

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Josh Wagar called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. 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 May 3, 2016 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs and passed unanimously.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Brian Schroeder reported booth space at the PRI Show is \$1,700. He said the event is being held at the Convention Center in Indianapolis the first week of December on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday and it is a very different market. Don Boles asked how soon we would have to make a decision to which Schroeder responded by July, August or possibly later. Schroeder explained there is a main room and side rooms and we would be in the hallway. Jeff Roberts said the side rooms would be a last resort. Schroeder is waiting to hear back if there is a cost for electric. Josh Wagar asked Schroeder to nail the total cost including electric and said this would be something new to try. Schroeder asked if we would want to not do the Cavalcade Show and try PRI to which Boles responded we have to do Cavalcade. Ray McKibben said there is a big RV and boat show in Cincinnati. Wagar explained he is working on a list of shows. McKibben asked if there are any venues that run motocross such as Honda or Suzuki. Jeff Calvert said Lebanon runs motorcycles on an old horse track and he wonders if we could set up there a couple of times. Boles reminded the board Shady Bowl would like us to come and put on an exhibition. Reid Smith said there is Clinton County Motorsports and McKibben offered to go talk with them. Schroeder reported the Rollin' on the River event is July 24<sup>th</sup> which is the day after a night race. Wagar asked if volunteers are needed. Schroeder said he does not know yet but we will need people there on Saturday while we race.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready reported there are 20 or 21 pit spots still open. A list of who wants billboards needs to be compiled. Josh Wagar said the ones who want to keep their billboards up will need to pay for them. Wagar will work with Jeff Roberts to put up OVKA / G & J Kartway billboards. Roberts reported he is working on designing hard flags. Lynda Coombs asked about pit spot diagrams to be installed at the gate and tower. Roberts said he will take of that. Rick Coombs asked if there is a list of open pit spots that can be emailed to which McCready agreed to do provide.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ray McKibben reported new electric has been installed for the fans and thanked Brent Warren for his help. McKibben will have the fans installed by the next home race. He has a third fan that he discussed with Lynda Coombs about installing it up high in the rafters of the tech barn to help circulate air. Josh Wagar respond he is all for this as long as it does blow papers around. McKibben plans to number/stencil the pit spots on Saturday if the weather cooperates. Warren reported he obtained a spare travel FM transmitter and after talking with Steve Tatman today, Warren will pick up some cables. He explained the transmitter is the same one we use at Camden and can be a spare. Wagar noted it can be used to broadcast at away races. He reported he talked with Gary Gregg about using one of his empty trailers to which Gregg agreed. Wagar asked if we want to replace or clean up the ticket booth. Gregg responded people need to quit

hitting it and it can be replaced. He further stated a rafter is needed over the side so when it rains, you are protected. Wagar said we need to look at the options to which Gregg agreed. Brody Warren offered to help. Brent Warren asked if the current booth is sound to which Gregg replied it is structurally sound. Wagar explained it has been tapped over the years. Warren said we need to seal the gap on the track and he does not know what to put on it. Wagar said the crack has gotten big. He discussed using sealer similar to what we use to seal the track with and said we may need to put in an expansion joint. Warren cautioned to make sure there is no metal in it. Gregg reported the shingles and trim have been fixed. Brian Schroeder reported more shingles are coming up. McKibben said there are some that need to be glued or tarred on the very top of the pavilion.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**DECODER BOX:** Lynda Coombs thanked Brian Schroeder for setting up a static IP address. She said at some point the old decoder needs to be sent out for service. Schroeder suggested we wait until the end of the season to do this to which Coombs agreed.

**TRANSPONDERS:** Ray McKibben is working on making a charging case for the individual rental transponders. He hopes to have it ready for the next New Castle race. Gary Gregg asked if there are transponders that need to be fixed. Rick Coombs reported McKibben has replaced some batteries. Josh Wagar said it is only a matter of time before we can't buy the current style transponders because AMB has gone to subscription transponders. Lynda Coombs reported there have been occasions when we have been ten to twelve transponders short, such as at the Champ Race. Wagar noted transponders were obtained through Aaron Banfield in the past and offered to talk with him about availability and cost. Brent Warren said it seems like we need to get some more. Coombs will provide information about the number of transponder rentals over time.

**TaG WEIGHTS:** Josh Wagar said he did not hear complaints at New Castle about TaG weights. Gary Gregg asked how many TaG karts were there to which Wagar responded eight TaG Seniors and one TaG Masters. Wagar stated he thinks people are going to more economical engines. Brody Warren said it seems like at the nationals they are trying to do away with Yamahas. Brent Warren noted we lost some TaGs this year. Wagar said we will get back together with the class in a race or two.

**CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS:** Josh Wagar said he has some ideas about a package to offer charitable organizations and he will put something together. He asked the board to email ideas to him. Wagar explained we currently provide support for the Racing4Vets and Spirit 4 Racing organizations and we need to look at having one type of package for groups. Wagar reported he reached out to our injured drivers to discuss support that DARF offers.

**CHAMP RACE:** Gary Gregg asked for input about the menu for the Champ Race. Josh Wagar responded the only complaint he heard last year was there was not any dessert. Gregg would like to change the type of potatoes. He suggested staying with the same fee structure as last year, \$20 on Saturday which covers both days or \$10 on Sunday only to which Wagar agreed. Wagar will contact Mike Reifeis about providing DJ services. Elaine Gregg's singing group will provide a concert. Ray McKibben discussed having a contest for mechanics, such as tire changing, and consider having a pair of tires for the prize. Wagar asked McKibben to coordinate this with the Vets and Kerin Banfield who are handling the games and Wagar will come up with a good prize. McKibben will obtain a dunk tank. Wagar noted the event will be July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and asked that ideas be sent to him. Gregg

suggested having mechanics tear down engines then reassemble them and the first one that starts wins.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CIRCLEVILLE RACE:** Lynda Coombs reported Steve Tatman plans to charge \$10 at Circleville for anyone going on the hot grid and \$5.00 for spectators. Rick Coombs asked if there is a difference in insurance for the two different passes and suggested the \$10 fee be charged across the board to which Jeff Roberts agreed. Ken Kuethe discussed being able to go up to look at the lineup board. Gary Gregg asked if anyone complained about the \$10 fee at New Castle. Brent Warren stated he thinks the \$5.00 fee is for the bleachers only and he does not want us to have to police this. Lynda Coombs contacted Tatman during the break and obtained clarification that the \$10 fee is for those persons going under the canopy. Tatman is fine with charging \$10 so nobody has to police it.

**NEW CASTLE FORMAT:** Rick Coombs said it seems like we leave New Castle very late and suggested we run two warm-up sessions, qualify then run a feature. Brody Warren responded that is what they do at their local club and it seems to work well. Josh Wagar discussed the red flag situations that occurred. Gary Gregg asked if we could qualify then run six laps and eight laps or qualify then run four laps and six laps. Another suggestion he offered is to make the second warm-up session be qualifying. Wagar explained the computers are still in use at that time. Ken Kuethe said he would look at this issue for Circleville also as he is concerned we could lose racers. Wagar responded he thinks we should not change anything for Circleville. Ray McKibben reported on his experience at New Castle and said they ran two practices, qualified and had a final. He explained they print a time sheet when each class is to be at the grid which helps them develop a rhythm and they announce when they are running ten minutes behind then when they are caught up. Wagar responded we are on a time schedule every race and things seem to take longer at New Castle because of how big the track is. He said he agrees with Coombs that we need to do something to speed things up. Brody Warren said some associations cut things to get back on schedule. Brent Warren reported they start earlier and are on the track at 8:00 a.m. and run two heats which is one less full cycle. Kuethe said they drive retrievals while the race is going on. Brent Warren stated he does not agree with doing this and he thinks what Coombs is saying can be looked at. He further stated let's not get caught up in comparing us as having been at nationals and other places, he much prefers the environment we have. McKibben said he is putting out some of the things they do to make the race day run quick. Following further discussion, Wagar said let's do two warm-ups, qualify then have a long feature. Jeff Roberts suggested having a longer qualifying session. Wagar responded we are doing group qualifying and he is fine with that and he will come up the lap count. He added at Circleville we will stay the same. Gary Gregg said at Camden we need to consider two warm-ups then two heats because he hears a lot of complaints about long days and if we could finish by 5:00 p.m. that would be great. Wagar responded we need a day without weather.

**AWAY RACES 2017:** Josh Wagar said based on all of the insurance headaches that seem to pop at New Castle and other issues and the facilities at Circleville, he thinks we need to think about traveling. Gary Gregg responded you need to go to these places. Wagar reported a motorcycle race was scheduled on the Saturday before our Sunday race at Circleville after having been told we could be there on Saturday. He said it will be 3:00 p.m. or after on Saturday before we can practice. Wagar said as a driver, he loves Circleville but as President, there are all the headaches which few people have heard or know. Gregg suggested considering a street race in the summer. Don Boles reported there are no helmet cameras allowed at New Castle. Brian Schroeder said this is club racing and he has heard over the years that we want to keep the cost low. He stated if we stay at Camden in 2017, it will keep the cost lower and the extra money could be used toward rain tires next year. Ray McKibben said we could consider staying at our home track if Gregg is willing and there

have been ideas about adding onto the track to have other configurations. Wagar responded right now we have nine configurations. He further stated he wants us to think about this and we do not have to decide anything tonight. Wagar will be involved in developing next year's schedule with the incoming President. Randy Landes inquired about Cincinnati Motorsports. Wagar explained there are twenty people involved in making decisions there and they would have to buy adjoining property to have room for us. He further stated there are not enough bathrooms for us. Brent Warren asked if anyone has been to Wilmington. Wagar said we can't go there based on the way the track is. Angie Calvert stated they are not as big as us. Jeff Calvert reported Circleville and other clubs race there. He further stated we should talk with Gary Gregg to which Wagar agreed to do, as well as Elaine.

**AMBULANCE EMERGENCY SERVICES:** Josh Wagar said based on recent events, there were questions about the type of emergency services we have at the tracks. Wagar contacted the Chief of Gratis, Joan Vance, who explained their staff sign up for special events which means we could end up having a paramedic and EMT, two paramedics or two EMTs. At G & J if they think it is life threatening, the on-site ambulance will transport or have a chopper. If it is not life threatening, they will wait for another ambulance to arrive. This weekend at Circleville we will have Dolly Rowley who is a paramedic and soon to be registered nurse. Wagar will contact New Castle before our next event there. Wagar said Ray McKibben suggested having a list of hospitals. McKibben explained at New Castle there was some confusion about directions and it would be nice to have clear directions and local hospitals. He said there are a couple of different types of ambulance services and they may have contracted ambulances where they have to call in a local ambulance which he is not comfortable with but it is the track owner's call. McKibben stated then you have what we have and they are going to roll. He added the other thing is understanding the difference between an EMT and paramedic. Ken Kuethe said it is not a club decision to which Brent Warren said we can specify as a club. Kuethe responded he can't see why we as a club would discuss this. Warren stated he sees it is for us to discuss. McKibben added as an organization we want to provide the best care we can. He reported an ambulance staff person at New Castle told him they are under contract and they can't leave the property. Gary Gregg said it needs to be asked if they can transport right away. Kuethe asked what level of care does this club want us to have. Jeff Roberts responded he would like to know if he has to wait. Warren stated if an ambulance is not on the side of the track it is unacceptable to send karts on the track. Gregg said if anything, the board should make the recommendation there is an ambulance on site and in the case of a critical injury, they be able to transport or Careflight. Reid Smith said he is 100% with McKibben. Wagar said if you have questions about it, you should ask the track owner. Lynda Coombs called Rowley during the meeting to discuss whether having an ambulance on site at Circleville would be an option. Rowley suggested contacting the local Fire Department and if they cannot do it, contact private ambulance companies. She said it being short notice could be an issue. Coombs asked the board if we want to consider always having a paramedic. Wagar replied in talking with Vance at Gratis, if no paramedic signs up, we have none but every once in a while, two paramedics sign up. He said for this weekend at Circleville, we know we have an ambulance less than five minutes away and will have a paramedic there with a defibrillator which he is comfortable with and he plans on racing. Wagar added he does not see a reason to change that. Warren said he would assume it is too late for this weekend.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Josh Wagar, seconded by Jeff Calvert, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 7, 2016, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Rollin' On The River – Sunday, July 24, 2016, Fernbank Park, Route 50 West River Road, Saylor Park, OH
- Lebanon Blues Festival – Saturday, August 6, 2016, Lebanon, OH

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Provide information about transponder rental numbers.
- Lee McCready – Email list of open pit spots to Rick Coombs.
- Ray McKibben – Talk with Clinton County motorsports, install fans at track, number/stencil pit spots, make transponder charging case, obtain dunk tank for the Champ Race.
- Jeff Roberts – Work with Josh Wagar on billboards, design hard flags, provide pit spot signs.
- Josh Wagar – Continue to compile list of Cincinnati shows, work with Jeff Roberts on billboards, talk with Aaron Banfield about transponders, provide proposal regarding charitable organizations, contact Mike Reifeis, provide prize for mechanics contest at the Champ Race, talk with the Greggs about 2017 season, contact New Castle about emergency medical services before our next event there.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** D. Boles, J. Calvert, R. Coombs, G. Gregg, K. Kuethe, R. Landes, L. McCready, R. McKibben, J. Roberts, B. Schroeder, R. Smith, J. Wagar and B. Warren.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** A. Calvert, M. Cook, L. Coombs, V. Oatts and B. Warren.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 6/27/16.