

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ken Kuethe called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming. He asked that cell phones be turned off or placed on vibrate and that discussions be brief as there is a lot to cover this evening. Kuethe extended thanks to Ted Cradlebaugh, Lynda Coombs, and the team of people who worked at race day and said things went perfect. He added the people at the top are keeping it all together. Aaron Banfield said the last race was a record for finishing up early.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the May 1, 2018 board meeting minutes with a correction to the spelling of Tracy on page three in the section titled "Races 1 & 2". The motion was seconded by Ted Cradlebaugh and passed unanimously. Coombs said she would like everyone to note that the July Board meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, due to the Fourth of July holiday.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Brian Schroeder reported he talked with Shelley Powers and Gary Gregg and learned there is going to be a parade celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Camden in September. He said it will be on an off weekend. Schroeder suggested having some karts drive in the parade and said Powers will have a trailer. He will work with Powers on this event. Aaron Banfield pointed out this is extremely hard of clutches. Lee McCready reported plans are set for the Lebanon Blues Festival being held Saturday, August 4, 2018. He explained our spots are reserved and our name will be in the program and on their Facebook site. Ray McKibben will assist in getting the OVKA logo and information to McCready. McKibben reported the LED lights for the new show booth were received. Banfield suggested labeling the booths indoor and outdoor. McKibben discussed the need for new pictures and Ted Cradlebaugh said we need pictures of new people. Ken Kuethe will talk with Sean Birkle who has a lot of pictures of our races. McKibben will determine the sizes needed then get with Kuethe. In follow up to collection of information from some of the racers, Kuethe reported most of the people who were polled found out about OVKA from other people. Banfield reported data showed 38% found out at settings other than work, 17% through Full Throttle, at other racing events 14%, from someone at work 11%, on the Internet 7%, and a past history with OVKA 5%. Banfield said clearly word-of-mouth is the number one recruiting tool. Kuethe agreed and added our presence at shows is important.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready reported we are down twenty-five pit spot rentals this year and said a lot of people are taking advantage of free spaces. He explained there are people who think we should cut down on paid spots which he disagrees with as pit spot rentals fund the ambulance. McCready said there are about twenty-five spots open and last year we were full. He explained there are people parking in paid spots and asked if we want to police it or let it go. Aaron Banfield replied his thought is to let it go. Rick Wagar inquired about charging a daily rate, such as \$10, for unpaid reserved spots. McCready explained we have always charged a pro-rated rate. Ray McKibben suggested explaining to people we use the pit spot funds for the ambulance. Wagar asked why the spots are not marked reserved to which McCready replied because they change. Wagar suggested marking the reserved spots so people see to not park there. Brian Schroeder recommended painting the reserved spots a different color. Ken Kuethe said the ladies at the gate could then tell people they can park in the red area for example. McCready said he tried to do that with having a map. Following further discussion, Kuethe said we need to police this. Lynda Coombs explained in the past we have policed it and charged a daily rate of \$15. Warren said he does not

think we should charge. Wagar replied we could charge \$15 at the gate if it is known what is available. Kuethe said we will gather information at the next race and could maybe ask the ladies at the gate to help. Dawn Schroeder asked if this is something you want to do in the middle of the season. Banfield replied we need to look at it. Wagar added we may want to consider this for next season. Ted Cradlebaugh said he doesn't see the problem and he knows we are losing a little revenue.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ken Kuethe reported picnic table materials are on the way. Ray McKibben extended thanks to Rex Johnson and McCabe Lumber. A billboard will be put up for McCabe Lumber. Brent Warren asked about removing the broken pole by the track entrance. Aaron Banfield explained the rollout gate goes to that point. Ken Kuethe discussed fence repairs that need to be made which McKibben said he will take care of. Banfield discussed needing a way of securing pop-ups. McKibben said it would be nice to paint the grid for the national race in July. Warren noted when it is hot, tires rip paint off. Banfield reported the week of June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Vets are looking at pressure washing the tech barn and concession building and they could blast the grid. Warren said the asphalt needs to be sealed but not mid-season. Banfield inquired if we should paint before the July national race to which Warren replied ideally, we need to strip the old paint then clean and paint. McKibben offered to quick patch a section in the tech lane area. Ted Cradlebaugh asked Gary Gregg what it would cost to seal the grid, painting area, pit lane, scale lane, and parking lot. Gregg said he can get an estimate. Randy Landes asked if it pays to do all that sealing before repairs are made. Cradlebaugh replied there are only a couple of areas to repair. Landes stated he doesn't see sealing over something that's weak to which Warren agreed. Banfield said to plan for the Vets to power wash the two buildings one day then paint the next during the weekend of June 23<sup>rd</sup>. He said he and Kuethe talked about allowing people to earn volunteer credits for this. McKibben explained paint peeled up when tire testing was done and said we need to be careful what type of paint is used. Banfield replied we can talk about this at the next board meeting. Brian Schroeder suggested announcing at the driver's meetings that we are looking for volunteers to help with this. Banfield said it can also be posted on Facebook. He further stated we do not have enough information about paint to make a decision tonight. Michael Lewis recommended red marking paint to which Kuethe stated that is what was used two years ago. Warren added that is what is coming up. Banfield said it is because the old paint was not taken up.

**CHAMP RACE:** Gary Gregg reported after tonight he will let Luigi's Catering know if we want them to provide the meal at the Champ Race. Rick Coombs has confirmed the DJ and Lynda Coombs ordered the trophies. Lynda Coombs asked if the gate and entry fees will be the same as last year, specifically, \$25 gate fee on Saturday and \$15 on Sunday and \$5.00 more for entry fees. Consensus was to keep the fees the same. Ken Kuethe said for next year he would like to look at entries leading up to the Champ Race to determine the number of trophies per class. He said he doesn't think we should give five for a class of eight entries. Lynda Coombs explained she did not order for all of the classes listed because some have had no entries thus far and we will use trophies from other classes for pictures if needed. She further stated it is in this year's rulebook to provide trophies for the top five. Rick Wagar said in open-wheel racing, a podium finish is the top three. He said let's make sure this gets on the list for Rules Committee discussion. Rick Coombs explained prior to the current policy, we used to have a percentage method for trophies but some people did not like that. Kuethe said he has no problem with Sportsman-age and thinks for Junior-age and above it should be the top three. Rick Coombs noted they all pay the same fees. Banfield said for Kid Karts it's great; if it's the top five and my Sportsman kid gets sixth, it's important to teach them. Kuethe reported the Vets are handling games for the Champ Race. Banfield explained he talked with Virgil Oatts and Spirit4Racing will be helping also. Lynda Coombs reported after talking with Kuethe, she ordered neon necklaces, bracelets and glasses for giveaways. Dawn Schroeder inquired about a \$300

budget and said she thought last month there was talk about asking Pat Slattery if he would help. Banfield responded Pat wasn't interested and said he will volunteer his wife. Dawn Schroeder discussed designing a Champ Race t-shirt to give away and said it would be a great marketing tool. Wagar responded he does not think there would be enough time. Banfield said we would have to approve it tonight. Following further discussion, Ray McKibben made a motion to appropriate up to \$1,000 for items for the Champ Race. Dawn Schroeder said it doesn't have to be shirts; that it could be koozies. Sean Birkle suggested giving out stickers. Ted Cradlebaugh noted we don't have anybody chairing the Champ Race. Kuethe responded we have a lot of it covered. Banfield said this would be separate from the prize budget. Brian Schroeder asked about putting the money toward drawings. Kuethe explained he has a lot of stuff such as, gift cards and tires left from the banquet. McKibben said he likes the idea of an OVKA promotional item that has OVKA on it and suggested letting Dawn Schroeder see what she can do. Rick Coombs discussed the cost of the meal and said it becomes a snowball effect. Kuethe added he thinks \$1,000 is huge and maybe this has snowballed a bit. He said he agrees with the promotional idea and suggested getting the kids something. Cradlebaugh stated adults don't need anything and said we could discount our shirt at half price. Due to a lack of a second, the motion died. Rick Coombs said last year we had a fly-in and asked if anyone talked with Elaine Gregg about the singing group she is part of coming to the event. Cradlebaugh replied he enjoyed them. Gregg responded he thinks they are planning on doing the National Anthem and he will follow up. Banfield discussed plans for a big flag to be parachuted in. McKibben asked if anyone has contacted news media. Birkle asked if the board wants video or pictures. Consensus was for both. Lynda Coombs asked for pictures to use for the banquet video presentation. Banfield will provide Birkle with the contact person regarding the flag parachute. Cradlebaugh asked if we paid the photographer to which Lynda Coombs replied yes. Kuethe explained to Birkle that pictures are needed for the show booth. Brian Schroeder said the picture with everyone at the top of the show booth is outdated. Kuethe added there are people in the picture with no shirts and their suits down. Brian Schroeder replied we could tell people to which Banfield added we could say to put a shirt on. Kuethe said we could make an announcement. Wagar suggested it be addressed on Saturday of the Champ Race then take the picture on Sunday. Cradlebaugh asked if we are tied to a fifteen lap final. Banfield directed to take it off the flyer.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**RADIOS:** Aaron Banfield made a motion we buy three new radios and three headsets. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben. Rick Wagar asked if three are enough. Banfield explained he talked with Lynda Coombs and if more are needed, we can come back and discuss it. Ted Cradlebaugh asked that one headset be a double. McKibben requested that faulty radios be marked with a piece of tape and he will address them. Brent Warren reported tower staff had to provide him with a new radio because he was not hearing a word then the replacement radio did not work with the headset. He suspects the jack is bad and he put a note on the bad radio. McKibben will provide the board with the cost of the radios. Cradlebaugh suggested comparing the cost with Grainger. McKibben replied he has done that and Grainger costs more. Lynda Coombs will bring a label maker so the EMT radios can be marked. Coombs added radios are needed for the next race.

**TECH DEPARTMENT:** Brent Warren said our rules only mention caliper half bolts and explained on their kart, the calipers are mounted to the kart. He said WKA says Nylock bolts can be used; we say nutted and clipped. Warren added on some newer karts, they are blind bolts. Ken Kuethe discussed getting together with Craig Bogan around 12:30 p.m. before the next race and discuss what needs to be done. Rick Wagar asked if it is possible to take quick pictures as karts go through the tech line so we have a reference to know what we are talking about. Warren said he believes there was incorrect information in May about weights; that is not five pounds but is anything over seven pounds requires two bolts at least 5/16" in diameter. He further stated it was not correct in the minutes and that if you

stack it, you have to have two bolts. Josh Johnson asked what if it's twenty-two pounds. Warren replied it would need two bolts. He said if we are going to change the rule, we have to do it appropriately. Warren explained Bogan wants people to use 1½" fender washers which has to be brought up appropriately. Ted Cradlebaugh said if it is the right hole size, a nut won't go through. Banfield said he understands what Bogan is seeing and he needs to see the rule before voting. McKibben said this is an extra piece of safety and modern kart seats are getting thinner. He reported Bogan and Banfield bought washers and people are complying. Warren said weights should be white and WKA is; there is no reason to be chrome. Rick Coombs explained there had been a person who made the chrome weights. Warren replied there is ambiguity on what is chrome and this is for the Rules Committee. Coombs asked why in the interest of safety you would not require a fender washer on the front of the seat to help stop the bolt from pulling through the seat. Banfield replied he puts a rubber disc in between. Michael Lewis asked where in WKA does it talk about stacked weights. Warren replied there is no mention of stacked weights; it says seven pounds. Brian Schroeder added if it is in excess of seven pounds on a bolt, the intent is there. Warren read WKA rule 201.10 Weight Ballast, "Non-structural weights added to meet minimum kart/driver weight requirements must be bolted securely to the kart using bolts of at least 5/16" in diameter. Weights in excess of 7 lbs. must use two or more 5/16" bolts. All bolts must be cotter-keyed, safety wired or double nutted. Note: All bolt-on weights must be white in color for visibility. Mounting weights to nerf bars, front bumper, and rear bumper is prohibited. No added weight allowed on driver." Cradlebaugh suggesting looking at this at the next race. Lewis asked if it is wanted for him to call Bobby Gettys and ask. Kuethe replied we are comfortable with where we are going. Dawn Schroeder asked if the weight is twenty-two pounds, why it would not be three bolts. Warren replied it should be four bolts. Kuethe said he thinks the WKA rule is written poorly.

**INSURANCE:** Gary Gregg discussed keeping track of the transponders.

**TIRE CONTRACT:** Ken Kuethe will get the signed tire contract to Keith Freber tomorrow.

**GOLF CART:** Ray McKibben reported the golf cart has been repaired. .

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**REQUESTS TO MOVE UP:** Ken Kuethe discussed an email sent to the board by Brad Crutchleo requesting his son, Geoffrey, be able to move up to the KA100, LO206 Senior and Yamaha Senior Y Pipe classes. The following seven board members affirmed they feel there are no safety issues and believe Geoffrey Crutchleo is capable of racing in the specified classes: Aaron Banfield, Ted Cradlebaugh, Randy Landes, Lee McCreedy, Ray McKibben, Brian Schroeder, and Brent Warren. Lynda Coombs will submit the request to WKA. Sean Birkle suggested adding criteria that the driver has a year of recorded experience. Cradlebaugh said we changed the rule for a reason but still have to have criteria. Banfield asked that this be added to the list for the Rules Committee. Warren referred to OVKA rule 306.2 which in part reads, "Drivers may petition the OVKA Board of Directors to move up in age category early. Request must be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing and will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled monthly Board meeting. If at least 5 BOD members agree permission will be sought from WKA for insurance purposes, and if approved driver will be allowed to move up early." Kuethe discussed conversation with Eric Snell who is requesting his son, Nick, be permitted to move up Yamaha Junior. Kuethe told Eric Snell he did not have to be present at this meeting. Lynda Coombs provided the number of races Nick Snell participated in during the last four years. There was discussion of the karter's ability and the need to have witnessed the driver personally. Warren suggested letting them know to bring the karter out and let us watch him. Following discussion, there were not enough board members who affirmed the racer. Kuethe will inform Eric Snell.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**YAMAHA SENIOR Y PIPE WEIGHT:** Sean Birkle explained right now in Yamaha Senior Pipe he is twenty-five or thirty pounds over and at least four other drivers are also. He asked if there is any possibility of making the weight higher. Ken Kuethe responded that is discussion for next year. Birkle said WKA's weight is lower. Brent Warren stated if everybody in the class agrees it could be changed right now. Rick Wagar said splitting the class is not something that would be done. Banfield asked Birkle to get the class together with one of the board in attendance and see if they agree. Kuethe said he recommends Birkle get information from the other racers. Birkle explained he is considering moving to another class if he cannot be competitive. Kuethe stated he is more than happy to attend a meeting with the class and asked Birkle to get them together.

**BUCKEYE KARTING CHALLENGE:** Brian Schroeder reported last weekend he went to Cleveland where they had seventy-eight racers which was double what they expected. He said one of our concerns was dates and he suggested having their event next year before Karting 101, over Memorial Day weekend or on a WKA race weekend. Schroeder explained we will need to make this decision in the next couple of months. Rick Wagar expressed concern about the Karting 101 weekend due to the weather. Schroeder stated we are the furthest south and they are thinking of that. He said he heard they are having four or five races. Ted Cradlebaugh replied there are plenty of dates they will have to schedule around. Wagar asked if there is a problem with picking a date and we work around it. Aaron Banfield explained it is all five of their races they have asked we work with. He asked Schroeder how many of our racers were there to which Schroeder replied he thinks there were eleven karts. Brent Warren said it behooves us to not schedule on top of their races but it is not our primary focus. Kuethe stated if he makes the first draft of next year's schedule, he has no problem looking at it. He noted he got yelled at for booking on WKA races. Rick Coombs asked what tires the series runs to which Cradlebaugh responded they're open.

**SPORTSMAN CLASSES:** Ted Cradlebaugh said he plans to address both Sportsman classes at the next event because they are all over the place. Ray McKibben asked if they can move when the flag drops. Cradlebaugh replied they're allowed but he is going to curb it. Sean Birkle said he likes the lines because they make starts more clean and organized. Brent Warren said he likes them too.

**CONCERN:** Brent Warren said he needs to talk with Ted Cradlebaugh, Ken Kuethe and Aaron Banfield regarding a concern of someone who raced last week.

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS:** Brian Schroeder nominated Rick Wagar to the OVKA Board of Directors. Ray McKibben seconded the nomination. Ray McKibben nominated Josh Johnson to the OVKA Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Brian Schroeder. The nominations will be discussed in executive session next month.

**WEBSITE UPDATES:** Ken Kuethe reported he provided Gary Osterholt with some website updates. Brent Warren asked that everyone review the website for any changes that need to be made.

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Rick Wagar, seconded by Rick Coombs, motioned to adjourn to executive session at 9:33 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Having been nominated last month, Michael Lewis was voted to the OVKA Board of Directors. There was discussion regarding a previous email of intent to resign by Reid Smith.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT:** Ken Kuethe, seconded by Jeff Calvert, motioned to adjourn the executive session at 9:51 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 10, 2018 Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Rollin' on the River Charity Car Show – 8:00 a.m., Saturday, July 22, 2018, Fernbank Park, Route 50 West / River Road, Saylor Park, OH
- Lebanon Blues Festival – 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Saturday, August 4, 2018, Lebanon, OH

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Aaron Banfield – Schedule with the Vets for power washing on the weekend of June 23, 2018, volunteered Karen Banfield to assist with the Champ Race, provide Sean Birkle with contact person regarding the flag parachute.
- Sean Birkle – Gather Yamaha Senior Y Pipe drivers together to discuss minimum weight.
- Lynda Coombs – Bring label maker to mark EMT radios, submit Crutchleo request to move up to WKA.
- Gary Gregg – Follow up with Something Good singing group about coming to the Champ Race.
- Ken Kuethe – Contact Sean Birkle regarding pictures for the new show booth, gather information about pit spots, get signed tire contract to Keith Freber, inform Eric Snell regarding request to move up, meet with the Yamaha Senior Y Pipe class.
- Ray McKibben – Provide Lee McCready with the OVKA logo and information for the Lebanon Blue Festival, determine sizes of pictures needed for new show booth then get with Kuethe, take care of fenced repairs, quick patch section in tech lane area, provide the board with the cost of the radios.
- Brian Schroeder – Work with Shelley Powers on Camden parade being held in September.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Banfield, J. Calvert, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, K. Kuethe, R. Landes, L. McCready, R. McKibben, B. Schroeder, and B. Warren.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** S. Birkle, A. Calvert, L. Coombs, H. Cradlebaugh, B. Crutchleo, J. Johnson, M. Lewis, V. Oatts, D. Schroeder, and R. Wagar.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 6/23/18.