



~Racquetball at the Tracks 2019~



End of the
Year
Celebration



Thank
You!



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Dear Sponsors and
Contributors to the Racquetball at the Tracks Program:

Christmas came early at the Tracks and the scent of Thanksgiving could still be felt lingering in the air on our end-of-the-year celebration on Thursday, November 29th. We had pizza, sang a happy birthday tune for Coach Byron who had recently turned 38 years old, and enjoyed a nice piece of chocolate cake. The players talked about the year's most important racquetball lessons and thanked Byron, and all of our donators for enabling another year of Racquetball at the Tracks. Excitement was in the air morning, but when the time came to deliver the shoes and shirts that some very special friends of the program had sent for each child, I couldn't help thinking that the joy-filled scene was only missing snow and a "jolly good fellow" to feel like a magical Christmas celebration. The children recieved a new pair of shoes and shirt in a bag with their own name (a special appreciation for that detail!) and then we had raffle drawings for many racquetball clothes, bags, keychains, and other donated goods that we had gathered for them.

It was another exciting year for our young racquetball players. In the month of May we had to bid farewell to Karina who got a full-time job offer. We had a moving farewell-welcome gathering where the children got the chance to express their gratitude to Karina and to welcome Susie, who coached the children temporarily during the month of June. Susie is a PE teacher and soccer coach who works with children. She brought new and exciting drills to our trainings.

Byron Cardona started coaching our team in the month of July and has brought the racquetball lessons to an even higher level for the children. He has coached children for more than 10 years and shares our passion for it. Byron has struggled in the past with health issues and says that becoming coach at the Tracks has brought new motivation to his life, great engagement and connection. He has become an essential part of our mission.

Our selected team has grown to 24 players of which four will be, with your support, granted scholarships to receive formal lessons at the Guatemalan Association of Racquetball Academy, beginning in January 2019. In the months to come, I will be sharing a profile of each of these distinguished children so you can learn more about their history and their dreams for the future.



Nothing, absolutely none of all this, would be happening without your incredible kindness and generosity. So again, I **THANK YOU** deeply in the name of the **Racquetball at the Tracks Program in Guatemala** and the children whose future you are positively impacting. May each and every one of you have a wonderful holiday season, may there always be love in your hearts and may the New Year fill you with blessings!

Guatemala ~ 2019



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Susie



Byron

