# SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1991

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1991















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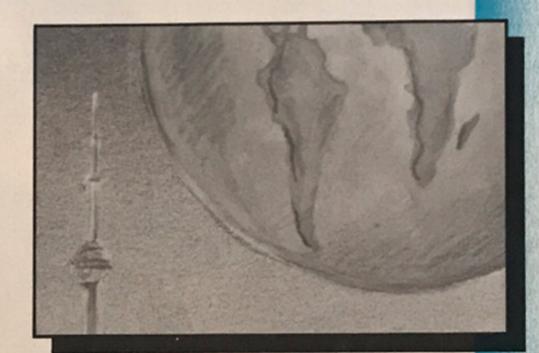
The Internationals Are Back! Building The Future Of Squash

Here's To The Winners

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5 17 18 Editorial Programmes' Progress

Club Focus



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on recycled paper.

VOLUME 16, NO. 1

### IT'S NOT IMPORTANT WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE ... OR IS IT?

By Ed Mitchell . . . .

competition through sport has always been thought of as a natural way to teach children some of the life skills they will later require, not the least of which is how to deal with success and failure. Unfortunately, the growth of sport as big business has tended to shift the emphasis of parents, coaches, and players from the approach of just playing the game to one championed by the late Vince Lombardi, that being that winning isn't everything – it's the only thing.

This latter approach has given rise to the infamous minor hockey parents screaming from the stands and the overbearing little league parent taking the coach to task in front of the team. The reasons given for this hyperactivity on the part of the parent is that a decision made by the volunteer coach may affect the future marketability of their child as a professional athlete. Along with the positive aspects of great exposure of squash through the Canada Games and possible berth in international competitions such as the Commonwealth and Pan American Games comes the negative aspect of developing our own type of sport-specific pressures, especially at the junior level. There are many who now feel that a person's worth is determined, not by the way in which he or she played the game, but by the outcome of the contest itself.

I am not about to defend either viewpoint but would suggest that it is the environment in which the activity takes place and not the activity itself which dictates whether it will have a negative or positive impact. If the participants have fun, make new friends and generally have a good time, then the chances of them repeating the activity are excellent. On the other hand, if the children constantly experience failure in these situations, eventually their resolve to continue will weaken until they quit the activity altogether. The bottom line is to make the activity fun so it will have a positive impact on the junior and make them want to continue for themselves, not because someone

else thinks it is a good idea. This premise goes for all activities associated with the sport, from the weekly training sessions at the club to the final tournament of the season. Who is better qualified to decide on what makes the activity fun than the players. So why not involve them in the planning? Also, make sure the juniors get involved in as many of the other club activities as possible to give them a feeling of full membership in the club. As suggested by Rob Brooks of Pine Valley, make the club an exciting place for the kids where they have fun, make friends and grow, literally and figuratively.

Over the past three years, junior squash in Ontario has undergone some major changes. We have instituted the Squash Ontario Junior Committee, a junior teams concept to the Ontario Winter Games, and have seen the successful admission of squash into the Canada Games. These changes have all had a positive influence on the game, especially in the area of developmental programmes for the intermediate junior squash player. But we must not forget that juniors come in all shapes, sizes and capability levels and that we must continue to develop programmes to address all facets of junior squash, from the grassroots level to elite. Remember, the future of squash lies with attracting greater numbers of juniors to the sport and then keeping them.

I would conclude with a statement made by Doug Baldwin which I believe should be foremost in all our junior development plans. ... "Remember, childhood is not a preparation for life ... it is life". O

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### The Code Of Conduct

### To do or not to do - That is the question!

By Norma Graham • • • •

oes a player know when they have gone too far? Does an official know when to say, "enough is enough"? The answers are YES; the realities are NO. If, as many people feel, the behaviour of players on court is deteriorating, whose fault is it? The player who continues to take advantage and abuse the system or the official who continues to only warn and not penalize? The answer to the first part of the question is the player; the answer to

the





CASH ONTARIO CODE OF CONDUCT

second part is the official.

All of us who participate in the game of squash know the tremendous satisfaction and pleasure we derive from this unique sport. It is absolutely essential that as players and officials,

we do nothing to bring, or allow the game to be brought into disrepute.

Showing courtesy to and consideration for your opponent or the referee is neither wimpish nor weak and civilized behaviour on court should be as much a part of your game as your drops and lobs.

On the other hand, officials must also assume their share of the responsibility for improving on court behaviour. Ultimately, the referee controls the environment in which a match is played. He or she must not only be conversant with the content of the Code of Conduct but must also be aware of when and how to apply it should the situation warrant it.

The third part of the equation is the governing bodies. They cannot expect on court behaviour to improve by taking a benign approach. Sponsors for events are becoming harder and harder to find and while squash is acknowledged as a 'clean sport', having escaped the stigma of drugs, administrators must ensure that the conduct or misconduct of the players, does not prove detrimental to keeping and attracting sponsorship. Corporations want to enhance their image; not sully it.

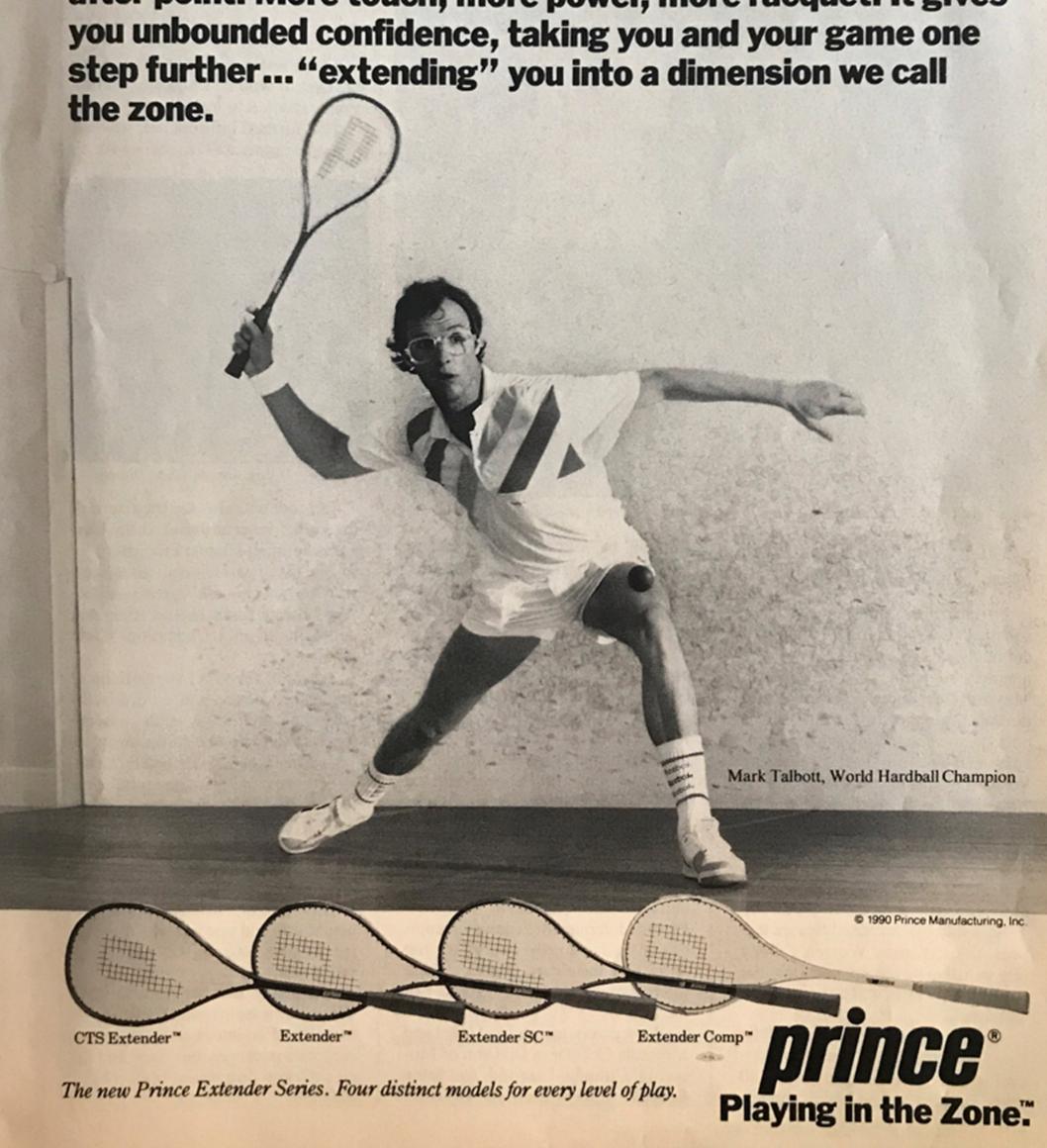
Club owners, too, have a vested interest in ensuring that their courts are peopled by players who know and respect the rules of the game. A racquet thrown in anger can lead to a negligence case in court.

Chrysler Canada has joined with Squash Ontario in providing laminated copies of the Code of Conduct to every member club in Ontario on a complimentary basis. It is our hope that the clubs will position this poster in close proximity to their courts and that players will take the time to familiarize themselves with the content. As well, we will be incorporating a segment on the Code of Content and its applications in every rules and certification clinic in 1991/92. Officials' meetings will be held prior to the Ontario Open, Closed, Masters and Junior Soft Ball Championships to ensure that there is a more consistent and stringent application of the Code.

We all share a responsibility to provide a safe, civilized, and fun environment in which to play squash. Don't be part of the problem - join with us and be part of the solution.

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## COMING



An all-Australian final in 1990 between Robyn Lambourne (left) and Liz Irving.

### AUTUMN WILL BE AWESOME!

"April in Paris" may be nice but, for squash fans, October in Toronto will definitely be the place to be. The internationals are back ... and in full force. Mayfair Lakeshore Racquet Club, the flagship of the Mayfair Group, will once again sponsor and host the Mayfair Lakeshore International Women's Open from October 23rd to 27th. This event, celebrating its 18th anniversary, is now one of the most prestigious tournaments on the international women's fixtures list. Players will be competing for \$25,000 in prize money as well as for the coveted Judy Traviss title. As an added feature this year, the Canadian Women's Open title will also be incorporated into the event so the winner will go home laden with booty.

Leading the parade of stars will be Lisa Opie who recently brought England its first British Open title in 30 years. Back to defend her championship will be Australia's Robyn Lamboume who, together with compatriot Liz Irving, provided one of the most thrilling squash finals this event has ever seen.

A 9-7 victory in the fifth game is an organizer's dream and a spectator's delight! The entire Australian contingent of Danielle Drady, Liz Irving, Michelle Martin and Sarah Fitz-Gerald is expected along with England's Susan Wright, who flabbergasted the squash world by upsetting World Champion, Susan Devoy, in the quarter finals of the British.

To put the draw for the Lakeshore International into some perspective - consider that the recent Women's Player's International Tennis Championship featured only two of the top women on the circuit. The Lakeshore International is expected to attract 8 of the top ten!

We are very grateful to Unitel and Motorola Cellular, a Division of Motorola Canada Limited for their financial support. Both of these companies are beginning what we hope will be a successful association with women's squash in Ontario.

Don't miss this opportunity to see the best in women's squash - admission is absolutely **free!** 

For further information, contact Sherry Funston at (416) 495-4140.



1990 Unitel Open winner, Chris Dittmar

October will also see the return of the Unitel International, at the Curzon's Sporting Club in Etobicoke.

The list of past winners reads like a who's who of squash's great past decade: Jahangir Khan, Jansher Khan and, defending Unitel Champion, Chris Dittmar.

Jahangir belied all suggestions of diminished desire and eroded skills when he captured his tenth consecutive British Open title earlier this year.

Jansher Khan, described by many as enigmatic and withdrawn is, none-theless, an enormously gifted athlete with a temperament that patiently waits for his foes to make a mental lapse and then, catlike, pounces.

Throw in the Australian contingent of Dittmar, Chris Robertson and Rodney Martin and you have the makings for the most exciting Unitel International ever.

Qualifying will begin on October 17th with the main round beginning on the 19th. For information regarding corporate packages, box seats and series ticket enquiries, call (416) 489-3307.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF THE FUTURE

Both the Canada Winter Games and Ontario Winter Games were enormously successful programmes, both for Squash Ontario and for the many juniors who participated. Although they are now completed, we do not want to lose the momentum and enthusiasm which they generated. With this in mind, the Junior Committee under Chairman, Ian Braff, is introducing several new programmes to capitalize and build on the achievements of the 1990/91 season.

The regional training centres which were held last year will continue again in 1991/92. Each region has been allocated seed money to cover some of the costs for coaching and court fees. These centres proved to be very successful as they encouraged participation from juniors who perhaps don't play the 'circuit' as well as gave coaches in our regions an opportunity to participate in a team training environment, hopefully whetting their

appetite and interest in furthering their coaching careers.

The se regional teams went

on to compete in the Ontario Winter Games which are held every two years. To keep that structure in place, the Junior Committee is pleased to announce the introduction of the Ontario Junior Team Closed Championship which will be held in the off years of Ontario Winter Games. The inaugural event will be hosted by Willie Curry and the Harbour Club in Belleville on the weekend of April 24-26, 1992. Each regional team will be comprised of one boy and one girl under 16, one boy and one girl under 14 and one boy and one girl under 12. National or Provincial squad members are not eligible.

Ortario Winter Games

Provincial Training Squad

Ontario Junior Team Championship

Junior Regional Training Centres

The Junior Committee is also very pleased to introduce its most ambitious initiative to date - the establishment of a Provincial Junior Training Squad. With the assistance of the regional committee members and the provincial ranking list, 16 promising young athletes have been invited to participate. Five training weekends have been selected. Hosting these training centres will be two of Squash Ontario's most active supporters, Pine Valley Racquets Club and Mayfair Lakeshore Racquet Club and the juniors will train under the coaching expertise of Rob Brooks and Barbara Diggens. Please join with us in congratulating the following members of the 1991/1992 Squash Ontario Junior Training Squad:

Charles Braff

Toronto & District

Lucas Watson

Central Ontario

Danielle Therien

Ottawa & District

Jan Wilson

Southwestern Ontario

Jessica DiMauro

Toronto & District

Heather Hames

Southwestern Ontario

Shahier Razik

Toronto & District

Ryan Haider

Central Ontario

Michael McEwan

Ottawa & District

Jacob Watson

Central Ontario

Sarah Cairns

Southwestern Ontario

Ian Power

Toronto & District

Nicole Carroll

Toronto & District

Erik Zaremba

Central Ontario

Courtnay Power

Toronto & District

Danielle Clark

Southwestern Ontario

Congratulations to all of these juniors – next stop ... the national teams!O

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### Here's To The Winners!

#### A. HENKEL SUMMER TEAMS

By Bob Patterson • • • • • • • •

The Rideau Tennis and Squash Club and the Queensview Athletic Club were hosts this year for the annual Summer Teams Tournament. The popularity of this event can be attested to by the fact that entries were sold out thirty minutes following the opening of registration.

Now in its 18th consecutive year, the Summer Teams Tournament has gained a reputation for first class organization, enjoyable social events and good competitive squash at all levels. The highlight of the weekend, as always, was the Saturday night theme banquet combined with the tournament "Academy Awards" and nonstop disco music into the wee hours of the morning.

A total of 176 players, 30 men's teams and 14 women's teams (4 players per team) registered for the tournament and competed in A, B, C, and D categories. Play at the Rideau and Queensview commenced Friday evening and continued through to the finals on Sunday afternoon. Each team played four matches for a grand total of 352 individual matches scheduled throughout the weekend.

In 1982, Ced Nowell took over the organization of the Summer Team Tournament by default. The following year, using guile and subterfuge, he recruited me to assist him. I remember his words well, "There's nothing to this, Bob. We just stick the draw on the board, there are four members in each team, surely one of them can read? You and I can play a little tennis, have a couple of cold ones at the bar and give out the prizes on Sunday". Little did I realize what I was getting myself into.

Ced and I have seen the tournament grow from 16 to 44 teams; have opened up the event to teams in all categories; have introduced the infamous "Academy Awards" (selection is purely arbitrary); have instituted the "Elvis Award" for questionable musical talent; and have cajoled sponsorship from various unsuspecting organizations and individuals. Our objective has always been to provide players the opportunity to socialize



A motley crew of space invaders!

and enjoy some off-season squash in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Judging by the response, I believe we have achieved this goal.

I want to thank everyone who assisted in making the tournament a success. Jay Gildenhuys (Rideau Squash Professional) and Jeff Watts (Queensview Squash Professional) did an outstanding organizational job. That intrepid band of volunteers, Sheri Davison, Nigel Thain, Sandy Bregman, Julie Schwartz, Claude Beaudouin, Wendy Kretzel and Geraldine Foot handled everything from registration to balloon pin-on duty. Thanks also to Ray Feldman and his staff for the excellent banquet and for feeding us throughout the weekend and to Mike Prentice and the Rideau bar staff for preventing us all from dying of thirst. Last but not least, thanks to my co-chairman and old friend, Ced Nowell. His enthusiasm and warped sense of humour have always made this event fun to do.

I cannot begin to thank our tournament sponsors enough for their generous contributions – our major sponsor, A. Henkel, who by the way, is offering a reward for the return of 8 magnetic tin stickers and one Vitesse Squash Racquet. Please call Debbie McKinnon at 1-800-263-0100 if you have any information. Mark Wallace of Molson's Breweries came through for us once again. Thank you, too, to Nicole Foote of Carleton Travel in association with Air Canada Vacations for providing the grand prize of a week for two in Florida.

On behalf of the Rideau Club, I would like to thank all players for their participation and encouragement in making the tournament the success that it was. It somehow makes all the hard work and long hours seem worthwhile.

We look forward to see you next year when the theme will be "Circus World, or Life under the Big Top".O

#### Canadian Junior Soft Ball Championships

Hosted by Pickering Recreation Complex Girls' Under 19 Champion: Melanie Jans (Ontario) Girls' Under 19 Finalist: Carole Ann Rodgers (Ontario) Girls' Under 16 Champion: Sally Norgate (Manitoba) Girls' Under 16 Finalist: Jan Wilson (Ontario) Girls' Under 14 Champion: Danielle Clark (Ontario) Girls' Under 14 Finalist: Nicole Carroll (Ontario) Girls' Under 12 Champion: Courtney Power (Ontario) Girls' Under 12 Finalist: Lindsay Mullaly (Alberta) Boys' Under 19 Champion: Jonathon Power (Ontario) Boys' Under 19 Finalist: Patrick Ryding (Ontario) Boys's Under 16 Champion: Graham Ryding (Ontario) Boys' Under 16 Finalist: Rodney Bower (Ontario) Boys' Under 14 Champion: Douglas Parent (Alberta) Boys' Under 14 Finalist: Shahier Razik (Ontario) Boys's Under 12 Champion: David Phillips (Quebec) Boys' Under 12 Finalist: Justin Mather (Quebec)

### A NOTE TO OFFICIALS

There has been some controversey in terms of interpretation of the eyeguard policy. Eyeguards are mandatory for all juniors competing in Squash Ontario sanctioned events and they are also mandatory for all players competing in Ontario provincial championships.

There will be match situations however, in which one of the players is mandated to wear eyeguards and the other is not. In order to address this situation, the Squash Ontario Officiating Committee has adopted the following policy:

Situation #1: Player loses eyeguards through collision with opponent

Ruling: STOP PLAY AND PLAY A LET

Situation #2: Player loses eyeguards during rally

Ruling: STOP PLAY AND AWARD STROKE TO OPPONENT

Situation #3: Player removes eyeguards during rally Ruling: STOP PLAY AND AWARD STROKE TO OPPONENT

Situation #4: Inappropriate eyewear found during or after rally Ruling: STOP PLAY AND AWARD STROKE TO OPPONENT

Situation #5: Request to clear eyeguards after rally

Ruling: ALLOW ONLY TIME NECESSARY TO DO SO. PLAYER MUST REMAIN ON COURT

Situation #6: If mandated eyeguard player loses his/her eyeguards but manages to put them back on before making contact with the ball and without interrupting play

Ruling: PLAY CONTINUES
In a situation where a mandatory
and non-mandatory player collide,
and the eyeguards are lost, the official's decision is to ensure safety
and the decision would be #1.0



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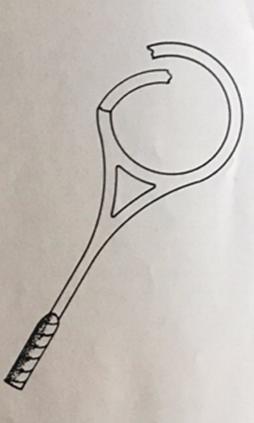
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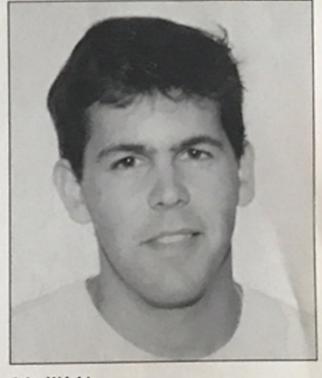




### A NEW FACE AT SQUASH ONTARIO

The Board of Directors of Squash Ontario is very pleased to introduce our new Programme Co-Ordinator, John Wright. John graduated from the University of Toronto in 1989 with his degree in Physical and Health Education.

A Torontonian by birth, John has spent the last two years working in Saskatchewan, serving as the High Performance Co-Ordinator for the Saskatchewan Badminton Association. He is a Level 2 Master Course Conductor in badminton and, as well, holds a Level 2 certification in both competitive swimming and water polo.



John Wright

John won a Gold Medal at the 1987 Canada Winter Games in badminton and has just recently successfully defended his Ontario Men's Open title.

John will be overseeing much of our committee work, including Juniors, Officiating, Ranking & Classification and Tournaments. As well, he will be responsible for our new Ontario Junior Training Squad, to which he brings a great deal of experience. In Saskatchewan, he was involved in the design and implementation of training programmes and consequently, John will work closely with our two coaches, Rob Brooks and Barbara Diggens.

Please join with us in welcoming John to Squash Ontario.

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### PROGRAMME'S PROGRESS

#### BLACK KNIGHT GALLOPS FORTH AGAIN!

Parents! Squash Pros! Coaches! Give your juniors an opportunity to play squash in a competitive yet fun environment. Once again, Black Knight will be sponsoring the Toronto & District Junior Mixed League. The first session is set to begin on Saturday, October 19th and will run through to December 21st. The second session will begin on January 4th and continue through to March 7th with the play offs scheduled for Monday, March 16th.

Teams of four will compete in an Under 19, Under 16, Under 14 and, new this year, an Under 12 Division.

The deadline for registration is Friday, 18 September – watch your club bulletin board for further details.

Squash Ontario would like to thank Alan Sklar and Fred Reid of Black Knight for their continuing sponsorship of this programme and we encourage all clubs which run junior programmes to enter a team or teams in the league. It is such an excellent opportunity to introduce your juniors to the competitive side of squash in a gentle and fun way.

#### ONTARIO COACHING PROGRAMME UPCOMING CLINICS

October 18–20, 1991
Level 1 Toronto
November 1–3, 1991
Level 2 Toronto
November 8–10, 1991
Level 1 Thunder Bay

November 22–24, 1991 Level 1 Toronto

January 31–February 2, 1992 Level 1 Toronto

For further information on registration and fees, contact Linda Henderson at 495-4140.0

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## 25 Years Of Excellence For The London Squash Racquets Club

The first ball was hit at the London Squash Racquets Club in September 1966 and the club has been a hive of activity in the 25 years intervening.

Up until that time, the various racquet sports had a rather mixed reception in the city of London. Prior to World War 2, London was a relative hotbed of activity for tennis and badminton enthusiasts but squash was limited to only one court at the London Club on Queen's Avenue. Activity dwindled when many of the players went overseas in the war and was never fully restored upon their return when priorities changed to the rebuilding of families and careers.

With only one court and limited locker facilities, squash boasted a membership of approximately 25 players at the London Club, and in the late 1950's, a small number from this group was endeavouring to create a viable plan involving the squash, badminton, and tennis enthusiasts. This floundered because of a lack of financial support. With no potential for expansion of squash, Bill Duffield approached his longtime friend, Bill Johnstone in the early 1960's about the concept of co-financing, finding a site and creating a new squash facility in the city. This ultimately led to the two purchasing an old Victorian solid brick dwelling with a large adjoining lot at 76 Albert Street in the autumn of 1965. This would become the first material step in the creation of the London Squash Racquets Club. The vacant house was boarded up for the winter while the specific architectural and financial plans were finalized. Construction of the two original North American singles courts commenced in April 1966. By this time, committed membership at the new club had grown from two to approximately fifty, and good momentum could be felt. A tip of the hat at this stage to Barney Lawrence, founding president of the newly created Kitch-



A Tradition of Excellence

ener-Waterloo Racquet Club who was so helpful in sharing architectural plans, and to Bill Davies of London in the development of the ongoing financial plan.

The official opening of the club occurred in October 1966 with exhibition matches involving many of the top ranked Ontario and Canadian players. Old time supporters of the game from the Jesters Club were well represented along with several Toronto based club professionals. Membership at this time had grown to 100.

Bill Duffield served as president of the club for the first three years, and Bill Johnstone the following three years. At the end of this period, the club found itself in the unbelievable (and undesirable?) position of being entirely debtfree of original personal loans and bank loans and the management reins were then passed over to other presidents and boards of directors.

Since then, the London Squash Racquets Club has expanded aggressively in the areas of plant, courts and membership with two major additions undertaken in 1979 and 1988. Still utilizing the original old building as clubhouse, the club currently offers three international courts, one glass backed doubles court and the two

original north american courts and membership now approximates 320.

A gala black tie dinner dance was held on September 28th 1991 to officially recognize the 25th Anniversary of the club's founding, at which time, original supporters of the club from Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener were honoured.

The makeup of the membership remains the key element in the current success of London Squash Racquet Club. Being a private club, there is a special camaraderie which exists because of the members' commitment and involvement in the ongoing growth and operation of the club.

In addition to our normal club events, London Squash Racquets Club will be hosting the Ontario Closed Championships at the end of November in this, our special anniversary year. We hope many, many players will compete in these Championships and help us celebrate our 25 years of excellence.

This space is reserved for member clubs of Squash Ontario. We invite clubs to participate by sending in a short write up and photograph to Squash Life. Reprints are available at minimal cost. For more information, please contact Squash Ontario (416)495-4140.



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of the heel section (1) and (2). The "ABC"
is replaceable and available in two
different pressure ratings to
satisfy individual requirements and
body-weight



ratios.

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