

Dennis Uffer

If a tournament were being held anywhere in New York, it would more likely than not have the name of Dennis Uffer as a contestant.

In fact Dennis entered tournaments not only throughout the state, but throughout the world. He won five world championships: 1997 – 1-Wall Golden Doubles in Winnipeg, Canada; 2000 – 1-Wall Golden Singles in Des Plaines, Illinois; 2003 – 1-Wall Super Singles in Kilkenny, Ireland; 2006 – 1-Wall Super Doubles in Edmonton, Canada; 2009 – 1-Wall Super-veteran Singles in Portland, Oregon. Dennis competed in local and regional masters tournaments throughout the continental 48 states on a high level in 3-wall and 4-wall as well. There may not be any other handball player ever who could truthfully state that he entered 15 sanctioned handball tournaments a year. And he is the holder of 4 USHA National 1-Wall Masters Championships. By December, 2010 he boasted 25 local and/or regional championships and 18 second place awards in those competitions.

Originally, at 14 years of age, a pink ball player in the Bronx, Dennis, a few years later, had his handball career interrupted by the military. On returning he played mainly at Bailey Avenue in the Bronx, but he and a crew from Bailey would travel frequently to Rockaway where they would play Arty Reyer, Al Torres, Wally Ulbrich, and other top tournaments competitors.

Unusually big for handball, at 6'3" and 260 pounds, Dennis loved to pound the ball, but he also had an array of "cute" tap shots especially one in the right corner. He was very aggressive and gave his opponents no quarter. Having lived in Syracuse a good portion of his life, Dennis learned 4-wall, likely to stay out of the cold winters in that terrain. There were no 1-wall courts there anyway. But Dennis' favorite game always remained 1-wall

because of his love of being outdoors.

For his remarkable success at the masters events held at Fishkill, he was inducted into the Fishkill Hall of Fame.

PLAYERS OF DISTINCTION

