

# SAHA ROLLOUT

SACRAMENTO AREA HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

August 2008

## ALHAMBRA EEKS OUT WIN FOR SAHA 'B' LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2008 SAHA 'B' League season concluded with a very active day of handball. July 20 was the date of the final playoff. The concrete walls of all 6 Carmichael courts were pounded by the participants. At the same time crowds of cheering supporters watched from above. And when the smoke cleared and the dust settled no one seemed disappointed.

All 4 of the participating teams had a full complement of players so a total of 24 matches would decide the overall winner. A 5th league team from Capital A.C. did not make it to the playoff because of their last place finish during the regular season.

The format was a round robin where each team played the other 3 teams in 1 game to 31 points. Points accumulated during the regular season were carried into the playoff event. Thus before play started Alhambra led the field with 47 points. The Carmichael White team followed with 43. In 3rd place was the Turn Verein with 42 and the Carmichael Blue team rounded out the foursome with 38.

At the end of the day it was Alhambra who came out on top. They gained 12 additional points with 8 victories out of their 12 matches in the playoff. Totalling 65 points, it would be enough to stave off the competition.

In 2nd place was the Carmichael White team with 58 points. They had 6 wins in their 12 matches. Third place was captured by the Turn Verein accumulating 52 as a result of 3 additional victories. Carmichael Blue ended up with 45 points after winning 7 of this days pairings.

By the time the pizzas were gone and Carmichael's stash of cold brews was depleted very few of the players could remember why we were all there!

But the handsome perpetual plaque that will now move from Carmichael to Alhambra will remind the Champions of their day.

One of the really great matches were a thrilling 31 - 29 win by Alhambra's Kent Craney over Turn Verein's ace in the hole Jaime Fabian. Just as thrilling were 31 - 29 and 31 - 28 victories by Alhambra's Dave Nava/Henry Hombus over Carmichael's top duos of Dale Sable/Jack Brier and Dave Rios/Ron Marquez.

The successful SAHA League was started in 1999 with just an 'A' Division. Encouraged by camaraderie and the thrill of competition a 'B' Division was added a few years later. The League has suffered somewhat due to the Elks refusing to participate because they won't travel. However the remaining clubs still look forward to the contests and club rivalries abound. And if this playoff is any evidence, a lot of great handball is in store for next season. Wait 'til next year!

Thanks to SAHA Co-Presidents Ron Marquez and Petey Garris along with Carmichael A.C. for this outstanding conclusion to a successful 'B' League Season.

Tom Bridges

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Ron and Pete*

Aloha to SAHA members, Handball players past and present, handball visitors, and all those who love us for who we are.

Pete Garris and I have been very pleased with the activities that are still continuing or are planned. Our primary goal is still to get more participation in playing handball from previous handball players to new handball players (Juniors or not). Our efforts will be to strengthen SAHA and its current activities. That means that we have to go to you for support and involvement.

Pete and I thank you for that support and involvement, we can't say enough on how much that has given Handball Community many days of handball games. We want to acknowledge Ron Domingos, our Treasurer and keeper of the BBQ facilities. He is our guru of the hospitality for the Sacramento Open. Rick Leonard, Capital Athletic Club Manager, is our premier supporter of handball in the Sacramento Area. His club is always available for providing a facility to host our funday or other events. Tom Bridges and Dave Thoreson are twins, we cannot get anything done without either one of them. They have made SAHA activities available to the Handball Community from Fundays to League Championships. Dave Vincent, the Wizard of WPH, has created an avenue for viewing handball at its best. With the Internet, he has given new handball players something that can be enjoyed without traveling to far off (out of State) locations.

Here are our plans for the next year or by the next Newsletter.

Projects;

1. SAHA website to add a HISTORY and COURT OF PLAY
2. Junior Program
3. League Play
4. Fundays
5. Supplies for handballs, gloves, and eye-glasses.

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## **REST IN PEACE**

Thankfully I'm not aware of any local passings. But legendary handball players Sol Aber and Vic Hershowitz died in recent weeks. Sol lived in San Jose and was 89. Vic lived in Florida and was also 89. Sol Aber won over 20 national titles but will probably be remembered locally for his teaching and mentoring passion. A fixture at the San Jose YMCA, Sol brought many young players along in their handball abilities. Sol gave it all on the court as a fierce competitor. And he gave it all to others as a teacher and role model to young players.

Vic Hershowitz won 43 National and International titles over his playing career. He was in his prime in the 50's and 60's. A New York City firefighter, he moved to Florida in 1973. Vic could be very outspoken and colorful. Dave Vincent's website has an excellent interview with him from several years ago.

Rest In Peace

## FROM AROUND TOWN

**The Word From The Herd:** Not a lot to report. The usual Wednesday and Friday 3 PM get together continues. Sunday morning's fun starts around 7:30 AM.

Mark Bradley is back and doing well. Tony Domingos is breaking balls on a regular basis but is no match for Rick or Allie. The rest of us just continue to age.

As far as injuries go, John Sordi needs 2 knees; Gunner Lester needs at least one and Gerard Bynoe's hips are both going bad.

Kevin Soulies's other hip is on borrowed time and yours truly can't move worth a damn.

Ugly as it may be, we still enjoy banging it around, having a cold beer now and then and eating the 4 basic food groups (beef, chicken, pork and fish) all BBQ'd of course. *Ron Domingos*

**In The 'Burbs:** Out at Carmichael there continues to be lots of handball activity. You can seek your level! At the top of the food chain regular play exists among Cub Eldridge, Ed Campbell, Jim Summers, Jeff Schroader, Roy Perez, Lance Klug, Bruce Anderson, Stan Hampton and Billy Wyrsh.

At the other end of the scale (who said Bottom Feeders?) The MWF 9:00 AM Geezer Group is led by 80+ Al "The Badger" Wade. Also John Marsh, Tom Bridges, Bud Lanigan, Al Wehrley, Bill Pizana, Don Anderson, Clare Poe and Doug Stone. And then there are plenty (about 25.....too many to name) of MOR (Middle Of The Road) types in between playing almost every day.

Welcome to new member Chris Cooley. He came here from England (via Georgia) and is rapidly improving due to his youth and athleticism.

Sunday morning Animal Hour continues as a popular pick-up doubles option. Usually it draws around 16 players paired up by Scrabble tiles at 8:00 AM SHARP. The Wenmat In-House is set for Sept 5 - 7.

An article appeared in the Bee last month saying that the club owners (Gary Wendell and Jim Mathews) had applied to the planning board for building 32 homes on the Carmichael Athletic Club site. However management assures us that **IF** it becomes a reality it is at least 2 or 3 years down the road. *Tom Bridges*

**Uptown:** At the historic Libby's Cannery building the Alhambra Athletic Club seems to be growing in the number of players. Original pillars Dave Nava, John Warren, Rich Hansard, Hal Edmunds, George Valverde, Tom Janich, Raul Baeza, Mike Cochrane and Kent Craney have been joined by new regulars Mike Buttleman, Ken Craig, Dave Rios, Hal Farish, Henry Hombus, Tim Ryan, Steve Brown, Danny Archuletta and Mike Vecchio. Lots of pick-up action Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting around 4:30. Sunday mornings also has 6 - 10 folks show up (right after church I think). *Tom Bridges*

**Turn At The Turn:** Small membership but spirited play every Tuesday & Thursday starting at 5:00 PM.

Visitors are always welcome. \$2.00 visitors fee is the best deal in town. I'll even make my famous chili bean dish. That alone is worth twice the guest fee! Just ask Henry Hombus. *Joe Chavez* AKA *Zorro* 541-2071 P.S. Congrats to the Turn league team for their best finish ever this go around. They were leading all squads after the first half but failed to pull it out in the end.

**At The Capital:** I didn't get a response from the club but suppose "no news is good news". I hear though that Abe Junior is playing really good ball right now along with club pro Paul Delao and Adam Coronado. And of course Augie Herrera is always tough. These folks are giving Allie some competition.

I know Gail is hurt right now, along with Cherylann. I also hear Richard Ramirez is working out here regularly and will shortly be back on the court on a limited basis. 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month is still free guest day at this great facility. *Tom Bridges*

## WHAT IS THE THE WORLD OF PRO HANDBALL?

It is a handball marketing, promotions, and filming organization dedicated at highlighting handball to new prospects, potential fans, and junior players across the globe. They can be found at [www.weplayhandball.com](http://www.weplayhandball.com), where you can watch user and WPH uploaded videos (much like YouTube), “live” webcasted WPH events, the current World Rankings, and latest handball news and information.

Recently, the WPH went member-driven and, within just seven months, reached its yearly goal of 1,000 members. What does a membership entail? The WPH films many of the top handball matches across the globe and we have made these videos and future webcasts (live streaming video and audio across the Internet) FREE for WPH All Access Pass holders. From the 2006 & 2007 US Open Finals to the Showtime in Seattle, USHA 4-Wall Nationals and Canadian Nationals we film, create DVD’s, and webcast to world-wide crowds. Webcasting. What equipment do you need? The WPH has made it simple. If you are hooked up to a high-speed Internet connection you will be able to tune in, “live.” Just go to [www.weplayhandball.com](http://www.weplayhandball.com) for more details.

The WPH is owned by SAHA Member, NorCal, and USHA Member, David Vincent and is operated from his office in Nevada City, CA. To gain a list of upcoming WPH webcasted events, pro stops, or other WPH handball news please contact him at [weplayhandball@cs.com](mailto:weplayhandball@cs.com)

Other links of notable interest:

WPH Membership (all access webcasting pass): [www.wphpass.com](http://www.wphpass.com)

WPH Website: [www.WPHLive.tv](http://www.WPHLive.tv) or [www.weplayhandball.com](http://www.weplayhandball.com)

WPH/SAHA Message Board: <http://www.websitetoolbox.com/tool/mb/wphl>

WPH DVD Store: <http://www.prohandball.tv/wph/dvd.html>

For webcasting advertising rates, pro handball sponsorships, or donations to professional handball, please contact the WPH:

The World Of Pro Handball

C/O Dave Vincent 104 North Pine St. Nevada City, CA 95959 530-265-2152

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## DO THE DUES.....PLEASE

We have had a substantial decrease in SAHA members keeping current with their dues. Why? Who knows? If you know, please tell us! 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

## MEDICAL REPORT

Let's keep the following people in our prayers and thoughts as they deal with medical concerns.

- Pete Revello. Suffering from inoperable cancer. Undergoing chemo to try to shrink the tumors so radiation can be utilized. Meanwhile has lost a lot of weight.
- Ken Belcher. Suffering from an inoperable brain tumor. Doctor says 9 months to live. 12 months if chemo and radiation treatment are successful. Ken is opting for the treatment. Meanwhile he has lost 30 pounds.
- Jim Flood. Has significant dementia and is in a care facility. In the past 6 months Jim has had to deal with the deaths of a son and a daughter. Daughter Krista Flood is moving here from Hawaii to care for him.
- Paul Zafferano. Paul is having some medical problems at this time.
- Bruce Brown. On a positive note, Alan Wade heard from Judy Brown. Bruce continues to improve from his stroke/surgery several years ago. He just got his driver's licence back.



This great photo is from 1958. On the left is Jim Flood (yep! It really is!). Jim was working for Aerojet at the time. Jim's college days at Sac State included 2 years as the NCAA Middleweight Boxing Champion. The other guy in the photo is none other than Rocky Marciano. He was visiting Aerojet for business purposes. Jim turned pro here in Sacramento and his fights would help fill Memorial Auditorium. Unfortunately he quickly gained the reputation as a "bleeder" and his bouts were usually cut short because of it.

## **Locals (and Neighbors) Represent Us Well At National Tournaments**

I gleaned the following from published results for the 2008 National 4-Walls, the National Master Singles and the National Master Doubles.

### **Four Wall Nationals held in Kansas City June 2008**

Open/Pro Singles	Ricardo Diaz (San Jose) lost in round of 16 Emmett Peixoto (Watsonville) lost in semis
A Singles	Jeff Cardinal (Vacaville) lost in round of 16 Raul Jasso (San Jose) lost in quarters Joe Sandoval (San Jose) lost in round of 16
35+ Singles	Jeff Cardinal (Vacaville) lost in quarters
40+ 'B' Singles	James Silla (San Francisco) lost in finals Leo Havener (Elk Grove) lost in semis
45+ Singles	Tom McGrath (San Francisco) lost in semis
50+ Singles	Ronald Strausbaugh (San Jose) lost in quarters Lou Barberini (San Francisco) lost in round of 16
55+ Singles	Ed Campbell (Auburn) lost in quarters
60+ Singles	Chico Aguiar (Hayward) lost in quarters
60+ 'B' Singles	Peter Wong (Danville) lost in quarters Joe Driscoll (Monterey) lost in finals
65+ Singles	Ken Moeller (Lafayette) lost in first round Dennis Moser (Atherton) lost in finals
70+ Singles	Lou Signer (Berkeley) lost in quarters
75+ Singles	Ken Foreman (Morgan Hill) lost in round of 16 Kevan Del Grande (Los Gatos) won it Dave Thoreson (Gold River) lost in semis
Juniors <12 Sgles	Coleman McGrath (San Francisco) lost in finals
Womens Open Sgles	Courtney Peixoto (Watsonville) lost in quarters
Ope/Pro Doubles	Dean Crispen (San Francisco)/Brendan McDevitt (Burlingame) lost in round of 16 Dave Vincent (Rough & Ready) and partner lost in round of 16 Emmett Peixoto (Watsonville)/Dave Chapman win it
35+ Doubles	Dave Vincent (Rough & Ready) and partner come in 4 <sup>th</sup> place
45+ Doubles	Leo Havener (Elk Grove) and partner lost in quarters
50+ Doubles	Mike Linnick (San Jose)/Francis Breining (Santa Rosa) lost in quarters Lou Barberini (San Francisco) and partner lost in quarters Ronald Koscielak (Calistoga) and partner lost in round of 16

*Continued next page*

55+ Doubles Tom Sove (Modesto) and partner lost in round of 16  
 Ed Campbell (Auburn) and partner lost in quarters  
 Tom Fitzwater (San Jose) and Danny Carrillo (San Bernadino) win it

60+ Doubles Chico Aguiar(Hayward)/Peter Wong (Danville) lost in round of 16  
 Dick David (Santa Cruz) and partner lost in quarters  
 Jay Capell(Belvedere)/Alan Sherrill (Watsonville) win it  
 Vic Aissa (San Francisco)/Rich Polson (Fresno) lost in round of 16

65+ Doubles Jim Smith (Watsonville) and partner lost in round of 16

70+ Doubles Kevan Del Grande and partner lost in finals

75+ Doubles Dave Thoreson and partner lost in semis

Womens Open Dbls Courtney Peixoto and partner came in 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **National Master Singles April, 2008 in Houston, Texas**

35+ Chris Tico (San Francisco) wins it

50+ Lou Barberini (San Francisco) lost in semis

55+ Ed Campbell (Auburn) lost in semis

65+ Jim Smith (Watsonville) lost in finals

75+ Dave Thoreson (Gold River) lost in quarters  
 Kevan Del Grande (Los Gatos) wins it

### **National Master Doubles 2008 in San Diego**

35+ George Repine (Sacramento/Fresno) and partner lost in quarters but win consolation

40+ Mike McDonald (San Francisco)/Lenhart DeLaTorre (San Francisco) came in 2<sup>nd</sup>

45+ Tom McGrath and partner lost in semis

50+ Lou barberini and partner lost in quarters

55+ Wayne Salo (Sacramento) and partner lost in quarters  
 Mike Linnick (San Jose)/Francis Breining (Santa Rosa) win it  
 Mike Woods (Bay Area)/Brian Nelson(Bay Area) lost in quarters  
 Ed Campbell (Auburn)and partner lost in 1<sup>st</sup> round  
 Tom Fitzwater (Bay Area)/Danny Carrillo (San Bernadino) win it

60+ Doug Chandler (Lake Of The Pines) and partner lost in 1<sup>st</sup> round  
 Steve Housman/Rich Polson (Fresno) lost in round of 16

65+ Jim Smith (Watsonville) and partner lost in semis  
 Dennis Moser (Atherton) and partner lost in quarters

70+ Kevan Del Grande (Los Gatos)/Fred Chapman lose in finals  
 Joe McDonald (Burlingame)/Mike Dunne (San Jose) lost in semis

75+ Dave Thoreson (Gold River)/Don Elwood (San Jose) came in 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Wayne's Way

It's time to play handball now. Oops!

Can this be one of the unsung downfalls of handball. The Wayne's Way staff never gave it a second thought. We say it every time we go out to hit a handball with our buddies. How can one little word create so much controversy and confusion. It was right there under our noses all these years.

Since the Wayne's Way staff has many semantics experts on the payroll, we will attempt to offer an alternative to years of negativity which we ourselves have perpetuated.

This infamous word we speak of is 'Play'. Try substituting this word for other sports. "I'll see you in a couple of hours, I'm going to the gym and play some boxing." Nope, is not fun, and doesn't work. "I'll be back before dinner. I'm going to go play with some weights at the gymnasium." Lifting weights sounds fun now! If we throw 'play' in with jogging does that make you want to lace up and start motoring? NO!!

I'm sure you can think of other forms of exercise that don't mix with 'play'. Checkers, Monopoly, video games, badminton, wally ball, old maid, hide and seek, and many other frivolous endeavors seem to fit the 'play' moniker. As the population of handball is aging at an ever accelerating pace, should these old war horses be using the word 'play' in such a cavalier manner. What kind of an adult tells their kids they are going the 'club' and 'play' a 'game'. What kind of role model is that? Sounds more like the Little Rascals huddling in the treehouse and drawing straws for a kiss with Darla.

The next time you make a 'game', OOPS!, there's another bad word, at the 'club' to 'play' 'handball', even hb sounds a little like a youthful street game, try mixing it up with some new hard driving verbiage that really describes what we are doing. Our families, friends, and work colleagues will have far more respect and admiration for us, well, not all of us. Maybe we could vote for an extreme new millennium name for handball.

Wayne's Way staff has some suggestions; Punchorb, Smashsphere, Kill or be Killed, Round Pound, Wallarama, Heartrateracer, Cagebrawl, and our favorite, Torture Chamber. You might even get kids to go for names like that. Your spouse will start saying things like, "Crush those bums today", "run 'em ragged", or "Break their legs." You may get promoted at your job if the boss knows you're the cunning bruiser that just won the National competition of Smashsphere.

Now, we don't expect you to stop using these negative connotations immediately, because we have all been using them for years. Here's a couple of templates that you can start using now, and then refine for your own unique situations. "I'm off to the Sweatchamber", "I'll be at the gym for some short sprints", "Going to the workout facility for exercise", "I'll be gone this week for the world's most extreme athletic competition", and Wayne's Way's personal fave (and yes, it is true), keep reminding everyone that your workout burns as many calories as boxing ten rounds. Really?! Start using these new terms gradually, because the sharp people that have been hearing you use 'play', 'club', 'game', and 'handball', for years will immediately notice your new 'play' on words. I tried to use my new found knowledge too quickly, and got responses like, "Oh, you are flitting off to the club to play a game of haaannndball with your beer drinking buddies." I hate being transparent! As always, the Wayne's Way staff and legal team ask you to use prudence, caution, and wisdom while implementing any of the above strategies.

Wayne G.

## 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 Another name starting to burn into my screen at this spot. Keeps Allie in top form but can't quite overcome the Champ.
3. Barry Durham Still having to punch the clock. Bummer! But the skills and talent drive are always present. Look for great matches to come.
4. Dave Vincent This entrepreneur hasn't been able to focus on his game so his best is ahead. And if he gets anything by osmosis from the folks he's been playing with, watch out!
5. Jaime Fabian Jaime sightings are a rarity up here. But he stays in great shape and plays great when big matches are on the table. Great League play again this year.
6. Ed Campbell Really seems to be on top of his game right now. Was more than respectable at 4-Wall Nationals, National Masters Singles and National Masters Doubles. Gifted athlete and true gentleman.
7. Billy Wyrsh He and his new born hip are still giving tours of the court. Terrific court sense and great feet for positioning. Did you ever notice his 'hop' serve?
8. Kevin Soulies This perennial Top-Tenner's hip is still in its infancy also. But like a Timex, the guy just keeps on tickin. Always an intense player.
9. Jeff Schroader Picture perfect form, huge hops, a fine athlete. This soon to be Texan will be missed by us and Metro Fire.
10. Paul Delao The club pro at Capital is still breaking balls down there. The 3rd Stocktonion in the top 10. Might be the water (or the beer).
11. Lance Klug The court is small to this guy because of his phenomenal gettability. But abrasive as sandpaper sometimes and he's running out of people who will play with him.
12. Kent Craney Very nice win over Jaime in the League. All the cross training he's been doing to keep up with his wife and kids is really helping.



## 2007 - 2008 / SAHA CALENDAR -

Date	Event/Location	Contact
Aug 29-Sept1	Labor Day Touney - San Jose	
Aug 30-Sept 1	USHA 3-Wall Nationals - Toledo, Ohio	www.ushandball.org
Sept 5-7	Wenmat In-House - Carmichael A.C.	Tom Bridges 916 383-1262 tombridges@comcast.net
Oct 11	Fleet Week 1 day tourney South End Rowing Club - San Francisco	Wayne Black 707 312-0570 rocketman51@comcast.net
Oct 23-26	Simple Green open Los Caballeros - Fountain Valley	
Oct 31-Nov 2	NCHA Hall of Fame tourney Olympic Club - San Francisco	Bernie Samet 415 345-5101 bsamet@olyclub.com
Nov 21-23	Turkey Shoot - Santa Rosa	
Dec 5-6 ???	Otis Grimble - Capital A.C. - Sacramento	Bruce Coolidge 916 442-3927 bcoolidge@capitalac.com
Jan 30-Feb1	Fred Bancalari Suber Bowl - Club Sport Pleasanton	
Feb 12-15 or Feb 19-21	USHA National Masters - Las Vegas	www.ushandball.org
Mar 13-15	St Patrick's Doubles South End Rowing Club - San Francisco	Wayne Black 707 312-0570 rocketman51@comcast.net
Mar 27-29	Sacramento Open Elks #6 & Riverside A.C. - Sacramento	Dave Thorenson 916 853-9078 dpthoreson@aol.com
Apr 16-19	USHA National Master Singles Chattanooga, TN	www.ushandball.org
May 1-3	Cinco De Mayo South End Rowing Club - San Francisco	Wayne Black 707 312-0570 rocketman51@comcast.net
May 22-24	Semper Fi Marine Corps San Diego	Ray Leidich 541 745-5937 leidichray@comcast.net
Jun 15-21	USHA 4 Wall Nationals Los Caballeros Fountain Valley, CA	www.ushandball.org



