

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER: President Josh Wagar called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. asked that cell phones be turned down or placed on vibrate and side conversations be taken outside.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the June 7, 2016 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: On behalf of Treasurer Jason Gregg, Josh Wagar provided bank balances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: Brian Schroeder reported Reid Smith will be helping at the Rollin' on the River event. Schroeder noted this event is on the Sunday following a Saturday night race. Josh Wagar asked Schroeder to contact him if additional help is needed. Lee McCready reported OVKA will have three booth spaces at the Lebanon Blues Festival. Wagar said this will allow us to have room to spread out. Ted Cradlebaugh discussed setup details and said we will need more karts. He noted there is a Sunday race the next day and anyone who brings a kart and needs to pull it out early will be able to do so as they do not have to stay the whole time. Rick and Lynda Coombs, Dylan and Ted Cradlebaugh and Reid Smith will help staff the booth. McCready said setup can be done at 7:00 a.m. the day of the event or the night before. Ted Cradlebaugh said another pop-up canopy is needed which Aaron Banfield offered to provide. Cradlebaugh noted the Lebanon Blues Festival is always a good show with a lot of people in attendance. Wagar discussed information from Schroeder about pricing for booth space at the PRI Show. He reported the cost for a 10' by 10' space is \$1,800. Wagar said the price and the distance of the event need to be considered. Ted Cradlebaugh responded he doubts we will pull people. Wagar explained we cannot request a hallway space and it is first come first served based on the registration date. Jeff Roberts responded if the hallway could be guaranteed, that would make a difference. Wagar concluded it is probably not worth it.

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: Lee McCready reported a couple more pit spots have been reserved and there are 15 to 16 vacancies. He thanked Jeff Roberts for making laminated maps to be located in the area of the ticket booth and in the tech barn. Ray McKibben explained he will be marking pit spots very soon. Josh Wagar stated McCready has done a good job and pit spots can be prorated for the second half of the season. Brian Schroeder said we offer sponsor packages but don't do a driver package to pay up front for races and include a pit spot. McCready explained the racing sponsorship we offer does just that and provides those things plus banquet tickets and a Swap Meet booth and is cheaper. Aaron Banfield responded some people don't do the Swap Meet. Josh Wagar asked Schroeder to come up with a proposal. Pat Slattery said he does the racing sponsorship and you break about even. He further stated you get recognition all the time which he appreciates and the package is convenient. Slattery said an option could be to offer one entry, one pit pass, no banquet tickets and no name recognition. McKibben stated you can compare the cost at OVKA and what we have and we haven't raised prices for a while. He said maybe add a second entry at a better rate. Lynda Coombs explained second, third and beyond entries are already reduced for sponsors and everyone at a rate of \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members, excluding the Champ Race which is \$5 more. Wagar asked Schroeder to email his ideas.

TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: Ted Cradlebaugh asked if we want to seal the track this fall or wait. Gary Gregg suggested taking a look at it. Brent Warren reported there are a few places that

need attention; the wide and deep ones we did have sank. Josh Wagar said he wonders what will happen when it gets cold and we will take a look at this. Cradlebaugh said flags and banners need to be put up to which Wagar responded Shelley Powers has put some up. Wagar explained Powers informed him paint is peeling inside the men's showers and the wood underneath can be seen. Warren responded maybe we can replace the wood divider with plastic. Wagar stated something has to be done. Gary Gregg said he has several walls/stalls that might work which Wagar will look at. Gregg reported the flagpole is ready to be put in and will need new PVC. Ray McKibben reported he obtained a 12' section of steel pipe and will need a hand to install it Friday. Jeff Calvert and Pat Slattery offered to assist. McKibben reported there is a little bit chunking of the track surface in turn four. Gregg responded the cars weren't there. Warren said we can get some two-part rhino to which Wagar added it is very simple to do. Cradlebaugh stated there is a two-hour dry time and Wagar said we can do it and be ready fairly quickly. Warren asked if the rhino messes up handling on the track for a period of time. Wagar responded the rhino didn't seem to but when tar was used, it did. Warren stated we messed up putting tar down with wide squeegees. Wagar said it is questionable whether we will get this done before Saturday. Warren reported McKibben installed fans. Wagar thanked McKibben and Warren for their help and expertise.

OLD BUSINESS:

TRANSPONDERS: Ray McKibben is picking up a box this week to make a charging case for our individual transponders. Lynda Coombs provided totals for transponders from 2010 through June 26, 2016. Aaron Banfield discussed pricing for transponders and said AMB won't sell that style anymore and they have gone to annual fees. Brent Warren stated since 2012 we have averaged 30 rentals per event and we have 55. Coombs responded that may be the average but there have been times we ran out of rental transponders. Josh Wagar added the Champ Race and first race of the year are times we need more. Warren asked how many a suitcase holds to which Gary Gregg responded 32. Wagar said if the suitcase cost is lower, he would be inclined to get another one. Gregg suggested letting people who are getting out of karting know we'd like to buy their transponders. Wagar tabled the matter and asked Banfield to obtain pricing for a case so a final decision can be made next month.

TaG WEIGHTS: Josh Wagar stated he thinks we are good to go with TaG weights. He said the drivers seem content and there have been no complaints. Ted Cradlebaugh responded you chased a couple of people away when you moved weight down and the TaG class is in trouble. Brent Warren reported he has heard complaints. Cradlebaugh said its \$2,800 per year if you want to be competitive and we talked about stamping and limiting tires. He further stated you're going to lose this class because of tires and not making the weight higher. Ray McKibben stated we're a club with people working out of the back of pickup trucks and with full size motor homes. Cradlebaugh responded he does not see TaG staying. Wagar explained he got them all together and they agreed what they wanted to do then talked two or three races later. Cradlebaugh stated changing weight did not keep the front runners around and you can't compete if you don't put new tires on. He said board members need to be asking these drivers. Pat Slattery replied USPKS and WKA are really down and people are seeing how expensive it is to run karts like shifters; its tires and the whole package including motor. Wagar explained some of our racers blew up their TaG motors and did not want to spend the money. Brody Warren discussed it costing \$500 per weekend for two classes for club racing and he thinks we should limit tires to every two to three races. Slattery responded if we could find some way to do that, it would be great. Cradlebaugh said we would have to have someone managing it. Wagar said this can be put on the Rules Committee agenda for next year. Aaron Banfield asked how many people are changing tires every weekend. Reid Smith responded they run mid-pack with four sets in six races. Cradlebaugh stated tiers are not lasting as long as they used to and we have another year of Bridgestones. McKibben responded Bridgestone has other compounds.

Wagar said Freber doesn't care what compound we go with. Brody Warren suggested having some racers test MG tires. Wagar said Vega tires were awesome but both Vega and MG never worked up a bid. Slattery said we can go three to four races with the tires we have now if people don't buy new ones except for TaG. McKibben said this is something for Rules Committee and we need to discuss rain tires. McKibben asked Cradlebaugh if you can safely run two races in TaG with the same tires. Cradlebaugh replied yes. McKibben asked Warren if he can run three races. Warren said it depends on the kart and Banfield added it depends on rotation. Warren sated he does not feel the club should dictate how people spend their money. Slattery noted people get motors rebuilt too and he feels second day tires ae just as good. Warren asked if we should put TaG weights back to where they were. Cradlebaugh responded he thinks we should look at this for next year and look at the times. He further stated for some people it was the weight thing and he doesn't think we will get racers back this year. Gregg said then we need to change it back. Cradlebaugh added we need to save the TaG class somehow and suggested bringing the Leopard weights up to at least 370#. He said we need to get the people who run, used to run and the ones he has offered motors to and talk with them. Wagar said we will talk to the drivers.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATONS: Josh Wagar discussed a proposal regarding support for charitable organizations to provide an organizational membership that will cover all members of the organization with the individuals having to fill out membership paperwork for our records, up to four entries per OVKA event excluding the Charity Race, up to eight gate passes per OVKA event excluding the Charity Race, one reserved pit spot for all OVKA events, members of the charitable organizations that OVKA support agree to help promote the club at shows and assist OVKA with special events such as the Champ Race, Clean-Up Days and the Swap Meet. Aaron Banfield asked if a spot at the Swap Meet can be provided to promote charitable organizations which Wagar added to his proposal. Wagar said the Vets have been great helping at Clean-Up Day and shows and are happy to help. He stated we are more than willing to provide support for them and want to see their organizations grow. Banfield noted the kart has always carried the points. Wagar responded he does not want to make a habit of that and is willing to grandfather the Vets for that only. Ted Cradlebaugh added they could bring it up at the beginning of the year and declare. Wagar responded if the Vets can get four karts with four drivers who want to run. Banfield reported they now have four karts and their organization needs to not ask for what they are not going to use. Wagar said he is glad they have grown this year. Brent Warren made a motion to accept Josh Wagar's proposal with the addition of a booth at the Swap Meet. The motion was seconded by Wagar and passed unanimously. Wagar noted this will go into effect for 2017. He further stated if anybody new comes to us, we will vote on each one based on merits.

CHAMP RACE: Josh Wagar noted the Champ Race is this coming weekend. Gary Gregg has made arrangements for the meal, tables, chairs and soda. Elaine Gregg's singing group, Something Good, will be providing a concert for us. Ray McKibben and Brent Warren discussed the PA system for the singing group. Wagar reported there will be a DJ and Dawn Schroeder, Kerin Banfield and Racing4Vets are working on games. Larry Neuzel will be taking pictures on Sunday. Wagar explained help will be needed setting up and tearing down tables for the meal on Saturday. Gregg would like to see the meal start around 6:00 p.m. Wagar said he thinks plans are in good shape and we will have a good time. McKibben will be coordinating a tire changing contest.

AWAY RACES 2017: Josh Wagar plans to talk with Elaine Gregg to find out if she is willing to have more races at Camden. He explained he had been told for our race at Circleville, the weekend was completely open then that changed and there were motorcycles racing the day before our race. Pat Slattery noted there was no retrieval vehicle. Wagar responded Brad Crutchleo donated use of his pickup truck. Wagar discussed how there have been a lot of different hassles at away races and said

Circleville seems to be more focused on motorcycles. He said he has been a big supporter of trying to help Circleville and our organization helped to pave their track. Wagar expressed concern about the way we were treated this year. Brent Warren reported people walking in his trailer at both Circleville and New Castle demanding stickers or trophies at the end of the races. Lynda Coombs noted there have been issues with insurance paperwork at New Castle. Jeff Roberts added tech has been a nightmare too. Wagar said there have people there who thought we should race by their rules, insurance issues and extra headaches every time to the point it is out of control. Slattery discussed how an insurance paperwork issue at New Castle almost caused some people to leave. Warren responded they had the same insurance requirements last year. He further stated if we go to Circleville next year, we should rent the track for the whole weekend. Cradlebaugh and Wagar discussed how there seemed to be confusion about who was setting the schedule at Circleville. Wagar said it was about 4:00 p.m. on Saturday before our karters could get practice time at Circleville when it had been planned for us to have the track all day. Slattery discussed differences in revenue generated by the motorcycles verses our karts.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

TECH DIRECTOR: Ted Cradlebaugh discussed how he will be serving as Tech Director after Champ Race weekend and would like to purchase Jeff Roberts' motorcycle for \$500. Brent Warren, seconded by Josh Wagar, made a motion to buy Roberts' motorcycle for \$500. The motion passed unanimously. Cradlebaugh explained Ray Brown will continue to conduct post-tech. Wagar thanked Roberts for all of his hard work and extended appreciation to Cradlebaugh for filling the Tech Director position for the rest of the year.

POTENTIAL REQUEST TO MOVE UP: Ted Cradlebaugh reported he was approached by a junior-age driver about moving to a 420 senior class next year at which time he will be 14-years-old. Josh Wagar responded he told the driver to follow the rulebook and email the board. Cradlebaugh said board members need to see him racing and he is concerned whether the 420 class is going to be around. Gary Gregg suggested having a 206 Heavy class. Wagar reported there are a couple of drivers who are planning on moving up.

RACING IN THE RAIN: Ted Cradlebaugh discussed preparing racers now for racing in the rain which the board voted to do next year and not throw this on the next President. Gary Gregg responded Derek Hughes has offered to give a school on how to set up a kart for racing in the rain and maybe this could be done the morning of the Champ Race. Wagar said the Champ Race is too close to which Aaron Banfield agreed. Ray McKibben stated he would like to see rain rules before the end of the season. Brent and Brody Warren offered to help with instruction. Brent Warren said the biggest thing is for racers to get out there when it rains. Wagar added on off weekends when there is a forecast of rain is a good time to practice. Cradlebaugh stated people know we're racing in the rain next year so if they don't practice, it's on them.

BACK-TO-BACK EVENTS: Rick Coombs asked how the board felt the back-to-back weekend went when we made up the rainout. Josh Wagar responded he had planned on putting back-to-back events on the schedule until WKA changed their schedule. Gary Gregg said the only downfall is if the driver is sick, gets hurt, or tears up their kart or blows their motor. Brent Warren stated for those of us who stay at the track, it's great. Aaron Banfield added a bunch of his drivers did not stay and it was fine. Wagar said by the second day there were people complaining. Pat Slattery noted it was hot. Ted Cradlebaugh stated at Saturday races the kart count is down. Coombs said it is tougher on the workers.

TICKET BOOTH: Brody Warren asked if anyone has looked at the ticket booth. Josh Wagar responded that will be addressed this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT: Josh Wagar, seconded by Ted Cradlebaugh, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:

- Rollin' On The River – Sunday, July 24, 2016, Fernbank Park, Route 50 West River Road, Saylor Park, OH
- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 2, 2016, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Lebanon Blues Festival – Saturday, August 6, 2016, Lebanon, OH

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

- Aaron Banfield – Provide a pop-up canopy for the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Jeff Calvert – Assist with flagpole installation.
- Lynda Coombs – Staff the OVKA booth at the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Rick Coombs – Staff the OVKA booth at the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Dylan Cradlebaugh – Staff the OVKA booth at the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Coordinate OVKA's participation at the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Ray McKibben – Mark pit spots, oversee installation of flagpole, make transponder charging case.
- Pat Slattery – Assist with flagpole installation.
- Reid Smith – Staff the OVKA booth at Rollin on the River and the Lebanon Blues Festival.
- Josh Wagar – Look at cracks in track, look at wall/stall material Gary Gregg has, talk with TaG drivers, look at ticket booth.
- Brent Warren – Help with rain racing setup instruction.
- Brody Warren – help with rain racing setup instruction.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Calvert, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, R. Landes, L. McCready, R. McKibben, J. Roberts, B. Schroeder, P. Slattery, R. Smith, J. Wagar and B. Warren.

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: A. Banfield, L. Coombs, T. Hart, V. Oatts, D. Schroeder and B. Warren.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 7/24/16.