

# SAHA ROLLOUT

SACRAMENTO AREA HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

summer 2006

## - TWO MAJOR CHANGES FOR SAHA IN 2007 -

**New league format necessary &  
Dave Thoreson moving on after 5 years at the helm**

### - SAHA President Dave Thoreson submits the following article -

I have two topics to discuss.

1. Over the years the SAHA League has been one of our most positive and contributive activities - bringing us together as a community and improving our game as well. However, last year participation in the league began to drop off. Too many forfeits were occurring. Perhaps it's time to make a change in the league format to increase participation and renew enthusiasm.

One suggestion made is for us to adopt a "Bay Counties" format where teams are placed in one of two divisions. On a Saturday or a Sunday each division meets to play a round robin. The top 2 teams from each division advance to the semi's/finals a few Saturdays later.

We could do this once in the Fall and once again in the Spring with SAHA funding refreshments (assuming that the players and observers are current SAHA members). Specific details (such as teams, levels of play, sites, dates, etc.) will need to be worked out soon so if you have any suggestions you want addressed please provide them to one of the following: Tom Bridges (383-1262); Ron Domingos (479-0448); Ron Marquez (845-3953); or Dave Thoreson (853-9078).

2. It's time for a new president. I'll be happy to continue sharing the Sac Open tournament director responsibilities with Ron Domingos and to continue purchasing handball equipment in bulk so that SAHA members can enjoy the benefits of a volume discount. However, I feel the SAHA would benefit from some new ideas. Hence as of December 31, 2006 you need a new leader. My tenure has been rewarding and enjoyable. But, we need new ideas.....fresh enthusiasm. Don't wait for "somebody" to step up. **YOU** step up!

So who do you want to be your new president in 2007?

Thanks,  
Dave Thoreson

*Editor's note: This is crucial folks. Too much is being done by too few. Get involved. The President's job is really not difficult or too time consuming. Dave Thoreson will continue to organize our major event of the year, the Sacramento Open along with Ron Domingos. Tom Bridges will continue the Rollout Newsletter, Jack Kastorff will keep the roster and Ron Domingos is still the Treasurer. What does the president need to do? Solicit ideas, organize a few meetings to establish policies and make the decisions that will move and motivate our handball brotherhood toward great times.*

## - SACRAMENTO OPEN 2006 -

The 28th annual Sacramento Open was played February 17 - 19 at two sites: the Sacramento Elks # 6 Lodge and the Riverside Athletic Club. Another great family tournament was enjoyed by the 70 plus participants and their guests. Renowned handball chef Ron Domingos and his crew fired up the barbie Friday evening and continued cooking throughout the tournament to everyone's satisfaction.

The only thing on par with the food and drink was the handball.....and that's how it should be. Although the weather was threatening, it held off to allow for a fine weekend of play and camaraderie.

Thanks to our host clubs Elks Lodge # 6 and Wenmat's Riverside Athletic Club. Kudos also to tourney organizer and SAHA President Dave Thoreson, chef Ron Domingos, Tom Bridges and Cherylann Mendonca..

### Tourney Results are as follows

#### Singles:

- Open: Semis, Jaime Fabian d. Joe Sandoval; Raul Jassol d. Augie Herrera  
Finals, Jaime Fabian d. Raul Jassol
- A: Semis, Steve Buchanan d. David Sanchez; Romero d. Greg Carr  
Finals, Steve Buchanan d. Romero Leon
- B: 1st Place Gustavo Diaz; 2nd Place Abe Jacobo, Jr. (Round Robin)
- C: Semis, Dave Harris d. Nieves Chavez; Carlos Tavarez d. Travis Braden  
Finals, Dave Harris d. Carlos Tavarez  
Consol, Betty Guterrez
- Jrs: Semis, Mike Champlin d. Logan Zender; Armando Diaz d. Dustin Goodrich  
Finals, Mike Champlin d. Armando Diaz  
Consol, Logan Zender
- 50's Semis, Billy Wyrsh d. Alex Wilson; Steve Williams d. Doug Chandler  
Finals, Billy Wyrsh d. Steve Williams  
Consol, David Bond
- 60's Semis, Jim Gribble d. Dave Rios; Peter Wong d. Bruce Lemmon  
Finals, Jim Gribble d. Peter Wong  
Consol, Art Grix

#### Doubles:

- Open: Semis, Carlos Buzo/Jaime Fabian d. Bill Oliver/Dave Christie;  
Raul Jassol/Joe Sandoval d. Augie Herrera/Roy Perez  
Finals, Carlos Buzo/Jaime Fabian d. Raul Jassol/Joe Sandoval
- A's: Semis, Joe Champlin/Mark Bradley d. Greg Carr/David Sanchez  
Augie Herrera/Roy Perez (bye)  
Finals, Joe Champlin/Mark Bradley d. Augie Herrera/Roy Perez
- B's: Semis, Jeff Buchanan/Ned Corrigan d. Robert Hildalgo/Enrique Jimenez  
Abe Jacobo, Jr/Nieves Chavez d. Jeremy Kohler/Andy Mendez  
Finals, Jeff Buchanan/Ned Corrigan d. Abe Jacobo Jr/Nieves Chavez
- C's: Semis, Romero Leon/Crystal Diaz d. Cherylann Mendonca/Leo Haverner  
Travis Braden/Kent Nunley d. Abe Jacobo Sr/Gayle Ebusu  
Finals, Romero Leon/Crystal Diaz d. Travis Braden/Kent Nunley
- 50's: Semis, Billy Wyrsh/Stan Hampton d. Steve Williams/Gunner Lester  
Guy Hoover/Rich Poulson d. George Bianco/Ron Silva  
Finals, Billy Wyrsh/Stan Hampton d. Guy Hoover/Rich Poulson
- 60's: 1st Place, Peter Wong/Dave Rios  
2nd Place, Ed Means/Rich Vargas

## - SACRAMENTO STUMBLES IN BAY COUNTIES -

*by: Tom Bridges*

In our effort to 3-peat as champions of the prestigious Bay Counties League the Sacramento team lost to Club Sport in the semi-finals. The team is organized by Tom Bridges and the roster is by invitation only. We have participated for the past several years, and have moved to the semis or beyond every year except the first. The format is unique. You bring 7 doubles teams. There is no singles. Rank the top 4 open teams 1 through 4, and the 3 remaining teams are a 40's, 50's, and 60's. Points are assigned each spot. Open teams count 5, 3, 2, and 1 point respectively. The age bracket spots count 4 points each.

Typically 8 teams participate. There were only 7 this time because the Olympic Club is still closed for renovation. This year teams included Club Sport of Pleasanton, Watsonville, The Big C of Concord, The South End Rowing Club, The SOS Club of Modesto, San Mateo Elks, and Sacramento.

Sacramento emerged as the top seed in the north division in the preliminary round. We defeated the Big C and the South End in a round robin format. Meanwhile Watsonville and Club Sport came out as the top 2 seeds from the south. Thus Sacramento played Club Sport in one semi while Watsonville dueled with the South End in the other.

It came down to the last match against Club Sport. Sac did fine on the "open" portion (top four spots). But in order to advance at least one of the age brackets must be won. We threw 2 great duo's in the 40's and 50's. Lance Klug and Francois Harvey suited up for the 40's while Stan Hampton and Ron Guevara battled in the 50's. Unfortunately both lost in close matches. We didn't field a 60's team because of a no show. Watsonville cruised past the South End in the other semi and then lost only the 40's in rolling over Club Sport. There consistently strong squad includes Emmett Peixoto, Leo Maciel, Vince Martinez, Ed Campbell, Jim Peixoto, Steve Smith, Alan Sherrill, and Pat Bowan.

Thanks to all of our participants. We'll be back next year. The Bay Area squads were really getting upset that we had won 2 years in a row and were gunning for us. Good competition brings out the best in players, so we hope to rise to the occasion next year.

### - Our 2006 squad included -

#### *1st Round*

- # 1 Allie Abdullah - Rick Rivas
- # 2 Dave Vincent - Jaime Fabian
- # 3 Francois Harvey - Adam Forest
- # 4 Richard Hansard - Kevin Kuzmich
- 40's Carlos Buzo - Jeff Schroader
- 50's Stan Hampton - Ron Guevara
- 60's Jim Gribble - Dave Rios

#### *2nd Round*

- # 1 Dave Vincent - Bruce Anderson
- # 2 Jaime Fabian -
- # 3 Carlos Buzo - Jeff Schroader
- # 4 Steve Williams - Kevin Kuzmich
- 40's Lance Klug - Francois Harvey
- 50's Stan Hampton - Ron Guevara
- 60's Jim Gribble - forfeit



## **- BOB KENNEY -**

1945 - 2006

Bob Kenney was found in late June dead in his car. Apparently it was a suicide. This occurred near Laguna Seca Raceway by Monterey. Laguna was a place Bob and several of his close friends went each year as an annual outing.

Bob mysteriously disappeared several months ago. At that time he failed to show up for a regular Friday handball game at Carmichael, then was a no show for a Saturday golf game, and finally did not come in to his business on the following Monday.

Bob was a licensed optometrist with a practice in Citrus Heights near Sunrise Mall He was active and well respected in his profession.

Foul play was initially considered and his ex-wife filed a missing persons report. However apparently Bob was seen on several occasions withdrawing money from ATMs under no apparent duress.

After leaving he never made any contact with any of us (to my knowledge) and we assumed he just wanted to “run away”. Maybe to start a new life possibly due to some circumstances we were not aware of.

Let me mention that I did not speak to any official source regarding Bob’s death. However I am assured by a close friend that has spoken to Bob’s ex-wife directly that these are the facts.

No public memorial service was held.

Dr. Kenney was a fine handball player. He was always enthusiastic about the game and very competitive. He played regularly at Carmichael and Roseville. He also was very active in our ‘B’ league. A few years ago he took up golf and it became a passion for him. Bob was a gentleman on the court and a gentleman in life.

God bless Bob Kenney. He was a wonderful person and a good friend to many of us. His wit and integrity will be sorely missed.

*Tom Bridges -*

“Bob had a special presence about him. If you were where Bob was, you knew you were in the right place”.

*Marty Skeer*

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## **- WAYNE’S WAY -**

The Wayne’s Way staff attended a fun day recently, which ended in a very informative referee clinic. Many good questions were posed and answered adeptly by the black belt ref.

Many seek Wayne’s Way’s advice on referee dilemmas. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions that are not generally covered at your basic ref clinic. These would be considered post- graduate quandaries.

1. How many times during a match can the ball directly strike an opponent, excluding serves?
2. Can finals matches really be finished at the home club of the participants at a later date that is more convenient than the usual late Sunday afternoon Championship time slot?
3. If spectators interfere with the flight of the ball or participants, can they be ejected from the club?
4. During a recent wheelchair handball match, a participant was maneuvering his Forde XPLODR model chair to retrieve a passing shot when his right rear Freestone ACE XL tire peeled off the rim. Should the point be replayed?
5. And for the most frequently asked question. What is the actual process for selecting a referee for a match if the usual winner/ loser of previous match is not available?

*Answers on page 7.*

## - MISCELLANEOUS NEWS STUFF -

- Jack Austin is dealing with a back injury he sustained when he fell off his bike. He has had one surgery as a result and is preparing for another. Meanwhile he has trouble walking or standing and uses a walker or an electric scooter to get around.
- Joe Chavez reports that the Turn Verein would love to have a few more regulars show up for handball. They typically have 3. Best time is Tuesdays and Thursdays 5 PM.
- Tom Bridges has had 2 recent surgeries. One back surgery for stenosis and just several weeks later a procedure to repair an aortic abdominal aneurism. Send him money.
- Kevin Soulies had a hip replacement, but is back to playing full time.
- Don Richardson (Turn Verein) was in a lengthy coma at the time of our last newsletter. He has since awoken and has his health back. Still no handball, but welcome back Don!
- Dave Vincent has an absolutely fabulous handball website at [www.extremehandball.org](http://www.extremehandball.org). There are numerous interviews with current and prior handball legends from Emmet Pioxoto to Vic Hershewitz. Dave also corresponds regularly with Randy Morones, and has put his letters on the website. Randy is the son of Southern California handballer Dave Morones. Randy is serving a life sentence as a result of an auto accident while DUI where a person was killed. Dave is putting a lot of time and effort to this website, and it really is interesting and informative.
- Why don't we have a police versus fire tournament? You know, Guns 'N Hoses? On the police side are Mike McCrystle, Bob Lozito, Jack Brier, Stan Hampton, Jerry Pelfanio, Gary Miller, Dave Rios, Tom Carey, and Cherylann Mendonca.
- On the fire squad are Jeff Schroader, Jim Sommers, Erik Naisbitt, Todd Lanigan, Mark Van Brunt, Ed Ettinger, Adam Forest (Lotus volunteer), and Mike McKenna. And John Sordi can play for both sides!
- Rumor has it several folks are playing outdoor Sunday mornings at Sheldon High School in Elk Grove. Address is 8333 Kingsbridge Drive. Kingsbridge hits Calvine Road east of 99 almost to Bradshaw.

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## - VIEW FROM (*near*) THE TOP -

*by: Dave Vincent, Jr.*

When did you fall in love with the game? Do you remember? You put on those gloves and all the aches and pains went away. You could play for hours, and every day..... if you could find a wall, a ball, and some sun. Then, as you got older, family came into play and your time in the court just slowly faded.

I've seen you from time-to-time. We ran into each other at a Capital Club "Fun Day" by chance. You stopped in to get your wife a gift certificate to the Beauty Saloon, remember? You spoke about the new business you opened and your 3 year old daughter. No mention of handball.

Slowly, I see my handball game following this same path and it scares me. How can we get that handball-verve back? If life wasn't so complicated, would we even make handball a priority anyway?

I certainly do not have the answers, but I do know that this sport is more than a work-out. It is an avenue for mental release. It's where you iron out your frustrations, sharpen your motor skills, and improve your senses.

But, then again, owning your own business, caring for your 3 year old daughter, and commuting in traffic can do the very same thing.

This summer, I am making a personal pact with myself to enjoy the game before "life" drives me in the opposite direction. Think about it, handball is one of the only remaining sports that does not have a time clock; and any game that can theoretically go on forever, appeals to dreamers.

What are you waiting for?

## **- CAPITAL ATHLETIC CLUB'S - DASH FOR CASH A BIG HIT**

*by: Rich Ramirez*

Handball is alive and doing well in Sacramento! On Friday evening of July 7th, The Capital Athletic Club held an evening of competitive handball, hospitality and socializing for the old and new friends of this great game. Seventeen doubles teams engaged in a winner takes all, single elimination, one game to 31 point mini handball tournament. WOW! Now that's cooking!

All players were divided into A's or B's, then drawn from a hat to form a doubles team. That's why it's sometimes called, "Lucky Draw"!

First round losers seem to get the best deal of this event! A good solid hour or more of hot handball doubles, then shower, dress, first for the coldest and warmest hospitality of beer and pizza which is always plentiful. Then they take over the best seats to watch the matches as they get tougher and more entertaining. All this for the great price of their \$10 dollar entry fee.

As for the competition we had good representation of all levels and experience. At the top of the heap were Allie Abdullah (winner), Dave Vincent, Chip Morales, and Capital's own Paul Delao. Local regulars like, John Sordi, Joe Champlin, Ron Domingos, Dave Nava, Stan Hampton, Richard Hansard, Art Grix, and Bruce Boyd from our surrounding Sacramento Clubs helped give this event a feeling of unity. New players on the horizon, Tiffany Tan with only 3 months under her belt, Stephanie Haas making it to the finals, Eric Cameron (winner), Patrick Gale, Chris Grierut are up and coming.

Thanks also to Capital's Earl Green, Jacobos Sr. & Jr., Tim Johnson, Carlos Tavaréz, Little Carlos, Roy Perez, Warren Treacher, Auggie Herrera, Arturo, Omar, Mark Manoff, Henry Hombus, Raul Baeza, Leo Havener, Alex Reyes, and Neves Chavez.

Great events like this just don't fall out of the sky. So, at this time I'd like to acknowledge the great work the Capital AC and their staff has done to support our handball community. A special thanks to Cherylann Mendonca and Club Manager Rick Leonard. See you on the Courts.

PS. The Capitol Athletic Club is planning for their next "Dash for Cash" some time this coming fall, so keep alert for updates.

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## **- OTHER GREAT STUFF -**

While much of our MOR (*Middle - Of - Road*) talent was spread out Memorial Day between San Diego, South End Rowing Club, and the Torch Club some of our top guns were at the Pro Stop in Modesto. Most of the top nationally ranked pros were there including pros were there and mixing it up with them in the open class were locals Allie Abdullah, Jr and Dave Vincent.

Dave Vincent teamed with friend Ryan Grossenbacher of Oregon. In what was described as one of the most exciting matches of the tourney Dave and Ryan lost a tiebreaker in the quarter finals to Eddie Chappa/Eli Barajas. With the score tied 20 - 20 Dave and Ryan won the second game on an avoidable hinder call. Dave also lost a tiebreaker in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of singles competition to eventual winner Naty Alvarado, Jr.

Allie fared somewhat better. He teamed up with brother-in-law Anton Wilson (*Fresno*) and won the open doubles against the hotshot team of Emmett Peixoto/Ricardo Diaz. In singles Allie made it to the quarter finals before losing to eventual winner Naty Alvarado, Jr.

**- DO THE DUES.....PLEASE -**

We have had a substantial decrease in SAHA members keeping current with their dues. Why? Our transition from hard copy newsletter to a web site was probably one reason. But SAHA still sponsors fundays, and incurs other expenses such as the league playoffs, printing costs (for those without email), and fronts the cost of the popular Sacramento Open. The bottom line is we need to have folks who are not current to become so. As a reminder, anyone who plays in the league must be a current SAHA member. Anyone who participates in our fundays is also expected to be a member in good standing. We don't have a police force (well, we have Lozito, Hampton, Pelfanio and Hutchinson but.....well they're Lozito, Hampton, Pelfanio and Hutch). So PLEASE be a responsible member and contribute your fair share towards continuing our organization.

Dues run from October to October (to coincide with the league).

League and/or Funday participants	\$20 per year
Funday folks	\$20 per year
Inactive members	\$5 per year

Inactive members are those who want to receive a copy of the Rollout Newsletter (either hard copy or e-mail), but don't participate in the league or fundays.

Please make dues payments to our treasurer:

Ron Domingos  
9449 Laguna Creek Drive  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

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**- ANSWERS TO WAYNE'S WAY -**

1. As you will soon find out, most of these answers will rely on your relationship with the referee. For example, if the ref is a friend, fellow club member, or relative, the call, or lack of, will 92.787% of the time go in your favor. Wayne's Way has never actually heard of a case of excessive ball striking, but that's why the WW Think Tank poses the question. Again, if a friend of yours is refereeing the match, the chances are very likely that your opponent will be charged with multiple avoidables, regardless of his position on the court!

2. This is usually referred to as the Soulies rule. The Grandmaster that this rule of thumb is named after has achieved such a high level of consciousness that he gave up finishing tournament finals all together. He plays whole tournaments in deep meditation, and claims to be undefeated against Chapman, any Alvarado, and any Silveira. The final answer to this question lies with the spectators. No Spectators, go home. Some spectators, the tournament director may shame you into playing. Lots of spectators, you play.

3. Eg. Mike McCrystle, Earl Green, Rick Bradley, and Bob Lozito are in a furious rally. A spectator, whom we will call Ron Marqueeza, has fallen asleep and the ball has landed in his cupped hand that is dangling down in the court. Ron awakes, looks at the ball, and slips out the side door. No ejection was necessary. The correct call is "911", because the FBI, a swat team, and Earl are now chasing Ron down the street.

4. This sparked much debate at our website, but it is a trick question. Forget the point, and call Dewey, Cheatum, and Howe Law Offices.

5. This one nearly crashed the Wayne's Way website. This will be the subject of next months Wayne's Way.

## - SAHA & OUR FRIENDS AT THE NATIONALS -

*by: Tom Bridges*

Los Caballeros Athletic Club in Fountain Valley (Orange County) was well attended by Northern California players and fans. Our SAHA membership formed a significant part of that group. Those who went report an excellent experience overall and some outstanding competition.

Here's how our locals did.

Dave Thoreson lost in the semi finals of the 75+ singles 13, (16), 3 to Sonny Schaefer(NY).

Dave Thoreson/Ralph Weil (OH) lost in the finals of the 75+ doubles 11 - 10 in a tiebreaker. Dan Rivas lost to Carl Porter (MI) 6, 11 in the first round of the 70+ singles.

Dave Rios lost to Michael Haas (CA) 16, 13 in the first round of the 60B+ singles.

Cub Eldridge lost to top seed Greg Raya (FL) 12, 13 in the semi finals of the 55+ singles.

Dave Nava/Doug Chandler lost to top seeds Tim Ryan (CA)/Danny Carrillo (CA) 2, 4 in the semi finals of the 55+ doubles.

Dave Nava lost to Ron Koscielak (CA) (18), 6, 9 in the second round of the 50B+ singles.

Doug Chandler lost to top seed Bob Houseman (CA) 17, 19 in the quarterfinals of the 50B+ singles.

Billy Wyrsh/Artie Ward (CA) lost in the quarterfinals of the 50+ doubles to Glenn Carden (WA)/Jim Spencer (WA) 12,13.

Dave Vincent/John Bike (CA) lost in the quarterfinals of the open doubles to Emmett Peixoto(CA)/Ricardo Diaz (CA) 13, 19.

Dave Vincent lost to Sean Lenning (AZ) 14, 16 in the open singles.

Rick Rivas lost to top seed Chris Tico (CA) 9, 18 in the 35+ singles.

Jeff Cardinal lost to John Libby, Jr 14, 16 in the 35+ singles.

Cherylann Mendonca lost in the women's senior singles (round robin).

Paul Zafferano won kudos for the most matches watched (awake).

Other highlights from our Bay Area friends:

MikeMcDonald won the 40+ singles.

Raul Carmona (San Mateo) won the 40B+.

Ray Graham (Oakland) won the 45+ singles.

Peter Wong (Danville) won the 60B consolation.

Mike Dunne Sr/Joe McDonald lose in the 65+ semis.

Kevin Delgrande (San Jose)/Fred Chapman (MT) lose in the finals of the 70+.

Eric Campbell (San Jose) lost in the finals of the 11 and under singles.

*My apologies if I left anyone out. Congratulations to all of the participants. You done us proud!*





## **2006 COLLEGE HANDBALL NATIONALS SOLANO COLLEGE TEAM**

**First year college handball team wins national title and has three finalists.**

In 2006, Solano College located in Fairfield, CA started up its first college handball program. Five of its members attended, competed and had several players place at this years college handball nationals held at Texas A&M University. All members of this years team are soccer players on the Solano College women's soccer team. The team is using handball for some off-season training. These ladies are all full-time students as well.

After only a couple of months of playing Maria Avila won the women's novice division over teammate Ashley Casassa. Diane Aguirre was a semifinalist in the women's contenders division. Mayra Garcia and Aurora Arcila were the other two players who competed.

Jeff Cardinal, the Solano College Women's Soccer Coach introduced the sport to the team and he found that the ladies enthusiastically welcomed the challenge. With no courts on campus, Cardinal teaches the handball class at an athletic club close to campus.

One of the major issues on starting a college handball team is funding. Since handball is classified as a club sport, teams must raise funds for all their expenses.

Jeff Cardinal and the Solano College Handball Team is requesting your support in the form of any donation. This years expenses to Texas, which included airfare, hotel, transportation, entry fees, etc. were paid out of pocket. The Solano College Women's Handball team is currently doing various fundraisers, but any donation you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like any additional information please contact Jeff Cardinal at 707-863-7832 or e-mail [Jeff.Cardinal@solano.edu](mailto:Jeff.Cardinal@solano.edu).

*Donations can be sent to Jeff Cardinal, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534.*

## - SEMPER FI HANDBALL TOURNAMENT -

The Seventeenth Annual Semper Fi Handball Tournament was held at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego over the Memorial Day weekend, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday May 26 - 28, 2006. There is usually a significant number of participants from Sacramento and the Bay Area. This year Dave Thoreson, Tim Hindman, and Dave Rios participated.

The tourney is open to Marines on active duty, former and retired Marines and any military personnel who were attached to a Marine Corp unit. There were 105 enthusiastic players from all over the United States competing for awards in seven singles, six doubles, and ten consolation categories. New champions were crowned in eight divisions. Results as follows (bracket sizes shown in parenthesis):

### **SINGLES**

#### **OPEN/MASTERS (8)**

First: Peter Bidegain, El Cajon, CA  
Second: Mike New, Germantown, TN  
Third: Thad Biggers, Gloucester Point, VA  
Consolation: Darryl McNair, Klamath Falls, OR

#### **GOLDEN MASTERS (8)**

First: Greg Stansbury, Jamal, CA  
Second: Don Eyman, Long Beach, CA  
Third: Bob Snyder, Newport News, VA  
Consolation: Joe Driscoll, Monterey, CA

#### **SUPER MASTERS (15)**

First: Bruce Handleman, Henderson, NV  
Second: Ron Sapp, Mukilteo, WA  
Third: Ken Lenoir, Memphis, TN  
Consolation: Jim Pfouts, San Luis Obispo, CA

#### **VETERAN SUPER MASTERS (12)**

First: Vince SanAngelo, Tucson  
Second: Jim Story, Saratoga, CA  
Third: Dave Coulie, Albuquerque, NM  
Consolation: Chuck Nicholas, El Cajon, CA

#### **DIAMOND MASTERS (11)**

First: Sam Peters, Cincinnati, OH  
Second: Bob Harris, Las Vegas, NV  
Third: Ray Leidich, Corvallis, OR  
Consolation: Bob Helfrich, Laguna Woods, CA

#### **VETERAN DIAMOND MASTERS (7)**

First: Dave Thoreson, Gold River, CA  
Second: Virl Haas, San Diego, CA  
Third: Don Davies, Oceanside, CA  
Consolation: Albert Krueger, La Mesa, CA

#### **PLATINUM MASTERS (3)**

First: John Paulette, La Mesa, CA  
Second: Alvis Grant, Dallas, TX  
Third: Ward Duarte, El Cajon, CA

### **DOUBLES**

#### **OPEN/MASTERS (6)**

First: David Brainerd, San Diego/Bidegain, Jr, El Cajon, CA  
Second: Thad Biggers, Gloucester Point, VA/Mike New, Germantown, TN  
Third: Peter Bidegain, El Cajon, CA/Greg Stansbury, Jamal, CA  
Consolation: Oscar Amaya, Pasadena, CA/Chuck Davis, Altadena, CA

#### **GOLDEN MASTERS (8)**

First: Don Eyman, Long Beach, CA/Ron Sapp, Mukilteo, WA  
Second: Dave Lindegren, Klamath Falls, OR/Bob Snyder, Newport News, VA  
Third: Marty Holland, Albuquerque/Ken Starcher, Bellingham, WA  
Consolation: Mike McGarry, River Front, IL/Bill Fitzpatrick, River Forest, IL

#### **SUPER MASTERS (11)**

First: Mike Dunne, San Jose/Tom Smock, Sierra Madre, CA  
Second: Bill Trimble, Elwood Park, IL/Rich Wheelock, Ventura, CA  
Third: Jim Pfouts, San Luis Obispo, CA/Ed Todd, West Haven, CT  
Consolation: Rich Gilliam, Sante Fe, NM/Bill Lynch, San Rafael, CA

#### **VETERAN SUPER MASTERS (7)**

First: Jim Economides, Albuquerque/Charlie Wicker, Tucson  
Second: Bill Nye, Wilmington, NC/Vince SanAngelo, Tucson  
Third: Duncan MacDonell, Tucson/Joe Driscoll, Monterey, CA  
Consolation: Ray Anderson, Wilmington, NC/John Kennard, Norfolk, VA

#### **DIAMOND MASTERS (4)**

First: Bob Harris, Las Vegas/Sam Peters, Cincinnati, OH  
Second: Mike Baggetta, Huntington Beach, CA/Bill Strawn, Leawood, KS  
Third: George Andreos, Poway, CA/Jack Cherrington, Redmond, WA

#### **VETERAN DIAMOND MASTERS (4)**

First: Don Elwood, Sunnyvale, CA/Ralph Sherwin, Newport Beach, CA  
Second: Virl Haas, San Diego/Dave Thoreson, Gold River, CA  
Third: George Law/John Paulette, La Mesa, CA

## **- NEWS FROM #6.... -**

*by: Ron Domingos*

I'm happy to report that we're all continuing to age ugly at number 6. Some of our best moves are on the patio around the BBQ. And, one of the damndest things happened of the court last Friday, Ron Silva called a wrist ball???? Huh? Handball is still a Wednesday and Friday afternoon event that starts around 3 to about 6. Sundays start around 7 and continue to about 11. Play is always followed up with a BBQ on the patio.

All 4 courts are to have the floors refinished this summer along with the painting of the walls, additionally; the entire athletic area is to receive a new coat of paint.

Currently, the following players routinely show up:

Rick Rivas, Kevin Soulies, Steve Williams, John Sordi, John Gunter, Joe Champlin, John Leno, George Bianco, Ron Silva, Troy Martin, Gunner Lester, Kim Tommesello, Rick Bradley, Mark Bradley, Mike McCrystle, Jack Moser, Gerrard Bynoe, Ralph D'Agostini, and Ron Domingos.

We also have a group of 70+: Angelo Corso, Herb Mather, Graham ? and Gilbert Baldini.

I am aware that many of these players are not in SAHA. I do suspect that if we were to go to a bay area type format of some type for our league, many of those named would be interested in playing. Do we know what we are doing next year?

Membership at the Elks still runs about \$30 per month or should you want to drop in, lodge rules say it's \$5. However, should you put a six pack in the fridge or bring fresh meat for the BBQ, you're covered. Still the best deal in town.....

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## **- 2006 SAHA LEAGUE ENDS UP CLOSE (again) -**

*by: Tom Bridges*

Going into the league playoffs several teams had a chance to win the whole enchilada. In the 'A' Division Carmichael had 50 points to Roseville's 48. Gold River and Capital were further down, but still within sight of an overall victory due the scoring format. The playoffs count for 50% of the overall total, so it figured to be another close finish. And it was.

In the 'B' Division Carmichael #2 held 51 points going into playoff action. The Turn Verein and defending champion Alhambra were knotted at 48, Carmichael #3 held 47, while Capital and Gold River with 38 and 28 respectively remained within striking distance.

The playoffs were held on 2 sequential Saturdays at Carmichael. SAHA provided food and beverages and there was a true playoff atmosphere at the club.

In the 'A's while Roseville and Carmichael came to play, Capital and Gold River couldn't get too enthused about it and ended up sending only partial teams. Seeding held true as Carmichael and Roseville continued on to the finals. With only 2 points still separating them it would come down to the last match of the day for both squads. Carmichael won the 2 doubles with Ron Guevara/Jeff Schroeder upending Stan Hampton/Don Hutchinson and Bob Lozito/Jack Brier besting Tim/Doug Chandler. Roseville's strong singles, led by Billy Wyrsh downed Todd Lanigan and Bruce Anderson.

With the resulting 5 - 5 tie, Carmichael won the championship by virtue of the 2 point lead they held over Roseville going into the playoff.

In the 'B' Division the best teams showed up from almost all of the clubs. Carmichael #2 and the Turn Verein received first round byes because of their 1 and 2 finish in the regular competition. In the 1st round Capital got by Carmichael #3 while Alhambra bested Gold River. In the semis Carmichael #2 advanced over the strong Capital squad led by Augie Herrera and Adam Coranado. In the bottom bracket Alhambra ousted the Turn Verein. In the finals Carmichael #2 couldn't quite match the depth of defending champs Alhambra, falling 6 - 4. The champs team included Dave Nava, John Warren, Raul Baeza, Mike Cochrane, Tom Janich, and Rich Hansard.

When the last sandwich crumb was picked up and the final beer can crushed, it was another good day of handball and camaraderie. Everyone lived to see another day, tell another story, and look forward to the next match.

## - BAD HIPS? GOOD NEWS -

*by: Alan Ray*

*alanray0950@sbcglobal.net*

Handball's hard on a body, and particularly hard on hips. Until recently, once osteoarthritis claimed the last of your hip cartilage, you were left to hobble as long as you could handle the pain, then you got a Total Hip Replacement (THR). A THR would take away the pain, but the mechanics of the new artificial hip created a greater likelihood of dislocation, if you tried to play handball again.

Now there's a third option, beyond painful hobbling and the THR. It's called Hip Resurfacing. In short HSR (hip surface replacement). I've got one. Eight years after a handball injury ruined my left hip, I went to Belgium for an HSR, in December of '04.

I'd had to quit handball the previous July. The hip was "bone on bone", I walked like a cross between a King crab and Quasimodo. Guys at the Big C in Concord and Carmichael AC can tell you. I couldn't walk straight, and could barely move on the court. I finally quit playing because I was so immobile that I was a hazard to everybody else on the court. And because it just hurt too much.

To avoid getting too technical: think of a THR as the equivalent of a dental implant. Think of my HSR as the equivalent of a dental crown. Unlike with a THR, all of my original hip is intact. Load angles and weight bearing characteristics are the same as my original equipment. And unlike the standard THR, which is a combination of metal and plastic parts, resurfacing devices are metal on both sides; much more durable, and with virtually no danger of dislocation.

In May the FDA approved one hip resurfacing device for use in the U.S. Approval for two other, nearly identical, devices is expected before the end of this summer. Although metal on metal resurfacing is new to American medicine, it is not experimental surgery. It's the preferred hip repair for active people under the age of 65 in much of the rest of the world; there are estimated 500,000 in place worldwide. There are US docs doing the surgery, and in many cases, insurance does pay. Mine did. If you or a friend has painful, failing hips there's a Yahoo message group to check out. It's called "Surface Hippy", and you'll find a wealth of information.

How has it worked for me? I was back practicing handball eight weeks after surgery; played my first game of doubles at 12 weeks. I'm playing now four days a week, without pain or limitation. I'm pushing twenty reps at 350 pounds on the leg press machine. No pain. I'll be 57 in a couple of months, and I'm moving better, faster and with less pain than I have in nearly ten years. If you have a hip problem, and your doc says you need a THR... talk to me first. You may have a better option, and future that includes handball.



## - 2006 - 2007 / SAHA CALENDAR -

Date	Event/Location	Contact
July 21 - 23	USHA Junior 3- Wall Venice Beach, CA	David Ruiz (310) 396 6764
Aug 4 - 13	World Championships Edmonton, Canada	<a href="mailto:info@2006-worlds.ca">info@2006-worlds.ca</a>
Aug 6	Free 3 - Wall Play Day Pleasanton, CA	Club Sport Pleasanton
Aug 18 - 20	Wenmat In - House	Tom Bridges (916) 383 1262
Aug 31 - Sep 4	USHA National 3 - Wall Maumee, Ohio	<a href="mailto:handball@ushandball.org">handball@ushandball.org</a> Vern Roberts (520) 795 0434
Sep 1 - 4	Labor Day Open San Jose YMCA	Bob Kass (408) 248 1254
Sep 10	Free 3 - Wall Play Day Pleasanton, CA	Club Sport Pleasanton
Sep 29 - Oct 1	California State Champs Fresno	Ruben Nunez (559) 291 6995
Oct 1	Free 3 - Wall Play Day Pleasanton, CA	Club Sport Pleasanton
Oct 6 - 8	Otis Grimble Capital AC in Sacramento	Rick Leonard (916) 442 3927
Oct 13 - 15	Jack Tone 60+ Tourney Stockton	Tom Sove (209) 575 2758
Nov 3 - 5	Hall Of Fame Doubles Olympic Club SF	Bernie Samet (415) 345 5101
Nov 17 - 19	Turkey Shoot Santa Rosa	
Dec 2 - 3	Zuniga Doubles Fresno Centerpoint AC	Ruben Nunez (559) 291 6995
Feb ??	USHA National Master Singles Dallas, Texas	<a href="mailto:handball@ushandball.org">handball@ushandball.org</a> Vern Roberts (520) 795 0434
Mar 22 - 25	USHA National Master Doubles Kansas City, KS	<a href="mailto:handball@ushandball.org">handball@ushandball.org</a> Vern Roberts (520) 795 0434
April 13 - 15	Sacramento Open Elks #6 & Riverside AC	R. Domingos (916) 479 0448 D. Thoreson (916) 853 9078
Apr 30 - May 6	USHA National 4-Walls Minneapolis, MN	<a href="mailto:handball@ushandball.org">handball@ushandball.org</a> Vern Roberts (520) 795 0434

# THE DARN GOOD DOZEN

by Tom Bridges *how the hell does he know?*

1. Allie Abdullah, Jr Still the Man. His name at # 1 is starting to burn into my computer screen it has been here so long. Can anybody knock this guy off?
2. Rick Rivas Power serves, hard & low both hands. Great athlete. Quick and great foot-work. Trained with Allie for the nationals and did well. Tough draw gave him Tico for the 2nd match. Rick got 9,18.
3. Barry Durham Had to go to work. Bummer! Still in Allie's shadow. Rusty. But when he's ready to play, watch out. Great matches to come.
4. Billy Wyrsh Seems to have conquered the elevation factor up in Lake Of The Pines. Smart, skilled, consistently in shape, and more court sense than all 3 guys ahead of him on this list. Besides that he's happy.
5. Dave Vincent Has too much going on right now to concentrate on playing handball. He'll be vying for the top spots, it's just a matter of when he wants to get in shape to do it.
6. Jaime Fabian Still not many Jaime sightings locally. But he stays in great shape and plays great when big matches are on the table. Slammed in the Sac Open.
7. ? ? ? I'm holding this spot open for one of ours who has moved into a cave ( I think) about 85 miles north of Sacramento. We hope to see him after hibernation this summer. He deserves this spot, but we'll only hold it for him for one newsletter.
8. Carlos Buzo Intense percentage player. Great athlete, stays in shape and oh so competitive.
9. Cub Eldridge Oldest player on our list. Still super competitive, good court sense and a student of the game. Combines the mental and the physical and gets it done. Made the semis at the nationals before losing to top seed. Don't show Cub a weakness.
10. Paul Delao Still breaking balls down at Capital. The 3rd Stocktonion on our list. No 3-wall in town the last 2 years, so Paul just added a wall and drilled that ball.
11. Kevin Soulies New hip, same training regiment. Heavy fluid diet. Don't ever count him out. Several gears and he knows how to use them.
12. Jeff Schroader Fine athlete, fluid movement, big hops. Why isn't this fireman further up the list? Write the editor with your comments.