

SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS



**1997
BALTIMORE
INVITATIONAL/
ROBERT H. HICKS**

**BALTIMORE
FEBRUARY 21-23**

COMMITMENT.

All of us at Pierce Leahy are proud that our company is sponsoring the 1997 Baltimore Invitational/Robert H. Hicks Squash Championships not only because of the Pierce family's longtime enjoyment of the sport, but because our association with this important event mirrors our company's commitment to the ideals of sportsmanship, determination, excellence and fair play . . . those values which define the game of squash itself.

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The Maryland State Squash Racquets Association

presents the

1997

**BALTIMORE INVITATIONAL
ROBERT H. HICKS/SENIORS-MASTERS
SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Hosted by: The Maryland Club

Sponsored by:

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BOB TRAVERS
JIM TAYLOR
JOHN VONEIFF
GARRIET VREELAND

Tournament Committee

BOB EVERD, Chairman

BOB BARTON
JOHN VONEIFF
JIM TAYLOR

BOB TRAVERS
BOB HICKS
BOB GAINES

AND FINALLY . . . To those who became Patrons at registration, to those whose names came too late, fell victim to the postal service or otherwise came aboard too late for publication, we thank you and regret that we were unable to recognize you in print.

FROM THE TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:

Dear Patrons, Players and Guests,

When is (1) the sum of (55) and (13)? When (1) represents the first time two prestigious squash doubles tournaments combine.

Welcome to the premier of the Baltimore Invitational/Robert H. Hicks Doubles Tournament. A number of years ago, Bob Hicks invited many of his squash cronies to a fun filled weekend. Doris, Bob's beautiful wife, extended the invitation to their spouses and significant others. Although the Hicks Seniors Masters Tournament has been centered around doubles squash, it was most importantly a social event. Cocktails parties, lunches, cocktail parties, a black tie dinner dance, a hardy brunch (and I did mention cocktail parties) highlighted the weekend.

Year after year the Hicks grew in size and stature. Now, it is recognized as an integral piece of the national doubles tour for players over the h____, well, lets just say - over fifty.

The "BID" or Baltimore Invitational Doubles has been a national mainstay for more than fifty years. It is recognized as the preface to the National Doubles providing teams with an opportunity to compete against the best, and like the Hicks, the BIDs' has always boasted a great social tradition.

This year we combined them. Our hope is that each player will compete hard and every guest will enjoy watching them do it. But, just as importantly, we encourage everyone to partake in all the festivities. Don't hold back! Win one for Southey Miles. After all, the tournament is really held for your enjoyment.

Please take a moment to thank the many volunteers, sponsors and patrons who have made this all possible. They deserve your support. After all, without them, the "bar" might not be open.

Enjoy!
Bob Everd



Bob Everd and Anita McMullin - 1996 National Men's Doubles

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Welcome to the 1997 Baltimore Invitational/Bob Hicks Double Championships. The information herein is provided to help the weekend run more smoothly. Please wear your badge. It is your ticket to all matches and social events. Only Patron badges are transferable. Additional badges and (in some cases) individual tickets may be purchased at the Registration Desk.

The Registration Desk is located in the Maryland Club - NEW Squash Court Lobby.

TOURNAMENT SITES

1) *Tournament Headquarters for all events is the Maryland Club.*

Maryland Club

1 East Eager Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3220

General Manager: Ms. Katherine Mandaro
Squash Chairman: Clark Griffin
Squash Professional: Jim Taylor

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION AND HEADQUARTERS:

Bobby Gains is Head of Registration. The Registration Desk will be located in the Maryland Club's New Squash Court Lobby which is adjacent to the three new Soft Ball Singles Courts. Direct access is from the Maryland Club parking lot, through the rear court entrance (the entrance under the court building) then up the stairs (one level) to the Court Lobby.

There is a second Maryland Club entrance from the parking lot into the rear of the building. It is closer to Charles Street and leads into the Maryland Club's Main Foyer. From the entrance walk past the foyer stairway and into the Main Lounge. Halfway into the main lounge turn right and go through the door leading into the new Court Lobby and Soft Ball Singles Courts. From here there is direct access to the stairway leading to the upper (Old) Court Lobby and down to the Locker Room and Squash Shop.

The Registration Staff will be present beginning 12 Noon until 6:00 p.m. on Friday, and all day Saturday to assist players patrons and guests.

MARYLAND CLUB DRESS CODE & PURCHASING POLICY

The Maryland Club has a conservative dress code. This includes all parts of the facility with the exception of the Locker Room and Squash Court areas. The dress code should be honored by all throughout Friday. However, for the tournament, the Maryland Club has waived its dress code on Saturday and Sunday and casual dress is acceptable everywhere in the facility from opening until 5:30 p.m.

The Maryland Club does not normally accept or permit non-members to charge. The following are tournament exceptions:

Purchases at the Maryland Club may be charged to a home club that has reciprocity with the Maryland Club. A list of such clubs is available at the Registration Desk. Additionally, cash bars will be set up to serve non-member players, patrons and guests throughout Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. Complimentary non-alcoholic drinks will be available for players in the Locker Room.

SQUASH PRO SERVICES

The Maryland Club Squash Shop will be open throughout the tournament. Purchases can be made with cash or check. See Jim Taylor.

LAUNDRY - BOOTBLACK

Laundry service is available during the tournament at a cost of \$5.00 per wash. Bootblack services are also available at a cost of \$3.00 per shine. See Al, Vinny or Anthony.

Use the changing booths when getting ready to play but please do not "camp out" in a particular booth. Clear it for the next player. You can store your athletic bags in a secured area. See Al, Vinny or Anthony.

WORKOUT EQUIPMENT

The Maryland Club invites players to utilize the new workout facility located on the Locker Room level. There is a sauna and steam bath located in the Locker Room shower area.

MASSEUR SERVICES

Suat Yelkin, Maryland Club Resident Masseuse, will be available Friday and Saturday. A (15) minute "warmup" massage is \$15.00.

The Maryland Club has an ALL WHITE on court clothing tradition which must be honored by all players - no exceptions.

2) *In addition to the Maryland Club, matches will be played at the following locations:*

Baltimore Country Club

4712 Club Road

Baltimore, Maryland 21210

(410) 889-4400

(410) 467-1208 Pro Shop Direct

General Manager: Mr. Paul T. Spellman

Squash Committee Chairman: Mike Riehl

Racquets Director: Andrew Cordova

Assistant Professional: Keith Axelrode

The Baltimore Country Club has a conservative dress code and NO JEANS or DENIM clothing are permitted anywhere, but casual dress is acceptable on the ground floor and in the squash area. Distaff traffic through the Men's Grill, ground floor, is not permitted until after 5:30 p.m.

ENTRANCE TO BCC SQUASH FACILITY

The Squash Courts and Shop are located on the lower level at the south end of the building. The Locker Room is two floors above. There is a direct entrance to the squash facility that can be reached from the upper parking lot. From the parking lot walk under the arch adjacent to the north end lower entrance. Proceed left and south across the front of the building. There is a south end (green) door entrance to the enclosed walkway that leads to the squash facility. You must be conservatively dressed (coat & tie) to use the BCC's Main Entrance.

The Baltimore Country Club will not accept cash or permit non-members to charge. There will be non-alcoholic drinks for players outside the courts. Beer and soft drinks can be purchased on a cash basis at the Squash Shop.

SQUASH PRO SERVICES

Racquet repairs and services are available in the Squash Shop throughout the weekend. Purchases can be made with cash. See Andrew Cordova or Keith Axelrode.

BCC LOCKERS AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE

The Maryland Club is Tournament Headquarters and accordingly is where athletic bags should be stored. There are guest lockers available at the BCC but they should be used only during your match and athletic equipment should not

be left or stored at the BCC when you are not present. There are no laundry services at the BCC. Bootblack is available upon request for \$3.00 per shine. Players are welcome to use the BCC singles courts and the BCC workout facility adjacent to the Locker Room when they are available.

The Baltimore Country Club has an ALL WHITE on court clothing tradition which must be honored by all players - no exceptions.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

A continental breakfast will be available at the BCC on Saturday morning. It will be set up between 7:00 and 10:00 a.m. in the lobby outside the entrance to the Squash Courts.

DIRECTIONS TO THE BCC

To get to the Baltimore Country Club from the Maryland Club go North on Charles Street and then North on Rt. 83, the Jones Falls Expressway. Exit 83 North at Cold Spring Lane - first exit - East. Cross Falls Road and go up the hill to Roland Avenue. Turn left on Roland Avenue and go five blocks to Club road. Turn left on Club. Club curves right and the BCC is in the middle of the block on the left.

Meadow Mill Athletic Club

3600 Clipper Mill Road
Baltimore, MD 21211
(410) 235-7000

Proprietors: Anne and Ken Katz and Nancy and Frank Cushman
Squash Professional: Nick Kyser
Tournament Representative: Anita McMullin

Meadow Mill has (8) soft ball singles and (2) doubles courts plus a wide range of workout equipment. The tournament has the use of the doubles courts ONLY. Players are invited to use the workout equipment when available. Before playing a match, check in with Anita McMullin or at the FRONT DESK. Identify yourself as a Tournament Participant. Meadow Mill provides towels and has both a sauna and whirlpool. Choose any open guest locker but take your valuables to the court unless you carry a lock.

Meadow Mill has a great luncheon counter. The sandwiches are exceptional and there are all types of drinks including beer. You can pay with cash.

There is a full service squash shop. Sergey Khmelevsky is shop manager and resident masseur.

HOW TO GET TO MEADOW MILL

Meadow is half way between the Maryland Club and the Baltimore Country Club. From the Maryland Club drive up Charles Street to 83 North (Jones Falls Expressway). Exit 83 North at Cold Spring Lane - first Exit going East. Turn right on Falls Road. Go past the traffic light at 41st Street and turn right on Union Avenue. Go down the bottom of the hill and turn left on Clipper Mill Road. Take the first turn right under the Expressway and over the wooden bridge into the Meadow Mill parking lot. The entrance is left then right around the corner.

Coming from the Baltimore Country Club, exit the club's upper lot at the north end turn left and drive down the hill to Falls Road. Pass through two traffic lights (Falls Road and 41st Street) and turn right on Union Avenue. At the bottom of the hill, turn left onto Clipper Mill road then right under the highway and over the wooden bridge into Meadow Mill.

Towson Center

Towson State University

Osler Drive

Baltimore, MD 21204

(410) 830-2370

Court Manager: Chris Lauver

The Towson Center has singles squash courts, racquet ball courts and two doubles courts. Only the latter are available to tournament participants. Players must check in at the Registration Desk and give their badge numbers to the attendant. The court entrance is at the Registration Desk; the locker room and shower facilities are on the level below. Adjacent to the Reservation Desk is an area where non-alcoholic drinks and snacks can be purchased.

It is an approximate 25 minute drive from the Maryland Club and 20 minutes from the Baltimore Country Club to the Towson Center. From the Maryland Club go straight up Charles Street or take 83 North to Northern Parkway - then east (first ramp on right) to Charles Street, turn left. Continue north on Charles Street through Lake Avenue then 1/4 mile more to Stevenson Lane (at Exxon Station); turn right onto Stevenson. Go about 1-1/2 miles to second light - Osler Drive. Turn left on Osler Drive. Go about 50 yds. and turn left on Auburn, go 10 yds. more and turn left into the parking lot. Drive to the end of the lot. Here you will find the sidewalk entrance to Towson Center.

From the Baltimore Country Club parking lot exit, turn right and then left up Upland Road to Roland Avenue. Turn left (North) on Roland Avenue and continue to the fourth traffic light where Roland dead ends into Lake Avenue. Turn right on Lake and then Left (North) on Charles St. Now follow the same directions to Stevenson Road as described above.

3) *The Tournament Hotel*

Cross Keys Inn

Village of Cross Keys

5100 Falls Road

Baltimore, MD 21210

(410) 532-5400

Katie Deerwood, Hotel Representative

The Cross Keys Inn is holding rooms in reserve for the tournament. The Inn provides a variety of services including: complimentary parking, courtesy transportation to the Inner Harbor, museums, shopping malls and the like. Most of the Guest Rooms as well as the Dining Room have been recently renovated.

Cross Keys is located on Falls Road. Traveling North on the Jones Falls (83) Cross Keys is situated between Cold Spring Lane to the South and Northern Parkway to the North. Falls Road parallels the Jones Falls to the East one block off of either Cold Spring or Northern Parkway. If you exit (83) at Cold Spring, turn left on Falls Road and go north. If you exit at Northern Parkway turn right at Falls Road and go South. Either way, Cross Keys is clearly marked.

PLAY

There is a full schedule play. Teams are responsible for checking in (dressed for play) at least **twenty minutes before scheduled match time**. If the court becomes available prior to the scheduled match time, **players must be available to play as much as fifteen minutes early**. As noted on the court schedule the time given for the first match of the day, on each court, is **MATCH TIME**. Warmups must be completed by match time unless the court is not vacated by the previous match players, and **all warmups are limited to six minutes (three minutes per side)**. Referees will enforce the three minute per team warmup rule and warmups must begin as soon as the previous match vacates the court or at the scheduled time.

No match (other than a consolation match) can begin without a referee. **Lensed eye protection is required**. Non conforming teams will be defaulted.

REFEREES

Bob Travers is Head Referee for the MSSRA. He is responsible for placing referees and otherwise settling deputes relative to the USSRA Rules of Play that may transcend a referee's authority a given match. He is the only individual who can replace a referee or wall judge once a match is underway. He must be consulted before any team can be officially defaulted.

USSRA Rules governing the awarding of "Let Points" - specifically RULES #5 through #8, relative to a player's or team's "Right to Play the Ball" will be enforced. Insofar as possible, the tournament will supply referees for matches. When no referee has been furnished, **ONE OF THE WINNERS OF A MATCH MUST REFEREE THE NEXT MATCH ON HIS COURT.** If you are that winner, please wait a few minutes before heading to the shower to determine whether your services are required.

MEDICAL

John Minkowski has agreed to check out the wounded. In the event of an injury it is the referee's responsibility to notify the Registration Desk and/or the Court Representative. They will locate John and get him to the scene.

CONSOLATION TOURNAMENT

Feed-in Consolation Divisions will be played in all cases with the exception of Round-Robins. Bob Everd will be setting up the consolation schedule with play beginning Saturday morning. Teams eliminated in the first round will be automatically placed into the appropriate consolation draw. Information about the consolation schedule will be available at the Registration Desk. Draw Sheets will be posted there and at the court sites. In the event your team is eligible for one of the consolation draws but you do not intend to play, please make your decision known to Bob Everd or at the Registration Desk.

SEATING

Seating at all sites is first come, first serve with the following exceptions: 1) Patrons are entitled to preferred seating at the Maryland Club pre-dinner dance match which will take place Saturday afternoon in Court 1. 2) On Sunday, Patrons are entitled to preferred seating at all semi-finals and finals matches held in Court 1, Maryland Club.

TRANSPORTATION

Players are responsible for their own transportation. Some directions are herein. Maps and directions are available at the Registration desk.

SOCIAL EVENTS at the Maryland Club

1) There will be an buffet Dinner Reception 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday evening in the Ladies Lounge and Card Room on the second floor. Go up the Main Stairway and turn left. Bob and Doris Hicks are the hosts of this gathering

of good friends and players that has become a hallmark of the Bob Hicks Seniors/Masters Squash Tournament.

The bar will be open and traditional Maryland fare including Backfin Crab Balls, Smoked Salmon, Orange Blossom Chicken, Smithfield Ham and Maryland Club Ginger Orange Sauce "Pot Stickers" will be passed in abundance. The buffet features Crabmeat Mornay with Toasted French Bread. Come for an hour or stay until the end, there is no better way to begin the weekend.

2) A continental Saturday Breakfast will be set up in the new Squash Court Lobby between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. There is a similar setting at the Baltimore Country Club's Squash Court Lobby.

3) A Saturday Luncheon will be served in the second floor Dining Room from 12 noon until 2:30 p.m. Go up the Main Stairway and turn right. Casual attire is permitted. At the luncheon there will be a generous selection of soups, salads, roasted meats, sliced vegetables, cheese and deserts.

4) Immediately following the featured Semi-finals pre-dinner match the big party begins with Hors d' oeuvres and an open bar lasting until 8:30 p.m. The Maryland Club is providing the entire first floor.

Chef Curtis Eargle is cutting no corners with his Stations Buffet Dinner which begins at 8:30 p.m. and is served at various locations throughout first floor. Roasted Tenderloin, Smithfield Ham, Cajun Shrimp, Poached Salmon, a variety of Pastas, Stuffed Chicken Breast, Apple Beignets and French Pastries are all part of the Chef's plans for a splendid banquet.

George Hipp's Orchestra gets underway at 8:00 p.m. and intends to keep everybody dancing until midnight.

5) Most of the finals matches will be completed on Sunday morning. The featured finals matches, the Men's 40s', 50s' and the OPEN will be played one after the other beginning at 9:00 a.m.

6) Brunch begins at 12:00 Noon or at the conclusion of the Open Finals. It will be a grand affair put forth in the Maryland Club's Cafe. In the process a few awards will be presented and a few good friends recognized.

A SPECIAL THANKS

In addition to the patrons who have underwritten much of the cost of the tournament, the tournament committee is proud to additionally recognize: Alex. Brown, Pierce Leahy, Bob and Doris Hicks and wounded National Champion Morris Clothier, for being Tournament Sponsors.

MARYLAND CLUB

What a difference a year makes. A catastrophic fire the night of August 20, 1995 reduced the Maryland Club to a ruin with walls. A great effort was made to have the two doubles courts ready by March 15, 1996 for the National Men's Doubles Championships but, the doubles courts were just about the only part of the devastated old club that was ready last March. The grand structure that had served so many so well for so long was still pretty much empty and unfinished. Workman were everywhere. On the first day of the National Doubles, they got the showers working.

If you have some time, browse through the building today. The intricate woodwork has been rejuvenated. The receding mahogany sun screens built into the windows of the Charles Street Lounge look and work like they were intended to in the early 1900s'. The oak floors are refinished and the marble is again polished. The portraits have been restored and the Great Seal of the Maryland Club circled within its nineteenth century gilded frame is hanging in the hallway adjacent to the handsome Second Floor Dining Room.

Much that could not be replaced was rebuilt or donated by members. The Locker Room was completely reconstructed, a new Court Lobby and Men's Bar Room were added. The kitchen was totally replaced. A new parking lot entrance was added. Even the marble facings on the Charles Street Parking Lot wall were cleaned, replaced where needed, expanded - not to mention the Parking Lot itself which is a new and conveniently wonderful addition.

All of the original singles courts were destroyed. Three new international courts, including a gallery court, stand where they were. Both doubles and the two hard ball singles courts were refurbished. A fully equipped weight and workout complex was installed in what had once been boiler, utility and storage rooms.

Through all of it the membership of the Maryland Club contributed when needed, helped when asked and most importantly remained united and determined to put things back together. This has indeed been a marvelous year and all Maryland Club Members are thrilled that Squash is back "bigger than ever" and that the two foremost Maryland State Doubles tournaments (the Baltimore Invitational and the Bob Hicks Seniors Masters) are part of the revival.

John Voneiff,
President MSSRA

MARYLAND STATE SQUASH

Hall of Fame

Maryland has a Squash Racquets tradition back to the early 1920s'. It began at the Baltimore Athletic Club across the street from Penn Station. Lawrence Balliere was the best singles player in town (there was no doubles). He was more or less unbeatable through 1928. The Old Racquet Club located in the Plaza Hotel on the north west corner of Charles Street at Mt. Vernon Circle was where the first doubles court was built in the mid 1930s'. It was in the rear of the building on the second floor and until 1964 was the only doubles court in Maryland. When the Racquet Club dissolved, the Plaza Hotel Courts were taken over by the University Club - directly across the street on the opposite corner.

The first six National Doubles Tournaments held in Baltimore were played on this single Plaza court. The very first National Doubles hosted just fourteen teams, a meager beginning when compared to the 1996 National Doubles which recorded two hundred players competing in seven age divisions and using all seven doubles courts located in Baltimore. In those long ago primal years, however, Frank Symington, Bill Cooney, Vernon Cook and John Bidy were some of the best singles players who started playing doubles at the Plaza.

In time, the University Club too closed its doors. It was the Maryland Club, a little farther up Charles Street that would endure and prosper. The Maryland Club constructed four singles courts in 1928 and the Baltimore Country Club, in the then northern most suburbs, built three more in the 1930s'. The Maryland Club christened a state of the art doubles court in 1965, again, at about the same time as the Baltimore Country Club opened its new squash complex housing two singles and a doubles court that remains spectacular today. With these additions, the great game of squash doubles, at least in Baltimore, was secured.

Frank Gould, Alexander Harvey, Jack Miller, Toni Retina, Sam Silber, Tommy Schweizer, Gene O'Conner, George Doetch, and Bill Lamble, who with George Doetch won five state doubles championships between 1960 and 1965, competed in both the old and new courts and in the process contributed mightily to the growth of Maryland State Squash during the 50s' and into the 60s'. In fact, the last four became National Doubles Champions.

The late 60's and a good part of the 1970s' were, without question, the Lacy years. "Big Jim" Lacy who is in the State of Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame won a multitude singles titles in all sorts of tournaments and he and his younger brother Joe (both left handers) absolutely dominated doubles by earning eight state championships which was every time they played together.

In the 1970s' Johns Hopkins University joined in by incorporating six singles courts into their new sports complex. John Reihl, Sr. and Bobby Vocal added two singles and another doubles by converting the old Girls Latin School Gym-

nasium in 1975. Frank and Nancy Cushman purchased this facility and transformed it into the Racquet Club of Roland Park in 1985 focusing on a juniors program that continues to involve hundreds of children and all of the local private schools.

Doubles flourished through the 1980s'. Veterans like Jervis Finney, Al Weaver, A.C. Hubbard, Tommy Schweizer, Sandy Martin and Jimmy Hense reached the top of the National Doubles Rankings. By the mid 1980's through the mid 1990s' a solid group of doubles players: John MacColl, Joe Fitzpatrick, Jack Leutkemeyer, Charlie Fenwick, David Warfield, Patrick Miller, John Minkowski, Doug Rice, Ira Miller, John Menton, John Voneiff, Bobby Travers, Frank Cushman, Mike Hahn, Paul Assaiante, Mike Riehl, Dirck Bartlett, Jeff Kennedy, Nat Otis and National Champion, Jim Zug (all acquiring Maryland State Squash Titles) made winning a Maryland State Doubles Championship quite an accomplishment.

...And, then there's Sandy Martin. Between 1973 and 1990 Sandy was Maryland State Singles Champion six times and Doubles Champion ten times. He was at the top of the National Doubles rankings for almost ten years. He and his open partner Tommy Poor were positioned No. 2 in the United States and in the process won tournament titles just about everywhere including the Baltimore Invitational Doubles. Sandy was ranked No. 1 in the United States Men's 40+ Doubles three times and won the Canadian National 40s' Championship twice. In Maryland Doubles (for years) it seemed to be Sandy Martin and anyone else. He is playing in this tournament, for the first time - in the Men's 50s', with the celebrated National Champion, Maurice Heckscher of Philadelphia.

By 1990 Frank and Nancy Cushman were getting "itchy". They weren't satisfied with the limitations of the Racquet Club and envisioned a facility that would bring the international game to Baltimore in a major way. Collaborating with Anne and Ken Katz in 1992, the four partners opened the most up to date squash facility in the United States, Meadow Mill Athletic Club, with eight international singles and two doubles courts. Then, they renovated the Racquet Club adding four more international singles courts.

The Merritt Athletic Clubs contributed with seven more international courts constructed in three of their Baltimore area facilities. Mike Riehl, BCC Squash Chairman, recently announced that the Baltimore Country Club will convert their existing hard ball singles courts to international courts this spring.

Because of this long history, and because of the love for, strength of and on going increase in participation in Maryland Squash, it is fitting that a "Hall of Fame" be established to recognize talent and dedication. Accordingly, the MSSRA is working with the Governor's Office to institute an award recognized by the State of Maryland, the Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame and the MSSRA that does just that. Who will be the first recipients? Well, nominations and venue remain in process but it is altogether likely that the first five are named somewhere herein.

Is There Anyone (out there) Worthy of Winning the Coveted

SOUTHEY MILES AWARD

Southey Miles would be horrified. Since 1989, no one has been able to capture the celebrated trophy he so championed that it was posthumously given his name shortly after his untimely death in 1973. To this day, Southey remains the unchallenged greatest of all recipients.

His dominance inconspicuously began at the BID's finals match in 1960. He left that afternoon match between the third and fourth games where he was serving as the referee. Under considerable stress, a consequence of an unfortunate string of very bad calls and an inability to remember the players much less the score, Southey told the left wall judge that he was going to take the time between games to retrieve a martini, his favorite libation. This he declared, as he headed up the gallery steps, would steady him for the play to come. No one saw him again for five days. When questioned as to his whereabouts, Southey swore that he had never left the building.

In 1963 he won again. No one is certain whether it was for attempting to do a head stand on a full plate of food at the Saturday night dinner or for mistaking the foyer palm planter for a urinal that ultimately secured his victory. "Either way", said Southey, "I'm just as honored."

Try as he might the trophy eluded him over the next four years. Southey passed out, played a match in the nude, was captured by Martians, broke plates, fell down the steps and kicked off the 1965 National Tournament, which replaced the BIDs' that year, by singing the National Anthem with a mouth full of Melba Toast. All, to no avail, the competition for the trophy during the years of 64, 65, 66 and 67 was too strong.

But in 1968, Southey returned with a vengeance. Undergoing months of training on an undisclosed horse farm in the Green Spring Valley, Southey developed a bodily sound patterned after the gastrointestinal eruptions of copulating stallions. He unleashed it at the 1968 Saturday night dinner dance and drove a considerable number of the unsuspecting screaming from the premises while covering their eyes with damp napkins in a futile attempt to prevent effluvium burns so severe that, in some cases, the result was temporary blindness. One witness recalled that the only warning was a shrill guttural reverberation so unnerving that it made the band stop playing.

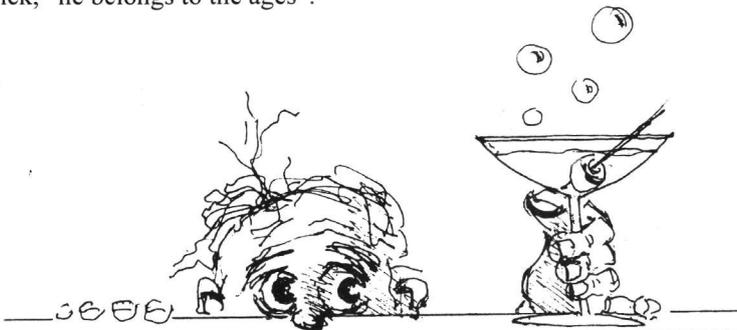
As for Southey, he didn't remember anything. The explosion sent him careening across the buffet table and into the giant cross racquet ice sculpture. Rendered unconsciousness, he was lost in the ensuing bedlam. Pinpointed early the next morning by the Tournament Chairman, Southey was whipping up a Bloody Mary in the service bar and having one devil of a time locating the Tabasco sauce.

It is rumored that on that day in 1973 his three lunch game comrades gathered at Southey's bedside unaware of the impending end. Southey, unfortunately, was in a coma, but he could at least join them, if only by his physical presence, in their pre-match triple martini toast - extra dry - two olives.

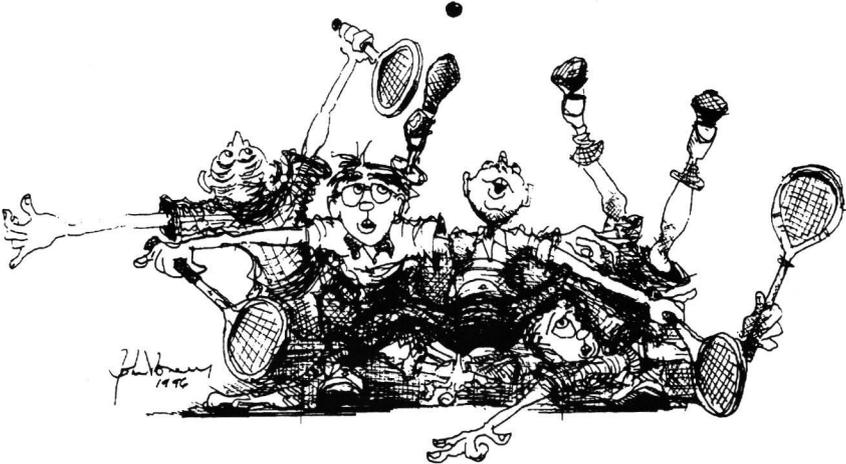
As Big Dick, Southey's burly left wall partner, began to jiggle the martini shaker, Southey's eyes miraculously popped opened. The three visitors froze, paralyzed in their collective amazement. Southey smiled and weakly raised his hand gesturing to Big Dick to come closer. As Dick leaned down over Southey he inadvertently spilled some of the shaker's contents on his old partner's monogrammed pink pajamas. Southey whispered that he usually preferred a glass. His eyes sparkled and a disconcerted Dick instinctively knew by inference that his every jocund companion of many a glad time was telling him - it's OK.

Southey clenched Dick's right shoulder with the frail fingers of his left hand and mustering all remaining strength, the great veteran of many a not so well played match, pulled himself erect. "My friends". His faint voice grew momentarily stronger. "My dear friends; when I'm gone, make them work to earn the trophy; promise - you'll make them work; make them work". With that, he collapsed back onto the pillow. A legend was gone; only the irrepressible smile remained.

Big Dick gently closed his partner's eyes and in a final gesture of admiration placed a fresh gin soaked olive on each eyelid. There and then, the remaining three decided that the great trophy Southey had pursued like the Holy Grail should rightfully bear his name. They raised their glasses in tribute: "Now", said Big Dick, "he belongs to the ages".



USSRA Rules Governing a Team's "Right to Play the Ball"



5. Right to Play the Ball

(a) Immediately after a side has struck the ball, each player must get out of the opponents' way and must:

(1) Give the opponents a fair view of the ball;

(2) Give the opponents a fair opportunity to get to and strike at the ball in and from any position on the court elected by an opponent. A player will be deemed to have failed to give the opponents a fair opportunity to get to and strike the ball when excessive follow through has been used so that an opponent has to wait for excessive swing;

(3) Allow either opponent to play the ball to any part of the front wall or back wall and to that part of each side wall in front of the floor service line; and

(4) Refrain from creating a visual or audible distraction.

Rule 5.(3) Interpretation

1. Clearing behind red service line: All players must clear to allow the opposing players to hit the ball to either side wall in front of the service line. Repeated failures to do so or deliberate actions which deny the opponent the right to play his chosen shot will result in Let points being called against the violators. Remember, if you clear to behind the red service line your opponent cannot

eradicate himself from a defensive position by calling a Let on you unless the “boast” is a *reasonable* shot under the circumstances (See intent and interpretation under Rule 5(a)(1)). Referees should warn the player who tries to abuse this rule with calls of repeated Lets, that he/she must play the ball if the opponents have so cleared. However, when a player “comes around” and may not be sure of where the opponents are, he/she may request a Let. The safety factor must predominate, but the Referee must determine whether the striker is being fair in asking for the Let or is merely trying to get out of an unfavorable position.

6. Let Point

(a) A Let Point shall be awarded to a side:

(1) When an opponent, in violating Rule 5, deprives a player of a clear opportunity to attempt a winning shot; or

(2) When an opponent, in violating Rule 5, fails to make the effort within the scope of his/her normal ability to avoid the violation thereby depriving a player of an opportunity to attempt a shot; or

(3) When an opponent, in violating Rule 5, has caused repeated Lets, no one of which individually constitutes a Let Point.

(4) When the striker hits the ball back at himself and the opponent is ready to hit the ball but unable to do so because of the striker’s position, it is a violation of Rule 5(3) and a Let Point for the opponent, regardless of whether or not a winner would have been struck by the opponent.

(b) The Referee shall not award a Let Point as defined in this Rule 6 unless a Let Point or a Let (See Rule 7) is requested by a player.

Rule 6 Interpretation

2. Let Point Rule -

(a) Ball struck back at one’s self: When you hit a ball back at yourself and your opponent refrains from striking it and calls Let, he/she should be awarded the point, irrespective of whether or not he/she could have struck the ball for a winner. The intent here is to penalize the person for his/her in this poor position. This Let point rule (Rule 6(a)(4)) also applies when a player hits a bad “reverse corner” or short “Philly-Boast” since it was his own poor shot which caused the Let situation.

(b) Depriving opponent of winning shot or failure to use reasonable efforts to clear: There appears to be a misconception on behalf of some players who get caught in the front court by their partner’s poor shot. They argue that since they

did not hit the ball back at themselves, their opponent should not get a Let point - Wrong!!! No matter who hit the poor shot, if you position, either by refusing or being unable to clear deprives your opponent of a clear opportunity to attempt a winning shot, a Let point should be awarded.

Rule 6 Interpretation 2.

Let Point Rule - (c) - Crosscourts

(a) Let Point shall be awarded on a crosscourt shot only in the following circumstances.

(1) When the opponent deprives the striker of a clear opportunity to attempt a winning shot (i.e. shot well in front of red service line);

(2) Where the opponent fails to make the effort within the scope of his/her ability to clear so as to deprive his/her opponent of an opportunity to attempt the reasonable shot of striker's choice; or

(3) Where the opponent, either due to his/her own positioning or due to his/her partner's poor shot selection/placement causes repeated let situations, no one of which individually constitutes a Let Point.

The intent of points 2 and 3 above is to allow a referee to penalize a player who repeatedly refuses to clear adequately when his/her partner has placed him/her in a disadvantageous position, whether or not the striker had a clear opportunity to attempt a winning shot. Prior to the awarding of a Let Point, the referee should warn the offending player who refuses to clear that further violations will result in the awarding of a Let Point.

8. Ball in Play Touching Player

(d) If a player strikes at and misses the ball, he/her and his/her partner may make further attempts to return it. If, after being missed, the ball touches either of their opponents or anything they wear or carry:

(1) If the player or his/her partner would otherwise have made a good return, the point shall be a Let.

(2) If the player or his/her partner could not have made a good return, their side shall lose the point.

Thank You - Tommy Schweizer

Those who have recently played with or against former National Champion, Tommy Schweizer, have heard him apologize because although he remains the competitor, he is not the player he once was. His balance is off because of a surgery to remove a tumor from his head two years ago and he has lost a step or two and some racquet power. He won't tell you this, and he doesn't feel sorry for himself, he simply feels that, on the court, he is not doing his part. He thanks his partner and opponents for being there as if they were doing him some kind of favor. Well, Tommy, everyone lucky enough to be on the court with you think it should be the other way around.

Welcome to Baltimore, Morris Clothier!

One of the greatest National Doubles Champions in recent times is Morris Clothier of New York. He and Jon Foster won the Nationals and were ranked No. 1 in the United States the three consecutive years of 1993, 94, and 95. He has also won just about every other major open title in both the United States and Canada. Maryland Squash is fortunate that Morris has not only come to Baltimore to play but has continually sponsored Maryland State Squash events.

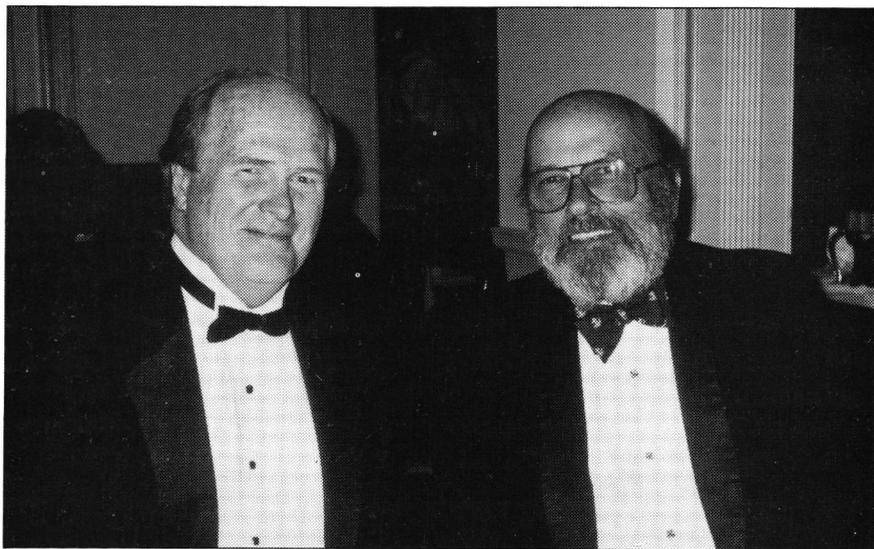
Last fall, as most know, Morris was involved in a serious accident that rendered him unable to finish the 1997 season. Nonetheless, he was one of the earliest to offer his support of this first Baltimore Invitational/Robert H. Hicks combined tournament, not only with his patronage, but by his presence. We are honored to have him.



1994 U.S. National Doubles in Pittsburgh - semifinal match won by Morris Clothier and Jon Foster over John Greenwood and Gregg Finn. Morris Clothier and Jon Foster are reigning national champions. (Photo by Viktor Dracek for Squash News).

Have You Met Jim and Patricia Goodyear?

Every time Tommy Poor comes to Baltimore he stays with Patricia and Jim Goodyear. Its been that way for twenty five years. Most players below the age of 40 don't know who Patricia and Jim are...but they have been wonderful friends of Maryland Squash. And, before Jim, a great collegiate football player for Wake Forest, needed everything that hinged in his body replaced, it was difficult to beat him in singles or doubles squash. Maryland Squash owes them much.



Jim Goodyear and Bob Hicks at the 1996 National Men's Doubles

*The MSSRA Executive Committee
is pleased and very proud to announce that
Robert H. Hicks is the recipient of the 1997
Maryland State Squash Racquets Association
Outstanding Achievement Award.*



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