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*Sea Island Squash Club*

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Hello SESRA:

Past Events:



**Ryder wins the 11th Atlanta Open PSA draw**

A full draw of pros and qualifiers provided the CAC entrants with great professional squash throughout the weekend.

Number one seed and world 37 Chris Ryder took the 11<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Open, defeating world 66 Laurence Delasaux at the Concourse Athletic Club, 7,(8),9,7 in 60 minutes. Coming off a 90 minute battle in the semis, Ryder won the first game in 15 minutes 11/7. In the second, Delasaux managed to get more settled and found his rhythm 11/8. The third was the the decider and Ryder kept in control to win it 11/9 and take the fourth 11-7.

**Open Skill Level Results**

**Level.2.5:**

- 1. Tony Coffey
- 2. David Clavijo

**Level 3.0:**

- 1. Stuart Cheung
- 2. Charlie Kauss

**Level 3.5:**

- 1. Alec Schmid
- 2. Phil Wall

**Level 4.0:**

- 1. Luis Bravo
- 2. David Lecomte

**Level 4.5:**

- 1. Paul Wizman
- 2. Alberto Feirreira

**Level 5.0:**

- 1. Nabil Saleem
- 2. Gilles Chemtob

**Level 6.0:**

- 1. Steve Hall
- 2. Bill Villari



Andre and Danielle Maur with 6.0 winner Steve Hall

## **Atlanta's Hardie wins National Hardball Doubles 50s**

Atlanta's Eben Hardie, partnered with Jamie Heldring from Philadelphia, took the national hardball doubles 50s title in Baltimore in March. The pair defeated Court Chilton and Bruce Matthai, 6,9,10 in the round of 16, then handled legends John Nimick and Clive Caldwell, (10), 10,10,10 in the quarters. Former U.S. and Canadian 50s champs Andy Nehrbas and Doug Rice fell in the semis in a close four games, 16-18, 18-15, 9, 13.

In the finals they handled Gil Mateer and David Page, who had beaten Bostwick and McGorry in the semis, who in turn defeated the defending champion Boldt brothers from St. Louis in the quarters.

Said Eben, "The finals was interesting, as we cruised through the first 2 games, maybe 12 and 7, and then our opponents switched sides and it screwed us all up.

"We were down 11-6 in the third when an errant ball hit David Page and we had to stop for 15 minutes while they cleaned him up and butterflied the cut. We then settled down, and while we lost the 3<sup>rd</sup> 15-13, we were back in control. Jumped out to a 14-8 lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> for 6 match points....but they hit 4 winners and we made 2 errors to get to 14 all. Jamie quickly called no set, and after a long rally and a let, we had another long rally and Gil hit a ball where he was clearly in the way. Stroke to us and match! 15-14 in the 4<sup>th</sup>. "



“After spending all the money I have spent to travel and learn the game of doubles, it was certainly quite satisfying to finally win one,” he added.



**National Champ Eben Hardie (far right) and partner Jamie Heldring (right) with runners up David Page and Gil Mateer (left) (photo by Bob Travers)**

**Charleston hosts first ever PSA Satellite event:**

The Charleston Squash Club sponsored its first \$2000 PSA Closed Satellite event in mid-May, with eight PSA professionals emerging from the first round with locals unscathed. In the second round, Charleston's Joe Millman scored an upset victory as he defeated a somewhat weary Jonas Laursen in three games. Louis Ragou, also a Charleston-based pro, lost in three to Richmond's Patrick Chifunda. In a somewhat tight and testy match, Connecticut based Mauricio Dasso narrowly overcame the challenge of New Jersey Lifetime Fitness professional Ahmed Oweida - the first two games going into overtime, before winning the third comfortably for a 3-0 victory.

According to host pro Richard Millman, the match of the round and perhaps of the tournament was between the Round Hill Club of Greenwich, Connecticut's Graham Bassett and New Jersey based professional Karim Yehia. “In a memorable five setter, Graham narrowly lost the first and then proceeded to wear Karim down to take a two one lead. However with the US based Egyptian seemingly down and out, and aided by some unforced errors from his American opponent, Yehia mounted a great comeback and took the fourth. The fifth was a close run thing and went down to the wire, with Bassett emerging 11/9 the



victor," said Millman.

The final was between Bassett and Chifunda. Millman wrote: "The opening game was very well contested with long rallies and fairly tight backhand length characterizing the opening exchanges. Despite a few unforced errors, it was generally a well played game, with little to choose between the two players. Chifunda's usual blasting power gained little advantage over Bassett, who seemed prepared to absorb the Virginia pro's attacks. The crowd was fully engaged and there was a good deal of applause, not to mention the 'OOOhs!' and 'Aaaahs!' as both players made what seemed like impossible gets." Chifunda emerged the winner, 11,6,5.

Millman also said many thanks to sponsors Jerry Theos and Ray Keane, Jay Luzuriaga and David Lewin and to patrons Harry Miley, Bob Sade and Alex Kent.

**Reminder of Charlie Johnson's support of SESRA:**

Support those who support you! We continue to be grateful that we have the support of Charlie Johnson's Squash Shop ([www.cjsquash.com](http://www.cjsquash.com)) which gives SESRA members a **5% discount** on orders under \$100 and a **10% discount** on orders over \$100.



Here's how it works:

When you place your order, in the comment/memo box enter SESRA and your USSRA membership number. The discount will be taken before processing.

Final newsletter of the season. See you in the fall.

Hope this continues to be of interest.