

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Max Viney called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Max Viney reminded attendees to turn cell phones off or on vibrate and directed sidebar conversations be taken outside. Additionally, he asked that only one person speak at a time.

**SECRETARYS' REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the November board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Tim Bell and passed with seven in favor and one abstained. Coombs noted that 2009 membership applications are now available and reminded board members their dues need to be paid by the January 6, 2009 board meeting in order to be eligible to vote.

**TREASURERS' REPORT:** Deferred.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BANQUET:** Rick Coombs reported Lynda Coombs, Kathy McKibben, Bob Williams, along with himself, prepared the annual mailing recently which included a banquet registration form, 2009 membership form, participation credit spreadsheet and cover letter.. Forms are also available on the OVKA website. Trophies, plaques and jackets have been ordered. Coombs pointed out there are cutoff dates for the special room rate and lower banquet price. As a reminder, Coombs said the board voted last month to announce at the banquet the board will no longer override the 4.0 minimum class requirement for banquet awards effective with the 2009 season. Tim Reed suggested people be permitted to purchase their own awards if desired to which Coombs said that has been allowed in the past. Coombs further stated previous jacket recipients are able to order a replacement jacket at their own expense. The banquet will be Saturday, January 24, 2009 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Randy N. Vermillion explained the sponsorship fees for 2009 will be affected if there are changes to the gate fee, reserved pit spot fee and/or Swap Meet booth space rental. Max Viney said he is of the opinion to keep current fees the same in 2009. Gary Gregg explained it is unknown at this time what the cost of insurance will be next season. Following discussion, consensus of the board was to keep sponsorship fees the same for the 2009 season unless there is an increase in the cost of insurance. Vermillion reported transition of the Sponsorship Committee to Lee McCready is in process and thanked McCready for his willingness to fill this position. Tim Reed inquired about pit spot configurations near the grid area. Vermillion said there will be some changes which will expand the existing pit spot size for that area.

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Max Viney reported the Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be needed to staff the OVKA booth all three days. Help will also be needed for set-up which is usually on the Wednesday before the show. Viney explained this show is a very important event for our organization as it typically generates a lot of interest. Contact Viney to sign up to help. Viney reported the DARF banquet will be Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Andy Glover, Emerson Reed and Chase Stempfley will be representing OVKA's 2008 class champions.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Max Viney reported most of the track sealing has been completed with only a few areas to be touched up this spring.

**SWAP MEET:** On behalf of Dennis Queary, Max Viney reported Swap Meet reservation responses have been slow. There have been quite a few phone calls received from persons expressing interest in selling items. Randy N. Vermillion explained there will be reconfiguration of entry to the fairgrounds due to changes that have been made at the site.

**RULEBOOK:** Rules considerations for the 2009 season discussed:

**Items with action taken:**

- Before a racer can enter the track for warm-ups, they must be pre-teched and signed in; some type of system to be implemented, such as band or sticker on the kart will be required for entry to the track.
- Page 14, rule 1 – Red flag language; require entrant that flips to sit out remainder of the heat in which he/she flipped; kart to be inspected by tech official before next heat.
- Spec oil – To remain Burris castor and blend, four ounces of each per gallon.
- Page 16, Rule 1002 – Remove language about Junior Board.
- Sponsorship fees – To remain the same for 2009.

- For qualifying events, racer must enter the track in the order posted on the lineup board; include language if racer does not go out with the group they are grided with, they start pre-final at the rear of the field.

**Items discussed and dismissed:**

- Remove non-members from finishing positions and move up members (in others words, non-members hold no place value; refer to sample from Doug Stempfley).
- Do away with qualifying lineup based on point standings.
- Add wording that driver and kart must be on the grid by the white flag of the class before that is on the track or start on the tail (with exception if you are also racing class before).

**Items tabled:**

- Implementation of WKA rear bumper rule – WKA to be contacted by Lynda Coombs to determine if OVKA may have optional use policy for extended rear bumpers for 2009.
- Protest committee wording and procedures.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**GREAT LAKES SPRINT SERIES:** Lynda Coombs reported she was contacted by Penny Farmer, Secretary of the GLSS requesting OVKA allow use of some equipment for a GLSS event at G & J Kartway on June 12 through 14, 2009. Following discussion, a motion was made by Max Viney, seconded by Rick Coombs, to provide assistance to the Great Lakes Sprint Series as follows: 1) Rental of one laptop with Lightning timing software, printer and timing decoder box which will be run by Lynda Coombs on June 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> for a fee of \$300; ink reimbursed by GLSS; 2) Use of an ample supply of radios all three days of the event with a \$1,000 refundable deposit; deposit will be returned provided all radios are returned in the same condition; Farmer to take ownership of the radios throughout the event; 3) Use of approximately forty transponders to be rented to participants for a minimum of \$15 for the event with proceeds going to OVKA; Farmer to take ownership of the transponders throughout the event; 4) Use of OVKA's fuel tank including a generator; Max Viney to ensure adequate fuel is available for sale; 5) A minimum two gallon fuel purchase will be required; fuel tickets will be sold by GLSS registration staff; fuel proceeds to go to OVKA; the fuel attendant (obtained by Toshiya Michimi) will receive a pit spot and gate pass for the entire event; 6) Toshiya Michimi to line up workers as specified by GLSS and will collaborate with Farmer; 7) Jerry Cole to provide for sale of old and new style transponder holders, as well as methanol for 4-cycle racers; 8) Gary Gregg and OVKA will provide flags for the event; in the event of loss or damage, they will be replaced by GLSS; 9) A current diagram of OVKA pit spots will be provided (some changes to pit spot sizes and locations will occur in the spring); 10) Track rental arrangements, including ambulance/EMT, are between GLSS and Gary Gregg; 11) At this time, OVKA does not have a commitment for the 2009 season for use of a kart retrieval vehicle and golf kart; Max Viney will be negotiating this arrangement with last season's sponsor. In the event an agreement cannot be reached, Gary Gregg to provide a golf kart. The motion passed with seven in favor, one opposed and one abstained.

**SPORTSMAN-AGE CLASSES:** Tabled from last month, Tim Reed reported he obtained signatures from parents of sportsman-age drivers requesting all sportsman-age and younger classes use a qualifying format at all OVKA events. Josh Wagar stated he feels this would snowball and open up other classes wanting the same and could apply to other areas such as spec fuel. Reed stated it is a safety issue to which Gary Gregg stated then they need to race in the Rookie class or be placed on the tail. Gregg further stated this could result in an increase in lapped traffic. Don Boles noted there are already four qualifying events included on the schedule and he believes going to an all qualifying format would take away from learning driving skills. Wagar discussed his observations of experienced drivers taking chances in the feature because it determines the overall winner. Rick Coombs said he appreciates Reed's position on this and he too would like to have an all qualifying format for the Master Can class. Max Viney said if an all qualifying format is going to be used, it needs to apply to all classes. Coombs suggested there be dialog with racers at the banquet. A straw poll of the board was conducted with seven out of nine board members preferring the pea-pick method. Viney said the board has had a month to think about this and made a motion to qualify all events for the Sportsman Yamaha class. The motion was seconded by Doug Stempfley and was amended by Coombs to table the matter until after the banquet. Coombs' amendment was seconded by Tim Bell and passed with five in favor, three opposed and one abstained.

**2009 SCHEDULE:** Max Viney presented a second draft of the 2009 schedule and explained an adjustment was necessary in order to include Circleville while avoiding the Commercial Point race. Following discussion of configurations and qualifying verses pea-pick formats, some changes were made to the qualifying dates. Viney reported he has been contacted by Paul Lyda, President of MSOKC, about the feasibility of a combined race with Circleville. Josh Wagar, Don Boles and Rick Coombs discussed some of the issues this type of event presented in the past. Coombs suggested it be a stand-alone event to which Tim Bell noted it would still need to be staffed.

**2009 CLASS STRUCTURE:** Max Viney reported he talked with most of the parents of junior-age drivers to get their input for next season. Viney said consensus was to have a second Junior Yamaha class with a different format, specifically, the driver's finishing position in Junior Yamaha 1 determines starting position for a 20 lap shootout. Gary Gregg suggested doing the same for Yamaha Super-Can and Master Can Yamaha. Steve Rumsey recommended there be a probationary period and if classes do not maintain a 4.0 minimum by the third race, they be dropped. Tim Reed said he continues to feel there is the need to have a sportsman-age HPV class. Ray McKibben asked for Randall Potter's opinion about HPV to which Potter said at a large track, it is fast and at a smaller track, the engine is too much for the track and it dies. Gregg suggested offering sportsman and junior HPV classes on a trial basis for six races. Viney disagreed explaining the class structure gets published along with the schedule and people would come expecting those classes to be available. Josh Wagar said a disclaimer could be put on the schedule. Randy N. Vermillion stated if the club were to offer an HPV class and people bought that engine package, they should be allowed to run it. John Horn said if HPV is going to be offered, it should be offered for both sportsman and junior ages. Viney suggested offering sportsman age HPV in 2009 and if it takes off, offer a junior age class in 2010. Majority of a straw poll of the board was to offer a sportsman HPV class (five in agreement; four disagreed). Further discussion of procedures for a second Junior Yamaha class with a shootout format resulted in a majority straw poll of the board to base the shootout of the number of laps rather than a timed race (five in favor of laps; four in favor of timed race). Viney said the rulebook needs to include language that for the Junior Yamaha 2 shootout class, the same chassis, engine, tires, etc. used in Junior Yamaha 1 must be used. TaG weight was discussed with consensus of the board to use senior weight rather than master weight. Vermillion said there has been a request to set a minimum weight for the Kid Kart class of 150 pounds which is the same as WKA. Viney was in agreement. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Max Viney, seconded by Rick Coombs, and passed unanimously to accept the following classes for the 2009 season:

- Kid Karts (150 pounds minimum)
- Rookie Class
- Sportsman Briggs & Cadet Jr. Sportsman (combined depending on kart count)
- Sportsman Yamaha
- Sportsman HPV
- Junior Briggs Animal
- Junior Yamaha 1
- Junior Yamaha 2 Shootout (starting position based on finishing position in Junior Yamaha 1; shootout format)
- Yamaha Lite & Yamaha Heavy (combined depending on kart count)
- Yamaha Super-Can
- Senior Briggs Animal
- Senior Novice Yamaha
- Master Can Yamaha
- TaG (senior weight) & Shifters (combined depending on kart count)

**2009 OFFICERS:** Max Viney asked if there is any interest by others in filling officer positions for the 2009 season. Current interest has been expressed by Max Viney - President; Tim Reed - Vice-President; Lynda Coombs – Secretary and Jason Gregg – Treasurer. Officers will be vote on at the annual meeting prior to the banquet.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**PROTEST COMMITTEE:** Max Viney reported Doug Stempfley has expressed interest in serving as the Protest Committee Chairperson for the entire 2009 season. Viney read a statement from Lynda Coombs detailing issues about protest procedures she compiled throughout the 2008 season. Josh Wagar explained his concerns regarding the need for consistent procedures for all protests and said having the same chairperson may help address some of these. He further stated it should be required there be a conversation with the Race Director and perhaps the workers involved. Don Boles said the matter needs to be added to the list for rulebook discussions.

**BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION:** Max Viney said it is with regret he has accepted the resignation of JoAnne Hartings from the OVKA Board of Directors. Viney thanked Hartings for all of her support she has provided OVKA and wished her the best.

**BOARD MEMBER NOMINATION:** Max Viney nominated Mike Brown to the OVKA Board of Directors. The nomination was seconded by Rick Coombs and will be voted on at the January board meeting.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**TRANSPONDERS:** Doug Stempfley reported there is a 30% discount on transponders being offered through AMB until the end of the year.

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Lynda Coombs – Contact WKA regarding whether implementation of extended rear bumper can be optional for OVKA's 2009 season; inform GLSS of determination
- Randy N. Vermillion & Lee McCready – Collaborate on transition of the Sponsorship Committee.
- Max Viney – Sign up volunteers for the Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs Show, January 9, 10 and 11, 2009; contact Jimmy Combs regarding kart retrieval vehicle and golf kart.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2009, at Ramada Inn Middletown, 6147 West State Route 122, Franklin, Ohio (east side of I-75).

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. at which time Tim Reed was unanimously voted to the OVKA Board of Directors.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** T. Bell, D. Benson, D. Boles, R. Coombs, G. Gregg, R. Landes, D. Stempfley, H. Thornton, R. Vermillion, and M. Viney.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** S. Benson, M. Brown, L. Coombs, M. Fortner, B. Frey, J. Horn, G. Kaeser, L. McCready, R. McKibben, T. Michimi, Randall Potter, Randy Potter, T. Reed, P. Robbins, H. Rumsey, S. Rumsey, R.J. Vermillion, J. Wagar and D. Young.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 12/19/08.