

REMINDER: JULY 25, SESRA GOLF OUTING
to benefit junior squash at ATLANTA NATIONAL golf course



Southeastern Squash Racquets Association

April 2006

Hello SESRA:

- First, a reminder that The Atlanta Open will be played May 12-14 at the Concourse Athletic Club. The draws are full and the pro play promises to be very exciting. Whether you are entered or not, plan to stop by Concourse to watch some great squash.
- Second, an update on SESRA's annual fundraiser golf tournament for junior squash. We have initial commitments for 12 foursomes on July 25 at Atlanta National. Thanks to Nick Orphan at A. Montag and Associates for sponsoring the closest-to-the-pin contest. Mark your calendar and get your scramble foursome together for this great event.

Piedmont Driving Club Invitational:



Squashers of all ages, shapes, and sizes came from across the country to participate in the Driving Club's squash Invitational in April. Joining the usual contingent from Toronto, led

by John Leheu, were players like Charlie Khan from St. Louis, Charlie Johnson from Dayton, Jack Wyant per et fils from Cincinnati and Philadelphia, New York's Kit Tatum, and a very healthy Louisville contingent.

Results were as follows:

	<u>Finalist</u>	
3.0	F. Gough	Atl, Ga
3.5	Quill Healey	PDC
4.0	Ridley Hailey	PDC
4.5	Billy Benedict	PDC
5.0	Sandy Draper	PDC
40+	Gary Myerson	Atl, Ga.
50+	Tom Rumpler	Atl, Ga.
55+	M. Gilman	Atl, Ga.
60+	Jim Wellman	Atl, Ga.
Open	Peter Kelly	Atl, Ga.

Singles:

	<u>Winner</u>	
	Bob Boone	Columbia, S.C.
	Chris Laing	PDC
	M. Goodwin	Atl, Ga
	Richard Davis	Dallas, Tx
	Jay Hatcher	Louisville, Ky
	Ian Henderson	PDC
	Charlie Khan	St. Louis, Mi
	Alladin, Mitha	PDC
	Michael Gough	Atl, Ga
	Jack Wyant	Phildelphia, PA

	<u>Finalist</u>	
60+	John LeHeup Kit Tatum	Toronto, Can NYC
50+	B. Burton A. Lanier	Atl Cinn, Ohio
B	Gordon Benedict T. Neuner	PDC St. Louis, Mi
Open	Doug Leeson J. Keely	PDC Philadelphia

	<u>Doubles Winner</u>	
	Ted Marmor C. Amos	New Haven, Conn St. Louis, Mi
	Alladin Mitha Kit Tatum	PDC NYC
	Terry Finn C. Amos	St. Louis, Mi St. Louis, Mi
	Charlie Kahn D. Frost	St. Louis, Mi NYC

At the usual exceptional gala dinner, host pro Alladin Mitha unveiled the newly-created Goodman Trophy in honor of PDC member Frank Goodman, a native of Louisville whose efforts were instrumental in developing the game of squash in Atlanta in the 70s. The Goodman Trophy will be awarded each year to the winner in the PDC's annual team match with Louisville, a contest Frank initiated and which was revived three years ago.



The Goodmans and PDC Athletic Director Marty Hutchinson

Update on the National Championships:

The USSRA has recently announced proposed changes to the format of the U.S. Open and Closed National championships. By November 2006, when the U.S. Open is held, the USSRA will announce a transition for the following year to combine the professional U.S. Open with the current U.S. Open age group tournament to be held in March. At the same time, the recommendation calls for the creation of a new event, the USSRA championships or skill level championships, to be held in late January or early February. The U.S. Closed Championships will be scheduled to follow the U.S. Open as the season closer.

Changes such as these have been hotly debated for many years, but the general conclusion is that the current format is divisive as players have to choose which division they enter (age group or skill level?). It is cumbersome and narrow, as only Harvard, Princeton, and Yale have enough courts to host it. And it divides the professional event of the fall from the amateur championships of the spring, which makes sponsorship difficult.

Debate is sure to follow about the idea of having three events as opposed to one or two and over the current recommendation that the U.S. Closed be open to U.S. citizens. I think more changes may well follow as the formats are established, including the possibility of regional qualifiers for the skill levels, ala the old Insilco format.

However, debate is good and the effort to improve squash deserves initial support.

Hope this continues to be of interest.

Best,

Bob