**Iowa Racquetball Association Meeting**

Oakmoor Racquet and Fitness Center, Des Moines

Jan. 19, 2013

**In attendance:** Susan Acoymo, Denny Baysinger, Bryan Crosser, Don McCormick, and Josh Paul (Skype)

**Previous Business**

* January 5, 2013 meeting minutes approved.

**Update on Assignments**

* Bryan will provide names and contact information to Denny for fund raising.
  + Complete
* Bryan and Josh will work independently to obtain quotes for t-shirts and then share information with one another.
  + Complete
* Bryan will contact Racquetball Warehouse to inquire about gift cards as possible prizes for division champions.
  + Complete
* Don will work on the promotional material, including a flyer. Note: this will not be an entry form; all entries must be done online.
  + Complete

**Update on Iowa Open**

* Online registration
  + Susan was having difficulty with the numbering of courts, but that shouldn’t prove a problem.
  + Is the $10 refund clearly displayed?
    - Don and Susan think it is.
  + When does IRA get its cut of entry fees and membership percentages?
    - Susan and Don reported that for the former, two checks will come – one a week or two before the event and one after the event. For the later, we must first report our results to USAR to get the 20% of the membership dues for the 1st quarter.
  + Discussed contingencies for players who had barriers using the R2 system, including exceedingly late entries.
  + DECIDED: Players can send a check to the IRA. When the funds are confirmed, the event director can use the IRA card to pay all necessary fees to enter the player.
* Fundraising/Support
  + Denny has raised $150 from Don’s Auto Truck and Salvage and Play it Again Sports. Discussed incentives for players and others who use these merchants after the event, including discounts for goods and services.
  + Bryan has spoken to Ben Croft at Racquetball Warehouse about the idea of gift cards for the winners of non-open divisions
    - DECIDED: Bryan will request 12 cards, the value of which will be determined by RW.
  + Denny is trying to get in touch with HyVee to discuss whether they can cater our event, thus saving us $10 per person. Additional ideas were floated, such as contacting Josh’s brother, Jason Paul or Rick Anderson, both of whom work for HyVee.
  + Discussed the idea of providing a handout to all participants that includes the names of all contributors. Additional ideas for contributors included $10 to $20 from all Edward Jones agents, insurance agents such as Brad McCunniff.
* Promotion
  + Don summarized his recent efforts and asked everyone to share the flyer and registration link as widely and broadly as possible. He asked for a big push this weekend, followed by a reminder the week of January 28.
  + Bryan mentioned that Mike White has a complete mailing list of not only those who have played Oakmoor tournaments in the last year or so, but anyone who has ever played.
  + Susan said she will use her Iowa Games mailing list to get the word out.
  + The idea of creating an online mailing list that could be incorporated into the new website was tabled for year two.
* Souvenirs
  + DECIDED:
    - Josh will arrange the purchase of 80 dry-fit shirts through his local contractor
    - The printing will consist of one color on a solid silver background.
    - The image on the front “chest pocket” area will be the words “Iowa Racquetball Association” taken directly from our logo. The image on the back will be the racquet from our logo. Included on the back will be the words “Iowa Open.” No dates will be included.
    - If possible, we will add our new website’s URL to the back of the shirt.
* Administrative details
  + None

**Organizational structure**

* Proposed addition of new board members
  + DECIDED:
    - Jeff Maki will be approached to become the IRA Director of Fundraising. Denny will aid in this transition.
    - Rob Paulsen will be approached to become the IRA Juniors Coordinator. Don will aid in this transition.
    - For the time being, the IRA does not require any more than 7 members.
    - Having an odd number of executive board members is ideal for the purposes of voting.
* Volunteer opportunities
  + Discussed the idea of using this event and the Oakmoor Spring tourney plant the seeds for volunteering for Junior Nationals. A particularly challenging aspect of this event will be to get people to take time off work to help out, considering that game play will take place during the daytime.

**Public presence**

* DECIDED
  + IRA will maintain a website at a cost of approximately $60 per year (for hosting and URL ownership). The URL will be [www.IowaRacquetball.org](http://www.IowaRacquetball.org).
  + We will post the meeting agenda and meeting minutes to the website.
  + Josh has asked for a short bio from each executive committee member by Monday.
  + At least for now, our meetings will not open to the public.
  + We will use the state tournament for general feedback from members.
  + We will use the state tournament to raise funds, including providing a donation jar at the tournament desk.

**Update on Junior Nationals**

* DonSchopieray provided an update to Don recently and mentioned that they have secured a vendor who will provide our volunteers with shirts so they can be identified during the tournament.

**Update on Junior Clinics**

* All is going well, but we could use more instructors. Don and Denny have been showing up regularly.

**Financial/Budget update**

* None

**Other issues**

* Bryan will see Jim Hiser at National Doubles. Please let him know if there are issues he should bring up.
* Don handed out flyers for the clinic and Iowa Open for the executive committee to display where they will be most effective.

**Next Meeting**

* 12:30 on February 3 at Oakmoor. Let the record show that Josh has invited the executive committee to the Quad Cities for a board meeting.