**Iowa Racquetball Association Board Meeting**

**January 10, 2017 from 8:50pm – 10:15pm**

*In attendance: Josh Paul, Rob Paulsen, Dan Horner, and Dennis Chandler*

*Absent: Jeff Burbank, Mike Gleason, and Susan Acoymo*

* Financial Update—Rob suggested we switch to a non-profit bank account as it wouldn’t have any fees. Josh replied that ours normally doesn’t. Josh motioned that we reimburse Don McCormick for his 2017 YMCA membership in arrears for 6 months at a time (single person only without Executive locker room cost) with the stipulation that Don continues to conduct the twice per week free lessons for juniors on Thursday (downtown) and Saturday (Waukee). Dan seconded and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0. Josh agreed that he would send an e-mail to Don informing him of the stipulation.
* Junior Scholarship Program—Josh proposed that we bring forward into 2017 the same junior scholarship program that we had in 2016. This would include the Beginner Scholarship for new kids to the sport to get free equipment, the Personal Scholarship for kids that want 1 on 1 lessons with Don or another certified coach where the IRA would reimburse them up to $50/month, and the Challenge Scholarship for kids that want to work with Coach Winterton where the IRA would reimburse them $100/month toward the cost of his program. Josh made the motion, Dan seconded, and it passed with a vote of 4-0.
* SafeSport and other USAR updates—Dan discussed some of the details of the USAR leadership meeting which occurred earlier in the evening.
* Leadership Conference—We discussed that it would be nice to send a representative of the IRA. It is set for August 10-13, 2017. Josh mentioned possibly covering the plane ticket and hotel of the attendee.
* Ambassador Program—Club map of the US that shows all clubs with courts and then a special marker in all locations where there is an Ambassador that knows what is going on with the USAR, knows the rules, knows what is going on in their state, etc. The Ambassador will be expected to find new USAR members, get juniors to join clinics, get people to try tournaments, and anything else to grow the sport.
* Drawing for prizes by USAR—For all state associations that hold at least 3 tournaments between January 1 and June 1. This is just an incentive and some of the prizes awarded will be an IPAD, a court sticker with your association logo, etc.
* SafeSport—Update on who has/hasn’t completed the video with quiz and also the background check. As of now only Josh and Mike are not complete yet, but both have started. Also, Mike mentioned possibly resigning from the board as his schedule may not allow for him to have enough time to finish the requirement anytime soon. Josh said he would finish right away and Dan will verify with Mike since he isn’t on this call if he will be finishing and if he wishes to continue on the board.
* Recap of 2016/17 tournament schedule for Iowa—Here is what is planned for this season:
* January—Susan is doing a non-sanctioned blind draw doubles at the Ankeny YMCA on Saturday, January 21. Saturday, January 28th Dennis is going to run a 1-day shootout that is sanctioned at the downtown YMCA.
* February—Susan plans to do a small non-sanctioned one day shootout at the Ankeny YMCA on February 25.

Josh will be holding a 1-day non-sanctioned shootout in Eldridge on February 11.

* March—Dan will be running the 2017 Iowa Open on March 3-5 just like last year and it will serve as our State Singles championships.
* April—We are going to hold the Iowa State Doubles/State Juniors Championship April 28-30. Rob was asked if he could run this tournament as he has the last couple of years. He will look at his schedule and see if it will work for him and if not then Dennis or someone else will run it on these dates.
* Insurance—Dan mentioned that Susan is working on obtaining a quote on insurance for the IRA to have. Susan missed the call so we don’t have an update on this. Since this has gone unfinished for the last 2 months Dan will send an e-mail to Susan asking her to finish within the next couple of weeks so we can get insurance in place sooner rather than later.
* Tournament Committees—Dennis proposed an idea to have a tournament subcommittee assigned to assist each tournament director with tasks leading up to the tourney such as selecting, ordering, and picking up the medals and also the t-shirts, etc. Rob mentioned that non-board members could be in these positions as well. Nothing concrete was set up.
* IRA board term limits—Dennis proposed that board members be limited to a term of 3 years with a vote after that time frame to determine if they would continue or not. He also mentioned having the USAR members in Iowa vote for candidates. Rob will request a free packet of information from USAR on this topic, which they announced is available for states to peruse.
* The next meeting is planned for February 8, 2017.