



1997-98 MARYLAND STATE SQUASH YEAR BOOK

**MARYLAND STATE
SQUASH RACQUETS
ASSOCIATION**



**MARYLAND STATE SQUASH
RACQUETS ASSOCIATION**

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Baltimore, Maryland 21230



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Table of Contents

Letter from the President.....	1
Joe Fitzpatrick & Jim Hense	2
'97 Baltimore City Open.....	3
Robert H. Hicks Jr. Tournament	7
'97 Fall Doubles	8
'98 State Doubles Championship.....	8
Maryland State Hard Ball	9
Maryland State Mixed Doubles.....	9
A Squash Tip Worth Repeating.....	9
'98 Baltimore Inter-Club Soft Ball League.....	10
Doug Rice & Mike Pierce	10
Baltimore Invitational Doubles Championships.....	11
Maryland State Singles Championships.....	12
'97 Lockett Ketchum Matches	12
Profiles & Squash Tips from the Professionals.....	13
Fitzgerald Cup - Celebrates It's Golden Anniversary	15
The Baltimore Country Club Renovates.....	16
The Maryland Club Doubles - It's Squash Membership.....	16
'97-'98 Maryland State Rankings	17
When is a Let a Point?	21
Squash Racquets - History of the Sport	24
BT - The Whirlwind	27
Meadow Mill - 5 Years of Success.....	28
MSSRA Members	29
MSSRA/USSRA Membership Application Form.....	34



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1997-98 Schedule of Events

October 31 - November 1, 1997	Baltimore City Open
November 14-16, 1997	Maryland Club Member Guest
December 5-7, 1997	Maryland State Fall Doubles
December 7-20, 1997	Baltimore Country Club Christmas Doubles
January 9-11, 1998	Meadow Mill Club Doubles
January 16-18, 1998	Maryland State Mixed Doubles
January 17, 1998	Fitzgerald Cup
January 11-22, 1998	Maryland State Hard Ball Championships
January 19-24, 1998	Baltimore Country Club Member Guest
January 30-February 1, 1998	Robert H. Hicks Seniors Doubles
February 9-15, 1998	Maryland State Doubles Championships
Feb. 27-March 1, 1998	Baltimore Invitational
March 6-8, 1998	Canadian National Doubles
March 9-15, 1998	Meadow Mill Club Doubles
March 13-15, 1998	USSRA National Doubles - Denver
March 27-29, 1998	Maryland State Soft Ball State Championships

The Maryland State Squash Racquets Association Is Here For YOU

The Maryland State Squash Racquets Association is the official governing body for the sport of Squash Racquets in Maryland and is an organizational part of the United States Squash Racquets Association, the governing body of Squash in the United States. As such, it has the mission to establish standards for play, promote participation, sponsor state and other competitive events, and to maintain a genuine spirit of fair play and sportsmanship among all who play for all who play. When you join the MSSRA for an annual fee of \$40.00, you are also joining the USSRA and, in the process, supporting the game of Squash Racquets in Maryland and the United States.

During the past 1996-97 season the M.S.S.R.A through its officers and membership sponsored and financially underpinned all six of the Maryland State Championship tournaments plus a Professional Open event. Maryland State Squash sponsored and endowed the 1997 National Juniors hosted at Meadow Mill Athletic Club. It funded Baltimore's Lockett Ketchum Team which traveled to Philadelphia to play in this traditional competition between Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia & New York. It managed and raised funds for the Baltimore Invitational/Robert H. Hicks Seniors Masters Doubles Championships where 58 teams from around the United States and Canada converged on Baltimore to take part in one of the oldest, largest and most popular doubles tournaments.

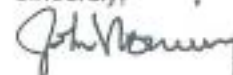
Total 1996-97 tournament expenses exceeded \$40,000.00. Corresponding funding came from three sources: a) patrons and sponsors, b) player fees, c) subsidies from the Maryland State Squash investment fund.

Beyond the playing aspect of the game, Maryland State Squash funded a rules clinic and luncheon at the Maryland Club where fifteen individuals were certified as referees. It is actively involved in implementing the U.S.S.R.A's National six point player rating system whereby players from anywhere can be handicapped relative to players from everywhere else. A Maryland State Squash Hall of Fame has been established with the first induction's to be awarded in March 1998. Bob Travers, MSSRA Vice President, headed up the sub-committee that implemented an MSSRA

investment policy to manage Maryland State Squash funds. Finally, Arden Travers has done the hard work of compiling and updating an Maryland State Squash "Player" Data Base. To finalize the Data Base everyone will soon be receiving a questionnaire; please take the time to fill it out and send it back.

Make a personal difference this year, if you are not an M.S.S.R.A member join and if you are a member become an M.S.S.R.A tournament or event volunteer. The Maryland State Squash Racquets Association is here for YOU.

Sincerely,



John Voneiff,
President, M.S.S.R.A

Joe Fitzpatrick & Jim Hense

No. 2 National Ranking in Men's 50 Doubles

Joe Fitzpatrick and Jim Hense teamed up for the 1996-97 Squash Season to compete for a National Title. Although they fell one spot short of their mark, they were nothing short of outstanding. They started the year by winning big in three tournaments: first in Rochester, New York then in New York City and again in Atlantic City, New Jersey. They were forced to enter the 40s' division at Marion's prestigious William-White where through the execution of deadly reverse corner backhand winners by Joe Fitzpatrick and focused and relentless play by both, Hense and Fitzpatrick made it to the semi-finals. They lost to the number one seeds in five games - overtime in the fifth.

They went on to defeat the strong team of Bob Travers and John MacColl in the Maryland State 40s'. In the Baltimore Invitational/Robert H. Hicks Tournament they setback two great National Champions, Sandy Martin and Maurice Heckscher (again in five hard games) to reach the finals where they lost to the reigning National Champions, Tom Poor and Lenny Bernheimer. The 1997 National Tournament, hosted in Buffalo, New York, played out very much the same way. No team could hold up to Fitzpatrick's backhand and Hense's power, including the Canadian National Champions, until the finals where Tommy Poor and Lenny Bernheimer again won to become National Champions for the second year in a row.

All and all, it was quite a year for Joe and Jimmy, congratulations and well done.

1997 Baltimore City Open

Comments, Results and TIPS from some of the winners

Maryland State Squash's 1997-98 season debut event, the Baltimore City Open, was hosted by the Meadow Mill Athletic Club over the weekend of October 31st - November 3rd. A Friday night light buffet reception, a Saturday night dinner and a Sunday luncheon were provided for the largest gathering of local and out of town participants, patrons and guests in the tournaments successful history.

This time, a \$5,000.00 (PSA) Professional Championship Tour Event was a tournament highlight. It brought 30 of the top 150 touring pros to Baltimore. Qualifying rounds for the Professional Division began on Tuesday, October 28th with the first round of (16) starting Thursday. The finals matches for all Divisions (including (PSA) Professional Event, the Men's A, B, C and D and the Women's A and B/C) took place throughout Sunday. Meadow Mill was packed with players and spectators all weekend.

The Travers family, a tournament sponsor, also donated permanent trophies in lasting recognition of the Men's (A) and (40s') Divisions finalists.

TIMO TUOMINEN, OF FINLAND, WINS THE (PSA) PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT

Timo Tuominen arrived in Baltimore as the No. 3 seeded professional. By Saturday evening, after defeating Lars Harris of Switzerland ([7], 5, 9 & 11 - U.S. Point-a-Rally Scoring), he had earned his way into the finals. Immediately prior to this match, the No. 1 Seed, Olle Poutiainen, also from Finland, won a quick (14, 6 & 6) victory in the other semi finals match over James Robbins of England. By Sunday morning the talk around Meadow Mill was that Olle, who had little difficulty reaching the finals and who (by the way) was celebrating his 24th birthday on that same day, was simply playing to well to be beaten. That prediction was not to prove true as Timo, who had been somewhat inconsistent in both his quarter and semi final matches, played flawlessly in the finals. It took an hour and a half, but in the end, Timo's absence of errors earned him the biggest piece of the prize money (16-14, 11, [7] & 9).

Timo's Tip is:

"USE BACK COURT DEPTH TO SET UP THE FRONT COURT SHOT".

You won't beat an opponent at the professional level (or any other level) if you can not dependably get the ball to the back corners of the court. It may take a series of shots to maneuver your rival to the glass

wall or it may take only a single well placed lob but when he is there, do not hesitate to go for the front court shot. It might be a winner. If it isn't your opponent's race to the front wall is part of a winning strategy. It may cause him to hit a poor shot which you can quickly counter or it may produce a let point (which is as good as a winning shot) and it will certainly help tire him out. If he gets the ball back (usually by going deep) then start the process over by bringing him back behind the service line too. The value of achieving court depth is lost if you are not ready and, just as important, willing to follow with a shot in the front of the court.

DAVE BENNETT IS THE MEN'S (A) DIVISION WINNER AND TOURNAMENT CHAMPION

Following three years of being the finalist and just five years after he started to play squash, Dave Bennett won the Baltimore City Open Championship by defeating Hunt Richardson of Washington, D.C. Dave, the most improved player in the State with a current Ranking of No. 2, was noticeably tentative during all of the first game which he lost and the first half of the second game. Hunt, characteristically solid in his style of play and choice of shots, seemed comfortably on the way to a fast win during the first third of the match. Then, Dave settled down. He escalated the tempo by increasing the ball speed and bit-by-bit attained control of the rallies. He won the second game after trailing by five points. He was always slightly ahead in the third. With the local crowd clearly in his corner, Dave ruled the fourth game to take the match, tournament and Travers Cup.

Dave reached the finals after defeating Neil Sandson in the quarter finals and Randal Eheridge in a hard five game semi finals match. Randal, one of the top five State (A) players, got to the semi finals after an equally tough five game quarter finals match against Andrew Cordova, the Baltimore Country Racquets Director.

Hunt's road to the finals was as trying as Dave's. In one of the most sensational matches of the tournament, in any Division, Hunt defeated Dirk Bartlett in the last point of overtime in a five game blockbuster that left both players barely breathing and had the gallery cheering as if there were at a football game. Hunt came to the semi finals after an easy straight game victory over Jaime Miguel. Dirk advanced after Greg Mathis, who had defeated the National Juniors Champion, Richard Repetto, in the first round, withdrew because of an injury. When he did, Greg was six points ahead in the fifth game. Realizing that he would not be able to play on even if he won the quarters, Greg, in an act of true sportsmanship, stopped play and gave Dirk a chance to play again.

Dave Bennett's Tip is:

"IT REQUIRES PREPARATION TO WIN A MATCH"

Many, in fact, most play Squash purely for recreation. That's fine and there is no better game to keep one fit. There are those, however, who thirst for competition. I am one of these. Even a match between friends, after work, is played by both - to win. Tournaments are the ultimate test. There are those blessed with considerable talent, great racquet control and court sense; but when they get deep into a competitive match their skills break down. They were not fit enough to finish. It takes more than wanting to win to win; it takes more than racquet skill, speed or court sense. It requires preparation; and that means conditioning and practice. Paul Assiante, the able Trinity Squash/Tennis Coach, once said, "To win a soft ball squash tournament, you must punish your opponent; and to do that, you must be willing to punish yourself". He's right.

**LISSEN TUTRONE RETAIN THE WOMEN'S
A DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP**

Despite the very strong field of players, it wasn't even close. Lissen's toughest match was the finals where she found herself up against the extremely capable and nationally ranked Jenny Holleran. In fact, Jenny won the first game of the finals match. Then Lissen sprang to life and it was all over for Jenny. She was simply overwhelmed (0, 5 & 5). Lissen hits the ball harder than any woman I have ever seen, said Bobby Travers. Lissen certainly generates ball speed when she wants too but her game includes a whole lot more than power; she manifests a great lob, a consistent drop, speed, endurance and deception.

Lissen won her semi finals match against a solid Carole Grunberg and her quarter finals match with Edel Costigan in straight games. Jenny first defeated Lizz Everts and then Kathy Carlson in the semi finals with little difficulty to reach the finals and Lissen.

Lissen Tutrone's Tip is:

"VOLLEY EVERY TIME YOU CAN".

By volleying at every opportunity, your opponent must think and react faster and will, therefore, make more incorrect judgements and racquet errors. Just as importantly, you will be in a better position to make the next move before your opponent recovers from the last. It boils down to control which, in turn, requires that you command the court from a position in front of your opponent. The volley makes this possible. By the way, the volley has the same effect in Doubles.

**FRANK LUTES SURPRISES THE FIELD AND WINS
THE MEN'S (B) DIVISION**

Frank did it without losing a single game. In the finals, he upset Bruce Dunham, the No. 4 Seed. Before that, Frank defeated Alex Kam in the semi finals and John Brush, the No. 2 Seed, in the quarter finals. Bruce Dunham overshadowing the top half of the (B) Draw where the most exciting match was Bruce's five game victory over Phillippe Agafonovas, the No. 1 Seed. Twenty four quality individuals entered and played in the Men's (B) Draw making it the strongest field of players ever.

**JOHN WARMUTH LIVED UP TO HIS No. 1
SEEDING TO WIN THE MEN'S C DIVISION**

Thirty one players signed up to compete in the Men's C Division. John Warmuth was considered to be the best of them. His toughest challenge came when he played David Baranano, the No. 3 Seed, in the semi finals. Dave won the first two games and almost won the third and match, but John was in better shape. As Dave's endurance faded, and along with it his ability to control the ball, John took over. He won the match and then the C Division Title in three games by beating Ray Chinn, who had survived an arduous four match track to the finals.

Other talented C participants were Jay Snouffer, the No. 2 Seed who was defeated by Ray in the quarters, and Mike Winn, the No. 4 Seed who lost to Ray in the semi finals. One thing is irrefutable: there is an abundance of talented Men's C level players with the potential to move up.

**ARTURO BRILLEMBOURG UPSETS THE FIELD
TO TAKE THE MEN'S (D) TITLE**

Arturo did not lose a game in the process. He defeated the No. 1 Seed, Kyle Cunningham, to end up on top of the (D) Division. On his way, he beat Greg Friedman, Seeded No. 2, in the semi finals and Ivan Battaka in the quarters. Kyle Cunningham also reached the (D) finals without losing a game but was stopped cold by Arturo who was the unquestioned star of the the Men's D Division.

PATTI NEUMANN WINS THE WOMEN'S B/C DIVISION

Patti Neuman, the No. 1 Seed, as expected, reached the finals. Her toughest match was against Anne Watson in the semi finals. On the other side, Pat Estes upset both the No. 2 Seed, Stephnie Johnson, and the No. 3 Seed, Leslie Galloway, to have a chance at the title; but by the time of the finals, an injury sustained during the previous day of play compelled her to default. The title thus went uncontested to Patti.

MIKE RILEY DOMINATES THE MEN'S 40s' DIVISION

Mike, from Newport, Rhode Island, lived up his reputation as one of the very best in the United States. He did not come close to losing a game. What makes this particularly remarkable was the high quality of the competition. First he beat Sam Sosidia in the quarter finals then he defeated Frank Cushman in the semi finals. In the finals, he found himself up against Riaz Arshad, the No. 1 Seed and current State 40s' Champion who holds the Rank of No. 3 in the State As'. It made little difference, Riaz was never in the match. Mike could do no wrong while Riaz, uncharacteristically, could do nothing to reverse the inevitable.

ANDREW STRASFEGEL WINS THE MEN'S 50s' TITLE

In the finals Andrew found himself up against Denis Bourke, the No. 1 Seed and current State 50s' Championship. Out of the eight man Draw these two were on another level and according had no trouble on the way to playing each other. In the finals, Denis took immediate charge and quickly won the first game. It looked like he might do the same in the second game but Andrew, using his greater speed to track down Denis' barrage of shots, evened the score and then won the game. Denis seem stunned that he had given up the second game and before he could return to his normally steady groove, Andrew took the third and fourth games, match and 50s' Title.

Robert H. Hicks Jr. Seniors/Masters Doubles Tournament

January 30th - February 1st, 1998

The 15th Annual Bob Hicks Doubles Tournament will bring 30 Top 50s', 60s' and 70's Doubles teams, plus their guests to Baltimore for a weekend of good Squash and fellowship. Bob Everd is Tournament Director (410) 667-4800.



'97 Fall Doubles

December 5th through 7th, 1997

'98 State Doubles Championships

February 13th through 15th, 1998

SIGN UP FOR BOTH THE FALL & STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SAVE \$20.00/TEAM.

Here's how! The Fall Doubles entry fee is \$20.00 per team member or \$40.00 per team. The State Doubles Championship fee is the same. When you sign up for both tournaments the per team member fee drops to \$15.00 per event.

The 1997 Fall Doubles will include Men's A, B, C & D plus Women's A and B Divisions played between Friday, December 5th and Sunday, December 7th. The Men's 40s' and 50s' will be held prior to Friday, December 5th and can begin as early as Friday, November 28th, 1997. The purpose of this is to permit those over forty to compete within their age brackets and also participate in another playing division over the weekend.

The 1998 State Doubles Championships will include Men's A, B, C, & D plus the Women's A and B Divisions will be played between Friday, February 13th and Sunday, February 15, 1998. The State Men's 40s' and 50s' will be played the week before and can begin as early as January 30th and must end no later than Thursday, February 12, 1998.

Jim Taylor, Maryland Club Professional and Andrew Cordova, Baltimore Country Club Racquets Director are Co-Chairman of both events. Tournaments will utilize the doubles courts at Meadow Mill Athletic Club, the Maryland Club and the Baltimore Country Club.

You can obtain entry forms at any of the three host Clubs or from Jim Taylor (410) 727-3220 or Andrew Cordova (410) 889-4400 or (410) 467-1208. The special low entry fee is aimed at having everyone join in - even if you are not a regular doubles player. The Fall Doubles is an open event. There is a \$10.00 extra charge for (NON) M.S.S.R.A. members. The State Doubles Championships are open only to M.S.S.R.A. members. Both tournaments count toward State Doubles Ranking. To be eligible for the dual tournament discount you must sign up for both tournaments at the time of the Fall Doubles (on or before December 4, 1997).

Maryland State Hard Ball

January 9th thru 25th, 1998

Patrick Miller (410) 321-9405, Dirck Bartlett (410) 243-6795 and Jim Taylor, Maryland Club Professional, (410) 727-3220 will Co-Chair this season's Hard Ball Tournament. In 1997 about 30 individuals participated. This year, the Co-Chairs are preferring to extend the tournament over an approximate three week period. Divisions will include a Men's A, B, 40+, 50+ and possibly a 60+. Play will be held at the Maryland Club. If you have an interest in playing in the State Hard Ball Tournament give any of the three tournament's co-chairman a call; and remember to sign up early.

Maryland State Mixed Doubles

January 16th thru 18th, 1998

No event is more fun. The reigning State Champions are Nancy Cushman and Mike Riehl. Mike teamed up with Nancy, at the eleventh hour, when Frank Cushman learned he would be unable to participate to defend his and Nancy's 1996 title. Ever year, however, the competition gets stronger. The top four teams could compete with respectability in the State A Tournament and would be tough competition for the State B Doubles crown. This is largely due to our exceptionally talented State A women. Tournament Co-Chairs are Vaughn Easter and Lissen Tutrone.

A Squash Tip Worth Repeating

Diehl Mateer, the winner of eleven National Open Doubles Titles - more than any other individual as well as a champion squash singles and tennis player offered a "TIP" for improving one's play in an article written for the 1987 National Doubles Program. It is always worth repeating... "WATCH THE BALL".

Too many squash players forget the most important aspect of the game - knowing where the ball is 100% of the time. If a player will conscientiously work on watching the ball (all the time) a 30 to 50 percent improvement will take place; a rather large increase for just one segment of a game of many angles.

'98 Baltimore Inter-Club Soft Ball League

Begins January 15, 1998

For the first season since 1987 Maryland State Squash will institute league play in the form of three six man Baltimore based teams. Each team will be comprised of two "A", two "B" and two "C" level players. Teams will represent Meadow Mill Athletic Club, the Maryland Club, and the Baltimore Country Club. Matches between teams will take place on Thursday nights over a six week period. At the conclusion, each team will have played the others twice (once at home and once away) the championship team will be the one with the most accumulated individual wins. The winning Club and each member of its team will receive a MSSR Baltimore League plaque in recognition of their victory. Team Captains and Coaches will be as follows: for Meadow Mill - Dave Bennett, Captain and Frank Cushman, Coach; for the Maryland Club - Dixon Waxter, Captain and Jim Taylor, Coach and for the Baltimore Country Club - John Webster, Captain and Andrew Cordova, Coach. If you want to try out for a team slot get in touch with your respective team captain or coach. Baltimore League play begins Thursday, January 15th, 1998 and finishes on Thursday, February 19th, 1998.

Doug Rice & Mike Pierce -

'97 Maryland Club Member/Guest Champions

On Friday and Saturday, November 14th & 15th The Maryland Club hosted its annual Member/Guest Doubles Tournament. Clarke Griffin, MC Squash Chairman, said "The two day format permitted members to invite out of town guests." Jim Taylor, MC Professional, remarked "Scheduling a tournament of 44 teams within a two day time frame requires more than the Maryland Club's two courts. We could not have done it without the help of the Baltimore Country Club and the Meadow Mill Athletic Club." Dwight Platt, Tournament Director, awarded prizes to all divisions. Following the finals matches over 125 people enjoyed a splendid Dinner Dance.

The winners were: Championship Division: Doug Rice/Mike Pierce - winners, Dirck Bartlett/Mike Riehl - finalists; B Division: Rob Deans/Read Frank - winners, Rich Hagner/Jody Burns - finalists; C Division: Frank Andrews/Sean Coyle - winners, Thornley Hart/Donald Ross - finalists; D Division: Marquis Smith/Kevin Lynch - winners, Dwight Platt/Tom Locosta - finalists.

Baltimore Invitational Doubles Championships

Friday, February 27th thru Sunday, March 1st, 1998

This year the fifty year old Baltimore Invitational Doubles Championships (BIDS) are being expanded in order to include many local players who, in the past, have not been able to qualify for the Invitational's Open Division. These individuals who love the incredible game of Squash Doubles have expressed a strong desire not just to watch but to play. So, by adding MSSRA sanctioned A, B and C Divisions, a Women's A Division plus a National Men's 60s' Division to the tournament's traditional OPEN, 40s', 50s' Divisions, about 200 players, guests and patrons are expected to enjoy a super weekend of squash doubles with an all stops pulled out social agenda.

The larger format enables A, B, and C level teams another opportunity to improve their State Ranking and the OPEN, 40s', 50s', 60s' and Women's A level teams to enhance both their State and National Standing. The local A, B and C Division will begin play during the week prior to February 27th with the semi-finals and finals matches finishing over the weekend in conjunction with all other tournament divisions. There will be a corresponding (feed in) BIDS consolation tournament for all divisions.

Jimmy Hense is Tournament Chairman. His Committee includes: Bob Travers, Bob Everd, Bob Gains, Bob Barton, John Voneiff, Mary Alice Hense, Lissen Tutrone, Vaughn Easter Schmidt as well as all of the local teaching professionals: Frank Cushman from Meadow Mill Athletic Club, Jim Taylor, from the Maryland Club and Andrew Cordova from the Baltimore Country Club. It is not too late to join the committee. Everyone's help is needed and appreciated.

This year, all of the social functions will be hosted by the Baltimore Country Club including a Friday night buffet/reception, Saturday luncheon, Saturday night dinner/dance and Sunday brunch where division prizes will be awarded. Matches will be played at Meadow Mill, the Maryland Club, the Baltimore Country Club and Towson State University's Towson Center.

Put the 1998 Baltimore Invitational Doubles Tournament (BIDS) on your schedule. It will showcase the best national amateur doubles and the biggest Maryland State Squash social event of a very busy Maryland State Squash season. You can sign up early as a player or volunteer by contacting any committee member. Entry forms and tournament information will be at all local clubs.

Maryland State Singles Championships

March 27th, 28th & 29th, 1998

The Maryland State Singles Championships will be played at Meadow Mill Athletic Club, the Maryland Club and the Baltimore Country Club. Playing Divisions include: Men's A, B, C, D, 40+, 50+, 60+, and Women's A, B, and C. Softball is the recognized version of the game of squash racquets for the title of State Singles Champion or any division thereof. Frank Cushman, Meadow Mill Proprietor/Professional and Jim Taylor, Maryland Club Professional will be Tournament Directors. The entry fee is \$20.00 for MSSRA members, \$30.00 for MSSRA non-members.

'97 Lockett Ketchum Matches to be Played in Boston

November 16th and 17th 1997

The annual Baltimore/Boston/Philadelphia/New York LOCKETT KETCHUM (soft ball singles - hard ball doubles) Competition will take place in Boston. Each city selects three five member teams to represent Men's A, B, and C level singles and doubles team to compete in the Men's A, B & 40s' divisions. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Bob Travers (410) 539-3400 (w) 494-0998 (h) or John Voneiff (410) 347-0365 (w) 433-5545 (h). Players should plan to reach Boston by Friday evening as play begins early Saturday morning.

**Bob Travers, Vice President, Maryland State Squash, Fitzgerald Cup Team
Captain and Top State A Player**

Bob's Tip is:

"LEARN TO SERVE THE BALL CONSISTENTLY WELL"

After all, it is the serve that starts every point. When you have possession of it, you also have the only opportunity during a game to strike the ball how and where you want without taking into account what your opponent is doing. With the serve, you have the power to immediately put your opponent on the defense. A sloppy serve can quickly take this strategic edge away.

Profiles and Squash Tips From The Professionals

Andrew Cordova, Racquets Director - Baltimore Country Club

Andrew was raised in Tenaflly, New Jersey. It was a short trip to the next town, Englewood. His family had a membership at the Englewood Field Club which maintained facilities for all types of sport including hard ball squash. Andrew was especially busy with Junior Tennis and Ice Hockey but when the weather was to inclement for tennis or sometimes just for fun, he and his compatriots would lift squash racquets from the lockers of unsuspecting members and give squash a try. Andrew liked the game enough to convince his parents to "pack him off" to the Harvard Squash Camp - three years in a row. By the time he graduated from the Avon Old Farms School, he had been on the varsity for four years and the Avon Team was 11th in the United States. At Fordham University he remained a top varsity player. In his senior year, Fordham was 15th in the United States and Andrew was elected Team Captain. After graduation Andrew earned his Certification as a Teaching Squash Professional. It was off to Florida and his first job at the Bonaventure Racquets Club where he established the Squash Program. In 1994 he was brought to the Baltimore Country Club as the assistant Squash/Tennis Professional but quickly advanced to Racquets Director.

Andrew's Tip is: "FORGET THE LAST POINT"

A squash match, says Andrew, is a progressive series of individual efforts or points - each is won or lost on its own dynamic set of circumstances that is influenced as much by one's mental stamina as by fitness or racquet ability. Focusing too much energy (in the form of anger or exuberance) on what took place during the playing of a single point can divert you from your purpose which is to win the game and then the match. Whether you are stepping into the servers box after earning a point or getting ready to receive because you lost one - clear your head of trivial distractions and focus on what you are about to do.

Nancy and Frank Cushman, Meadow Mill Athletic Club Proprietors

All those associated with the game of squash, either locally or around the country, know Nancy and Frank. It would be difficult to imagine Maryland State Squash without them. Frank came to Baltimore from New York in 1979 to become the Maryland Club Professional. Everyone immediately recognized his playing and teaching talent; no one envisioned how he and Nancy,

who met Frank that same year and then married him in 1982, would influence Maryland State Squash.

Simply, they, along with Anne and Ken Katz, brought the International Game of Squash Racquets to Baltimore. They did it when few were interested or even cared if soft ball found a place here. Their belief in themselves and a dream was the driving force that launched Baltimore and the MSSRA into the world of "Soft Ball Squash" well ahead of most everyone and everywhere else in the United States; and in the process, are largely responsible for Baltimore becoming a center of the International Game of Squash Racquets.

Frank's Tip is: "KEEP YOUR RACQUET READY"

You have heard this enough but you probably don't do it. It's easy to let the racquet head drop between strokes. When it does, you'll lose the initiative because you can't take the ball early with a winning volley. Your drop shot is more likely to touch the "tell-tail" - your lob will be too low or high. You'll end up too close to the ball and won't be able to extend your body or finish your stroke. So, get your racquet up. Did you ever see a top level player who didn't? They know that early racquet preparation is the way to winning the point, game and match.

Nancy's Tip is: "BE A GOOD SPORT"

Even the best players lose. Chances are, if you play competitively, you will lose as much as you win. Recognize that the privilege of being able to play is more important than your particular record of wins and losses and that no matter how good you might be, there is someone better waiting in the wings. Enjoy your opportunities to play and the individuals you get to play against. They will appreciate you for it more than for your abundance or absence of talent.

JIM TAYLOR, Maryland Club Professional

Jim Taylor has been the Professional at the Maryland Club since July 1988. He came from the Racquet and Tennis Club in New York City where he had been an assistant for four years. Jim was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. He went to and graduated from Metropolitan State College in downtown Denver. He was on the swimming team and because of this, he was able to secure a part time job at the Denver Athletic Club as a lifeguard. It was there that the most famous squash champion in the world, the great Hashim Kahn, was Head Professional. Jim was captivated by both Hashim and the game he played so well. If you have ever competed in hard ball singles or doubles against Jim, you will quickly appreciate his feather touch, the subtle mark of Hashim Kahn.

Jim's tip, related to doubles is: "PROTECT YOUR PARTNER"

Often, a talented singles player forgets he has a partner when he plays doubles. Any shot that creates the condition where one's partner becomes the immediate offensive focus of either member of the opposing team, is a poor choice, no matter how well the ball is struck. For example: When you back up your partner, momentarily in a bad position somewhere in the front of the court, select a defensive lob that allows him to shift back into position and you to observe everything that is taking place in the meantime. Remember, it takes two to win a doubles match.

Fitzgerald Cup - Celebrates It's Golden Anniversary

January 17th, 1998 - University Club, Washington, D.C.

The Fitzgerald Cup, the annual competition between the best amateurs from Baltimore and their equals from Washington, D.C. is one of the oldest ongoing competition of its type in the United States. It was founded by Ambassador H.G. Fitzgerald in 1948; and since then, the event has moved back and forth between the two cities on an annual basis. The exception was last year when the Fitzgerald Cup remained in Baltimore for the second year in a row so that the fiftieth anniversary celebration could be hosted by the Ambassador himself in his home town of Washington, D.C. Although Baltimore has won the last two competitions, the accumulated tally is very even. There are only twelve players per team but over the years, hundreds of individuals have taken part.

The current Baltimore Fitzgerald Cup Team and 1997 Champions are: Bob Travers (captain), Don Townsend (No. 1), Dave Bennett (No. 2), Riaz Arshad, Randall Etheridge, Dirch Barlett, Sam Sisodia, Dennis Bourke, John Minkowski, Bill Rice and Gerd Petrich. Additionally, and for the first time, Lissen Tutrone and Vaughn Easter Schmidt joined the team to compete in a women's division.

For information about the Fitzgerald Cup contact: Bob Travers, Team Captain at (410) 539-3400 (w) or 494-0998 (h). Arrangements can be made for past players to attend the 50th Anniversary matches and reception/dinner.

The Baltimore Country Club Renovates It's Squash Court Facility

Andrew Cordova, Baltimore Country Club Racquets Director, announced that as of October 16th the Baltimore Country Club has two new International Squash Courts. To make room for the new courts the two hard ball courts (opened in 1964) have been removed. Along with the installation of soft ball courts, the whole facility has been painted and climate controlled. The BCC selected Anderson's "Doweloc" Hardwood Court with a glass back wall and cushioned hardwood floor. The doubles court, also christened in 1964, and considered one of the several finest in the United States or Canada, will remain unchanged. Andrew said, that there is already a dramatic increase in play. The new courts will be officially dedicated on Friday, November 21st, 1997. As in the past, the Baltimore Country Club will continue to support Maryland State Squash.

The Maryland Club Doubles It's Squash Membership

The Maryland Club has made an impressive comeback since the fire that erupted the night of August 20, 1995 and ruined almost all of the building's interior. Now, the Maryland Club has three new hardwood international courts (one with a glass sidewall for spectators), two hard ball courts and two double courts. A fully equipped and staffed workout facility has been added. Jim Taylor, Maryland Club Professional, said that he has more than twice the squash membership as before the fire plus half as many more who are involved in a personal work out program. He attributes this to the Maryland Club's 1996 membership drive and a spectacular renovation of the whole facility. Last season the Maryland Club hosted the Fall Doubles, the Fitzgerald Cup and the Baltimore Invitational/Hicks Championships. This season, Jim will be co-director of both the Fall and State Doubles Tournaments and a member of the Baltimore Invitational Doubles Committee. The Maryland Club continues to be a major contributor to and patron of Maryland State Squash.

'97-'98 Maryland State Rankings

State Rankings are (first) based upon the results of State Championship Tournaments, but are secondarily affected by a player's or, in the case of doubles, a teams' performance in other State or Club events. Doubles Rankings are predicated upon those teams which have participated in more than one State or Club tournament. Women's Rankings are additionally influenced by achievement in State Men's (B) and/or (A) Tournaments. Rankings are reviewed by the State's Professionals. State Professionals are not included in State Rankings. International "soft ball" is the version of Squash Racquets upon which the Maryland State Singles Rankings are set. Finally, those receiving a State Ranking must be a member of Maryland State Squash.

State Championship Ranking (Singles)

State Ranking

Additionally...

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Don Townsend | (Meadow Mill Athletic Club Champion) |
| 2) Dave Bennett | (1997 Baltimore City Open Champion) |
| 3) Riaz Arshad | (State 40s' Champion) |
| 4) Peter Blank | |
| 5) Dirck Bartlett | (Maryland Club Champion) |
| 6) Greg Mathis | |
| 7) Randall Etheridge | |
| 8) Doug Rice | (No. 1 State Doubles) |
| 9) Robert Travers | (Baltimore Country Club Champion) |
| 10) Sam Sisodia | |

Men's 40s'

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Riaz Arshad | (State 40s' Champion) |
| 2) Robert Travers | |
| 3) Sam Sisodia | |
| 4) Dennis Bourke | (No. 1 Men's 50s') |
| 5) John Minkowski | |

Men's 50s'

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Dennis Bourke | |
| 2) T. James Hense | (No. 2 National Men's 50s' Doubles) |
| 3) Peter Wolff | |
| 4) Gerd Petrich | |
| 5) Bob Everd | |

Men's 60s'

- 1) Bill Rice
- 2) Peter Gerard
- 3) Gene O'Conner
- 4) Jervis Finney
- 5) Alan Heston

Women's (A)

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Lissen Tutrone | (Ranked in Top 25 Men's A) |
| 2) Nancy Cushman | |
| 3) Vaughan Easter Schmidt | (Top 10 Men's B) |
| 4) Lisa Roy | |
| 5) Sucheta Pandit | |
| 6) Wendy O'Donnell | |
| 7) Elizabeth Everts | (No. 1 Women's A Doubles) |
| 8) Anita McMullen | |

Men's (B)

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1) Dixon Waxter | (Top 20 Men's A) |
| 2) Lissen Tutrone | (No. 1 A Women) |
| 3) Todd Hall | |
| 4) Bruce Dunham | |
| 5) John Brush | |

Women's (B)

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1) Anna Minkowski | (State Junior) |
| 2) Louise Simpson | |
| 3) Patti Neumann | |

Men's (C)

- 1) Chris Saumell
- 2) John Warmuth
- 3) Edell Costigan
- 4) David Cooke
- 5) Ail Fadi

Women's (C)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1) Lynn Minkowski | (State Junior) |
| 2) Sandy Gregory | |
| 3) Elizabeth Jackson | |

Men's (D)

- 1) Gordon Gannon
- 2) Adam Sidle
- 3) Frank Knott
- 4) Ahmed Barak
- 5) Chris Tuttle

Men's (A) Hardball Singles

- 1) Patrick Miller
- 2) Doug Rice
- 3) Dirck Bartlett
- 4) Sandy Martin
- 5) Bob Travers

Men's (A) Hardball Doubles

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Doug Rice/Patrick Miller | (State Champions) |
| 2) Dirck Bartlett/Mike Riehl | (BCC & MC Member
Guest Champions) |
| 3) Sandy Martin/John Voneiff | (State 50s' Champions) |
| 4) T. James Hense/Joe Fitzpatrick | (State 40s' Champions) |
| 5) John MacColl/Robert Travers | |

No. 1 Team - Men's 60s': Jervy Finney and Alex Sotir

Best all round: Men's (A) Doubles - Dirck Bartlett
Women's (A) Doubles - Lissen Tutrone
Men's (40s') Doubles - Sandy Martin
Men's (50s') Doubles - Sandy Martin
Men's (55s') Doubles - A.C. Hubbard
Men's (60s') Doubles - Jervy Finney

Best on Left and Right Walls:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Patrick Miller | 1) Doug Rice |
| 2) Mike Riehl | 2) Dirck Bartlett |
| 3) Joe Fitzpatrick | 3) Sandy Martin |
| 4) John Voneiff | 4) John MacColl |
| 5) Charlie Ferwick | 5) Jim Hense |

Best State (A) Doubles Player - on either wall:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Dirck Bartlett | 4) Patrick Miller |
| 2) Sandy Martin | 5) Mike Riehl |
| 3) Doug Rice | |

Women's (A) Doubles

- 1) Stephanie Johnson/Elizabeth Everts
- 2) Anne Demuth/Lissen Tutrone
- 3) Nancy Cushman/Theresa Smith

Men's (B) Doubles

- 1) Bill Peck/Angus Burton
- 2) Sam Sisodia/Haswell Franklin Jr.
- 3) John Brush/Jeff Rodgers

Women's (B) Doubles

- 1) Louise Simpson/Patti Neuman
- 2) B.J. Warner/Joan Weyers

Men's (C) Doubles

- 1) Bob Edgington/Steve Herman
- 2) Dan Harvey/Stuart Schads
- 3) Andy Andrews/Sean Coyle

(A) Mixed Doubles

- 1) Nancy Cushman/Mike Riehl
- 2) Anita McMullen/Dirck Bartlett
- 3) Lissen Tutrone/Ron Tutrone



Sandy Martin, State & National Champion-has compiled the best record of any Maryland State Squash Player over the past twenty years-singles or doubles.

Sandy's Tip is: "HOLD YOUR SHOT"

There is always an advantage in waiting until the last possible second to strike the ball. That brief hold may be enough time to understand where your opponent is or is not going to be and to react accordingly. After all, if you put the ball where your opponent is not then your shot does not have to be perfect.

When is a Let a Point?

In Soft Ball there is little doubt. Hit the ball back to yourself or otherwise interfere with your opponent when he or she is striking the ball and you forfeit the point. Your opponent must be ready to strike the ball, but it is so ingrained in the ethics of the game that a player responsible for an interference routinely stops playing, grabs the ball and hands it over.

A Let Point is a more reflective call in doubles not because it isn't obvious but because doubles has a historical heritage where prior to 1990 there was no such thing as a Let Point. Even though the USSRA (Rule #5) governing a Team's Right to Play the Ball and the affiliated (Rule #6) that establishes the Let Point penalty when the Right to Play the Ball is taken away are clearly defined, most armature doubles players remain uncertain as to their true interpretation.

The outcome is either over employment of the Let Point Rule or no application of it at all. In the first case, the consequences are perpetual interruption of play coupled with a fair amount of inter-team quarreling. In the second case, the result is an inequitable advantage to the violators plus an escalation in the danger of being struck by the ball or a racquet.

It is not difficult to locate a hard copy of the rules. Reading them a few times takes the guess work out of when you are interfering, when you are not and how and when Lets turn into Let Points. Here it is, somewhat simplified:

- 1) When you or your partner are attempting to strike the ball you have the RIGHT to see the ball from the time it leaves one of your opponents' racquets until you strike it. In Rule #5 it is called the right to a "Fair View" of the ball. You or your partner also have the RIGHT to strike the ball from ANY position on the court and are in no way obligated to avoid or circumvent either of your opponents to get to it. In other words, you do not have to run around either opponent in order to strike the ball. Then from where you choose to strike the ball, your opponents must clear to give you the FULL WIDTH (and then some) of the FRONT WALL as a target. If your opponents do not do this (within the limits of their normal ability) a Let can be requested and a Let Point awarded.
- 2) If you are NOT striking the ball, it is the obligation of both you and your partner to get out of the way of either of your opponents who chooses to strike the ball. This means taking the shortest line of retreat in a direction (usually behind the service line) that gives your opponent everything stated in (1) above. Moving intentionally in front of or into or across a strikers path for the purpose of court advantage is reason for

the striker to ask for a Let and be awarded a Let Point.

- 3) If when you strike the ball directly back at yourself and your opponent is ready to hit the ball but can not because you are in the way then if he asks for a Let you should give and your opponent is entitled to a Let Point regardless of whether or not your opponent would hit a winning shot.
- 4) If either you or your partner become trapped against the front wall when it is the other team's turn to strike the ball (and one of them is ready to strike) then they should Stop, ask for a Let and be awarded a Let Point. Remember, the striking team is under no obligation to aim the ball away from a trapped opponent nor should they endanger you by hitting the ball at you. The point is theirs because of your indefensible position. When you know your trapped, Stop play and yield the point.
- 5) If one member of a team sends the ball cross court directly at his or her partner positioned somewhere in front of the service line and the opponent (responsible for that side of the court) is clearly deprived of a winning shot (this means being ready to strike the ball) then a Let Point should be awarded.
- 6) Calling Let just before or at the moment of a violation does not negate the violation and the subsequent awarding of a Let Point. For example, you are hit by your partners ball as it returns from the front wall and your opponent calls Let prior to you being struck. A Let Point should be awarded to your opponents. Remember a Let call implies a request for Let Point whenever there is a justified violation and there is no more conspicuous violation of interference then being struck by your partner's rebounding shot.
There is one exception. If in an effort to clear for your opponent, you are hit by the ball after your opponent has attempted to retrieve or strike it (even if his partner is able to back him up) your opponents are entitled to no more than a Let or may even loose the point altogether if your opponents could not have made a good return on their second try to retrieve the ball. You are only obliged to clear once for any given bid by your opponents to retrieve the ball.

On the other hand, for you or your partner to be entitled to a Let or Let Point you must be ready to return the ball (which means making a reasonable effort within your ability to get to it.) And, you must not strike the ball first or during your request for a Let. If you do strike the ball as you ask for Let

then resolution can be no more than just "LET" - but it could turn into "NO LET" and your team's loss of the point. Keep in mind, that asking for a LET is also asking for the POINT.

In a refereed match when you ask for a Let, the referee will automatically award a Point if he agrees with the implied Let Point violation. In a non-refereed or "friendly" match when you ask for a LET and there is a LET POINT violation your opponent should award you the Point.

Finally, be careful when you "come around" on the ball. The safety factor must predominate. If you do not know where everyone else on the court is call Let. However, if you are surprised by the path of the ball and are "coming around" for the chance to call Let and thereby escapes an unfavorable position - Stop play and give your opponents the point.

Learn to call Let without striking the ball not only because if you do strike the ball your opponent's violation can be no more than just "LET" but because it is the safe way to play the game. You and your partner and even those you play against, although it may not seem so at the time, will become better doubles players because of your faithful application of the Rules.



Squash Racquets

A Brief History of the Sport

Courtesy of TED POPOWITZ, Detroit, MI

We squash players, who have a feeling of kinship toward England for "our" game, should understand that in reality, it all began in France!

There are several historical writings, all of which offer varying dates for the beginning of the sport. From these references, we will attempt to sum up a reasonable history.

The game's very early beginnings have been traced all the way back to the early Egyptians and Persians. Herodotus, a Greek historian who wrote the first history of Western civilization, referred to a particular game in 450 B.C. Somewhere along in time, it became a favorite pastime with some monks who played a game called "fives", slang for bunched fingers or closed fist.

This obviously has to be the most basic form of what handball is today but it also leads to our game.

It is recorded that around 1148, there was a game that the French played called "le Paume" (meaning "of the hand" and, quite literally, the palm). A ball, or sphere of some sort, was struck with the palm of the hand and driven over an embankment. The game was played both indoors (Jeu de Court Paume) and outdoors (Jeu de Longre Paume), but one is hard pressed to visualize what the embankment was, particularly indoors.

The game started with an official crying out "ten-nez", which is French means "play". If a player had no score, the call was "oeuf", which is French for "egg". That is, egg-shaped like a zero; hence, no score equaled a goose egg!

The French apparently disliked the sting of the ball against their naked palms and, in time, wore pieces of cloth on their hands, something like crude gloves. It seems the players back then were the same as they are today and wanted more action in the game, for the gloved hand eventually gave way to a glove of bindings and cord fashioned to a stick to make it easier to strike the ball.

It is not hard to imagine how the crude "bat" eventually developed into a racquet. It wasn't until the 19th century that the over and under stringing was developed, though.

The game was introduced in England around 1360. As one might guess, the name of the game there became "tennis" (a corruption of the French "ten-nez") and it was played indoors. History tells us that the first place it was played in England was in a court built specifically for the game by King Edward III. In England, it was called Court Tennis. And, because of the

expense of building the courts, it was dubbed the "Royal Game" because only the aristocracy could afford it. In time, the game became reasonably popular in both France and England, and by the 1600's there were over 2000 courts in France alone.

The game became so popular in the two countries that big rivalries and tournaments and championship competitions were developed. Unhappily, the great fervor and enthusiasm for the game led to betting, which led to gamblers, which led to "bought" players, and eventually to "fixed" games. Damn! This kind of stuff has been going on for a long time.

Such corruption began to lessen the popularity of the game, but it was the French Revolution and the downfall of the monarchy and aristocracy that virtually brought the downfall of the game in France. In the 1800's the game picked up; Le Paume in France, Court Tennis in England, but still as it was years before, only on private estates and by the upper classes.

It was sometime before 1850 that the game described, enclosed within four walls, began to change to what we play today.

In 1862, Napoleon built Jeu de Paume in the Tuilleries Gardens and in 1885, Napoleon III reopened Versailles with several courts. The game was played only indoors now and enclosed with four walls of concrete, with openings along one side and both end walls. Along one side was a roofed shed referred to as the "penthouse". And the embankment was a sagging net. This game is actually still played today. There are seven such courts in the United States.

It was following this period of hitting a ball around in an indoor court that the name "Racquets" was adopted, coming from the French word for "noise". The changes, which originated in France, got to England, but the spelling of racquets didn't! It should be noted that "Racquets" is used only in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. "Rackets" is used in the U.K., New Zealand and Australia.

The major factor that caused the game to change was the cost to build the courts. Construction was still very prohibitive for anyone but the nobility. It was this factor that caused some of the students at Harrow, England's famed "public" school to devise a way to adapt the game. Harrow was a natural place for this to occur, for it was the school for several Tudor kings.

They came up with a design for a less elaborate court. The ball of the time was too difficult to control in these courts, so a safer, more manageable ball was introduced.

The original ball, that is still being used today, is still wrapped with white tape, making it incredibly hard and with no bounce or give.

It is recorded somewhere that one of the boys at the school discovered that a punctured ball could achieve a diversity of shot making, thus the forerunner of the soft ball used today.

And thus we have "squash".

This new "Harrow" version had almost the same action as the original "rackets" game, but because the new softer ball made a different sound and compressed when being hit, the game became known as Squash Racquets.

With the cost of building now more attainable, the game quickly became popular among the schools of England and eventually spread from the schools and universities to the exclusive clubs. Two of the most famous were The Queen's Club and the Marylebone Cricket Club.

The game's appeal really began to grow, in part due to the prominence of the British military. In 1907, the United States Squash Racquets Association was formed. The same year, the British formed the Tennis and Rackets Association, but gave the game of Squash only a sub-committee status. In 1910, South Africa formed a national association. The next year, CSRA was founded in Canada and by 1918, the first court was being built in Sidney, Australia. It grew throughout the world and by 1920, just after World War I, courts were on every continent.

Jim Zug, National Champion - Singles and Doubles

Few have a better record than Jim Zug of Philadelphia. He began as a National Junior Champion and went on to win two National Open Doubles Titles plus a number of National Singles and Age Division Championships. He is known for deception and incredible "touch". Jim moved to Baltimore in 1987; and by the time he left in 1994, he had won the 1989 State Singles Championship, the 1990 State Doubles Championship with Patrick Miller and two Seniors Doubles Titles in 1991 and 93 - with Peter Wolff and A.C. Hubbard respectively.

Jim's Tip is: "USE THE FIRST GAME TO MEASURE YOUR OPPOSITION"

It's great to win the first game, but even so, you still have a long way to go to win the match. A lot can happen between the end of the first game and the last point of the match. If you do lose the first game, make sure it's because your opponent (or in the case of doubles) the other team out plays you and not that you gave it away by making errors. Whether you win or lose learn something from it. By this I mean, try different things to determine your opponent's strengths and weaknesses. Every player at every level has them. Then, use your particular skills to inflict the most damage. You may have a reliable drop shot, but your opponent is faster and more savvy than others in reading and retrieving it. But, your opponent doesn't do well against a high backhand lob. You know your lob is not as good as your drop, but here it may be the better choice. Finally, use the first game to settle down; everybody is a little nervous in the beginning. The first game is a time to be steady - not sensational.

BT - The Whirlwind!

It wasn't much of a squash match but it was the beginning of a splendid friendship. That was twenty years ago; and it was a young Bobby Travers who enthusiastically stepped onto the No. 2 Court at the Baltimore Country Club to play his first round match. Most beginners wouldn't have bothered; after all, he had only been playing squash a few months and he was up against a fairly good A level player. If he had a chance at all, it would be if his opponent came up lame, but that wasn't likely. In any event, no drawback of odds, then as now, could stop Bobby Travers from trying anything. His family, lead by his parents Mary Jean and Ollie, were there to cheer him on from an, except for them, empty gallery.



Of course, Bobby played his heart out as if possessed by the need to track down each of his rivals shots with every ounce of unleashed strength he could muster. The fact is, he was simply everywhere one person could be within the limits of a squash court during a single match. It didn't matter; he was slaughtered. Three quick games and it was over. He turned with that big smile and grabbed his opponents hand: "Thanks for playing", he said, "it was great; lets do it again."

"By the way", he added now surrounded by his family (fan club) as the two players left the court, "this is my mom and this is my dad and this is this person and this is that person." A few moments later, the Whirlwind, with entourage, was gone. The family was probably on their way to ride bikes twenty miles or have lunch together after running in a 5,000 meter marathon or climb some mountain or watch another family member do something else. Bobby's first tournament had ended ignominiously in the first round but he was not about to be troubled by the result. He had done his best and was pleased just to have been there. The opponent, unaware of a future destined to be filled with exploits shared with the Whirlwind, fell exhausted into the nearest chair more consumed by the meeting than the match.

The point is, nothing in his or his family's approach to life has really changed. They continue to support each other in all ways. They do the same for their friends, and as a family, they work collectively to make a difference - to insure that life, in so far as they are able, is a little better for everyone they meet. As for Bobby's first opponent, he would now consider himself fortunate

indeed to win one point against the Whirlwind.

That individual, we'll call him BT's First Opponent, was heard to say some years after their first match that: "The World would truly be a better place if there were more people in it who treated others like Bobby Travers". For the historical record, Bobby's First Opponent did not win that long ago tournament; Squash gave him something far more valuable - BT's friendship.



MEADOW MILL *Athletic Club*



5 Years of Success

When Anne and Ken Katz joined forces with Nancy and Frank Cushman not even they envisioned how completely Baltimore would embrace the product of their industry - what we know as Meadow Mill. In addition to being the largest international squash facility on the east coast, Meadow Mill has two doubles courts, a complete workout facility with trainers and associated fitness programs, a first rate snack bar, locker rooms, whirl pools, saunas plus child care.

Meadow Mill (3600 Clipper Mill Road, Baltimore, MD 21211) has emerged as a quality full service athletic facility with an emphasis on the game of Squash. There is a program of play for all levels from beginners to the most talented amateurs. Frank and Nancy have pioneered their nationally recognized juniors program - now incorporated into the sports curriculum of most of the surrounding high schools. The 1996-97 United States National Juniors was hosted by Maryland State Squash and held exclusively at Meadow Mill. Over 350 juniors from all over the United States came to Meadow Mill Athletic Club to compete for the National Title in their particular age category. Craig Brand, Executive Director of the United States Squash Racquets Association complemented Nancy and Frank for managing the finest National Juniors in the Tournament's long history.

If your son or daughter is ready, you won't do better than getting them started at Meadow Mill.

MSSRA Members

MEMBER NAME	WORK PHONE	MEMBER NAME	WORK PHONE
RASHED AFZAL		DAVID COOKE	955-6463
JAMIE ALBAN		ANDREW CORDORA	889-4400
HUGH ANDERSON	771-8466	JERRY COUDON	
NICK ANGELOZZI		PATRICE CROMWELL	821-8114
RIAZ R. ARSHAD	744-5115	DEE CURRAN	
CHRISTY BARTLETT	321-8515	FRANK CUSHMAN	235-7000
DIRCK BARTLETT	243-6796	NANCY CUSHMAN	235-7000
BOB BARTON		PAUL DANKO	252-5133
BEN BATEMAN		ALEX DEITZ	509-2671
DAVID BENNETT		PAUL DANKO	
PETER BLANK		ANNE DEMUTH	435-3905
STEVE BRODY		DAVID DEMUTH	539-3838
FRANK BRONER		MATTHEW DILLON	771-7181
JOHN BRUSH	337-3659	TARA DORR	332-0644
JAMES BURCH	687-1700	BRUCE DUNHAM	547-5000
TERESA BURCH	527-0706	COBBER ECCLES	332-0695
SCOTT BURGER		ROBERT EDGINGTON	532-3959
ANGUS BURTON	528-0700	JEFF EDISON	
JAMES CAMPBELL	955-3406	BRIAN EFFINGER	613-6159
MARK CAPLAN	727-5500	WILLIAM ENDRES	377-5192
BO CASHMAN		KEITH ESHLEMAN	
TIMOTHY CHISHOLM		RANDALL ETHERIDGE	889-0986
DAVID CLINNIN	494-4640	ROBERT EVERD	667-4800
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HENRY FRANKLIN	539-2320	MARY ALI HENSE	592-7727
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PETER L. GERARD	838-0128	ALAN HOFF	659-0070
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- govern and promote the game of squash in all its forms;
- promote participation in the game by the full spectrum of players and abilities, from novice to professional;
- aid its members and member associations in the development, promotion and administration of squash;
- continually improve the game, the rules and the quality of participation by all involved, and;
- maintain a genuine spirit of true fair play and sportsmanship among all who play.

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They are a mighty part of the energy that drives the engine of Maryland State Squash. Unassuming, dedicated and steadfast in their commitment to excellence, we the Squash Community recognize your continual contribution in our behalf.

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