



Southeastern Squash Racquets Association

February 2005

Hello SESRA:

SESRA tourney at Windy Hill:

Windy Hill hosted the annual Southeastern Championships Feb. 26-28. A softball doubles draw proved the audience favorite, with the team of Ashesh Choksi and Brian Warner scraping out a 3-2 win Sunday over Tom Rumpler and Sawyer Duncan. It was rumored that Tom is older than the other three players combined, but who's counting?

Other final results include:

5.5s: Allan Post III defeated Sanjay Sidhwani; 1,0,7

4.5s: Sawyer Duncan defeated Charlie Johnson; 4,2,(3), 10-8

4.0s: Eric Urra defeated Bill Basnett; 3-2

3.5s: Facundo Fabbri defeated Ridley Hailey; 10-8,(1),7,4

3.0s: Jorge Clavijo defeated Henry Poer; 4,(6),6,9-10,3

40Bs: Martin Daniel def. Tim Ely; 5,(5),4,7

50Bs: Harry Miley defeated Jim Wellman; 2,7,(7),0

NEW SESRA BOARD STRUCTURE:

We will be creating, over the next month, a new SESRA. It will be re-incorporated, board-managed, non-profit, and focused on building squash in Atlanta across existing clubs and into new areas.

The initial Board will include seven members:

- Diniar Alikhan, treasurer
- Leslie Blythe, secretary
- Bob Burton, president
- Clark Emerson, events
- Murray Gilman, juniors
- John Gordon, membership
- Michael Gough, at large

At its first meeting, the Board will go through a survey to identify which, among all the possible things to which SESRA could be devoting time and resources, are the top priorities. In order not to pass over the thinking of the membership itself, the Board survey is also attached to this email. Feel free to think about it, fill it out, and send it back to us.

Windy Hill Junior team hits 17th in the U.S.

The boy's National High School Team Championships is in its second year. Last year the boy's event had 16 teams and was played at Groton School. This year, with the addition of the girl's bracket, there were 43 teams in a combined event at Yale on February 11-13 with over 300 players. It is a team vs. team format with 7 player teams. Teams came from the traditional Philadelphia and New England areas but also from Atlanta, GA and Lake Forest, Ill. and the Baltimore/DC area. There were also 2 public school teams and two Street Squash teams.

The Windy Hill Atlanta squad was Clark Brading, John Cook, Sawyer Duncan, Charlie Johnson, and David Stringer from Westminster, Adil Ismail from Pace Academy and Brian Warner from the International School.

While expectations ran high, the team lost two close matches against the nine and ten finishers and finished in the bottom half of the bracket. A very respectable performance for the first time foray from Atlanta!

RESULTS:

1. Lawrenceville
2. Brunswick
3. Belmont Hill
4. Haverford
5. Chestnut Hill
6. Penn Charter
7. Taft
8. Groton
9. Poly Prep
10. Milton
11. Episcopal Acad.
12. Phillips Acad. Andover
- 13-16. Pingry, Lake Forest, Rye Country Day, Tabor
- 17-18. Choate, Atlanta
- 19-20. Hackley, Hotchkiss
- 21-24. Delbarton, Street Squash, Nichols, Lower Merion

ANDRE HAS MAJOR SKYMILES

MAUR IS NATIONAL 40s CHAMPION OF IRELAND and LAPHAM GRANT COMPETITOR IN CALGARY, CANADA

I asked Andre for details, but he's too jetlagged to write....

NEWS:



Lee Beachill on court to be filmed and interviewed for a special **BBC TV series** on the five sports which are bidding for inclusion in the 2012 Olympic Games.

Both players were filmed wearing the impressive World Squash Day T-shirts, which feature smart graphics on the front and a giant slogan on the back stating "**Squash for the Olympic Games 2012**".

The paperwork has been done, and the bid has been lodged with the IOC, but the more headlines squash can capture between now and the all-important vote, the more chance we have of gaining our place at the Olympic table.

Jahangir and Lee both pointed out squash's strong points, that the game is truly international, played in every corner of the globe by millions of enthusiastic players, and is a game of great skill and stamina that provides magnificent entertainment.



World Record Rally Challenge

One of WSD 2004's aims was to set a new record for the World's longest rally ...

Following the lead set by the Old Pats Club in Gloucestershire, England, we are inviting clubs all over the world to take part in the World Squash Day Longest Rally Competition.

The rules are simple: Teams of five players keep a rally going for as long as they can and try to hit the ball a record number of times in a 60-minute time limit. This usually results in a continuous forehand or backhand straight "feed" with the hitter going to the back of the queue.

Has anyone heard of World Squash Day? Check out this website: www.worldsquashday.org. It's March 19th (sort of) and the purpose is to boost squash awareness around the world and support squash's bid for the Olympics. Every club can have its own event and the most popular appear to be things like longest rally and handicap drop-in tournaments. Any Atlanta takers on the longest rally challenge?

Jahangir Khan appears to have left fitness by the wayside as he hits at left with Lee Beachill. But in his day, Jahangir was completely dominant in the sport for many years and today is president of the World Squash Federation and a big supporter of both the Olympic effort and WSD.

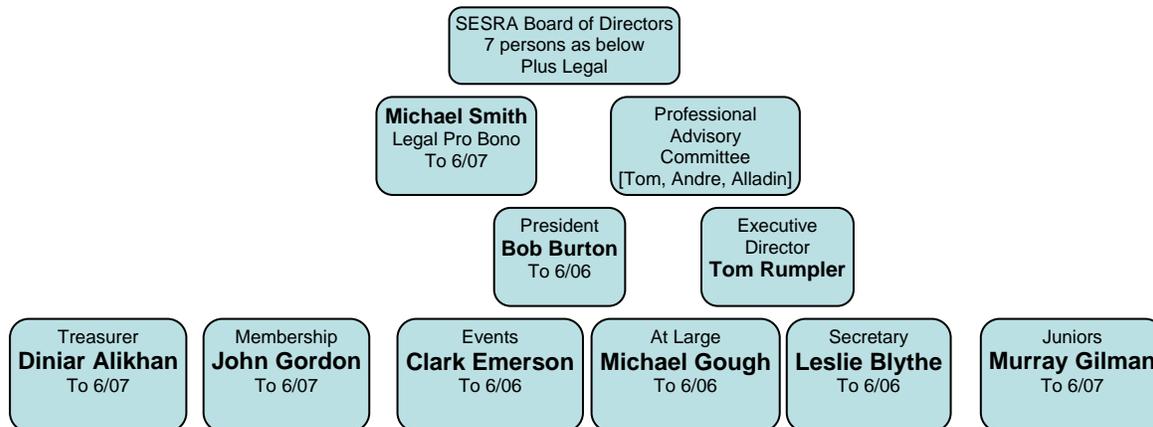
Jahangir Khan flew over from Germany to join World Open finalist

World Record Rally

- **2,666** [Jersey Squash Club](#)
- **2,649** [Old Pats](#)
- **2,067** [WA Squash, Perth](#)
- **532** [Maidstone](#)
- **128** [Heswall](#)

SESRA REORGANIZATION ATTACHMENT:

Here's an organization chart of the new SESRA:



SESRA PRIORITIES SURVEY:

[Where 1 is top priority and 5 is low priority]

MEMBERSHIP/PLAY

- _____ Encourage non-players to try squash
- _____ Identify in-town squash players who are not currently playing
- _____ Develop play around Windy Hill, Concourse, and the PDC programs
- _____ Identify unused or underused courts and develop programs
- _____ Emphasize the development of top level players
- _____ Sign up new SESRA members
- _____ Develop Interclub leagues
- _____ Continue interclub team play (Henry/Poole Cup)
- _____ Initiate a citywide ranking (ladder)
- _____ Encourage the construction of additional courts (clubs, schools, etc.)
- _____ Hold tournaments

JUNIORS/WOMEN/SENIORS

- _____ Encourage juniors to try the game
- _____ Develop school teams
- _____ Support nationally competitive junior squash players

- _____ Initiate an “urban squash” program for disadvantaged youth
- _____ Build a permanent endowment in support of juniors programs
- _____ Hold an annual event to raise operating funds for SESRA junior programs
- _____ Encourage women to try the game
- _____ Develop top level women players in Atlanta
- _____ Encourage age group play and competitiveness
- _____ Encourage age group “drop outs” to restart their game

NATIONAL PROFILE

- _____ Support Atlanta participation in the USSRA Nationals
- _____ Host the USSRA Nationals in Atlanta
- _____ Participate in National Teams Events
- _____ Develop “home and away” team events with other cities

FUNDING/PRO EVENTS

- _____ Identify and pitch potential corporate sponsors of squash
- _____ Develop and fund high-visibility men’s and women’s pro events in the city
- _____ Create an annual fundraising event to provide operating funds
- _____ Seek to build an endowment for SESRA

DOUBLES

- _____ Encourage play of softball doubles
- _____ Add a hardball doubles facility (either at existing club or new)
- _____ Encourage Atlanta teams to compete in national doubles events

RULES AND REFS

- _____ Provide clinics and training in squash rules
- _____ Encourage sportsmanship and camaraderie among squash players
- _____ Discipline poor sportsmanship

SOCIAL/COMMUNICATIONS/OTHER

- _____ Hold social events/get together for the squash community
- _____ Develop a more active and interactive website
- _____ Provide a monthly newsletter
- _____ Build and distribute an up-to-date membership list

Other priorities for SESRA:

1. ____

2. ____

3. ____

Hope this remains of interest,

Bob