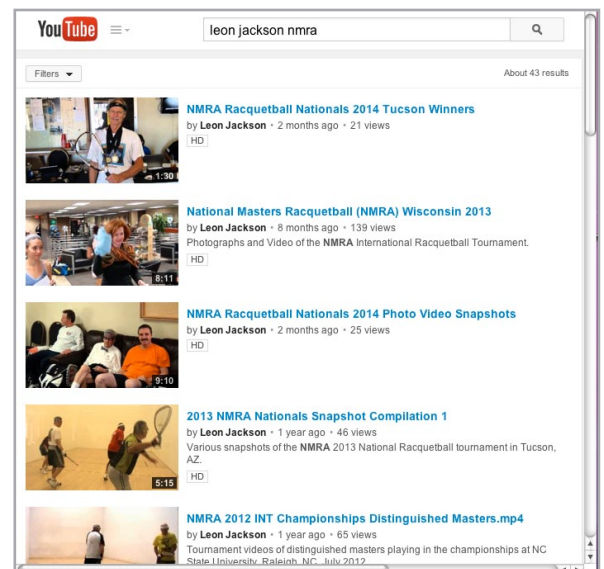
Happy league night!

NMRA Videos Available

By Leon Jackson

I have been putting *National Masters Racquetball* videos up on *YouTube* for awhile now. I think you'll enjoy them. You may even be in one or two. Enjoy!

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=leon+jackson+nmra



COMMENTARY 878.4: If You Love Competition, You Never Lose

By Michael Josephson on May 7, 2014
in Commentaries, Sportsmanship

Suppose you're an *Olympic* athlete and you hear that the only person who has a chance to beat you is ill and may have to withdraw. Are you overjoyed at your good luck or disappointed that you will not be able to compete against the very best?

If you really love and understand sports, you ought to be disappointed. **John Naber**, winner of four gold medals in swimming, says that a true sportsman wants to compete against his best competitor on his best day. Yes, that makes winning more difficult and less likely, but it also makes the event more exciting and a victory more meaningful. Being declared the winner is not real victory; being the best is.

If you play tennis or any other sport, what's more fun: to play against someone you easily dominate or against someone who forces you to be your best and makes every point an exciting challenge? You see, the point of sports is to have fun trying to win and loving the game enough that you can have fun whether you win or not.



Athletic competition is not a form of war. The people you compete against are also the people you play with. They are not your enemies. The word competition comes from the Latin root *competere*, which means to strive together, not against each other. Be thankful for quality competitors who push you to your limit. You'll find sports more healthy and enjoyable when you respect and even like your opponents rather than hate them.

When you compete with someone as good or better than you, you may not always win, but you never lose.

This is **Michael Josephson** reminding you that character counts.

Reprinted with Permission from Josephson's blog. ○

MORE NMRA Tidbits

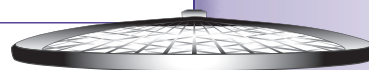
Have you ever been running a racquetball tournament and someone got hurt? Hopefully, you had everyone sign waivers ahead of time. It is a very stressful few minutes, but there are important steps you have to take to avoid trouble later. Acting immediately and assessing the situation is crucial. Arranging for first aid and calling emergency services may be in order next. Less important but true to racquetball competition rules would be to start timing an injury timeout for the 15 minutes allowed. Then, another extremely vital step is to fill out an incident report the SAME DAY if you can. The incident report can be found on the *USA Racquetball* website. The *USAR* has liability insurance through *Loomis & LaPann* in Great Falls, New York, and they are interested in keeping everyone safe. **Kevin Joyce** from *Loomis & LaPann* gave a very informative talk about insurance in the sports world at the *2014 USAR Leadership Conference* in Colorado Springs. You may want to get the information for your own local or *State Association*.

I recently corresponded with Mike Neeser from Reno, Nevada. He is the force behind *JogoReno*—the 36-court (18 for racquetball and 18 for squash) tournament facility soon to be built attached to the *Grand Sierra* hotel and casino in Reno. He told me that he is in the last stages of fundraising, which he hopes to have done by this fall. If all goes well, *JogoReno* will be built and ready to rock in the fall of 2015. I have made sure he knows we want to be the first organization to hold a national tournament there. I know our members love a great tournament/casino/show package. And 18 racquetball courts sounds perfect for our group. Send some positive racquetball vibes to Reno!

Carmen Alatorre-Martin and the entire Fort Myer (Washington, DC area) group are excited to roll out a new way to identify yourself as a proud NMRA tournament player. They will be unveiling their idea in Raleigh and you'll just have to check it out there, as they wanted to keep it under wraps until then. Interested? Intrigued? They think you are really going to like this idea. More in the next newsletter... ○

MORE NMRA Tidbits

The USAR is checking into why almost 18 percent of all USAR members (some could be expired, so maybe "contacts" is a more apt word) have OPTED OUT of receiving emails about upcoming tournaments. True, there are a lot of tournaments so a lot of emails get sent out, but you might be missing a few that you actually want to know about. Set in your *R2Sports* profile, opting out of receiving email blasts should be re-evaluated or temporarily turned back on to allow you to get reminders of local and national tournaments. This is similar to opting out of texts being sent to your phone about court assignments and match results (also in your *R2Sports* profile). The *USAR* is looking at ways to minimize the unwanted emails and maximizing your access to information you want. It's a fine line, but if you have suggestions, let them know.



A Little USAR Membership Info for the 45+ Player

By Cindy Tilbury from a Steve Czarniecki Presentation

At the USAR Leadership Conference in Colorado Springs in May, **Steve Czarniecki** did a great job on an analysis of the USAR membership information that they have. I was looking at it with an eye for the 45+ player, and it was quite interesting. Some of the points that were worth noting are below.

Of the 12,000+ active tournament/league players in the last season:

- 84 percent were men / 16 percent were women
- Average age was 41.5 years / median age was 44.0 years
- About 20 percent opted out of getting emails from racquetball organizations
- About 4,700 of the players were 45 to 64 years old
- About 700 of the players were 65 and over!
- Most players (about 5,500) played in only one sanctioned event each year
- The vast majority (about 5,000) claimed to be A or B players
- Texas (813), California (689), Missouri (573) and Oregon (570) had the most members (some may not have played an event this past season)
- California (1,080), Texas (925), Florida (713) and Missouri (617) had the most participants
- 4 percent of the members were Lifetime USAR members
- 59 percent of the members were one-year USAR members
- 14 percent were three-year USAR members
- About twice as many memberships were purchased / renewed in January than any other month

For a more detailed report on USAR membership, contact **Steve Czarniecki** at the USAR office. ○

Newly-Elected NMRA Board of Directors

By Cindy Tilbury

I'd like to introduce you to our two newest board members—**Chris Poucher** and **John Winings**. You may remember their qualifications from the last newsletter and the online election, but let me remind you of a few of their credentials and experiences.



Chris Poucher lives in Atlanta, Georgia. His wife, Pam, does not currently play racquetball, but we are working on her. Chris has several insurance businesses and has played racquetball for many years. He serves on the board of the *Georgia Racquetball Association*, is a regional coordinator for *Ektelon* sponsored players, and coordinates racquetball leagues at *LA Fitness* in Atlanta.



John Winings currently resides in *Valley Springs, California*, with his lovely bride and mixed doubles partner, Marni. They met at an *NMRA* tournament in California and have had a long-distance relationship until recently when Marni sold her club in Oregon and moved in with John. John works for the forestry service.

Please feel free to introduce yourself to Chris and John at the next tournament. Let them know about any *NMRA* concerns you might have.

We are currently looking for a ninth board member to fill Howard Walker's seat as Howard takes some time off of board duty. As always, if you are interested in running for the board in a future election, please contact a current board member in order to get a feel for the obligations and qualifications you will need to satisfy. Think about an area of the *NMRA* to which you could add value, and let us know. Of course, if you just want to help out and get involved without running for the board, we can get you started right away.

Current NMRA Board (see full details on the last page of this newsletter):

President	Cindy Tilbury
Vice President	Carmen Alatorre-Martin
Secretary	Leon Jackson
Co-Treasurer	Patrick Gibson
Board Member	Chris Poucher
Board Member	Bruce Adams
Board Member	John Winings
Board Member	Fred Roe
Co-Treasurer / Non-Board Member	Tom Curran

Want your USA Racquetball Team donation to double? Donate to the *Team USA Challenge* program where a list of donors will match you dollar-for-dollar. Contact the *USA Racquetball* office for more details.

NMRA TOURNAMENT Trail 2014/2015

Check the www.nationalmastersracquetball.org website or Facebook for the latest updates.



Jul 16-19	NMRA International Championships 45+	Raleigh, NC	Carmen Alatorre-Martin	www.nationalmastersracquetball.org
Aug 26-30	IRF World Seniors 35+	Albuquerque, NM	Gary Mazaroff	www.internationalracquetball.org
Oct 8-11	Huntsman Senior Games 50+	St. George, UT	Dick Morgan	www.seniorgames.net/sports/racquetball
Oct 8-12	US Open	Minneapolis, MN	USAR	www.usra.org
Oct 23-25	Men of October 75+	Sun City, AZ	Greg Steger Jan Warren	ipowerfade@yahoo.com
Nov TBD	All Military National Championships	San Diego, CA	Steven Harper	www.militaryracquetball.com
Dec 4-6	NMRA Doubles-Only 40+	Pleasanton, CA	Cindy Tilbury	www.nationalmastersracquetball.org
Jan 15-17	Women's Senior/Masters 35+ Women Only	Minneapolis, MN	Kendra Tutsch	www.wsmra.com
Feb TBD	USAR National Doubles	Phoenix, AZ	USAR	www.usra.org
Mar TBD	NMRA National Championships 45+	Denver, CO or Springfield, MO (tent)	Leon Jackson Carmen A-Mart.	www.nationalmastersracquetball.org
May TBD	USAR National Singles	Fullerton, CA	USAR	www.usra.org
Jul 7-12	National Senior Games 50+	Minneapolis, MN	NSGA	www.nsga.com
Jul TBD	NMRA International Championships 45+	Springfield, MO or Denver, CO (tent.)	Patrick Gibson Fred Roe	www.nationalmastersracquetball.org
Dec TBD	NMRA Doubles-Only 40+	Fullerton CA	Cindy Tilbury	www.nationalmastersracquetball.org

Also on www.r2sports.com

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PLEASE CONTACT US
 TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



Be sure to check the www.nationalmastersracquetball.org website for updates and immediate election results!