

The Mongoose Musings

2009 Wintergreen Classic – February 6-8, 2009

Bill Cooper's performance in hosting the **2009 Wintergreen Classic** was nothing short of stupendous. The event held at the Sport Fit Laurel Racquet and Health Club in Laurel, Maryland drew 115 participants.

Dan Fowler of Silver Spring, MD and **Travis Aldinger** of York, PA were seeded first and second, respectively, in the **Men's Open Singles** division. The division featured 16 players. Fowler and Aldinger cruised to the finals without dropping a game.

In the quarterfinals, Fowler defeated **Craig Minsky** 15-4, 15-10, and Aldinger defeated the 5-time Maryland Open champion, **Jamal Harris**, 10 and 0. In the semifinals, Fowler won 3 and 3 over **Stephen Lee**, and Aldinger defeated the 3-time Maryland Open champion, **Mauricio Zelada**, 8 and 9.

The stage for the much anticipated finals was set for Sunday afternoon. The tension was palpable, the excitement was mounting, and the heady scent of competition was in the air as the packed house of eager fans from across the Mid-Atlantic region came to watch the duel between two very talented players known for their selective use of power and precision.

The first game was fiercely contested, but Aldinger managed to win it 15-13. Fowler decided to

replace his wet socks with a fresh pair after game one. The fresh pair of socks gave him a fresh start, as he came out swinging more confidently and dictating the tempo of game two, which he won 15-9.

The tiebreaker was a nail biting affair with both players stroking great shots on both sides, and making unbelievable gets with splendid footwork. With the game tied at 10, the tension reached a crescendo. Aldinger ended a long and exciting rally with a wicked spinning forehand that sent Fowler in the opposite direction to win the title. A thunderous roar followed from the appreciative fans. It was one of those duels in the finals between two glistened gladiators for the ages!



Travis Aldinger, York, PA

Other Notable Winners

Women's Open Singles – First seeded **Doreen Fowler** defeated fourth seeded **T. J. Baumbaugh** (13), 13, 6 in the finals to win the title. Both players advanced to the finals without dropping a game. The division featured seven players. Baumbaugh's backhand consistently produced winners, but it was Fowler's precise passing shots that did the most damages to ensure her victory.



Doreen Fowler, Maryland

Men's A Singles – The division featured 17 players. Top seeded player, **Cory Goshom**, won 15-8 and 15-9 over **Miguel Velasquez** in the finals. Goshom's power and agility were too much for Velasquez to overcome.

The 2009 Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships tournament is slated for April 17-19, 2009 at the Severna Park Racquetball and Fitness Club in Millersville, MD. The registration deadline is Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 5:00 PM. You can register online at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=5357>. The Mongoose hopes to see many of his racquetball friends at this event.

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Women's A Singles – With only four players in the event, the matches were played in a round robin format. **Samantha Simmons** finished first with a 3-0 record, and **Tamika Holman** finished second with a 2-1 record.

Men's B Singles – The event had 12 entrants. A relatively unknown player, **Adil Khokar**, took out first seeded **Troy Warigon** 9, (6), 7 in the quarterfinals, and defeated his doubles partner, **Cesar Carrion** 4 and 13 in the finals to win the title.

Men's 35 Singles – David White won the title by defeating Erik Blood 11 and 9 in the finals. The division had nine entrants.

Men's All Age A Singles – The event had 16 entrants. **Cory Goshom** pounded **Jose Tobias** into submission with a decisive win in the finals, 15-4 and 15-6.

Men's Open Doubles – **Ira "The Big Hurt" Holland** was back to playing solid racquetball, and it showed. Holland teamed up with fun-loving **Corey Fritz** to defeat top seeded team of **Sergio Rivera** and **Mauricio Zelada** (9), 14, 8 in the finals. It was an exciting match, replete with breathtaking shots and gets by both teams.

Women's Open Doubles – **Candi Hostovich** and **Kristen Junkin** finished first with 3-0 record, followed by **T. J. Baumbaugh** and

And **Khanh Holstlander** with 2-1 record. The four-team entrants featured some of the most talented women's Open players in the Mid-Atlantic region, including Shannon Feaster, Doreen Fowler, and Karen Morton.

Men's A Doubles – **Lance Warigon** and **Slemo Warigon** justified their top seed in the division by winning the title without dropping a game. The Warigons defeated **Ken Weinstein** and **J. W. Peebles** 15-10 and 15-7 in the finals.

Men's B Doubles – **Cesar Carrion** and **Adil Khokar** defeated **Robert Corsello** and **Steve Holloway** 15-8 and 15-12 in the finals to claim the division title.

Mixed Open Doubles – **Corey Fritz** teamed up with his sister, **Kristen Junkin**, to win the division with unblemished record of 3-0. **Khanh Holstlander** and **Stephen Lee** finished second with 2-1 record. Both Corey and Kristen were fun to watch because they epitomized the best qualities of competitive racquetball players, including infectious enthusiasm and exemplary sportsmanship.

Mixed A Doubles – The hard-hitting lefty, **Angela Adams**, and **Jimmy Hornsby** defeated **Karen Denu** and **Dennis Linkous** 5 and 13 in the finals.

The Tournament Ratings

The table below reflects The Mongoose's ratings for the tournament.

Category	Grade
Cost/Price	A
Prizes/Trophies	A
Shirts/Sweatshirts	B+
Facility	A+
Participation	A+
Matches Scheduling	A+
Foods/Hospitality	A+
Players' Performance	A+
Disputes Resolution	A+
Overall Atmosphere	A+

A Parting Thought

Some tournament organizers have posited that using the R2sports software to display the participants list during the online registration process hurts attendance. Please email **The Mongoose** your thoughts on the *pros* and *cons* of displaying the participants list prior to the start of a tournament.

Racquetbally yours,

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About the Author



Slemo Warigon has dual BS degrees in *Accounting and Computer Information Systems*, and an MBA in *General Business and Systems Management*. He completed the coursework for Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program with specialty in *Information Technology Management*. He holds multiple professional designations, including CIA, CISA, and CICA. He is a widely recognized forensic auditing expert with extensive experience in leading performance, financial, IT, business process, and investigative audits. He was the *Director of Information Technology Services*, and *Director of Audit and Management Advisory Services* at Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C. Slemo has written extensively on audit and information systems security, and his work has appeared in numerous professional publications. *The Institute of Internal Auditor* presented him the *1999 Outstanding Contributor Award* for his published article, "Data Warehouse Control and Security." His hobbies include golf, squash, and soccer.