



AZTEC RECREATION CENTER
RACQUETBALL LADDER TOURNAMENT RULES
Updated 08/12/2003

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Aztec Recreation Center Racquetball Ladder Tournament runs continuously during each SDSU academic semester. Three divisions are offered: Level I for the beginning players, Level II for intermediate players and Level III for advanced players. The participant at the top of the Ladder Board on the last day of regular classes at the end of each semester shall be declared Tournament Champion and will be awarded an Intramural Sports Champion T-shirt.

Participants can join the Tournament at any time during the semester, up to a maximum of twenty per skill level. New participants will be placed at the bottom rung of the Ladder. Ladder spaces will be offered on a first-come-first-serve basis according to the date of submission via the ARC website: <http://arc.sdsu.edu/racquetball/index.html> or sign up with a Rec Sports desk attendant.

A challenge is the means by which a participant may move up in the Ladder. Challenges must be posed from those players lower on the Ladder to players directly above them in the Ladder. A challenger may request contact information from the desk staff at Recreational Sports. If a challenged player does not respond or make themselves available within one week of a challengers' request, the challenger may challenge the participant two steps above them on the Ladder and so on. Please inform Recreation Sports office staff or desk attendants of non-responses. Participants who fail to respond to more than three challenges will be removed from the league and must reapply if they wish to continue to participate in the Ladder. Participants may challenge the same opponent for more than one match in a row if that opponent remains above them after a match. Participants must always challenge the opponent directly above them, unless that opponent fails to respond to a challenge. All games must be played at the SDSU racquetball courts during regular hours of operation. Once a challenge match is completed, the winner will adjust the racquetball Ladder Board in the Recreational Sports hallway.

SCORING

Points are only scored by the player in service. Fifteen points, win by two, constitutes a game. Participants will play matches consisting of the best of three games.

SERVING

1) The server can stand in any part of the service zone. He/she must bounce the ball on the floor and stroke it to the front wall first, however the ball must rebound over the service line without hitting the floor. The legal serve can be either a straight rebound from the front wall or a combination with one side wall, hitting the floor past the service line. Any other serve is illegal. There two types of illegal serves:

- A) "short" or "long" which allows for a second serve.
- B) serve that results in a side-out:
 - 1. serve which hits the side wall first.
 - 2. serve which hits the server on its backward flight.

GAME PLAY

1) Once the ball is put into play, a rally continues until the player, side serving or side receiving has returned the ball to the front wall and no return is made by the opposition. Each team is allowed a clear view and room to execute a shot on the ball on a return during a volley. Interference is considered a hinder and the point is played over.

- A) Service hinder: "shadow" serves in which the served ball passes so close to the server's body that it impedes the view of the ball by the receiver.
- B) Returns: ball that strikes the opponent.
- C) Rally hinder: player not given a clear view or position for return shot. Physical contact which impedes effort of player to return ball.
- D) Safety hinder: if player avoids returning ball because of fear of hitting his/her opponents with the racquet, a hinder call should be made.

2) If the ball is touched with a hand, arm, or any part of the body during the return, it is an out or a point, as the case may be.

3) In doubles, if one player swings and misses the ball, his/her partner may attempt to return the ball legally.

EQUIPMENT

- 1) Safety eye wear is strongly recommended, but not required.
- 2) Racquets, balls and eye safety wear are available on a first-come-first-serve basis at no charge to Aztec Recreation Center members or VIP Pass card holders with a valid student ID or driver's license.