

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: President Aaron Banfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynda Coombs, seconded by Aaron Banfield, made a motion to accept the September 6, 2022 monthly board meeting minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: On behalf of Treasurer Jason Gregg, Lynda Coombs provided bank balances. Aaron Banfield noted we owe the track for a few races plus our away race.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: Josh Johnson explained having filled the role of chairperson for sponsorship and pit spots for four years, he would like someone else to take it over. Johnson will continue in the role for thirty days and said he has everything in Google drive. Aaron Banfield thanked Johnson, said he has done a great job, and that we appreciate him having taken care of this important role. Anyone who is interested in this volunteer opportunity can contact Banfield.

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: Brian Schroeder reported we are good for the boat show; the payment needs to be submitted.

MARKETING: No report.

TECH DEPARTMENT: Ted Cradlebaugh said he would like to order some Swift and KA tools; 206 tools need to be determined. He will put the information together and present it the board. Brian Schroeder is working on obtaining information about Kid Kart tools.

TRACK IMPROVEMENT: Aaron Banfield discussed track improvements, including a tower in turn three and track repaving. He reported Gary Gregg is working with asphalt companies to obtain estimates. Ray McKibben explained the golf cart that is out for repairs is running and still being assessed. He discussed the need for painting the grid and main pit area. Ted Cradlebaugh suggested holding back in case the track gets repaved and that pit area gets sealed.

SWAP MEET: Bruce Wyke reported the Swap Meet is full steam ahead and the committee is working the plan. He explained in partnership with CKNA, Swap Meet postcards were included in their registration packets. Wyke and Josh Johnson are working on vendor outreach right now. Wyke shared various marketing that is being done and said we need to arrive at a budget for outreach. Brian Schroeder reported he spoke with the president of DART and our interest in having them attend and noted we are not only looking at sprint and dirt racing but want to expand it to road courses too. Ethan Bokeno said kudos to Wyke noting he saw the Swap Meet promo during the USPKS broadcast on YouTube. Wyke replied the critical outreach to non-karters is what they are trying to get close to and discussed other organizations the committee is partnering with. Aaron Banfield said the Swap Meet committee is doing a stellar job and he looks forward to seeing the results.

OLD BUSINESS:

TIRES: The board determined to move the tire contract discussion to executive session.

BYLAWS: Aaron Banfield reported an email was received from the attorney, Tom Allen with Frost, Todd, Brown, with feedback about the bylaws draft that was submitted to him. Allen said the only change he is concerned about is the change from promulgate to promote in Article IV, section 8. To him, to “promulgate” means to draft, pass, and enact rules. To limit that to just “promote,” by contrast, seems to take that previous power away from the board, and limit it to just promoting already existing rules. If that is the intent, he is okay with the change; however, if removing that power was not the intent, he suggests sticking with promulgating the rules, as opposed to simply promoting them. Banfield explained he thinks the reason we looked at that change was because promulgate is a hard word to define for some of us; he suggests we go with the attorney’s advice. Banfield made a motion that we accept the bylaws with the modification of Article IV, section 8, changing the word promote back to promulgate. The motion was seconded by Brian Schroeder and passed unanimously. Banfield will get the bylaws PDF to board members, as well as updated on the website.

REQUEST TO MOVE UP: Lynda Coombs reported WKA approved the Huntsbarger request to move up.

WEBSITE PICTURES: Aaron Banfield told Bruce Wyke the website pictures look great and extended his thanks. Wyke replied he thinks they have been well-received.

NEW BUSINESS / OPEN DISCUSSION:

2023 SCHEDULE: Brian Schroeder reported he has talked with many people and he would like to ask the board’s opinion about dropping the number of races for 2023 from fourteen to twelve or ten doing two drops. He said the thought process is the economy is not all that hot right now so people’s money is a little bit thin. Schroeder stated dropping it to twelve races could do a couple of things; if we’re repaving the track and we’re going to do some away races, we can schedule those away races up front, give the track some time to cure, or if we’re not running away races, it still gives us a little bit more time for the track to cure. He added second of all, if we go to ten races, as he has mentioned in the past, it might be a good time to consider OVKA hosting a non-points race in the summer pulling in on Thursday, practice on Friday, race day one on Saturday and day two on Sunday. He discussed potential number of heats and said it could be a promotional event that he thinks would easily see over one hundred racers and coming from further distances. He added it may be a wash for OVKA but it may be profitable as well; he thinks it would be a way to show off OVKA. Schroeder suggested having trophies on Saturday and Sunday and discussed potential classes to keep it around eight. He reviewed details for putting people in pits on Thursday and he volunteered to run a controlled practice on Friday and do racing on Saturday similar to what we do. Josh Johnson inquired about pricing to which Schroeder said his first thought is \$20 for practice and \$50 for each of the race days plus the wristbands at \$30 for a full weekend and \$20 on Saturday and \$10 on Sunday. He added he has not talked with Gary Gregg yet about rental of the track. Gregg responded he is on board. Schroeder reported this started out with a handful of people not too happy this year with the number of back-to-back races and he shared with them about dropping it to twelve races.

He noted in years past he has commented that OVKA has everything that we need; we have transponders; we have corner workers; we can put on our own race but he thinks we treat it as a non-points race. Johnson inquired if this is a decision where the board votes on it or is this a part of the president's schedule if he decides to do this or not. Aaron Banfield replied he hears a couple of things; one is shortening the season which is the first conversation then the question of do we want to do some non-points races which is new territory and he is in favor of it if we have space in the schedule as long as we can get it organized as he does not know how the logistics of it would work out. Johnson asked if this is a board decision or a president's decision. Banfield replied the length of the season is in the rulebook so that ultimately is a board decision and historically, we have let the Rules Committee make recommendations then this board has voted to either accept, not accept, or modified those recommendations. Ray McKibben stated he believes to shoulder the burden, the board should consider going to a twelve-race season with two drops; that way it falls upon all of us and how we vote for the idea. He further stated the non-points race would be a separate discussion to wrangle out OVKA's involvement in how we do that as you have to consider people who have sponsorships; are they included or excluded from that? McKibben stated he likes the idea of twelve races with one drop. Ted Cradlebaugh said he believes it should be brought up at the banquet and the members decide, not us; they're the one who have to put out the money and decide if they want to race. Schroeder agreed and said we've been hounding Banfield to produce a schedule in November so now Schroeder is kind of throwing a twist to this and if we wait until the banquet, we have to understand that things could change and we can't be ridiculing or saying any negatives if we didn't have a schedule ready. Banfield replied he has a schedule ready and if the board at any point reduces the number of races, it's easy for him to either whiteout dates or say here's a potential date for a non-points. He said he is glad we are talking openly about this and he would like to table a final decision until at least the next board meeting to give us an opportunity to really go out there and talk about it. Banfield said we have got to flush the idea out so we're not talking about ten different ideas with the membership. He added waiting for the banquet would probably make it harder to pull off but he's not saying it's impossible. McKibben raised the question of giving two choices of a fourteen or twelve race season with a slip of paper at registration at the upcoming race. Banfield suggested instead of doing it at a race, we do it through Survey Monkey via email to active racers or to all the membership and check a box if you're an active racer. Schroeder agreed and said that gives us time to talk with Gregg; he suggested putting a deadline on it. Banfield asked Gregg if we can talk about a non-points race offline and have the same arrangement we currently have. Gregg replied yes and said he thinks we need to keep a fourteen-race schedule but have more drops because you never know when somebody is going to have a conflict. He further stated with a twelve-race schedule we're telling them they have got to race our dates where with a fourteen-race schedule with four drops, they can come with their schedule. Cradlebaugh said that's a good thought and Schroeder stated that's something to ponder in the next month and hear what other members want to say. Rainer Pansch said he likes Schroeder's idea of having a non-points race and asked if you stack that on top of a fourteen-race season. Schroeder responded he thinks that's a lot to ask and said that's starting to get to the financial side; he does not think the economy is going to rebound before next year and everything in karting has gone up. He further stated if there is going to be improvements to the track where we need to let it cure a little bit longer, we could use it to our benefit. Schroeder suggested through Survey Monkey giving three or four options, such as fourteen, twelve, or ten OVKA races and a non-OVKA race. Banfield asked Schroeder to help

put the questions together and Pansch will assist. Banfield will obtain the distribution list and look into Survey Monkey.

TECHNOLOGY / COMPUTERS: Aaron Banfield explained we have had serious technical problems for the last three or four races with several of the laptops. He said they are dated, nonfunctional, or not working correctly and we have been jumping back and forth between one laptop and another; Banfield explained the tower workers have been doing well executed planning to keep things going and we have managed to get through the race days without any serious delays, but I would like to make a motion that we set aside up to \$5000 for updating the computers and equipment in the tower, getting new devices that that will run reliably. Josh Johnson seconded the motion. Ray McKibben reported Clint Holliday was able to get the computers up and going and it wasn't the laptops; it was how they were configured. Banfield responded they are on different versions of Windows and Clint Holliday was awesome helping us get that resolved and wrote a simple batch file for mapping. He reported we have been working with our software provider to try to figure out what's wrong. One of the laptop's internal batteries is completely dead and can be replaced. Banfield said he is going to bring in Brian Schroeder. McKibben asked if we can get five identical laptops to which Banfield replied that is what he would like to do. Schroeder discussed the receivers noting we had issues with one of them and suggested replacing that because the one we have is no longer supported by Mylaps. McKibben added he would like to replace the router as well. Banfield replied he is not on board with replacing the timing loops as they are working and he has spare decoder boxes. He discussed the X2 timing system and said we would have to test it to make sure it works correctly with Lightning Event Management. Banfield added the router seems to work good but we could replace it or get a backup. He explained he was looking at making sure we are functional and don't run into a lot of problems but if the board wants to look bigger, we absolutely can. Schroeder said he thinks this is good time with Black Friday and Christmas sales for us to get our gear in order and have a game plan so maybe next board meeting we can have a better feel on allocating money; also, find out about the red transponder box/receiver and the X2 pricing as it would be good to have a backup. Banfield said he absolutely agrees. McKibben added if we're going to replace laptops, he thinks we should replace all five at once and get everything the same. He noted router technology has changed and they are not very costly. Banfield reported we have talked through the backup plan which is manual scoring but he doesn't think we want to deliver that experience to our racers or workers. He tabled the matter until the next board meeting and explained he wanted to get the conversation out there because we're going to need to address this prior to next season.

RADIOS: Ray McKibben reported Evan Smoot is hosting an endurance race at the Wilmington track this Saturday and would like to borrow eight radios. Smoot will provide OVKA with three entries and gates at the banquet; one each for junior, senior, and masters for use of the radios. McKibben noted he will be in attendance and can bring the radios back late Saturday afternoon; he will be responsible for them. Following discussion of possible damage and charging time, consensus was to loan the radios.

HELMET REQUEST: Josh Johnson said he would like to follow up on an email the board received about a specialized helmet that provides air. Aaron Banfield replied he talked with the child's father and highly encouraged him to come out and see some of our races and hopefully, he comes out on Sunday. Banfield talked with Mike Tetrault with WKA who said to get from the

family what they want to do; we absolutely want to do everything we can to get her racing as long as the helmet is not something that's made at home. Banfield noted WKA is the one that controls the insurance and if we're good with it, they will most likely be good with it. He added he would like to pair them up with Michael Lewis and some Kid Kart parents.

REQUEST TO MOVE UP: Bruce Wyke said his son, who will be fourteen prior to the start of the new season, would like to be considered to move up to seniors at the upcoming Charity Race. Following discussion, Aaron Banfield, Scott Golladay, Jeanette Holliday, Josh Johnson, Michael Lewis, Ray McKibben, Brian Schroeder, and Bruce Wyke affirmed they feel there are no safety issues with this action and believe the driver is capable of racing in senior classes. Lynda Coombs will submit a request to WKA.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: Aaron Banfield, seconded by Josh Johnson, motioned to adjourn to executive session at 7:55 p.m.: motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Tire RFPs and race day concerns were discussed. Aaron Banfield, seconded by Ted Cradlebaugh, made a motion to accept the Hoosier tire offer as written for 2023 and 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. was made by Aaron Banfield, seconded by Brian Schroeder, and passed unanimously.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1, 2022, in person at Full Throttle Adrenaline Park, 11725 Commons Drive, Cincinnati, OH, 45246 **AND** via Microsoft Teams virtually.

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

- Aaron Banfield – Provide board members with bylaws PDF and update the bylaws on the OVKA website; obtain email distribution list and look into Survey Monkey for online survey regarding number of races.
- Lynda Coombs – Submit request to move up to WKA.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Provide the board with a list of tech tools that are needed.
- Rainer Pansch – Partner with Brian Schroeder regarding designing a Survey Monkey about the number of races.
- Brian Schroeder – Submit fee for the 2023 Cincinnati Boat, Sport, and Travel Show; put together survey regarding the number of races.

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

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: R. Beaman, Elliot Bokeno, Ethan Bokeno, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, D. Jennings, C. Moore, T. Myers, R. Neuzel, R. Pansch, and E. Schanie.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 10/28/2022