



SouthEastern Squash

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Memphis

June 2009

Hello SESRA:

Upcoming events:

SESRA Annual General Meeting will be June 19 at Midtown at 6 pm. New board members, officers etc. to be determined and announced. All SESRA members welcome.

Atlanta Doubles Championships: June 26-27 at Midtown

The 6th annual Atlanta Squash Doubles Championships return on the last weekend of June. New this year, players will compete in Pool play to determine players' selection into the "Open" and "Plate" Championships.

Entry fee of \$45 includes embroidered tournament shirt, light refreshments, and trophies. Deadline to enter is Monday morning, June 22nd. Contact Tom Rumpler at Midtown to enter.

Georgia Games to include squash

Date: July 11 & 12, 2009

Site: Lifetime Fitness, Johns Creek

Time: Be prepared to play as early as 6:00pm on July 11, 2009

Entry Fee: Register Online OR Paper waiver form

Singles: \$44.00 1st event, \$20.00 2nd event; Doubles (per player): \$37.00 1st event, \$20.00 2nd event (entry fee includes \$5 referee fee per event). *Out of state Residents add \$5.00 to entry fee*

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.GEORGIAGAMES.ORG AND
GET A DISCOUNT

Out of State residents add \$5.00 to entry fee

Entry Deadline: July 8, 2009 If you would like to register after the 8th, please contact Kerri Coughlin (kerri.coughlin.gagames@gmail.com) Phone: (678)996-0348

**Mailed to: Georgia State Games
P.O. Box 2043
Kennesaw, GA 30156**

Divisions: Men/Women/Mixed (singles & doubles) - Open, Elite, A, B, C, Novice, 25+, 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 35+B, 45+B, 55+B (Limit of two divisions per person) Boys/Girls – 8, 12, 16 (Limit of two divisions per person) Doubles only offered for Men's and Women's Open, Elite, and A,B,C divisions

Membership: Must be a US Squash member to play. Memberships will be available for purchase only at venue (cash, check, Visa, or MasterCard).



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Please do not include membership fee in payment to Georgia Games. One year memberships are \$35, while weekend memberships for this event are available for \$15.

Atlanta Junior Open: July 31-August 2

Concourse Athletic Club: Contact Andre Maur

- BU11 Singles
- BU13 Singles
- BU15 Singles
- BU17 Singles
- BU19 Singles
- GU11 Singles
- GU13 Singles
- GU15 Singles
- GU17 Singles
- GU19 Singles

Past Events:

SESRA Juniors Rock...

Arhum Saleem nominated to play for Team USA

Arhum Saleem, 13, recently he won the California Junior Open and came in 10th in the US Nationals in Baltimore, has been nominated to play for the US Junior Team in the Can Am Cup against Canada on June 26th in Ontario Canada.

As his coach, Andre Maur says, “This is an absolute fairly tale story when you consider he has only been playing junior tournaments for 17 months. Most of these juniors have been playing 6 to 7 years with 2 to 3 coaches training them. The nomination is unexpected for first year players in the U15 bracket.”



Atlanta's Lee and Danial Saleem finish 2nd and 5th in Bronze US Nationals

Atlanta's William Lee finished second in his age group in this year's Bronze US Nationals in Philadelphia with a narrow loss to Colin Murphy 12-10, 14-12, 11-7 in the final. Danial Saleem entered the Bronze US Nationals in the U17 bracket. His only loss came in the quarter finals to the winner of the event, a hard-fought five set thriller with a tie break in the fifth.

William Lee getting his second place trophy at the Bronze US Champs U13



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US Squash's Dent Wilkins and Danial Saleem in Philadelphia

2009 Atlanta Open

Kemp Crowned Atlanta Open Champion

by Andre Maur

England's Jonathan Kemp celebrated his fourth successive PSA World Tour final appearance in North America in grand style when he defeated defending champion Eric Galvez in four games to claim the Atlanta Open crown.

The in-form left-hander from Halifax in Yorkshire reached the final of the event in its tenth year without dropping a game.

Kemp, currently ranked 31 in the world, was in full control in the first two games and soon reached match-ball at 10-8 in the third. But second seed Galvez, who became the first Mexican to win the title last year, came back with some big winners to take the game 15-13.

But the top-seeded Englishman got off to a good start in the fourth and Galvez, still feeling the effects of the previous game, was unable to keep the momentum going.



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Kemp conceded just three further points before claiming the match 11-4, 11-5, 13-15, 11-3 after 50 minutes to become the third Englishman (after Nick Matthew in 2001 and Bradley Ball the following year) win the Atlanta Open title.

The win marks Kemp's second successive PSA title triumph in the USA, his third of the year and the eighth of his career.



Atlanta Open Amateur skilled level winners and finalists

Level 6.0

1. Tim Thomas
2. Justin Mather





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Level 5.5

1. Greg Scherman
2. John Marhorner



Level 5.0

1. Kevin Singerman
2. Tony Luciba





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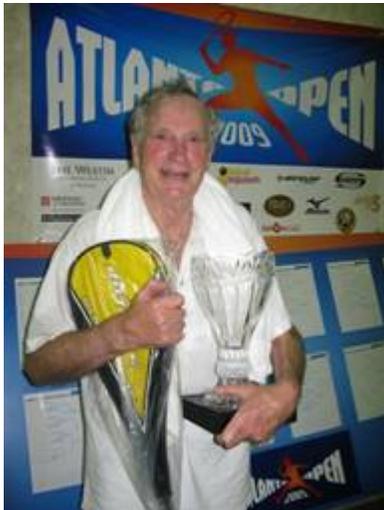
Level 4.5

1. Stefan Naughton
2. Nicolas Ogwal



Level 4.0

1. Michael Gough
2. Tim Osborne





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Level 3.5

1. Carl Francis
2. Hanif Merali



Level 3.0

1. Tim Philpott
2. Ian Stroud





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Level 2.5

1. Jack O Connell
2. Drew Philpott



CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE CAROLINAS:

Leading squash players from North and South Carolina met at the Charleston Squash Club to compete in the historic inaugural combined State Squash Championships of the Carolinas in May.

Honors were shared with the Palmetto State and The Tar Heel State both taking four Dual State Titles each.

Four Age group or Masters Championships were determined first on Friday May 1st and Saturday May 2nd.

In the combined 20+ and 30+ division, Wilmington, NC's Alex Lane was the powerhouse of the event, carrying off both the Dual State and North Carolina titles and beating all his opponents by the same three games to zero score-line. His closest rival was Frank Cernik of Raleigh, NC.

Edson Silva of Summerville, SC was the highest placed South Carolinian and took the South Carolina 20+/30+ division state title.

The 40+ event saw Jason Osborne of Cary, NC defeat Ranil Goonesekera of Wilmington, NC by a three games to zero margin to take both the Dual State and North Carolina titles.

David Lewin of Charleston defeated John Crawford of Sullivans Island to take the South Carolina title.

In the 50+ division, recent competitor in the World Masters squash championship in New Zealand, Jaap Wessels of Cary, NC, was the class of the field. He comfortably defeated his enthusiastic opponent, Peter Popovich of Charlotte, NC to



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take both the Dual State title and the North Carolina State title.

Joe Qualey of James Island, SC was the highest placed South Carolinian and so took the South Carolina 50+ title.

Bob Sade of Charleston, who defeated North Carolina champion David Mather in the final, by three games to love, took the 60+ Dual State and South Carolina titles.

The Skill Level Championships followed the Age group divisions, starting on Saturday May 2nd and finishing on Sunday May 3rd.

Perhaps the match of the tournament, the game between Ranil Goonesekera of Wilmington, NC and Jaap Wessels of Cary NC in the 5.0 division was a real barnburner.

It took five games to decide and the topsy-turvy nature of the score-line: 10/12 11/1 7/1111/9 11/3, gives some indication of the battle that ensued.

"Sometimes I didn't know where I was," said Wessels, after his Sri Lankan born opponent had dazzled both the Cary native and the crowd with an amazing array of shots.

Wessels, however, was the final victor, as the division was a round robin with all players playing each other. Despite his loss, Wessels went on to defeat all other player and take the Dual State title and North Carolina title after Goonesekera was injured in a subsequent game.

This was Wessels's second title of the championship and as such he was the most valuable player of the tournament.

David Lewin of Charleston took the South Carolina 5.0 title.

In the 3.0 division Pat Millman of Charleston, one of only two female entrants in the entire championships, defeated Richard Friedman, also of Charleston to take both the Dual State and South Carolina State titles.

David Mather of Charlotte took the North Carolina title.

In the 4.0 division there was a terrific win for John Crawford of Sullivans Island. Unseeded John stormed through the tournament, beating fourth seed Ralt Bohn of Greensboro, North Carolina in the quarter-final, first seed Alex Lane of Wilmington, NC in the semi-final and third seed Frank Cernik of Raleigh, NC in the final by a score of 11/9 11/7 11/6 to take both the Dual State and South Carolina 4.0 titles.

This was a great turn around for Crawford who had lost to Alex Lane in their previous meeting. Frank Cernik took the North Carolina 4.0 title.

In the final event of the championships, there was a meeting of father and son and Charleston's Director of Squash Richard Millman met with son and World Touring professional Joe Millman.

Richard has just returned from the US National Championships in Philadelphia PA,



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where he won the national 5.5 title and is preparing for international competition next week when he travels to Edinburgh Scotland to play for the England 45 and over team.

Joe Millman is currently ranked 242 on the PSA world ranking list.

The match started with Millman junior controlling the pace, volleying at speed, which Millman senior couldn't slow down enough to extend the rallies. Game one to Joe 11/8.

The second was a much closer affair with the older Millman slowing things down and making greater physical demands on his son. Joe still ran out winning the game 15/13.

However the physical toll on the younger Millman was beginning to tell and in the third game Richard punished Joe with some long hard rallies, sucking the air out of his lungs and taking the game 11/6.

He followed up with more of the same in game four, winning it 11/9.

So at two games all, the match was set for a decider. The younger Millman decided to change strategy and, adopting some of his father's tactics, slowed things down considerably. Although the ball was struck with less pace, this actually created more pressure as it both produced more accurate shots and forced Richard to take the ball early, to prevent it from dying in the back corners.

This resulted in a string of errors from Richard, and Joe sailed home 11/6 to take the match and the Dual State and South Carolina titles.

Nine game sweep for local pro

MAUR PLAYS HIS HEART OUT AT HOME INTERNATIONALS IN DUBLIN 40+s

Says Andre: "I had one of the best weekends in my playing career by winning all my games for



Ireland at the Home Internationals held in Dublin in May. This weekend is the equivalent to the Ryder Cup in golf. Not only did I win my matches, but I did not drop a game all weekend, winning all my games 3-0. Also made a bit of Irish history, as no player has ever won all their matches without losing a game.

It was just one of those perfect weekends, where I could not put a foot wrong on and off the court especially beating a very strong and fit English player, Steve McLoughlin from England, known as the Marathon Man. The match was 55 minutes, (9-7, 9-6, 9-6) against England. Felt like a million US.

Unfortunately, we came in fourth losing to Scotland and Wales 3-2 and England 4-1. England once again won the Men and Womens' events. Well done England."



Meanwhile...R. Millman plays for England in the 45+ division:

Picking his narration up after England has defeated Ireland and Wales, Richard is the first match of five on vs. Scotland. He has won the first two games:



“In the third, I came out determined to step up the court an extra yard and to take the ball earlier. This I did, and I made good headway, driving the Scot’s number five into the backhand back corner and then capitalizing on the loose ball that emanated from his difficulties, finishing several times with my patent deceptive flicks across his body to wrong foot him. I got to 8-2 match ball and thought the job was done. I didn’t relax. I knew I had to put the final nail in the coffin, but it seemed my opponent didn’t

want to die yet. Once again he started hitting some punishing deep drives and I again started playing inappropriate boasts and even hit a few drops in the tin.

Suddenly it was 5-8 and as I looked up into the gallery and saw my team mates, Pat, my brother Chris, and my Mum and Dad looking worried, I realized that I was on the brink of disaster. Losing from 8-2 up is not good and never bodes well for the next game.

I don’t like choking and certainly not in my most important match for my country to date. My mind left the gallery and returned to the job at hand. I realized that my Scots opponent and I were now playing about even and so I needed to raise my game.

Of course, as we were playing the old nine point system, we were having a few rallies where the serve went back and forth without loss. Finally I managed to win a hand out rally. The next rally was a bit of a scramble. He tried to pin me in the back backhand corner again, but this time I wasn’t falling for the old boast trap and I stuck it high over his head into the back backhand. He tried to play down the wall but I had stepped up and played a decent tight drop-volley into the front left corner. He played a fairly good cross court lob. I knew he was late getting to my drop-volley and so if could take his lob early he would be out of position. I reached up to my full five-foot-seven-and-a-quarter and intercepted his lob with a slightly miss-hit straight drop-volley. It struck the front wall about a quarter of an inch above the tin and his desperate lunge missed the ball by a hair’s breadth.

Game and match to Millman. England 1 Scotland 0. 'That's the start we needed,' said a stern-faced Stuart Hardy (the England 50+ captain) a few minutes later. It's a great feeling to have the appreciation of your countrymen when you're playing for your flag - especially when you're on first.”



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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