

MEN'S 1-WALL PRO HANDBALL TOUR

SMALL-BALL POINTS RACE 2003

YEAR #3

The justification of any sports (whether auto racing or tennis) must initially establish a system to rank/rate their competitors based on individual performances. For decades, the handball establishment has renege its responsibilities in creating a ranking system that promote the sport and add legitimacy to tournament draws. The purpose of the "Points Race 2003" is not to glorify any individual but instead, reward those competitors who strive for excellence and in many regards have dedicated their entire lives to playing the "perfect game", handball.

2003 TOURNAMENTS

NON-MAJOR TOURNAMENTS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|
| ▪ YMCA Invitation | March 30, 2003 | - YMCAI 03 |
| ▪ Marty O'Malley Classic | July 12-13, 2003 | - MOC 03 |
| ▪ Bailey Park Fall Classic | October 7, 2003 | - BPFC 03 |
| ▪ H.E.S. Invitational | November 9, 2003 | - HESI 03 |

MAJOR TOURNAMENTS

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------|
| ▪ ICHA Mayor's Cup | July 12-13, 2003 | - MC 03 |
| ▪ USHA 1-Wall Nationals | August 1-4, 2003 | - USHAN 03 |

2003 POINTS SYSTEM

➤ POINTS - ACHIEVEMENT

NON-MAJOR TOURNAMENT POINTS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| ▪ Did Not Play (DNP) | - | 0 point |
| ▪ Quarterfinalist | - | 10 points |
| ▪ Semifinalist | - | 20 points |
| ▪ Finalist | - | 30 points |
| ▪ Champion | - | 40 points |

MAJOR TOURNAMENT POINTS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| ▪ Did Not Play (DNP) | - | 0 point |
| ▪ Quarterfinalist | - | 15 points |
| ▪ Semifinalist | - | 30 points |
| ▪ Finalist | - | 45 points |
| ▪ Champion | - | 60 points |

2003 TOURNAMENT SUMMARY – MEN'S 1-WALL PRO SINGLES (SMALL-BALL)

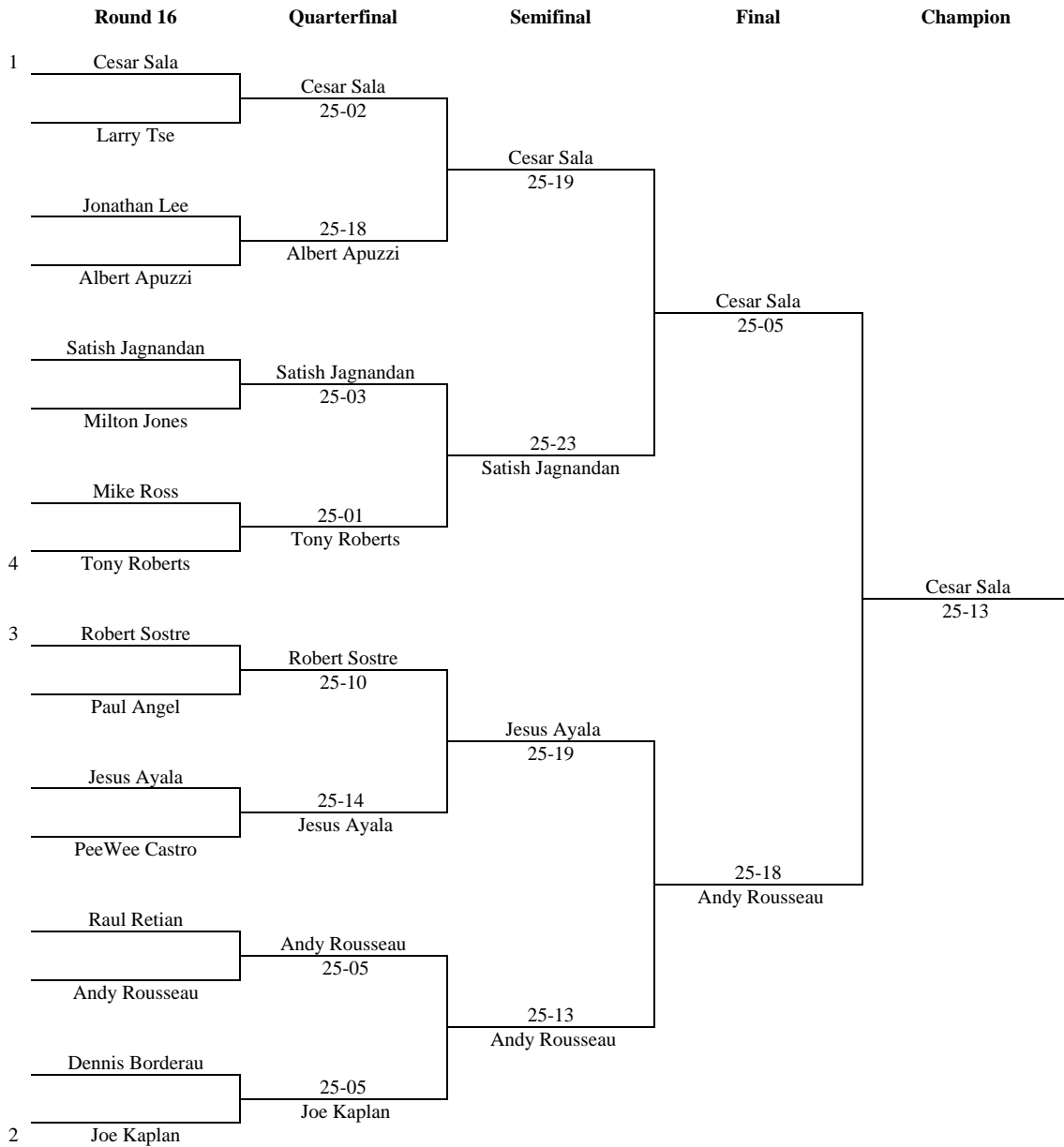
- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|---|
| ▪ Pro Stop #1 | YMCA Invitational | March 30, 2003 | Sala defeats Sostre (25-21) |
| ▪ Pro Stop #2 | ICHA Mayor's Cup | July 12-13, 2003 | Sala defeats Kaplan (21-10, 12-21, 11-08) |
| ▪ Pro Stop #3 | Marty O'Malley Classic | July 19, 2003 | Jagnandan defeats Lewis (25-13) |
| ▪ Pro Stop #4 | USHA 1-Wall Nationals | August 1-4, 2003 | Roberts defeats Sala (21-11, 21-15) |
| ▪ Pro Stop #5 | Bailey Park Fall Classic | October 7, 2003 | Jagnandan defeats Sala (25-14) |
| ▪ Pro Stop #6 | H.E.S. Invitational | November 9, 2003 | Sala defeats Rousseau (25-12) |

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PRO STOP #6
NOVEMBER 9, 2003 - H.E.S. INVITATIONAL
(SEAVIEW, BROOKLYN)

TOURNAMENT DRAWSHEET

Rankings were based on the USHA One-Wall Ranking System



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SMALL-BALL POINTS RACE 2003

PRO STOP #6
NOVEMBER 9, 2003 - H.E.S. INVITATIONAL
(SEAVIEW, BROOKLYN)

TOURNAMENT SUMMARY
Sala defeats Rousseau (25-13)

by Albert Apuzzi

The winter pro season opened today at the HES YMCA in Brooklyn NY with Cesar Sala defeating surprise finalist Andy Rousseau 25-15. in a rather interesting display of handball. Rousseau played very well to give Sala something to think about and step up his level of play. Rousseau battled Sala in the beginning taking a small lead. But Sala stepped up the play and unleashed the hook serve once he did this the match was his. Rousseau gave his all, making great gets, exciting the crowd with his lunging dives and crushing power, but not consistent enough in the second half of the game.

Sala began to open up the court by handcuffing Rousseau with deep hook serves at the long line. The returns Rousseau made were hanging enough for Sala to put away. Match point and game point were earned when Rousseau hit both shots out with his left hand.

Road to the Finals

Rousseau's run to the finals may have been a surprise to everyone but well deserved. He played every match today with great tenacity. Rousseau defeated Raul Retian 25 -5 pretty handily. Retian looked off today not sure of the movement of the ball. Rousseau was able to build confidence for the next match by really hitting out on every swing. Rousseau went on to defeat Joe Kaplan 25 -13 though Kaplan has been away for a while. Rousseau display some good ball play by running Kaplan and plastering the high volleys. When Kaplan did get his hands on the ball, he just hit the shots out. Hopefully he will be back on track soon. Rousseau has never beaten Kaplan before today so he truly has overcome a hurdle that can elevate his game. Rousseau's semi final match was Jesus Ayala and in the same form as the previous matches Rousseau took it to him 25 - 18. Ayala played OK but seemed hampered by an injury. But never the less, Rousseau sent another opponent home to earn his birth in the finals. We hope to see more of this high level play from Rousseau.

Sala defeated Larry Tse 25 - 2 in an easy opening match. Went on to defeat Albert Apuzzi in a hard hitting battle of the serves. Cesar's semi final match against Satish Jagnandan was a rematch of there Bailey Park Open Singles final a few weeks ago where Jagnandan defeated Sala 25-14. Jagnandan scored 14 before

Sala scored a point and 22 before he scored another. Today was just the opposite. This time it was Sala with a 22 point to zero lead before Jagnandan could score. But to no avail could Jagnandan compete with Sala today. The serve was just too strong and Jagnandan's returns were sitters in Sala's hands and he just put shots away, still a great match to watch.

Other Matches

Other matches throughout the tournament were just as exciting as the feature matches. Former National champions and reigning national champions alike tried to display their best on the slippery gymnasium floor. Jesus Ayala defeated the 2003 open singles national champion Yuber Castro in a great opening match. Ayala's low serve to both sides was on fire in this match. Crushing the returns into the right corner with his left hand. Castro held on as long as he could but missed some key shots to keep him in the game. Ayala went on to win the match 25-18.18. Ayala's wave of low serves continued in his next match when he defeated Robert Sostre 25 - 19. Sostre with out a doubt has the best hands in the game looked a little out of practice but still played a great match. Ayala's serve had pinpoint down the line accuracy. A lot of aces against a great defender. Albert Apuzzi faced 2003 B national champion Jonathon Lee in his opening match. This was a match worth watching, as Apuzzi started off with a handy 8 point lead. Point by point Lee eased his way to an 8 - 8 match. Both players were making great shots, especially Apuzzi kneeling to the ground and hitting flat line killers off Lee's power drives, it was nice to watch. This match had some huge cross court angle rallies with either Apuzzi or Lee finishing off the play with a kill shot. At 14 all, Apuzzi was finally able to pull ahead in the match. At 24 - 18, Apuzzi served a low serve behind him down the left line and the serve was called out, obviously a good serve but there was a point replay and Apuzzi ended the match with another kneeling dive roller. Great effort to entertain the crowd from both players. Satish Jagnandan against Tony Roberts again, with Jagnandan defeating Roberts 25 - 23 in a close controversial match. This time Roberts let Jagnandan know we are not at Bailey Park and there will not be another 25 - 0 game. Another match worth watching, because both of the players serve and return well. These guys were pounding the ball. Roberts's left hand kill shots both underhand and natural were awesome. A few calls on both sides went into controversy especially on the serve. Those of us that have good low serves want all of our serves to be good, but it is tuff calling that short line. If you want more on the controversy you will have to purchase the video. Still a great match between these two and Jagnandan went on to win 25 - 23. Jagnandon defeated Milton Jones 25 - 3. Jones started out ok, but seems to lose his rhythm as the match went on but still a great effort. We hope to see more of him on the pro circuit. Roberts defeated Mike Ross 25 - 1 in his opening match. Ross could not even get up to serve the ball. I think Roberts felt bad for him and gave him a serve on match point and then donated a point to the cause. We look forward to the next pro event and more exciting matches. Overall a great day at the HES Pro Singles Tournament.