



SouthEastern Squash

Board of Directors:

Dave Bridges
Bob Burton
Victor DiNubile
David Espinosa
Michael Kilgallon
John Mahorner
Justin Mather
Trey Paris
Allan Post

Regional:

Atlanta:

Bob Burton

Birmingham:

David Hobbs

Charleston:

Berry Rudisill

David Lewin

Columbia:

Harry Miley Jr.

Charlotte:

Peter Popovich

Jim Marshall

Raleigh:

Lair Block

Memphis:

Martin Daniel

Spartanburg

Lane Hammond

Tuscaloosa:

Scott McClanahan

Wilmington:

Ranil Goonesekera

Member Clubs:

*Charleston Squash Club
& Kiawah Island Squash*

Pro: Richard Millman

Concourse Athletic Club

Pro: Andre Maur

Midtown Club at Windy Hill

Pro: Tom Rumples

LifeTime Fitness Clubs:

Alpharetta, John's Creek, Mountain

Brook, Sugarloaf

Pro: Andre Maur

Piedmont Driving Club

Sea Island Squash Club

The University Club of Memphis

Hello SESRA:

Time again to put away the faithless clubs, the overly-tight swimsuit, the sun beanie and get out the 145 gram lightning bolt. In other words, squash season is here again!

SQUASH DENIED OLYMPIC STATUS IN 2016

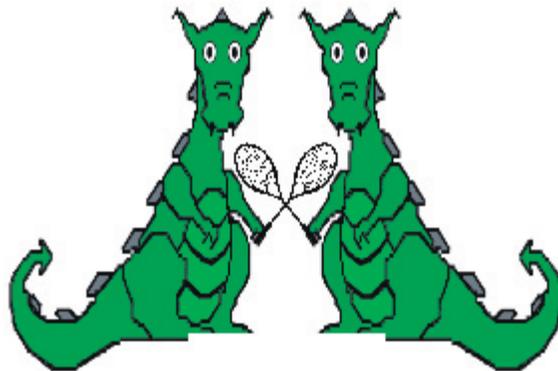
After an immense amount of teamwork and effort, squash was denied Olympic status for the 2016 games, in favor of rugby and golf. An open letter from the chair of the WSF committee is attached to this memo and a telling discussion of how Olympic sports are selected was included in Jay Prince's column in the latest Squash News. The fact remains, our sport is healthy and growing. The best we can do is to keep it that way through individual participation and support.

LIFETIME FITNESS GAINS SESRA BOARD SEAT

At its most recent meeting, the SESRA board agreed to pursue a Lifetime Fitness representative interested in serving on the SESRA board of directors. For those interested, the nominating chair is Michael Kilgallon.

Upcoming events:

The 8th annual **DragonDoc Championships, August 28-30, 2009**, at the



Midtown Athletic Club at Windy Hill, Atlanta. **Venue of Play:** Midtown Athletic Club at Windy Hill, 135 Interstate N. Parkway, Atlanta, GA. 30339; 770 953 1100. All play on regulation 21' international courts with 19" tins. **Dates and Times:** Draw sizes determine 1st round matches' schedule. Play may begin as early as 2:00pm Friday, or as late as

Saturday a.m. All finals & most semis will be played Sunday. Last matches will commence 3pm Sunday. Plan your travel accordingly. **Divisions of Play:** Men's: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0. Women's: 4.0, Open. Age: U19, U17; 50+, 50B, 60+; **Official Ball:** Dunlop double yellow dot. **Referees:** Losers of each match are required to referee the following match. **Entries and Fees:** Entry deadline, Monday August 24, 8 a.m. All players must either be members of SESRA /USSRA (you may join at the tourney) or pay a \$20 tournament surcharge. Racquet fee of \$80 includes tournament favors, entry into two



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divisions if appropriate, weekend hospitality. **Social:** Continental breakfasts, courtside lunches, Friday reception, Saturday dinner party, weekend beverages. **Hotels:** The Hilton Garden Inn /Wildwood is this year's official tournament hotel, \$75/night, Midtown Squash, 770 953 8850. **Info:** For more info contact Tom Rumpler – at Windyhillsquash@comcast.net, or v-mail at 770 928 6838, or fax at 770 928 0321. **N.B.:** All matches are 3 out 5 games, PAR scoring to 11. Consolation “fun” tournaments will be by sign-up only, with play on Sunday.

SESRA Board to visit area clubs in a team challenge:

The SESRA board will be visiting area clubs as a group over the next year to meet and play with club players. The gatherings are intended to make board members more visible, gather feedback about improving the organization from local players, and offer the board's squash expertise to club pros. First up: John's Creek September 24.

Mahorner named SESRA Treasurer

In early August, John Mahorner was named SESRA board member and treasurer, replacing Paul Fairleigh who resigned due to new employment outside Atlanta.

Fall Tournament Calendar:

Mark your calendar's for the Fall SESRA Squash Tournament schedule:

October 16th - 18th

Lifetime club Championships at John's Creek

November 6th - 7th

Poole Cup at the Concourse Athletic Club

November 13th - 15th

Atlanta Masters at the Concourse Athletic Club

December 11th - 13th

Atlanta Grand Masters at the Midtown Athletic Club

Past events:

Windy Hill doubles

The 5th annual Architectural Signing Atlanta Squash Doubles Championships crashed to an anticlimactic close in mid-June. Chris Tham and David Bridges are the new 2009 Atlanta Doubles Champions. This represents Mr. Tham's fourth title in the five annual tournaments, all with different partners.

Chris Mottley and Diniar Alikhan, both former Windy Hill members now transplanted to Baltimore and Tampa, respectively, led the champions 2 games to 1, behind 2-6, when Mr.



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Alikhan was seized with leg cramps, thereby being forced to withdraw due to injury.

The qualifying Pool format turned out to be a huge hit with virtually all of the players. As entries grow for this annual event, look for this format to become essential in the selection of players for more than one flight of play, and perhaps morph into 3 half-days of tournament play.

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.



LAST CHANCE SALE! THESE TWO POPULAR RACQUET MODELS ARE BEING DISCONTINUED ... See CJSQUASH for SPECIAL SALE PRICE on the Flexpoint 130 Squash Racquet along with Prince More Dominant Racquet. Purchase and get two FREE Head Squash Balls. Order two and get NO CHARGE Shipping! (enter code 3960 in the comment section of the order form and we'll adjust the order, removing the shipping charge).

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



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Dear All,

The 2016 Olympic Bid – a Review and Critique post Berlin

Further to the short statement sent out immediately after the result was announced, President Ramachandran would like you all to have a much more detailed report and analysis of the campaign, Berlin and the future. I was in Berlin all Wednesday and Thursday and we both attended the press conference. First, our thanks to the many of you for the warm, supportive and encouraging messages received and much appreciated.

We were deeply, deeply disappointed to hear the decision announced, like so many of you all around the world.

So first, how come this decision? I think I began to suspect it might go this way in Lausanne in June. Particularly telling was a conversation with an ex journalist massively experienced in the workings of the IOC who congratulated us on our presentation but said; “you do know that the decision is made, it will be rugby and golf”. We had IOC President Rogge publicly stating his wish that rugby would be chosen by his EB colleagues. In Berlin another quote emerged from a powerful EB Member – “we hope to reach consensus on the sports before voting”. I became personally aware of this operation being planned late Thursday night, not being totally bereft of political antennae! One comment made was along the lines that 5 sports provided a veneer of respectability for a process in which 2 sports, pre-ordained to emerge, duly did so!

I would urge those who are particularly upset at what appears on the surface to be a rejection of squash when one looks at the EB voting trail to recognise that, if the situation I have described might indeed have been in place, such analysis is fundamentally flawed as it is impossible to obtain a true reflection of support for each sport (see comments from the softball and baseball fraternities). With such a small voting number the process changes from an arithmetical exercise into, shall we say, ‘an art form’!

Why the decision? I think it is all summed up in President Rogge’s reply to a question “these two sports bring **extra value** to the Games”. None of the other sports could match the potential for bringing in spectators, sponsorship and TV of these two huge and very commercial sports. What this therefore represents is a significant shift on the part of the IOC, adding the need for such commercial value to the long established Olympiad criteria and ideals, which we certainly fulfilled so well. The IOC is far from immune to the effects of the recession and long term needs to ensure income to maintain what is an expensive operation. One can see the logic though saddened by the implications.

Are there any positives? Yes indeed, positives must be taken from this. The press conference was delayed an hour to allow President Rogge to write to President Ramachandran, and I quote: ***“On the occasion of your presentation to the Programme Commission and the Executive Board, we have been most impressed by the professionalism and thoroughness of your proposition. Upon review of your documents, we certainly noted progress on many fronts since 2005, and you should be commended for this positive evolution. We are convinced that your dedication will further contribute to the development of your sport. Once more, on behalf of the IOC Executive Board and the Programme Commission, I would like to thank you and the entire squash family for the work engaged and the excellent collaboration we have enjoyed throughout the 2016 Programme review process”.***

WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION LIMITED
REGISTERED IN ISLE OF MAN. NUMBER 79771C
REGISTERED OFFICE: 69 ATHOL STREET, DOUGLAS, IM1, ISLE OF MAN

PRESIDENT: Mr N RAMACHANDRAN EMERITUS PRESIDENT: JAHANGIR KHAN PATRON: HRH PRINCE IMRAN
VICE-PRESIDENTS: HEATHER DEAYTON, GERARD DECOURCY, CHRISTOPHER STAHL, FRANK VAN LOON



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Also massively positive was the way the squash community at all levels came together to support this bid. From the tiniest Junior to the wrinkliest Master involved in the Squash 2016 Day, through Clubs, Centres, Member National Federations and Regional Federations, the Players Organisations and so many individual professional players, our Accredited Companies, the squash media – your support in donating, publicising the cause and wishing it well showed the strength of our great squash community; we can and should be proud of that.

The Olympic Future? There may be one slot available in 2020, hence we must maintain contact with the IOC and keep a watching brief through our Olympic Committee so that, if such an opportunity should emerge, we are ready. All the experience gained from this campaign will be fully documented and available. Those responsible will have to examine every aspect of our sport to see how squash might evolve to present a product with the 'added value' spoken of by President Rogge.

For WSF, we must now refocus and plan for life without the dream. We hope that many Members will come to the AGM in Kuala Lumpur in November. It won't be the celebration party we had hoped for but nor should it be inward looking nor a wake. We must be positive and we want you to contribute to a ManCom led debate on the strategy for the way forward.

We do urge all to continue to send us any donations as WSF has a very large financial hole which if not filled will restrict us badly for some time to come. Please do help with contributions large or small; we need £100,000 as the target.

So 10 months of very hard work come to an end. It has been a privilege as WSF Bid Co-ordinator to oversee the incredible work and contributions by so many involved - the original task force, ManCom, ExCo and Olympic Committee Members, Lorraine and Jazz in the WSF office, Natalie, Peer et al in the USA, especially at Sportaccord, the superb presentation team in Lausanne, our PR/Media Company Juniper, our Media Consultant Howard Harding, our Olympic insider specialist Ms Ramona von Ondarza, and very much our inspiring Bid Manager, Scott Garrett. My most sincere thanks to all involved, and of course to those who prepared the way these many years before – our marvellous Patron, HRH Tunku Imran, past Presidents Susie Simcock and Jahangir Khan, as well as our ex CEO Ted Wallbutton.

Finally, whilst he is reluctant to let me add this, I feel it essential to state that when President Ramchandran took office in October he committed himself totally to this campaign. He personally established the platform, which allowed us to make the fully professional, highly credible presentation of which we should all be proud and so warmly applauded by President Rogge. Without this platform we would never have got anywhere and we all owe him a great debt of gratitude for it, plus our support now in his time as our President as he leads us in re-focussing and taking the sport we all love so much forward again. Let's bounce back – and higher!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'George D Mieras' with a flourish underneath.

Dr George Mieras,
WSF Olympic Bid Co-ordinator

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