



CNRA R2 JUNIOR CONTRIBUTION UPDATE

The CNRA would like to announce a change to the R2 junior contribution option that will take effect September 1st, 2017 for indoor sanctioned events. The current model is staged to a \$1.00 automatic contribution that can be altered up or modified down to zero by the player registering for sanctioned tournaments before they finalize their payment. The decision to make this option a mandatory \$1.00 contribution was not easy, and upon the recommendation of the junior committee and concurrence of the board we feel a clear view of the processes, change in climate and final results/ramifications that led to our final decision may give our players a clearer understanding. The contributions go directly to the CNRA Junior Fund which supports Junior development in California/Nevada, including assisting players that go to the Junior Nationals and Junior Worlds. Let's begin with an overview of the 2016-2017 contributions made on behalf of members of the CNRA:

2016 – Jr. Olympics - \$7800

2016 – Jr. Worlds - \$3090

2017 – Jr. Olympics - \$4300

2017 - Jr. Worlds - TBD

***Junior Racquet Program - \$1000**

2015 - JH Educational Scholarship - \$1500

2016 - JH Educational Scholarship - \$750

2017 – JH Educational Scholarship – TBD

Junior Program assistance as requested - \$1000

*The CNRA implemented a free starter kit program that included a new Head racquet, goggles, etc. to new junior players who became first-time one- year USAR/CNRA junior. This program was able to provide 45 new junior players with not only a new racquet, but also a membership through the USAR to enter sanctioned tournaments for 1 year.

There are a few other states that have implemented this donation program through R2, making the \$1 donation mandatory and one state has recently raised it to \$2, and they have been able to provide almost full financial support for their juniors programs.

In reference to the change in climate, members should be aware that R2 has eliminated the \$4.95 fee originally charged to players entering on-line to play in sanctioned tournaments. Members should feel a little better when realizing that the total savings to the R2 player is now \$3.95, but further dialog is still needed to achieve full stakeholder success. Board members recognize tournament directors who work tirelessly to showcase the top notch players at their sanctioned events throughout California and Nevada aren't looking to increase their burden.

The Junior Committee agreed unanimously, as did the CNRA board to change the voluntary \$1.00 junior donation to a fixed \$1.00 minimum donation. You can choose to increase the donation amount but cannot change to \$0, to support the CNRA junior programs effective September 1, 2017. We also decided to provide the freedom to any R2 entrant who contests the \$1.00 contribution they have made to be eligible for a full refund at the end of the fiscal year, if they write a statement of request to the board. As the world is often subjected to opinionated views, our racquetball community can fall prey to skewed perceptions and misinformed analysis. We have taken the time to make our decision process as transparent as possible, while showing concern to all members of the racquetball community and ultimately sticking to our vision of continuing to grow the sport which does ultimately require some financial support.

We look forward to addressing any concerns anyone in our racquetball community would have and look forward to sharing with everyone the results of this decision throughout the year.

Again, we want to stress that people have the right to decide what they pay for, whether it's that \$300.00 racquet, \$40-100 fee for each division of that sanctioned tournament they entered into, the hotel fees they accrued to stay near the tournament facility, etc. Remember folks, we are talking about \$1.00 here to support these kids who have risen to represent the top echelon of Junior racquetball, four quarters to keep families engaged, one George Washington to represent USA racquetball with pride and ultimately – just a buck to keep racquetball alive for our juniors.

CNRA Board of Directors

CNRA Junior Committee