**Iowa Racquetball Association Board Meeting**

**October 5, 2015 from 8:30pm – 9:45pm**

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

*Absent: Mike Gleason and Andy Pearson*

* Financial Update—Josh gave a report of our financial standing.
* 501(c)(3) status—Josh gave the current status of our application to the IRS.
* He stated that it has been returned to us for more information.
* 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)(7) status instead.
* 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 has $6,000 he is ready to designate to our organization, but the deadline for him to do so is this Friday, October 9. If he designates it toward the IRA by Friday then we have until December 31 to have the status or otherwise the $6,000 goes away.
* We will ask him to go ahead and designate it toward the IRA and make every effort to have our application submitted and approved by December 31.
* Josh will try and find out more information and possibly touch base with other state’s racquetball associations to find out how they succeeded in obtaining that status.
* Marigold Resources Quad City Open—Josh gave an update on how planning for this tournament is going. He is the tournament director.
* He would like it if all of us would spread the word about the tournament to get people to sign up and possibly print flyers to post around our clubs.
* Since it is a Tier 4 IRT tourney all of the racquetballs are provided by the IRT and he has received those already.
* He is offering $1,200 to 1st place and $600 to 2nd place in the Pro division and cash prizes to all other divisions as well.
* He will need help running the tournament desk. Dan Horner agreed to do this when he or his son aren’t playing.
* Winterton Program Survey—Dan gave an update since Jeff wasn’t present at the meeting. Jeff hasn’t gotten this started yet. He will be contacting Dan to receive some assistance since Dan’s son was in the program. Jeff intends to have this completed by our next meeting so we can review his questions and then get the survey out to parents in early November to complete. 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.
* Wellmark YMCA meeting update—Rob reported that he and Susan met with the director (Tim Short) of the Y and they are very receptive with allowing us to host events there.
* They are still waiting on one more meeting to discuss the financial details of what they are going to charge us for the use of the facility.
* Rob is expecting that all we would owe them is an overtime fee if we go past their regular hours.
* Tim is trying to talk to other YMCA’s to find out if they are missing out on anything.
* Tim wants to make sure that other Y’s aren’t charging something that he isn’t. It’s possible that they may want to charge us a fee for all non-members. Since we are in the middle of giving them a $1,000 per year donation for a five year period, he doesn’t think they will ask for much more.
* We can use either the garage space upstairs by the courts or a meeting room downstairs to have food or a banquet during the tourneys. The garage area may be cold in the late fall and winter months.
* We want to make sure the first event we run is well done and we clean up after, etc.
* Wellmark Y tournament on November 6-8—Rob reported that he was approached by Bryan Crosser and Pam Burns who have expressed interest in running the tournament. He informed them that they wouldn’t be able to have it be a money maker for them. They may want to bring tourneys back to Oakmoor in the future if they can talk Ron Burns into it. They would still have it be sanctioned if it is at the YMCA. There were questions on whether or not this is a good idea, but we agreed we would let them have a shot this time. Also, the cost was discussed in depth that we want the entry fees to be reasonable for everyone. We can set it up on R2 and then have them take over from there. The name of the tourney was also discussed, but we will let Crosser do this if he is running it. *Rob proposed giving Crosser the green light in running the tournament with the understanding that it is a sanctioned tourney and the entry fees will be in line with other IRA events. Second by Josh. Passed 5-0.*
* Tournament Calendar Update—Dan reported that he has completed the calendar for Iowa and surrounding states.
* It has been posted on the IRA’s website and Facebook account. Also, he has printed and is posting it at the surrounding clubs in the area.
* All Iowa tourneys are in bold and are up in the air regarding the dates and locations.
* The 2016 Iowa Open will be named after Michael Jacoby since he gave a large donation in 2015 which came with naming rights for that tourney. It was discussed and decided it will be called the 2016 Iowa Open presented by Iowa Neurology Research.
* Rob said that Tim may only want us to hold 2-3 tourneys a year the downtown Y. So we may want to look at other Iowa cities such as Sioux City, Mason City, Iowa City, Ames, etc.
* Schedule of other Iowa tournaments this season—Dan discussed the Wrecking Ball, Iowa Open, Spring Invitational, and Downtown Showdown and where they will be held and what the dates will be. It was decided that Dan will amend the schedule to say “TBD” for the city for all of the Iowa tourneys that are undecided at this time. Also, he will add the Iowa Senior Games in June. We need to pass along to Crosser that a decision should be made soon regarding the March tourney on if it will be at Oakmoor. Many decisions can’t be made until someone talks to other venues to work out details.
* Junior clinics conducted by Coach McCormick at both Waukee and the Downtown YMCA—Dan reported that he and Don met with Tim and one other Y employee.
* The clinics will be on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 every week starting October 20th.
* They will provide t-shirts and purchase extra equipment such as goggles.
* The YMCA will print flyers and try to get new kids into the program.
* All coaches will be expected to pass a criminal background check and go through a coach’s training program, which will happen on October 13th. Tyler Peterson and Rod Bergren will be coaches with Don. Don’s goal will be for the 2 of them to be USAR certified and for the IRA to reimburse them for that expense. We are already reimbursing Don for his certification. Potentially we could ask Ron Sweeney or Denny Baysinger to help later.
* Rob proposed that we will reimburse Tyler and Rod for their certifications after they complete three months of coaching, but that we reimburse Don $78.50 for his now. Second by Dan. Passed 4-0 (Andy dropped off call).

Next meeting will be Monday, November 2, 2015.