Iowa Racquetball Association

Executive Board Meeting March 31, 2014 8:30 – 9:30

*In attendance: Denny Baysinger, Josh Paul,*

*Don McCormick, Rob Paulsen*

* Financial Update
  + Josh reported that the scholarship checks plus additional funds for Don were on their way.
  + Josh reported that he had gotten everything straightened out with Wells Fargo; all missing funds have been accounted for.
  + Josh reported that he hadn’t received Oakmoor invoices for the Iowa Open or the Winterton Camp.
  + The board agreed to have Josh pursue the paperwork needed to officially register as a 501c3 non-profit. This was not done in our first year due to lack of funds. The cost is approximately $350 – an amount the board agreed was reasonable considering our financial position.
  + Don reported that he had designated that $6,250 of his volunteer recognition dollars from Wellmark be donated to the IRA. The check is expected to come in Q2.
* Outgoing Financial Support
  + Rob reported that he had not contacted USAR or the YMCA yet to offer financial support. (On 3/5/14 the board voted to give $500 to the Junior Nationals host association and $1,000 to the YMCA for the construction of the courts at the new downtown YMCA in Des Moines.)
  + Denny recommended that the check to the YMCA be made out to the “Greater Des Moines YMCA” and that the note should indicate the funds are for “Wellmark Racquetball Court Construction.”
* YMCA Court Update
  + Denny confirmed that the recent news about a reduction in the number of courts to be constructed was just a rumor. There will, in fact, be 8 courts plus 2 squash courts.
  + Denny reported that handball players, like us, are concerned that about ensuring that the courts will allow officiated. Among the ideas being discussed are a catwalk, an intercom system, and portable ladders. The board agreed that the intercom was not preferred.
  + Rob reported that he would express our concerns when presenting our donation to the YMCA.
  + Denny reported that the YMCA had asked whether we might use our membership mailing list to reach solicit donations for the court constructions. The board agreed that this would not be effective.
* Spring event
  + The board discussed the idea of a one-day shootout on 5/10 at the YMCA billed as a fundraiser for the new courts. Denny offered to check at the YMCA to make sure the date was available.
  + Don offered to coordinate if Susan or Brian were unable to do so.
  + The board agreed on the following format:
    - First event may be singles or doubles.
    - Second event may only be doubles. This event will be a blind draw, putting together partners based on their selected division (A or B). Doubles will not be sanctioned; results will not affect player rankings.
    - Cost would be $25 for the first event, $10 for the second.
* Quad Cities event
  + Josh reported that the new coordinator at the Eldridge Fitness Center was friendly to the idea of an IRA-run, USAR-sanctioned event.
  + The club’s requirements are $5 per player plus $20 per each hour of overtime.
  + There are 6 courts but we may have to hold one court for members not participating in the tournament.
  + The board agreed to consider holding an event there the same weekend as we held the Wrecking Ball (3rd weekend of November) or the last weekend of September.
  + Don offered to see whether USAR has a contract template.
* Sioux City event
  + Don reported that Dave Anderson and another player from Nebraska noted that there was interest in resurrecting the Four Wall Brawl. The board expressed interest in exploring the possibilities.
  + Matt Arndt used to run the event, but stopped due to health issues. The board discussed the idea of reaching out to Jeff Zomer, an Open/A player from Orange City, to see if he would be willing to be the IRA’s local representative.