



SouthEastern Squash

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Member Clubs:

*Charleston Squash Club
& Kiawah Island Squash*

Pro: Richard Millman

Concourse Athletic Club

Pro: Andre Maur

Midtown Club at Windy Hill

Pro: Tom Rumpler

Piedmont Driving Club

Pro: Alladin Mitha

Sea Island Squash Club

Pro: Matt Jenson

*The University Club of
Memphis*

December 2008

Hello SESRA:

Charleston Open at Kiawah and the Charleston Squash Club:



Two great venues, one great city, a bunch of great guys and an outstanding pro... what else could you want? Richard Millman's annual singles and doubles squashfest offers an escape from the chill. Details and entry form are available under 3rd Annual Charleston Open at active.com.

DUNLOP presents the SESRA College Team Invitational:

Squash teams from Vanderbilt, Tulane and Drexel will descend on Atlanta January 23-25 for the second SESRA college team invitational (first was in 2007). The nine-man squads will face off against each other, Westminster School, and a team of Georgia All-Stars from Emory, Georgia Tech, and UGA, supplemented by some local juniors.

Presented by Dunlop (thanks Steve Hall), play will take place at Westminster School Friday and at Midtown Athletic Club Saturday and Sunday. Alums get in free to spectate, but are required to root heavily for their alma mater.

Here's what it looked like last time:





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Grant Thornton/Merrill Lynch Southeastern Championships, Feb. 20-22:

The granddaddy of regional squash tournaments, the Southeasterns, is scheduled for Feb 20-22 at Midtown Athletic Club. Now in its third decade (fourth, Tom?), the Southeasterns have been selected by U.S. Squash as one of four national qualifying events for the National Skill Level Championships...meaning that winners will have free entry (and possibly a travel stipend) into the national skill level champs on April 17 at Fairmount Athletic Club, King of Prussia, Pa.

Tournament details and signup sheets will be posted online at SESRA and U.S. Squash shortly...

Last year, Atlantans came home with their share of awards from the Skill Levels. Justin Mather from Concourse Athletic Club went to the finals of the 5.0s. Charleston's Richard Millman played to the finals of the 5.5s. Pat Millman and Carla Pineda were third and fourth in the women's 3.5s.

Past Results:

Grant Thornton/Merrill Lynch Grand Master's draws a crowd:

The Grant Thornton/Merrill Lynch Grand Masters drew over 130 players from across the southeast and the country to Midtown Athletic Club in early December for another great event...

Results:

3.0: David Nolan d. Trey Boone
3.5: Fraser Gough d. Ricardo Garcia, 3-0
4.0: Tim Osborne d. Martin Daniel, 3-0
4.5: Arhum Saleem d. Paul Havey, 3-1
5.0: William Nau d. Sid Singh, 3-0
6.0: Michael Gilman d. Diniar Alikhan, 3-2
30s: Chris Tam d. Bupe Mulumba, 3-0
40s: Diniar Alikhan d. Damon Bourne, 3-0
50s: Steve Ward d. Tom Rumpler, 3-0
60s: Bert Kornyei d. Michael Gough, 3-0
70s: Vincent Taylor won RR, Michael Gough 2nd
30Bs: Graham Skardon d. Ricardo Garcia, 3-0
40Bs: Steve Lee d. Fernando Vargas, 3-0
50Bs: Jim Wellman d. Ham Williams, 3-2



SHOOTING PAR: Controversy over national scoring change:

US Squash has elected to move to PAR (Point A Rally) scoring this spring, bringing the U.S. into line with a decision made earlier by the World Squash Federation. Anybody who has played in a tournament recently has encountered PAR, usually with mixed feelings. While the HiHo scoring (Hand In, Hand Out) we are used to remains a viable method for local tournaments, all national events will be PAR.

Herewith, US Squash's thoughts on the change:

1. At the WSF, the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the scoring change.
2. Many tournaments and leagues are already using PAR 11, College Squash Association tested PAR 11 at the Ivy Scrimmages and The New England Scholastic Squash Association league (70 high school teams) adopted PAR 11 officially for this season.
3. Many other squash playing countries have already adopted PAR 11
4. By making a swift change, we will reduce confusion and be early in our compliance with the WSF rule.
5. Primary among the reasons the WSF provided for making this change was creating a standard scoring system worldwide. There are other advantages to adopting the PAR 11 scoring system including:
 6. Reduced tournament fatigue, lowering susceptibility to injury for juniors and adults.
 7. Simplified scheduling of tournaments due to more predictable match times.
 8. More exciting and easily understood system for spectators and non-squash players.
9. Shorter matches for certain age divisions, very young and old, may be countered by providing more opportunities to play. While shorter matches may be the case in some instances, the change in scoring system takes strategic adjustments which have been found to counter this potential impact. In addition, we have two tools to use to address issues to engage younger players and to keep older players in the game. They are the [ball](#), and the tin height.

The PSA already lowers their tin by 2 inches, [Dunlop makes four different balls](#) (5 if you count the high altitude). The PRO, or double yellow dot, is used by the pros and just about everyone else. The [COMPETITION](#), the single dot, is just a little bit livelier, and is used effectively with younger and older players. This is similar to what Callaway did in golf by introducing the Big Bertha 20 years ago.
10. On the whole, the sport is left with a simpler, universal, and exciting scoring format for all players.
11. U.S. SQUASH still sanctions both the PAR 11 and international, "Hand In Hand Out" to 9 scoring systems. The decision is up to the tournament director, league officials, or individuals playing their own games. PAR 11 is simply the primary scoring system.



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Progress on Squash in the Olympics [edited from USQ website]:

U.S. SQUASH recently established the Olympic Fund to raise money in support of the [World Squash Federation's](#) (WSF) efforts to ensure squash becomes part of the 2016 Olympic Program. While considered a very strong candidate, squash competes with sports such as golf, karate, rugby, baseball and softball for inclusion in the 2016 Games. The WSF leads all initiatives related to promoting the sport to the International Olympic Committee which includes presentations, meetings, appearances at international events and public relations. **The vote for 2016 inclusion will occur at the subcommittee level during the summer of 2009**, and then in October 2009 by the full IOC.

It is well known that squash had vied for inclusion in the Olympics for several decades. Olympic inclusion would mean three important things. First, it would raise the awareness, profile and legitimacy of squash in the eyes of those who are not aware of the sport. Second, being part of the IOC would provide literally millions of dollars of funding directly to the sport's development each year. Finally, it would provide the biggest and brightest stage for what we consider to be the best athletes in the world.

BTW, US Squash is seeking support for the Olympic Fund. You can find more info on the USQ website.

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