

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Max Viney called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Max Viney reminded attendees to turn cell phones off or on vibrate and directed sidebar conversations be taken outside.

**SECRETARYS' REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the October board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously. Coombs asked that everyone check their participation credits.

**TREASURERS' REPORT:** Gary Gregg provided a report on finances and said track reconciliations will be finalized soon. Max Viney thanked Heather Cradlebaugh for her work with the 50/50 drawings which generated \$3131.50 for the track improvement fund.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BANQUET:** Rick Coombs reported plans are underway for the 2008 OVKA banquet which will be on Saturday, January 24, 2009 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center. The annual mailing with the banquet registration form will be sent out by the end of November. Coombs discussed an increase in the gratuity last year which was not adjusted for and made a motion to adjust the adult banquet ticket from \$30 to \$32 and the child ticket from \$16 to \$17 for children six through twelve. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed with nine in favor and one abstained. Randy N. Vermillion made a motion to deviate from the rules to allow for an eagle and first-place jacket for an annual class average of 3.0. The motion was seconded by Coombs. Mark Lewis amended the motion to give the same to all four classes who did not meet the minimum (Sportsman Briggs, Cadet Jr. Sportsman, Junior Briggs Animal and Shifters) contingent on passage of Vermillion's motion. The amendment was seconded by Dennis Queary. Ted Cradlebaugh presented a second amendment to make this the last year where a less than four average receives awards and announce it at the upcoming banquet. Doug Benson seconded Cradlebaugh's amendment which passed with nine in favor, two opposed and one abstained. Lewis's amendment then passed with nine in favor, two opposed and one abstained. Vermillion's was voted on and passed with nine in favor, two opposed and one abstained.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Randy N. Vermillion said he is pleased to announce that Lee McCready has volunteered to chair the Sponsorship Committee. Vermillion will provide McCready with the necessary files and assist him in the transition. Vermillion explained the 2009 sponsorship fees will depend on whether there are any changes to entry fees and pit spot fees. Vermillion discussed making changes to the sizing of pit spots on the grid area.

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Max Viney stated there was a good turnout for the Springfield Car and Parts Show. Viney thanked the volunteers who staffed the OVKA booth and distributed Swap Meet flyers. Volunteers were Mike Brown, Rick and Lynda Coombs, Charles and Rick Harris, Dennis Queary and Max Viney. Viney congratulated Andy Glover, Emerson Reed and Chase Stempfley who will be recognized at the upcoming DARF banquet on December 6, 2008. Viney reported Jeff Kaeser and Norm Suitts set up a display at Perfect North Slopes where they distributed OVKA literature. Mike Brown said he set up a display with karts today at his polling location. Lynda Coombs asked that a form be available for submission by those persons who participate at promotional events other than OVKA sanctioned events. She explained each four-hour shift earns one participation credit. Coombs said this would help with tracking participation credits at the end of the season. Tim Bell said there needs to be a cutoff date to submit participation in non-OVKA promotional events to which Dennis Queary agreed. Queary further stated it should be within two weeks of the event and published in the OVKA rule book. Toshiya Michimi suggested updating the photos for the show booth; Viney will contact Apogee Imaging. Viney asked for everyone's ongoing assistance in distributing OVKA literature. Contact Viney or Lynda Coombs to obtain OVKA brochures or to discuss ways to participate in promotional opportunities. Once the 2009 schedule and class structure is finalized, printed flyers will also be available for distribution. Viney said the next committee meeting date has not been set and will be publicized on the OVKA website.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Max Viney thanked Mike Brown, Randy Landes, Ray and Steven McKibben, Robert and Cameron Meek, Jeff Risner and Wally West for assisting with track repairs. Viney reported they went through 110 gallons of sealer and completed about 75% of the repairs. Plans are to close the track this coming weekend to finish the repairs, weather permitting. Viney asked for five or six volunteers to assist with this. Doug Stempfley will put a post on the OVKA website.

**SWAP MEET:** Dennis Queary reported booth reservations have been coming in. Queary asked for everyone's ongoing assistance in distributing Swap Meet flyers. The Swap Meet will be held at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Springfield on Saturday, February 7, 2009. Randy N. Vermillion reported it will be necessary to route traffic differently due to some changes in the entrance and exit locations.

**RULEBOOK:** Rules considerations for the 2009 season discussed:

**Items with action taken:**

- Rookie Class – The 90-second rule will not apply for the Rookie Class. The Rookie Class Director will assist in re-starting engines and directing safe entry onto the track. Return to grid apron for re-starting will not be required.
- Rule 507 – Add wording “at Race Director’s discretion” regarding penalty for excursion.
- Rules 601.1 and 601.4 – Require any and all fuel-related disqualifications to be counted in year-end points as a zero.
- Rule 601.2 Re: Leaving early – Last place points for the heat rather than the day; add if sick or injured (in addition to existing mechanical malfunctions); still requires approval of Tech Director.
- Participation credits may be earned by working a minimum four-hour shift at non-OVKA promotional events; form must be submitted within two weeks of event.

**Items with no action to be taken:**

- 90-second rule when combining classes.
- Allow karts to enter track once their race is under way (in other words, discontinue 90-second rule; exception will be the Rookie Class).
- No campfires.
- No dogs on premises.

**Items tabled:**

- Implementation of WKA rear bumper rule – WKA to be contacted by Lynda Coombs.
- Page 14, rule 1 - Red flag language; obtain WKA's language.
- Registration required to participate in warm-ups.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**2009 SCHEDULE:** Max Viney presented the first draft of the 2009 schedule which includes twelve points events at G & J Kartway, one at Circleville Raceway Park and one at New Castle Motorsports. He explained the Circleville date has not been finalized yet. Ted Cradlebaugh suggested adding another night race to be on the new configuration for which lights could be rented. Don Boles made a motion to schedule both away races at Circleville and none at New Castle. The motion was seconded by Mark Lewis and failed with six opposed, three in favor and three abstained. Randy N. Vermillion made a motion that the two away races be qualifying events. The motion was seconded by Doug Stempfley and failed with six opposed, four in favor and two abstained. Tim Reed pointed out that KRA does not have a pre-final. Stempfley suggested having only one warm-up session to which Dennis Queary disagreed. Reed presented a petition requesting a qualifying format for each event on the calendar for the Sportsman-age and under classes. He stated they are not asking to change what the older classes are doing. Reed noted the increase in kart count from two years ago and said this has to do with safety and financial considerations. Ray McKibben responded several years ago there were fifteen or more karts in the Sportsman class and that is why the Rookie Class was created to serve as a training class. McKibben further stated he believes the pea-pick format helps teach racers to drive and asked what is going to happen when they move to Juniors. Boles stated it comes down to taking the time to practice. Queary agreed and pointed out parents have the option to move their child off the front of the field. Rick Coombs said he agrees with Reed to a point and would like to see the Masters class qualify for all events. Ted Cradlebaugh said the club should not have one class qualify and the others not to which Viney agreed. Toshiya Michimi said having a petition, the board should go with what the parents want. Doug Benson stated that if Coombs presents a petition for the Masters class, the board should consider it as well. Following extensive discussion, Viney made a motion to qualify all Sportsman-age classes. Coombs amended the motion to table it until next month due to the intense emotions. Don Boles seconded Coombs' amendment. There was no second for Viney's motion which he withdrew. The matter was tabled. Viney reported Jerry Cole, President of the Great Lakes Sprint Series, is requesting OVKA coordinate a GLSS event at G & J Kartway on June 19, 20 and 21, 2009. Gary Gregg discussed how he rented the track directly to GLSS last year. Viney and Lynda Coombs reviewed details of hosting the event. No action was taken as there were no volunteers to coordinate the event.

**2009 CLASS STRUCTURE:** Lynda Coombs presented an email from Jeff Powers with thirteen names of minor drivers whose parents are committing to race them in an HPV Jr. Sportsman class if established for the 2009 season. Max Viney said he is of the opinion there are presently too many classes and HPV has not proved successful in the past. Gary Gregg suggested running it at the Champ Race only. Randy N. Vermillion discussed how the younger classes feed into the older classes. Viney suggested having a Junior Yamaha Lite and Heavy rather than the current Junior 1 and 2. Tim Bell said he believes the numbers would be low. Ray McKibben suggested contacting all of the Junior Yamaha drivers. Viney will contact them to discuss their plans for next year and ask for their input. Doug Stempfley suggested running the Kid Karts and Rookie Class at the end of each heat since their formats are different. Josh Wagar noted the track workers are utilized for the Rookie Class to which Don Boles concurred. Randy N. Vermillion said it was suggested to establish a minimum weight for Kid Karts of 150 pounds like WKA does to which Dennis Queary said is a good idea. Viney reviewed the existing classes and suggestions for additions and deletions. The matter was tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2009 OFFICERS:** Max Viney reviewed current interest in officer positions for the 2009 season: President – Max Viney; Vice-President – Tim Reed; Secretary – Lynda Coombs and Treasurer – Jason Gregg. Viney asked if there is interest by others in seeking any of these positions. Officers are voted on at the annual membership meeting prior to the banquet. Viney reminded board members their 2009 dues need to be paid by the January 6, 2009 board meeting in order to have voting privileges.

**2009 MEMBERSHIP FEE:** Max Viney explained in order for the annual mailing to go out this month, a decision needs to be made regarding the 2009 membership fee. Consensus of the board was for the \$35 fee to remain the same for the 2009 season.

**RACER CONCERNS:** Doug Stempfley discussed concerns he has regarding the actions of a fellow racer toward his son via text messages and the Internet. Stempfley noted that while these specific incidents did not happen at an OVKA event, he feels they warrant at minimum probation levied by the board and he is concerned about threats for next year. Stempfley said he has communicated with Max Viney, Tim Reed and Josh Wagar regarding other incidents. Viney reported he has witnessed postings on the Internet but feels the board should not be involved in issuing penalties in this matter as it occurred away from race day. Viney said both drivers will be watched closely this upcoming season by himself and the Race Director. Dennis Queary said he agrees the board should not be involved in disciplinary actions outside of race day. Randall Potter extended an apology to anyone he offended and said Doug should have talked with his family rather than get others involved. Stempfley said what occurred is cyber bullying and there are laws and court cases that address it and he is using the club as a mouthpiece right now. Viney said he does not approve of what was said and the matter should be dropped.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION:** Max Viney said it is with regret he has accepted the resignation of Toshiya Michimi from the OVKA Board of Directors. Viney thanked Michimi for all of his service to OVKA and support of the sport of karting.

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINATION:** Max Viney nominated Tim Reed to the OVKA Board of Directors. The nomination was seconded by Doug Stempfley and will be voted on at the December board meeting.

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Develop form for submitting participation in non-OVKA promotional events to earn participation credits (four-hour minimum shift); contact WKA regarding implementation date for new bumper rule as it pertains to OVKA; obtain WKA wording re: red flag; provide OVKA literature for distribution and information about promotions as requested.
- Doug Stempfley – Put post on OVKA website regarding need for volunteers to assist with track repairs.
- Randy N. Vermillion – Provide information and assist in the Chairperson transition of the Sponsorship Committee to Lee McCready.
- Max Viney – Contact Apogee Imaging about updated photos for OVKA show booth; contact Junior Yamaha parents to discuss their plans for next season and their input; provide OVKA literature for distribution and information about promotions as requested

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 2, 2008, at Ramada Inn Middletown, 6147 West State Route 122, Franklin, Ohio (east side of I-75).

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** T. Bell, D. Benson, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, G. Gregg, R. Landes, M. Lewis, T. Michimi, D. Queary, D. Stempfley, R. Vermillion, and M. Viney.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** C. Bogan, M. Brown, O. Cohen, L. Coombs, J. Horn, G. Kaeser, L. McCready, R. McKibben, Randall Potter, Randy Potter, T. Reed, R.J. Vermillion, J. Wagar and B. Williams.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 11/23/08.