

NCTTA Championship Meeting Online

August 20, 2008 via Gotomeeting.com software

Meeting was called to order at 9:04pm EST by President Willy Leparulo

In attendance: Joe Wells, David Del Vecchio, and Francois Charvet, Misha Kazantsev;

From Kahler hotel Julie and from RASC Ben Boldt

1) Hotel Contract Discussion

-Julie Halderman from the Kahler was the call and Joe Wells discussed with her on certain issues of the hotel contract and specifically the numbers of hotel rooms

-discovered that there was a mathematical error of counting so it should be 350 rooms to 360 rooms

-kept most rooms at Rochester Marriott and put more Queen/Queen rooms in there

Transportation from hotel: Julie thinks there should be one central location from one of the Kahler hotels and we agreed

Banquet Room: Talked about the space last time and there were 280 in the banquet room and it only fits 300. Julie will see if Kahler room is available in case there are more (heritage room)

-Phyllis is her banquet person; we must alternatively find our own person to liaison

2) Sponsorship dollars (how?)

-Talked about making a better budget and not losing money, what can we do? Increase revenue with sponsorship

-Talked about to locally ask Rochester TT club people if they can reach out to their respective work places to see if some sort of sponsorship can be had

-logo on tournament t-shirts, program, handbook...there is signage to be had

-now that we have relationship with local folks, maybe it is a way to create this

-NCTTA will be signing official contract with Killerspin in September for the equipment needs of the championships

-Francois Charvet asked if there were a way NCTTA could sell KS equipment on site and keep profit to give back to tournament?

3) Volunteers

-Talked about bringing back certain volunteers: Ed H (comp manager) and Diana; Mitch (volunteer coordinator) and Kagin Lee (head referee)

-Willy will be emailing those folks ASAP to get a jump on everything

4) Food Service

-box lunches worked really well, no need to change them, many of us state

-Ben Boldt replied if there were a better head count we could save on money (we will work on that) as ben said they overestimated a bit
-Misha brought up instead of having tickets which from the "player perspective" was sometimes a stressful bother maybe there could be hole punchers on player passes (ben boldt agreed it was easy to do)

5) Design of court

-discussion about how to position courts, what worked best, how to see outside courts better
-suggestion to switch courts around to long rather side to side (will have to discuss with competition manager/referee in future)
-discussion of what to do with practice tables and competition tables
-Misha discussed about why not allowing everyone on competition tables instead of having restricted practice tables
-not so many agreed with this as it takes away from the presentation of nationals and spectators to see so many random ppl hitting aimlessly, so the disagreement of catering to the athletes vs. catering to the event is always the age old problem in TT (another discussion to see if we can compromise)
-Willy suggested to allow practice on competition tables, then kick ppl off and line them up. Others replied that it would add an extra 20 minutes onto the already packed schedule

6) Event Logo/T-shirts for Staff

-locally in Rochester can be handled
-again more exact numbers would be nice
-looking at saving money polo's vs shirts, maybe do all shirts and have slightly different colors for different positions
-Misha suggested involving the volunteers more with the tournament so they don't seem uninvolved

7) Meeting Room space

-Asked Ben if rooms upstairs for captains meetings are still available and he said yes

8) Regular Champ meetings

-once every 6 weeks, will have another one in early October or late September

Meeting Adjourned 10:12pm