

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** On behalf of President Josh Wagar, Ted Cradlebaugh opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He asked that cell phones be placed on silent or vibrate. Lynda Coombs explained Wagar will be arriving shortly.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs reported Ray McKibben requested a correction to the November board meeting minutes to include, "Josh asked Ray McKibben if he would update the booth photos. Yes, he stated." Coombs made a motion to accept the November minutes with this correction. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously. Coombs reported the Hampton Inn has been secured for monthly board meetings for all of 2017. She explained the July 2017 board meeting will be held on the second Tuesday due to the Fourth of July holiday. Coombs reminded board members their 2017 membership dues need to be paid by the January 3, 2017 board meeting. She read a holiday card from the Rollin' on the River Charity Car Show organization.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Josh Wagar reported three OVKA class champions, James Overbeck, Brody Warren and Chuck Maitlen, were recognized at the DARF banquet this past Saturday. DARF extended their appreciation to OVKA for the check presented by Wagar from the Charity Race. Wagar reported he picked up the old show booth on Saturday which he will work on repairing. Brian Schroeder said the Cavalcade fee will be mailed tomorrow and electric has to be paid separately. He asked that volunteers contact him. Ray McKibben asked that Schroeder inform Cavalcade we want electric. Don Boles asked how we will handle not being able to use pop-ups. Schroeder responded we will figure that out. Wagar noted we will have two show booths. Rick Coombs reported Cavalcade tickets are available at KOI Auto Parts stores for \$15. Dylan Cradlebaugh said in the past tickets at KOI were cheaper than at the show. Lynda Coombs reported plans are in place for the Indy Circle Track Show in January. Schroeder asked if we want to try to participate in the Rollin' on the River Show again. Wagar replied he scheduled around this event in the draft schedule he prepared. Schroeder explained for \$500 we can have the OVKA logo on the front cover and he is not sure what the cutoff date is. He said it is something to consider. McKibben thanked Larry Neuzel and Sean Reece for providing pictures for the booth. He discussed sizing of pictures for the booth. Wagar said a full set is needed for the second booth and if McKibben wants to update the first booth, he can feel free to do so.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready reported pit spot reservations have started rolling in which is great so he can get spots set up ahead of time. He said there are some people thinking about making changes so please let him know right away what your plans are. McCready thanked Lynda Coombs for including the pit spot reservation form in the annual mailing. Coombs extended appreciation to McCready for providing copies.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ray McKibben stated pricing for the billboards should be well under budget. He said Don Boles brought to his attention the price of lumber may go up due to the Tennessee fires. Lynda Coombs reported she attempted to have copies of the key for the limo

retrieval made and was told they have to be obtained through a dealer. McKibben offered to check with golf cart businesses.

**RULES COMMITTEE:** Josh Wagar explained he has not received the rules for the 420 class yet. Pat Slattery discussed WKA's requirement for two-cycle classes that a plastic strip is to cover 25% of the chain. He added it does not have to cover the full chain. Wagar replied he does not think we need to cover this in our rulebook since it is in WKA tech specs. Slattery said we need to let people know to which Ken Kuethe agreed. Wagar said we need to give leniency at the beginning of the year and not throw people out. Kuethe asked when we have to have the rulebook finished. Wagar replied it has been as late as Karting 101 but he would like to have it at the banquet. He said he is down to the 420 and Kid Kart rules plus editing. Kuethe discussed changing trophy paybacks from first to eighth to first to fifth. Lynda Coombs noted eleven races are required to receive a plaque. Slattery said an eighth place trophy is probably not in somebody's trophy case. Kuethe said he is also interested in eliminating plaques for people who get trophies. Gary Gregg responded this is what he has said for years. Kuethe made a motion that next year we eliminate trophies after fifth place. The motion was seconded by Gregg. Rick Coombs asked how it will be determined how far back to give trophies. Kuethe responded it would still be based on averages. Ted Cradlebaugh said some people put the plaques on their garage wall. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Rick Coombs made a motion that if you receive a trophy for your finishing position, you will not receive a plaque. The motion was seconded by Kuethe and passed with eight in favor and three opposed (roll call: Cradlebaugh-yes, Gregg-yes, Kuethe-yes, Landes-yes, McCready-yes, McKibben-no, Schroeder-no, Slattery-yes, Smith-no, Boles-yes, Coombs-yes). McKibben asked if we would allow a person to have a plaque instead of a trophy. Wagar replied no and Rick Coombs agreed. Dylan Cradlebaugh stated they've eliminated the top five getting plaques. Brian Schroeder distributed Kid Kart Regulations and Specifications. Wagar asked that Schroeder provide him with this via email. Slattery said he thinks we should read this and come back next month and vote. Schroeder explained the last couple of years a lot of people have said we don't race Kid Karts and he has really thought about mingling the two. He said the Kid Karts could show up at the grid at 8:30 a.m. for a training class until 9:00 a.m. Transponders would be optional. Schroeder reported he has talked with people from other states who have questioned us not running transponders for Kid Karts and not racing in the rain. He said he knows racing in the rain will be changing. Schroeder stated he feels because WKA is cutting Kid Karts from their program, there are a lot of people looking for tracks to take their kids to. He explained he has the rules broken down by Comer and LO206. Schroeder said he would like to see OVKA run this class as a race day with parents having the option to run transponders. He reported Adam Myers and Myers' wife are willing to step up and do the 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. training part. Schroeder said we can do some light tech coming off the scale then have the top five with transponders go to post-tech. He would like to have the class run the same configurations and number of laps as other classes unless the Race Director decides not to, such as 25 laps as the 206 would run out of fuel. Schroeder said he would want to run before the break. He explained the instructional time would teach parents what not to do, what to look for in the Comer motor and what's illegal. Schroeder said they would have first, second and third place trophies on race dates plus participation medallions for those who get no trophies. Gregg asked what you do if third place has the fastest time. Schroeder replied it would go by how they finished. Slattery raised a question about wanting trophies every race to which Gregg said they would be smaller. Schroeder explained there would be no year-end points, only participation. He said he thinks we will see a lot more kids come and go throughout the year. McKibben asked if a group of four or five run 100% and come to the banquet, if there will be a time we'll look at the banquet and treat the group like regular karters. Schroeder replied he doesn't think we need drastic changes and it needs to be a blending. He said he has heard from more than 50% of the parents they want to run transponders. Slattery said Schroeder has a better feel for this and he thinks we should do this. Rick Coombs asked

Schroeder to run down the race day timeline. Schroeder explained at 8:30 a.m. they come to the starting grid and may go over flags and walk the track then at 9:00 a.m. start practice. Slattery asked if parents will go out on the track to which Schroeder replied he feels they should. Cradlebaugh noted they will actually get less time with four or five warm-up laps. Schroeder said he ran the times and thinks it will be five to seven minutes longer. Cradlebaugh said he is agreeing with what Schroeder is saying and noted you say they get a trophy and they won today. He asked if they are going to pay the same to which Schroeder replied yes and we will not supply the fuel anymore. Rick Coombs said he was trying to make sure this is not any more time on the front end and he agrees with what Schroeder is doing. Boles asked if we are going to use our corner workers. Schroeder responded he thinks we'll have to. Boles replied then not allow parents on the track to which Schroeder said they will be. Slattery asked what about a worker break. Rick Coombs asked if they will race in the rain and Schroeder replied yes. McKibben asked if the LO206 will run WKA rules. Schroeder replied yes and the specs say see WKA. Cradlebaugh asked if it will be WKA weight of 200# to which Wagar said yes. Lynda Coombs asked what it was last year. Schroeder stated it was 150# last year in one location in our rulebook and 200# in another location. He said in his opinion OVKA should not supply the fuel and the LO206 uses pump gas. Schroeder explained the Comer can run Red Line or Burris oil and he specified pump one at the BP station in Camden. Wagar noted this is just like all the four-cycles and parents can mix it. Michael Lewis said he is an active Kid Kart parent and he is definitely on board and likes all pea-pick. He said it is important to his son whether he finished first or second and likes trophies Lewis suggested the trophies be two inches taller than participation trophies. He said there can be a curriculum over 14 weeks and he is willing to help. Lewis discussed putting everything that could be teched in a hat and pull out of it. Cradlebaugh said half of them failed last year and it puts parents in a spot. Gregg asked what if the racer is illegal. Cradlebaugh replied we would talk with the parent. Schroeder explained if of the top three one fails, it goes to fourth. Schroeder said he feels we should still give helmet stickers for participation. Lewis responded his son loves the helmet stickers. Boles stated he thinks with parents and workers out there, it's too many people and it should be narrowed down to a certain number of parents. Schroeder explained in the past, it was two people per flag. Lynda Coombs asked why it would be too many to which Gregg said they can get hit. McKibben stated he thinks it should be up to the Kid Kart Director to educate and determine the number of parents out there and on the bigger track, more are needed. Schroeder said he thinks we should start without any limits. Boles suggested having five parents and five workers. Wagar said he agrees with McKibben that it should be the Kid Kart Director's discretion. Brian Schroeder made a motion to accept the proposed Kid Kart Regulations and Specifications as presented. The motion was seconded by Ken Kuethe. Rick Coombs asked if we are going to put supplying their own fuel and racing in the rain. Wagar explained rain falls under the regular rules. Schroeder said fuel is mentioned in the regulations. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Rick Coombs made a motion to make the Kid Kart entry fee \$32.00. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously. Schroeder noted we did increase the gate fee.

**SWAP MEET COMMITTEE:** Doug Benson reported things are going on as normal. He noted registrations seem to be coming in early this year and discussed table sales. Benson reported Briggs and Stratton and Target Distributing will be there. He reported the Swap Meet is advertised in the WKA tech manual. Lynda Coombs explained we had been told we were too late then through Brian Schroeder learned the Swap Meet flyer was included in the 2017 WKA tech manual. She said the invoice has been forwarded to the Treasurer for payment as part of Swap Meet advertising. Ray McKibben asked if there has been any discussion about generating revenue by renting meeting rooms to vendors. Gary Gregg stated they have room for this. Benson said in the future, we need to include this on our flyer. He explained usually after Christmas, registrations start rolling in.

**BANQUET COMMITTEE:** Rick Coombs reported the annual mailing went out on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. He asked to let him know if anyone did not receive one. Rick Coombs said the documents that were included in the mailing are available this evening. He asked the board if they want him to order 6" tires for the banquet. Ted Cradlebaugh replied he would knock it down some because it always seems we need more 7.10 tires. Josh Wagar said he meant to bring it up in Rules Committee to make it an option to run 6.00 or 7.10 tires in Juniors for the 2017 season as it is in Seniors. Rick Coombs said he will decrease the number of 6.00s and increase the 7.10s. Dylan Cradlebaugh asked if Coombs plans to get rain tires. Rick Coombs said he was not planning on doing so. Slattery said if it starts raining, he won't have 80 sets. Dylan Cradlebaugh asked if a chassis will be a prize at the banquet to which Coombs said yes. Lynda Coombs reported trophies, plaques and jackets have been ordered.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**TRANSPONDERS:** Brian Schroeder reported a charging box is in the process of being made. Josh Wagar said he and Schroeder will be looking for transponders for sale at the Swap Meet.

**DECODER BOX:** Brian Schroeder reported he contacted the decoder box company about our old decoder which was getting ghost readings. He said the company explained all we have to do is change the squelch within the program and it may be nothing that needs to be repaired. Lynda Coombs and Schroeder will follow up with the software provider. Coombs explained that the old decoder box is functional even though it has ghost readings and can be used as backup.

**2018 TIRES:** Reid Smith reported he has an RFP and cover letter finished. He has been looking at how bigger series handle tire changes.

**CHARITY RACE:** Josh Wagar reported a \$1,500 check was sent to the Fairhaven Community Church and a \$500 check to First Brethren Church of Gratis. Additionally, a \$2,000 donation was made to DARF this past Saturday at their annual banquet. Wagar said DARF greatly appreciated the donation. Dylan Cradlebaugh asked if any DARF people are going to come next year to which Wagar replied he does not know. Lynda Coombs reported a few have come to our races in the past. Matt Overbeck stated he liked the DARF banquet and thought it was a nice event. He said they gave an Asphalt Driver of the Year Award. Wagar explained Larry Boos with DARF and Eldora said it would be great to have an award for Go-Karter of the Year.

**WEBSITE LAYOUT / INFORMATION:** Brian Schroeder asked if the meeting agenda can be put on the website. Josh Wagar stated Gary Osterholt can be included when it is emailed to the board. Schroeder said a lot of grammar corrections need done on the website and our fee section needs revised and noted it is written like a story. Wagar reported he spoke with Osterholt last week and will be meeting with him after the first of the year. Schroeder said we send everybody to the website and he thinks it should be cleaner. He reported there is stuff from previous years that should be put away in another folder. Pat Slattery said he could not find the classifieds to which Ken Kuethe reported the same. Wagar will work with Osterholt on the website.

**BUMPERS:** Gary Gregg explained Jeff Roberts is going to make a bumper that will keep karts from coming up the steering shaft.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2017 OFFICERS:** Josh Wagar, seconded by Ray McKibben, nominated Don Boles for President. Boles accepted the nomination. Pat Slattery said he would like to run for President and was nominated by Brent Warren which was seconded by Gary Gregg. Josh Wagar, seconded by Brian

Schroeder, nominated Ken Kuethe for Vice-President. Kuethe accepted the nomination. Josh Wagar, seconded by Ted Cradlebaugh, nominated Lynda Coombs for Secretary. Coombs accepted the nomination. Josh Wagar, seconded by Reid Smith, nominated Jason Gregg for Treasurer. Gary Gregg accepted the nomination on behalf of Jason Gregg. Gary Gregg noted voting will take place at the 2:00 p.m. meeting prior to the banquet.

**2017 SCHEDULE:** Josh Wagar presented a draft 2017 schedule and explained he tried to work with the WKA Man Cup and USPKS dates and two big shows. He said as of two weeks ago, WKA had not yet released their Gold Cup schedule. Gary Gregg said we shouldn't schedule races the last of May and first of June because of graduations. Brian Schroeder said school's last day is in May because of Ohio graduation testing and the third grade guarantee. He further stated that is why the school year got bumped to mid-August to get as much in before testing. Wagar replied there were not very many weekends open and he had to shuffle a few things. He said realistically, whoever wins can feel free to try to make changes. Gregg pointed out June 4<sup>th</sup> is when there will be graduation parties. Ken Kuethe replied parties can be held through the summer and they have June 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Ray McKibben noted Wagar put clean-up day on the schedule after the Charity Race. Wagar replied we have done that before and he also included the spring clean-up date to hopefully get more people. Ted Cradlebaugh said it is still up to the new President if he agrees. Don Boles stated there aren't days left so we don't have a choice. Brent Warren stated you're on three USPKS races plus one rainout. Wagar replied almost nobody from our club was running it. Kuethe said it is two USPKS and two Route 66 races. Wagar said one year we ran on Labor Day weekend and people were hot about it. Slattery stated we could put this is temporary or whatever you want to call it so if something comes up. Boles said it can be changed if it has to be. Slattery asked if there is an advantage to putting it out. Wagar replied it can be put in a number of publications and he has received emails from people asking. Boles and Slattery both said they are fine with it. McKibben asked if we can put we reserve the right to change. Kuethe responded it is not a legal document and it is ridiculous to put that. Wagar said the schedule will get printed.

**PRESIDENT'S NOTE:** Wagar received an email following the board meeting that Slattery, if elected, plans on changing the schedule that was presented.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**AWAY RACES:** Ted Cradlebaugh extended an apology for having missed a couple of board meetings due to work. He said he knows the board has to make a lot of decisions and he wants to know what brought up no away races without talking with the members and asked if a poll was done. Josh Wagar replied he talked with members throughout the season. Ted Cradlebaugh said he understands it is a hassle and there have been problems with other race facilities but we could have knocked it down to one or two. He added Gary Gregg has already told him we need to support other tracks. Pat Slattery reported he had some pushback too, especially not going to New Castle. Ted Cradlebaugh replied New Castle has a nice track. Ken Kuethe said the good thing is we can take a one year hiatus and can go back. Cradlebaugh responded the majority want to go. Wagar explained during pre-tech on Saturdays, he got to talk with a large part of the membership and some on Sundays. He said he heard more saying they wanted to stay at home. Ray McKibben said the biggest thing he heard was New Castle and we should look at going there for 2018. Lee McCready said there were issues with people bothering the Kid Kart Director. Brian Schroeder replied there were a lot of behind-the-scenes issues that drove that decision. He said we had some New Castle members who were belligerent toward our members. Ted Cradlebaugh replied shame on us for not taking care of it. Schroeder added we had people entering trailers saying how we should run our club. He said he voted to not travel in the best interest of our members; with one of these we would have lost a lot of our members. Schroeder said maybe one year off and he thinks we should try again. Brent Warren replied a lot of gripes were at New Castle and he, his wife and two children like

racing at G & J but they were disappointed not to travel. He said a lot he has heard is not too happy. Warren added his family likes Circleville but the conditions are not good. He stated he hasn't heard people say they're happy not travelling. Wagar replied he has. Schroeder said if it was up to him, he would vote to travel. Ted Cradlebaugh said the biggest hassle is registration, tech and getting staff there. Wagar discussed how our own entries are down when we travel and we pick up theirs. Dylan Cradlebaugh said it could be any reason. Wagar stated keeping our membership all engaged is better. Ted Cradlebaugh said he is all with what the board did and suggested we keep it open for the following year, especially if Mr. Tatman makes improvements like he says. Wagar explained we had talked in circles for two or three months in a row and he said he was done and made a motion that Slattery seconded. He stated he didn't think it would pass. Ted Cradlebaugh said he would show New Castle your reasoning behind the decision.

**TaG CLASS:** Ken Kuethe said the TaG class was somewhat down this year and asked if there is the ability to raise the weights to get some Masters drivers. Dylan Cradlebaugh replied he's in. Gary Gregg inquired what engine everybody ran. Kuethe replied ROK, Leopard and X-30. Ted Cradlebaugh stated weight was the issue because it penalized racers. Kuethe wondered if it would pull back some racers like Randy Pierce or John Treglia. Pat Slattery replied Saturday races kill it for Treglia because he has to work. Kuethe suggested starting a campaign on Facebook. Lee McCready said we ought to lower the weight. Ted Cradlebaugh replied whatever weight we make it, such as 385#, we need to make it all that. Gregg asked if Cradlebaugh means one weight only to which Ted Cradlebaugh replied yes. Dylan Cradlebaugh stated it is not that big of a deal really. Kuethe said he wants more people to race. Josh Wagar suggested reaching out to past racers. Dylan Cradlebaugh said it got to the point people in the class made it too expensive and if you make a tire rule, you will get them back. Wagar said if you guys can come up with what you want to do, that would be great. Wagar offered to provide contact information and Kuethe agreed to call people. Brad Trent said he wonders if the YLM tires are stickier and asked if you can mark tires for TaG. Slattery replied you don't want them and he doesn't see a stickier tire making it better. Dylan Cradlebaugh suggested having an open tire rule to which Slattery responded that will make it worse. Wagar explained Reid Smith is working on getting tire bids for 2018 and we are locked in for 2017. He said you guys would have to tell what you want and Keith Freber told him he doesn't care what compound; it has to be Bridgestone. Ted Cradlebaugh suggested putting it on the website to have a meeting because tires were a lot of it. Dylan Cradlebaugh said it was weight and tires to which Ted agreed. Kuethe stated we need to take the weight up to include the bigger people. Slattery asked what New Castle runs to which Ted Cradlebaugh replied they run light. Ted Cradlebaugh discussed how eight or nine years ago we had shifters. Brent Warren replied we need to bring them back too. Slattery responded Saturdays are a problem. Ted Cradlebaugh replied you can change that if you're President. Dylan Cradlebaugh discussed how a lot of people can't be there on Saturdays. Ted Cradlebaugh said people need to be contacted. Warren said our club is kind of geared to Yamaha and others have Swift to move up into TaG. Ted Cradlebaugh stated TaG is a big step if you're trying to compete and at G & J you better be on the money and put your time in. Kuethe and Ted Cradlebaugh will call people. Ray McKibben suggested having a TaG kart at the Cavalcade Show to which Gregg replied it doesn't make a difference because they can't tell the speed. Dylan Cradlebaugh added then you tell them the cost.

**KID KART:** Brian Schroeder asked if we want to get a red Kid Kart to display and put a 206 on it. He noted with the Swap Meet coming up, we could buy one. Don Boles responded the kid doesn't care what it looks like. Josh Wagar added for the visual effect, he doesn't know it will matter.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Brian Schroeder, seconded by Josh Wagar, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 3, 2017, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show – Friday through Sunday, January 6-8, 2017, Duke Energy Convention Center, 525 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202
- OVKA Annual Membership Meeting & 2017 Banquet – Saturday, January 14, 2017, Cincinnati Marriott Northeast, 9664 Mason Montgomery Road, Mason, OH, 45040
- Indy Circle Track Show – Saturday, January 28, 2017, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis, IN, 46205
- OVKA 2017 Swap Meet – Saturday, February 4, 2017, The Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Road, Wilmington, OH 45177
- Great Lakes Racing Expo – Saturday, February 18, 2017, Full Throttle Indoor Karting, 11725 Commons Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45246

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Coordinate Indy Circle Track show, follow up regarding old decoder box.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Contact previous TaG racers.
- Ken Kuethe – Contact previous TaG racers.
- Ray McKibben – Prepare pictures for the show booth, check into obtaining spare keys for the limo retrieval vehicle.
- Brian Schroeder – Coordinate Cavalcade of Customs Show, provide Kid Kart Regulations & Specifications to Wagar via email, follow up regarding old decoder box.
- Josh Wagar – Work with Gary Osterholt on the website, provide Kuethe with contact information for TaG racers.

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

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** M. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, R. Helton, B. Kilkenny, P. Kilkenny, M. Lewis, V. Oatts, M. Overbeck and B. Trent.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 12/20/16.