

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Josh Wagar called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked that cell phones be placed on silent or vibrate. Wagar installed the 2017 officers with Don Boles as President, Ken Kuethe as Vice-President, Lynda Coombs as Secretary and Jason Gregg as Treasurer. Boles extended appreciation to Wagar for everything he did for the club. Rick Coombs extended thanks to Wagar for all of his work as President the past two years and said he did a heck of a job. Wagar received a round of applause.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the January 3, 2017 monthly board meeting minutes and the January 14, 2017 annual general membership meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Brent Warren and passed unanimously.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Lynda Coombs reported the Indy Circle Track Show went well and a lot of Swap Meet flyers were distributed. She noted there were six individuals who said they were planning on attending the Swap Meet and did not know the location had changed. Rick Coombs explained they have an auction that runs throughout the day. Lynda Coombs noted they are an auction service called MCS Auctions. Josh Wagar said if an auction is wanted, he suggests doing it later in the day. Pat Slattery stated we used to have an auction and Gary Gregg was the auctioneer. Gregg replied the last year it was done nobody brought anything to auction. He explained we charged 10% and you could put a reserve on the auctioned items. Slattery said he thinks we could do this and suggested announcing it throughout the event. Gregg reported one year we made \$1,000. Ray McKibben asked if there is a place to have it to which Doug Benson replied no. Ted Cradlebaugh pointed out there are meeting rooms. Brent Warren and Josh Wagar will participate in the Great Lakes Racing Expo on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Full Throttle Indoor Karting. Wagar provided Boles with the packet for the DARF Race Cars & Future Starts Expo in Piqua on Thursday through Saturday, March 17-19, 2017. Boles asked volunteers to contact him to help at this event.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready reported there are eighteen pit spots available to reserve. He said Jeff Roberts provided reserved stickers to put on the maps. McCready explained pit spot maps will be located by the ticket booth and tower and asked for suggestions where to place up to two more. Rick Wagar replied one could go on the side of the grid area. Brent Warren suggested placing them at the gate, tower, grid and concession areas. Ray McKibben discussed making them weatherproof by using two pieces of Plexiglas. Jeff Roberts said the more maps you have, the harder it will be to keep them updated and if we have three or four, they are not going to coincide. He suggested having two at the most.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ray McKibben stated the billboards will be going up prior to clean-up day weather permitting. He said he will obtain the materials and get a group of people together. Dylan Cradlebaugh asked if the billboards will be the same as they had been. McKibben replied they will be a little shorter but we can add on. Josh Wagar explained sometime before clean-up day Don Boles will need to go to the track to see what needs to be repaired. Wagar said he did this two weeks before clean-up day. Brent Warren reported the cracks seem to be pretty good. Wagar replied we should be down to once a year for track sealing.

**RULES COMMITTEE:** Josh Wagar explained there were a couple of typos in the new rulebook and Brian Schroeder and Angie Calvert handwrote some corrections in the new rulebooks. Jeff Roberts said it was brought to his attention regarding the 420 rules that we were going to take out that the starter has to remain operable. He said he had not added that we will allow hand-held starters as we don't care how you start it anymore. Wagar asked Roberts to email the changes to him for the website. Pat Slattery asked if equipment that comes with it has to stay. Roberts replied no but you can't take the ring gear off. Wagar asked that any other typos be brought to his attention. Ted Cradlebaugh said he has seen people talking about tires for the 206 class. Don Boles replied they are talking about the 206 class having 7" tires only. Brent Warren stated he doesn't see why. Wagar responded for months we said if there are any rules questions to send them to us and nobody ever brought this up until he received an email this past Sunday. Following further discussion Slattery made a motion we adopt 7.10 or 6.00 for 206 Junior and Senior classes and you can't mix tire sizes in the back. The motion was seconded by Ken Kuethe and passed unanimously. Randy Landes asked Ray McKibben is this violates the Briggs and Stratton program. McKibben said we clarified with David Klaus and they govern engine specs; body and tires are under local control.

**SWAP MEET COMMITTEE:** Don Boles extended appreciation to Doug Benson for all of his work with the Swap Meet. Benson received a round of applause. Benson said he has had nothing but good reports from the vendors and things went pretty smooth. Ray McKibben asked how many vendors attended to which Benson replied roughly 135. Benson extended thanks to Brian Schroeder for lining up workers. Benson explained in the past WKA paid for Swap Meet insurance and this year they changed their policy. He called Michael Davis and it was necessary to purchase a policy at a cost of \$652. Benson noted we are paying \$12,000 per year for insurance with WKA. Ted Cradlebaugh questioned them not covering us for the Swap Meet. Benson replied they don't any more. Lynda Coombs asked what about work days to which Gary Gregg said he will have to check. Benson asked about insurance for the banquet. Gregg responded the motel would have something. Kuethe asked if when we reserve with the Marriott whether they ask for insurance to which Rick Coombs responded no. Benson stated he guesses there is a difference with the Swap Meet because we have guys lifting things and something could fall.

**BANQUET COMMITTEE:** Rick Coombs provided a banquet report and said this was the smoothest one for he and Lynda. Lynda Coombs noted that the food was warm. Rick Coombs extended thanks to Lynda and all of the people who helped with the event. He said the facility would like to schedule us there next year with a tentative date of January 13, 2018 as the following week is already booked. Pat Slattery replied that's early to which Rick Coombs said we have had some years where we were earlier than others. Rick Coombs made a motion to go to the Cincinnati Marriott Northeast for the 2017 banquet. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed with thirteen in favor and one abstained (Coombs).

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**TRANSPONDERS:** Rick Coombs reported four used transponders have been purchased. Rick Wagar asked why we are buying them to which Josh Wagar explained they are becoming obsolete and we want to have plenty to rent.

**2018 TIRES:** Reid Smith reported all tire packets have gone out with the exception of Hoosier whose will be sent tomorrow now that he has their contact information thanks to Don Boles. He explained he included a response card with the packets asking if they are willing to provide test tires. Smith will provide monthly updates about responses.

**WEBSITE LAYOUT / INFORMATION:** Brian Schroeder reported he spoke with Gary Osterholt this past weekend regarding some website wording, grammar and content. Ted Cradlebaugh said we need to be thankful to Osterholt for the great job he does at a reasonable price and how he gets things done promptly. Josh Wagar replied Osterholt enjoys helping us as he grew up in the club himself. Ken Kuethe asked who can post to the website. Wagar replied he is able to post announcements. Kuethe said he would not mind doing it or have Schroeder help as it should not be just one person. Ray McKibben thanked Wagar for being the administrator on Facebook.

**2017 SCHEDULE:** Don Boles said as he looked at the schedule there is one date he would have liked to have changed but it is what it is. Ted Cradlebaugh replied it can be changed. Boles pointed out that the Saturday night events will start one hour later. Rick Wagar asked for the reason to have two rain dates. Boles responded he thought we should keep them on the schedule this year. Josh Wagar explained there will still be some weather conditions when we wouldn't race. Boles stated this would happen if we had to call it for the day, such as lightning. Josh Wagar said it is still in the rulebook if we get two heats in, we will call it a race. Boles noted once we take to the track, the wristbands are used. Josh Wagar referred to the rulebook explaining it says the board will make the decision on race day and the President can cancel by 8:00 p.m. the day before. He added everybody will have to buy new wristbands if we cancel after having taken to the track. Brian Schroeder asked how this affects the ambulance. Josh Wagar replied we have paid them for shortened days. Schroeder asked if we have rain gear for the workers, such as reusable ponchos. Ray McKibben offered to obtain literature about rain gear. Kuethe said we can go to Wal-Mart. Rick Wagar suggested using inexpensive plastic rain suits. Boles asked McKibben and Schroeder to gather information about rain gear options and submit it.

**TaG CLASS:** Ken Kuethe reported there are five or six we can count on for TaG. Gary Gregg stated he talked with Randall Pierce and told him we would like to have him race. Pierce told Gregg the tires were killing him and suggested going with the hardest tire compound. Gregg said he would increase the weight so heavy guys can run. Kuethe replied he doesn't mind that but asked if we are penalizing lighter drivers. Rick Wagar noted when we used to run Shifters, they had open tires. Josh Wagar replied Bridgestone will not allow it. Rick Wagar inquired if it can be open Bridgestones. Ted Cradlebaugh stated that makes it worse and we had kicked around limiting tires. Reid Smith said one way could be to require racers to run tires twice. Kuethe said he doesn't think TaG needs to continue to be on the agenda for Ted Cradlebaugh and himself to call people. Pat Slattery stated we've got people in that class that are going to slap new tires on. Dylan Cradlebaugh said he does not want to race with only four people. Don Boles said if you guys can make it go, that would be great.

**SECURITY CAMERAS:** Brent Warren will partner with Gary Gregg to address track security.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**NEED OF OVKA FOUNDER:** Josh Wagar explained he had forwarded an email to the board from Jean Stafford regarding Ron Withrow, a founding OVKA member, whose home in Florida had major storm damage. Anyone who would like to contribute to assist the family can refer to the OVKA website and Facebook sites for more information which Wagar will post.

**RACE MONITOR:** Pat Slattery said a lot of people would like to have Race Monitor and he took the liberty of contacting them. Lynda Coombs reported she communicated with our software provider who will be able to incorporate this feature into our software at a cost of \$525. Coombs explained there will need to be a determination of how the output will take place into the Race Monitor feed. Pat Slattery said there is a \$5.00 fee for the app. Brent Warren stated this is not just for us. Rick Wagar

asked what data leaves our system. Coombs explained it is timing data. She said a Race Monitor staff member has reached out to our software provider to discuss this. Warren said they need a scoreboard feed which we already have and it would be possible for her to write to feed both but he doesn't see the need to. Coombs read an email from Lori Richardson as follows: *"Based on our conversations with you, we have investigated integrating Race Monitor with Lightning. We will be happy to create that interface for OVKA. We can have it ready for you to implement before the start of your race season if we have the go ahead to develop it prior to February 15th. The cost for development will be \$525. What would happen is that Lightning would broadcast to Race Monitor and your racers would be able to connect to Race Monitor and use it per their membership with that service. From what I have seen, they charge \$4.99 per year plus an optional \$3.99 upgrade fee. That would be between your racers and that company. We only create the feed to Race Monitor."* Warren stated the fee for the app only applies if you want it live. Slattery said it is worth it and relatives can watch it on their phone. Warren stated he thinks we should do this. Rick Coombs asked if the signal goes out over Wi-Fi to which Warren replied yes and we haven't had Internet issues. Lynda Coombs made a motion to appropriate \$525 for our software provider to integrate Race Monitor into our system. The motion was seconded by Slattery and passed unanimously. Warren extended thanks to Lori Richardson. Slattery thanked Lynda Coombs for doing the extra work to look into this.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**REQUEST TO MOVE UP:** Brent Warren explained his son, Brody, misses the cutoff to be in seniors by eighteen days and he is seeking permission to move him up at the start of the season. Josh Wagar responded WKA has told us they take this on a case-by-case basis with the approval of five of our board members. He further stated we have submitted requests up to a year younger and it is WKA's final call. Wagar explained things to consider are how much experience the driver has had and how much too big they are for the younger class. A motion was made by Pat Slattery, seconded by Josh Wagar, to petition WKA to allow Brody Warren to move up to Senior classes with affirmation of the following board members: Boles, Calvert, Cradlebaugh, Gregg, Kuethe, McKibben, Schroeder, Slattery, Smith and Wagar. It was determined a vote on the motion was not necessary since five board members need only to affirm the request. Ray McKibben asked Rick Wagar, who will be serving as Race Director, if he is comfortable with this. Rick Wagar replied if this was posed to him on race day, he would answer but since it is not, it is up to the board. Ted Cradlebaugh asked what the reason is for moving up. Brent Warren replied to race a full season and have a chance. Cradlebaugh said he is looking at it for the club; he thinks Brody is capable and asked if we are creating something. Ken Kuethe said his fear would be how many people are within a reasonable time and how many this opens it up to. Don Boles reported three other people have asked him about moving up and he informed them of the process for making this request. Brent Warren noted Brody won the championship last year. Cradlebaugh said he agrees with letting some people move up and some people will complain. Josh Wagar replied to tell people to read the rulebook and understand it's case-by-case. Boles said he hopes as a board we look at what would help the club and not one person. Kuethe responded most of these scenarios are not helping the club. Boles stated sooner or later someone will come to us asking to do this and we have to say no. Rick Coombs asked if this request includes TaG to which Brent Warren replied yes. Lynda Coombs will email the request to WKA.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Josh Wagar, seconded by Ken Kuethe, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- Great Lakes Racing Expo – Saturday, February 18, 2017, Full Throttle Indoor Karting, 11725 Commons Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45246
- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 7, 2017 Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- DARF Race Cars & Future Starts Expo – Thursday through Saturday, March 17-19, 2017, Miami Valley Centre Mall, Piqua, OH 45356

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Email Lori Richardson that the board approved the fee to integrate Race Monitor, email request to WKA for Brody Warren to move up to Seniors.
- Gary Gregg – Check with WKA about insurance for work days.
- Ray McKibben – Work with Brian Schroeder on obtaining information about rain gear options.
- Brian Schroeder – Work with Ray McKibben on obtaining information about rain gear options.
- Reid Smith – Provide monthly updates about responses from tire companies.
- Josh Wagar – Post information on the OVKA website and Facebook sites pertaining to assisting the Withrow family

**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:** D. Benson, M. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, G. Lutz, E. Smith, R. Wagar and Brody Warren.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 2/20/17.