

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER: President Max Viney called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS: Max Viney reminded attendees to turn cell phones off or on vibrate and directed sidebar conversations be taken outside.

SECRETARYS' REPORT: Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the April board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Tim Bell and passed unanimously.

TREASURERS' REPORT: Gary Gregg, on behalf of Jason Gregg, provided an update on finances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHAMP RACE: Tim Bell confirmed he has contacted Powers Catering to provide food service for the Champ Race. Lynda Coombs explained there continues to be the need for one or two persons to chair the event and an outline of details is available.

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: Randy N. Vermillion reported four classes do not have sponsors at this time. He asked that everyone assist with acquiring sponsors and suggested businesses be contacted. Vermillion noted he has been trying to locate a chairperson for this very important committee for over a year and explained it does require a fairly large time commitment, especially prior to and during the early part of the racing season. Vermillion explained the sponsorship chairperson also oversees billboard rentals. Vermillion stated this will be his last year coordinating sponsorships and he will provide details to the person or persons who take over this role. Max Viney discussed the importance of letters being sent to potential sponsors. Ray McKibben volunteered to check into putting up small signs in strategic locations, such as Route 725 at Wayne Trace Road. Vermillion reported there are plenty of reserved pit spots available and reminded everyone the income generated helps defray the cost of the ambulance at G & J Kartway. Hal Thornton explained people who have been parked in reserved pit spots will be asked to move if they do not pay the required fee.

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: Max Viney reported the Shows and Promotions Committee met Saturday, May 3, 2008. Attendees were Lynda Coombs, John Horn, Paul Krimmer, Don Lawson and Viney. Viney explained the committee is a workgroup where participants take on various tasks that have been brainstormed in order to promote OVKA and the sport of karting. Some of the opportunities being explored and/or implemented include sharing billboard space, identifying potential media partners at television and radio stations, advertising in a variety of publications, participating in car-related shows, maintaining a presence at Kentucky Speedway, acquiring an announcer, providing OVKA stickers as a promotional tool and identifying locations where OVKA promotional materials can be placed. Viney explained all of this work requires a lot of committed individuals to provide support. Packets of promotional materials are being made up and will be available from Lynda Coombs. The committee will meet again at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 7, 2008, at G & J Kartway. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Viney made a motion to appropriate \$500 for display space at the Cincinnati Concourse D'Elegance Show dependant upon getting volunteers to staff the event. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously. Paul Krimmer is the contact person for this event.

TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: Max Viney reviewed the progress made in making changes to the turtles and reported crash bags have been put in place. Gary Gregg is having additional fencing installed and has more crash bags ordered. Viney made a motion to appropriate \$1,000 for crash bags. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs and passed unanimously. Viney said signs need to be put up allocating the first ten minutes on the hour on practice days to Kid Karts and Rookie Class drivers. Lynda Coombs suggested there be signage about no driving karts in areas other than the grid on practice days. Randy N. Vermillion offered to check into obtaining signs for these items.

RULEBOOK: In follow up to last month, Rick Coombs said he would like to start discussions about the 2009 rulebook at monthly board meetings rather than have committee meetings. He reported a list has been started and suggested discussions begin in July.

SWAP MEET: Gary Gregg reported the date for the 2009 OVKA Swap Meet will be Saturday, February 7, 2009. He hopes the vintage Kart show continues to grow and he would like to see some other type of promotional event at the Swap Meet such as a big name driver to have pictures taken with. Randy N. Vermillion said flyers are available for anyone who would like to distribute them.

OLD BUSINESS:

KART RETRIEVAL VEHICLE: Randy N. Vermillion explained a special board meeting was held at the first race with a vote taken to accept a proposal from Jimmy Jammz Motorsports to provide a kart retrieval vehicle and golf kart in exchange for sponsorship benefits totaling \$1,690. The board voted to accept this proposal and a contract was signed by the club president. The contract includes OVKA being held liable for damage, theft and liability and the club is responsible for fuel and oil. Max Viney and Vermillion will see that the vehicles are stored properly after events. Hal Thornton asked if the vehicles will be available to the Great Lakes Sprint Series to which Vermillion explained the contract is with OVKA only. Gary Gregg will discuss the matter with Jimmy Combs.

VENDOR GUIDELINES: In follow up to last month, Max Viney explained the question has arisen about allowing photographers and other vendors to sell merchandise at the track or as a result of images taken at the track. Lynda Coombs said situations occurred last year where parents did not want their children photographed for reasons other than OVKA promotional purposes. Don Boles raised the question what type of vendors should be permitted to profit from the membership. Ray McKibben stated he feels people who profit from OVKA should be required to take out a sponsorship to which Toshiya Michimi agreed. Gerald Whaling said he feels racing sponsors do not get much in return for taking out the larger level of sponsorship. Rick Coombs explained the majority of the racing sponsorship is returned through gate fees, entry fees, Swap Meet booth, banquet tickets and advertising. Whaling responded he thinks the larger sponsorship should be required in order for people to be allowed to sell items at the track and make a profit from the organization. Lynda Coombs suggested at minimum a \$300 sponsorship be required for vendors to which Gary Gregg agreed. Randy J. Vermillion said he would like to see the board require people who want to set up a display and sell merchandise to have a vendor's license and a minimum class one sponsorship. Larry Rogers presented information about the photography services he provides where photos are taken at the track then made available for sale on the internet. Doug Benson said it seems like the organization is going in the direction of having a rule for everything. Randy N. Vermillion stated that any rule for this would have to be policed by someone. Following extensive discussion, the matter was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

PRE-TECH & REGISTRATION: Lynda Coombs explained there was dialog at a recent committee meeting about having pre-tech and registration the day before the races. Dennis Queary noted this was discussed by the Rules Committee and felt not to be an option due to issues with staffing it on a regular basis. Coombs said it would require someone for pre-tech and to enter the information in the registration database, as well as obtain change and get the laptop ahead of time. Queary, JoAnne Hartings and Max Viney all suggested the matter be dropped. No action was taken.

GENERATOR: Max Viney made a motion to appropriate up \$1,500 for a generator for dispensing fuel. Don Boles stated he thinks a generator can be purchased for a lower cost. Gary Gregg offered to loan a generator for this purpose. Viney withdrew his motion.

NEW TRACK VENUE: Max Viney reported he was contacted by a person who is building a new track in the Springfield area who would like OVKA to consider including it on their schedule in the future. Randy N. Vermillion said he is not aware of this venture and more information needs to be obtained. Vermillion further stated he sees no reason to add another away track to the schedule to which Viney agreed.

DARF: Lynda Coombs read a letter from the Dayton Auto Race Fans Association thanking OVKA for participating in DARF Promoter's Night on March 25, 2008. In addition, correspondence was received reminding racers of the Wally Scherer/DARF Injured Drivers Benevolent Fund. This fund provides financial assistance to drivers who suffer an injury or loss of income while racing. Max Viney explained that monthly DARF meetings are held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month January through April and September through November with a banquet in December. The meeting location is The Flatts in the Huber Heights area.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

I-CARD: Lynda Coombs explained the most current version of the I-Card software was installed on the secondary laptop and tried out unsuccessfully at the last race. Coombs would like to try it on the primary laptop on a non-race day. Dennis Queary suggested she email the board to let them know when so volunteers can come out to help test the system.

TRANSPONDERS: Lynda Coombs reported all thirty-two of the transponders were rented at the first two events. This resulted in the need to borrow from members in order to have enough to loan. Max Viney offered to check into pricing for the board to consider purchasing some additional transponders.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

SPEC OIL: Don Boles said he was asked if racers can use oil other than the spec oil. Randy N. Vermillion responded racers are to follow the specifications in the rulebook.

RESTARTING: Don Boles expressed concern about why a rookie driver was not allowed to restart. Randy N. Vermillion explained it was due to the 90-second rule. Boles stated he feels all rookie and novice drivers should be permitted to restart. No action was taken.

QUALIFYING: Randy Potter expressed concern about how qualifying was conducted at the last race. JoAnne Hartings said participants need to be spaced by the grid marshal as they enter the track. Lynda Coombs said she was taught to instruct the grid marshal to do this for the Champ Race and asked if this should be done for all qualifying events. Rick Coombs pointed out how long it takes to conduct qualifying at the Champ Race when racers are spaced in this fashion. No action was taken.

RACE ORDER: Doug Stempfley asked if Junior Yamaha 2 can be moved earlier in the program. Lynda Coombs explained the order has been adjusted to meet the needs of a number of racers where parent and child race or racers enter more than one class.

NEW CONFIGURATION: After running the new configuration for the first time, Lynda Coombs discussed the need for a turn marshal to be in the new section during class warm-ups. Max Viney agreed. JoAnne Hartings said it is difficult for the pit steward to know if there are karts in the low area in the new section, as she cannot see that area from her location.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 1, 2008, at Ramada Inn Middletown, 6147 West State Route 122, Franklin, Ohio (east side of I-75).

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. was made by Don Boles, seconded by Doug Stempfley and passed unanimously.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: T. Bell, D. Benson, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, J. Hartings, M. Lewis, T. Michimi, D. Queary, D. Stempfley, H. Thornton, R. Vermillion, and M. Viney.

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: C. Bogan, M. Brown, L. Coombs, T. Foster, G. Lutz, R. McKibben, Randall Potter, Randy Potter, L. Rogers, R. J. Vermillion, G. Whaling, and B. Williams,

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 5/27/08.