

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: President Aaron Banfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Ray McKibben read information about collaborative and effective meetings.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the April 4, 2023 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: On behalf of treasurer, Jason Gregg, Lynda Coombs provided bank balances. Aaron Banfield reported on the Square account and shared that financial reconciliation has been completed with Motorsports Country Club; G & J Kartway reconciliation is pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TRACK IMPROVEMENT: Ray McKibben reported that at the first race it was brought to his attention there were issues with the quality of some of the headsets. He discussed this with Aaron Banfield who asked him to research the cost of replacements headsets to have for the second race. Following discussion of the types of headsets and demo headsets, Ray McKibben made a motion to appropriate \$725 inclusive of shipping for ten headsets. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs and passed unanimously. Lynda Coombs reported the tower had issues with two radios that had a great deal of static to the point of at times, not being able to hear what was said. Ray McKibben will have them looked at to see if they need to be cleaned. Josh Johnson asked what is going to be done with the headsets. McKibben explained two if they were disposed of as they were broken and could not be repaired; the others will be boxed up and set aside. Bruce Wyke shared that one of the track workers prefers the dual headset; McKibben will see if a demo headset is a good fit.

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: No report.

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: No report.

MARKETING & DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS: Ethan Bokeno reported that the Microsoft accounts that came with the GoDaddy purchase were actually only Outlook accounts and not the full suite that was discussed for getting for Lynda Coombs. He shared he has set up an email address, info@ovka.com, that is an inbox that can now be used by anyone. Ethan said that Elliot Bokeno did a really nice job putting together a *How to Get Started in Karting* document that they shared out. Ethan said a list of sponsors, contacts, and logos is needed then that information will be updated on the website. Bruce Wyke offered to look into Office 365. Brian Schroeder noted we are a not-for-profit and discussed the possibility of obtaining it at no cost or low cost; he offered to look into it.

TECH DEPARTMENT: Brian Schroeder reported on a change to a disqualification in the 100cc Masters/Heavy class. He explained this was due to a blurry picture that was referred to while at the track and upon further review of the IAME rulebook, it was determined the part was within tolerance so the disqualification was overturned and the driver was informed. Lynda Coombs

shared that the points were changed once she was notified. Don Boles thanked Schroder for his diligence.

BANQUET: Aaron Banfield asked if we are locked in for the hotel for this season's banquet. Jeanette Holliday replied we are not and explained discussion has still been going on whether there was interest in merging it with the Swap Meet and she does not know where we stand with that. She said we need to make a decision now so we can get the hotel booked; the last time she spoke with them, they were not booked. Ray McKibben responded he thought it was going to be too much of a conflict and noted the amount of people needed to volunteer; he suggested we go with the Marriott for this upcoming year. Holliday replied she can reach out to the contact person; she did not want to lock anything in until that had been decided. Aaron Banfield said he can understand that view; a lot of the same people work both events and there's a lot of work that goes into both. Don Boles stated he thinks right now since so much is undecided, we ought to go ahead with the Marriott then work the details out for next year to which Banfield and McKibben agreed. Bruce Wyke discussed having to give up ballroom A and said he does not think the Swap Meet can afford to do that. He added now we're faced with probably doing a luncheon on Sunday. Brian Schroeder stated was one thing he thought of; he thinks this upcoming year is too much and said we should go ahead with the Marriott for the banquet and the Roberts Center for the Swap Meet. Schroeder said this is some discussion we can have over the next several months and raised the question of having the banquet during the noon hour on Sunday and wrap it up about 4:00 p.m. so those people can get home on Sunday night. He further stated having the banquet and Swap Meet all in the same weekend will be a little bit cheaper. Banfield asked to table the matter and said we will leave it on the agenda. He asked Holliday to go ahead and reach out to the Marriott and get it locked in. Following discussion of promotional events to work around, Bruce Wyke stated he thinks the club could benefit a lot more from leveraging those promotional dollars through the online committee; he doesn't think we saw the return on investment from the Boat Show in his opinion. Banfield agreed and said his personal opinion is he would not worry about any shows to prevent us from having dates for the banquet. Brian Schroeder made a motion to appropriate \$1,000 for securing the date for the banquet with the Marriott. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben and passed unanimously.

CHAMP RACE: No report.

SWAP MEET: Bruce Wyke said it is his understanding that the website and the Square account will not talk to each other as far as our shopping experience, whether it be the banquet or swap meet. Ethan Bokeno replied that is what he understood and he has no expertise in it to make that a valid statement. He further stated you're probably getting to the point where we have to investigate that. Wyke said he would like to start that process to gather information as it is going to be something we're going to have to address. He shared about the impact to Swap Meet registration last year explaining it would shut down when people tried to register and would create a mountain of work to get back with the people. Wyke would like to start that process now so that when we roll into August and September, both he and Jeanette Holliday have a pretty good handle on it. Wyke explained that right now, he and Josh Johnson are serving as the committee and a seminar lead is needed. He asked that any ideas for seminars and/or seminar leaders be emailed to him. Wyke discussed the monumental task it is to get the amount of workers that are needed for the Swap Meet and banquet even if they're not on the same day. He reported he has reached out to a couple of high school DECA (Distributive

Education Clubs of America) programs and he thinks we might have a real opportunity with them. Wyke explained that DECA students learn about marketing and hospitality and a lot of things that a trade show brings to the table and he thinks it's a good fit. Wyke discussed three Outlook emails we have this year with the website and said one of them is free with the website and the other two are free for year one and may cost a few dollars going forward. He suggested one be for the OVKA Swap Meet and discussed utilizing the others in some form or fashion, such as selling merchandise. Ray McKibben extended thanks to the Swap Meet and Marketing Committees for the fantastic work they're doing. Brian Huntsbarger reported he received an email today from Square and said it sounds like it's easier to integrate and shared steps to do so are in the email. Aaron Banfield asked Huntsbarger to forward the email to him. Banfield said he thinks there should be a Swap Meet email address even if there is a \$3.00 cost. He said as far as the processors, as long as it's a reputable and reasonable credit card fee, he doesn't care if we use Square or whoever; he noted Square was the easiest one for us when we first set it up. Wyke replied he's not suggesting we have one for all things if it's more comfortable for the tower and registration people to stay exactly where they are and we continue to move forward accordingly; he's just thinking about selling shirts, hats, and sweatshirts. Banfield responded we can take a look at that and explained we have three readers that in his opinion, we need to stay on at the track. He said as far as online transactions and stuff like that, he thinks there is a lot of latitude; if others find a better solution to look at, we can absolutely have that conversation. Rainer Pansch said he thinks there's some type of college program out there, such as at Whiteland, and asked if anyone has ever approached them. Ethan Bokeno responded the Purdue Grand Prix was last weekend. Elliot Bokeno added the frats race karts. Pansch said it's just a thought to see if there is a program. McKibben suggested creating an email address for the banquet to make it easier for Jeanette Holliday. Banfield will talk with her.

OLD BUSINESS:

CLEAN-UP DAY: Aaron Banfield reported that clean-up day went extremely well this year. He thanked everyone that came out and helped, as well as those who came out before and after clean-up day to do work. Banfield said we got a quite a bit of work done. He specifically wants to call out the Ohio Mini Roadracing League (OMRL), as we had a lot of their group show up to help and it was really nice to have them there and he appreciates it very much.

FUTURE PLANNING: Ethan Bokeno stated he doesn't want to credit for this because he thinks the idea came from Bruce Wyke. He said he thinks as a club we want to take a step back and look at where the club is currently and also look forward to the next three to five to seven years to have a unified focus on where we're headed. Ethan explained a couple months ago, board members and committee leads gathered at Full Throttle and had a kind of state of the union meeting where we went through an activity where we put columns on a board for start, stop, continue and a wild card of what puzzles me. Ethan asked all members there to write their thoughts on post-it notes for these categories. From there, the group talked about those ideas and at the end prioritized them and voted on what was thought to be the most important ideas. Ethan explained some of the things that came out of this were having an emphasis on having club ambassadors so when new people come to G & J Kartway or OVKA for the first time, people can be there to help them out and walk alongside them while they get started. Another topic was what can we do about getting a full-time tech director. Ethan said he is not going too deep into this and explained we just wanted to identify key areas and a key, uniform vision for where we can head in the next three to five years. He said he thinks what would be beneficial for the club is to pick a date where we open this up to all club members and do a similar activity

where we can get everyone's ideas up on the board, talk about them and then again prioritize them and from there take action items that we can follow up on in board meetings like this. He added overall, he thinks it's just coming up with a standard vision for where we want to see the club head and then taking the small incremental steps to seeing that vision through. Aaron Banfield said he likes the idea of getting together and talking about it. He thinks it's a complicated, tough conversation when we talk about where is this club in three to five years but he thinks we're better for having that conversation and having a strategic direction that we're heading that we're all aware of; he thinks it would be a great thing for the club. Ethan stated he thinks in-person works better but he wouldn't be opposed to doing it virtually as well. Dylan Cradlebaugh said he agrees in-person would be better but his only concern is we have members who are involved that live far away. Ray McKibben raised the question if it could be done at the track since everybody comes there. Banfield replied there would need to be a dedicated space to meet and have conversation in and if sitting at the grid, that may be a little loud and hard to focus. Wyke asked about meeting in-person and televising it also. Following further discussion, determination was made to meet at Full Throttle Adrenaline Park, 11725 Commons Drive, Springdale, OH, 45246, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 and have the meeting available virtually via Microsoft Teams utilizing an owl meeting camera.

FUEL: Brian Huntsbarger reported he sent some information to Gary Gregg from a fuel dealer. He said what is proposed is to try to find an unleaded high enough octane fuel. A fuel was found that would be comparable and Gregg is trying to work out getting a bulk price; they will supply the tank. Huntsbarger noted they called some other clubs. He said he and Elliot and Ethan Bokeno were talking about a way to test it, baseline it, make sure it's going to follow suit with our fuel tester and make sure everything is good there then figure out can we also put it on the track, drain a persistent lap kart, and double-check how off it will be. He discussed how going from track to track, everybody's using a different fuel and said they don't think it's going to be a big learning curve for everyone; it's not like everyone's running the same fuel. Huntsbarger stated he thinks it's just getting the pricing and figuring out when the cut and dry date would be but we would probably have a little bit of information before that decision is fully made and it comes down to Gregg as well. Aaron Banfield asked Huntsbarger to keep the board in the loop and said this will be on the agenda for next month.

TECHNOLOGY / COMPUTERS: Aaron Banfield reported the five laptops are in, they're working, and functionality is pretty nice. He extended thanks to Brian Schroeder for taking care of getting them. Lynda Coombs added they are very nice. She reported she has an invoice from L.R. Computer Solutions and made a motion to appropriate \$425 for 2022 computer support, as well as 2023 setup support. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS / OPEN DISCUSSION:

TRACK SURFACE: Dan Fiehrer reported on the condition of his tires from racing at another track this year and said by the end of the race, his MG tires looked like they had no wear on them. He said the Masters class went to a harder compound and they're better but the bottom line is the thing that makes tires last longer is going to be a nice, smooth surface. Fiehrer said we've been talking about this the last two years but it seems like it just stopped and he does not know where we are with our track surface. Ray McKibben responded that nothing has stopped; it is the track owner who is researching it. Aaron Banfield explained Gregg was working with a local paver who gave him a quote; we were pursuing that. The track is held up as well as it has

for eighteen years, he thinks that's the last time it was resurfaced, because of the crushed limestone so he went to that provider and asked them to requote it with crushed limestone; they elected not to do that. Gary has been working with the gentleman who did the track eighteen years ago to get that quote and look at that; he doesn't know what the status is beyond that, but there has been consistent work to try to get that done. Gregg said that is correct. Fiehrer said the tracks around us are getting it done and we've been talking about it for a while, but really haven't. Banfield stated there's been a lot more going on there than it appears. He explained that resurfacing the track is a facility decision; it's Gary Gregg's track and his decision. Banfield added Gregg is more informed about asphalt than he is and there's experts there that are working on it. He further stated it been an important topic for the club that we've been talking about with Gregg for a while; there's efforts being made there. Elliot Bokeno said one thing he would like to add is we had talked before that when we get to the point where we have a quote and are ready to pull the trigger, cost splitting between the club and Gregg as we have done in the past. He shared he was present at clean-up day during a conversation where a person from OMRL said he wonders if they should kick in money for repaving as well if they are going to be racing there more and more.

WORKER SHIRTS: Dylan Cradlebaugh reported shirts had not been ordered for the two tech workers and asked for confirmation of their titles. Determination was to put Tech Team.

GOLF CART: Don Boles asked permission to use a golf cart at the track as he recuperates from surgery. Aaron Banfield responded we will make sure you're taken care of. Boles expressed his appreciation.

WKA RACE: Don Boles reported some worker positions, including corner workers and grid marshal, need to be filled for the upcoming WKA race at G & J Kartway the second weekend of June. Please contact Boles if you are interested. Doug Cook asked if we are able to use our pit spots at the WKA race. Boles will check on this.

RACE DAY RUN GROUPS: Dan Fiehrer said he appreciated how the club handled putting a rookie Junior in the back when that class ran with the Masters; it helped out quite a bit. Aaron Banfield responded the number one thing we try to do is make sure everyone is safe; the number two this is we want to put on a good show and keep people happy. He added he appreciates the feedback and the conversation.

OVKA APPAREL: Ethan Bokeno asked if we have T-shirts, sweatshirts, and hats for sale. Lynda Coombs replied there are a few hats and there had been conversation about having someone take the lead to order shirts. She added things need to be gone through to see what is remaining; she does not think there is much. Ethan offered to take on designing a shirt as he is tired of seeing shirts from other tracks more than OVKA shirts. He will make a proposal in June. Aaron Banfield expressed his appreciation and said there's lots of opportunities to do these things. He added there are a lot of great ideas and we've got limited resources to execute those ideas. Banfield noted that Bruce Wyke had the idea for hats and ran with it from cradle to grave which was a win for the club and more importantly, a lot of people love those hats and he likes seeing them around. Don Boles discussed how hats and T-shirts gets our visibility out to the public. Brian Huntsbarger shared how he has done shirts for his company and race team

and discussed looking at companies that work with not-for-profit organizations. Ethan Bokeno said he would like to talk about that. He further stated he and Elliot Bokeno have bounced ideas like giving out shirts for the Champ Race to promote. Ray McKibben discussed having vendors who provide a good, solid quality shirt as we had one where the shirts literally fell apart. He further stated to keep in mind that people are more willing to pay for a better-quality shirt that will hold up.

ADJOURNMENT: Aaron Banfield, seconded by Don Boles, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 6, 2023, virtually via Microsoft Teams Microsoft Teams (link on the OVKA website).
- Future Planning Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at Full Throttle Adrenaline Park, 11725 Commons Drive, Springdale, OH 45246 AND virtually via Microsoft Teams (link on the OVKA website)

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

- Ethan Bokeno – Present OVKA shirt design at June board meeting.
- Don Boles – Check if pit spots can be used at the June WKA event.
- Jeanette Holliday – Contact Marriott about scheduling the banquet.
- Brian Huntsbarger – Provide Aaron Banfield with information from Square.
- Ray McKibben – Assess static issues with some of the radios.
- Brian Schroeder – Look into Office 365 program.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: A. Banfield, Elliot Bokeno, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, S. Golladay, G. Gregg, J. Holliday, J. Johnson, R. Landes, R. McKibben, K. Schanie, B. Schroeder, and B. Wyke.

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: M. Abel, T. Abel, C. Albright, R. Beaman, Ethan Bokeno, D. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, D. Fiehrer, B. Huntsbarger, D. Jennings, R. Johnson, C. Moore, T. Myers, R. Neuzel, R. Pansch, D. Schroeder, and D.C. Shappard.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 5/29/2023