



October 2nd, 2023

Dear Exhibitor,

We would like to thank you for your continued support and participation in the Bemidji Jaycees Home, Sport and Travel Show throughout the years. The Home, Sport and Travel Show is an event that not only showcases Bemidji and surrounding area businesses and organizations, but it has also been the main fundraiser for the Bemidji Jaycees for many years. The proceeds from the event have helped with Bemidji Jaycees operations expenses as well as funding other Bemidji Jaycees community events and it was a source for many local donations to community organizations.

Through the last several years, even prior to the pandemic, we noticed a steady decline in participation in the Home, Sport and Travel show as well as spectator attendance, while at the same time facing significant increases in operation expenses for the event. We have tried several ideas to increase vendor participation while trying not to pass the increase in costs onto our vendors as well as trying to increase spectator attendance.

After the 2023 Home, Sport and Travel Show it became evident that even with our changes, we are faced with many factors that make continuing with the event difficult, including that we no longer have the option for a suitable and affordable venue to host the event. We have explored multiple venue options; however, we have been unable to find one that can accommodate all our vendors as well as keep the show around the same date each year. We know many of our vendors participate in other shows throughout the surrounding areas and that our vendors plan their participation in each show well in advance. Due to these reasons, we will not be able to put on the event in 2024. We hope you understand that the decision was tremendously difficult to make after running the Home, Sport and Travel Show for almost 45 years. To be able to continue with the event a significant increase in vendor fees would be needed and we do not feel that would be fair to our vendors and feel there would be a decrease in participation as well.

We plan to continue with the other events we do for the community, such as the BRRRmidji Plunge and Water Carnival, as well as many others. We are actively working on a new main fundraiser for the Bemidji Jaycees and are planning to have that information out to the community soon. We thank you for your continued support of the Bemidji Jaycees and hope you enjoy the events we put on to make our community a better place.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Missy Malone
90th President
Bemidji Jaycees
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