



SouthEastern Squash

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Member Clubs:

Charleston Squash Club

& Kiawah Island Squash

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Pro: Andre Maur

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Pro: Tom Rumpler

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Pro: Alladin Mitha

Sea Island Squash Club

Pro: Ben Gould

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Pro: Alwyn Callender

August 2007

Hello SESRA:

Results from Dragon Doc:

The DragonDoc summerfest at Midtown Athletic Club at Windy Hill drew a strong field for both amateur and pro events. Hosted by the DragonDoc, Gary Myerson and Florida's Jeff Tomberg, more than 100 entrants tackled opponents in 14 draws on the superhot courts. Thanks to the hosts!



The PSA field was marked by upsets as South Africa's Reggie Schonborn, the fifth seed, defeated Egyptian Ahmed Hamza, the fourth seed, in the final, 7,(5),7,10. The best run of the tournament, however, belonged to Zimbabwean (and Trinity player) Shaun Johnstone, who played through the qualifiers and well into the main draw, a total of five matches in three days, before losing to Schonborn in the semis in five.

Here are the other results:

3.0: Bruce Ball d. Rob Armstrong, 0,6,1

3.5: Vivek Markandan d. Prashant Devaraju, 8,3,(5),4

4.0: John Woodhams d. Tim Ely, (4),(8),0,7,2

4.5: Facundo Fabbri d. Clark Emerson, 2,6,4

5.0: Sawyer Duncan d. Todd Knutson, (9),2,2,6

5.5: Craig McCready d. Edgar Navas, 6,7,7

6.0: Graham Bassett d. Richard Millman, (6),1,0,2

50+: Reed Slater d. Tom Rumpler, (2),(2),8,9,7

50B: Tim Ely d. Jim Wellman, 4,(7),1,0

Women's Round Robin: Catie Warner and Pat Millman

BU17: Sheldon Taylor d. Michael Sankovich, (1),2,(8),6,7

BU19 Round Robin: Sawyer Duncan and Derek Rowley

GU17 Round Robin: Gibbs Cullen and Lauren Nelson

Upcoming Events:



First Annual Charleston Challenge debuts September 14-16:

FEATURING: !!! JONATHON POWER AND JAMIE CROMBIE IN A SPECTACULAR EXHIBITION!!!



SouthEastern Squash

 **Merrill Lynch**  **pegasus partners, LLC**
Investment Bankers and Strategic Advisors

CHARLESTON CHALLENGE 2007

SEPTEMBER 14, 15, 16, 2007
CHARLESTON SQUASH CLUB - KIAWAH ISLAND CLUB

DIVISIONS:

W35+, W50+, W2.5, W3.5, W4.5
M30+, M35+, M40+, M45+, M50+, M60+, M70+
M3.0, M4.0, M5.0, M6.0

VENUES:

Charleston Squash Club, Kiawah Island Club, Medical University of SC (consolations only)



Tournament Committee reserves the right to combine or cancel draws dependent on the number of entries received.
Closing date: September 7th - 11pm.



Players may enter up to two events, although entry may be limited owing to the logistical difficulties of getting from one venue to the other. The Tournament Director will do everything in his power to facilitate multiple entries.

OFFICIAL HOTEL:

LaQuinta Riverview. Call for reservations and ask for Charleston Squash Club special rate.
Phone: 843-556-5200

ENTRY FEES (please circle your choice):

USSRA Members:	\$ 85
Non Members:	\$100
Patron:	\$200
Silver Sponsor:	\$250
Gold Sponsor:	\$350



HOSPITALITY AND FAVORS:

Regular entrants will receive a tournament T-shirt, Sponsors cocktail party on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, brunch on Sunday, beer and soft drinks throughout the tournament.

Patrons in addition will receive a Commemorative Sweatshirt and one free guest to all social functions.

Silver Sponsors will receive a Commemorative Sweatshirt and Sweatpants and one free guest to all social functions.

Gold Sponsors will receive two entries to the tournament and Commemorative Sweatshirt and Sweatpants.

Make checks payable to:

The Squash Doctor Corporation
c/o Richard Millman
122 Evening Shade Drive, Charleston, SC 29414

For more information, contact:

Richard Millman, Squash Professional
843-402-9732 or 843-577-1099
thesquashdoctor@yahoo.com

Charlotte Steps Up:

Mark your calendars for Charlotte's First Annual Core Fitness Squash Tournament: November 30 through December 2. More to come. For further details, contact Peter Popovich!



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SEASON STARTING ACTION AT THE CONCOURSE:

The Annual Concourse Calcutta is Sept 21st through the 23rd. The regular pre-event pick-your-favorite night will be Tuesday the 18th. Contact Andre Maur at the Concourse for details.

WORLD NO. 1 AMR SHABANA AND FORMER WORLD NO. 1 JOHN WHITE TO DUEL AT AN EXHIBITION AT THE ATLANTA MASTERS ON OCT. 14 AT 5 PM AT THE CONCOURSE...



The Atlanta Masters is scheduled for October 12 - 14th, all levels. More info to come in next month's newsletter!

FEATURE: Hey, what is RailStation anyway and why do I care?

Every SESRA member can sign on individually to the U.S. Squash RailStation site and take a look at his national ranking based on recent sanctioned matches.

RailStation is, in effect, a national ladder. It can be sliced and diced to rank players from the Southeast, by age group, or by skill level. Like a database, it is only as good as the data going in so as more results are entered, the standings should get better and better.

How does it work?

Initial RailStation rankings require the following:

- Every player begins the season (April first through March 31st) with a ranking from last season's play.
- There is a rolling requirement of 3 sanctioned matches in the past 12 months (box leagues don't yet count for this, but are being added as we speak).



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- Then, additional exposures change your ranking according to the following algorithm.
- Membership must be current, otherwise your name is not displayed with your ranking (although records are still being kept)

About the US Squash Rating System

The US Squash ratings are based on a number scale ranging roughly from 2.0 (least likely to win any given match), through 6.5 (the most likely to win any given match).

The rating reflects a person's ability to win a given match. It takes into account ALL factors, such as racquet skill, speed, strength, endurance, experience and mental toughness.

An algorithm is used to calculate a player's initial rating, and his or her rating after playing each match. The algorithm is a variation of the ELO algorithm used by the National Chess Federation. Essentially, it is based on the probabilities of winning or losing the match.

If a player plays a much higher rated player, then his/her probability of winning that match is small. Thus, if he/she wins that match, then his/her rating is adjusted upward by a lot. On the other hand, if they lose that match, their rating is lowered only very slightly, if at all. Conversely, the higher rated player would have their rating lowered by a lot if they lost to the much lower rated player, but only raised by a little, if at all, if they win that match.

Players of relatively equal skill have their ratings adjusted by a moderate amount when they play each other.

The math behind the algorithm is as follows:

WRO = Winner's old rating

LRO = Loser's old rating

K = constant = .1

D = denominator = .5

PW = Probability that the winner would win =

$(1/(\text{POWER}(10,(-(WRO-LRO)/D))+1))$

PL = Probability that the loser would win =

$(1/(\text{POWER}(10,(-(LRO-WRO)/D))+1))$

WRN = Winner's new rating = $(WRO+K*(1-PW))$

LRN = Loser's new rating = $(LRO+K*(0-PL))$

There! Nothing could be simpler! Even Murray can explain it to me!



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SESRA to host U.S. Open Age Division Squash Championships
and U.S. Men's S.L. Green and Women's National Championships in March 2008

Work is underway as Atlanta prepares to host the USSRA National Age Group Championships and the S.L. Green National Championships on March 13-18 of 2008. Mark your calendars now.



A heavyweight committee with Brian Dyson as honorary chairman, Bob Burton as chairman, Tom Rumpler, Andre and Danielle Maur, and Alladin Mitha as tournament directors will lead the charge in providing a truly unforgettable event. We expect to have more than

A glass court under construction in Europe

300 players turn out to enjoy a five wall (yes, 5, including the floor) glass court, great events Thursday through Saturday, and a wonderful level of play.

Activities are underway for fundraising, logistics, and hospitality. Let us know if you want to help in any fashion and prepare for a really great weekend in mid-March!

If you have some news, let us post it on SESRA.ORG:

We have a new website. Check it out and give us some feedback: www.sesra.org. Our webmaster is Matt Morris (thanks Matt!) so if you have some suggestions or items to go up, forward them either to me or Matt for inclusion.

Reminder of Charlie Johnson's support of SESRA:

Support those who support you! We continue to be grateful that we have the support of Charlie Johnson's Squash Shop (www.cjsquash.com) which gives SESRA members a **5% discount** on orders under \$100 and a **10% discount** on orders over \$100.

Charlie Johnson's Squash Shop

Here's how it works:

When you place your order, in the comment/memo box enter SESRA and your USSRA membership number. The discount will be taken before processing.

Hope this continues to be of interest.

Bob