**Iowa Racquetball Association Board Meeting**

**November 2, 2015 from 8:30pm – 9:43pm**

*In attendance: Rob Paulsen, Josh Paul, Dan Horner, Susan Acoymo, Mike Gleason, Jeff Burbank and Andy Pearson*

*Absent: None*

* Financial Update—Josh gave a report of our financial standing. The Quad City Open had a net loss of $150. Our account balance is now at $5,617 plus will increase by $1,300 which is due to us from R2 Sports.
* Marigold Resources Quad City Open—Josh gave an update on how his tournament went.
* 501(c)(3) status—Josh gave the current status of our application to the IRS.
* He sent in the additional information the IRS requested a week or so ago.
* In order to obtain the 501(c)(3) status we will have to show that our sole purpose is fundraising for juniors. Otherwise, we may be granted 501(c)(4) status instead. Josh talked to the woman that is working our file and brought up that other state’s racquetball associations are 501(c)(3)’s and she said they shouldn’t be as adult racquetball would not qualify for this status.
* This is problematic as a large source of our annual income comes from Don McCormick’s employer Wellmark for his volunteer coaching hours and Wellmark requires that the funds go to a 501(c)(3).
* Don went ahead and designated most of the $6,000 to our organization, by the October 9 deadline, but we have until December 31 to have the status or otherwise the donation goes away. Josh doesn’t think this is a problem to get an answer from the IRS by then.
* Winterton Program Survey—Jeff reported that he will have a baseline example for us to see later tonight that will be mostly the same as last year with updated info. Our goal is to get the survey out to parents in November to complete by the next meeting. The purpose of the survey is to see if the program was of value to the kids. Our next step after receiving responses on the survey will be to decide if the IRA is going to support participation in the Winterton program again this season or possibly another program. Rob volunteered to talk to Don to get feedback on how much participation is occurring by the kids regarding the video submission aspect of the program.
* Wellmark YMCA meeting on November 2, 2015 update—Rob reported that Josh, Dan, and himself met with the director (Tim Short) of the Y and discussed the following:
* What rates they are considering charging the IRA for the use of the courts and other areas of the YMCA. While we thought the $1,000/year gift for a period of 5 years that we promised to the Y was enough to make them happy, the YMCA was considering that to a capital improvement type of gift. The first numbers thrown out by Tim were $100/court/day as a minimum or 50% of the net revenues whichever is higher. We explained to Tim that the IRA generally seeks to have our tournaments be net zero events. Eventually by the end of the meeting Tim had agreed that we will probably end up with a per participant type of agreement with a cost of around $12-16/ participant plus $20/hour in overtime if we go past closing time.
* The YMCA is open to us holding 2-3 tournaments per year, which would include the first full weekend of November, the first full weekend in March, and possibly 1 each year.
* The YMCA now cleans the 2nd floor themselves versus having a cleaning company taking care of things so we need to make sure we clean up after ourselves.
* Rob will send a proactive e-mail proposing a lower rate of only $10/participant plus overtime. At Josh’s tournament he had to pay $10/non-member, but nothing for members. Additionally he owed $20/hour for any overtime incurred.
* Wellmark Y tournament on December 4-5 and other future tournaments—
* Rob will run this tournament. We will need to rename it and it was decided to call the tournament the State Doubles and State Juniors Championships.
* Josh will submit a request to get free racquetballs from the USAR since it is one of our state tournaments. He will also put in for racquetballs for the State Singles Championships in March.
* We need to find out if Oakmoor is going to open their doors in March to hold their usual annual spring tournament. Rob will contact Bryan Crosser to see if this will be occurring or not.
* Josh and Dan did some research on other places we can hold tournaments.
* Iowa State University won’t let us do a tournament between November and March. The cost outside of that time of the year is approximately $100/hour ($14/hour x 7 courts). This makes that option not feasible at this time.
* University of Iowa has 16 courts, but 12 of them are enclosed boxes with no ability to view or referee. There is no parking except pay by the hour in a nearby garage. The layout is not conducive for a tournament.
* University of Northern Iowa will only allow us to utilize during 1 or 2 designated weekends that they close the facility to students or between May and early August when normal classes are not in session. The cost would be $75/day for the use of the courts plus $13/hour for the employee that has to be there. They have 6 courts, which are all set for viewing/refereeing. This is the most promising for hosting the tournament with 2nd Generation doubles like we held late last spring.
* Junior clinics conducted by Coach McCormick at both Waukee and the Downtown YMCA—Dan reported that things have gone well at the first couple of Tuesday night clinics at the Downtown YMCA with coaches Don, Tyler, and Rod.
* Adding Don back onto the IRA board as a non-voting member—Josh proposed the motion, but there was no second so the motion failed with no vote.

Next meeting will be Monday, December 7, 2015.