

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Aaron Banfield called the meeting to order via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. He reviewed virtual meeting etiquette.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs, seconded by Ray McKibben, made a motion to accept the September 1, 2020 board meeting minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** On behalf of Jason Gregg, Aaron Banfield provided the treasurer's report.

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Don Boles said we need to come up with new ideas to promote the club to which Aaron Banfield agreed.

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

**TECH DEPARTMENT:** Ted Cradlebaugh said he has heard both that we are doing too much tech and not enough.

**TECHNOLOGY:** No updates.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT:** Ray McKibben extended thanks to Aaron Banfield and his father for their assistance with the observation tower. McKibben reported radio antennas and batteries came in and he will get them installed. He, along with Lynda Coombs, will be addressing the renumbering of transponders. Ted Cradlebaugh said he would like to get the observation deck finished and asked if there will be a gate installed. Banfield responded McKibben will be putting a post there. Cradlebaugh said he would like to see something of that nature installed in turns three and seven for next year. McKibben suggested purchasing more bags for next season.

**BANQUET:** Rick Coombs raised the question of adjusting the prize levels due to there being one less race this year. Ray McKibben stated we previously shortened them by one. Aaron Banfield, seconded by Scott Golladay, made a motion to adjust the prize levels to: level one at five to nine races, level two at ten to twelve races, and level three at thirteen races. The motion passed unanimously. McKibben asked that Aaron Banfield and Michael Lewis publish this information as soon as possible so people know as it may increase our numbers. Lynda Coombs explained some volunteer opportunities were compromised due to the pandemic situation and asked if there should be changes to the volunteer levels. McKibben asked Lynda Coombs if she received his emails listing volunteers; she said she will need to check. Lynda Coombs read the volunteer levels: three to five, six to eleven, and twelve and above. Banfield said it is his opinion that people volunteer to work to support the club. He added he still wants to acknowledge them at the banquet but he thinks we should not spend the money on volunteer payouts. Brian Schroeder said he does not have the information in front of him. Lynda Coombs explained she needs to check on information from McKibben. McKibben stated this is touchy to him because this is a volunteer organization and he gives back to the club. He said whether it is a check, a cooler or a chair, he is disappointed there was not information ahead of time. Ted Cradlebaugh suggested not changing anything and go by the same range. Banfield asked that the matter be tabled until next month so he can look at what we have done. Rick Coombs asked the board what they want to allocate for the banquet budget with \$30,000 having been last year's budget. McKibben would like to compare averages to which Lynda Coombs explained she does not have that information right now. McKibben discussed what he thinks

averages have been. Banfield noted we are one race short. Schroeder discussed there being many new racers this year and he thinks it would be nice for them to see a good banquet. He stated his family was shocked when they first came to the banquet. Josh Johnson, seconded by Ray McKibben made a motion to appropriate \$27,500 for the 2020 banquet. Following discussion of sponsorship and banquet expenses, the motion was voted on and passed with nine in favor and one abstained (Coombs). Banfield suggested Jeanette Holliday and Scott Golladay coordinate seeing if Swap Meet vendors will donate items for the banquet. Cradlebaugh said that is a great idea.

**SWAP MEET:** Scott Golladay has reached out to World Digital about Swap Meet flyers. The committee will be meeting to talk about finalizing the flyers and discuss online registration. They plan to reach out to people who were not there for the 2020 Swap Meet. Brian Schroeder made a motion to appropriate \$2,000 for flyers or anything else needed. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs and passed unanimously. Lynda Coombs noted she had emailed information to the board about advertising the Swap Meet in the Vintage Karting calendar and made a motion to appropriate \$150 for this. The motion was seconded by Scott Golladay and passed unanimously. Michael Lewis discussed correspondence he received from WKA about advertising the Swap Meet in the WKA tech manual. He explained the tech manual will be going to a two-year schedule that will be for 2021 and 2022. Ray McKibben suggested including our 2021 date and putting "to be announced" for the 2022 Swap Meet. Aaron Banfield added there could be the link to our Facebook page. Michael Lewis, seconded by Brian Schroeder, made a motion to approve funding for the Swap Meet flyer to be put in the 2021/2022 WKA tech manual. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**DISQUALIFICATION FOLLOW UP:** Brad Crutchleo said he is waiting to see what was discussed regarding the carburetor. Ted Cradlebaugh reported the carburetor was sent via Ron Swift to Steve Vermeer in Indianapolis for inspection. Aaron Banfield explained this was done following Crutchleo's request, learning Briggs is not doing any tech and talking with Vermeer who agreed to look at the carburetor himself along with two other tech people. Banfield further stated two of the three people who conducted inspections said they saw signs of alterations but Vermeer said he would not have disqualified it but would have taken it out of circulation. Crutchleo confirmed this and said Vermeer offered to talk tonight. Crutchleo further stated if the test was done properly that night, it should not have been disqualified. Cradlebaugh asked why Vermeer would take the carburetor out of commission. Ray McKibben stated as a board member he would like to bring Steve Vermeer into this conversation because there are a lot of things behind these carburetors which are very low cost, cheap carburetors. Don Boles said Vermeer has a way to take a carburetor out of a race and we have no way of doing that by our rules. McKibben added as far as procedure, we need to review how we should handle Briggs. Cradlebaugh noted two out of three tech people would have issued a disqualification and Vermeer would have destroyed it and asked what does that tell you about the carburetor. Banfield said we need to solve the status of the disqualification tonight and everyone is in agreement the carburetor should not be in circulation. Crutchleo replied the carburetor is not the issue; that the main issue is clearing their name. He added it kills him that the nationals would pass it and his own club would do this. McKibben stated this has to do with removal of material and throughout the country there have been issues; that the quality of their carburetors is not good. He added David Klaus hand checked carburetors and over one-third of them were thrown in the trash. McKibben further stated our tools passed but visually it looks like material could be missing. He said it is nothing out of the ordinary that would be a performance gain and he has seen the markings and has seen others that have passed tech. McKibben explained Vermeer is the head tech person at CKNA. Cradlebaugh replied not at OVKA. Vermeer asked what he can do to help to which Crutchleo asked for his opinion. Vermeer explained he has already told people. Cradlebaugh asked Vermeer why he would throw the carburetor away. Vermeer explained if the carburetor was presented at

Grands, he would not disqualify based on the way it looks and would have given a new carburetor. Cradlebaugh replied that is not the way our rules are written. Bruce Wyke asked what Vermeer saw that he didn't like. Vermeer explained there were machining marks that could be aggressive tech tools and he would not disqualify it but rather take the part out of circulation. Pat Slattery asked Vermeer if he has seen other carburetors with these marks. Vermeer replied he has; that is why he responded the way he has. Brian Schroeder asked Vermeer if past carburetors have been taken out of circulation. Vermeer responded yes he has, new carburetors, and guys have gone faster. He said he drills a hole in it and it goes into the scrap pile. Crutchleo and Banfield extended thanks to Vermeer. McKibben said this is something for the board to think about for the 2021 rulebook as he believes the club needs a third party for protests noting we use WKA for IAME, Yamaha and other engines. Rick Coombs asked if all of the procedures were followed. Cradlebaugh responded he told Crutchleo he was fine with having somebody else check the carburetor. Coombs said it sounds like the procedures were circumvented. Banfield explained Crutchleo took it to Comet and did not protest it; the chain of custody was not followed and we elected to have Steve Vermeer check it. Coombs stated if he did not file a protest when he is supposed to, it is too late so you let Crutchleo circumvent the protest process. Cradlebaugh said he did not know Crutchleo was taking it. Crutchleo explained when he left that night, he did not know; that was his fault. He then sent a text message to Gary Lawson and knew they were outside the walls of the original rule but said this is a big deal to him as it was his son's last race. Crutchleo said if it was reversed and the DQ taken away, they are not in the points. McKibben said we go by WKA and Vermeer said there were scratches which is not in the rulebook. Cradlebaugh responded no metal can be removed. Slattery said that is machining to which McKibben agreed. McKibben asked what the Briggs rules say. Cradlebaugh stated no metal can be removed. Coombs said the reason for bringing this up is there are other things coming up and it is nothing against them; that he drove a heck of a race. He added he is looking at the procedures we did not follow. Crutchleo replied his suggestion is to tell them you're supposed to remove the carburetor and they didn't. McKibben said he understands Coombs's point and he would like to look at the Briggs rules. Scott Keith asked how we are going to police stuff like grey areas in the future and asked if we are on our own. Banfield replied we need to look at more conversation with CKNA and Briggs. Brian Schroeder explained several years ago he made the motion to go with the Briggs rules set and asked if we should discuss exiting the Briggs and Stratton rules set and going with WKA. Brad Crutchleo made a motion to overturn Geoffrey Crutchleo's disqualification on August 22, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben. Keith discussed comparing with a stock part to which Cradlebaugh said maybe our rules need to be changed. The motion as voted on and failed with five opposed, two in favor and three abstained (roll call: Landes-yes, Lewis-abstained, McKibben-yes, Schroeder-abstained, Boles-no, Coombs-no, Cradlebaugh-no, Golladay-no, Holliday-abstained, Johnson-no).

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINATION:** Josh Johnson, seconded by Brian Schroeder, made a motion to nominate Bruce Wyke to the OVKA Board of Directors. Wyke accepted the nomination. The board will vote on the nomination next month. Ray McKibben asked for procedural clarification as to whether the vote is typically done in an executive session. Aaron Banfield replied it is done at the conclusion of the board meeting with the board going into executive session. McKibben asked if Zoom allows for an executive session to which Banfield said yes.

**JUNIOR CLASS STRUCTURE:** Bruce Wyke said he is convinced it is time to realign the two-cycle class structure. He said his intent is to rename the current 100cc class to 100cc Senior, replace the Yamaha Junior class with a new class named 100cc Junior to include the ROK VLR Junior and IAME KA100 Junior and fall back on the WKA rules set. He said this will provide a place for kids to move up to and he has a commitment from six or seven. Brian Schroeder asked what would happen if

Yamaha show up. Dylan Cradlebaugh said he would run it on the track at the same time. Doug Cook suggested including the Yamaha can or pipe to get everybody included. Wyke replied his motion will not include Yamaha Junior Y. Pat Slattery stated there are a lot of Yamahas out there and that KA Junior is almost as fast as Senior. He further stated at New Castle they run together and juniors beat seniors. Slattery asked if we want a new driver in that class and said we have to have a place for new drivers. Wyke responded he totally agrees and the 206 Junior class would be better. Aaron Banfield explained the rules don't say they have to start there. Don Boles said Rules Committee is where we do this. Banfield explained it is the board that decides and he believes now is the time to start. Banfield asked Wyke to hold this until we have time to look at it. Wyke said he is concerned with the number of Yamahas that will be left out and three-fourths of those he contacted are committed. He added the Cadet class is non-existent. Ted Cradlebaugh said he is glad to have this tabled so we can discuss weights at Rules Committee. He further stated it is going to be tough to regulate all the weights in order to be fair and we need to talk to your people and think this out more. Wyke explained WKA is the attained age of eleven so they can't race before they turn eleven. Schroeder asked if it is all for one championship or each engine package and said the board needs to think about this. Slattery said Wyke wants all four and we need to leave something for Yamaha. Banfield raised the question of leaving the Junior Y Pipe to which Slattery agreed. Banfield said we need to look at the times they run; there are two championship classes there and if they don't make the numbers, they don't make the numbers. Wyke said it is the kiss of death the longer we drag the two-cycle Yamahas and the opportunity is now; that we have got to go with one Junior class. He said his motion is for ROK VLR and KA. Banfield responded he thinks there will be more two-cycle juniors next year. Rick Coombs made a motion to table Wyke's motion until next month so we have more information. The motion was seconded by Ted Cradlebaugh. Andy Kutscher suggested the decision be made quickly and said he agrees with Wyke and feels his direction is right. Banfield said he agrees we need to act with haste. Cradlebaugh added it needs to be a combination of packages that will work. McKibben asked if we could run this after our race season. Banfield said we would need to check with WKA about the Charity Race to have proper coverage. The motion to table was voted on and passed unanimously. Wyke asked if there is a timeline this has to be discussed by. Banfield explained it has to be discussed by November. Coombs asked that Wyle provide details that are written out. Banfield said we will have conversations at the track to which Cradlebaugh stated he would love to be a part of it.

**DISQUALIFICATION:** Scott Keith requested to be able to drop a fuel disqualification he received at race one in the LO206 Senior class. He explained it was a lapse in judgement on his part having used 87 pump gas for practice prior to race one. He said he siphoned the fuel out and may have left five to ten percent in when he put the spec fuel in his tank. Keith said Ted Cradlebaugh and Ron Swift informed him the number was low. He stated he hopes this won't cost him a season. Cradlebaugh said he thinks the rule of having to carry a zero for fuel needs to be changed for making a mistake excluding if we send fuel out to be tested but not this year. He stated he thinks this is very harsh when not trying to cheat. Scott Keith made a motion as an OVKA member to drop his race one fuel disqualification. Cradlebaugh responded it has to be for everyone to which Aaron Banfield agreed. Cradlebaugh explained any fuel suspected can be sent to be tested and if it is good, it has to be droppable. Banfield stated if you disqualify him because the rod is too long and send it to WKA, if it is upheld, it is non-droppable. Keith explained his fuel failed at race one due to octane. Ray McKibben asked if you can pretty much tell if its old fuel or pump gas to which Cradlebaugh replied he can. McKibben said we have a harsh penalty so everybody follows the rules and carrying a zero affects the points. He further stated here it affects whether they win the championship or not and he is sure that is the reason we put in a harsh penalty. Cradlebaugh responded that is not the reason and explained it has to do with additives. Rick Coombs suggested the matter be discussed by the Rules Committee for next year. Cradlebaugh added especially since we are at race twelve.

McKibben noted we just turned down another racer; that rules are rules and we didn't make a variance. He further stated this is well after the fact and should have been brought up immediately. Keith said he is here today and can't undo what happened, he made a motion even if it is too late in the game and is not going to do much for him. Ted Cradlebaugh amended Keith's motion that if we change this rule, we have to take into consideration everybody who had a fuel disqualification to be droppable. Due to a lack of a second for Cradlebaugh's amendment and Keith's motion, they did not proceed for a vote.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**TRAILERS:** Brian Schroeder explained following our last race, all trailers and campers must be moved if you are not registered for the Buckeye Karting Challenge. Schroeder asked that this be brought up at the driver's meetings. Doug Cook explained Scott Benton said if the trailer is clearly marked and there ahead of time, it is okay. Schroeder said if you are pre-registered it is okay for the trailer to remain. If not, trailers and campers must be removed even in you plan on showing up on Saturday to register. Schroeder added pre-registration is cheaper.

**DARF BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS:** Brian Schroeder reported we have sometimes selected a handful of winners to be recognized at the DARF banquet. Schroeder said he has seen other organizations send every winner and we should think about that. Ted Cradlebaugh replied DARF would need to be informed we have fourteen classes. Schroeder said they are aware of that.

**CHARITY RACE:** Brian Schroeder discussed how a lot of racers have raced in a higher class at the Charity Race and come back. Aaron Banfield replied we should allow this if they are of age. Dylan Cradlebaugh said we did it if they were of next year's age. Schroeder said we need to make sure the board is all on the same page.

**2021 RACE SCHEDULE:** Brian Schroeder asked if there is any way the 2021 race schedule can be completed by December. Aaron Banfield said the way the by-laws are written, he is planning on running for next year and asked when nominations are due. Lynda Coombs replied at the December board meeting. Ray McKibben asked if the board would look at allowing Banfield to write the schedule which requires a by-law change. He further stated he thinks it would be a very good idea to have the schedule written then we don't have to work around everyone else. Dylan Cradlebaugh said he thinks this sounds great and all other series will come out after ours. Banfield reported local tracks and the Buckeye Karting Challenge said they would look at our schedule.

**WKA RULES SET / BRIGGS RACING:** Brian Schroeder said we can use WKA if there is a questionable part.

**KA MASTERS CLASS:** Rainer Pansch suggested adding a KA Masters class with an exception for the driver's weight. Aaron Banfield asked that this be tabled until next month. Ted Cradlebaugh asked what the driver's weight would be. Pansch responded 390 pounds. He said he would like people to have notice as early as possible who will take this option. Dylan Cradlebaugh asked what about the five or six people who do not qualify for this, like himself. Pansch said there may be three who would switch and more who will do it. Doug Cook stated this is similar to what we are doing in 206 Masters. Banfield asked that details be put in writing to the board.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Don Boles, seconded by Aaron Banfield, motioned to adjourn at 10:16 p.m. Motion passed.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 2, 2020, via Zoom

- PC / smart phone: <https://zoom.us/j/6495878039>
  - Password: 2020
- Dial in: (312) 626-6799
  - Meeting ID: 649 587 8039
  - Password 2020

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Assist with renumbering transponders, check for emails from Ray McKibben pertaining to volunteer credits.
- Michael Lewis – Publish change to this year's prize levels.
- Ray McKibben – Assist with renumbering transponders.
- Rainer Pansch – Provide details of proposed class to OVKA Board of Directors.
- Bruce Wyke - Provide details of proposed class to OVKA Board of Directors.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Banfield, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, S. Golladay, J. Holliday, J. Johnson, R. Landes, M. Lewis, R. McKibben and B. Schroeder.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** D. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, B. Crutchleo, G. Crutchleo, D. Fiehrer, M. Heber, R. Johnson, S. Keith, W. Klein, A. Kutscher, C. Kutscher, R. Neuzel, R. Pansch, A. Patterson, P. Slattery, S. Vermeer, C. Washington, T. Wilkinson, and B. Wyke.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 10/26/2020