**2017 RULE CHANGES FOR AUSTRALIAN RACQUETBALL**

**The Singles Rules for 2013 have been extensively reviewed by the National Racquetball Rules Committee, following a number of proposals received from the racquetball community, and there will be two stages of introduction in 2017.**

**STAGE 1**

**As you can see below there are three changes to the current rules and they apply from 1st February 2017.**

**RULE CHANGES TO APPLY FROM 1st FEBRUARY 2017**

1. **Previous Rule 12.4 , now becomes Rule 12.4.1**
2. **A new rule has been included, Rule 12.4.2 which reads as follows:**

**If there was interference, but it did not prevent the striker from seeing and getting to the ball to make a good return, this is minimal interference and no let is allowed.**

1. **APPENDIX 6: THE RACQUET: SPECIFICATION 2 b) to now read as follows:**

**The Racquet shall include a wrist strap that must be secured around the player’s wrist, so as to prevent the Racquet escaping the player’s control while striking the ball. The racquet must remain in contact with the hand that the racquet is secured to at all times when striking the ball.**

**The maximum length of the wrist cord is 45.72cm (18inches) as measured from one end of the cord to the other end. When stretched to its maximum, the wrist cord cannot be longer than 60.96cm (24 inches).**

**STAGE 2**

**Please note a complete re-write of the rules has also been undertaken and is near completion.**

**The purpose of the re-write was to simplify the wording as an aid for players and referees to better understand and apply the rules. As a result of the changes there will be additional minor changes but the overall number of Rules will reduce from 20 to 15.**

**There will also be a separate set of Rules for Singles and Doubles, and these will apply from 1st April 2017**

**We plan on circulating the Rules to the Racquetball community by 20th February, to provide plenty of time to read the re-writes which take effect from 1st April 2017.**

**Up to 1st April 2017 the current rules as at 1st February 2017 are to be adhered to.**Top of Form

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