

GCHA minutes for meeting of January 6, 2010:

Present: Jack D., Bob B., Pat S., Greg F., Willie S., Bob L., Jim K.

Queen City Tournament review:

Reimbursed Gartsite & Blankemeyer entry fees.

Dan S., Bob L., Rich S. need H.B. gloves from Q. C. tournament.

Major conversation from meeting revolved around membership, membership monies that help keep our association successful, and conversation about the National Junior Tournament in Chicago.

Membership news:

Current membership 69 members. Last year membership 80. 2- years ago 130.

That's about \$2800.00 drop in membership monies in last 2-yrs.

Board reviewed a list of potential members that needs to be verified of players that are not yet members for 2010.

Junior Nationals in Chicago:

Coaches Willie S. & Glenn G. traveled to Chicago w/ 4- junior players...Chandler & Spencer Straw, Austin & Chris. 1st time ever for a team from Cincinnati to go to Junior Nationals. Cincinnati Team was recognized by Vern Roberts @ Banquet, each player from Cincinnati given 50.00 by Mr. Roberts for travel expenses.

Junior team didn't fair to well; however, Chandler went to finals in consolation bracket and Spencer played against Vern Robert's grandson.

I'm sure the junior players and their coaches represented Cincinnati well!

Willie & Glenn did get a little playing time.....played on the court w/ The President of National Handball Association. Didn't hear who won the match, but heard there was conversation with president about bringing the Junior National Outdoor 3-Wall to the courts on Harrison Ave. in Green Township. USHA would like to see a fourth court built before that happens.

Willie informed board that USHA is looking @ Cincinnati. as a premier Junior Program which could turn into something BIG!

George L. has worked hard on supporting the Foundation Drive for the 4th OUTDOOR court @ Green Township park in memory of his long time great buddy, Glenn Laque. The 4th court will be named in his honor and help GCHA bring the Junior Nationals to Cincinnati.

Willie expressed how much effort is needed to sponsor and operate a tournament of this size. So we need both, a fourth court and people who are willing to donate, or ask for donations or give up there time, make a commitment for this to become successful.

The **Saturday program for Juniors** has been successful. The normal attendance can range from 6-12 kids each Saturday. We also have two junior females showing up on a regular basis. From this program we initially had 6 players wanting to go to Nationals; however not all could afford to participate. I did hear thur the grapevine that we had a GCHA member give a special donation to the program.

Of course, a big "Thank-you" to all who donated to the Junior program and the raffle for the laptop computer.

By the way for those who don't know another member, Pat Schuler, donated 1/2 the monies for the laptop.

Drawing for the computer was done at the board meeting Wednesday night @ the Waycross Athletic Club. The winning ticket was drawn by "Our Favorite Bartender,"

Corey. The winning ticket went to Rick Garcia (most deserving). I heard Rick bought a bunch of tickets. Rick and the Restoration Church have been big supporters for the GCHA over the last 3-4 years! THANKS, RICK!

Willie applied for grant monies for the Nationals...\$450.00 in the mail from grants, but not sure when to expect. Grants go in for approval in November before December Tournament. Entry fees for each junior are 35.00 1st event, 10.00 for 2nd event and 15.00 USHA membership fee. Maybe the GCHA should think about doing the same @ their tournaments to raise membership?

Monies for Juniors still owed:

Laptop computer and warm-ups for all Junior players and Coaches.

Jack Prather was responsible for design and ordering warm-ups for Our Juniors.

Follow-up on Old Dudes Day!

This program I believe was started by Ralph. who I must say also started the Saturday Junior Program. I personally didn't attend but heard alot of Ol' *%&#!\$) showed up. Can't beat it! For \$25.00...Handball, Steak, Baked Potato, Beer and Bullshit! Anyway, 40+ showed up a week before Christmas. Suggestions were to move it to Feb-March of next year, order better steaks and hopefully we'll have more show up.

News Years Day Tradition:

Blue Ball. Check it out @ GCHA.org.

Six fool-hearty individuals showed up in sub zero weather.

All I want to know..... Where was Mike R?

At -6 below handballs explode on impact.

There was also talk about both **Handball Organizations...USHA vs. WPH.**

I was kind a on the fence, being a new player and seeing how strong WPH has come using the internet. Not sure about it all, but wanted to let you know Willie Straw called and asked both organizations for a little help taking 4-juniors to the Nationals...he got a call & money from USHA, didn't hear anything from WPH.

Up & coming tournament.....Youngstown see GCHA for more info.

Finally a Big apology to George for making arrangements to play and meet downtown for Jan. meeting. I believe we all would have been there if we were reminded.

One bad issue concerning our website...infomation is not addressed fast enough?

Is that what I heard? Seems like pics from New Years day got on pretty fast.

No Blog.....can we e-mail reminders to GCHA board members.

Anyway....**Next meeting** will be @ Downtown Y & meeting afterwards @ The Platform! February 3rd, 2010!

Last but not least.....We should meet every month, The Caples will be here before you know it and we need to help George get that 4th court built.

Greg Fite