

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER: President Josh Wagar called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming. He asked that cell phones be turned down or placed on vibrate and side conversations be taken outside.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the November 3, 2015 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously. Coombs explained board members need to have their annual membership dues paid by the January 5, 2016 board meeting in order to be eligible to vote on motions. She reported there has been a change in leadership at the Hampton Inn and they require monthly contracts for all of 2016 in order to secure the meeting room at a negotiated monthly rate of \$129 plus tax. Coombs is going to inquire if they will continue to honor the previous arrangement of providing the meeting room at no cost during the month of January. Josh Wagar, seconded by Brian Schroeder, made a motion to keep board meetings at the Hampton Inn for 2016 at the negotiated rate. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Josh Wagar reported proceeds from the Charity Race netted \$1862.75 each for DARF and the food pantry. Wagar made a motion to round each donation to \$2000.00. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben and passed unanimously. The DARF donation will be presented this coming Saturday at the DARF banquet. On behalf of Treasurer Jason Gregg, Gary Gregg provided bank balances. Gregg explained G & J Kartway needs to be paid for 2014 and 2015. He said plaque prices are needed for the upcoming banquet in order to reconcile for this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: Josh Wagar explained four class champions were selected to attend the DARF Banquet of Champions this Saturday, December 5, 2016. The drivers being recognized are Tylere Trent from Yamaha Junior, Noah Melton from Yamaha Junior Heavy, Jeanne Roberts from OVKA212/LO206 and Luke Roberts from OVKA 420 Lite. Don Boles asked Wagar to inquire about a better booth location for the DARF Show at the Piqua Mall. Brian Schroeder asked how volunteers have been handled in the past for the Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show. Wagar responded volunteers work in four hour shifts and there has been a pretty consistent core group and he will email the list to Schroeder. He further explained some tickets are provided with the booth rental and others can turn in their receipt for admission but not parking. Ted Cradlebaugh said to make sure there are flyers and all of the items needed. Boles asked if Swap Meet flyers are ready to which Wagar responded he will get them from Doug Benson. Lynda Coombs stated if the 2016 schedule is approved this evening, copies will be needed. Ray McKibben suggested people put a link to the Swap Meet on their Facebook page. Schroeder noted the main OVKA page needs to be updated. Wagar will get with Gary Osterholt about this. Coombs provided information received by Elaine Gregg about the 2016 Rollin' on the River event on Sunday, July 24, 2016. McKibben asked what the Great Lakes Expo is about. Wagar explained this one-day event hosted by Full Throttle Indoor Karting includes a variety of racing series and vendors and there will be a race in the morning. He said we will have a 10' by 10' booth and we picked up a few racers from having been there last time. McKibben asked about the transfer of the show booth. Coombs responded it can be brought from Cavalcade to the banquet then will be taken to the Indy Show followed by the Swap Meet. Wagar said there is time to figure out the details.

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: Lee McCready thanked Luke Roberts for measuring, numbering and designing the revised pit spot map. McCready also thanked Rick and Lynda Coombs for including pit spot information in the annual mailing and Esther McCready for delivering the pit spot flyers. Lynda Coombs extended her appreciation to Esther McCready for taking the time to drop off the flyers and to Lee McCready for coordinating everything. McCready explained it may be necessary to make some further revisions to the map and asked people to let him know if they notice things that need to be fixed. He asked that people interested in sponsoring next season let him know. Dan Fiehrer inquired about the policy for keeping the same pit spot for next year. McCready explained that is correct as long as payment is received by April 1st. Fiehrer asked how to go about renting adjacent spots if they come available. McCready said to let him know so he can note this and if someone calls and says they are not coming back, the spot could open up early. McCready reported Tom Melton will be making laminated pit spot maps to be posted at the gate, tower and grid. During discussion of potential racers not returning, Gary Gregg said he would like to see us run rain tires and made a motion we run in the rain when it is not lightening or a downpour. The motion was seconded by Pat Slattery. Jeff Calvert asked if insurance matters to which Ted Cradlebaugh responded no and Josh Wagar added it shouldn't. Ray McKibben stated we have gotten races in when the weather has been sketchy and half our class couldn't stay on the track. Wagar said if this passes, it will make some happy and others will not be. Ken Kuethe stated this will make the day longer and at Great Lakes they changed tires four times. Brian Schroeder said perhaps this should be tabled for a month to hear what other drivers say. Cradlebaugh stated people from other tracks won't come if it looks like it will rain and he will race in the rain. Rick Coombs said he does not think this is best for the new racers. The motion was voted on and passed with eight in favor and five opposed (roll call: Cradlebaugh-yes, Gregg-yes, Kuethe-yes, Landes-yes, McCready-yes, McKibben-no, Roberts-yes, Schroeder-no, Slattery-yes, Warren-yes, Boles-no, Calvert-no, Coombs-no). Ray Brown stated we will need to make sure members know they will have to have Bridgestone rain tires. Don Boles asked if he does not want to race in the rain, will he get his money back to which Wagar responded no. Cradlebaugh suggested at Karting 101 have some racers experienced in racing in the rain to teach others. Lynda Coombs asked for clarification, does this mean the entire weather policy goes away to which Wagar responded yes, as well as the rain dates. Slattery stated we need to keep rain dates to which Gregg agreed. Lynda Coombs inquired if WKA has rain dates. Wagar said no and Slattery added they should. Wagar will insert WKA rain rules in our rulebook. Boles said since we will be racing in the rain, there should not be any drops. Gregg disagreed and said people go on vacation and to funerals. Virgil Oatts asked if special hubs have to be used for rain tires. Kuethe responded yes if you run 7.10s. McKibben inquired if you still have to follow the maximum width to which Wagar referred him to the WKA tech manual.

SECRETARY'S NOTE: Since this board meeting, determination was made via email to re-visit racing in the rain at the January 5, 2016 board meeting.

TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: Ray McKibben discussed the work he is doing on the lineup board and said the board is in great shape but the trim has rotted. Brent Warren reported he has picked up more materials for the PA system. McKibben discussed the need for something to cover the grid sheets on the lineup board since we will be racing in the rain. Marina Walters suggested putting them on the inside of the pavilion.

SWAP MEET: Josh Wagar reported Doug Benson has the Swap Meet flyers and flyers have been shipped directly to kart shops. Wagar explained the tech seminars and WKA certification courses need to be arranged. He thanked Brian Schroeder for offering to coordinate Swap Meet gate workers.

RULES COMMITTEE: Josh Wagar said he thought he had the rulebook almost finished but will need to add the rain racing and make other changes. Dan Fiehrer asked if someone shows up with a can, do they get to race at five pounds less. Wagar explained we will find some place for them to race by putting them on the tail of a similar class. Wagar reported the Rules Committee discussed opening up oil for the Yamaha classes to potentially include Red Line, in addition to Burris. He explained Brian Schroeder contacted Red Line and Schroeder said he is waiting to hear back after several conversations. Don Boles asked why Red Line is being looked at. Wagar responded he has been told it is a cleaner oil and builds less carbon. He further explained since Burris provides us with oil, Schroeder is checking with Red Line. Boles said if we are going to open it up to Red Line, we have to open it up to all of them. Wagar said Jeff Roberts is contacting WKA regarding teching oil and WKA is looking at closing oils to one or two. Wagar explained a second oil would give people an option and it is for discussion. Pat Slattery reported most major engine builders recommend Red Line and 75% of WKA racers use it as it is cleaner and doesn't build carbon for rings to get stuck but Burris has no problem lubricating. He said he would like to open it up to at least one more oil and noted that TaG is open. McKibben asked if two oils are a problem teching. Roberts responded it was unanimous at Rules Committee but it is a board decision. Cradlebaugh asked if we can get rid of the blend and run pure castor. Slattery explained castor is what builds all the carbon. Rick Coombs asked if there is a performance gain with Red Line to which Slattery responded no. Brent Warren reported in a face-to-face conversation with Daniel Woltjer, he was told mixing Burris is fine but if it were up to Woltjer, he would run Red Line. Brent Warren made a motion we allow Red Line oil at eight ounces per gallon. The motion was seconded by Pat Slattery. Cradlebaugh said we need to look at what Burris provides us and Red Line ought to match it. Slattery disagreed. Wagar said we do not know yet what Red Line will provide. Schroeder discussed a potential offer from Red Line and said he does not think this is a time to make the decision. Slattery noted we have been with Burris a long time. The motion was voted on and passed with ten in favor and three opposed (roll call: Gregg-yes, Kuethe-yes, Landes-no, McCready-yes, McKibben-yes, Roberts-yes, Schroeder-yes, Slattery-yes, Warren-yes, Boles-no, Calvert-yes, Coombs-yes, Cradlebaugh-no). Cradlebaugh said we can post this online and not hold up the rulebook. Wagar discussed the minutes of a WKA board meeting where they passed that drivers have to physically be at the age for the class. Lynda Coombs is awaiting a reply from Marie Borsuk at WKA to find out if this affects our rules and the opportunity for driver's to petition the OVKA board to move up then have it submitted to WKA for approval. Wagar will keep the board informed about this.

BANQUET COMMITTEE: Rick Coombs reported the annual mailing was sent out on Saturday, November 21, 2015. He asked if the board wants him to order all rain tires for the banquet this year. Ted Cradlebaugh responded no and said Coombs should buy what we normally do. Josh Wagar will contact Keith Freber to see about purchasing rain tires separately. Gary Gregg said perhaps Freber could provide 25% off coupons since rain tires have never been sold to OVKA before. Coombs said he will need to collaborate with Wagar on a letter to Burris about oil for the banquet. Pat Slattery asked if we will have plaques with pictures on them. Wagar explained the photographer who did those for us passed away.

OLD BUSINESS:

TECH SEMINAR: Josh Wagar said he needs to confirm some things with Doug Benson prior to finalizing plans for the tech seminar.

TECH TOOLS: Jeff Roberts is waiting to order additional tech tools until he knows what is going on with the tech seminar. Roberts is working on engraving tech tools.

DECODER BOX: Lynda Coombs is waiting for decoder box pricing information from Aaron Banfield. Gary Gregg stated we need one and he agreed to split the cost with OVKA. Josh Wagar said we need to send out the old one to see if it can be repaired. Coombs responded she would like to have a new decoder prior to sending out the old one as it is unknown how long possible repair could take and Gregg agreed.

2016 OFFICERS: Josh Wagar opened nominations for 2016 officers. Ray McKibben, seconded by Brent Warren, nominated Josh Wagar for President. Wagar accepted the nomination. Brent Warren, seconded by Josh Wagar, nominated Ken Kuethe for Vice-President. Kuethe accepted the nomination. Josh Wagar, seconded by Brian Schroeder, nominated Lynda Coombs for Secretary. Coombs accepted the nomination. Josh Wagar, seconded by Pat Slattery, nominated Jason Gregg for Treasurer. The nomination was accepted by Gary Gregg on behalf of Jason Gregg.

CLASS STRUCTURE: Pat Slattery said he would like to open discussion about TaG weights and stated the X30 is at a ten pound disadvantage to the Leopard. He reported in WKA, the X30 and Leopard are the same weights. Ted Cradlebaugh said to move the ROK to which Slattery responded it is easier to move the X30 up in weight. Slattery further stated the X30 has been like a stepchild at the club where the Leopard has been dominating. Josh Wagar said there are two ways we can do this, the board can vote on it or wait until the season starts and check with the drivers. Cradlebaugh stated he thinks it has worked well going to the drivers and Wagar added that is what historically has been done. Dan Fiehrer said he does not want to have to put more weight on his kart and he thinks the board should decide. Ray McKibben stated TaG has worked well because of the cooperation of the drivers and having them involved instead of one or two people here. He further stated he would like to have the input of the drivers. Slattery responded he served on the Competition Committee for seven or eight years and you don't go ask the racers, you go with what is fair. Slattery made a motion to add ten pounds to the Leopard in the TaG classes for 2016. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed with five in favor, two opposed and six abstained (roll call: Kuethe-abstained, Landes-abstained, McCready-yes, McKibben-no, Roberts-abstained, Schroeder-abstained, Slattery-yes, Warren-yes, Boles-yes, Calvert-abstained, Coombs-abstained, Cradlebaugh-no, Gregg-yes). Wagar noted weights can still be adjusted during the season if there is a problem.

SECRETARY'S NOTE: Since this board meeting, determination was made via email to re-visit this vote at the January 5, 2016 board meeting.

Jeff Roberts discussed weights for the OVKA 420 classes. He reported it was pointed out to him that if the heavy kart has more horsepower than the lite, it will make it a rocket at ninety pounds heavier and Roberts does not think it is a good idea. Brent Warren asked if Roberts sees any way to combine them to which Roberts responded he does not. Josh Wagar said at one time he talked with the drivers about splitting the difference but the heavy class would be at a disadvantage. Rick Coombs stated he thinks we ought to keep working on it. Roberts asked Coombs what he suggests to which Coombs said he can't get to lite weight and he does not want to put added weight on his kart. Ray McKibben asked about gearing. Don Boles responded we can only go so high. Wagar asked that people keep coming up with ideas. Warren asked if we can have a 420/212 combination. Wagar stated the 420 would blow away the 212. McKibben said Roberts provided a flyer in the past about the 420 classes which would be great to give out at shows and suggested adding lap times to the flyer. Ted Cradlebaugh said since the Leopard weight was changed, he makes a motion to lower the ROK ten pounds down to the same weight as the X30 and Leopard for TaG classes. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben and passed with four in favor, two abstained (roll call: Landes-abstained, McCready-abstained, McKibben-yes, Roberts-abstained, Schroeder-abstained, Slattery-no, Warren-no, Boles-abstained, Calvert-yes, Coombs-abstained, Cradlebaugh-yes, Gregg-yes, Kuethe-abstained). Cradlebaugh pointed out weight can be adjusted if needed.

SECRETARY'S NOTE: Since this board meeting, determination was made via email to re-visit this vote at the January 5, 2016 board meeting.

Coombs asked if we kept the minimum age at 35-years-old for the Masters class. Wagar responded we did and explained WKA lowered the age to 30 a couple of years ago.

NEW BUSINESS:

2016 SCHEDULE: Josh Wagar provided a draft 2016 schedule. Brian Schroeder pointed out the Rollin' on the River event is on July 24th when a race is currently scheduled. Schroeder explained this event is a really big show. Wagar said he listened to what everybody said in developing the schedule. Ray Brown asked how many people are involved in the show to which Jeff Calvert responded five. Brown stated you are wanting to inconvenience everyone else. Schroeder said there are a lot of Saturday night races to which Wagar responded it is the same number as this past season. Gary Gregg reported the numbers are better at Saturday night races. Don Boles suggested having Saturday daytime races to which Gregg disagreed. Gary Huber said he dislikes Saturday night races and Brent Warren stated he likes them. Wagar said it is a balance. Jeff Roberts discussed the need to have rain dates as there will be days the track will not be able to be raced on. Warren said we will be racing in the rain so it will be unlikely we will use rain dates. Dan Fiehrer asked if having one rain date has been considered. Wagar replied that is what he is looking at doing. Ken Kuethe suggested not attending the show. Warren said running night races during the school year are hard when kids normally go to bed at 8:00 p.m. Marina Walters responded it is way easier having Saturday night races. Schroeder stated Sunday races are hard. Warren replied let's have all Saturday races and Gregg said it needs to be a blend. Wagar will adjust two dates on the schedule and noted we will be off on Man Cup, Route 66, USPKS and Robopong plus have no more than two weekends in a row.

RACE DAY SUPPORT: Josh Wagar asked board members to email him dates they will be unable to assist with race day setup and close down as he will be creating a schedule.

NEW CASTLE CONFIGURATION: Marina Walters asked what track will be run when we race at New Castle and suggested the iron man. Josh Wagar explained we will run two different configurations and he is going to talk with Mike Adams at New Castle about this.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

BIRTHDAY: Gary Huber noted he is the oldest active member here and Saturday he will be 73-years-old. Josh Wagar extended wishes to Huber for a happy birthday.

CHARITY RACE: Gary Gregg said he would like to see us donate \$1,500 to the Camden Food Bank and \$500 to Gratis EMS.

ADJOURNMENT: Don Boles, seconded by Josh Wagar, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 5, 2016, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show – Friday through Sunday, January 8-10, 2016, Duke Energy Convention Center, 525 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202
- OVKA Annual Membership Meeting & 2015 Banquet – Saturday, January 16, 2016, Cincinnati Marriott Northeast, 9664 Mason Montgomery Road, Mason, OH, 45040

- Indy Circle Track Show – Saturday, January 23, 2016, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis, IN, 46205
- OVKA 2016 Swap Meet – Saturday, February 6, 2016, Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road, Dayton, OH, 45415
- Great Lakes Racing Expo 2016 – Saturday, February 20, 2016, Full Throttle Indoor Karting, 11725 Commons Drive, Springdale, OH, 45246

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

- Lynda Coombs – Inquire if Hampton Inn will continue to provide the meeting room at no cost for the month of January.
- Rick Coombs- Collaborate with Josh Wagar on letter to Burriss about oil.
- Ray McKibben – Repair lineup board.
- Brian Schroeder – Coordinate Swap Meet gate workers.
- Josh Wagar – Present donation to DARF at their banquet, obtain Swap Meet flyers from Doug Benson, ask Gary Osterholt to update the Swap Meet date on the OVKA web site, inform board of WKA's position about age rule/moving up, contact Keith Freber about purchasing rain tires.

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, J. Wagar and B. Warren.

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: R. Brown, M. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Fiehrer, G. Huber, V. Oatts, M. Walters and B. Williams.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 12/18/15.