



Dick Johnson Wins SSIPA World Titles



Dick won 2 Gold Medals and 2 Commemorative Paddles and a Silver Medal at the 2017

**SUPER SENIOR INTERNATIONAL
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

AND

Was also awarded another special Commemorative Paddle for being
SSIPA'S TOP MENS' 75 POINTS WINNER FOR 2017!

This world championship tournament, played in the beautiful new Spaulding Sports Complex in Griffin, Georgia, culminated SSIPA's very successful inaugural year. In 2017, the new international organization for players age 60+, ran tourneys in Spain and all across the United States. It has scheduled over 30 tourneys for 2018 at venues in Mexico, England, and the US. The Bainbridge Cup, played in 2017 in Spain, also included U.S. versus Europe team competition, and will be played in 2018 in England.



Spaulding Sports Complex in Griffin, GA

Dick is one of SSIPA's founding members and was honored to be chosen as the first player's story to be written up in the "Star" section on the SSIPA Website. Dick and Lawana have made a special effort this year to support the creation and rollout of this greatly needed organization for senior players. They also report that it has been a wonderful experience being part of the exciting, new pickleball program that is sweeping the world.

78 year old Dick has regularly medaled against younger players, but now is also really enjoying competing against players closer to his own age. And, for older players, that's a major factor in the explosive success of the new worldwide SSIPA organization.

The Johnson's Arizona club, Venture Out, is hosting a new SSIPA tourney in March. They are hoping the Treasure Valley area in Idaho will someday adopt their recommendation to bring SSIPA to Idaho, too. The SSIPA Board is very willing to do that. In fact, it has even proposed embedding a SSIPA event with one of Idaho's existing tourneys. That is being done in many places across the country who are now scrambling to be included in SSIPA's exciting success and expansion.



Dick and 75 4.5 MD partner, Tom Earley



Dick and 75 4.0 MXD partner Val Spacher