



WELLWORX

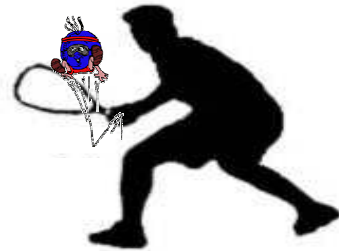
SPORTING CLUBS

Meeting Highlights

September 4, 2007

6:30 p.m.

- *What's in a Name?*
- *Membership / New Faces*
 - *Website Development*
 - *Tournament/Social Plans*
 - *Ongoing Goals*



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

One item of discussion at the last meeting was the official name and structure of the organization. Many members felt that the name should be more representative of Memphis' location as a crossroads in the Mid-South community from which we draw players, that is Northern Mississippi, Eastern Arkansas, Western Tennessee as well as our close proximity to Missouri, Kentucky, Georgia and Alabama.

Several names were suggested; after motion and vote, **MEMPHIS AREA RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION** was born!!! Tom is working on ideas for a logo design for **MARA**. Contact him at tomheroux@yahoo.com if you have any ideas concerning this.

To maintain simplicity, it was determined that there was no need to formalize the structure of **MARA** in terms of official filing or registering as a charitable organization, at this time. AND best of all, there are no dues! Although we may from time to time pass the hat to cover expenses or for special needs.

MEMBERSHIP/NEW FACES

Our email contact list continues to grow. We now have over eighty racquetball players, including about twenty-five players from area athletic clubs other than WellWorX. A few were in attendance at the last meeting—James Eastman (Gtown Baptist), Tony Rooney & Pat Mullins (Schilling YMCA), and Bob Lampley & Bill Herron (Desoto Athletic).

Pat Mullins has offered to be our liaison with David Creech, one of the officers of the DAC gym system. David has offered his support to **MARA** and the ways in which we hope to encourage greater participation in Racquetball.

As you come in contact with new players, encourage them to plug in to our contact list by contacting Paula Coley at paula.coley@fidcpa.com

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Brad Anderson and the website committee have done a fantastic job on the development of the Website for **MARA**. Although not yet fully functional, you will find it easy to maneuver.

The Newsletters are being posted on the site as well as player pictures, news and events of interest to all. If you have some item you would like posted on the website, or if you experience problems setting up your profile, please contact Brad by email at brad@anderhamm.com.

Please visit the site and create your own profile. From the Home page, click on the "Register" link to create your login name & password. Once you are logged in you can create your own player profile. You have control over how much personal information you provide.

The web address is www.memphISRacquetball.org.

YAY
TEAM!!!!



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

LIFE IS NOT A JOURNEY TO THE GRAVE WITH THE INTENTION OF ARRIVING SAFELY IN A PRETTY AND WELL PRESERVED BODY, BUT RATHER TO SKID IN BROADSIDE, THOROUGHLY USED UP, TOTALLY WORN OUT, AND LOUDLY PROCLAIMING:
"WOW!! WHAT A RIDE!!"

* * * TOURNAMENTS & EVENTS * * *

The Tournament committee, headed by Richard Aitken, reported that trying to pull together a quality tournament before the U. S. Open would be very difficult. Plans at present are to host the Charity tournament in Spring 2008. The proposed Charity is the Church Health Center, a health clinic designed to help those who find themselves without health insurance and who could not otherwise obtain needed medical care. You can learn more about them at www.churchhealthcenter.org. Sadie Hall is working on a major sponsor to underwrite the tournament expenses for this charitable event.

The next tournament to be held at WellWorX will be the annual New Year's Open on January 25-26, 2008.

HELP WANTED. Volunteers and sponsors are needed for both of these planned events. You can help by volunteering to work during the tournament and to seek help from local businesses of either advertising sponsorships or providing food or supplies. Susan Brown is the Volunteer Liaison to the Tournament Directors. Sadie will provide an information packet to be used in approaching potential sponsors.

Let Richard (jraitken@hotmail.com) or Susan (Brownsus@metholdisthealth.org) know how and when you are available.

Richard Aitken / WellWorX Pre-U.S. Open Shoot-out

Saturday, September 29, 2007

9:30—12:30

In lieu of a fall tournament, a limited attendance Shootout has been planned for September 29, 2007. Participation in the Shootout is initially limited to those who attended the last organization meeting because of space and time constraints. Please let Richard know via email of your plans to attend, or if you have any questions.

Memphis Area Racquetball Association Pot Luck Social

Saturday, September 29, 2007

1:00—3:00

Immediately following the Shootout, **EVERYONE IS INVITED** to attend our first social event as **MARA**. Bring a dish, (two would be nice) and your family for a good time to meet, greet and eat. (If you are embarrassed by your family, bring a friend!!)

This is being coordinated by Sandy Gross. Please bring consider the following needs:

- ⇒ Meat and/or meat casseroles, or sandwiches
- ⇒ Vegetables or salad
- ⇒ Deserts! (Matt Buckner will be bringing some ice cream, so bring something that goes with ice cream!)
- ⇒ Appetizers or finger foods
- ⇒ Setup and cleanup

Please email Sandy (ds144@bellsouth.net) if you have any questions.

Photo Opportunity

We are privileged to have as a **MARA** member Mike Boatman, one of the official photographers for the U.S. Open Racquetball Tournament and several other USAR events. He will be on hand to document our **MARA** kickoff event by taking action photos to be used as background for our website.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

2007 Kentucky ProAm Open (Tier 1 IRT)
Bowling Green, KY
October 4-7, 2007
www.kyracquetball.com
Entry deadline is October 1, 2007

SportsBarn River Rollout
Chattanooga, TN
October 19-21, 2007
Contact Ethan Carver (ethan_carver@sports-barn.com or 240-644-3419)

Music City Open
Nashville, TN (Downtown YMCA)
November 2-4, 2007
Contact Terry Davis (ultimateracquetball@comcast.net) or (615) 895-3679

LADIES NEWS from the Tennessee Racquetball Association Website:

Attention Ladies: WE NEED YOU! Jenniffer Hunter is actively looking for ladies to host Women's events in NASHVILLE, CHATTANOOGA, MEMPHIS and COOKEVILLE. Please email her at jennifferhunter@knology.net if you are interest in getting involved.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

National Senior Olympics—Sandy Gross was the winner of the Women's 55+ division. The event was held this summer in Louisville, KY.

2007 Nashville Racquetball Championship—MARA was well represented as some of our members traveled to Nashville August 17-18, 2007.

Men's A Singles	Eric Lampley	First
	Tom Heroux	Second
Men's A Doubles	Eric Lampley /	First
	Tom Heroux	
Men's B Singles	Brad Anderson	First
Women's B/C Singles	Paula Coley	Second



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello MARA members!

I want to thank all of you that participated in the last meeting to express your enthusiasm, ideas, and opinions.

As a special thanks, Richard Aitken has put together an invitational Shoot-out event for those that attended the Sept 4th meeting. If you attended, you should have received a mailer with rules.

Our next meeting will be an execu-

tive meeting for officers and committee members. The goal is to identify outstanding tasks for upcoming local events and the MARA website.

Officers and Committee members, please mark your calendars for Thursday night, October 11. We will resume a general attendance meeting in November.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Pot Luck Social Saturday, Sept 29!

Tom