

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Josh Wagar called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and asked that cell phones be turned down or placed on vibrate and side conversations are taken outside.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the September 6, 2016 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously. Coombs said a thank you note was received from the family of Steve Boyer for OVKA's expression of sympathy.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Josh Wagar reported the extra show booth was found recently in the storage shed. He said it will be looked at this weekend at clean-up day and if it is in good shape, it can be used at shows. Wagar explained one of the booths can be set up at Full Throttle as Aaron Banfield offered us space in his lobby over the winter at no cost and Banfield will ask his staff to give out our flyers. Ray McKibben reported on research he has done on show booths and backdrops. He said a backdrop style that attaches to a pop-up canopy runs an average of \$250 and can be used without setting up a show booth. McKibben explained he narrowed down booths and they run \$600 to \$1,500 with \$750 to \$800 being similar to what we have. He said the downside is we can't get red and black and would have to go with gray/blue or gray/black. McKibben stated with the discovery of the old booth, he would like to see what it looks like. Wagar asked if the company will sell just the frame since ours is falling apart. McKibben will check into this. Brent Warren inquired about repairing our existing booths. Wagar explained we have been patching the main one for the past few years and we need to look at the condition of the other one. McKibben said for \$75 or less we can use a piece of material to Velcro pictures to. Wagar asked McKibben to move forward with this using red or black material. McKibben reported he put a new spare tire and jack in trailer; the jack was loaned to us by Gary Gregg. McKibben plans to install E-track in the trailer so the kid kart can stand upright which will keep the nose of it from getting beat up. Lynda Coombs reported the \$80 fee for the Indy Circle Track Show has been mailed and volunteers are in place.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready explained extra hands are needed at clean-up day to paint pit spot numbers. He reported Jeff Roberts made some reserved stickers and some will be put in the back area so it is less confusing. McCready said he does not think we will have all the sponsors next year that we had this year. He asked that people let him know of others who may be interested in becoming sponsors. McCready stated he does not have a good feel at this time who is going to take advantage of billboard space. He said he is grateful for all of the help this year. Ray McKibben suggested contacting Ron's Pizza and Powerhouse Pizza. Brian Schroeder said we could look at the BP Station, make them the official gas and put a sticker on pump one. Rick Coombs suggested reaching out to the new owner at the IGA store and Ken Kuethe added The Depot. Don Boles reported Reflections Restaurant is interested. Ray McKibben will contact Beaver Creek Rental when the new schedule comes out.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Josh Wagar reminded everyone clean-up day is this Sunday starting at 10:00 a.m. Ted Cradlebaugh reported 36 pails of sealer is being shipped to Gary Gregg and they are good for a year if put inside. Brent Warren discussed having the right tools to put down

the sealer. Josh Wagar will go to Home Depot this week. Don Boles suggested using smudge pots as they can be carried with a handle. McKibben will check into obtaining some. He added a second option could be to install a spout on a five-gallon can then put it on a wagon. Warren responded you would have to hold the five-gallon can until it is almost empty which would be a killer. He added we want to make sure we address the track loop crack. Wagar noted we have at least two buckets of Rhino Patch. Warren said a big drill and paddle will be needed to mix with which McKibben offered to obtain. McKibben discussed replacement of the billboard posts and suggested the size be reduced from seven spots across to five using 4' by 8' sheets. He explained each of the posts will have a back brace and an auger will be needed to be rented. McKibben asked Rick Coombs if there is any drain tile in that location to which Coombs said no. McKibben explained this will give us twelve spots. Wagar said the biggest reason people don't want to rent the billboards is the expense of the vinyl. McKibben said three flags can be installed to which Wagar stated unless we come up with a permanent flag, he wouldn't put any up there. McKibben thanked Reid Smith for his assistance with the demolition work and Rick Coombs for use of an apple bucket. McKibben said he does not know if we want to address any of this during clean-up day to which Wagar responded we have too much else to do. Jeff Roberts, Brian Schroeder, Reid Smith and Brent Warren agreed to help McKibben with this project. McKibben reported Gregg is willing to split the expenses and said the treated lumber will be the biggest part of the cost. Ray McKibben made a motion to appropriate \$2,000 for the billboard project with Gary Gregg sharing half the expense. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed with thirteen in favor and one abstained (Cradlebaugh out of the room). Warren stated there will be \$500 in concrete. Wagar asked volunteers to get together to figure out the details.

**RULES COMMITTEE:** Josh Wagar explained the 2017 rulebook list is the lightest he has seen so he would like to discuss the items at board meetings instead of having committee meetings.

- Limit the number of sets of tires that can be used during the season / consider different tires – Wagar reported this has been brought up and he has tried to come up with a way to police limiting the number of tires if it were to be implemented. Brent Warren responded he does not think we should dictate how people spend their money. Ted Cradlebaugh stated it would take a tech person to police it. Wagar said we can discuss this further if someone wants to come up with a proposal how to do it. Cradlebaugh stated he asked 80% of the racers and they said they would like to have limits. Warren reported everywhere else they have raced, except Circleville, they could run tires more than one week and our track is getting rough. Ken Kuethe said the winners didn't run new tires every week but they did all but twice. Wagar reported some of the people he talked with said they agree with limitations but asked how it would be policed which Wagar stated would be tough to do. Slattery responded are we going to say people can only rebuild their motors or clutches once or twice a year. Wagar reported he has Vega tires and there's no drop off. He further stated an easier solution is to see if we can find a tire that will last longer. Warren stated it comes down to would you like to run tires more than one time or would you like us to tell you how many times you can run tires? He added for those who are newer and practice a lot, they can't run the same tires week after week. Wagar said the easier solution is to get back to something different that Bridgestone that doesn't fall off. He reported having it explained to him that with Vegas being natural rubber, they last longer. Wagar said you can show up with any tire and be disqualified; it's not like we're turning people away. Don Boles reported people he talked with would like to stand a chance. Kuethe asked what classes they are in and Slattery stated it's perception. Smith reported they finished second having used twelve sets over fourteen races. He said he can tell you how much it makes a difference; it cost them four-tenths of a second to not run new tires. Wagar said he thinks a better way to address the issue is to find tires that don't fall off to which Smith agreed.

Warren stated he thinks the track has gotten rougher the past five or six years. Ted Cradlebaugh responded at New Castle, you don't have to lift. Warren suggested doing real testing on our track.

- Rain tires – Josh Wagar said he is inclined to basically copy/paste WKA's wording for rain tires. He stated the argument is do we paint rain tires and limit the number of sets? Ted Cradlebaugh responded the person who can put on multiple rain tires on that day will kick your butt and you can \$600 in one weekend for rain tires. Brian Schroeder said if dry goes to rain, having to repaint will cause a delay. Wagar responded the whole world stops for everybody to change over then when you push up, you can get painted again. He said some people told him if it rains, they will take one lap then stop and if it is a small class, you might as well take your chances. Warren said that is why others don't want to limit the number due to wearing out a set. Wagar responded you can present to the tech director and show the tires are smoked. Slattery said they don't wear. Cradlebaugh responded you can ruin a set in one race. Kuethe stated everybody said this wouldn't cost. Wagar explained he already talked with the next race director and it will be on the club to manage and help people to not smoke their tires next year. McKibben said \$600 will be hard as a lot of karters are on a budget. Josh Wagar made a motion we adopt WKA rain rules with the addition of tires get painted and if there is a malfunction, the can present to the tech director. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs. Cradlebaugh noted the race director can change the format. Schroeder said you are putting a lot of responsibility on the race director to which Wagar stated we do already. Following further discussion, Brent Warren amended the motion to follow WKA rules. The amendment was seconded by Ken Kuethe and failed with eight opposed and six in favor (roll call: Coombs-no, Cradlebaugh-yes, Gregg-no, Kuethe-yes, Landes-yes, McCready-no, McKibben-no, Roberts-no, Schroeder-yes, Slattery-yes, Smith-no, Warren-yes, Boles-no, Calvert-no). The original motion was then voted on passed with ten in favor and four opposed (roll call: Cradlebaugh-yes, Gregg-yes, Kuethe-no, Landes-no, McCready-yes, McKibben-yes, Roberts-yes, Schroeder-no, Slattery-yes, Smith-yes, Warren-no, Boles-yes, Calvert-yes, Coombs-yes). Warren stated you realize you're forcing people to want to have a new set at the start of the day. Cradlebaugh responded you will have to have two sets anyway.
- Have provision to declare want to be an event DQ – Wagar will provide wording and present next month.
- Wording that must be member before participation can count (currently wording that have to be member for points to count) – Consensus was to make this change.
- Change wording regarding lineups based on points for qualifying; change to group qualifying – Warren stated he thinks we should still line up by points for group qualifying and it does make a difference. Kuethe asked are you going to force them to do that and reported there was a driver who chose to stay back every time. Warren responded even if it is group qualifying, they should gap them and it is not fair for somebody with someone on the tail. Landes stated it is always the choice of the driver to make their space. McKibben said it solves a lot of arguments to have it by points and if you are in the front, you always have the choice to go back. Wagar noted we didn't do this all year and nobody came to him. Roberts said if they have an X on their helmet they should be on the tail. Lynda Coombs responded we do that. Slattery asked for an argument why we shouldn't line up by points. Wagar responded we never cared where they went out. Slattery sated they have to spend three laps getting around. Kuethe asked if you are going to force them to start by points. Rick Coombs discussed his observations at the last qualifying race where there was often a racer who was late and had a total clean track. He further stated the fast group could catch the racer with an X and it's a catch 22. Wagar discussed some of the racers who held back on entering the track. Slattery said they did it because we didn't have a lineup. Kuethe disagreed saying some did it to have

a clear track and let's go back to four kart qualifying with two laps. Warren said let's set the order. Roberts asked how are you are going to police it. Cradlebaugh said there is no reason we can't line up by points and asked Lynda Coombs if this is a problem to which she responded no, it just takes some time to enter the lineups. Rick Coombs pointed out breaking classes down into groups takes longer. Warren said he does not want them coming out of the grid pushing us. Schroeder stated so we will do lineup orders by points so it's suggested. Jeff Calvert said he wants to go in the front to which Warren responded so be higher in the points. Calvert stated somebody will sit there. Wagar said we'll leave it.

- Tiebreaker at qualifying events needs to be second fastest lap (need to check with software provider) – Wagar explained this became an issue this season when down to the thousandths of a second, two racers were tied. The tie was broken by manually adjusting the order based on the second fastest lap. There is no issue with this being included in the software program.
- Helmets – Slattery reported Snell helmets are changing and the 2005 are no longer good. Warren added December 2016 and older are no good. Roberts stated 2007s are still good. Wagar asked Lynda Coombs to email WKA about this. McKibben said once we find out for sure, we need to tell people how to check their helmets.
- Red flag rule – Warren said the red flag rule should be common sense and discussed a situation when a karter drove up on his son, his son was fine and couldn't race. Wagar responded until adrenaline wears off, you don't know if the driver may be injured and he would rather err on the side of safety. He further stated at that moment, Warren's son had a kart right on top of him. Slattery said two races ago we had seven karts piled up and no red flag. Bob Kilkenny responded no one was injured. Kuethe said we need to educate on getting karts out of the way. Wagar stated we can second-guess the race director from here until next month; if we call for the red flag, it is for safety's sake. Roberts shared about a guy he went to high school with who jumped out of his kart, said he was fine, then got in the ambulance and died a few minutes later from a torn aorta. Warren responded he is not trying to argue if someone is injured. Wagar explained from where he was standing based on what he could see, either one could have been injured and it is best to make them sit out. Gary Gregg said he has been race director many years and if the red flag doesn't come out, they would be at the tail end anyway. Warren responded he is not saying the red flag shouldn't be called. Kilkenny stated the end result is the same thing. Wagar told Warren he could make a motion. Warren asked if we should have a hard, fast rule or not. Kuethe responded we need to use the common sense side. Following further discussion, Warren said he will come up with some wording. Wagar asked Warren to email this to the board and said we will vote on it next month. Wagar discussed what he saw from where he was standing when the incident occurred. Gregg stated OVKA will always err on the side of safety and he's glad about that.

**SWAP MEET:** Josh Wagar reported Doug Benson is having flyers shipped and Lynda Coombs will get some for shows. Brian Schroeder is going to help Benson with the Swap Meet and they will figure out how they will split duties. Benson had considered going to the PRI Show but decided not to. Wagar said it sounds like the Swap Meet is in good shape and next weekend he plans to go see the new location at the Roberts Centre. Gary Gregg said it is a nice facility and the location is great.

**BANQUET COMMITTEE:** Rick Coombs said it is the time of year the board needs to determine how much they want to allocate for the banquet. Coombs reviewed class averages and Gary Gregg asked how many did not meet the minimum average. Coombs replied the ones that did not were Junior Heavy, Yamaha Senior Novice, TaG Masters, Pro Gas, OVKA 420 Heavy, and Junior LO206. Gregg reported Shelley Powers is going to help with coming up with new champion and runner-up jackets. Brent Warren said Kristen will work with Powers on this. Coombs said the cost needs to

stay in the same range to which Gregg said he thinks it will be less. Coombs stated he will need the cost by the next board meeting. Gregg asked how much Coombs thinks will be needed for the banquet. Coombs replied the same as last year. Brian Schroeder suggested using a percentage and pointed out we have the expense of the Cavalcade Show, sealant, and signs, and owe Gary Gregg. Gregg explained balances go down before the Swap Meet then go back up. Schroeder asked if we should have that money on hand. Wagar asked the board to think about this for next month. Gregg said for years he has wanted to have the banquet on the same day as the Swap Meet and suggested having the 2018 banquet at the Roberts Centre in the afternoon. He reported Benson checked on the meal price, which is \$20. The facility is not sure they can switch over to the banquet in two hours or less. Gregg said it would save \$3,000 to \$4,000. Wagar said he would be more inclined to see if they would give us a discount to have the banquet there on the second weekend in February. He explained there are a number of people involved in the Swap Meet and banquet and there is way too much to be done. Lynda Coombs explained there is setup for a number of hours the night before and Wagar added also in the morning. Warren asked about having the banquet on the day after the Swap Meet. Wagar said we can take a look at this but he doesn't see how everything can be done. Jeff Roberts said as a vendor it is hard because when the Swap Meet is over, you are tired. McKibben said last year we talked about members voting at the banquet instead of the meeting. Wagar replied his thought is to keep it the same. He said he thought there was going to be a committee who was going to look at this. Roberts replied he dropped the ball on this and he felt like it wasn't what was wanted.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**TRANSPONDERS:** Josh Wagar reported Brian Schroeder is looking for used transponders. Wagar will be obtaining one from Craig Bogan and Schroeder has two more. Schroeder has been talking with a gentleman who has twenty transponders and a charging case for sale. Schroeder said November through January is the best time to buy transponders. Wagar noted \$3,500 has already been appropriated.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2018 TIRES:** Josh Wagar explained he had talked with Reid Smith who offered to check into tire options. Wagar provided Smith with all of the contact information and our current Bridgestone contract so we can get a head start. Pat Slattery reported he was contacted by the new MG distributor, Kartsport. Wagar said let's see if we can get real bids from other tire manufacturers. Smith said he is getting started early to get ahead of it.

**2017 MEMBERSHIP FEE:** Lynda Coombs explained the 2017 membership application will be included with the annual mailing going out toward the end of November. She asked the board if they want to maintain the same membership fee structure we had this season. Gary Gregg suggested the fee be \$40 or \$50. Ray McKibben asked if the gate fee will be increased. Gregg responded he thinks it needs to go to \$10. Brian Schroeder suggested raising the gate and keeping the membership fee the same. Gregg asked what entry fees are. Coombs replied for members, the first entry is \$35 and additional classes for the same driver are \$20 each; for non-members, the fees are \$40 and \$25. Gregg responded he thinks we went too low for second entries. Coombs said her opinion is to leave membership fees the same to which Josh Wagar agreed. Wagar said we need to think about the gate fee and decide next month. He noted other tracks charge at least \$10.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**CHARITY RACE:** Josh Wagar reminded everyone the Charity Race is this coming weekend. He said last year we let the Kid Karts run and they didn't get anything and he thinks they should receive

something. Lynda Coombs suggested a gift card to which Wagar agreed and suggested it be for \$25. Brian Schroeder said we could take the left over tires and give two at a time. Wagar said he plans to clean out the left over prizes for the Charity Race. Wagar reported a parent asked if the Kid Karts can run transponders. Coombs suggested loaning them transponders and they can purchase holders for \$8.00. Slattery said they can put the transponder in their pocket. Schroeder said people have been asking for transponders for Kid Karts and we are looking at this for next year. Wagar explained he will have a prize pool for the other classes that qualified for awards, which will be based on the number of entries. Ray McKibben asked how much was donated to charities last year. Wagar replied \$4,000 with \$2,000 to each one. Wagar explained there will be a raffle for a radio McKibben got donated. McKibben will handle ticket sales for this.

**420 CLASS:** Rick Coombs asked if the 420 class will have a minimum weight of 450# beginning at the Charity Race. Josh Wagar responded yes.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Don Boles, seconded by Josh Wagar, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- Clean-Up Day – 10:00 a.m., Sunday, October 9, 2016, G & J Kartway, Camden, OH
- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1, 2016, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show – Friday through Sunday, January 6-8, 2017, Duke Energy Convention Center, 525 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202
- OVKA Annual Membership Meeting & 2017 Banquet – Saturday, January 14, 2017, Cincinnati Marriott Northeast, 9664 Mason Montgomery Road, Mason, OH, 45040
- Indy Circle Track Show – Saturday, January 28, 2017, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis, IN, 46205
- OVKA 2017 Swap Meet – Saturday, February 4, 2017, The Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Road, Wilmington, OH 45177

#### **SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Email WKA regarding helmets.
- Ray McKibben – Check if booth frame can be purchased separately, obtain red or black material for show booth, obtain smudge pots and a big drill with paddle for clean-up day, coordinate installation of new billboards.
- Jeff Roberts – Assist with installation of new billboards.
- Brian Schroeder – Assist with installation of new billboards.
- Reid Smith – Assist with installation of new billboards, research tire options.
- Josh Wagar – Obtain tools for clean-up day, provide wording at next month's meeting regarding declaring want to be an event DQ, visit the Roberts Centre.
- Brent Warren – Assist with installation of new billboards, email wording regarding red flags to the board.

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

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** M. Cook, L. Coombs. B. Kilkenny, P. Kilkenny, S. Kilkenny and V. Oatts.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 10/19/16.