

September 21: First rodeo . . . and they're playing football!

To members and friends of the Raleigh Sports Club,

On Wednesday September 16, 2020 the Raleigh Sports Club held the initial drive thru/takeout lunch with the Forks Cafeteria. You've probably have heard the expression, "it's not my first rodeo." Well, in our case, it was! I'm pleased to report we served a total of 89 plates. Several members even tailgated (socially distanced) in the Church parking lot to enjoy their meals. We could not have done this without the generosity of Highland United Methodist Church. We utilized their facilities to make it happen and owe many thanks indeed to our host Church and to Tom Lamb!

The Forks Cafeteria was also very appreciative! As you can imagine these past months have been challenging for them and it was great to see a smiling David Greenwell and his fine staff, even in masks and socially distanced. AND IT WAS GREAT to again enjoy their fine food!

The Board met immediately afterwards. We all agreed it was a beautiful cool day (finally) and really fun to see members again! We discussed some tweaks to make improvements and by consensus think that we would like to do it again if the membership would like another opportunity. Please shoot me an email (rchlapp@aol.com) with your thoughts, comments and suggestions on how we might improve and possibly have a "second rodeo!"

Currently we have suspended regular meetings and not asking for membership dues. We do have some expenses such as web page assistance and email marketing/communications services. Thankfully, due to the work of our bookkeeper Pat Holcomb and Treasurer Vince Matal, we have been able to suspend some insurance costs, saving substantially until we start back with on-site meetings. But as a little heads up, we will be trying to determine how we might continue our annual scholarships and Coach of the Year awards. Those, in my opinion, are what sets the Raleigh Sports Club apart from other sports clubs in the area. If you would like to make any donation to our Scholarship Fund, it will be greatly appreciated! You may send your check to Raleigh Sports Club, P.O. Box 10275 Raleigh, 27605.

Many thanks to John Watkins, our Board member in charge of Student Athlete Relations. John has reached out to area high school AD's and coaches. They are all busy in ways never imagined. Through John's efforts, he and Rick Ulasewich will allow the Raleigh Sports Club to recognize student athletes this fall on a monthly basis! More to come.....

Additionally, Rick has optimized his free time during COVID by getting his knees done. He's eight weeks out from replacing his right knee and liked it so much he's scheduled the left for October 26th!

Before signing off for this week . . . I must admit, I really enjoyed finally watching some football! Actually, I've enjoyed ALL sports. 2020 is a crazy year. In addition to Football and Major League Baseball, this fall we also have Hockey and NBA FINALS . . . and tennis, golf, and Tour de France. Let's hope and pray that the athletes, coaches and respective staffs all stay healthy!!

Stay well! Robert Hinson, President

The Raleigh Sports Club Officers and Board of Directors

"The man who complains about the way the ball bounces is likely the one that dropped it!"

Lou Holtz