Iowa Racquetball Association

Executive Board Meeting Minutes\*, May 20, 2013

*\* This is a combined Agenda/Minutes document. Blue text in ALL CAPs indicates minutes. Red text in ALL CAPs indicates action items prior to be completed before next meeting.*

In Attendance: Rob Paulsen, Denny Baysinger, Don McCormick, And Bryan Crosser

* Housekeeping
  + Approval of May 8 meeting minutes
    - Approved with clarification that “rob says local association sometimes provides (lunch)” should not be attributed to rob. Don must have misheard this.
    - There was discussion about whether it really should be the IRA’s responsibility to pay for food, especially when we do not derive any income from this event.
    - Bryan offered to ask Jim about the rationale for providing food. At the very least, we need some assurances as to how food will be covered if the IRA does not get sponsorships.
* Budget Summary – This section was tabled for next meeting.
  + Update from Josh
  + Status of $1,000 from Sports Commission
* Fundraising
  + Bryan: Racquetball Warehouse, Alan Fender, Rosco, CFO of Musco Lighting
    - Bryan has not followed up on these. Will follow-up by next meeting.
  + Rob: Head Racquetball, Coldstone
    - Rob has contacted them. Will expect decision back from Coldstone a week. Needs to give more details. He’ll ask Head for equipment, such as gloves.
    - Bryan reported that Thorner has called Bryan asking what he can do to help. Bryan will give rob his contact information.
    - Discussed strategies for approaching businesses. The board agreed that an effective approach, depending on the organization, may be to ask for monetary funding first but then fall back on donations (gift cards, etc.) if cash donations do not seem possible. That is, start by expressing our need to purchase lunch ingredients, and then suggest volunteer gratuity if that seems the only other option.
  + Denny: requested time to think about this
    - Denny will follow-up with Lofredo for donations of fruit. He says Lofredo has been willing to help out in the past.
  + Susan: requested time to think about this
  + Josh: (no notes in meeting minutes)
  + Don: MidAmerican Energy, Nationwide, HyVee Urbandale, Dahl’s, Jordan Creek Mall, Science Center, Blank Park Zoo, Living History Farms, Iowa Speedway, Adventureland, Carmike Theaters, Bass Pro Shops, Chris Zwilling (Wells Fargo), Support from other state associations (through Don Shopieray and USAR)
  + Other Contacts: HyVee WDM (via Dan Horner), Marel Townsend (via Chris Ellis)
    - Don reported that he had spoken or left voicemails with all of the businesses above.
    - Don reported on an offer from Don Schopieray from USAR about other state associations contributing to the cost of lunches. For states who contribute, signage would be posted explaining that lunch on a particular day was provided in part by one of the contributing states.
    - Bryan floated an idea of getting gift cards from local businesses in exchange for putting their flyers in the event bags. The board agreed this would be a good incentive.
    - Rob asked whether we are doing door prizes. Don reported that we are not obligated for securing these.
  + The board generated ideas for possible donors, including:
    - Panchero’s, McDonald’s, Wendy’s, Datonya’s, Famous Dave’s, Buffalo Wild Wings, Bennegan’s, Ramada Inn Restaurant, Chicago Pizza, Applebee’s, Pagliais's Pizza, Chipotle, Bandit Burrito, Jimmy John’s, Sonic, Subway, Okoboji, Legend’s, Green Briar, Perkins, Incredible Pizza, Hy-Vee In Johnston.
    - The board agreed with Don’s recommendation to randomly assign board members to call these businesses.
  + Bryan says that his father, Wendell, has not traditionally a been successful lead at Nationwide for donations. Allied insurance may be a better lead.
  + Bryan mentioned and the board agreed that we owe it to the players to include some information that introduces local businesses, things to do. Don reported that he’ll follow up with the sports commission to get an adequate number of flyers that were given out at the recent Tall Corn Handball tournament.
  + Don encouraged board members to also consider avenues that may be available through non-board members. Dan Horner and Chris Ellis, for example, are currently looking into donations at Hy-Vee and Townsend on behalf of the IRA.
* Lunches for Junior Nationals
  + Confirmation from Oakmoor on use of kitchen and benefit to day care
  + Menu / Ingredient List
    - Bryan said Robin is on board. She will provide a list of ingredients for us. She was supposed to have this for us last weekend. Bryan will follow-up on May 21.
    - The list will include ingredients for 400 visitors, not just the estimated 200 players. The rationale here is that 1) we won’t get what we don’t ask for, and 2) any additional income can be split between the Oakmoor day care and the IRA.
* Other food/drink – This section was tabled for next meeting.
  + Breakfast foods
  + Grilled options
  + Beer preferences
* Vendor Options
  + Which organizations might pay to set up a table in the gym?
    - Bryan said that Ron Burns will almost certainly want assurances that Oakmoor will get a cut of the proceeds. This should not prevent us from pursuing this idea, however. If necessary, Bryan says he will advocate with Ron on the IRA’s behalf.
* Volunteers
  + Signed up, confirmed
  + Shirts
  + Gratuity
    - Don said we have 40 volunteers.
    - Rob mentioned that it seems strange for volunteers to have to do as many jobs as were listed in the last meeting minutes, especially considering in that these details are outlined in the contract.
    - Bryan mentioned that pam is very concerned that there will not be enough people to help and therefore she incurs more bills.
    - The board agreed that doing laundry should be off limits, but we can fold and carry towels.
    - Bryan mentioned that we need to find out exactly what we need to do and have a volunteer coordinator. A list of duties would be very helpful in this regard.
    - Rob mentioned that we should be careful that we do not get overcommitted.
    - Bryan mentioned that Joe will probably be the one coordinating volunteers.
    - The board agreed to invite Joe to the next meeting. Don will reach out to him.
* Team Iowa
  + Sign ups
  + Shirts
    - Bryan will reach out to Jon at Rollout Racquetball between now and next meeting.
    - Don will follow-up with Musco Lighting.
* Event Promotion – This section was tabled for next meeting.
  + Personal mailing lists
  + Facebook pages
  + Reaching out to Pros
* Fall IRA Tournament – This section was tabled for next meeting.
  + Proposed dates
* Misc – This section was tabled for next meeting.
  + Old/new website
  + Any more details on Ektelon’s pool party?
* Next meetings
  + Proposed date
    - MONDAY, JUNE 3, 8:00