

Junior Jamboree Tournament & Sleepover Party



By Kim Roy

Without a doubt, the Junior Jamboree is the event that all the racquetball kids look forward to. It is an amazing opportunity to meet other racquetball kids and to build lasting friendships. The kids had a blast! They arrived Saturday around 9:45am for registration and warm-ups. Around 10:30am, we went over the rules for the weekend. All kids and their parents had to sign a one-page document regarding rules and code of ethics this year - - - this was new. The kids knew very clearly what was expected from them. And I am happy to report that they were all on their absolute best behavior. It was incredible. I was very impressed.

Clinics were from 11am-1pm. Lunch was at 1pm while there were demo matches for the kids to watch. Kim Roy played against Yvonne Buffington. And, Rod Van Dyke played against Ken Arrowsmith. Next the kids lined up outside each court to play against one of the adults: Ken Arrowsmith; Rod Van Dyke; Kevin Jumper; Randy Buffington; and Steve Widoff. The rules clinic started around 2:30pm. The kids had a 5 pages of questions to complete in groups - they did fantastic. Watch out - they are becoming very well educated referees! Prizes were at 4:45pm - the usual style.... I put each kids name in a hat and when I pick their name, they pick their own prize - most of you know how it works if you have been to one of my kids tournaments. Prizes included signed Jason Mannino posters (the kids loved these), NEW 2006 ProKennex racquet, ProKennex backpack, HEAD backpack, eyeguards, HEAD water bottles, key chains, Wilson headbands, HEAD headbands, and so many other things. The actual tournament started at 5pm. The kids were the referees for almost every match. Occasionally an adult volunteered to referee a match.

There were MANY volunteers this year. The racquetball players included: Ken Arrowsmith, Yvonne & Randy Buffington, Daryl Cooperrider, Julie Decker, Harlan Faircloth, Kevin Jumper, Chuck & Laurie Teschke, Rod Van Dyke, and Steve Widoff. And it definitely was a huge success with all the parents who spent the night - (and helped out throughout the weekend) including Maria Farah, Julie Carter, Daryl Cooperrider, Adriana Tanner, Kevin Shidler, Rod Van Dyke, Steve & Wendy Widoff. Also Steve Widoff - a racquetball player, parent, and professional photographer took a bunch of amazing pictures!

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