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Sherry E. Funston  
Managing Editor

Jan Atkinson  
Editor

Anne Smith  
President, Squash Ontario

John Boynton  
André Mrozewski  
Dan Beechey  
Directors, Squash Ontario

Prof. John R. Fairs  
Jim Kenward  
Ian Stewart  
Senior Contributing Editors

Paula Cassidy  
Administrative Assistant

Cindy Fiske  
Ministry of Tourism  
and Recreation Consultant

Craig Hanley  
Art Direction

Better Creative Service Limited  
Design and Composition

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Printer

Jerry C. Hobbs  
Photography

Harry J. Allen Jr.  
Marketing & Sales - for Fresh Ideas  
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# SQUASH

L I F E

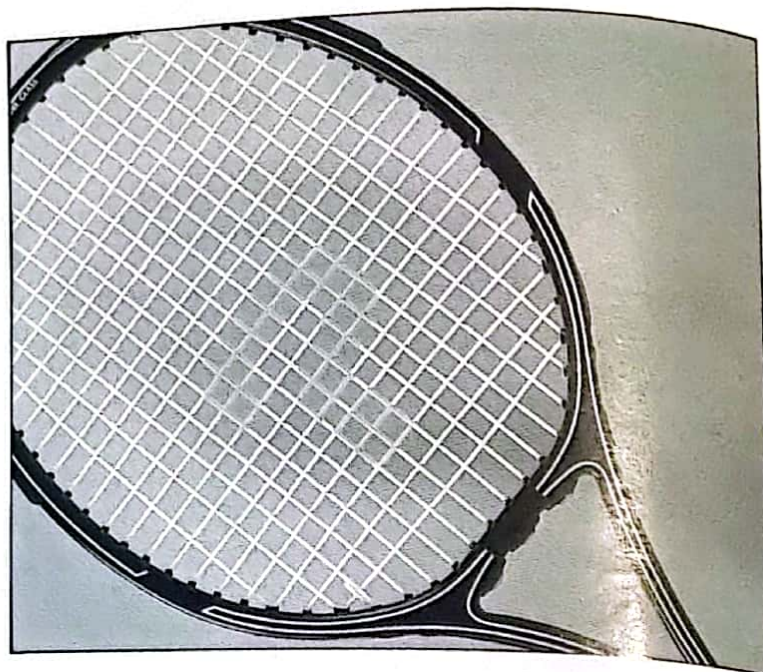
SEPT./OCT. 1986

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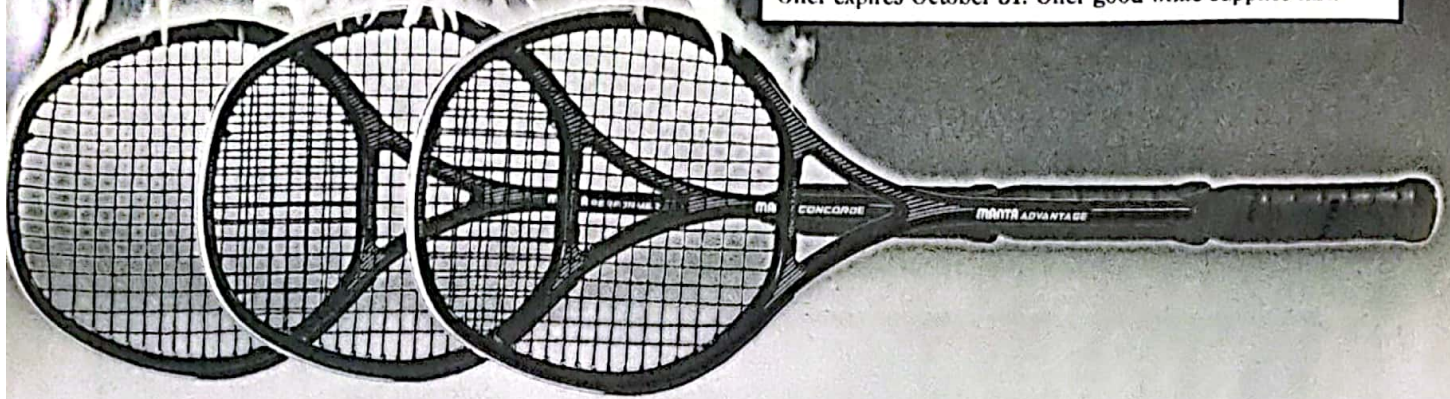
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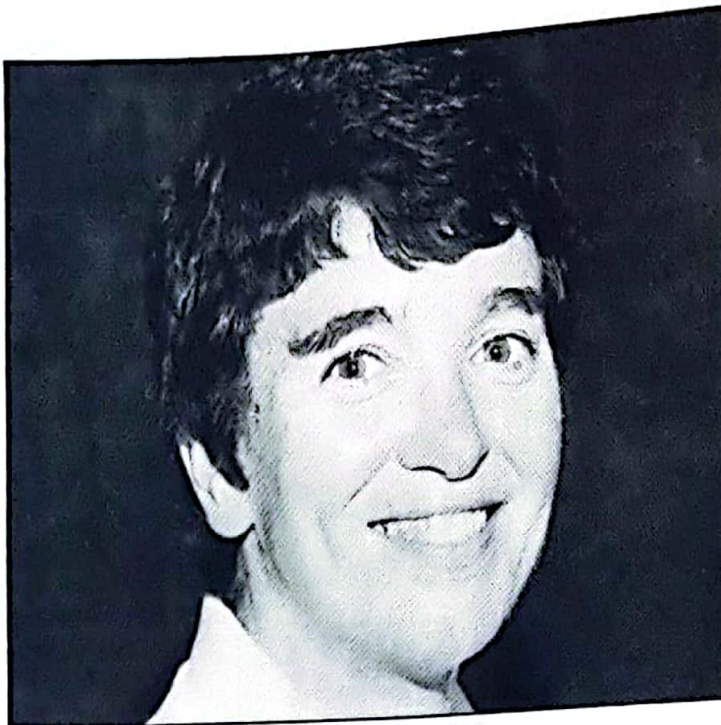
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# CLIMATE IN SOUTH AFRICA BRINGS THREATENING SKIES TO CANADIAN SQUASH



**ANNE SMITH, PRESIDENT, SQUASH ONTARIO**

Participation in international sport has long been associated with political issues. Many athletes have trained for many months and prepared for major events, only to find they are prevented from competing because of a political issue. They may have lost their only chance of such competition. The recent Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh were affected by the boycott of many countries because of Britain's reluctance to impose sanctions on South Africa.

Squash is not yet an Olympic or Commonwealth sport, but it is still affected by current government policies. Squash Ontario, like the Canadian Squash Racquets Association, receives government funding to enable us to run our programmes and support our regions in their squash development. Our funding is

never enough for our needs, but without any government support squash development would suffer enormously.

The progress and growth of squash in Canada has been reflected in the success of all of our National Teams competing in World Championships during the past year. The results were our best ever! Withdrawal of government funds from Canadian and Provincial squash would be disastrous and result in a reversal of the current progress in development.

To obtain government funding, both the C.S.R.A. and Squash Ontario (through the provincial government), must comply with Sport Canada's policies. One of the latter, regarding competition in South Africa, has necessitated the sanctioning of a few Ontario

squash players.

The relevant paragraphs taken from Sport Canada's policy on South Africa are:

● WHEREAS the continued practice of apartheid (racial separatism and discrimination) in South African sport is a matter of serious concern to the Government of Canada,

● AND WHEREAS it is the view of the Government of Canada that further progress towards peaceful change in South Africa requires continued international pressure in the area of sport,

● AND WHEREAS, consistent with the obligations assumed by the Government of Canada under the Gleneagles Declaration of 1977 and the major provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the Commonwealth Games Federation in September, 1982, it is the policy of the Government of Canada to adopt practical and effective measures to discourage contact between athletes representing Canada and those representing South Africa,

● AND WHEREAS, in accordance with such policy the Government of Canada requires that, in the case of any individual Canadian athlete, who travels to South Africa on his or her own resources to participate in competitions in that country, the national sport governing body concerned will take appropriate steps to discourage such travel, or having decided to discourage it, will take appropriate measures vis-a-vis the individual concerned,

● AND WHEREAS, in the event that any such national sport governing body shall fail to take such appropriate measures, the Government of Canada may, by the decision of the Minister responsible for



sport, suspend financial assistance to such national sport governing body in whole or in part.

● AND WHEREAS the Canadian Squash Racquets Association endorses the foregoing policy of the Government of Canada and seeks to take appropriate steps to discourage any Association Member Player from participating in any sports competitions, meetings or congresses in South Africa.

The policy makes it quite clear, in paragraph five, that funding may be withdrawn for not complying with its content. The government has told us to enforce this policy.

Some Ontario players travelled to South Africa to compete this summer and we will have to impose some sanctions upon them. Many people could argue that individuals playing for themselves without any national representation should be free to participate in their sport wherever they so choose. As the governing body of squash in Ontario, if we are to continue as a provincially funded organization, we are not in a position to make our own decisions on this issue.

The sanctions that will be imposed on any player competing in South Africa will be:

● Any Association Member Player, who travels to South Africa to participate in competitions in that country, shall be suspended from participation in any sanctioned events or other activities of the Association for a period of five (5) years.

● Any suspended Player shall, within thirty (30) days from the date of such suspension or within such longer period of time as the Board of Directors may allow, have the right to apply to a sole arbitrator to be appointed by the Minister responsible for sport for revocation or variation of the suspension.

● Any suspended Player may, at any time after two (2) years have elapsed from the date of suspension, apply in writing to the Association for revocation or variation of the suspension.

● The Board of Directors may, from time to time, make rules governing the procedure to be followed with respect to:

- (i) the giving of notice of the suspension to the Player concerned;
- (ii) the application for revocation or variation of the suspension to the arbitrator appointed by the Minister;

(iii) the application for revocation or variation of the suspension to the Association.

These sanctions will apply to players who competed in South Africa this summer and means they will not be able to participate in any Squash Ontario sanctioned competitions.

To make a decision to impose sanctions, potentially impeding players striving to achieve success, it not taken easily. Our aim is to promote squash, not deter it. Across Canada it was unanimously decided that too many people could be affected by a few, and that such sanctions were necessary.

It is a regrettable situation and all who are or could be affected should appreciate that the issue is political and not personal. We have no desire to prevent players competing, however, if we want to continue as a government funded organization, we have no choice.

In summary, we will impose the sanctions outlined above for any player competing in South Africa. It has been a difficult decision to make, but in the interests of the majority of players participating in squash in this province, it was the appropriate one to make. ●

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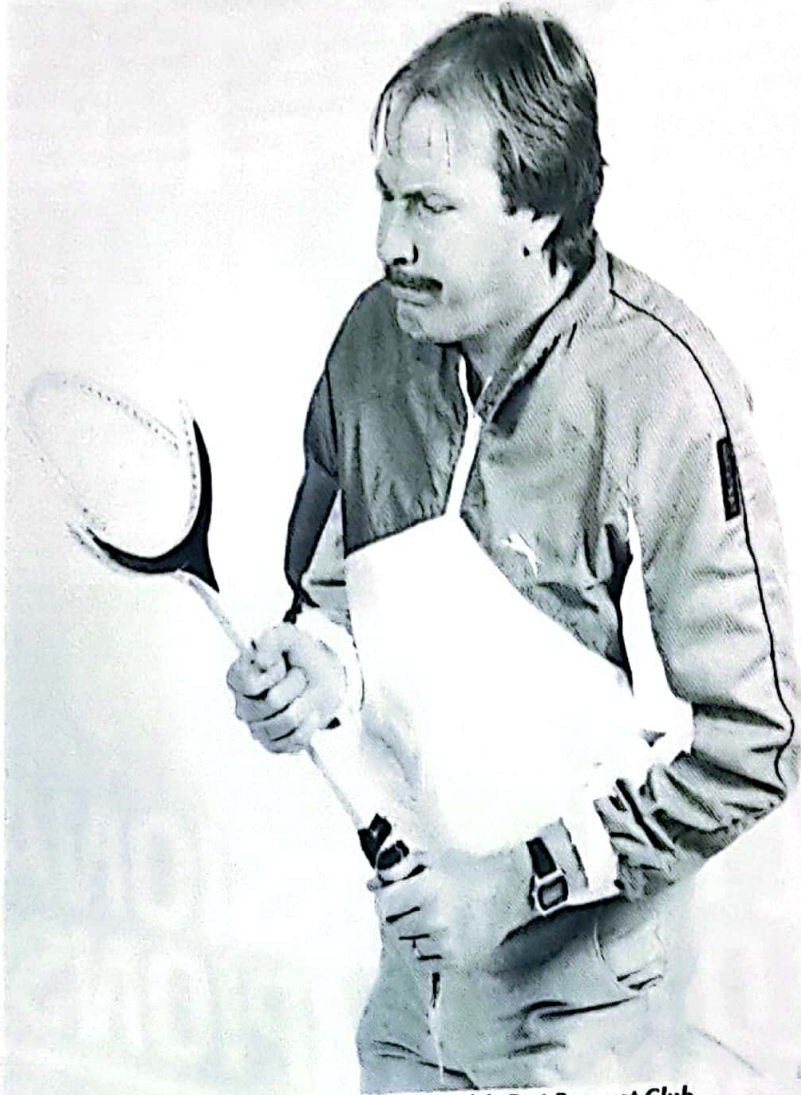




# RACQUET REVIEW

## A Consumers Guide To The 1987 Models

BY ADRIAN COLES



*Adrian Coles, Pro-Manager of Mayfair East Racquet Club.*

The game of squash has come a long way from its beginnings more than a century ago at the English public school of Harrow, where boys waiting their turn to play "rackets" would warm up in an outside area with a "squashed" rubber ball. Rackets, played on essentially the same shape court (only twice the length and half as wide again) was played with a hard ball and therefore stronger and heavier racquets. As the game of squash developed its own identity, there was a need for suitable racquets and equipment.

As a result, a lighter, shorter racquet was created for use with the much softer "squashed" rubber ball.

How these racquets were made became clear to me on a visit to the north of England factory that produced Dunlop and Slazenger models. I was surprised at the number of hand operations that went into the making of one racquet: careful selection of different woods, the forming in threes, the slicing into individual racquets followed by the painstaking sanding, balancing and finishing.

Wooden squash racquets were, with a few exceptions, regarded as playing the best. The only major drawback was the fact that they would break easily against the walls. With the development in the mid-seventies of the revolutionary Prince tennis racquets, manufacturers began to question the old rules of racquet manufacture. In turn they began responding to the needs and wants of the new breed of player, those perhaps trying these sports for the first time. Tennis racquet manufacturers began exper-



imenting with different materials and head shapes. The success of the high-tech composite racquets spilled over into the game of squash and many started to imagine how these tennis racquet principles of an enlarged hitting surface, a more aerodynamic design and the power and feel of graphite, resin and fibreglass combinations, could benefit a squash player.

It is very interesting to note that the 12 manufacturers who responded to our racquet review with their latest top-of-the-line models all offered graphite composite, enlarged head, aerodynamic design, weight and balancing features. As with tennis players, it is fairly rare to see active players using anything but one of these higher priced, but more durable and powerful racquets. Wooden squash racquets are still made for those who appreciate their unique feel and economy. However, even the wooden squash racquets have surrendered to modern thinking, now being constructed with the aerodynamic open throat design and enlarged hitting areas.

With all of these racquet models to choose from, how does one go about making the right selection?

The purpose of this review is to educate the playing public and present some information that may be relevant. Features such as weight and flexibility vary with the models and directly affect the feel and power. The racquets were play-tested by members of the Mayfair East Racquet Club. Although their comments were interesting, they serve no useful purpose to relate those, as racquets preference is purely a subjective one. The information contained in the following chart can be used to select a few models to try out. Perhaps a friend might lend you one, or possibly the sports store or pro shop has a demonstrator available. Make notes on whether you prefer one that is heavier or lighter, flexible or stiff, and then narrow down the properties that you find you prefer. A listing of suppliers is included to assist you, should a model you are interested in not be available at your local store.

This review could not have been produced without the help and cooperation of many. Special thanks must go to the staff of the Mayfair East Racquet Club in Markham, to the management of the Mayfair group for providing the necessary facilities, the manufacturers and distributors who participated in this

review, and to all at Squash Ontario.

A word about the 12 manufacturers/distributors. These appear in alphabetical order and not in any order that suggests ranking.

**ADVANCE**  
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**DONNAY**  
**FRED MARTIN AGENCIES**  
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 (416)625-3900

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**ESTCA**  
**LIWARD MARKETING INC.**  
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 Markham L3R 1C2  
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**MANTA CANADA**  
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 (416)825-4100

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**SLAZENGER CANADA**  
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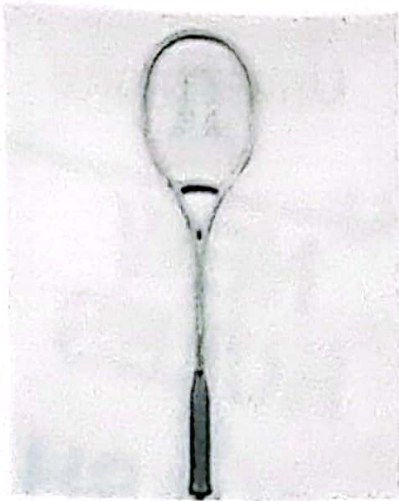
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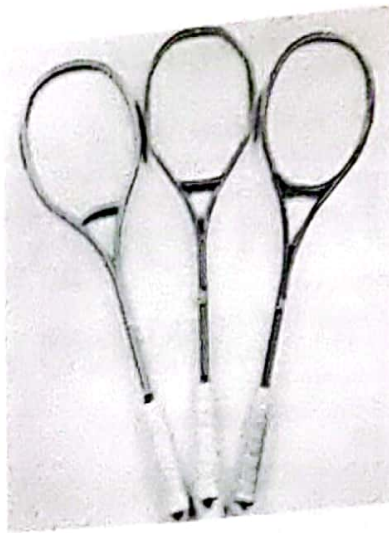
Tony Swift  
 5 Sharrowbay Court  
 Scarborough, Ont. M1W 3T1





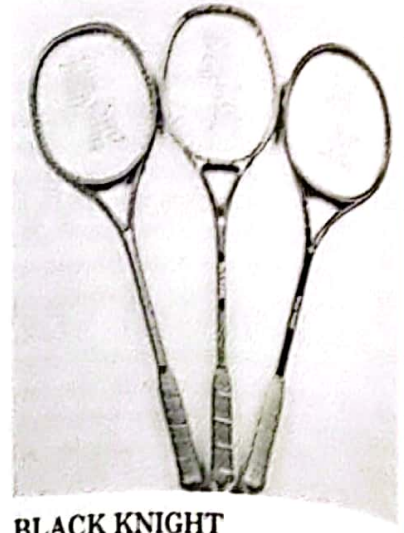
### ADVANCE

This is a new line for the Canadian distributors of the Romika shoe and Fred Perry Sportswear. It will be available from September, and only one model will be carried initially. Don't be put off by not having heard of this one before. If this racquet suits your game and is what you are looking for in terms of weight, composition, flexibility and price, then give it a try.



### ARC

A relative newcomer on the scene, ARC's president Clive Figueira wants ARC to become known as "The Canadian Company" among purchasers and users of sporting goods particularly related to squash and tennis. Three models appear in this review, and the 80 S was particularly unique with its octagon head shape and its translucent green cosmetics. All ARC racquets will be replaced should such products fail in ordinary use of an approved manufacturers defect.



### BLACK KNIGHT

This well-known line of squash racquets is backed by an unconditional 45 day guarantee, and all the racquets tested come strung, with tru-grip, headcovers. We tested three models, the GRAF-LITE BK 7050, the BORON BK 7070, and the KEVLAR GRAPHITE 7060. Canadian #1 Gail Pimm and many highly ranked players, use these racquets, and it is not generally known that Black Knight is wholly Canadian owned.



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*Jahangir Khan*

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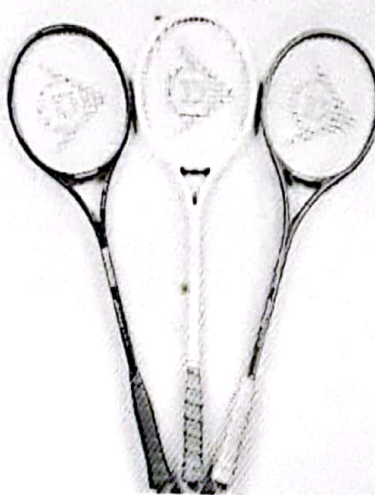
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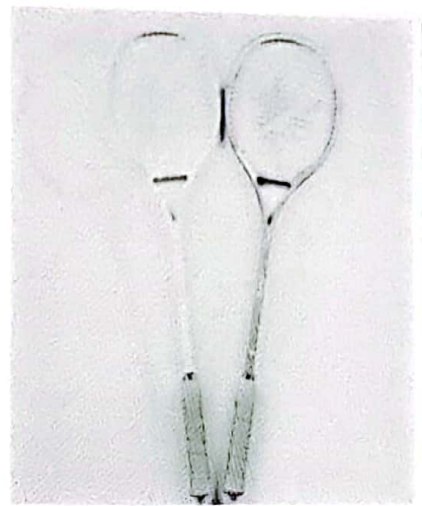
### DONNAY

Donnay has come out with a new concept in racquet design. The Pro Cynetic Concept involves Dynamic Weighting and Dynamic Stiffness. Dynamic Weighting redistributes the mass to the hitting area and handle, the efficient energy zone is moved up and out on the hitting surface. This means that without any change or increase in weight and balance, it is claimed these racquets offer a much larger sweet spot than usual mid-size racquets. The Pro Cynetic 4 also features personal weighting. By adding any one of the three different balancing weights to the handle, you can modify the overall weight and balance point.



### DUNLOP

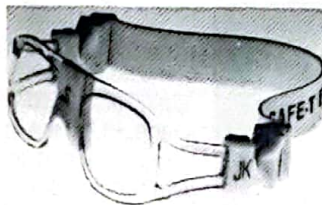
The brochure says 'another first from Dunlop'. The Max 500GS squash racquet is unique in its design. Using the same graphite injection technology as they use in their Max 200g tennis racquet, they have produced a very light yet powerful racquet. They also claim that this technique produces a frame that absorbs more vibration than other graphite racquets. The other new models tested feature Dunlop's FLEX-TEK system, whereby a relative flexibility rating appears on the side of the shaft, to help the player determine which model is best suited to his or her game.



### ESTCA

ESTCA is one of the brand names of the EST Racquet Group from the U.S. EST operates its own racquet manufacturing facilities in Taiwan, one of the most advanced in the world. Both the Elite II and the Elan II have earned the endorsement and sanction of the United States Squash Racquets Association over major brands.. There is a 60 day limited frame warranty on these racquets. Both models come with a head bumper guard which can be trimmed to customize the weight.

## Safe-T<sup>®</sup> Eyeguard



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**Jahangir Khan,**  
World Squash Champion



*Jahangir Khan*

Safe-T Eyeguard represents the best available protection for your eyes. That's why it's worn and endorsed by Jahangir Khan. The silicone bridge provides maximum surface area to avoid injury on impact and to position eyewear away from the face to minimize fogging. Contoured brow line ensures secure positioning and prevents protector from sliding up the face on impact.

Available with prescription lenses.

## Safe-T<sup>®</sup> Spec



As worn and endorsed by  
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World Champion Player



*Mark Talbott*

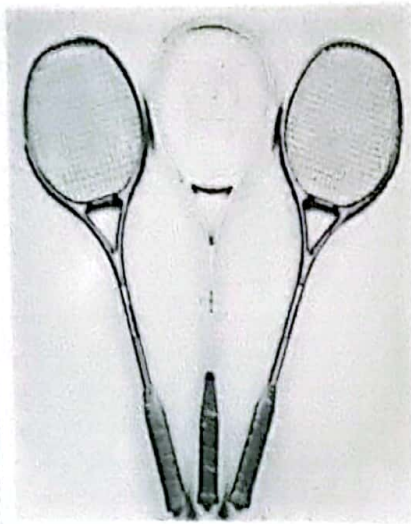
Mark Talbott believes that the purchase of Safe-T Spec protective eyewear could be one of the best investments a squash player will ever make. That's why he wears and endorses it. Safe-T Spec has been developed to afford excellent visual field design and maximum comfort during the most active of playing conditions.

Available with prescription lenses.



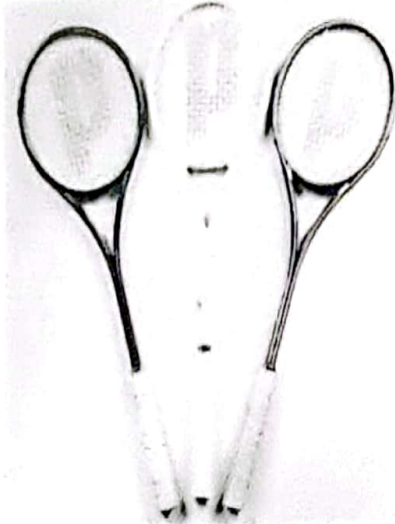
Distributed by Imperial Optical Sports, 90 Sherbourne St., Toronto, Ontario, M5A 2R1, (416) 595-1010, Toll Free 1-800-268-9278





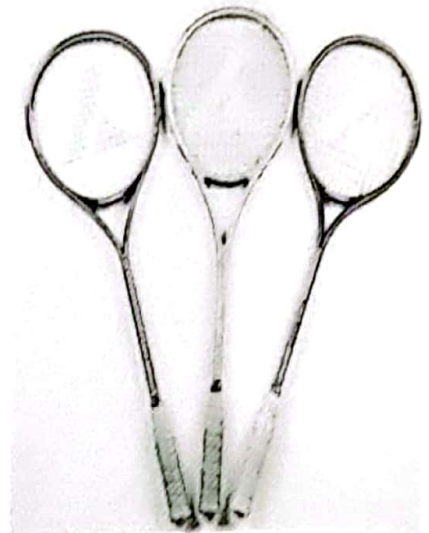
### MANTA

Manta is a Canadian owned and operated company based in Calgary, incorporating Canadian design technology in their frames. Their newest racquets feature the "True-Taper System". Squared heads to get into the corners, and main strings of more equal length to increase the size of the sweet spot. The racquets are strengthened by increasing the density in the head area. All Manta racquets are covered by an unconditional 100 day guarantee.



### PRINCE

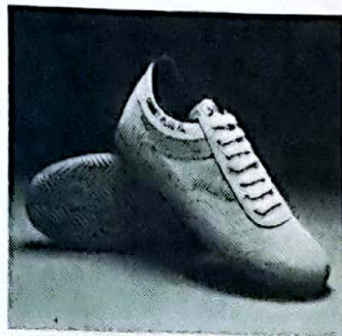
The company that started the trend towards oversized tennis racquets, and created industry concerns over 'sweet spots' has taken its technology and produced an interesting line of squash racquets. Not so revolutionary as its first Classic Tennis frame, the three racquets tested performed well and will appeal to those players who prefer their racquets a little stiffer for more power. The Spectrum Comp's cosmetics are striking white and employ the latest in silicon ceramic fibre technology.



### PRO-KENNEX

Pro-Kennex claims to be the largest racquet manufacturing company in the world, and makes many of the leading companies' frames under contract. It is their technology that has produced many of the innovations currently around. The Pro-Kennex line of squash racquets is popular with tournament players, and are used by the likes of Mark Talbott, Chris Dittmar, and are equally enjoyed by club players of all standards and aspirations.

## SUGI COURT



### 2500 COURT PLUS XL

Badminton, squash, racquetball shoe, mesh nylon upper reinforced with suede, PU at ankle, spenco lining at the heel, gum rubber sole.

Size: Men 6-13



### 2600 COURT PLUS XL HI CUT

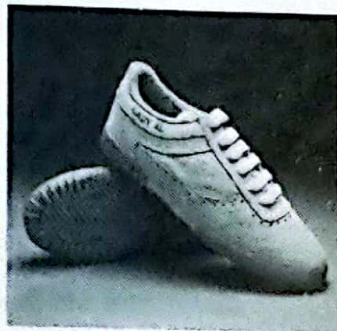
Hi cut badminton, squash, racquetball boots. Mesh nylon upper reinforced with suede, PU at the ankle, spenco lining at ankle, gum rubber sole.

Size: Men 6-12

### 4400 LADY XL

Badminton, squash, racquetball shoe, mesh nylon upper reinforced with suede, PU at ankle, terry cloth at the heel, EVA mid sole, gum rubber sole.

Size: Women 4-10



### 4500 LADY MID CUT XL

Mid cut badminton, squash, racquetball shoe. Mesh nylon upper reinforced with suede. PU at ankle, spenco lining at heel, EVA mid sole, gum rubber sole.

Size: Women 4-10



SEE SUGI AT FINE SPORTS SHOPS

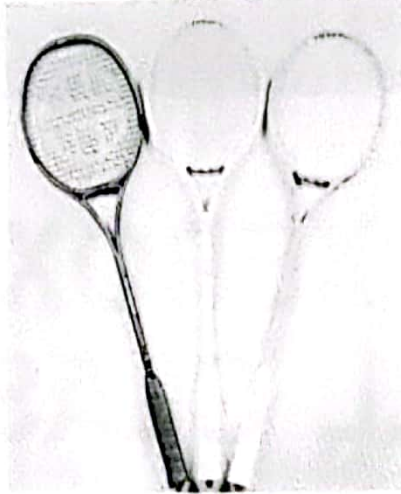
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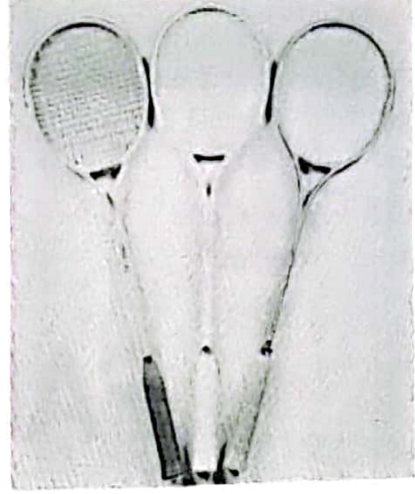
### SLAZENGER

Slazenger is one of the most respected companies that have been around for a long time. Although big, their attitude is not one of complacency, and they continue to come up with new ideas. The new Quadro concept features unique grooves moulded into shaft below the open throat to moderate the stiffness and to maximize the power generated, and help reduce vibration. Their other models feature designs with proven durability and performance.



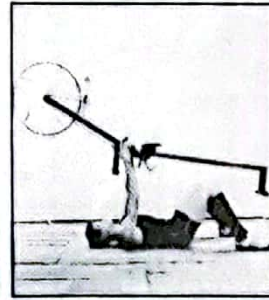
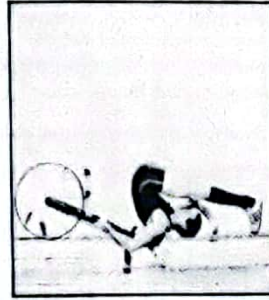
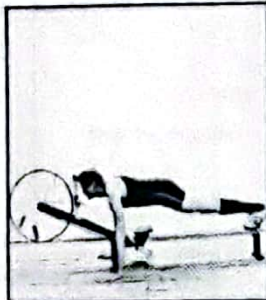
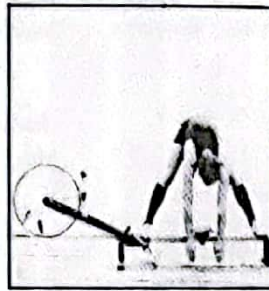
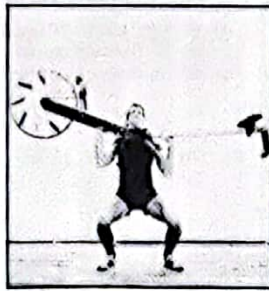
### UNSKUASHABLE

This is the line of racquets endorsed by world champion Jahangir Khan. He plays with the Silhouette #1, and his coach and mentor uses the Silhouette #3. Is it him or the racquet? The Unsquashable line has something for everybody, and has state-of-the-art frames for all playing levels.



### WILSON

Wilson has made a major investment in racquet designs, and its CAD programme has produced features incorporated in the Pro-Staff line of squash racquets. These include the distinctive Perimeter Weighting System (PWS), Increased Density Stringing Pattern, and the mid-size head. Nicky Spurgeon and Glen Brumby are on the Wilson advisory staff. The PWS is designed to reduce torque and twist, giving even more control and power on off-centre hits. The newest model in the line is the PRO-STAFF S C, which will increase success of the series.



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# XEROX FALL CLASSIC

OCTOBER 2 - 6, 1986

Professionals, Amateurs; Veterans, Juniors,  
Men, Women; Advanced, Novice; Hardball, Softball

The first ever Toronto squash tournament that includes players at all levels — **The First Annual Xerox Fall Classic** in aid of the **Juvenile Diabetes Foundation**. With over 500 participants expected, it will be hosted by **The Adelaide Club** with support from **The Cambridge Club, The Fitness Institute, Holiday Fitness and Squash Club, McCaul Squash and Fitness Club and The Squash Academy**. With professionals competing for \$13,500 and amateurs playing for outstanding prizes, all combined with great social activities, it promises to be the highlight of the squash season!

### THE PROFESSIONALS

#### Men — Hardball

A \$10,000 WPSA TOUR Ranking Event Featuring:

Mark Talbott, Boston  
Ned Edwards, New York

Clive Caldwell, Toronto  
John Nimick, Philadelphia

#### Women — Hardball

A \$3,500 WPSA Ranking Event Featuring:

Alicia McConnell, New York  
Sue Cogswell, England  
Jann Taylor, Toronto

Nina Porter, Boston  
Nancy Gengler, New York  
Heather Lindsay, Toronto

### Ticket Prices

Men's Qualifying (Tuesday, Wednesday)	Complimentary
Men's 1st Round (Thursday — all day)	\$5
Women's 1st and Men's 2nd Round (Friday — all day)	\$6
Quarter Finals (Saturday — all day)	\$8
Semi Finals (Sunday — 12:00 pm)	\$10
Finals (Monday — 4:30 pm)	\$15
Series (unreserved)	\$35
Patron (reserved)	\$100

### THE AMATEURS

#### Softball

Men: Open, B, C, D, Veterans (35+, 40+), Seniors (50+) (as at Sept. 29/86)

Women: Open, B, C, D, Veterans (35+) (as at Sept. 29/86)

Juniors: Girls & Boys, Under 19 and Under 16  
\*(Under 19: Born on or after May 2/68  
Under 16: Born on or after May 2/71)

#### Hardball

Men: 40+, 50+ (as at Sept. 29/86)

#### Entry Fee

\$35.00 includes:

- 2 Matches Minimum (Note: 1 Event/Person)
- Tournament Shirt
- Saturday Dinner/Dance (Cash Bar)
- Prizes to Champions & Finalists (Champions' Awards by Birks Jewellers)
- Admission to First Round Men's Pro Matches

Entries: Available at all participating clubs or call (416) 367-9957.

Deadline: Wednesday, September 24, 1986.

Starting times available September 30, 1986, after 10:00 am at the Front Desk of the Adelaide Club (416-367-9957).

### SCHEDULE OF PLAY & ACTIVITIES

#### Tuesday, September 30

6:00 pm Men's Pro-Qualifying Begins

#### Wednesday, October 1

9:00 am Men's Pro-Qualifying Continues  
12:00 pm Media Reception

#### Thursday, October 2

9:00 am Men's Pro 1st Round Begins  
5:00 pm Amateur 1st Round Begins

#### Friday, October 3

9:00 am Pro Women's 1st Round & Men's 2nd Round  
5:00 pm Amateur 2nd Round  
8:00 pm "Beer Bash" — All Clubs

#### Saturday, October 4

10:00 am Pro Quarter Finals  
9:00 am Amateur 2nd, 3rd & Quarter Final Rounds  
7:00 pm Dinner/Dance — Adelaide Club

#### Sunday, October 5

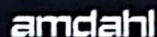
11:30 am Brunch \$6.95 — Adelaide Club  
12:00 pm Pro Semi-Finals  
9:00 am Amateur Semi-Finals & Finals

#### Monday, October 6 — FINALS

4:30 pm Women's "Open"  
5:30 pm Men's "Open"  
6:30 pm Women's Pro  
7:30 pm Men's Pro

Please note the following locations: 1) Registration — The Adelaide Club 2) Pro Matches & Finals — The Adelaide Club 3) Amateur Matches — All

Official Sponsors:





MAKE	SQUARE HEAD		RAISED EDGE STRING		MODEL	CONSTRUCTION	WEIGHT IN GRAMS	FLEXIBILITY	LEATHER/SYNTHETIC GRIP	SUGGESTED LIST PRICE	COMMENTS
	RECESSED BUMPER G.	ROUND/OVAL HEAD	RECESSED BUMPER G.	ROUND/OVAL HEAD							
Advance	✓	✓	✓	✓	Gago	80% Graphite, 20% Fibreglass	220	23	L	\$ 90.00	Bumper guard, new arrival on scene, customized weight & balance markings, inverted yoke.
Arc	✓	✓	✓	✓	Kevlar S	Graphite with Kevlar	222	32	L	\$180.00	Bumper guard, inverted yoke, charcoal grey cosmetics, a Canadian company.
Arc	✓	✓	✓	✓	50 Composite	50% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass	218	28	L	\$140.00	Bumper guard, oval shape, black cosmetics, stiffings for power.
Arc	✓	✓	✓	✓	80-S Graphite	80% Graphite, 20% Fibreglass	216	28	L	\$160.00	Octagon head shape, bumper guard, transparent green colour.
Black Knight	✓	✓	✓	✓	Grif-Lite BK 7050	95% Graphite, 5% Kevlar	218	20	S	\$135.00	Bumper guard, 45 day unconditional guarantee, a wholly owned Canadian company.
Black Knight	✓	✓	✓	✓	Boron BK 7070	47% Graphite, 47% Fibreglass, 6% Boron	222	16	S	\$110.00	Bumper guard, 45 day unconditional guarantee, more flexible for control.
Black Knight	✓	✓	✓	✓	Kevlar Graphite 7060	90% Graphite, 10% Kevlar	226	20	S	\$120.00	Bumper guard, 45 day unconditional guarantee, suitable for the most advanced players.
Donnay	✓	✓	✓	✓	Pro Cynetic 4	Graphite Composite with Kevlar	205	23	L	\$200.00	Dynamic personal concept, bumper guard, dynamic weighting concept for customized weight & balance.
Donnay	✓	✓	✓	✓	GTX Ceramic	Composite with Ceramic	220	24	L	\$150.00	Bumper guard, part of the line Donnay line.
Donnay	✓	✓	✓	✓	GII	Graphite/Fibreglass Composite	216	22	L	\$125.00	Bumper guard, polyurethane handle for vibration dampening.
Dunlop	✓	✓	✓	✓	Max 500 GS	Injection Moulded Graphite Fibres in Nylon	206	19	S	\$200.00	Graphite injection process unique, low string tension reduces elbow problems, vibration very light.
Dunlop	✓	✓	✓	✓	Black Max	45% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass, 5% Boron	216	18	S	\$140.00	Bumper guard, Fiastek system provides stiffness while maintaining power & control for top level players.
Dunlop	✓	✓	✓	✓	Silver Max	40% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass, 10% Kevlar	212	18	L	\$125.00	Bumper guard, grey cosmetics, full size oval head, Kevlar increases impact resistance of frame, for advanced recreational players.
Dunlop	✓	✓	✓	✓	Blue Max	50% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass	214	20	S	\$110.00	Full size oval head, bumper guard for recreational player, well priced composite racket.
Eastca	✓	✓	✓	✓	Elan II	75% Graphite, 10% Ceramic, 15% Boron	218	27	L	\$100.00	Silver grey cosmetics, reinforced with Boron & Ceramic, endorsed by U.S.S.R.A.
Eastca	✓	✓	✓	✓	Elite II	75% Graphite, 10% Ceramic, 15% Kevlar	226	23	L	\$120.00	Silver white cosmetics, Ceramic is added to reduce vibration, most suitable for advanced players.
Manita	✓	✓	✓	✓	Advantage	50% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass	224	25	S	\$120.00	Bumper guard, featuring True-Taper system, square head, more protection for racket head, side weighting.
Manita	✓	✓	✓	✓	Concorde	80% Graphite, 20% Fibreglass	220	23	S	\$140.00	Non-marking bumper guard, features True-Taper system.
Manita	✓	✓	✓	✓	Edge	50% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass	212	16	L	\$100.00	Tear drop design, last year's best seller of the Manita line.
Prince	✓	✓	✓	✓	Graphite KS2	90% Graphite, 5% Kevlar, 5% Fibreglass	220	29	L	\$185.00	Extra long grip, bumper guard, Prince's first excursion into squash.
Prince	✓	✓	✓	✓	Graphite Pro	70% Graphite, 30% Fibreglass	214	24	S	\$135.00	Extra long grip, bumper guard, light weight yet stiff for power.
Prince	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spectrum Comp	80% Graphite, 10% Fibreglass, 5% Kevlar, 5% Silicon Fibre	226	22	S	\$160.00	Extra long grip, bumper guard, white cosmetics, state of the art Silicon technology.
Pro Kennex	✓	✓	✓	✓	Composite Dominator	80% Graphite, 20% Fibreglass	212	15	L	\$130.00	Nylon bumper guard, foam core reduces vibration.
Pro Kennex	✓	✓	✓	✓	Boron Dominator	50% Graphite, 10% Boron	212	15	L	\$150.00	Nylon, non-fraying bumper guard, foam core reduces vibration used by Mark Talbot.
Pro Kennex	✓	✓	✓	✓	Bronze Dominator	50% Graphite, 50% Fibreglass	208	18	L	\$110.00	Bumper guard, an extra inlay of Fibreglass makes for extra power, used by Chris Dittmar.
Slazenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	Quadro	60% Graphite, 40% Fibreglass	222	22	S	\$150.00	Power band tuning, designed in West Germany, reduces vibration, full size Quadro head shape, for advanced players.
Slazenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	Phantom Gold	70% Graphite, 30% Fibreglass	214	19	L	\$130.00	Bumper guard, full size oval head, designed for recreational-advanced players.
Slazenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	Phantom Boron	55% Graphite, 5% Boron	212	17	L	\$140.00	Dark grey cosmetics, bumper guard, graphite for shock absorption, Boron for lightness, stiffness & power.
Slazenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	Phantom Challenge	30% Graphite, 70% Fibreglass	213	18	S	\$ 90.00	Bumper guard, dark grey cosmetics, an up-grade to an attractively priced composite racket.
Unquashable	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jahangir Khan Silhouette I	50% Graphite, 40% Fibreglass, 10% Boron	214	19	L	\$140.00	Jahangir Khan.
Unquashable	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jahangir Khan Silhouette III	80% Graphite, 20% Fibreglass	218	21	L	\$130.00	White, bumper guard, as used by Roy Giller, round head, 18% oversize.
Unquashable	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jahangir Khan Silhouette V	80% Graphite, 70% Fibreglass	220	20	S	\$120.00	Red, bumper guard, 18% oversize head, increased density string system (1 string per hole).
Wilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	Pro Staff 300	100% Graphite	226	27	L	\$130.00	Bumper guard, perimeter weighting system, used successfully by world class players like Nicky Spurgeon.
Wilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	Pro Staff SC	80% Graphite, 20% Silicon Carbon	214	36	L	\$150.00	Bumper guard, perimeter weighting system, silver cosmetics, newly developed, stiffest racket for power.
Wilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	Pro Staff	30% Graphite, 70% Fibreglass	230	18	S	\$ 80.00	Bumper guard, perimeter weighting system a Graphite composite racket at a reasonable cost.

\* (The higher the number the stiffer the ball)



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# IS SQUASH MOVING FROM THE COURT TO THE COURT ROOM?

Recent commentaries, news reports and concerns of Squash Ontario members respecting damage awards given in lawsuits has caused Squash Ontario to re-examine its position in terms of participant safety and protection from liability of the corporation and those involved in organizing and officiating Squash Ontario sanctioned tournaments.

In the past, Squash Ontario sanctioned tournaments have been distinguished by an attention to participant safety and education and a co-operation on the part of tournament organizers, and with but a few exceptions, tournament participants. However, it is not a useful (or a safe) exercise to rest on one's laurels and so Squash Ontario, with the advice of its solicitors, has considered certain concerns raised by the members and other practical problems and various solutions. The following is a brief summary of some of the matters considered.

The Squash participant, as any sports participant, voluntarily assumes the usual hazards of the game, such as being hit with a racquet or ball. This may not deter the unusual player from commencing a lawsuit if he is injured during a game. Although this has not as yet occurred (and hopefully never would occur), we feel that it is in the interests for all parties concerned that a form of application be signed containing a release, waiver and indemnity of Squash Ontario and its member organizations. For our junior players, this release would be signed by or consented to by a player's parent. It is now a relatively standard practice for organizations conducting tournaments and sports events to have their participants sign such releases. It is also an opportunity for the player to be educated and to reflect upon safety considerations.

Tournament organizers will be responsible for seeing to it that the forms are properly completed and

that their contents are brought to the attention of the participant when the participant registered. We hope to have the forms available shortly.

There have been some questions raised as to whether or not regional directors or others should be indemnified by Squash Ontario for potential lawsuits or claims arising from any allegations of negligence of the tournament organization. There has also been some question as to whether the bylaws should be amended to further protect these persons. We have considered this matter and believe that it is not appropriate for Squash Ontario to provide such an indemnity. To the extent that an individual person has undertaken any liability on behalf of

the corporation or incurs a liability, the bylaws of the corporation provide the corporation with the power to indemnify that person. Further, the indemnity provision in the bylaws excludes any indemnity for negligence caused by the person who otherwise might be indemnified. We have been advised that this indemnity clause should not be amended and that any power to indemnify provided in the bylaws or by resolution of the corporation is merely that, a power to indemnify and may or may not be exercised by the corporation. It does not provide a third party with any right to be indemnified. In respect of providing individuals involved in organizing a tournament with a form of contrac-

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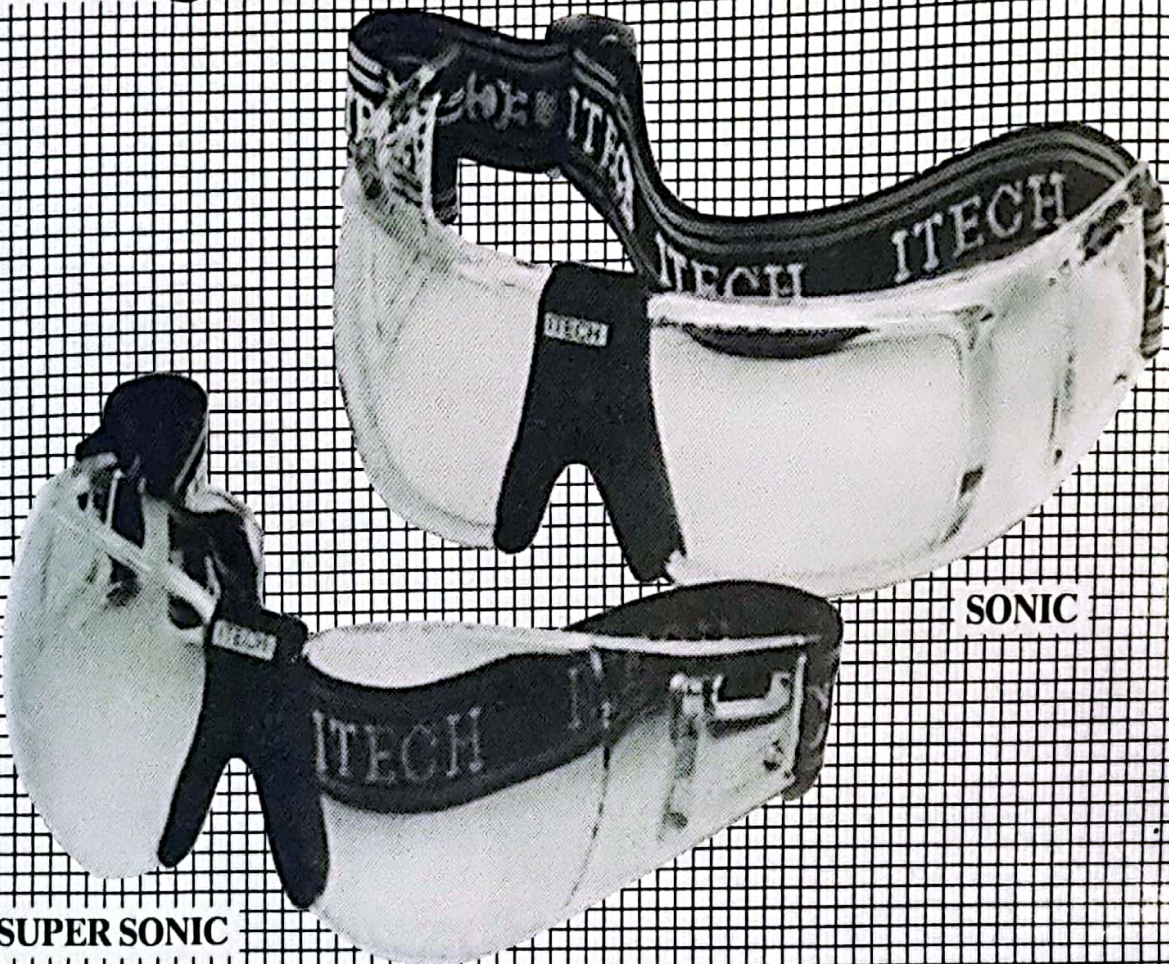
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tual indemnity against liability, we have been advised that this may open a virtual Pandora's Box of potential liabilities to the organization which may never have been contemplated. It is a potential morass in which the corporation should not be involved. To the extent that there is a valid reason for indemnifying a party and to the extent that the corporation has funds to do so, it is open to the corporation to consider indemnification on a case-by-case basis if the need should ever arise. As a practical matter, Squash Ontario is not a commercial enterprise and does not have vast reserves of money; indemnities provided would not be very powerful in any event.

We believe that the best protection for the organization and players is in maintaining a high standard of organization, keeping abreast of the latest developments in the sport and applying such developments when appropriate, and strictly enforcing the rules. It is in everybody's interest to enforce the rules or to see to it that the rules are enforced.

One of the rules which has recently come under scrutiny is Squash Ontario's mandatory eyewear rule. Squash Ontario is a front-runner in educating its squash players to the

potential of eye injury in the sport. Like many safety innovations, the mandatory eyewear requirement has met with some resistance. We have carefully reviewed the reasons for this rule and are adamant that, in the interests of players and organizers, the rule must be strictly followed and enforced.

Squash Ontario is now in the process of reviewing various insurance packages in order to determine their viability.

To conclude, as a general rule, common sense must dictate. Players should behave in a prudent, sportsmanlike manner and should only participate in a tournament when they are up to the challenge and are appropriately equipped. Squash Ontario's administrators and organizers must concentrate on establishing efficient systems of supervision and should enforce the rules, notwithstanding the resistance of a few individual players. Cooperation and understanding between the players and the organizers will provide the ultimate protection from injury and liability. With an efficient, safety conscious organization in place, we can turn our attention to the fun and challenge of competitive squash. ●

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# PROMOTING SQUASH

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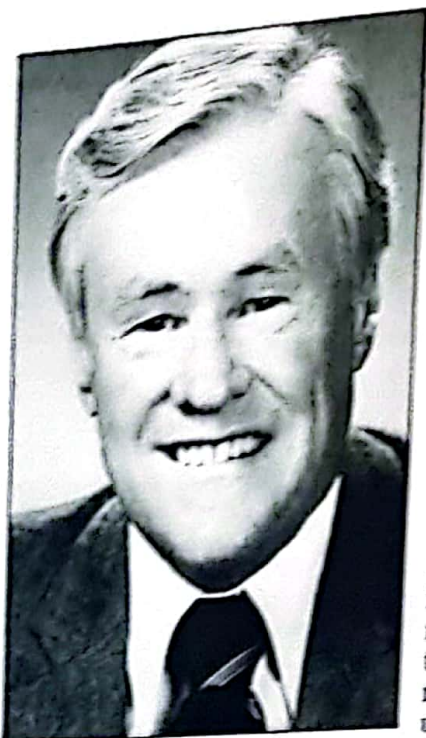
BY IAN C. STEWART

I read with great interest the Managing Editor's controversial editorial in the May/June issue. This dealt with the lack of promotion and marketing of the various major squash events that are held in Toronto each year. The writer argued that the lack of attendance at some of these events was due almost entirely to promotion.

As most of you know, the subject of a World Tour and a Grand Prix Circuit have been my major interests in squash over the last few months, and one question that is constantly asked at various meetings is, "How can Toronto continue to support so many major squash events?"

Consider for a moment exactly what the average supporter of squash events in Toronto is faced with each year. It is not uncommon for this city to have five or six major tournaments featuring the world's best players, spaced not necessarily evenly throughout the year. We have the Canadian Open Hardball, the Canadian Open Soft Ball (often both with the same players), the Mennen, the Skyline, the Jack Daniels and the W.P.S.A. Championships. However, now and then we get lucky when one of these events either misses a year, or moves to another location, but not often. As I am writing this article from the top of my head, I may very easily have missed a couple of events such as the U.S. versus Canada Loews Cup, the Canadian National Championships, and various major doubles events.

There have been years and may still be years in the future, when Jahangir Khan will perform in a tournament at least six times, and this does not take into account untold numbers of personal appearances, clinics and exhibitions. The city of London, England considered for many years as the squash capital of the world, will pro-



IAN C. STEWART

bably only see Jahangir Khan once in a year or at the most twice, on very odd or special occasions. England has about three times the number of squash players per capita as there are in Canada. If London itself has six times the population, then in theory London should be able to support 18 times the number of Jahangir Khan appearances than Toronto.

The following chart will give you some idea of what I am driving at:

	LONDON	TORONTO
Estimated Number of players	400,000	100,000
Estimated Number of Ticket Buyers 1% of players	4,000	1,000
Number of Events	1	5
Spectators per Event	4,000	16,000

If anyone cares to study these figures more closely and analyse them carefully, they can understand why no Jahangir Khan tournament in Toronto will sell out, whereas tickets are at a premium in London. I have come to the conclusion that Toronto is oversaturated with squash tournaments involving Jahangir.

Unfortunately, we are faced with the problem of being Canada's major squash centre and both games, hardball and soft ball, want to have a piece of our bucks. Those of us who feel we have an obligation to support both games are automatically going to be hit double and if, in addition we like doubles, it then means three times. Together with this you have all the fringe tournaments, and then I think you can understand why, even with the greatest promoters in the world, we will not sell out any tournaments completely.

I believe this is a serious problem and those who are involved in promoting squash in Toronto, should get together and take a serious look at it. Perhaps all the various sponsors and tournaments mentioned in the third paragraph could get together and have one really first class event, where a gallery with between 1,200 and 2,000 seats would be filled to capacity every night.





## CHARITY SQUASH CHALLENGE

Squash Ontario and Amstel Breweries Canada Limited, are pleased to announce the 1987 Amstel Light Charity Challenge, with proceeds this year being donated to Ronald McDonald House.

Last year, 3000 players participated in the Amstel Light Charity Challenge and our goal in 1987 is to reach the 4000 mark. We are asking all our clubs to help us achieve this objective by scheduling an Amstel Light Charity Challenge sometime between now and the 18th of January, 1987. Events this year will include:

Men's A, B, C, D, Novice, 35+, 40+

Women's A, B, C, D, Novice, 35+, 40+

All participants will receive a specially designed '87 Amstel Light Charity Challenge t-shirt and will compete for the honour of representing his or her club in the regional championships scheduled for January 30-1 February, 1987. Venues for these championships will be announced in early December. Regional winners will then be Amstel's guests in Toronto, where they will travel to play in the provincial championships at Mayfair Parkway Racquet Club on February 28-1 March, 1987. Entry fee will remain unchanged at \$10.00.

Again this year, we have not forgotten the club managers and pros who run their club Amstel Light Charity Challenge tournament. Any club having more than 75 registered participants will earn a berth in the professional event the weekend of the provincial championships. Prize money is \$2,000.00 which we hope will act as an incentive to all tournament organizers to 'get those entries in'.

Please watch your bulletin board or speak to your professional to see when your club event is scheduled. Help us to make our donation to Ronald McDonald House the largest in our history! ●

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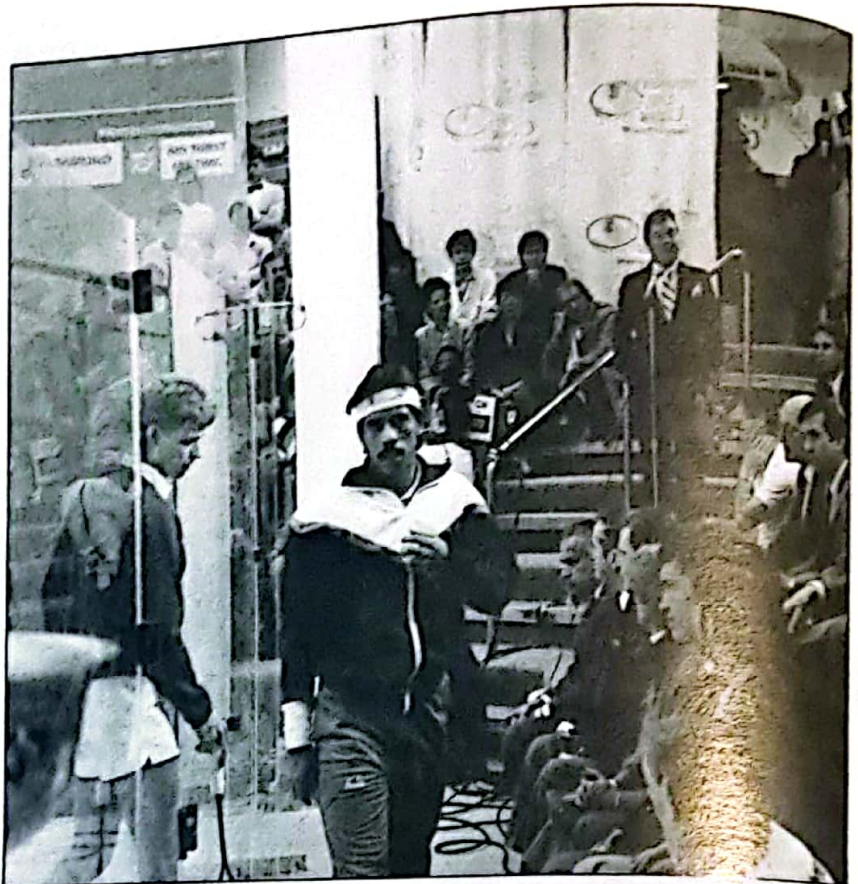
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Carlson Court is undoubtedly one of Toronto's finest squash and fitness facilities. It set out to provide a private club atmosphere for its members, as well as an ideal setting for hosting major squash tournaments. It has successfully achieved both objectives.

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# TRAFFIC LIGHT SQUASH

## A Functional Approach To Percentage Play

BY PROF. JOHN R. FAIRS

A previous article\* examined the meaning of "playing the percentages". Simply stated, it is playing in a way that pays. It means calculating what shot, tactics, or strategy will provide the greatest chance of success with the smallest risk of failure. It boils down to knowing where and when to attack and defend. Said a bit differently, percentage squash involves knowing the time and place to play safe, to pressure with forcing shots, and to go for winners.

In this article we turn our attention to a method of putting the concept of "playing the percentages" into action; otherwise, accomplishment is often left to chance.

What is involved in putting the percentages to work for you? Basically it means the use of various models and charts by the player to effectively direct and control the selection of his shots, tactics, and strategies. For example, it is very helpful to have a coach or a friend use a chart to analyze the results of one's shots in match play. From the chart, one can learn what shots are paying off and which are not. Post-match analysis of shots related to percentage of success may lead one to conclusions like the following: the straight drop has the highest percentage of success as a putaway shot; use of a reverse corner return of serve has a low percentage of success; volley finesse shots are against the percentages; inaccurate hard serves have low percentage of success; and so on. Tactics can be looked at in a similar fashion. For example, charting the use of tactics in match play could reveal such findings as "hitting for depth" on return of serve is high percentage; hitting low and short from the backcourt is low percentage; when in front of your opponent, hitting straight is higher percentage than playing crosscourt.

Understandably, space does not permit full coverage of how percentages can be applied to shot-making, tactics, and strategy. Each is a topic

unto itself. My intent here is simply to introduce a court model that can be used to present some general guidelines for strategic percentage play.

Figure 1 presents a model that divides the court into three zones: the backcourt, midcourt, and frontcourt. It is excellent for discussion and demonstration of the different strategic approaches that characterize the three zones of play. As you can see in Figure 1, a traffic symbol is superimposed on the three zones of the court; the red STOP light is placed on the backcourt zone, the yellow CAUTION light on the midcourt zone, and the green GO light on the frontcourt zone. As everyone knows, the function of a traffic light

is to provide the driver with information regarding performance requirements at intersections. Likewise the superimposed traffic light symbol, by analogy, conveys a clear message to the contestant regarding decisions about performance that are acceptable and desirable in the various zones of the court. Generally speaking, the red STOP light warns the contestant to play safe in the backcourt. Yellow informs the midcourt contestant to play with caution, and the green GO signal encourages the frontcourt player to attack - to go for it.

Some views on the importance of the "traffic light" control symbol pictured in Figure 1 are discussed below.

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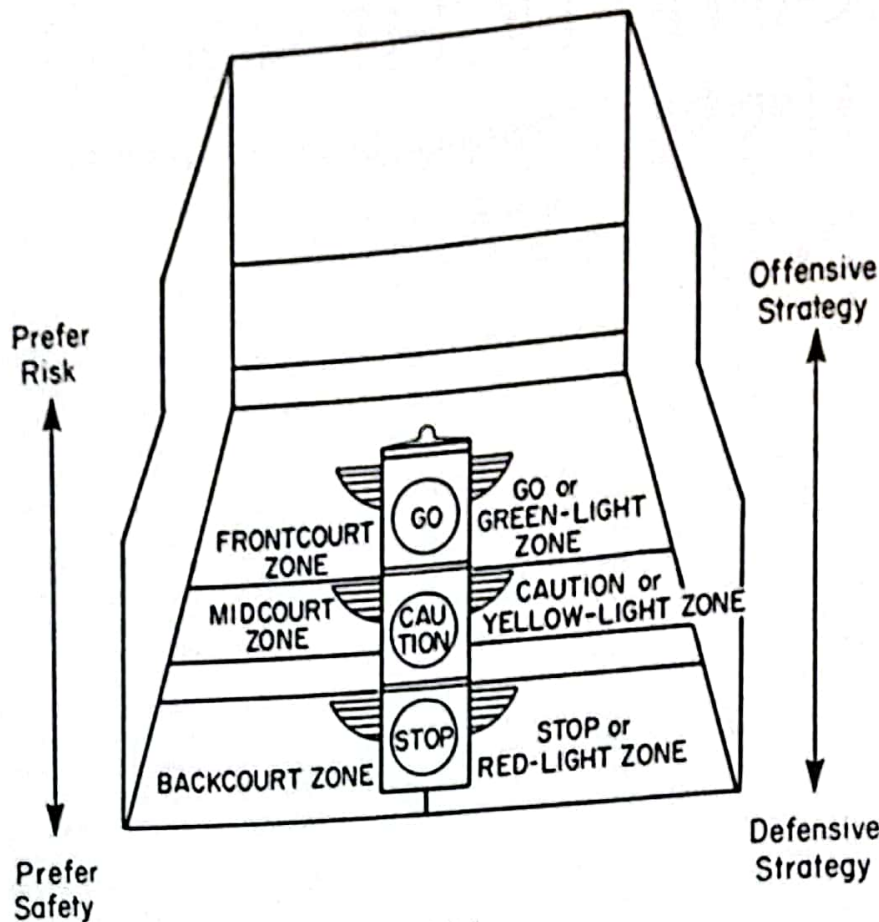


FIGURE 1

**Importance of the "Traffic Light" Court Model**

First of all, the 'traffic lights' guide the player in his choice of what is

percentage or non-percentage strategy. It should be clear, for example, from Figure 1 that attacking is bad strategy in the STOP or

red-light zone and good strategy in the GO or green-light zone. More specifically, when forced to play a shot from the backcourt, the STOP or red light tells you to play safe or conservative - to keep the ball in play. In short, the use of a defensive strategy is good percentage play. By contrast when an opponent gives you a fat setup in the frontcourt, the GO or green light tells you to go on the attack. When conditions are favourable toward risk, an attacking strategy is percentage squ

Second, one of the objectives of the traffic-light device is to provide guidance to the contestant in his calculation between safety and risk. When positioned in the backcourt, the red STOP light warns the contestant to calculate on the side of safety or risk-aversion; at the same time, the green GO light ordinarily encourages the frontcourt player to be a risk-taker. In general, risk-oriented players adopt an attacking strategy whereas risk-averting backcourt players put top priority on a safe, defensive strategy.

In effect, the model focuses attention on the linkage between the

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player's court position and his strategy. A glance at the "traffic light" model indicates that depth of ball largely dictates the player's choice of strategy. From my observation of players at the club and college level, this guide to strategy selection is often ignored. For example, such players often chose to attack from the backcourt red-light zone, failing to recognize that such action is rarely successful and, therefore, against the percentages.

Finally, the traffic signals bring discipline and control to a player's game; they provide a clear message of what to do, and what not to do in the three zones of play. The 'lights' serve as decisional guides to the player's tactics and shot selection. Most of the guides to action provided by the 'lights' are, of course, basic to all players, whatever their level of play. They are the cornerstone of strategic percentage play.

#### The STOP or Red-Light Zone: Play Safe in the Backcourt

The backcourt player occupies a weak competitive position. His opponent is ideally positioned on the T so the percentage of hitting a low, finesh shot beyond his reach is remote at best. So why take the risk?

Attempting a winner from the STOP or red-light zone usually results in either hitting the tin or in giving the opponent a setup that he can pounce on and put away. It is non-percentage. It is senseless, therefore, to take the gamble.

Under the circumstances, then, his choice of strategy is clearcut. He must be steady, avoid errors at all costs, and force the opponent on the T to occupy a position of disadvantage in the STOP or red-light zone. He accomplishes his strategy by hitting the deep alley or cross-court.

In practice, of course, especially at advanced levels of play, it is not unusual to find a player who has the expertise to drop a ball from behind his opponent or to hit the 3-wall with worthwhile effects. To be strategically sound, however, Jack Barnaby advises that it should be "done sparingly, seldom enough so that it is indeed a surprise rather than unsound policy. Good players are cautious about giving the other fellow a front ball when he is already halfway up there. It can easily backfire"!(1)

It is clear from the preceding discussion that attacking the frontcourt from the red-light zone is a

high-risk strategy; it is nearly always against the percentages. Figure 2 illustrates the backcourt red-light model.

In general, red-light strategy is constructed on two basic concepts. The first concept is to keep the ball in play and avoid unforced errors at all costs. The importance of avoiding backcourt tins can hardly be exaggerated. Red-light "keep the ball in play" strategy is highlighted by the directive to hit the ball to good length. This can be easily accomplished by letting the ball get low and by hitting up from the backcourt zone. Ordinarily, trying to hit winners from the backcourt is non-percentage and ends up with more errors than winners. This is why, of course, the player should calculate on the side of safety when hitting from the red-light zone. Such an approach makes sure that the backcourt player does not beat himself with unforced errors.

The accepted need for the adoption of a defensive strategic posture doesn't mean that the backcourt player must eliminate all offensive action when positioned in the red-light zone. For one thing, he can identify a weakness and pound it. Generally, opponents are not strong on both the forehand and backhand. Some opponents, for instance, have error-prone forehands when forced to hit from deep in the backcourt. Needless to say, whatever the weakness, it should be exploited by the backcourt player.

Also, a key point to be recognized here is that the need to adopt "keep the ball in play" strategy does not mean that the backcourt player must divorce himself from hitting aggressive, attacking shots. There are low-risk shots that are tailor-made to fit the situation at hand. They are the shots of the deep game - the deep alley and the deep cross-court - hit to "perfect length". It is recognized that the deep alley that nicks on the crack between the back wall and the floor wins a point in the same way as a drop shot that nicks on the crack between the side wall and the floor. Moreover, a deep shot that hits 3 inches above the nick will be unplayable, whereas a "3-wall" or boast that hits the side wall 3 inches above the nick comes out and often sets up. Other similar situations could be easily cited. Typically, however, players (many who should know better) underestimate the point-winning potential of the shots of the deep game. They are seen merely as rallying

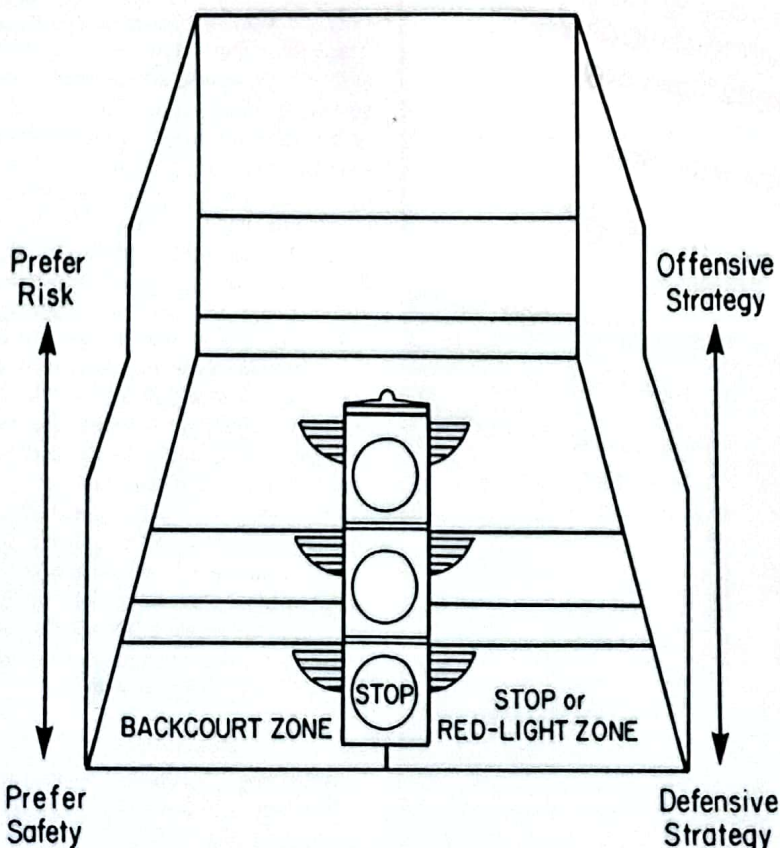


FIGURE 2



shots that are used in the struggle of the T and to generate the short ball that is vulnerable to attack.

At any event, the wisdom of taking advantage of the point-winning potential of low-risk deep shots is easy to recognize. Often, it gives the backcourt player a telling competitive advantage over opponents.

The second concept, which is obviously related to the "keep the ball in play" concept just discussed, is to avoid giving your opponent a short ball or setup that he can put away for a winner. Hitting low and short and thereby giving the opponent an opportunity to win the point is a problem at all levels of play. With the intermediate player it is usually due to lack of backcourt skill. He

plays comparatively low to the tin or he fails to hit upwards to the front wall. With the advanced player, it is often a problem of poor judgement. He gambles by trying to hit winners (e.g. three-wall or boast) from the backcourt when the odds are unfavourable. He often hits short on impulse rather than in carefully chosen situations. He ignores the fact that there are situations where you cannot do much with the ball. Jack Barnaby had this point in mind when he wrote:

The three wall nick is a shot that every advanced player should learn. Most good players know this, but many of them don't use the shot - they abuse it.(2)

No player can completely protect himself from attack but accurate length is a sound preventative measure. Especially, it reduces the opponent's chances since it provides no setups.

As implied throughout my discussion, the focus of strategy in the STOP or red-light zone is to make sure you do not lose by beating yourself. The essential concern is keeping the point alive until your opponent makes an error or hits a setup that can be put away.

The following strategic guidelines should be followed:

1. Be content to be steady; eliminate unforced errors.
2. Exercise patience and discipline; lack of self-control and impatience are a squash player's worst enemies.
3. Stress length in dueling for control of the T.
4. Exploit the weaknesses of opponents.
5. Hit short and low only in carefully chosen situations.
6. Calculate on the side of safety not risk.

#### A Concluding Point

The preceding discussion stressed the need for the backcourt player to place a high premium on "safe" strategies that minimize risky shot-making. Choosing to hit short for winners is "too chancy" and leads only to more errors than winners. Many experienced players may consider the proposed strategy too conservative. What about the "3-wall" or boast? What about the long drop shot played from behind the opponent? The answer to these questions is cut-and-dried. If the shots can be hit with consistent accuracy and they are putting your opponent under pressure, they are appropriate to use. If, however, two out of three boasts come out and set up the use of the boast is "bad" strategy. Similarly, hitting the T with two out of four long drop shots is not going to win matches.

Thus, only shots that conform to the "be-steady-don't-give-your-opponent-a-chance-to-win-the-point" philosophy of play should be used by the backcourt player. This is the key to strategic percentage play in the STOP or red-light zone. ●

#### Footnotes

1. **Winning Squash Racquets** (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1978), p.151.
2. **Squash News** (November, 1982), p.6.

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# A COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO THE LIABILITY CRISIS

BY JOHN BOYNTON

Over the past year, considerable attention has been drawn to the problem of the frequency and magnitude of liability claims. In 1985, Canadian property and casualty insurance companies had a combined loss ratio of 115.3%. Among the 10 largest companies, only seven generated an overall profit and of these seven, only one had a return on investment of over 10%.

These results naturally have caused the insurance companies to react with significant premium increases in certain risk areas. Casualty and automobile insurance have been the two areas most greatly affected.

The major problem facing risk managers in today's climate is the fear of the unknown. With property insurance, an object has a fixed value and the degree of loss is somewhat predictable from historical data. In terms of casualty insurance however, injury and loss of income payments vary tremendously. Court awards have often borne more resemblance to lottery winnings than justifiable payments arising out of the negligence of a third party.

Despite the foregoing, there have been very few claims made in the area of amateur sport. Even in the contact sports such as hockey and football where the potential for injury is far greater than racquet sports, liability disputes have been infrequent.

A typical case involved a hockey player who was skating behind his net during a warm up period. He was struck in the face with a puck shot by a teammate. The victim sued the player, the player's parents, the league, the hockey facility and the coach. The court found that the victim and his parents knew the hazardous nature of the sport and that the accident was not caused by any

negligence on the part of the defendants.

Squash players, association volunteers and club owners have expressed concern over their position in the unlikely event of a liability dispute. Statistics would suggest that the potential for a successful claim as a result of a game-related injury is minimal.

The prudent club owner should, in any event, purchase business insurance coverage which is normally available from his broker. The C.S.R.A. and Squash Ontario have taken steps to ensure that or-

ganizational members and volunteers are protected under the terms of a blanket insurance policy.

In the case of individuals, many homeowner and tenant insurance policies provide liability insurance in the event of claims arising from bodily injury to a third party. Individuals could investigate this situation through an insurance broker.

The best protection any individual or organization can have is common sense. The practice of this element should make the balance of the above information redundant. ●

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# VANCOUVER NATIONALS HIGHLIGHTED BY GREAT SQUASH AND SOCIALS

Although the 1986 Canadian National Soft Ball Championships in Vancouver was not without its surprises, in the end it was the favourites who generally prevailed. This was particularly true in the Men's and Women's "Open" events

where the top seeds, Jamie Hickox, a dual Canadian-British citizen who plays mostly in England and on the world circuit, and Gail Pimm, from Toronto, took their respective titles in convincing fashion.

Pimm was devastating in her run

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through the draw, giving up only six points in her semi-final victory over Nancy Cranbury (Ancaster, Ontario) and just 10 points in overpowering second seed Joyce Mayrock (Vancouver) during the 30-minute final. Pimm has now firmly established her position as the top Canadian women's squash player after just three years of serious training and competition. The top eight finishers all placed as they were seeded, except for Cranbury, who took third over an injured Beryl Paton by default. Two of the 9-12 seeds, Wendy Wontner (Toronto) and National Junior Team member Amanda Paton (Calgary) had excellent tournaments and ended up in the ninth place playoff, with Wontner coming out on top 9/5, 6/9, 2/9, 9/1, 9/7.

On the Men's side, everything went true to form through the first two rounds, with all of the seeds advancing with little trouble. Then two of the 9-12 seeds, Canadian Junior Team member Sabir Butt (Toronto) and "veteran" Gene Turk, knocked off the 8th and 7th seeds Alex Doucas (Montreal) and John Fleury (St. Catharines) respectively. Doucas partially redeemed himself by fighting his way through the feed-in consolation to take ninth place over Trevor Thom, while Fleury withdrew because of obvious pain from a severe case of tennis elbow.

In the quarter-finals, Hickox lost his only game of the tournament to Butt before taking the match 5/9, 9/3, 10/8, 9/2. The 16-year-old Butt has been an infrequent tournament competitor in Canada, spending much of his time in England training under Rahmat Khan, but is obviously a force to be reckoned with in the future. Steve Lawton (Vancouver) redeemed himself against Sushane Soni after his recent losses, with a 3-1 win to move into one semi-final against Hickox. In the other half, rapidly improving 20-year-old Jamie Crombie (Calgary) stunned a packed gallery by overpowering and ousting last year's National Champion Dale Snyman (Calgary) 9/6, 1/9, 9/3, 9/2. It was a satisfying win for Crombie, who worked hard on his game all year. He spent the preceding 2½ months holding his hand at the world circuit. Gary Waite (Sarnia), seeded second, easily took the other semi-final 9/3, 9/4, 9/4 over Turk.

The semi-finals were anticlimactic after the drama of the quarter-finals with both Hickox and Waite winning handily. It was the first time that



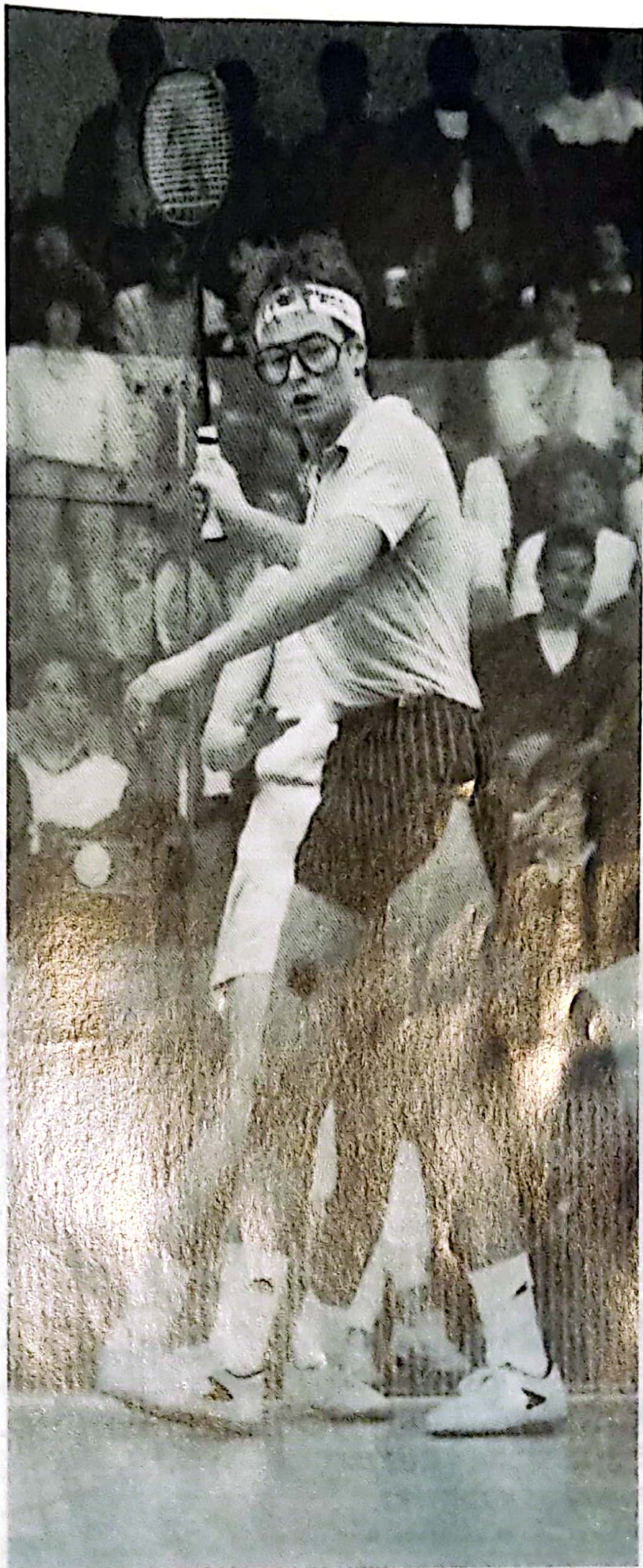
Hickox had reached the finals despite his top 25 international ranking, partly because of his self-confessed penchant for enjoying the social side of the Canadians as a relief from the pressure and grind of the competitive season culminating in the British Open. However, this year he came to play and prove that he can be serious, and to pocket the \$1,600 first prize. The final was 1½ hours of first-class international squash, with both players using their wide repertoire of shots to utilize the whole court and stretch their opponent to the limit. Hickox however, showed his greater experience under pressure and more consistent shot-making to take the first game 9/7 in an amazing 40+ minutes, the second game 9/6 in only a slightly shorter time, and then the third 9/0 in just over 10 minutes - an impressive and convincing performance.

Styner recovered from his disappointing quarter-final loss to take fifth 7/9, 9/1, 9/6, 9/2 over Soni, while Crombie easily disposed of Lawton to take third.

As usual, the age class events provided some of the most interesting and exciting battles with several new champions emerging. In the Men's 35+, two new members of the group, John Furlong (Nanaimo) and Colin Young (Calgary) provided a challenge for last year's finalists, defending Champion Bob Puddicombe (Vancouver) and runner-up Dennis Goodfellow (Toronto). Furlong knocked off Goodfellow 3/1, however, Puddicombe managed to stave off a determined Young with a tremendous 9/5, 9/7, 5/9, 8/10, 9/4 win, which had the gallery in awe. The final was just as entertaining with the "young" Furlong coming back to take his first national title 9/7, 3/9, 2/9, 9/0, 9/6.

With the absence of defending champion Tony Swift, due to back problems, there was little doubt that last year's runner-up David Bevan, from Wolfville, N.S. would be facing Women's National Coach Ian Paton in the finals. Neither player lost a game in reaching the finals, although Paton was pushed in the third game against Jug Walia, a former Canadian Team member in late 1970s who now lives in Oklahoma City. The final was a battle royale, with both players showing sign of fatigue by the third game. Somehow, Paton managed to dig deeper into his reserves to take his first National title 4/9, 2/9, 9/6, 9/1, 9/6.

In the 45+, 50-year-old Gerry



**GAIL PIMM WINS FIRST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**





**JAMIE HICKOX, ALL BUSINESS IN WINNING NATIONALS**

Shugar successfully defended his title, but not before Mike Hill (Calgary) made a determined comeback after losing the first two games to win the next two before the master of psychology pulled it out in the fifth. Next year Shugar may play it safe and move up to the 50+

category. In the final men's division, the 50+, newcomer Egon Kuhn (Nanaimo, B.C.) rolled over 2nd seed Neil Desaulniers (Vancouver) 3-0 in one semi-final, while Jim Adam (Toronto) edged top seed Som Soni (Winnipeg) 4/9, 9/1, 10/8,

2/9, 10/8 in the other. Kuhn then went on to take the final 9/3, 8/10, 9/0, 9/3 to garner his first ever National Championship.

With seven entrants, the women's 35+ was run in two pools with a playoff for the championship. Top seed and defending champions Sandy Drever (Victoria) had little trouble in winning pool "A", nor did Patsy Cross (Calgary) seeded second, in pool "B". In the final, Cross overwhelmed Drever 9/6, 9/4, 9/4 for her first National title.

The five women in the 40+ event played a single round robin for the title and as planned, the final match ended up being for the Championship. In earlier play both Pat Marks (Ottawa) and Carol Ashby (Vancouver) had won all their matches, although both were extended to five by Linda Khan (Vancouver). The final was a well-played, even match with Marks coming out on top in four games.

With nearly 190 competitors in all, the 1986 Nationals were the largest on record. All entrants were treated to great squash and a full schedule of social activities, plus the excitement of the opening weekend of Expo '86. The committee head by Chairman Paul Walker, and Co-ordinator Larry Armstrong, plus the Black Knight duo of President Gil Murray and National Sales Manager Bruce Alexander, organized a first-class event. Referee-in-Chief Ken Peterson had the refereeing superbly orchestrated and matches went smoothly and generally on schedule.

Black Knight Enterprises and Molson Breweries again provided superb support for the event, along with local sponsors such as the Keg restaurants. Further assistance was given by the Province of B.C., the City of Vancouver, and the B.C. Squash Association. The Cherry Squash Club, with its seven excellent courts, was a gracious host and was conveniently located in the heart of downtown Vancouver close to the Expo site. To complete the event, Vancouver was blessed with a sunny weekend for those who wanted to escape the courts.

It should be noted that for the first time ever, both the Men's and Women's "Open" divisions were restricted to Canadian citizens, including immigrants and permanent residents (two years minimum). However, in both quality of play and enjoyment for the participants, this year's event rated as one of the best ever. ●

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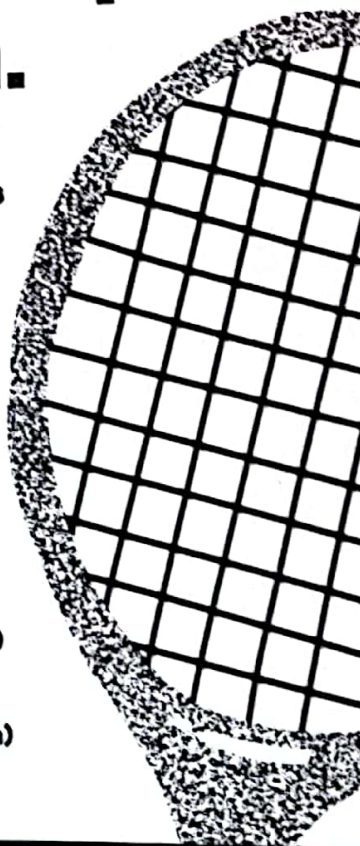
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# SARNIA HOSTS A RECORD 192 JUNIORS AT NATIONALS

National Junior Team members took the top four places in each of the Boys' and Girls' Under 19 events in the 1986 Canadian Junior Soft Ball Championships in Sarnia. Future National Team players demonstrated their potential by their success in the remaining divisions.

In the Boys' Under 19, 16-year-old Sabir Butt (Toronto), making his first appearance in a junior tournament in Canada in two years after training and playing overseas, dominated play without the loss of a game. He took the final 9-1, 9-0, 9-4 over Trevor Thom (Victoria) with Scott Dulmage (Toronto) finishing third.

In the Girls' Under 19 Championship, Amanda Paton (Calgary) was almost as convincing in defending the title she took last year but lost one game in her final match against Louise Waite (Sarnia) before winning 9-4, 7-9, 9-6, 9-4. Cathy Green (Ottawa) edged Kelsey Lundmark (Calgary) for third.

In the Boys' Under 16, top seed Jeremy Fraiberg (Montreal) overwhelmed his opposition, giving up just three points in his victory over Chris Harley (Victoria) in the final. The Girls' Under 16 was also dominated by one player, Lori Coleman (Ajax), who downed Margo Green (Ottawa) 9-7, 9-4 9-7 in the final. Green had upset second seed Stephanie Richardson (Ottawa) 9-3, 10-9, 9-5 in one semi-final in another rematch of these two competitive friends from Ottawa.

The Boys' Under 14 was another event in which the eventual winner was never in doubt, as top seed Duncan Peake (Richmond Hill) knocked off one of the rapidly improving Ryding brothers from Winnipeg, Patrick, by a 9-5, 9-4, 9-4 score. However, in the Girls' Under 14, an unseeded foreign player, Cathryn Tyler from the Cayman Islands, surprised second seed Joanna Richardson (Ottawa) in the second round, then got by another foreign

player, Emily Ash (Brooklyn, N.Y.) 9-4, 9-2, 9-10, 9-0 in the semi-finals before crushing top seed Lara Levesque (Ottawa) 9-6, 9-4, 9-0 in the final.

The Under 12 events provided two of the closest finals in the tour-


namment, after the finalists had destroyed all their earlier competition; on the boys' side, top seed Jonathan Power (Montreal) edged the other Ryding brother, Graham, 9-7, 7-9, 9-4, 9-1 while in the girls' final, second seed Ava Stochinsky (Edmonton)

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squeaked by her arch-rival Dana Khan (Vancouver) 6-9, 6-9, 9-3, 9-3, 10-8 in the only dramatic championship match.

A record 192 players entered the 1986 Championship, including a good representation from the United States. The Committee, headed by Lew Waite, organized a superb tournament thanks to the efforts of numerous volunteers. The Pinsonneault Fitness and Racquet Club plus the Sarnia Riding Club, were gracious hosts to the throngs of energetic juniors.

Sponsorship support was extremely encouraging, with major sponsor Arc Racquets Ltd. supplemented by Dr. Scholl's, plus local donors Dow Canada, Shell Canada, Polysar Limited, Swiss Chalet/

Harveys and Fiberglas Canada Inc. The Canadian Squash Racquets Association, through grants from Sport Canada, provided nearly \$8,000 in travel assistance for players to attend the Championships.

The difficult task of organizing officiating for the nearly 500 matches was capably handled by Referees-in-Chief Patti Hogan and Craig Hall, assisted by CSRA National Examiners Penny Glover and Dave Tullis, who also managed to do some upgrading of local officials.

It will be a challenge for the organizers of next year's championships in Vancouver to live up to the standards set by this year's Committee. ●

# JUNIOR SQUASH IN WESTERN ONTARIO BENEFITS FROM CLUB MED RAFFLE

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Over the last two years, the Western Region has augmented its Squash Ontario Junior Development allocation by holding a fund raising raffle.

In co-operation with the Club Med organization and Chris Spera, owner of Battlefield Travel of Stoney Creek, the W.R.S.R.A. Executive has held a draw featuring a one week, all expenses paid holiday for two at one of Club Med's Caribbean resorts. On May 31st, in conjunction with the W.R.S.R.A.'s league finals night and awards dinner, the draw was made by Western Region President Don Douglas and Chris Spera. This year's winners were Ruth Harris of Hamilton, Ontario.

Over \$3,000 was raised for development in the region. The funds are dispensed in the form of grants to clubs in the region in three priorities in mind:

- junior development programs run by regional clubs
- junior tournaments held in the region
- support for individual juniors participating in regional, provincial and national competitions

The fund raising programme has proved to be so successful that the Western Region is already planning the 1986-1987 season's raffle. ●

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# CANADIAN RANKINGS

**Waite and Pimm lead the pack  
with several Ontario players making strong advances.**

Gail Pimm (Toronto) and Gary Waite (Toronto) maintained their number one positions in the final 1985-86 CSRA Softball Rankings after strong performances at the National Championships.

On the women's side, Joyce Maycock easily maintained her second position. There were no major changes in the rest of the rankings since the last list was released based on results up to April 8, except for a dramatic climb by junior Louise Waite (Sarnia) from 24th to 16th after very successful outings in the National Championships (junior and senior).

Last year's top male player, Dale Styner, did not play enough of the other top players in Canada to receive a final ranking in 1985-86. The same fate also befell Alex Doucas (Montreal) and Arthur Hough (Calgary) who would likely have been in the top ten. Two other Canadian citizens, Jamie Hickox, living in England, and John MacRury, living in Bermuda, only saw limited action in Canada so are also considered insufficient data. Jamie Crombie took over second spot in the final rankings with his wins over Styner and Steve Lawton in the National Championships. Sabir Butt (Toronto) appears on the list for the first time in 5th spot based on his results in March and his 7th place finish at the National Championships.

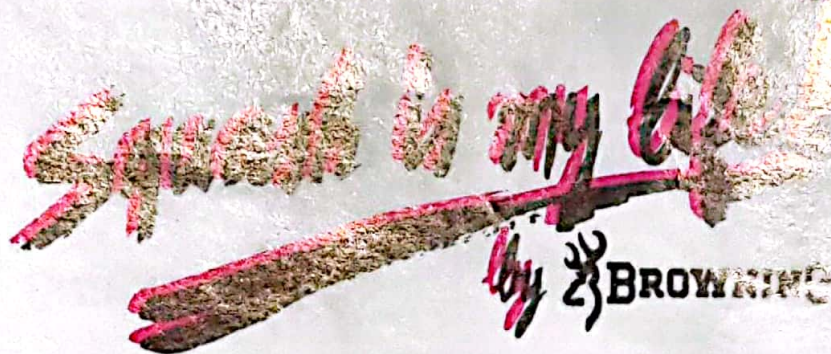
There were a number of dramatic improvements over 1984-85 final rankings. Gene Turk regained some of his previous form and jumped from 18th to 6th while Trevor Thom moved up from 16th to 9th. Nancy Cranbury leaped to 4th from 12th in her first injury free year since 1982-83, while National Squad members Amanda Paton and Wendy Wontner, who were tied at 16th in 1984-85, moved up to 8th and 10th, respectively.

## WOMEN'S SOFT BALL AS OF JUNE 1, 1986

POSITION	NAME	RESIDENCE	RATING	1984/85 RANKING
1	Gail Pimm	Toronto Ont.	2109	(1)
2	Joyce Maycock	Vancouver BC	2086	(2)
3	Beryl Paton	Calgary Alb.	1981	(3)
4	Nancy Cranbury	Ancaster Ont.	1957	(12)
5	Gina Hoatson	Vancouver BC	1953	(7)
6	Andrie Levey	Calgary Alb.	1930	(7)
7	Carla Jensen	Regina Sas.	1897	(6)
8	Amanda Paton	Calgary Alb.	1856	(16)
9	Lori Hogan	Calgary Alb.	1845	(9)
10	Wendy Wontner	Toronto Ont.	1837	(16)
11	Shelley Harvey	Ottawa Ont.	1787	—
12	Anne Green	Belleville Ont.	1782	(15)
12	Penny Wedd	Vancouver BC	1782	(13)
14	Kelly Brown-Payerl	Ajax Ont.	1775	—
15	Lynne Noel	Ottawa Ont.	1764	(14)
16	Louise Waite	Sarnia Ont.	1752	—
17	Connie LeBrun	Vancouver BC	1741	(25)
18	Kelsey Lundmark	Calgary Alb.	1730	(13)
19	Laura Letourneau	Calgary Alb.	1723	(16)
20	Hetsy Cross	Calgary Alb.	1724	(21)
21	Jennifer Birch Jones	Victoria BC	1706	—
22	Gailly Govevnton	Vancouver BC	1688	—
23	Heather Lindsey	Toronto Ont.	1688	—
24	Sandy Brown	Victoria BC	1637	—
25	Christine Brown	Winnipeg Man.	1635	—

Included on this list are players who played in the 1985-86 season in the CSRA Softball Rankings. Players who did not play in the 1985-86 season are not included.

\* restricted to players who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents (minimum of 1000 points)





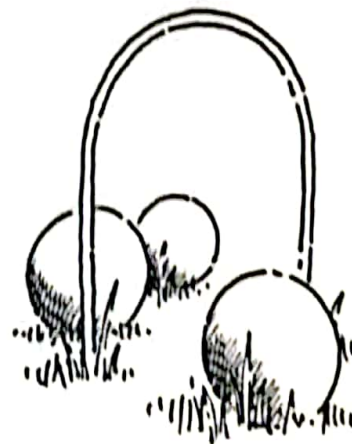
# MEN'S SOFT BALL

AS OF JUNE 1, 1986

POSITION	NAME	RESIDENCE	RATING	1984/85 RANKING
1	Gary Waite	Sarnia Ont.	2015	(2)
2	Jamie Crombie	Calgary Alb.	1973	—
3	Steve Lawton	Vancouver BC	1962	(4)
4	Sushane Soni	Winnipeg Man.	1961	(7)
5	Sabir Butt	Toronto Ont.	1915	—
6	John Fleury	St. Catharines Ont.	1841	(3)
6	Gene Turk	Winnipeg Man.	1841	(18)
8	Max Weithers	Toronto Ont.	1833	(6)
9	Trevor Thom	Victoria BC	1825	(16)
10	Mike Way	Toronto Ont.	1791	(14)
11	Joe Besso	Montreal Que.	1788	(10)
12	Pat Heffernan	Calgary Alb.	1771	(12)
13	John Frederick	Toronto Ont.	1743	(20)
14	John Cox	Calgary Alb.	1739	(13)
15	Kevin Tell	Regina Alb.	1693	(22)
16	Scott Nash	Hamilton Ont.	1678	—
17	John Furlong	Nanaimo BC	1661	—
18	Michael Hooker	Winnipeg Man.	1659	(23)
19	Mark Heaney	Vancouver BC	1646	(25)
20	Richard Jackson	Victoria BC	1644	—
21	Ian Bell	Calgary Alb.	1642	—
22	Bob Ballinger	Kelowna BC	1636	(24)
22	Alex Allison	Vancouver BC	1636	—
24	Darin Thomson	Victoria BC	1617	—
25	Colin Young	Calgary Alb.	1607	—
26	Duncan Stuart	Ajax Ont.	1602	—
27	Simon Lane	Montreal Que.	1597	—
28	Mario Raponi	Toronto Ont.	1587	—
28	Brendan Clarke	Montreal Que.	1587	—
30	Jim Geddes	Vancouver BC	1583	—

Insufficient Data — Jamie Hickox (London, England), Dale Styner (Calgary), Alex Doucas (Montreal), John MacRury (Bermuda), Arthur Hough (Calgary), Norm Platt (Toronto), Jeff Sneyd (Ottawa), Murray MacRae (Winnipeg), Scott Dulmage (Toronto), Gene Duval (Toronto), Fred Reid (Toronto), Paul Gardner (Toronto), Ralph Bentfeld (Waterloo), Dave Saffon (Calgary), Ian Paton (Calgary), Grant Foy (Toronto), Jim Shea (Edmonton), Geoff Mitchell (Peterborough)

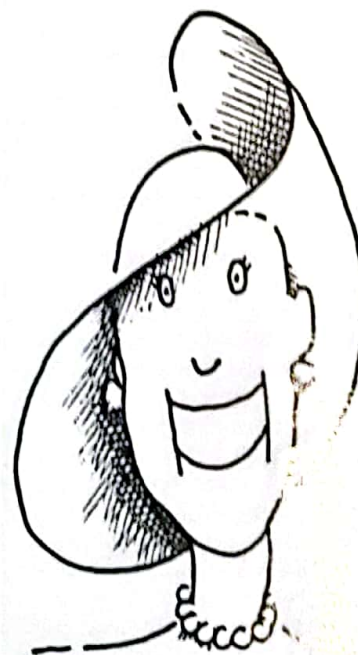
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