**Iowa Racquetball Association Board Meeting**

**October 25, 2017 from 8:30pm – 10:10pm**

*In attendance: Dan Horner, Tyler Peterson, Susan Acoymo, Rob Paulsen*

*Absent: Jeff Burbank, Josh Paul*

* Approval of July’s meeting minutes. The response of action items from July’s meeting include that Josh talked to Don about his anticipated involvement at Junior Nationals, but all that was determined was that Don said he would gladly be involved in any meetings we have. ACTION ITEM—We still need to find out what Don is willing to do before and during the tournament.
* Downtown YMCA rental rates—Rob and I met with the Ryan Amundson of the YMCA at the end of July and they were unwilling to budge on their drastic rate increase of court rentals. The Executive Director didn’t want to join the meeting. They don’t want to “give away” their services anymore. They had a $1,000,000 shortfall last year and need to make it up. Most of this was related to the construction of their new swimming pool.
* Tyler had a one on one meeting with Ryan earlier this month and he found out the same thing, which is that they are not willing to budge on the rate increases. Ryan also expressed concern that we have not paid our bill from April of $442 for State Doubles. ACTION ITEM—Rob will talk to Josh right away to find out why this has not been paid yet.
* Josh had recommended in an e-mail he sent last week that Iowans write to the Executive Director to voice their concerns regarding these rates, etc.
* Dan reported that the Hinder Club (handball) was able to talk them into keeping their old rate from last season after they had been told their rates would be going up equal to our increase.
* ACTION ITEM—Rob agreed to write a letter to the Executive Director Terry Feldt and possibly even the CEO of the YMCA of Greater Des Moines prior to our next meeting. A couple of board members had already tried, but we thought one more try couldn’t hurt.
* Written communication with Iowa members—Tyler brought up an e-mail communication from Josh to all USAR members in Iowa via the R2 Sports distribution list. He was unhappy because it said that no Board Members have expressed interest in running certain tournaments, but he is willing. Dan chimed in that he was willing as well, but is out of state for the first weekend of November this year. We discussed a few other items in the e-mail and then determined by all in attendance that someone from the IRA should review in advance all communications that anyone sends out other than general info such as event notifications.
* Review of Bylaws and potential filling of vacancy on the board—A review of the Bylaws had been done 2-3 years ago and Rob had typed up amendments, however they weren’t ever voted on so the original set stands from when the IRA was brought back to life around 2012. The Bylaws are in need of being brought up to date. Dan reported that he e-mailed out to all IRA board members the current Bylaws, the red lettered amendment version of the Bylaws, and the proposed final version after changes would be enacted to the Bylaws. ACTION ITEM—It was decided that all 6 of us look them over and propose any changes between now and the next meeting so that we can vote on adopting new Bylaws.
* 2018 Junior Nationals—Dan reported that our next meeting with Catch Des Moines and USAR is on November 16, 2017 and all other board members are invited to join us. Tyler expressed interest in attending. Then Dan reported some of what had been discussed at the last meeting on August 1 and an overall picture of what is coming up.
* The IRA needs to assist in finding sponsors that will donate meals. The retail value of each of these donations would come off of the $5,000 we committed to raise in sponsorships. USAR has secured Jimmy Johns already.
* The IRA has committed to providing shuttle transportation to and from the secondary racquetball club in Ankeny. This will come off of the $5,000 commitment as well.
* If anyone knows of a place to rent a large set of bleachers speak up as USAR is looking into this for the show court.
* The IRA will need to have a bank of volunteers available during the tournament to assist in the day to day operation.
* ACTION ITEM—Josh needs to make our first payment toward the $6,000 as soon as possible. It would probably be good to split into 2 equal payments of $3,000 with the 1st being sent by the end of the year & the 2nd in the spring.
* ACTION ITEM—All of us including parents of Iowa juniors need to actively approach restaurants and other businesses for donations as soon as possible. The USAR has designed an incentive package for 3 different levels of sponsorship. I will send this out to the board ASAP as it will help to obtain these gifts.
* Financial Update—We all discussed the most recent financial update from Josh where we have an extra $1,500 that he doesn’t know where it came from and decided that it is imperative we reconcile our bank statements and at a minimum do an internal audit of our finances to find any discrepancies. ACTION ITEM—Rob will line up with Josh a time that Josh can come to Des Moines and bring all financial documents with him so we can meet as a board to figure this out.
* The next meeting is set for November 27, 2017 at 8:30pm.