



## Message from the President

Dear IRF members,

I hope everyone has recovered from their trip to Korea. It was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to see such a beautiful country and also be able to participate in the 12<sup>th</sup> IRF World Championships.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the organizing committee in Korea for their efforts. I also want to personally thank my friend Young-sang Hong for his direction and leadership with this event. Most of us realize that it is not easy to be responsible for a tournament of this size and magnitude. We will all have positive memories of our stay in Korea. I thought the quality of play, sportsmanship and respect was at an all time level. My congratulations to the United States for winning the individual and team titles.

Everyone who attends a World Championship event knows that they must come prepared to play every match in order to be successful. I also realize that making the trip was difficult on some countries. Thank you for supporting the IRF and this tournament. It was also wonderful to see some new teams at the event. The three men who represented Tonga were a special delight throughout the week. I would like to congratulate the new officers of the International Federation. We have two new individual on the Executive Board. Lucy Zachrisson, Guatemala, and Rafael Fernandez from Dominican Republic. I would also like to thank Angela Grisar Martinez for her service on the Executive Board.

Keith Calkins  
IRF President

## „GOOD BYE 2004 ANYANG SEE YOU DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2006“



Picture: Usher Barnoff

## MAJOR SUCCESS FOR TEAM USA IN KOREA!!

A major success for TEAM USA at the 12th IRF World Championships in Anyang, Korea this year. For the third time in international racquetball, the US team was able to win all individual and the men & women team titles. Canada placed second before the Mexican team.

For the first time in international history the Racquetball World Championships have been held in Asia.

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# IRF WORLD Championships

Anyang, South Korea

## individual world title matches

**men's singles:** Jack Huczek (USA) def. Alvaro Beltran (Mexico) 15-2, 15-3

**men's doubles:** Shane Vanderson/Mike Dennison (USA) def. Javier Moreno/ Polo Gutierrez (Mexico) 15-8, 11-15, 11-6

**women's singles:** Cheryl Gudinas (USA) def. Angela Grisar (Chile) 15-3, 15-7

**women's doubles:** Jackie Rice/Kim Russell (USA) def. Suzy Acosta /Rosy Torres

## team finishes

### Men's Team

1. United States
2. Canada
3. Mexico
4. Venezuela
5. Argentina
6. India
7. Bolivia
8. Chile
9. Ecuador
10. Japan
11. Guatemala
12. Netherlands
13. Germany
14. Korea
15. Dominican Republic
16. Puerto Rico
17. Tonga

### Women's Team

1. United States
2. Canada
3. Chile
4. Mexico
5. Japan
6. Bolivia
7. Korea
8. Puerto Rico
9. Guatemala
10. Dominican Republic
11. Venezuela
12. Vietnam
13. Ecuador
14. India

### Overall

1. United States
2. Canada
3. Mexico
4. Chile
5. Bolivia
6. Venezuela
7. Japan
8. India
9. Korea
10. Ecuador
10. Guatemala
12. Dominican Republic
13. Puerto Rico
14. Argentina
15. Netherlands
16. Vietnam
17. Germany
18. Tonga
19. Belize
20. Montserrat
21. Peru
22. Panama
23. Belgium
23. France
25. Philippines
25. China
27. Ukraine
28. Brazil
28. Switzerland

Great memories and wonderful moments. The World Championships in Anyang, Korea have been successful and enjoyable for everyone. Things like food, weather, people have been different to other Worlds in the past but there were also great games, lots of friendship and enthusiasm on the courts in Anyang which will be memorable for the years to come. The IRF thanks all participating national teams for their outstanding performance!



Here are some impressions of the Worlds 2004. You can find more pictures on the web.

On behalf of the Dominican Racquetball Federation, Inc. I want to congratulate each one of you and specially Mr. Hong and the Local Organizing Committee for the successful XII World Championship held in Korea.

It is important to realize the effort that an event of this size requires to be set up and more important that we have in our history twelve (12) consecutive ones.

We promise the IRF Board that we will implement our best effort to make the XIII World Championship in 2006 to be held in Santo Domingo an icon on sports events that will make us proud.

Our best wishes to all

Rafael A. Fernandez  
President  
Dominican Racquetball  
Federation, Inc.





Picture: Mike Mesecke IRF members countries and representatives at the IRF World Congress

## World Congress Anyang, South Korea

The 12th IRF World Congress took also place in Korea this year. The members only meet every two years and this year was election year. While most officers were seeking re-election, Lucy Zachrisson from Guatemala succeeded Angela Grisar from Chile as Vice President for Womens development. While Enrique Villagran was not available for re-election as VP Central America/ Caribbean, Rafael Fernandez (Dom. Republic) was elected as new Regional Vice President. The Executive Committee will serve for a 4-year-term and already worked on some very important issues for the worldwide development of our sport. There is a lot to be done. Stay tuned!

## G. Mazaroff and M. Mesecke received Presidential Awards

## .....more recognitions

By Keith Calkins

By Keith Calkins



Picture: Osvaldo Maggi

**Gary Mazaroff (USA)** has organized the smaller countries of the World and provided many players an opportunity to attend the World Championships. Many of them have been assisted by funds raised at the World Seniors Tournament. Gary has been a major part of the Organizing Committee of that event since it was started. Gary also had provided leadership in the teaching and coaching programs of the IRF. His commitment to the IRF has been outstanding.

At the banquet on Saturday night I announced some players who had attended several World Championships. I missed some players and would like to up-date the list at this time.



Picture: Osvaldo Maggi

**Mike Mesecke (Germany)** has been an International leader for Racquetball for many years. He has represented the IRF at major International Sports Meetings. He also has taken over the IRF web site and newsletter. Both of these tasks have been done with remarkable professionalism. It has given the IRF a major voice in the World of Sports Communication and provided all members and opportunity to stay connected on a daily basis. This is a major break through for the IRF as we move forward.

Four players, **Hiroimi Miyamote** (Japan), **Jackie Rice** (USA), **Josee GrandMaitre** (Canada), and also **Jorge Hirsekorn** (Venezuela) have all participated in eight World Championships. Another four players, **Lily Geyer**, (Venezuela), **Richard Doezum** (The Netherlands) and **Trevor Meyer** and **Joachim Loof** (both Germany) have been to seven Worlds.

These are terrific athletes who we need to recognize.

# Racquetball and Television

by Luke St. Onge



Recently the IRF announced the signing of an agreement with The Tennis Channel to broadcast major IRF events.



This has been a very important development for our sport. Without television a sport cannot be successful in today's sports market. The IRF now has US National Television Network to showcase it's events. Few, if any, of the smaller IOC Recognized Sports have such an agreement with a major network. Plans with TTC to go international should begin in 2005.

Two key individuals have worked together to allow us to be part of their network. We first met Bruce Rider, Executive Vice President of TTC, at the Racquetball Summit that was held in Colorado Springs in 2003. Mr. Rider showed interest in broadcasting high quality Racquetball on

TTC . He was very interested in the International flavor which he thought that would be excellent programming for the TTC viewers.

It then became a challenge for the IRF to find a high quality producer who would work with us at a cost that we could afford.

Enter Dan Cochell of Adelphia/Sports in Colorado Springs. Dan Cochell broadcasts local sports in the Colorado Springs area--likes racquetball and wanted to help us with TTC. Dan broadcast a local event--The Lynmar Classic--and sent it to TTC for Broadcasting. TTC liked the production , liked Dan Cochell, and was interested in a long term agreement with the International Racquetball Federation. Dan Cochell signed an agreement with the IRF and TTC to provide product to TTC through 2009. The IRF in turn signed an agreement with TTC to provide properties and events through 2009.

Our first major broadcast was to be The IRF World Championships slated for August in Anyang, Korea. Dan brought all of his own equipment, staff, and we ended up with over 8 hours of high quality production that will begin to air in October. Other events to be broadcast on a yearly basis is the IRF Junior World Championships (Mexico), Pan American championships (Venezuela), special events of the IRF, and the IRF World Championships held every two years. These broadcasts will be



## The IRF Executive Committee

### President

Keith D. Calkins (USA)

### Executive Vice President

Erik Meyer (Belgium)

### Treasurer

Oswaldo Maggi (Argentina)

### Vice President

Young-Sang Hong (Korea)

### Vice President

Rafael Fernandez (Dom. Republic)

### Vice President

Mike Mesecke (Germany)

### Vice President

Usher Barnoff (Canada)

### Vice President

Manuel Medina (Venezuela)

### Secretary General

Luke St. Onge (USA)

### Vice President, Women's Development

Rosy Torres (Mexico)

Lucy Zachrisson (Guatemala)

held in conjunction with the U S Open TTC broadcast.

Plans are in the works to begin an instructional series for Racquetball plus half hour Racquetball shows featuring celebrities, pros, and current events. Sales of IRF events will also be available through E-Commerce.

You can help this great effort by subscribing to TTC and if you do not have it in your area or in your country go to TTC web site at [www.thetennischannel.com](http://www.thetennischannel.com) and ask how you can help spread the word.

## New Rules!!

by Usher Barnoff

At the World Championships in Korea the World Congress accepted two new rule changes as well as recommendations affecting the testing and suggestions for rules to be incorporated before the next World Championships in 2006. Rule changes will be discussed below.

### Rule Changes:

(for exact wording please refer to the IRF rule book online)

#### Delay of Game (Revised Rule 3.17.a.6.iv) (New Rule 3.17.a.6.v)

There will no longer be a technical given for delay of game when a player calls a time out when there is none remaining. We will only issue a warning if the player returns to play immediately, but if this infraction occurs again in the same game then a technical (-1) will be given.

#### Warm-up Time Limit (New Rule 3.17.a.6.vi)

A time limit has been set for the warm-up at the start of the game. When the referee arrives at the court and the court is clear from the last match the referee may request the players commence warm-up 10 minutes before game time so that the match will be able to start as scheduled. If the court is not clear from the previous match until after the next scheduled time the warm-up will commence immediately when the court is available.

In singles, the players will be given five minutes to warm-up. They are required to share this time (i.e. they do not get four minutes each on the court alone). In doubles, each team will be given four minutes to warm up.

#### Note:

No player or team will be required by the rules to start a match before the scheduled time. Players are expected to have completed the main part of their warm-up procedure before reporting to the court.

### Other suggestions (not rule changes!!)

#### Win by Two:

The IRF is considering adopting a win by two point format that Canada uses. It has increased the excitement level for spectators, sponsors and the game in general. Also, it has been found to add very little additional time to a tournament as the percentage of games that do reach 14-14 or 10-10 in the tiebreaker are less than 8 percent. This statistic has been verified over the last four years. The positive increased excitement is a major benefit to the viewing of our sport.

#### The Format:

For 15 point games the game must be won by two points up to a maximum of 21 points. In an 11 point game the maximum would be 15.

Feedback would be appreciated after some trial tournaments. The Technical Committee will then bring their recommendation to the Executive committee for possible adoption in 2006.

Download the 2004-2006 IRF Rules at:  
[www.internationalracquetball.com/IRFRules2004-2006.pdf](http://www.internationalracquetball.com/IRFRules2004-2006.pdf)

## IRT News



Picture: HEAD

Sudsy Monchik (USA), a 5-time No. 1 in the world's professional tour, has made the decision to officially retire from professional racquetball, effective immediately. "I have always had a dream of starting my own business, and I am planning on pursuing that goal with the same enthusiasm and commitment that I made to my professional racquetball career", he said. Monchik is also a 3-time IRF World Junior Champion.

See also Sudsy's website at [www.sudsyrules.com](http://www.sudsyrules.com)

## From around the world

### **Ireland**

The AGM of the Racquetball Association of Ireland was held over the weekend. The new President is Pat Keane(29) from the Touraneena club in Co Waterford. Former President Gary Lynch from the Queens club in Belfast was elected as the new General Secretary while the new Treasurer is Eleanor Hickey also from the Touraneena club.

### **USA**

USA Racquetball asked it's members for support to maintain USOC funding and the position within the Olympic Committee. The constitution is being rewritten and it needs to be assured that Pan Am only (racquetball) sports are included in the new constitution. To do this USRA members were asked to send a letter to their representatives.

### **Colombia**

The Colombian Racquetball Federation sent out the invitation for the Torneo Nacional de Racquetball which will be held at Club Deportivo Cañasgordas in Santiago de Cali. Download the entry form here. Download it on the IRF website

### **El Salvador**

It is confirmed that in El Salvador, Central America, three courts will be build by the end of the year at the Bally Club. The Bally Club has 1500 active members and may possibly bring many new players to the racquetball world.

### **Germany**

Germany's No. 1 Martin Klippel won the season's first ERT event in his home club in Hamburg. He defeated Joachim Loof, the European Singles Champion 15-9, 15-7. Yvonne Kortess defended her title in the womens division.

## From around the world

### **Ireland**

Check out [www.racquetball-ireland.com](http://www.racquetball-ireland.com) to find out more about our sport in Ireland. Michael Haverty from Castlebar is also in charge of the web content.

### **Netherlands**

The 19th Dutch Autumn Open 2004 will be the second event of the European Racquetball Tour (ERT) on October 9-10. The event will be held in two clubs, one in Zoetermeer (De Leyens Club) and one in The Hague (Westvliet Club). Entry deadline is October 5th. See [www.racquetball.nl](http://www.racquetball.nl) for more details.

### **Chile**

The Chilean Racquetball Federation has elected a new President: Mr. Rubén Contreras chairs the executive board of Racquetball Chile now.

### **Mexico**

Some pictures of the Junior Worlds 2004 site have been published on the IRF website. Check them out.

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**For more news check out**  
[www.internationalracquetball.com](http://www.internationalracquetball.com)

## **IRF NEWS**

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# IRF adopts „Australian Racquetball“ as official discipline

by Mike Mesecke

The IRF has adopted "Australian Racquetball" as a new IRF discipline. The Australian version of Racquetball joins other disciplines such as One-Wall, Three-Wall-Outdoor and One-Wall-Outdoor competitions.

"Australian Racquetball" has been played for many years already in many countries where the most popular 4 wall game has not been introduced enough or at all.

The discipline serves as an alternative for Racquetball enthusiasts around the world. "Australian Racquetball" is Racquetball played on an International Squash Court using an extra slow Racquetball and a regulation Racquetball Racquet.

This discipline is very popular in Great Britain and in Spain as well. Players competing in this discipline have already participated in the IRF World Championships in recent years.



Picture: Matt Ahern, Australia

## We need you!!

Yes, the IRF needs you, not only for the development of our great sport in your area. We also need your contribution to our ongoing efforts to establish a better communication between the IRF, it's members and the major sports organizations that the IRF is affiliated with.

*What's your job?*

Send us any news or information, any tournament result or date that we may be able to include in the website information service or in this newsletter. Nothing is perfect yet but you can help to make a difference for the sport!!

-Editor

## Official IRF Partners

The IRF is proud to name Ektelon, Lawlersports and ProPenn and the TTC the Official Partners of the International Racquetball Federation





# IRF WORLD Seniors

Albuquerque, NM USA

In the recent World Senior Racquetball Championships, with the special promotional Retro Doubles event, there were in excess of 250 players. The players represented over 30 US States and 9 other countries: USA, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Argentina, Colombia, Germany, Ireland, England, Philippines.

## Men Final Matches/Positions

- 35+** Doug Ganim (USA) def. Fabian Parrilla (Mexico)
- 40+** Dave Watson (USA) def. Oscar Fierro (Mexico) 4, (8), 4
- 45+** Tom Neill (USA) def. Steve Wattz (USA) 3, 0
- 50+** John Vohland (USA) def. Russ Palazzo (USA) 10, 6
- 55+** Hasty (USA) def. Bill Welaj (USA) 5, 2
- 60+** Glenn Allen (USA) def. Mitch Milewski (USA) 9, 7
- 65+** Michael Jackson (ENG) def. Rex Lawler (USA)
- 70+** Toby DeCesare (USA) def. Aaron Vederoff (USA)
- 75+** Duane Russell (USA) def. Joe Lambert (USA)
- 80+** Robert McAdam (USA) def. Sam Harry (USA)
- 85+** Earl Acuff (USA)

## Women Final Matches/Positions

- 35+** Genevieve Washington (USA) def. Francis Borunda (USA) 1, 4
- 40+** Lorraine Galloway (USA) def. Deborah Kessler (Costa Rica)
- 45+** Debra Tisinger (USA) def. Cheryl Johnson (USA)
- 50+** Karen Key (USA) def. Joanne Pomodoro (USA)
- 55+** Linda Neel (USA) def. Dee Stribling (USA) 5, 8
- 60+** Cecelia Palaski (USA) 65+ Annabelle Kovar (USA)
- 70+** Lola Markus (USA) def. Louise Kiss (USA)
- 85+** Mary Low Acuff (USA)

Pictures: Joel Gellman (USA)



Winners in the 55+ divisions:  
Charles Lew, Greg Hastey, Bill Welaj



Winners in the 70+ division:  
Louis Kiss & Lola Markus



Winners in the 85+ divisions:  
Mary Low and Earl Acuff

**For complete list of finishers:**  
[www.internationalracquetball.com](http://www.internationalracquetball.com)



# IRF WORLD Juniors

**DECEMBER 17-21, 2004**

**LA LOMA CENTRO DEPORTIVO**

**Av. De la Victoria # 100**

**Fracc. La Loma San Luis Potosi SLP CP 78216  
Mexico**



• **ENTRY FEE:** \$70.00 First event, 35.00 Second event, \$35.00 third event (mixed doubles only).

• **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Entry must be received by *Friday, November 26* (post-marked no later than 11/22). Only pre-paid entries are placed into the draw – all entries are final – no refunds after the deadline date.

• **LATE FEES:** Any payments received after the deadline will be assessed a \$20.00 late fee.

• **ADDITIONAL FEES:** Returned checks for payment will be surcharged \$23.00, and \$10.00 will be added for declined credit card charges.

• **STARTING TIMES:** Starting times will be available after 12:00 noon on *Wednesday, December 15*. Please do not call the IRF office for starting times!... Check the IRF website [www.internationalracquetball.com](http://www.internationalracquetball.com)

• **CHECK IN:** Registration will be held at the club from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursday, and 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Friday.

• **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Usher Barnoff, IRF Technical Director @ 1-403-605-5951.

• **COACHES & PARENTS MEETING:** A meeting for coaches and parents will be held at the club. Check at the registration desk, on arrival, for details.

• **Age & Citizenship Requirement** • Players must meet the proper age requirements as of January 1 of the current event year. All entrants must be in good standing with the IRF federation of the country for which they compete and either have a valid passport or meet the eligibility requirements of their respective national Olympic Committees.

• **Membership** • National association membership is required of all participants. At the time of registration entrants must present a current membership card, a receipt, or a cancelled check (indicating recent enrollment) as proof of membership.

• **JUNIOR CODE OF CONDUCT** • All participants and chaperones will be asked to sign an official Code of Conduct upon registering for the tournament. In brief, the Code of Conduct states:

1. A nightly "in room" curfew of 11 p.m., unless accompanied by chaperone;
2. There will be no possession or use of alcoholic beverages at the tournament sites or host motel;
3. Any physical damage to a room or loss of non-perishable items in the room (i.e., towels, lamps, etc) will be paid for by those participants assigned to the room in which the damage or loss occurs;
4. *Unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated, for example — a) Any act considered to be an offense under federal, state, local, and IRF laws/rules. b) Gross misconduct (i.e. inappropriate horseplay, stealing, etc.) c) Unsportsmanlike conduct.*

**PENALTIES** — Violation of the Code of Conduct may result in:

1. Full or partial restriction of movement at the tournament;
2. Written report to the Executive and Disciplinary Committees for further action;
3. Loss of opportunity to participate in future IRF programs;
4. Expulsion from tournament and return home at own expense. For further information, contact the tournament director.

**Download complete entry form at:**

[http://www.internationalracquetball.com/events04/04irf\\_jrs1.htm](http://www.internationalracquetball.com/events04/04irf_jrs1.htm)

## IRF Calendar of Events

### 2004

Date	Event	Site	Country
Oct	14th Asia Championships	TBA	
Oct 9-10	Autumn Open	Zoetermeer	Netherlands
Oct 9-23	6to Torneo Nacional Singles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Oct 14-18	Torneo Nacional de Racquetball	Santiago de Cali	Colombia
Oct 25-30	6to Torneo Nacional Dobles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Oct 28-31	Torneo de Aniversario del Palestino Libanes	San Luis Potosi	Mexico
Nov 4-7	3er Campeonato Nacional	Quito	Ecuador
Nov 7	4to Torneo New Generation	San Jose	Costa Rica
Nov 13-20	7to Torneo Nacional Singles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Nov 20-21	Antwerp Open	Antwerp	Belgium
Nov 17-21	The Choice Hotels 9th US OPEN 2004	Memphis, TN	USA
Nov 22-27	7to Torneo Nacional Dobles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Nov 26-28	3rd UK Open	Alconbury	England
Dec	Korea Championships		South Korea
Dec 16-21	IRF 16th World Junior Championships	San Luis Potosi	Mexico

### 2005

Date	Event	Site	Country
Jan	French Open 2005	Paris	France
Jan 14-16	National Team Selection DOUBLES	Calgary	Canada
Jan 28-30	24th German National Championships	Hamburg	Germany
Jan 29	English National Championships 2005	Alconbury	England
Feb 4-6	National Team Selection SINGLES	Brossard	Canada
Feb 25-27	Victoria Open	Victoria	Canada
Mar	Dutch Open	Zoetermeer	Netherlands
Apr	18th Pan American Championships	Caracas	Venezuela
Apr 01-02	Nova Scotia Open	Halifax	Canada
Apr 01-03	23rd German Open 2005	Hamburg	Germany
Apr 23-25	3rd English Open	Rendlesham	England
Apr 26-30	Junior National Championships	Winnipeg	Canada
May	Japan Open 2005	Tokyo	Japan
May 23-28	Canadian National Championships	Regina	Canada
May	38th US National Singles	Houston, TX	USA
Apr 29-May 2	Arklow Irish Open	Arklow	Ireland
May 14-15	Belgian Open	Antwerp	Belgium
Aug	IRF 17th World Senior Championships	Albuquerque	USA
Sep	22nd Hamburg Open	Hamburg	Germany
Sep	38th U.S. National Doubles	Tempe, AZ	USA
Oct	Autumn Open	Zoetermeer	Netherlands
Nov	Antwerp Open	Antwerp	Belgium
Nov	The Choice Hotels 10th US OPEN 2005	Memphis, TN	USA
Nov	4th UK Open	Alconbury	England
Dec	IRF 17th World Junior Championships	San Luis Potosi	Mexico

Check out [www.internationalracquetball.com](http://www.internationalracquetball.com) for regular event updates

### To all IRF Members:

*Please send in your tentative event schedules 2005 for inclusion into the worldwide IRF Calendar of events. This Calendar lives from your submissions!!*

## Sad news from Europe

by Erik Meyer,  
ERF President

Just before publishing this newsletter we received the sad news of the tragic death of Jeanette Matla, wife of Karel Matla, President of the Dutch Racquetball Federation and mother of Pascal and Chantal.

Her passing away shocked our little European racquetball community.

She, together with her family, was "Mrs-Tournament-Desk" at every major Dutch tournament. Always there to help, always a kind word after a lost match or a cheer after a win.

On behalf of the International and European Racquetball Federation I would like to offer our condolences to Karel, Pascal and Chantal and I sincerely hope that the Matla family can find strength to get through these difficult days.



## WADA NEWS

News from the World Anti-Doping Agency: The 2005 Prohibited List (to come into effect on January 1, 2005) is now available on the WADA website [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org), together with a Summary of Modifications for 2005 and the 2005 Monitoring Program. The IRF voted this summer to be part of WADA and has implemented it's regulation into the constitution.

The International Racquetball Federation (IRF)  
is affiliated to the following organizations:



General Association  
of International Sports  
Federations



International Olympic Committee



International  
World Games  
Association