**Iowa Racquetball Association Meeting**

**Oakmoor Racquet and Fitness Center, Des Moines – April 6, 2013**

**In attendance:** Susan Acoymo, Denny Baysinger, Don McCormick, Josh Paul, & Rob Paulsen

**Financial Update**

* CREDIT: Josh reported that we have $2,483 in the account.
* DEBIT: We have just received a bill from Oakmoor for $638 for the Iowa Open per head player fees ($5/person) and staff overtime.
* DEBIT: $350 to be paid to Hansen ($200), McCunniff ($100), Ratchford ($50) for their results in the Iowa Open.
* CREDIT: Don reported that IRA will receive a check in the coming weeks from Wellmark for $1,500 to recognize Don’s reported volunteer hours for coaching, board coordination and general promotion of the sport on behalf of IRA.
* BALANCE: Following the Wellmark contribution, the IRA account should total $3,345.
* Josh and Susan reported that their debit cards for our account with Wells Fargo are not working.
* Josh will send a financial statement to the board on a regular basis.
* The board discussed the method by which we derive income from sanctioned tournaments: we get income only when new members join during a quarter in which IRA hosts an event. Junior Nationals is not considered an IRA event, which is another reason to hold an event in May.

**Fundraising**

* No activity was reported.
* Don will update the form required by HyVee for their charitable donation requests. He will forward it to Denny for next steps.
* Don will update the invitation letter that was used prior to the Iowa Open and send to board members for feedback.
* Don reported that he struck out 3 times with Sue Beckwith, who regularly supports the Oakmoor invitational tournaments. Other board members may have more luck.

**Responsibilities for Junior Nationals**

* IRA is responsible for arranging volunteers to keep players safe and to ensure that first matches of the day have referees.
* USAR has told IRA that we are responsible for arranging lunches for each day of the event.
* The revenue from the non-player meal tickets will go to the entity providing the food.
	+ Addendum: Bryan said he would forward the contract to board members so we can confirm these details.
	+ Addendum: During their visit last year, Joe and Jim recommended providing donated breakfast items as well, though this is not a contracted requirement.
	+ Addendum: Bryan will ask Oakmoor about setting up a grill to provide hot lunches (hamburgers, etc.). Under this scenario, IRA would cover the cost of ingredients, such as bulk purchases from Costco or elsewhere.

**Junior Nationals Staffing**

* IRA will ask Oakmoor if we can pay their swimming instructors (or other qualified individuals) to lifeguard during set hours.
* So far, Don has collected information for approximately 20 volunteers. USAR has indicated that they may be able to assist with arranging shirts for these volunteers, whether through financial assistance or by allowing us to use a discounted price through their contractor.
* Susan reported that she will not be available on Saturday and Sunday of Junior Nationals, but that she has secured time off for the weekdays during the event.
* Denny reported that the two other Dennies (Priest and Overman) have volunteered. We have the trifecta!

**“Team Iowa” shirts for Junior Nationals**

* Brent Talbert, who had originally offered to arrange shirts for Iowa-based junior players, reported to Don that he had encountered some difficulty getting this done through Musco Lighting. The board agreed to offer to offset the cost of these shirts by 50%.
	+ Addendum: if this fails, IRA should do it’s best to follow up, as many juniors at the spring invitational signed pledge cards to be good hosts by wearing their “Team Iowa” shirt.

**Iowa Open Follow-up**

* Susan and Rob will work together in posting the final results, including Men’s 55+, 60+ and 35+ B.
* Susan and Josh will work together to arrange ordering and sending medals to junior doubles players.
* Susan and Josh will work together to arrange sending prize money to winners of 1st, 2nd and 1st cons in the open division.
* By Monday or Tuesday of next week, Susan will have changed the password to the Iowa Open site and will share with board members.
	+ Addendum: Don expressed an interest in securing a stipend for the tournament director of future events to ensure ample time resources before, during and after the event.

**May Tournament**

* IRA will work toward holding a tournament in May.
* Possible venues will be explored by the following board members:
	+ Denny: Riverfront YMCA
	+ Josh: Quad Cities YMCA
	+ Don: University of Iowa (via Talbert); University of Northern Iowa (via Brown, McCunniff)
	+ Susan: Iowa State; Ankeny YMCA
* If it appears that the venues above are opposed to holding an IRA event, board members are authorized to offer to donate “a couple hundred dollars” to the host club on top of the agreed upon participant per-capita fee.
* The event will be billed as a one-day Junior Nationals warm-up and adult doubles shootout.
* Susan will ask USAR if other methods of arranging brackets are possible, such as Mike White’s program.
	+ Addendum: the only date for the shootout that works for Susan is May 11.

**Use of Resources**

* Don reported that the laptop used for the Iowa Open will not be available for any future events or IRA meetings. With that in mind, he moved that the board invest in supportive technology (laptop, tablet, printer, etc.). The board agreed this would be problematic and voted down the movement.
* When it comes to making product purchases, the board discussed the value of providing equipment, such as racquets for juniors, etc.

**General Administration**

* Moving forward, Don’s messages will be accompanied by a “reply-by” date.
	+ Addendum: after the meeting, Don expressed concern over possible burn out, due in part to not getting timely responses from board members. He asked for cooperation in timely response to e-mails, text and voicemails.
* The board was not able to determine who owns the <http://www.oocities.org/iowarball/> website. The board agreed this should be shut down and the current website (<http://www.iowaracquetball.org/>) promoted.
* Rob said he would write a bio for the Iowa Open website.
	+ Addendum: Don will be editing Susan’s bio from text she submitted previously.
	+ Addendum: Rob is a board member without a title. Bryan had recommended “player advocate,” which is a title used by the USAR for board members who are responsible for representing the interests of players. The board agreed this is a good fit for Rob.
* Rob mentioned that he has a conference calling line available.
* Don will send a questionnaire asking board members to vote on a regular meeting time, which may include weeknights.