

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ken Kuethe called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. He thanked everyone for coming and explained there is a lot to get through this evening. Kuethe asked that discussions be brief and cell phones be turned off or turned down.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs explained there are two amendments to the July 9, 2019 minutes that need to be made per Ray McKibben. The first is that McKibben stated he would work with Sean Birkle and others to get the booth photos updated. The second change is that McKibben stated he spoke with some members who would like to see a class for 40-year-olds at 390#. Coombs made a motion to accept the July 9, 2019 board meeting minutes with these two changes. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously. Coombs discussed the feasibility of accepting credit cards at the track. Aaron Banfield provided information about options. Brent Warren inquired about online registration. Banfield replied our software provider has the capability and he would like to start with credit cards first. Coombs suggested we start accepting credit cards at the track in preparation for doing so at the Swap Meet. Don Boles asked about paying by credit card for the gate fee. Banfield replied we would have to look at that. He discussed credit card fees and including a 5% convenience fee. Banfield recommended purchasing an iPad and case then testing it with a few people prior to full implementation. Warren said he highly suggests the tablet be a dedicated device used only for this to which Ted Cradlebaugh agreed. Ken Kuethe discussed people being prepared in case the system goes down and they have to pay by check or cash. Aaron Banfield made a motion we allow OVKA to start to accept credit cards where practical and allowed by OVKA staff and technology. OVKA will use a reputable established processing company and will not store any credit card numbers or data. All processing charges and a small additional fee will be passed on to the card holder through a convenience fee of 5%. In addition, allocate up to \$400 for an iPad and case. The motion was seconded by Michael Lewis and passed unanimously. Warren suggested once this is implemented, a second iPad be purchased. Lewis shared there is an online registration program. Banfield explained this is a first step.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** On behalf of Treasurer, Jason Gregg, Ken Kuethe provided bank balances. There was discussion of outstanding funds owed to the track.

**BANQUET COMMITTEE:** Rick Coombs reported he and Lynda Coombs met with the Marriott in West Chester regarding the 2020 banquet to be held in 2021. A contract was received via email and there are some changes that need to be made to be in alignment with what it has been. Rick Coombs explained the sleeping room rate will be \$3.00 more than it has been. He will keep the board informed once the contract is changed.

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Josh Johnson thanked all of the volunteers who worked at the Butler County Fair: Don Boles, Marlene Cook, Lynda Coombs, Rick Coombs, Ted Cradlebaugh, Dan Fiehrer, Jack Sullivan, Jeff Sullivan, Jeanette Holliday, Josh Johnson, Ken Kuethe, Ray McKibben, Garrett Morgan, Austin Tumulty, and Josh Wagar. He reported Monday and Tuesday were busy and asked for feedback from those present this evening who volunteered. Ken Kuethe said he did not feel there was a lot of interest from people. Don Boles, who volunteered two days, reported it was not busy when he was there. Ray McKibben suggested the booth be in a different location. Aaron Banfield said this was a good thing to try but his business will not be going back. He suggested obtaining contact information from people who visit the booth so someone can reach out to them following shows. Jeanette Holliday who was there on Monday and Tuesday, discussed how in

comparison to Cavalcade and the Mushroom Rally, she feels the fair had the most people. Lynda Coombs reported interest was low on the evening she was there and suggested the booth be moved toward the front of the space. Pat Slattery suggested giving out cards for a free gate entry. Johnson noted Dan Fiehrer helped a tremendous amount. Rick Coombs reported people left quickly following the rodeo. Johnson asked if we should look at going again considering the cost of \$750. Kuethe said his opinion is no with the amount of time put in all week. McKibben mentioned looking at different regional fairs and Johnson suggested church festivals. Banfield discussed the importance of getting more people involved to volunteer for shows. Kuethe pointed out there were some new volunteers who staffed the booth at the fair. Johnson asked for a show of hands as to who wants to do the fair again. There were no responses. Banfield explained we did not attend the Rollin' on the River show. Michael Lewis inquired about the cost of this show to which Brian Schroeder replied it was \$500 for us to be on the cover of the publication and no cost to get in. Lynda Coombs reported the Lebanon Blues Festival was very well attended and there was a lot of interest including a family who came to our race the next day. Coombs asked about the progress of obtaining a full size kart for shows. Warren said we could reach out to manufacturers about obtaining a twisted kart. Michael Tetreault suggested contacting Margay to see if they would be willing to supply a kart as a promotional tool. Holliday offered to provide graphics for a kart. McKibben offered to reach out to Margay and Coyote about this. He also reported he has been in contact Sean Birkle about putting together pictures for the booths. Schroeder is working on obtaining a new television for the booth. McKibben reported a new fairing is needed for the kid kart which Tetreault offered to obtain.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** No report.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Brent Warren reported he and his boys pressure washed the pavilion. It will need time to dry before it can be sealed. Ray McKibben recommended applying sealer with a sprayer and Don Boles added it then needs to be gone over with a brush or roller. Aaron Banfield thanked the Warrens for their help. Before the end of the season, McKibben will finish sealing the asphalt. Banfield would like reserved pit spots marked. Michael Lewis reported Cup Karts North America will be holding an event at G & J Kartway so people need to move their trailers. If people want to reserve a spot during that event the fee will be \$50. Boles explained some spots are already reserved. Brian Schroeder suggested changing the color of the pit spot numbers. Banfield asked that pit spots have both the number and reserved painted on them. Josh Johnson explained the problem is with all of the passenger cars being parked in the pit area.

**TECH DEPARTMENT:** Ted Cradlebaugh and Brent Warren discussed tech concerns. Warren suggested utilizing a random draw to determine what items will be subject to tech inspection to which Ken Kuethe agreed. Jeanette Holliday reported on a situation that occurred in tech. Aaron Banfield explained staffing will be discussed in executive session.

**TECHNOLOGY:** No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**CHAMP RACE:** Dawn Schroeder reported the Champ Race went really well and said there were a lot of compliments. Schroeder provided a detailed report and explained \$7,272.08 was spent not including some additional trophies. Lynda Coombs thanked Dawn Schroeder and Jeanette Holliday for all of their work as did Ken Kuethe. Josh Johnson asked if people receive volunteer credits for this event. Lynda Coombs replied we haven't in the past but that doesn't mean it can't be done and it might be hard to track. Rick Coombs said Schroeder and Holliday did a great job and also extended thanks to the Vets, Something Good and Team Fastrax.

**TIRES:** Ken Kuethe reported he is waiting on the tire contract.

**2020 SCHEDULE:** Michael Lewis reported Dan Fiehrer sent him questions that can be asked pertaining to the schedule. Aaron Banfield asked that it be sent to the board for board members to respond to all and copy Fiehrer.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**WKA:** On behalf of WKA, Michael Tetreault, Chairman of the Board, extended his thanks for having him and for everyone's business. He explained how WKA cares about and places value on what the club does and said WKA would like to give back to their clubs. Tetreault encouraged people to bring their questions and concerns to WKA and said they are always open to discussion. He said WKA does not want to just be labeled as caring about national events and would like to propose having a regional championship with a couple of matched classes. Tetreault explained this would include three events with one at G & J Kartway, one in conjunction with the Buckeye Karting Challenge at G & J, and a final event at Whiteland Raceway. He said WKA would provide trophies and keep track of the points with all revenue going to the tracks and noted this would bring three groups together. Aaron Banfield reported on his conversation with Andy O'Gara with Whiteland about having a triple crown to include us, Whiteland and New Castle. He said we could line this up on one of our race days and there are a lot of opportunities. Banfield discussed how scheduling can be tough and added he thinks having too many opportunities potentially hurts the sport. Ted Cradlebaugh explained in the past we tried it with Circleville and New Castle and how we went to those tracks but they didn't come here. Tetreault replied you can combine it with a club race or make it a special weekend. Cradlebaugh said there are not many weekends left and the tough part is picking what classes. Tetreault explained they will provide the Race Director and Bobby Gettys to show support similar to the former Great Lakes Sprint Series. Cradlebaugh said he thinks it is a great idea and we would get to travel.

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINATION:** Josh Johnson nominated Jeanette Holliday to the OVKA Board of Directors. The nomination was seconded by Ray McKibben. Per by-laws policy, the nomination will be voted on at next month's board meeting.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**USED TIRES:** Ray McKibben reported Matt Overbeck has a few used sets of Vega reds if needed for the upcoming 206 event.

**WKA TECH MANUAL:** Michael Lewis explained he received a price sheet for ads in the WKA tech manual. There was discussion of the Swap Meet flyer and Lewis asked that he be provided with the file with the WKA deadline being September 20, 2019. Lewis made a motion to appropriate funding for a full-page ad in the 2020 WKA tech manual. The motion was seconded by Aaron Banfield and passed with ten in favor and one absent (Schroeder).

**TRACKING OF PENALTIES:** Ken Kuethe reported an email was received from Rob Helton inquiring about the tracking of penalties. Ted Cradlebaugh said the question is do we consider last week's infractions to the next week. Lynda Coombs explained penalties are recorded in the software system and warnings are recorded on paper. Cradlebaugh will reach out to Helton.

**TECH:** Ron Swift discussed making sure the playing field is equal. He said having a random draw for tech is not going to do it and tech has to not have any skin in the game and understand the rulebook. Swift presented a video during his discussion of engine tech and his engine design. He said the decision to bring in a person who builds engines was unethical and immoral. Swift

expressed concern about discussions that took place about his engine and said the minimum acceptable resolution is an apology to himself and Jason Doran at the driver's meeting about the way tech was handled. Ken Kuethe extended an apology and said he can apologize at the driver's meeting also. Ray McKibben asked Ted Cradlebaugh to clarify the intent in bringing in tech people. Cradlebaugh replied it was because we had no 420 tech and it was to help with that and write rules for the class. Michael Tetreault explained the Predator engine is widely run in the dirt series where they have two tech people who he would glad to get involved. He stated in dirt they have a \$400 claimer rule which solves the problem quick. There was further discussion including a question raised about the feasibility of a rev limiter and swapping out the old piston to go to a forged piston which could cause issues we do not know about. Don Boles stated we need to get our rules tightened down. Kuethe said he will make an apology at the driver's meeting for the discussion that was had and this can be aired out to all of the members. Swift and Kuethe extended their thanks to one another.

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Ken Kuethe, seconded by Rick Coombs, motioned to adjourn to executive session at 10:18 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Upon reconvening at 10:32 p.m. following a break, a determination was made to postpone the session until Saturday, August 10, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. prior to the next race. Brent Warren extended his resignation from the OVKA Board of Directors. Ken Kuethe thanked Warren for all of his years of service. Ray McKibben thanked Warren for all of his accomplishments including the PA system and the work he has done.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Brent Warren, seconded by Aaron Banfield, motioned to adjourn at 10:39 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2019, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)

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

- Aaron Banfield – Purchase an iPad & case, assist in implementation of accepting credit card payments.
- Rick Coombs – Keep board informed about the West Chester Marriott contract for the 2020 banquet.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Reach out to Rob Helton.
- Dan Fiehrer – Develop a poll regarding the race schedule.
- Jeanette Holliday – Provide kart graphics once a kart is obtained.
- Ken Kuethe – Extend an apology to Ron Swift and Jason Doran at the driver's meeting.
- Ray McKibben – Seal asphalt, reach out to Margay and Coyote regarding a kart for promotional purposes, work with Sean Birkle on pictures for the show booth.
- Brian Schroeder – Purchase new television for show booth.
- Michael Tetreault – Provide fairing for show kid kart.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Banfield, D. Boles, J. Calvert, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, J. Johnson, K. Kuethe, M. Lewis, R. McKibben, B. Schroeder and B. Warren.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** A. Calvert, D. Cook, M. Cook, L. Coombs, J. Doran, J. Holliday, D. Schroeder, P. Slattery, R. Swift and M. Tetreault.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019:**

Executive session was called to order at 11:34 a.m. Jeanette Holliday brought forth concerns about a staff-related situation which was discussed.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Banfield, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, J. Johnson, K. Kuethe, M. Lewis, R. McKibben, and B. Schroeder.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** C. Bogan, L. Coombs, and J. Holliday.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 8/26/19