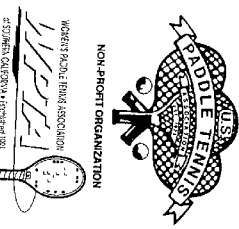


USPTA Board of Directors

Mike Corbett	President	Northern California
Steve Lasky	VP	New York
Bob Laird		New York
Mike Stahl		N. California
James Adkins		S. California
Mike Cohen		S. California
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Hoost Nader		S. California
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James Porter		S. Carolina
Dennis Sparks		Florida
Dale Williams		Florida

MEMBERSHIP

One year--June 1 to May 31	\$20.00
Three year	\$50.00
Family > than 3	\$50.00
Same household	\$30.00
Junior--up to age 18	\$12.00



WPTA Officers

Erin Hemenway	Director & Co-Founder
Nancy Millard	Co-Founder & Advisor
Judy Villanueva	Creative Director
Sarah Hool	Events Director
Susan Gordon	Marketing Director
Jo Ann Sawyer	Finance Director
James Adkins, Jamie Murphy & Deanne Tomojian	Clinic Instructors

EMN
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USPTA/WPTA
11656 Montana Ave. #103
Los Angeles, CA 90049

**USPTA
WPTA
NATIONAL
PADDLE
TENNIS
NEWS
LETTER**

MARCH 1995

**PADDLE TENNIS
TIMES**

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT"

28

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 32

WPTA to merge with USPTA

The Women's Paddle Tennis Association of Southern California, which was founded in 1991, is merging with the United States Paddle Tennis Association effective immediately. The WPTA will retain its name and continue to produce events but will share some of the responsibilities with the USPTA such as generate the newsletter, develop officiating and secure sponsorship. Any articles, comments and/or tournament results should be sent directly to the WPTA, 11656 Montana Ave. #103, Los Angeles, CA 90049

level administrator for the Culver City, CA recreation department. He has also been the prime organizer of the Culver City Championships for the past 15 years. Mike plays in the Open Division.

James Adkins, long time player and all around top athlete, James is currently involved teaching paddle tennis clinics for both adults and juniors under the sponsorship of the WPTA and the Venice Beach, CA Parks & Rec. Department. James is an intense competitor and plays at the Open level.

We welcome these new members and look forward to working with them!

Venice Beach/Power Paddle Doubles: March 25-26

Men and Women's Doubles will be the order of the day for the second annual Power Paddle Championships. Boost Nutritional Drink joins the ever growing list of WPTA sponsors which include PowerBar, Arrowhead Water, Kool 'N' Fit, L.A. Cellular and Toyota Marina del Rey. Boost will be on display and giving away product at this event. Ann Cook, Registered Nutritionist will also be available to answer all your sports nutrition questions! We are planning a junior clinic for the morning of the 26th for girls and boys ages 8-11. There is room for 30 kids--if you want

PADDLE TENNIS TIMES



[Cont on page 2]

MERGER: MUCH NEEDED STEP FOR PADDLE TENNIS

This past month, your Board of Directors approved a merger with the Women's Paddle Tennis Association of Southern California (WPTA) after several months of deliberations. I applaud our board, all WPTA members and their leadership: Erin Hemenway, Director & Co-Founder and Nancy Millard, Co-Founder & Advisor. Their tireless work, vision and daring have helped us take the needed steps that are critical to development and growth of this game.

It is well known that paddle tennis' formal development has been severely hampered in recent years by a lack of strong, organized effort to inform and teach everyone about this exciting and family oriented game. The purpose of this merger is to join together and better organize the sport for greater partnership, growth and development among all members, sites and associations throughout the country. I urge all of you to support it and to also participate in one of our best tournament schedules in years!

[Continued from page 1] As a recreational game, paddle tennis is growing quickly in many parts of the country. Yet formal play has been sporadic at best in recent years. This is important because formal competition is the showcase which will help our sport grow.

In 1994, your USPTA Board of Directors took an historic step with the initiation of a Grand Slam Series which increased tournament play. The GS [which will continue in 1995], involves four different sites throughout the country and includes men & women's doubles. These tournaments will provide a focus and a centerpiece for players, fans, sponsors, potential sponsors and media efforts in increasing exposure to the game and promoting the sport as a recreational game for all.

The merger will add all of our efforts to grow. In fact, these steps are already in motion. The WPTA will share some of the administration of paddle tennis. For example, we will merge newsletters and produce them more frequently. The WPTA is also assisting in the mailings.

We will immediately implement a membership card that can you show to gain entry to tournaments and own this information. USPTA/WPTA is undertaking a review of the rules and will produce literature about paddle tennis for distribution such as videos, tapes, rule books and other information.

These are just a few of the advantages of the merger. All of these things will do more for all members. During the past several years, I have received tremendous cooperation from all tournament directors and associations. However, now is the time to move the game to a new level.

Let's get moving!

Mike

NEW YORK REGION- Steve Lasky, President

The New York Metropolitan Paddle Tennis Association has elected its new officers for 1995: Steve Lasky, President; Marvin Freed, 1st Vice-President; Jack Heller, 2nd Vice-President; Mary Ryphen, Secretary/Treasurer; Steve Farhood, Tournaments Director and Ted Moroni, Outreach Officer.

The 2nd Murray Geller Memorial Men's Doubles Championships, which will be held June 3-4 in Manhattan's Stuyvesant Town, will offer more than \$3000 in prize money [1] according to Steve Lasky, NYMPTA President. Several local tournaments will also be held in the city during 1995. Contact Steve at [718] 946-7532.

Results of the Met Life Stuyvesant Town Invitational, New York, NY held September 7-18, 1994: 1st Place: Dave Diamond/Mark Svidell 2nd Place: Marvin Freed/Mary Ryphen

MINNESOTA REGION- Paul Kelly, President The Conica Corporation of Harmony, P.A. a manufacturer of sports surfacing products, has agreed to donate the acrylic coating materials for the surfacing of the new Minneapolis paddle tennis facility. Conica manufactures "Laykold" brand acrylic color coatings as well as "Omni Court," artificial grass surfaces for the tennis industry. Sally Cottingham, who is the Conica sales representative, can be reached at [412] 452-1330.

FLORIDA REGION- Teri Hall, President The USPTA-FLORIDA has elected officers for 1995: Teri Hall, President; Rob Hall, Vice-President; Pamie Daniel, Secretary; Jennifer Morris, Treasurer and Karen Hudgens, Publicity.

USPTA-FLORIDA will hold 9 tournaments in 1995 including two USPTA sanctioned events: The National Clay Court Championships over Memorial Day

weekend at Bill Brothers' St. Augustine Beach & Tennis Club [904] 471-0909 and the National Beach Championships on Labor day weekend, [904] 471-5486. The National Beach Championships are a USPTA Grand Slam event.

NUTRITION/SPORTS/FITNESS OPPORTUNITY

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Paddle Tennis Corner

"Performing your duties as a doubles partner"

One aspect of great doubles teams is that each player has the ability to hit shots in consideration of his/her partner. If one player on a team keeps playing all the points, something is very wrong! The great doubles players not only know his/her job, but they know the functions of their partner as well. In this month's paddle tennis corner, we'll discuss the rules of the serving team. THE SERVER: HOLD YOUR SERVE! Holding serve is the first rule of good paddle tennis doubles. When it is your turn to serve, clear your mind as much as possible and

focus only on the job at hand: Holding your serve!

- 1. Serve most of your serves down the middle. Recognize that if you can do this successfully, you and your partner will have 80% of the court covered. If you serve out wide, your partner must provide the line and the center ball is yours as well as any angled return.
2. Approach the net shading toward your left, so that you have a decent play on the low, wide returns.
3. Never relax your paddle. Always be prepared to hit all balls, never allowing yourself to be distracted by your eager partner's movement.
4. Never bury your first volley. Take care to hit a good, low cross court return on wide service returns. Half-volleys are perfectly acceptable. There is no value in mashing your volley in order to prevent a ball from bouncing when a good half-volley will prepare you for a winning volley on the next shot.

THE SERVER'S PARTNER: BE ACTIVE! When playing in the position of the server's partner, it's not a time to rest and pray the ball doesn't come to you. This is the time to play aggressively and take an active role in winning the service game for your team.

- 1. Be the verbal captain for your team. Good doubles teams communicate constantly, yelling "yours" or "mine" to let their partner know where they are on the court. Handle that job when your partner is server.
2. Call "out" balls for your team. It's much more difficult for the oncoming server to determine if he/she might be about to play an "out" ball.
3. Mirror the spot on the court where the serve lands. If it's a wide serve, protect your line. If it's in the middle, start shading to the center to possibly pick off a high return.
4. Movement and courage are the keys to

tennis and badminton are both Olympic sports.

We need a systematic method to engage both and adults in this sport. The expansion seems limitless!

LET'S GET THIS THING GOING!

When Nancy Millard and I founded the Women's Paddle Tennis Association of Southern California, we wanted to encourage more women to play paddle tennis, form an organization which would represent women's interests at the Southern California tournaments and start a junior program for both girls and boys. I'm happy to report that we have accomplished and even exceeded all those goals!

I feel that this merger will be good for all of the sport. The WPTA will be sharing in some of the duties that Mike Corbett has been mostly performing alone such as producing the newsletter and handling the details of membership.

Player Profile: Jim Ellison

Jim is the current holder of the National Men's Doubles Title, B Division [with Jon Miller]. He has been playing paddle tennis for about three years. Jim is a California boy, born and raised. He attended college at Long Beach State. As he fits a sports nut, he took a job with Wilson Sporting Goods in Spokane, Washington. The rainy season was hard on his tennis game however, and he came back to California in 1985 to work for Macdonnell/Douglas negotiating international contracts for aircraft. His job took him to Japan, Korea, Australia [he's been to the Australian Open] and Ireland [and Wimbledon]. He started his current job about a year ago selling airline parts to commercial airlines in order to devote himself what's really important--paddle tennis! Jim is an avid competitor and can be found most weekends on the Venice courts. He has committed himself to improving his game this year and plans to move up to the "A" Division. "My main goal is to meet my good friends, Sally Ann Law and Jason Hamakeave in a Mixed Doubles final," said Jim. "I think they know what I want from there!"