

Washington Women's Racquetball Newsletter

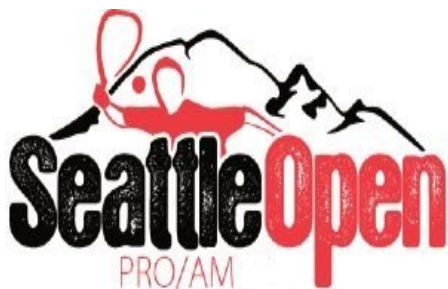
Seattle Open Pro/Am

Feb 17th-20th

Hosted at the Washington Athletic Club in downtown Seattle, **Neal Heggen** and **George Brewer** have worked hard to make this tournament a Tier 3 event. We will once again be able to see pros this year!! **Rocky Carson**, **Ben Croft** and **Chris Crowther** are scheduled to attend.

To register for this event go to:

<http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=7467>

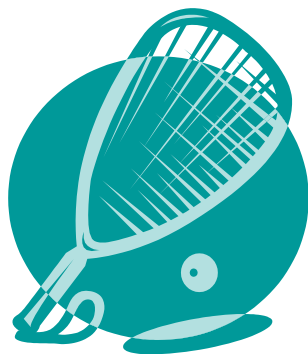


Northwest Open

March 17-20th

Wanda Collins hosts this tournament at the Bellingham Athletic Club. Lots of women attend this tournament and it's a great way to prepare yourself for State Singles!!

The R2 site is not up at the moment, but start thinking about this tournament ladies!!!



Washington State Singles

April 8-10th

Hosted by the **Washington State Racquetball Association (WRA)**, at the Pro Club in Redmond this tournament is open to players of all levels. There is no qualifier for this tournament ladies, you just come out and play like any other tournament. However this is a qualifying tournament if you wish to play in Nationals.

If you win your division in State Singles you hold the title of **Washington State Champion** in your division for one year. As a "congratulations" from the WRA your first event at Regionals (in Gresham, OR in April) is paid for.

Start preparing ladies, lets show our support of the sport in force for this tournament!!



Play Day March 5th

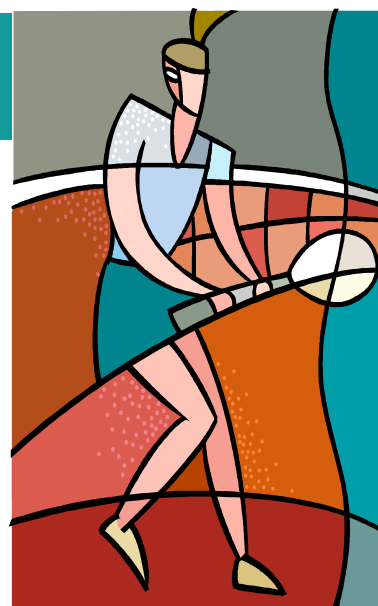
10am-3pm

Your women's committee has arranged a play day on **March 5th** at the **Kent Bally's**. Bring a snack to share and be prepared to laugh, play and socialize with your fellow lady racquetball players!

One of the main reason we are using the Kent Bally's at this point is it's close to being centrally located and they are kind enough to let us play for several hours for FREE!! We may have the option to use other clubs if women are willing to pay a small fee (less than \$10) and commit to showing up.

I would love to hear your opinions on locations and fees, please shoot me an email:

angela31372@aol.com



State Doubles Results

Thanks to all the women who participated in this event. Here are the results:

Mixed A Doubles:

1st Place:

Winnie Brumsickle/ Dave Crawford

2nd Place:

Karen Jaskolka/ Tom Cronnelly

3rd Place:

Sharon Chandler/Don Cummins

Mixed Elite Doubles:

1st Place:

Lori Turley/Daryl Bean

2nd Place:

Yen Vy Van/Rob Beach

3rd Place:

Joann Johnson/Sal Gonzalez

Consolation:

Pat Lew/Favian Elmore

Mixed Open Doubles:

1st Place:

Wanda Collins/Vincent Kiteley

2nd Place:

Jessica Munoz/Alan Lawson

3rd Place:

Jeannie Buntjer/Bill Napier

Consolation:

Yuni Cob/Sam Smith

Women's Elite Open Doubles:

1st Place:

Jessica Munoz/Vicki Panzeri

2nd Place:

Wanda Collins/Yuni Cobb

3rd Place:

Joann Johnson/Lori Turley



Player of the Month:

Jennifer Coate

Jennifer Coate in Olympia has been playing racquetball for one year this month. Her father, **John Coate** who has been playing since she was a small child, introduced her to the sport. Now it has become a family affair, Jen, her son Aiden, her father John and his wife Dea Marshall all play and can be seen at many tournaments.

A few words from Jen:

I started out playing D level on two leagues including the Valley Athletic Club, and Balleys. My dad, (who has been playing since I was small)

convinced me to join LA Fitness for the large amount of young Racquetball players there – so I joined about 6 months ago. After a few leagues at LA Fitness, our racquetball director was transferred to the East Coast for work – and asked if I would take over the league (a huge honor for me!) and I agreed.

So far, I love it. I love how involved it is, and how much more I interact with all the players. At LA Fitness we usually have between 30-40 players at a time and I've gotten to know them all, which is a great resource in finding peers to play with anytime. The work involved in running a league is mostly about recruiting, and then setting up schedules, which is only time intensive in the beginning. After that, you get to enjoy discussing peoples matches and encouraging them with a smile and a pat on the back. Right now I'm a C level player – working on my skills to move up to B possibly in the summer. There are SO MANY seasoned players that love to pass on tips and drills – which has made my game improve in such a fun way!

As for being a woman in this sport, I'm hoping my involvement encourages other women to come and play. I find it to be competitive, but good natured among the men and women that I've met so far. However, the coolest part for me, is that my 14 year old son plays also league with me – and often times me, my son and my dad all play on league together. Racquetball is not only a great workout – but it is also really fun family bonding time. We just put up a Facebook page, which has all of our league dates and some of our players as members. 😊

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/La-Fitness-Racquetball-League/176133492423601>

The picture above is of Jen, her son Aiden and her father John in Bellingham at Jen and Aiden's first tournament (Feb 2010). Thanks Jen for your hard work and support!!