IM Commentary

IM’s avoid problems

By Gordon R. Haff

In contrast to last fall’s intramural sports seasons, many of which were plagued with a seemingly endless stream of rainouts and managerial problems, this fall’s intramurals are running smoothly.

In fact, only one sport has problems. Tennis is running only a tournament this year instead of team play. According to Dan Radler ’79, this year’s IM tennis manager, the change was forced by the unmanageable number of teams last year. He said that last year’s situation where teams had three matches, no team championship and an individual championship which was held over one weekend was unacceptable. He added that the IM Council Chairman, Jason Tong ’80 made the decision to drop the team play.

This year’s tournament has about 15 percent fewer people participating in it than did last year’s program. Radler said this is because “when there’s a team it generates interest.” However, he does not see any way of going back to team play without “seriously limiting the number of teams.” He added that it is better to have a lot of individuals participating than a few teams.

Volleyball, football, and soccer are having better luck. None of the three sports has suffered a massive increase in teams (soccer has the largest increase: seven teams); this is probably the first time this has happened in years. In addition, soccer and football have been blessed with this fall’s sunny weekends. Last year, there were rainouts almost every weekend. This fall’s has had but one rain day so far.

IM football is running well this year after a previous season in which there was no ‘A’ league. This year has the largest ‘A’ league in years with ten teams participating. Tom Colten ’80, IM football manager, agree that this change was brought about by the Football Club. He said that “the Football Club removed the fear of the 350 pound tackle.”

The traditional powerhouses aren’t even the teams out in front. Sigma Alpha Epsilon, winner of the IM championship eight out of the last nine years, has an un-distinguished record. Lambda Chi Alpha, SAE’s perennial challenger, has also lost — last Sun-day 5-0 to Delta Kappa Epsilon. The only major problem this season is one which is affecting more and more IM sports: the problem of getting referees. Despite an increased pay scale this year, Colten said that he would really be having severe problems if it were not for the Football Club players referring to raise money for the Club. This has been increasing steadily since the athletic depart-ment. (Please turn to page 12)

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