

CNRA Racquetball Tidbits

August 2014

by Brett Elkins

- 1) **LET'S HELP TEAM USA JUNIORS**-USA has some incredible talent & every junior must raise over \$3000 a piece to go to Cali Columbia for Worlds Jr's (air, team clothes, food hotel). There are 3 great ways to help but **please only if you want to**- If so, pick one best for you: **A) My son Dane**-has created his own fundraising web page at <http://www.gofundme.com/awz8ls> **B) Brian Dixon**- CA Jr Director set up this great site for all 8 CA jrs. who made the US Team: <http://www.gofundme.com/CNRA-Jr-Worlds> or **C) the fab USA Jr. Team** <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Racquetball/About/Team-USA/TEAM-USA-CHALLENGE> So many of you have helped and it is appreciated more than you know.
- 2) **WORLD CHAMPS: MY TAKE-USA TEAM LOOKED GOLDEN**-Team USA pro team wins IRF WORLD'S in Canada-all 8 members medaled. The star, Rocky Carson captured a record 4th gold singles while Rhonda Rhajsich railroaded all but Paola for silver in singles. Aimee Ruiz & Janel Tisinger silvered & Big Ben Croft/Tom Furhmann took bronze. Jose Rojas served up a bronze in singles for a side out & huge win for Team USA. USA wins Mexico 2nd Boliva 3rd
- 3) **JUNIORS AT JR OLYMPICS**-There were so many exciting juniors to watch at Jr Olympics but my fav stars were Adam "Plain Vanilla" Manilla who took home 3 golds; Akul "top" Ramiyani beat Dane in boys 14 at 11; "Michael" Jordan Cooperider who dominated girls 16 singles/dubs w/Adam's sister Erika; two famous 16 year stars in Daniel Mauro Rojas & Little Wayne Antoine; of course Kaitlyn who "Boyle-d the 14's-& Heather "no baloney" Mahoney who takes 10 year olds-Thanks to Dr Hiser in his last hurrah, my local tour guides-The Santanas (who "Rock"),USAR-Myles Bob Steve etc/the Diaz's/J Nance/The Beurgen & Gleasons etc. Andrew Gleason 10 is one to watch (even Jim Winterton loves his game & fiery attitude).
- 4) **THE STORY OF MY WIFE (a great song-get it!)**- Few have seen my incredible wife Deborah at rball tourneys-since she gets claustrophobic inside clubs, so in case you're wondering who she is & what she does, here's a refreshing story on her charity work-she feeds about \$30,000 of donated food monthly to hungry kids

which could be the biggest roll-out in rbal. And yes if you have ever tasted stale pastries at a tournament event, please don't blame me (blame her)!!! Just kidding!
<http://www.palipost.com/bagel-mom-creates-a-community-of-kindness/>

- 5) **IT'S NOT A RACQUET- BUT A CLIFF SWAIN RACQUET-** I just report the news & I can't tell you how his \$249 stick hits since I play for Ektelon w/some great new racquets that I love. First, legend Ruben G. started this new racquet trend w/ Ektelon & now it's the famous legend Cliff at 48. Is next on deck a "Keely Club" or the "Brumfield Broom." But Cliff is still an incredible top 15 pro. I too have a money making idea-I'm thinking about promoting my line of Ektelon backed racquets next year and maybe calling it "the 1st rounder" since that is as far as I ever get-a very famous Elkins' special at only \$9.95 for all of you career "D" players. Wonder if I can work out a deal with Ektelon. Strings & grip sold separately. Victories definitely not included.

- 6) **DO YOU PLAY W/FIRE-**Speaking of new hot racquets, here is Ektelon's fiery 2015 new line of Ektelon racquets-their highest power ranking ever. They are smoking hot (and no I am not smoking anything either). But this year, Ektelon will not warranty any Ebay purchases so please use an authorized dealer. I use Kris Kastawal- (562) 331-5228 or Randykkaskawal@msn.com (Kris' email) & tell her Brett sent you-because you like to play with fire. Kris always lights it up for you. Here is the 2015 Ektelon line:
http://www.teamektelon.com/nm/articlefiles/ektelon_productcatalog_2014-15.pdf

- 7) **ROBY'S SITE IS DYNAMITE-** <http://www.wwrba.com/v7/index.php> Thanks for putting on WOR USA vs Mexico. Eric Harper takes pros for team USA...Barreras take pro dubs-go USA. No idea who won the skateboard trophy which is sweet. I do want to see Roby ride it though. That would be classic!

- 8) **OUTLOOK FOR WOR... WARM AND SUNNY (w/a chance for racquetballs)-**Due to the new hire of Ryan Mayer (aka Oscar), they found not only a "hot" dog-a great outdoor/indoor player but a great organizer. Ryan is on fire too!! (sorry no more

Ektelon jokes). Thanks J Ustorroz/H Marcus/Geoff "Ozzy" Osborne who made Wor champs special as the founding fathers had hope for (Wetzel & Wallace). Congrats to WOR champs- J Tisinger, R Carson & Cliff Swain who wins Outdoor pros dubs at 48 and CPRT pros. Swain is insane!

- 9) **DO YOU GO TO WOR?**- If not you should- Yes I'm pretty "fired up" (I'm on this Ektelon kick today) about this WOR history page below (thanks Kim). It has some famous photos from outdoor's founding father Barry Wallace, bad writing done by me. But see some great photos from the 1st outdoor champs incl entrant's draw sheets year one. You will have a "blast." Go to <http://worldoutdoorracquetball.net/history> A classic site to see history of outdoors and the first championships as if you were there. Incredible. Thanks Barry for bringing this to life.
- 10) **A NICE "PLUG" FOR LIFE TIME FITNESS & JOHN WILINSKY**-Rball's incredible nat'l rball coordinator wrote me, "Thanks Brett for the **plugs!**" John-you didn't tell me you like plugs (plugs get it)? Ok Brett it's back to rball. He then said, "Great updates-always entertaining & informative-Life Time Fitness is committed to **growing** racquetball. If we **stick** together & persist we will **grow** rball!" John thanks for the kind words and I do hope it grows!
- 11) **THIS ONE IS HUGE-(or is it JACK HUGHES)**-CA has 3 superstar board supporters- Peggine T, Terry R and Jack Hughes so please say "hi" to "Jack" Hughes (aka "hi-Jack"). He graciously provided a CA scholarship for a college player.. And a special congrats to CA residents Rick Betts & Cindy "Tilbury" Betts (just kidding Cindy)- NMRA Hall of famers-well deserved. Ironically Cindy made it as a player and Rick for providing lots of money (I mean as a supporter). Sorry to be so "brief" on such a wonderful accomplishment. I'm proud of both you especially Cindy who outplayed you Rick.
- 12) **FROM MY KIDS CHAFFEUR**-Bonnie Rejaei (my son's Jr Olympic partner's mom & chauffeur) wrote me, "Brett-thank you for the wealth of information. I too want to be like Kane losing every 4 years. I do have a question-what about woman's

equality in your newsletter-you had 15 points but only 6 bullets for women? Good point Bonnie- so I wrote her, "Thanks Bonnie-the last time I had 5 stories on men and 10 on women... Sorry you were so "mixed up!" "And Bonnie, isn't ironic don't you think that you mentioned Kane rather than Paola in your response." Classic. Bonnie does this bullet count for woman or against? I'm so confused.