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Hamilton Gold's Gym Racquetball Ladder Rules

What is a racquetball/handball ladder? - A ladder system is used in place of our traditional league schedule to help increase racquetball and handball activity within our club. Players issue challenges to higher ranked players to attempt to improve their standing with a win. There is no formal schedule or structure to the system, and matches are played at the convenience of the two players. This eliminates scheduling problems and no-shows, and puts the opportunity to play in the hands of the players.

Challenging Rules -

Positions on the ladder are based on rank (the best being No. 1 and placed on top), which is determined by wins and losses from the previous weeks results.

A player may challenge another player up to three (3) ranks above their current ranking position (i.e. the 15th ranked player in the ladder may only challenge up to the 12th ranked player in the ladder).

- When a lower-ranked player wins the match, the lower-ranked player will exchange positions with the higher-ranked player
- If the higher-ranked player wins the match, standings between players remain unchanged

The person challenged needs to play the match within one (1) week from date challenged; otherwise the challenger can claim a win by forfeit. Also to help keep the ladder active and challenging:

- If a player declines three (3) challenges, the player will be dropped an additional 2 ranks
- Each subsequent challenge decline will result in the player being dropped 2 additional ranks
- Upon declining six (6) challenges, the player will be removed from the ladder. The player may join the ladder again by signing up and starting over at the bottom.

Matches per week

To avoid weekly ranking problems:

- If the lower-ranked person wins, both players cannot play another match
- If the higher-ranked person wins, both players can plan another match(s)

New Players Not Currently on Ladder

If a new player wants to enter the ladder after the initial draw, the player will be placed on the next available rank on bottom of the ladder.

Match Length

A challenge match will consist of a best 2 out of 3 format, with the first two games being played to:

- 15 points for Racquetball & 21 points for Handball
- All tie-breakers (if necessary) played to 11 points
- All games are "win-by" one point

Recording Results

A sheet will be provided for use by players in the challenge match to record their own results. Results should be recorded immediately after the match. These results will be picked-up on a weekly basis so that matches can be logged and the ladder updated each week. A new ladder will be posted every Monday morning.