

SEATTLE SQUASH

SSRA NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 1992

SSRA NEWSLETTER

The Seattle Squash Racquets Association is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the promotion of the sport of squash racquets. Dues are \$35 per year. Included is a group membership in the USSRA. Other benefits are newsletters, SSRA Yearbooks, tournament schedules, the Annual USSRA Yearbook, and national ranking eligibility. The membership year is May 1-April 30. Membership information may be obtained from any officer.

Officers

Hilary Thomas, President	Tel. 525-8267
Susan Lehr, Vice-President-Competition	Tel. 453-9800
Dave Kinnaird, Vice-President-Promotion	Tel. 775-0444
Dick Daly, Secretary	Tel. 232-6377
John Weller, Treasurer	Tel. 682-8079

COMING UP

DECEMBER

4-6 Northgate C/D, SAC, Seattle
4-6 Jericho Vets & Masters, Vancouver

JANUARY 1993

8-10 Pacific Coast Doubles, Multnomah A.C.
Portland
15-17 Seattle Open, Seattle Club
29-31 B.C. Grand Prix #4, Tower Courts,
Vancouver, B.C.

FEBRUARY

1-5 Washington Athletic Club (Closed),
WAC, Seattle
1-5 Seattle Athletic Club (Closed)
12-14 B.C. Open (B.C. Grand Prix #5),
Supercourt, Richmond, B.C.
19-21 Evergreen Vets Open, Evergreen,
Vancouver
26-28 Greater Puget Sound Champs, Tacoma
YMCA/TLTC, Tacoma

March

12-14 Pacific Coast Open, Chancery Place Club,
Vancouver
19-21 Washington State Open, Seattle Club,
Seattle
26-28 B.C. Championships, B.C. G.P.#6,
Vancouver Racquets Club, Vancouver

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NOTICE

Your editors, Mary and Dick Daly, are in Arizona for the winter. We are publishing SEATTLE SQUASH from Mesa. Our contact for phone or faxes is 602-981-7525. The mailing address is:

R.H. Daly
2467 Leisure World
Mesa, Arizona 85206-5414

GATEWAY CLUB OPENS

NEW PRO SIGNED

There was a new development for Seattle Squash with the opening of the Gateway Athletic Club in late October. The new facility, located on the 14th floor of the AT&T Gateway Building, boasts three international courts with glass back walls, and a house-full of new, state-of-the-art athletic training equipment.

Sally Sullivan, Marketing Director, informs us that the club has hired professional Paul Assaiante, from Baltimore. Assaiante has been Director of Racquet Sports at West Point, Williams College, the Apawamis Club, and most recently, the Baltimore Country Club.

The Gateway is offering a special promotion for SSRA members. To the first 100 SSRA members who join the Gateway A.C., the club is offering a free Ektelon 700 Series squash racquet and a free half-hour squash lesson with Paul Assaiante. If an SSRA member introduces a non-SSRA player to membership in the Gateway A.C., the club will provide the new member with the same racquet and lesson offer, as well as pay their first year dues in the Seattle Squash Racquets Association. As thanks to the present SSRA member for the new membership, the Gateway Athletic Club will pay his or her SSRA dues for the following year.

In addition to his full time status at the Gateway A.C., Assaiante will fill a part time niche at the Bellevue Athletic Club. The SSRA welcomes both the Gateway Athletic Club and Paul Assaiante.

SEATTLE CLUB IN-HOUSE

by Ayub Khan

A record 135 players competed in the Seattle Club In-House Club Championship, Nov. 9-13. In Men's A, Chris Burrows defeated Hugh LaBossier, 3-1. After splitting the first two games, Chris attacked with low hard-hit shots. Peter Langmaid made a fine showing taking out the No. 2 seed, Tony Halstead, in the second round, 3-2. He then proceeded to another tough 3-2 match over Stew Domeier. In the semi-final, Peter succumbed to Hugh LaBossier, 3-1. Last time's runner-up, Tony Halstead, won the consolation.

Tournament directors were pleased with the 15 entrant turnout in the Men's B draw. Mark Lanning emerged the victor after surviving a tough 3-2 match with Mark Stauffer. Down 2-1, he fought back to finish 9-3 in the fifth. Jeff Borek won the consolation.

Cindy Merritt had a fine showing in Women's B. First round, she eliminated Laura Reynolds 3-1 and then sent No. 1 seed Kate Reinweston to the consolation round by her 3-2 victory. While Kate won the consolation, Cindy didn't hold back in the finals, where she snatched victory from Susan Lehr in a 3-2 final.

Other winners: Dave Mullens, MB-40; Shabana Khan, W-A; Donna Massoth, W-C; finalists: Ralph Dunmore, MB-40; Jim Kraft M-D; Latoshya Khan, W-A, and Karen Beaudry, W-C.

In the club's junior round robin, the kids showed great enthusiasm, even refereeing their matches and gaining experience with LET calls.

COMING UP

Continued from page 1

APRIL

16-18 Pacific Coast Championships,
Orange County, California

23-25 Pacific Rim, Nautilus Club,
Victoria, B.C.

26-30 Seattle Club In-House
(Closed), Seattle Club, Seattle

MAY

21-23 Seattle City Championships,
Washington Athletic Club, Seattle

SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

by Hilary Thomas

The SSRA is showing four sanctioned tournaments on the schedule this season: the **Seattle Open**, the **Greater Puget Sound Tournament**, the **Washington State Championships**, and the **Seattle City Championships**. By special arrangement, the USSRA has agreed to sanction these tournaments for a designated, one-time fee, in order to help promote interest in tournament play in the Seattle area. The normal arrangement requires the payment of a fee for each sanctioned tournament; this fee varies depending on the number of divisions played in the tournament.

Playing in sanctioned tournaments significantly increases a player's chances of being ranked nationally in his or her division. It also enhances a player's ranking among all players competing in the Pacific Northwest. The USSRA guidelines for ranking in soft ball play are as follows: **Men's Soft Ball** - "To be considered for national ranking, a player must gain the semi-finals of the Nationals; or, **Men's A**: play three Open or A events (but no B or C or D) or Open event (but no B,C, or D); **Men's B,C,D**: must play in the Nationals and one other event, or two other events in ability level, but will be ranked only at level played in Nationals; **Men's age groups**: must play in

the Nationals and one other, or two others in age group. **Women's Soft Ball**: must play in the Nationals, and other tournaments will be considered. If no Nationals, at least two other events must be played."

Ed. Note: Two additional factors affect national ranking eligibility: (1) All players to be ranked must be USSRA members; and (2) All tournaments must be sanctioned.

YEARBOOKS DISTRIBUTED

Last month we printed and distributed the 1992-1993 SSRA Annual Yearbook. The publication was mailed to all SSRA members in good standing and includes the names of all SSRA member clubs, the officers of the SSRA, the Board of Trustees, past presidents, Seattle's squash professionals, honorary members, SSRA officials, certified referees, Seattle's national champions, and a directory of 32 area clubs.

This yearbook also shows rankings for 1991-92 and assigns rankings for the 1992-93 season. The SSRA ranking committee has included a statement explaining the policy for establishing rankings, ranking points, tournament weighting and other ranking details.

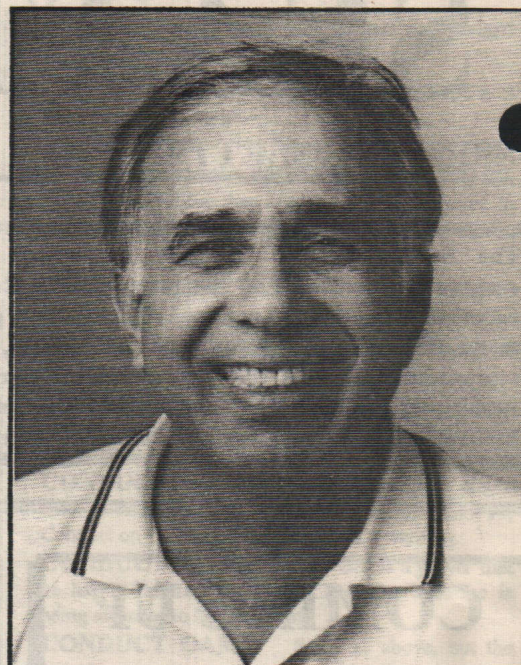
Members who did not get a copy, or who need an extra copy, may request it from Dick Daly by telephone or post card.

Address is 2467 Leisure World, Mesa, AZ 85206-5414; tel. 602-981-7525.

JUNIOR PROGRAM

by Hilary Thomas

The SSRA Junior Program will start at the **Seattle Athletic Club** in January for 12 middle school students from one of Seattle's public schools. The program will be coached by a public school physical education teacher, Dan Costigan, and **Bruce Vinsonhaler** will give special instruction to the juniors every other week or so. The



TWENTY FIVE YEARS

Pictured above, renowned Seattle Squash Pro **Yusuf Khan**, as he approaches twenty-five years in Seattle. Coming to the Seattle Tennis Club in June, 1968, Yusuf subsequently taught at the **College Club** and the **Washington Athletic Club**. For many years he managed the club at Tennis World, later the Seattle Racquets Club where he taught tennis and squash. In recent years, Yusuf and his family of professionals, have managed the squash program at the **Seattle Club**, where he has assembled the largest contingent of soft ball players west of the Mississippi. The squash community salutes **Yusuf Khan** on the occasion of this major milestone for him and for northwest squash.

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USSRA has generously loaned racquets and eye guards for the program, in addition to helping subsidize the cost of the program. Without the support of the USSRA, the SSRA would not be able to sponsor this new program. Unfortunately, due to shortage of funds, the SSRA will not be able to start a junior program at the **Washington Athletic Club** soon. We are planning a program there for either later this season or for next year.

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PUBLICATION DATA

SEATTLE SQUASH is published six times a year. Editors are Mary and Dick Daly. Tel. 206-232-6377 or 602 981-7525. Subscription is \$10 per year or free with SSRA membership.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send notice of change of address to SSRA, c/o Dick Daly, 2824 61st Ave., SE Mercer Island, WA 98040-2425. Please include new phone numbers.

OREGON STATE SINGLES

A number of Seattle area players participated in the Oregon State Singles Championships at the Multnomah A. C. in Portland in mid-November. Among them were Stew Domeier, Carlos Welsh and son Chaz, Wade Overson, Mike Greenleaf, Terry Korotzer, Chip Kohr, Hilary Thomas and Sharon Montoya Welsh. Guy Vernon, now living in Bend, also played in the tournament. SAC pro Bruce Vinsonhaler also was there, but did not compete due to an injury. Although reports of the results are sketchy, here are some results available at press time.

Stew Domeier lost to Chip Kohr in the main draw of the Men's Class B, 3-2, and Chip, not a SSRA member, lost in the finals. (Friends should tell Chip about the SSRA; all the best players belong).

Mike Greenleaf lost a tough match in the finals of the Men's 40+. Guy Vernon had to default to Terry Korotzer in the Men's B consolation due to an injured foot. Terry lost in a later round of the consolation. In the Men's C, Wade Overson lost in the semi-finals to the ultimate winner of the division, 3-1, who beat Hilary Thomas in the finals.

The tournament was sponsored by Dunlop.

MARK TALBOTT COMING

by Hilary Thomas

The number one hard ball player in North America, Mark Talbott, is coming in February to Seattle, one of seven cities on his USA Residency Tour. The residency program is one of many programs Talbott, who is director of the Talbott Squash Academy, has designed to promote the growth of squash at the junior level in the U.S.

During his visit, Mark will give a series of soft ball junior clinics and exhibitions with local pros at several area clubs. In cooperation with this program, the SSRA is hoping to reach as many junior players as possible, including youngsters who have never played squash before.

If you have family or friends with children (10-15), tell them about this program; this could be a milestone in those young lives.

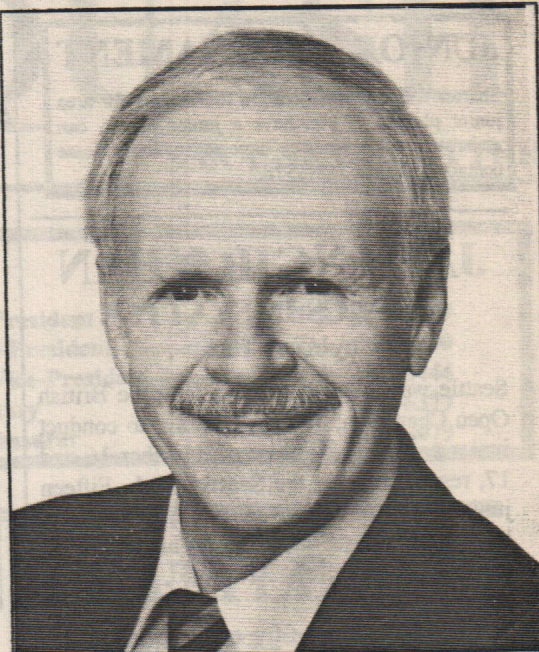
Volunteers to assist with this program are needed. If anyone has contacts with students in public or private schools, please contact Hilary Thomas (tel. 525-8267). Time requirements will be minimal.

USSRA CLINICS

by Hilary Thomas

The USSRA has made some funding available to the SSRA to put on some squash clinics. The SSRA anticipates sponsoring two clinics with the funding. If you have an idea for a clinic, please call Hilary at 525-8267.

Ideas currently include a clinic for women that would involve some instruction and some informal competition, and a clinic for tournament players that would involve advice regarding conditioning, drills and strategy. If you would like to help in setting up a clinic, please contact Hilary.



TEN YEARS IS ENOUGH

Dick Daly, pictured above, moved to the Seattle area in 1965 and has been involved with squash ever since. He is a former two-time president of the SSRA. For the past ten years, Dick has been Secretary of the SSRA and a major force in maintaining the viability of the SSRA. The SSRA urgently needs a volunteer to replace Dick as Secretary. No experience necessary. Contact Dick (602-981-7525 collect) or Hilary Thomas, 525-8267.

RULES CLINIC

The SSRA has available a videotape produced by Rod Symington, well-known Canadian expert on soft ball rules. The tape presents a number of let situations and asks the viewer to make the call. There are two different sections, beginner and advanced. The tape is relatively short and takes about one hour to review thoroughly. Included with the tape is a list of the right calls and explanations for each situation.

Bruce Vinsonhaler ran a very successful rules clinic for the Seattle Athletic Club with this tape in October. If you would be interested in reviewing the tape, please contact Hilary Thomas (525-8267). If your club would be interested in hosting a rules clinic similar to the one held at the SAC, please contact Bruce Vinsonhaler (522-9400).

JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

Sharon Welsh is organizing a tournament for area junior players. If you have a junior player, can assist with this project, or have suggestions, please contact Sharon at 282-6578.

JAHANGIR KHAN CLINICS IN SEATTLE

by Ayub Khan

Seattle was honored to have ten-time British Open Champion, **Jahangir Khan**, to conduct junior and adult clinics on November 16 and 17, respectively, at the **Seattle Club**. Fifteen juniors took advantage of the opportunity to hit with **Jahangir** and listen to his advice on proper grip and shots. Afterward, he held an autograph session.

In the adult clinic, fifty adults queried **Jahangir** about strategy, grip, various shots and training practices, and then watched him demonstrate the points he had made on the court. Squash players **Robbie Moore**, **Mark Lanning**, and **Phil Smart Jr.** took their shot at winning a racquet off the six-time world champion. Only **Phil Smart Jr.** was successful at winning one point and the racquet. **Jahangir** continued the program demonstrating shots and strategy in a two-game match with **Ayub Khan** where he prevailed 9-5 and 9-4.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have joined the SSRA/USSRA since our last report: **Mariza Ohlsson**, Seattle Club, W-B; **Henry Cody**, SAC, Men's D; **Chris Theriot**,

SC, Men's C; **John Shethar**, WAC, Men's D; **Donna Massoth**, SC, Women's C; **Jan Frederick**, SC, Women's C; **Chaz Welsh**, WAC, Junior; **Moore Davock**, SAC, Men's D; **Denis Koh**, SAC, Men's C; **John Harris**, SC, Men's D; **Paul Griffiths**, CAC, Men's D; **Bob Wright**, CC, Men's D; **Kathy Grant** (reinstated) SC, Women's B; **John Towler**, CC, Men's C; **Ron Hadley**, SC, Men's D; and **Mark Lanning**, SC, Men's B.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The SSRA's various committees, (i.e. Tournaments, Promotion, Junior, Women's, etc.) need your help. We don't necessarily need a lifetime commitment, but if you could offer your time and enthusiasm for a few hours on a given program or tournament, we would greatly appreciate it. Call any SSRA officer today! — Hilary Thomas

MORE ON THE RULES

How do you tell a good referee? If you ask that question, most people will say: "By the decisions he/she makes". That's true, but consider this: the referee must also be articulate, render decisions in a timely way, as well as be firm and fair. If the referee doesn't do all these things, he/she will never come across as a good referee.

A couple of years ago we ran a column on the referee's calls. In many matches we have seen lately, the terminology varied widely. Take another look at the calls listed below and see

if you can determine if you are using standard terminology.

YES LET When allowing a let following a player's appeal for a let.

STROKE TO . . . (Name of player) To advise that the player named is to be awarded a stroke.

LET To advise that a rally is to be replayed in circumstances where the wording "YES LET" is not applicable.

TIME To indicate that a period of time prescribed in the rules has elapsed.

HALF TIME To advise players of the mid-point of the warm-up period.

FIFTEEN SECONDS To advise the players that 15 seconds of the interval permitted between games remain.

CONDUCT WARNING To advise a player that he has committed an offense under Rule 17, Conduct on Court, and is being given a warning.

CONDUCT STROKE To advise a player that he has committed an offense...and that a stroke is being awarded to his opponent.

CONDUCT GAME Same as above, but the award is a game.

CONDUCT MATCH Same as above, but the award is the match.

Remember, good referees know the language.

More on the rules next time.

THANKS

Many thanks to **Yusuf Khan**, **Hilary Thomas**, **Ayub Khan**, **Phil Sollecto** and **Fred Reininger** for recent faxes and letters. **Fred** is the new League Czar. More on the league next time.

SSRA membership latest count: 186

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SSRA

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