

Message from Lorraine Galloway: USAR Women's Committee Chairman

To: All State Directors & Volunteers

I'd like to ask for your help in promoting what is turning into a very exciting spring for women's competition. For the first time in the history of the U.S. National Singles, all of the women's divisions (except the team qualifying Open division) will be held in the Olympic format. This means that every woman participant will be guaranteed at least three matches (in divisions of eight or more) and that each player will play out to their own level - in a true test of their skill in a national field.

The new format is based on the "satellite" or "compass" draw used in tennis, and will be utilized for the first time at an adult national event, specifically to encourage women to enter and compete at the National Singles. Please share that good news by re-forwarding this message through your network of racquetball friends and associates.

In more "firsts", the USAR will host a special women's reception in Houston and this year's Hall of Fame inductions will honor three outstanding women athletes and contributors at the Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday evening. The Women's Committee of the USAR would like to see all of these special events well-attended by the best and the brightest women in the sport. You can help by getting the word out among those you know.

We are not sure USAR members are aware of the new format for competition, or the special honors and celebrations that are in store for women at Nationals this year. We want them to know as far in advance as we can, to boost participation in Houston. Thanks very much for your help! For more information go to:

www.usaracquetball.com

**Lorraine Galloway
Women's Committee Chairman**