ARHS Ranks Amateur Racquetball

Because national player rankings have always been an important part of every amateur sport, the board of directors of AARA is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached between AARA and The American Racquetball Handicap System (ARHS) making ARHS the official ranking service of AARA, responsible for managing and executing the AARA national player ranking program. With this agreement, AARA feels that amateur racquetball will have a more credible and timely player ranking system.

ARHS is a service of Standard Competitive Rating Systems, Inc., a Minnesota company which specializes in the development and marketing of player ranking and performance rating systems for competitive sports.

Since the introduction of its “in-club” program for rating racquetball players in 1983, clubs throughout the country have been signing up for this ARHS service because it addresses some very specific needs in the sport such as: Developing leagues and other competitive events that are more evenly matched; Elimination of sandbagging; Providing an easy method for players to arrange new, compatible matches.

The ARHS “in-club” program primarily rates the performance of players through the use of actual game scores, processed through a computer. These player performance ratings then replace the old, self-declared “A, B, C, Novice” method of establishing league divisions, challenge courts, etc. As a by-product of player performance ratings there is an accurate way to handicap games.

With the ARHS “in-club” player performance rating system, every racquetball match can potentially have two winners; the person who won the game by the actual score, and, if the other player beat the expected point spread (game handicap) his or her performance rating will go up. Therefore they also have received a positive reward for participating.

The ranking service that ARHS will be providing AARA will incorporate and expand on many of the concepts it uses in its own “in-club” program as well as many elements of the current AARA system. Through this exclusive agreement, ARHS will put its professional staff and computer capacity to work for AARA to provide a national player ranking system that will be significant to competitive amateur racquetball in the United States.

After Pat McGlone, President of ARHS, and Luke St. Onge, Executive Director of AARA, worked out the details of this program, they both agreed that through this joint venture, the ranking of amateur racquetball will be vastly improved. This highly professional program needs the cooperation of the regional, state and tournament directors in order to achieve its full potential.

Create Ref Certification Program

INSIDE...
Extensive Calendar Listings!
ARHS/AARA National Rankings!

by Michael Arnott
National Rules Commissioner

Tournament players have long wanted one small thing: to have their matches refereed fairly and consistently by someone knowledgeable about the rules of racquetball.

Finally, the vehicle through which to accomplish that is available. It’s called the AARA Referee Certification Program. In the middle of September, it was distributed to every state director.

So now, as if by magic, there will be qualified refs to do every game and match from the first round through the finals, right.

Wrong. Not even close.

The key word in the description of the RCP is vehicle. It is a means to an end.

The success of the program will be determined by the individual state organizations and, most importantly, the players.

Keep Quality High

Certainly, not everyone will become a certified ref, nor will they be capable of it. In fact, that’s not even desirable. In order to maintain the integrity of the program, it will be important to keep the quality high.

(Continued on page 2)
ARHS Rankings (Continued from page 1)

"In any amateur sport, it is always considered a matter of prestige for both the player and the state to have their performance recognized by the national governing body. We encourage states to report to their general membership information about state players that have been recognized at the state, regional or national levels in our new ranking report," said St. Onge. "St. Onge also mentioned that ARHS will be using these rankings for the seeding of regional and national tournaments as well as in the selection process for participation in the AARA elite training camps.

"We are impressed by the development that ARHS has put into this new program and therefore want to encourage all regional, state and local tournament directors to develop the habit of submitting tournament results to ARHS after each sanctioned event which will help make this program highly meaningful to all of amateur racquetball," St. Onge said.

In addition to the ranking of players based on their win/loss records, ARHS will be doing a pilot project with two state associations to test its "in-club" rating system that uses actual games scores. This will be the first test of its kind using the state association environment. If these tests prove successful, it could eventually lead to a standard system that all states could use that would be completely integrated with the national program.

A LOOK AT THE NEW SYSTEM

In the national, regional and state ranking reports, as in the past, all sanctioned tournaments will be broken down into six levels.

Level Description
1 In House Club Tournaments
2 Closed Tournaments limited to only players in that state
3 Open Tournaments — higher caliber competition than level 2 and open to players from other states.
4 Open AARA State Tournaments — open to players from other states and playing a higher caliber of competition than level 3.
5 Regional and AARA Designated Events — AARA regional championships and major national invitational tournament.
6 Nationals — National Singles, Juniors, Doubles plus intercollegiate championship.

SAMPLE RANKINGS REPORT:

ARHS圣AARIAL RANKINGS 70-3-87

DIVISION — 12 MONTH'S OPEN

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Overall Points</th>
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"In order for the system to work, tournament results must be sent in," said McGone, "and to make that process easier, a new tournament report form has been developed. A quantity of the new Tournament Division Results Report Form will be sent out to each sanctioned tournament by ARHS. One form needs to be filled out for each division of the tournament (i.e. Open, B, C, 20+, 25+ etc.). Full instructions on how to fill out the new report form will accompany each supply of forms sent out.

The Tournament Results Report Forms should be turned in promptly after the completing of each sanctioned tournament. All results received by ARHS by the first of the month will be included in that month's report.

National, Regional, and State reports broken down by playing divisions will be processed monthly by ARHS. For a player's name to show up in a division he or she must have finished in the third round or better (quarter finals), in a sanctioned tournament, the results of which were turned in to ARHS.

As in the past, the reports will list the player's name, ranking, state and region. The column entitled "12 Month Cumulative Points Total" is the tournament point total that the player's ranking is based on. This point total is a running 12 month total which means that when the tournament result forms (Continued on page 3)
The second occasion revolves around the Olympic Training Center and the first United States Elite Racquetball Camp ever held. What a distinctive opportunity for the sport! What an exceptional time for our athletes who qualified and had the great desire to learn and share in the Olympic dream! Who could ever forget the excitement of the 600-plus on campus from six different sports milling over onto the main street adjacent to the Training Center after learning that our cyclist had won the gold medal of the 1984 games? For the first time, racquetball was there...we lived the Olympics during those incomparable days and trained in the shadows of past and present gold medal winners. The atmosphere was electric.

We had 13-year-old athletes whose dream of the Olympic Gold promised hope of reality...and we had 74-year-old Frank Douglas who attended the camp to learn the techniques of racquetball so that he can have the opportunity to defeat Hall of Famer like Gurner in their next meeting.

We grew up. We now know that our athletes can hold their own against other Olympic hopefuls.

We found that racquetball players are in all-around good shape from the physical testing held at the Center.

We are establishing norms that all racquetball players can use to test themselves against and compare the results with those of the pros.

We saw pros and amateurs working side by side for common good.

There were 120 racquetball players from six countries who worked, competed, shared, played, ate and came together.

The summer of 1984 will be known as the summer of the Los Angeles Olympics—but in racquetball circles it also will be known as the summer that racquetball grew up.
Ref Certification

(Continued from page 1)

Another option is to give the clinic at a club on a week night, and in the interest of time, give the test and explanation of the answers at the same club one week later.

So, for Mr. Give-The-Referee-A-Hard-Time, there is no guarantee that he will get a certified ref. He simply will have to put in the time to study. He makes the most of his expertise with the ref and ask for a ruling from the tournament director.

Most of all, since he yells the loudest, he should take advantage of the program and lead others by example. The ingredients for what we have been waiting for are here. How well it turns out is a result of our interest, input and effort.

Requirements Outlined

Briefly, the requirements for the various levels are:

Level I: 1) membership in the AARA or AARA-affiliated state association; 2) refereed 10 matches — two of which must be semifinals or higher — at AARA sanctioned tournaments (specific information must be recorded on attest card for all matches); 3) attend rules interpretation clinic; 4) receive 80 or higher on written test; 5) receive 55 on practical test (match assessment) during semifinal or final match from two Level I or one Level II or Level III ref.

Level II: 1) membership in the AARA or AARA-affiliated state association; 2) refereed five matches (beyond Level I requirement), two of which must be semifinal or higher and on a final — in A, Open, 25+, 30+ or 35+ divisions in tournament with AARA sanction of 3, 4, 5 or 6; 3) attend clinic; 4) receive 85 on written test; 5) receive 70 from Level II ref on two matches, one a semifinal and one a final.

Level III: 1) membership in AARA or AARA-affiliated state association for at least one year; 2) refereed 10 matches — two of which must be semifinal or higher and on a final — in A, Open, 25+, 30+ or 35+ divisions in tournament with AARA ranking of 3, 4, 5 or 6; 3) attend clinic; 4) receive 92 on written test; 5) receive 80 from appointed Level II referee on two matches, one a semifinal and one a final.

The initial cost of printing the RCF was borne by Divested Products and Penn Athletic Products. More costs are anticipated and some things like videotaped clinic sessions and game situations will be developed for use at the state and national levels.

IS THE WEAKEST PART OF YOUR GAME YOURANKLES?

For many racquetball players their ankle is their Achilles' heel. We give them our support. The new three-quarter height Foot-Joy Tuffs 3Q. A cushioned collar keeps your ankle firmly in place, while an EVA midsole makes light work of every step. Tuffs 3Q. To strengthen your game.

SHOES FOR ATHLETES WHO THINK.

Publish Guidelines for Ref Program

Mike Arnott, National Rules Commissioner, sent the following guidelines to each regional and state director of the AARA. By reprinting them here, it's hoped that any interested individual will understand what the referee certification program is all about.

Guidelines to Begin the Referee Certification Program

Each state director should contact the best qualified individuals within the state for an initial certification meeting to outline and clarify the program, and qualify a core group of referees.

The meeting should include a 100-point multiple choice exam followed by an in-depth review of the questions and answers. (Because it will not be practical to follow the Match Assessment requirements with this initial core, it is important that only those with whom you are knowledgeable (i.e. you should have seen them referee on several occasions) be involved.

Review the test before and then later, with the group for any questions you may want to delete or add.

From this group you should attempt to recruit a couple of qualified people who are willing to conduct clinics and testing in their area of the state.

Your selection process for a clinician should take into consideration: a) Is this person knowledgeable about the rules? b) Is this person articulate enough to disseminate the information? c) Is this person willing to volunteer time each month?

The How, When and Where of Testing

Clinics and written tests may be given at a tournament site, or on a weekend day or evening — or on a week night at the club. If the clinic is given in a club during a week night it may be more convenient, in the interest of time, to give the test and explanation at the same club one week later.

If the clinic is given at the tournament site it can be conducted on the glass court one hour prior to the start of the tournament (normally about 4:00 p.m. on Friday). The test probably can be given conveniently the next day.

What Can I Expect?

Offer the program with the understanding that only the most interested will take part and that not everyone will qualify. Most states will not be inundated with a mass of qualified referees. In Michigan, where the program has been extremely active for more than a year, we have qualified three referees at Level III, five at Level II and about eight at Level I.

Keep the testing stringent (the quality high) and follow the requirements precisely (after qualifying a core) so as not to water down the purpose behind the program — to encourage a high level of officiating. But also, offer the testing and the clinic frequently enough to keep the program before the eye of the racquetball community. IT MUST BE ACTIVE.

I strongly urge adoption of a rebate plan or tournament discount for certified referees. A free tournament entry for the clinician and/or possible reimbursement (including the expense of gasoline from the states association through the certification program).

Most states will probably have a maximum of one to three persons whom you will want or who will be qualified to give the clinic. It can be a time-consuming project.

Only Guidelines

Remember — these are only guidelines. States are expected to use their own ingenuity. If you have found a particularly effective way to implement this program, please share it with the rest of us by contacting me or the National A.A.R.A. Headquarters with your comments.

Happy Racquetballing,

Mike Arnott
411 South Harbour Dr.
Noblesville, IN 46060
ARHS/AARA National Rankings
As of August 1984

Women’s 75+

1. John Thom, FL
2. Eddie McFadden, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Linda Davis, FL
5. Barbara Simon, NY
6. Jenny Carter, FL
7. Carol Haggerty, NY
8. Jill Thompson, FL
9. Kathy Johnston, NY
10. Dean Epperson, FL

Women’s 70-

1. Volt Block, FL
2. Linda Davis, FL
3. Agatha Haines, FL
4. Jennifer Vester, FL
5. Bertie Bishop, NY
6. Judy Brown, NY
7. Kathy Johnston, NY
8. Donna McLain, FL
9. Pat Hays, FL

Women’s 65-

1. Mary Jo Maury, FL
2. Mary McManus, FL
3. Cindy Skinner, FL
4. Lisa Blevins, FL
5. Paula Tomer, NY
6. L. Mower, NY
7. J. Salina, NY
8. Pat Howard, NY
9. tank Jewett, FL
10. Alice Wilson, NY

Women’s 60-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 55-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 50-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 45-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 40-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 35-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 30-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 25-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 20-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 15-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 10-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 5-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 1-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s 0-

1. John Peirce, FL
2. J. Carson, FL
3. Mary Jo Maury, FL
4. Patricia Stein, NY
5. Michaela Gifford, FL
6. Carol Clipp, NY
7. Sally Bishop, NY
8. Linda Barron, NY
9. Karen Tynan, NY
10. Michelle Vandercool, FL

Women’s LIL-CINCHER®

1. "LIL-CINCHER®" was designed to give more freedom to your wrist (lets the twist out). You’ll feel it recapitalize your game, and if you act now you’ll send your pointers on How to Improve your Game.
YOU ALWAYS GIVE YOUR BEST SHOT. THIS IS THE BALL THAT DELIVERS IT.

Consistently, more players choose Penn than all other racquetballs combined.
Consistently, Penn delivers the liveliness and durability you demand.
The Penn® Ultra-Blue racquetball. It always gives your best shot, its best shot.
Demolish your opponent's game with the newest, most advanced racquet in the game— the DP Boron Graphite.

The unique combination of light but powerful boron and durable graphite results in a supremely efficient frame with little vibration. Boron fibers provide increased strength in the areas of greatest stress, and the sunburst string pattern maximizes racquet performance.

The DP Boron Graphite. To demolish, to crush, to kill... To win.
HEAD PUTS POWER IN PERSPECTIVE:

WITH A BIGGER HEAD
Pure power is great stuff. And power is what Head's Apex and Vector are designed for. Their enlarged hitting areas provide Head's biggest sweet spots ever. So you get more power, less vibration and absolutely no mercy on the kill.

But pure power is not always enough. To win, you need control and maneuverability, too. So Head made the Apex and Vector not only bigger, but faster, stiffer and stronger as well.

WITH A QUICKER PROFILE
See how air flows easily around Head's aerodynamically slick frame. That reduced wind resistance gives you split-second responsiveness and maneuverability. So you can surprise your opponent with a drive, a pinch or an unexpected cut-off. And nothing overpowers like a surprise.

WITH A STIFFER FRAME
Head's stiffer frames help you overpower your opponents with accuracy. You see, the ball follows a truer, more accurate path as it rebounds off the face of a stiff racquet. So you get great placement control. That means more drives go right down the line and more pinches end up as winners, time after time.

WITH A STRONGER DESIGN
You're looking at Head's integrated throat design. It provides built-in reinforcement against twisting. So when you're forced to hit a tough shot off-center, it helps you turn a bare save into a winner. Now that's a powerful advantage.

IT ALL ADDS UP TO WINNING PERFORMANCE
Visit your Head dealer soon. Try a Graphite Apex or Head Vector and see how a bigger sweet spot, a slicker profile and firmer frame can help you overpower your opponents with finesse as well as force.

We want you to win.
November 11-18
Leigh Valley Open (3)
Allentown Racquetball Club
Allentown, PA 18101
Mary Maguire
215-821-1300
November 19-21
Fall Racquetball Classic (3)
Eastern Athletic Club
2952 State Highway 74
Evergreen, CO 80439
Barry Rock
703-874-6902
November 22-25
Racquetball West Tournament (3)
South Bay Racquetball Club
7777 SW 35th St.
Dave, FL 33126
Tampa
TRAC
2932 State Highway 74
Evergreen Athletic Club
Evergreen, CO 80439
Jim Hiser
5675 Carmichael Pkwy.
Montgomery, AL 36017
205-277-1310

December
December 3-7
Hollywood Classic (3)
Plaza Athletic Club
560 N. Pacific Hwy.
Albuquerque, NM 87112

December 6-10
Swingers #5
Martin's Women's Open, A,B,C (3)
International Athletic Club
1600 W 8th
Denver, CO 80202
Cynthia Howard

December 9-13
Christmas Classic (3)
continued from previous weekend
Schreiber's Racquetball Club
534 Owen Dr.
Cooper City, FL 33026
Marketing Championships Series #4
Grand Blanc Racquet Club
Michigan

December 10-14
March of Dimes Classic (3)
Court South
1955 El Camino Real
Sunnyvale, CA 94089

December 14-16
King Court Racquet Club
5875 Carmichael Pkwy.

December 17-20
First Annual St. Valentine's Day Open (3)
STBA

January 3-6
New Mexico Invitational (3)
San Juan Racquet Club
Santa Fe, NM 87503

January 6-9
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)
Sports World/Bannock Civitan (3)

January 8-10
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)
Sports World/Bannock Civitan (3)

January 9-10
Racquetball Classic (3)

January 9-13
New Mexico Invitational (3)

January 10-13
National Singles Championships, the
National Junior and Adult Doubles (3)

January 10-14
Super 7

January 11-13
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

January 13-18
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

January 13-14
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

January 14-17
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)

January 15-17
The Works (3)

January 15-18
Racquetball Classic (3)

January 16-19
Racquetball Classic (3)

January 16-20
Racquetball Classic (3)

January 17-20
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

January 17-21
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)

January 18-20
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)

January 22-23
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)

January 25-27
Grand Rapids Petrosa Tour #3
Michigan
Lee Fredrickson
(616) 872-7750

February 7-10
Supreme Courts Open
Supreme Courts Racquet & Health Club
4900 Prospect Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

February 8-10
Open Tournament (3)
Racquetball Classic (3)

February 9-13
Santa Fe Holiday Classic (3)

February 9-15
U.S. National Women's Invitational (5)

February 10-13
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

February 10-17
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

February 11-14
National Senior Women's Championships (3)

February 11-15
National Senior Women's Championships (3)
Once in every player's lifetime, something comes along that changes everything.

50% Greater Coverage
In the same way that "oversized" tennis racquets dramatically changed the game for millions of tennis players, Ektelon's new "oversized" MACRO™ SERIES racquets are going to change the game of racquetball for you. From the moment you pick it up, you'll hit winners on balls you're not even getting to now.

80% Bigger Sweet Spot
Longer. Wider. And located further from your hand than with standard-sized racquets—out where tests prove you hit balls the most. It means more powerful, more accurate shots a lot more often.

Actually Lighter Than Many "Standard-Sized" Racquets
As a result of exclusive new high-strength, aerodynamic aluminum alloys, the MACRO is extremely easy to swing and weighs only 246 grams. Which is, very possibly, lighter than the racquet you're using now. It's time for a change!

The MACRO Racquets
Patent pending

Actual size