**SOLICITS PLAYER COMMENTS**

**AARA Acts On Rules Changes**

by Jim Austin, National Rules Commissioner

The following proposed rule changes were presented to the A.A.R.A. Board of Directors at the semi-annual meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado. These proposed rule changes will be acted upon at the 1984 semi-annual Board Meeting to be held at the U.S. National Singles Championships, May 24-28 in Houston, Texas.

Penn To Underwrite U.S. Racquetball Team

A unique marketing promotion under the direction of Bob Beebe, Product Manager of Penn Athletic Products Company, to help underwrite the U.S. National Racquetball Team was unveiled recently.

Penn Athletic Products Company will place counter posters in all court clubs and some retail outlets throughout the United States soliciting help for the U.S. National Racquetball Team through membership in the A.A.R.A. It is estimated that over 1.5 million applications will be distributed.

In return for the $5.00 donation you will receive a high quality luggage cover that the first server loses his/her serve.

The $5.00 donation is tax deductible for income tax purposes.

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**WHICH DO YOU PREFER?**

Proposed Rule Changes:

1. **1E-GAME:** A game is won by the side first scoring 15 points (or 11 points if the tiebreaker). A Player need only win by one point.

2. **1F.2-LINESPEOPLE:** If one linesperson disagrees and one has no opinion, the ref's call shall stand.

3. **2D.1-RACQUET SPECIFICATIONS:** The total length and width of the racquet may not exceed 27 inches. The length of the racquet may not exceed 20% inches and the head width may not exceed inches. These measurements are computed from the outer edge of the rims, not including bumpers, and from the farthest solid part of the handle, not including any softening material.

4. **2E.1-DELAYS:** If the receiver is not ready he/she must signal so by raising the racquet above the head.

5. **1E.5-REFEREE:** The referee may rule on all matters not covered in these rules. However, the referee may be overruled by the tournament director.

6. **6A.2-FOOT FAULTS:** If the receiver enters into the safety zone prior to the served ball passing the short line, it shall result in a loss of serve.

7. **7H-OUT OF ORDER SERVE:** In doubles, if it is discovered that the second served first (and he/she is still serving), the penalty shall be that the first server loses his/her serve. The second server may finish his/her inning and all points scored count. If while the first server is serving it is discovered that the second server served first, the penalty shall be an immediate out. All points served count. If it is discovered that the first server served, the second server served, and the first server served again, the penalty shall be a technical foul (loss of one point) and all points scored during the first server's extra inning shall be taken from their team.

Current Rules:

1. **1E-GAME:** A game is won by the side first scoring 21 points (or all points in the tiebreaker). A player need only win by one point.

2. **1F.2-LINESPEOPLE:** The proposed rule is in addition to what is currently in use.

3. **2D.1-RACQUET SPECIFICATIONS:** The total sum of the length and width of the racquet may not exceed 27 inches. The length of the head, measured from the top of the handle to the top of the head, may not exceed 13.5 inches. The head width may not exceed 9 inches. These measurements are computed from the outer edge of the racquet head rims. The handle may not exceed seven inches in length.

4. **2E.1-DELAYS:** It is the server's responsibility to look and be certain that the receiver is ready. If the receiver is not ready, he must signal so by raising his racquet above his head or completely turning his back to the server (these are the only two acceptable signals.)

5. **1E.5-REFEREE:** The proposed rule is in addition to the rule currently in use.

6. **6A.2-FOOT FAULTS:** The proposed rule is in addition to the rule currently in use.

7. **7H-OUT OF ORDER SERVE:** In doubles when either partner serves out of order, any points which may have been scored during an out of order serve will be automatically void with the score reverting to the score prior to the out of order serve. The "out serve" shall be applied to the first server and the second server shall then be allowed to serve.

(continued on page 3)
NEW DIRECTIONS
by Luke St. Onge

This is the time of year when most of us look back and reflect on the experiences of the past year and look with anticipation to whatever opportunities lie ahead in the new year for our sport and the Association have gone through tremendous changes during 1983. We should take a brief moment and review this past year.

In January the Association moved from Memphis, Tennessee to Colorado Springs, Colorado, the amateur sports capital of the United States and the home of the United States Olympic Committee. The new offices opened on January first, the data processing terminal at the U.S.O.C. was in operation in February. During January the highly successful International Racquet Sports Association held its annual convention in Las Vegas with optimism the overall mood of the convention and club-owned tournaments.

In February the tournament activity began to build toward the State Championships. The U.S. National Team was victorious over Mexico and Costa Rica in the North American Games in Stockton, California.

April brought the most successful U.S. Intercollegiate Championships at the Racquet Club of Memphis in Tennessee, along with 11 Adult Regionals being held.

May was extremely active with "RACQUETBALL IN REVIEW" changing publishers, 4 Adult Regionals being held, 10 Junior Regionals held, and then the most prestigious and popular U.S. National Singles Championships held in Houston, Texas at the Downtown Y.M.C.A.

In September the A.A.R.A. Board of Directors met for their semi-annual meeting held for the first time at the United States Olympic Committee Complex in Colorado Springs in the Olympic tradition.

October was a most active month with the U.S. National Team traveling for the first time outside the United States to the Central American Games involving nine countries in Costa Rica.

The U.S. National Doubles Championships were played in October at the Tyrone Racquetball Club in St. Petersburg, Florida. The Doubles featured 275 teams competing in 18 divisions.

Over 675 tournaments were sanctioned and run through the State Associations, and membership grew from 17,000 in January, 1983 to 28,000 in November of 1983. Over $70,000 was fed back into state and local associations for local development.

(continued on page 3)
by Paul Hendrickson

The Board of Directors of the American Amateur Racquetball Association made the decision several years ago that the success or failure of the association would be based on our ability to gain an acceptable level of membership rather than on the contributions of major sponsors.

We have been very successful overall the last few years in significantly increasing our membership through sanctioned tournaments. The problem now facing the association is a method of convincing the millions of non-tournament racquetball players to join the association. Many of the day-to-day racquetball players are not even aware that the association exists. It is important that all of us members of the association spread the word to other members of our clubs, Y.M.C.A. facilities, or schools as to the benefits of belonging to our association.

With travel benefits, a national and state publication, eligibility to play in all sanctioned tournaments, hotel and rental car discounts, equipment discounts, and support of the United States National Racquetball team, membership in the association is a solid investment.

We have just undertaken a new program in cooperation with Penn Athletic Products, D.P. Leach, and Lite Beer from Miller to make application blanks for A.A.R.A. membership available to every racquetball club in the country. These membership blanks will be affixed to a counter placard provided by Miller, picturing the U.S. National team. In addition to gaining a year's membership to our association, players using these membership blanks will receive a bag tag naming them as a contributor to the U.S. National team. It is adherent that if we are to continue to grow as an association, we need to continue to grow as an association, we develop a strong contingent of non-tournament players within our association. So the challenge is made to all of us to spread the word among our fellow racquetballers not only to the value but to the necessity of becoming a member of the A.A.R.A. and assist in the growth and development of racquetball in the United States.

New Directions

Scholarship funds in the amount of $8,000 were awarded in the Intercollegiate National, compliments of Lite Beer from Miller.

National and state rankings are sent monthly to the State Organizations and published bi-monthly in RACQUETBALL IN REVIEW.

The A.A.R.A. received 501-C-3 status from the I.R.S. and official application was made for racquetball to become a demonstration sport in the 1987 Pan Am Games. Also, a referee's certification program has been finalized to be activated in 1984.

The three major sponsors for 1983 would be Miller, Pen Athletic Products Company and D. P. Leach. All renewed their contracts for 1984. Over 640,000 volunteer hours have gone in our sport and the A.A.R.A. during 1983.

What does 1984 promise? As we look into our crystal ball 1984 promises to be a banner year.

Litte Beer from Miller has made a major commitment to the A.A.R.A. to make the 1984 Regionals the most successful and visible ever held. A management seminar hosted by Lite Beer from Miller, Pen Athletic Products Company and D. P. Leach will be held at the Olympic Complex in January. All fifteen Regional Directors will spend three full days learning procedures and being indoctrinated into more functional and successful positions.

There is the distinct possibility that the International Olympic Committee will recognize the International Amateur Racquetball Federation, thus paving the way for the A.A.R.A. to move from Group C membership in the U.S.O.C. to Group A membership.

We will once again select a U.S. National Team that will represent the United States in the World Championships in July.

We will have a National Training Camp the entire month of August at the U.S.O.C. with athletes selected based upon national rankings.

Referee Certification and Rules Clinics will be held throughout our State and Regional Associations.

Services will be expanded from National to State Organizations in the areas of membership, insurance, rankings, camps, clinics, Juniors, Intercollegiates, and many other areas.

It is through these programs and the strength of the State Organizations that the future of the player's association will continue to represent the amateur racquetball players in the United States.

Welcome to 1984 and have a most prosperous and happy New Year.

Rule Changes (continued from page 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Current</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(6) 8A-RETURN OF SERVE—RECEIVING POSITION:</td>
<td>(6) 8A-RETURN OF SERVE—RECEIVING POSITION:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any ball leaving the court on the first</td>
<td>The receiver(s) must stand at least five</td>
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<td>bounce at any time shall be declared an</td>
<td>feet back of the short line as indicated by</td>
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<td>out point against the player(s) hitting the</td>
<td>the vertical line on each sideline, and</td>
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<td>ball out.</td>
<td>cannot enter into this safety zone until the</td>
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<td>ball has been served and passes the short</td>
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<td>line. At that point the receiver(s) may</td>
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<td>enter the safety zone to return serve;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>however, neither the racquet nor body</td>
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<td>may infringe on the imaginary plane marked</td>
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<td>by the short line. A violation of the</td>
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<td>receiving zone or the short line by the</td>
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<td>receiver(s) results in a point for the server.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(8) 10F.1-OUT OF COURT BALL:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10F.1-OUT OF COURT BALL:</td>
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<td>1) After Return: Any ball returned to the</td>
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<td>front wall which on the rebound or on the</td>
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<td>first bounce goes into the gallery or through</td>
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<td>any opening in a sideline shall be declared</td>
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<td>dead and the server shall receive two</td>
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<td></td>
<td>serves.</td>
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<td>(10) 13A-TIME OUTS — REST PERIODS — The</td>
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<td>proposed rule is in addition to the rule</td>
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<td>currently in use.</td>
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<td>(11) 17-AGE GROUP DIVISION — Age is</td>
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<td>determined as of the first day of the tourna-</td>
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<td>ment.</td>
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Fund Raising Projects Announced

The A.A.R.A. announced a fund-raising project for the U.S. National Racquetball Team. The U.S. National Team sponsors — Lite Beer from Miller, D. P. Leach and Pen Athletic Products Company — will support any fund-raising project such as tournaments, marathons, auctions, etc., where the proceeds go to the U.S. National Racquetball Team.

The first benefit tournament is being held January 6-8 at the Racquetball Plus Racquetball Club in Derby, Connecticut under the direction of Tournament Director Fred T. Petrella and State Director, Paul Thiel.

Anyone interested in conducting a benefit for the U.S. Team should contact his or her State or Regional Director, or the National Headquarters in Colorado Springs.
SO LIVELY, SO CONSISTENT, SO DURABLE, WE GUARANTEE IT, TWICE.

The only thing tougher than a Penn Ultra-blue racquetball is the Penn Double Performance Guarantee. With "If any Penn ball should fail before the label wears off, return it to the place of purchase or to Penn for two new balls. This is how we stand behind our ball. And our customers.

Penn Racquetball Products Company, 4220 William Penn Highway, Montonville, PA 15146.
Tournament Results

Florida

1st Annual Junior Diabetes Tournament
Imperial Courts
Melbourne, FL, July 8-10

Level: 3

Quarter-finals:
Steve McDonald, Joe Spin; Steve White, Nell Smith

Semi-finals:
Nell Smith; Fred Anderson, Steve White, Scott Duff

Men's:
1st - Mike Bunker, 2nd - Donald Davis, 3rd - John Parker, 4th - Jerry Williams
Women's:
1st - Eliza Daniel, 2nd - Carol Anne, 3rd - Sara Harmon, 4th - Richard Harman

Maine

The Beachcomber Open
Village Yard
Saco, ME, July 29-30

Level: 2

Men's:
1st - Gerald, 2nd - Eason, 3rd - Kenmore, 4th - Joe Phillips
Women's:
1st - Elgin Hoggard, 2nd - James Wilson, 3rd - Herb Scott, 4th - Trudy Safford

Florida

Holiday Open
Pl. Lauderdale, FL, July 8-10

Level: 3

Quarter-finalists:
Steve McDonald, Joe Spin; Steve White, Nell Smith

Semi-finalists:
Fred Anderson, Steve White, Scott Duff

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We're Supporting You!

We are the Official Racquet Sponsor of the 1983 U.S. Racquetball Team and a major sponsor of every AARA Regional and National event.

DP Leach... the Team that supports you.
The Will to Win.

The will to win. When you've got it, nothing can stop you. It breaks down the barriers and pushes you to the ultimate limits of your capabilities.

Once you're there, you'll find that only Ektelon racquets can meet your performance standards.

Our Graphite CBK, the game's most powerful racquet, and the Composite 250G, the most widely used tournament model, are designed for players who want the best.

Ektelon . . . if you demand as much from your racquet as you demand from yourself.

EKTelon
The Most Recommended Name in Racquetball
Tests prove Wilson TruBlue™ lasts longer than Penn®. Precise lab tests at tournament-level speeds prove conclusively that TruBlue can withstand more punishing hits than Penn. So if you want a consistent, lively racquetball that's going to last, pick the one that finished first. Wilson TruBlue.

Wilson®
Keeping you ahead of the game.™

*Penn is a registered trademark of the Penn Athletic Products Company.
Why you should be a member of the American Amateur Racquetball Association!

Over 800 tournaments annually — Ranked nationally with all AARA players — Uniform rule book — Recognized amateur governing body.

TO JOIN AARA MAIL THIS COUPON!

YES! I would like to be a member of the AARA, eligible for tournament play. Please send me the membership kit, which includes — the membership card, official rule book and discount coupons worth $20. I am enclosing $____ on one year.

Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City __________________ State ______ Zip ______

Mail to: American Amateur Racquetball Association

815 North Webster Ave.

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

State and Regional News

State Rankings by Membership:

1. California
2. New York
3. Florida
4. Pennsylvania
5. Massachusetts
6. New Jersey
7. Ohio
8. Connecticut
9. Colorado
10. Michigan

Congratulations to Al Barash, Illinois, the new Regional Director for Region 38 (Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa). Congratulations also to Al Seideman, Regional and State Director, New York, for the Long Island Open which boasted 923 entries.

Congratulations to Jon Denley, State Director in New Jersey, who has moved New Jersey to 5th-Nationally ranked... to Mike Brooks and Theresa Collins, Georgia, who have moved Georgia from the lower 20 in membership to 14th ranked... to Rich Carbaugh, N. Dakota, moved Wyoming into the 12th position... to Art Michaelson on his election to the presidency of the Illinois State Racquetball Association.

The dates and sites for the 1984 Interservice Championships have been announced. It is to be conducted at Ft. Lewis WA, 12-18 May ‘84. The reason for the change is to allow the Interstate Men’s Open, Senior and Women’s Single Championships to go on to the AARA Nationals to be conducted May 25-28, 1984, in Houston TX. The Interservice Racquetball Championships will continue in the May time-frame. So plan accordingly!

Speaking of planning, don’t forget the Showboat Military Tournament scheduled Feb. 6-10, 1984 in Las Vegas. Mr. Stu Betterson promises an outstanding event. The site, by the way, has been moved to the Spring Mountain Racquetball Club. I’m told it’s the best club in Las Vegas! For more information, please call or write to Mr. Betterson in care of the Showboat Hotel, 2800 E. Freemont, Las Vegas, NV 89140 — telephone 800-643-3438.

Col. Hans Larson, the Commander at Ft. Chaffe AR (AUTOVON 962-2282), wrote, offering his name and address for anyone traveling thru Arkansas area looking for a game or information on racquetball in the area. If you have any comments or suggestions, send them to Mr. Stephen D. Ducoff, HQ AFMPC/MPCSOA, Randolph AFB Texas 78110.

Again, congratulations to the race team, the 1983 Interservice Racquetball team.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates to Remember

**Lite/A.A.R.A. Adult Regionals**

- Junior Regionals
- U.S. Intercallege Championships
- U.S. National Singles Championships (You must play in the Lite/A.A.R.A. Adult Regionals in order to compete)
- U.S. National Junior Championships (You must play in the Junior Regionals in order to compete)
- U.S. National Doubles Championships

**March to May**

- Lite/A.A.R.A. Adult Regionals
- May 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, Houston, Downtown YMCA
- June 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

**October 25, 26, 27, 28**

Site to be determined. Open competition.

**Lite Beer Sponsors Events**

The A.A.R.A. National and Regional Adult events will again be sponsored by Lite Beer from Miller. Lite will be the major sponsor of the 1984 Adult Regional Championships. The Regional Championships will be titled “Lite/A.A.R.A. Regional Championships.” The titles of the U.S. National Singles and Doubles will remain the same, but the events will be presented by Lite Beer from Miller and sponsored by P & P Leach and Penn Athletic Products Company.

This year will mark the third consecutive year that Lite Beer from Miller has sponsored the A.A.R.A. major adult events. Lite Beer from Miller is also a major sponsor of the U.S. National Team and is the only major manufacturer who has made a long-term commitment to the sport of racquetball outside the racquetball industry.

**Approved Balls**

The following are A.A.R.A. approved racquetball balls:

- AMF Volt
- Ektelon
- Penn
- Spalding
- Regent
- Wilson

**Racquetball in Review**

**Massachusetts**

The International Challenge 1984

*Specialists in Racquetball/Handball/Squash Court Construction*
HEAD REDEFINES RACQUETBALL:

Two years ago, engineers at Head began creating designs that would move racquetball into a new era.

A larger hitting area emerged. A firmer frame. An aerodynamically slick profile. A lighter, more maneuverable racquet head. And a stiffness that racquets of the past just can't touch.

But these new designs were more than great ideas on the drawing board. In test-play, they delivered amazing new levels of power and control.

And now, Head brings that stunning performance to your game with the new Vector and Graphite Apex racquets.

Never has there been such a clear advantage available to the serious racquetball player. So visit your Authorized Head Dealer soon.

Because you see, we must make them available to your competition as well.

We want you to win.

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