**Iowa Racquetball Association Board Meeting**

**December 21, 2017 from 8:30pm – 10:20pm**

*In attendance: Dan Horner, Tyler Peterson, Josh Paul, Jeff Burbank*

*Absent: Rob Paulsen, Susan Acoymo*

* Approval of October’s meeting minutes. The following updates to the Action Items at the October meeting were noted:
* Don is willing to assist as much as he is able during the week of Junior Nationals, however he won’t have a lot of time in the weeks leading up to the tournament.
* Josh has paid the amount owed to the YMCA for State Doubles.
* Rob talked to Terry Feldt and he agreed to offer the IRA the $8/court/hour rate indefinitely extending for an indefinite period of time continuing past the previously planned increases in Nov 2018 and Nov 2019. He did not put this in writing, but Dan agreed to prior to soon.
* Amendments to the Bylaws have been tabled for a while as no one has had an opportunity to dig deeply into them.
* Josh made our first $3,000 payment to the USAR toward our total $6,000 commitment for Junior Nationals.
* IRA board members have the sponsorship packets to distribute to businesses that they think would be interested.
* Rob did not set up a time with Josh to bring financial documents to DSM for board review. See below for details.
* Review of IRA’s financial standing—Josh reported that he still is unable to figure out where the extra funds came from that are in our checking account above and beyond what he has records for. It was decided that we would have an independent audit done as soon as possible and then continue this practice in the future at least once every 2-3 years. Then in off years we will have an internal audit done by two of the IRA board members with the Treasurer not being on that committee. Tyler said he knows someone that is an auditor and would be willing to do this for us for free. Josh noted that we would want to pay her something. Tyler will report back by the next meeting with if she is willing.
* 2018 Junior Scholarship Program—It was proposed that we continue the scholarship program that we have had for the last few years offering the Beginner, Personal, and Challenger options. We will decrease the number of Challenge applicants that we will accept down to four. The Beginner scholarship offers a free racquetball starter kit to new juniors. The Personal scholarship offers reimbursement of up to $50/junior/month receiving lessons from a certified instructor. The Challenge scholarship offers reimbursement of up to $100/junior/month signed up with Coach Jim Winterton for six months from January-June 2018. Josh is the one reviewing the applications for all of these. Josh made the proposal, Tyler seconded, and it passed with a vote of 4-0.
* Coach Don McCormick YMCA membership—It was proposed by Josh and seconded by Tyler that we renew his annual membership at a total cost of $672. Don will receive two reimbursement checks with one in January and the other halfway through the year. This is being offered because of all of the free coaching he does for our juniors every Tuesday night at the downtown Y and every Saturday morning at the Waukee Y. The proposal passed with a vote of 4-0.
* 2018 Junior Nationals—Dan reported on the November 16 meeting with Catch Des Moines and USAR.
* Volunteers will be needed for the following positions:
* food servers—2 per meal
* on-call shuttle van drivers—3 per day (Wed, Thurs, Fri) for a 5 hour shift
* set up crew for Monday and Tuesday prior to the tourney—5-6 people
* tear down crew for Sunday afternoon/evening—5-6 people
* bag stuffers for Tuesday prior to the tourney—3 juniors would be great to help out USAR staff
* There is a communication schedule set for informing juniors nationwide that this tournament is occurring and of all the details. The IRA board needs to get our kids to play and sign up soon. Also, we need to spread the word statewide.
* Food sponsors—Nick at USAR already secured Jimmy Johns for one meal and Dan has secured Long John Silvers/A&W for another.
* Financial sponsors—Nick will try and contact some of the larger corporations in the Des Moines area while Dan will contact a couple of others. Nick is still trying to secure a title sponsor. If any IRA board members know anyone at these corporations then it would be helpful for them to make contact.
* Fundraising ideas for Junior Nationals—Josh proposed to create our annual GoFundMe page to assist in raising money for Junior Nationals. Josh will also mention on Facebook our campaign. There was discussions on what the funds would go towards that are raised, but no decision was made at this time.
* Iowa Tournament Schedule—Tyler volunteered to run a one day tourney in February. Dan confirmed that he is conducting the 2018 Iowa Open from March 2-4. Josh volunteered to run the State Juniors/State Doubles tourney in late April.
* Open IRA board positions—Rob Paulsen has decided to step down as President of the board. Both Dan and Josh expressed interest in the position so it was decided that each send a bio to the rest of the board for them to make a decision and vote at our next meeting on who will fill that position. Other officer positions will need to be filled once this is decided. Also, we will need to figure out how to fill non-officer spots.
* The next meeting is set for January 15, 2018 at 8:00pm.

On October 29, 2017 Dan proposed that the IRA cease giving the $1,000 annual donation for this year and any future years due to the drastic increase in court rental costs. A note would be sent with our first payment explaining how this is related to the increase in court rental costs that they were passing along to the IRA. Tyler seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Rob abstaining.