

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER: President Ted Cradlebaugh called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He asked that cell phones be placed on silent or vibrate and to respect who is talking.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynda Coombs, seconded by Jean Stafford, made a motion to accept the July 2, 2013 board meeting minutes as published. The motion passed with eight in favor and one abstained (Benson). Coombs reported a thank you card was received from Ellen Fronk for the flowers and donation in memory of Jeff Eissing.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHAMP RACE: Ted Cradlebaugh said he thought the Champ Race went well. There was a good turnout and few complaints about running configuration 1B instead of A. Food was excellent but we ran a little short. Jean Stafford stated there were people eating who did not have an armband. Cradlebaugh suggested next year there be someone checking armbands at the meal line. Ray McKibben said he liked the kart stand race and Cradlebaugh noted he thought having the top qualifiers on the dunk tank was a great idea. Cradlebaugh thanked Paul Krimmer for all of his efforts in coordinating activities, as well as everyone who helped with the event. Cradlebaugh discussed comments made by Shawn Bayless at the driver's meeting about how efficient OVKA runs. Cradlebaugh said this is because of all of the members, board members and volunteers. Rick Coombs responded a lot of credit goes to Ted Cradlebaugh as leader of the organization.

SHOWS & PROMOTIONS: Lynda Coombs said there was a large turnout at the Lebanon Blues Festival this past Saturday. Rick Coombs reported the kid kart was of great interest to many people. Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the event: Don Boles, Marlene Cook, Lynda Coombs, Rick Coombs, Lee McCready and Ray McKibben. Thank you to Jean Stafford for providing the kid kart and to Ray McKibben for transporting it. McKibben thanked Doug Benson for posting the event on Facebook and said there were a few people who said that is where they saw it. Ted Cradlebaugh discussed whether the show booth can be used under a canopy. Rick Coombs responded wind can make it unstable. Cradlebaugh suggested having a canopy with OVKA on it and a black backdrop to display pictures. He will check into this. Todd Cradlebaugh reported there were some OVKA racers at the Commercial Point race. Lynda Coombs asked Todd Cradlebaugh about booth plans for the Cavalcade of Customs Show in January. Josh Wagar suggested a call be made now but said it may not be until October that more definite plans can be made. Ted Cradlebaugh said Rick Harris reported a car show is coming up in Middletown.

SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS: Don Boles asked that it be noted that reserved pit spots are available on a race-by-race basis. Ted Cradlebaugh said this information needs to be published on the web site and announced at driver's meetings.

SWAP MEET: Doug Benson reported Gary Osterholt is going to design the flyer for the Swap Meet. Comet Kart Sales has agreed to continue as a sponsor for the event. Search is underway for a second sponsor. Benson explained the opening time will be changed to 8:00 a.m. with vendors able to come in one hour before. He said this will help people who come from further away. Don Boles expressed concern about people gaining access without paying. Benson responded a stronger presence at the doors would be an option. Lynda Coombs discussed how access for vendors and attendees has been managed at the Indy Circle Track Show. Boles and Jean Stafford discussed previous Swap Meets and how access was handled. Coombs offered to assist locating volunteers for the doors when she makes calls for banquet volunteers. Ted Cradlebaugh will assist in locating volunteers also. Ray McKibben suggested having special shirts for the volunteers. Cradlebaugh said this can be looked into.

TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE / REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE:

- **CRASH BAGS:** Ted Cradlebaugh reported Gary Gregg had the crash bags fixed.
- **TRACK SEALING:** Ted Cradlebaugh provided Gary Gregg with information about sealing the track. Cradlebaugh discussed the importance of this being completed.
- **PA SYSTEM:** Ray McKibben thanked Tom Melton for his assistance with improvements to the PA system. McKibben reported grounding rods have been put in and a filter installed. He explained further work is needed including an outlet box and mounting the amplifier higher to separate it from the cords to reduce interference. Ted Cradlebaugh said if better cables are needed, let's get them. He suggested bringing in someone if this doesn't take care of it so we don't continue to fight this issue. Jean Stafford said the PA wires are old. Cradlebaugh asked why one weekend the PA system is good then the next time it is not. Melton explained the humidity can affect this. Cradlebaugh will talk with Gregg about upgrading. Don Boles suggested doing the PA wiring and new lights at the same time. Cradlebaugh responded with the lights, there is only so much power and said newer fixtures might help. Randy Landes said that will be a huge expense and asked if there is enough push left to install two or three transducers. Melton responded that will need to be looked at, as there is a formula for it. McKibben will assist with installing new wiring. Stafford asked if there is wireless technology for this to which Melton responded there is not without costing lots of money.
- **RESTROOMS:** Ted Cradlebaugh reported people still want a lower urinal.
- **FANS:** Ted Cradlebaugh explained the fan from Harbor Freight will have to be cut off of a pedestal. He will buy them and get them mounted. Ray McKibben suggested positioning the fans in the gables of the pavilion, which Cradlebaugh will look into.
- **LIGHTS:** Ted Cradlebaugh discussed the lighting needs for the upcoming two night races. He said consideration could be given to changing the configuration. Ray Brown suggested addressing the lighting in turns two and three. Cradlebaugh will check into lighting then email the board. Consensus of the board is to change the configuration if needed.

RULE BOOK COMMITTEE: Josh Wagar and Lynda Coombs reported additional rulebooks have been printed to get us through the rest of the season. This printing includes the 2013 synopsis of changes in the front of the rulebook.

NEW BUSINESS:

PARENT CONCERN: Ted Cradlebaugh discussed an email sent to the board by Shannon Slattery expressing concern about a new driver in the Yamaha Junior Class and asked for input from each board member. Doug Benson said there is a point if someone is that much slower, they need to practice more. He asked how you define too slow. Ray McKibben reported people have been working with driver. Jean Stafford said everybody begins with little or no knowledge and the only way is to get out there. He further stated he applauds the people who have been working with the driver and it is our job to help them. Ken Kuethe discussed the need for education about the blue flag and said the driver should yield to the racing driver on the lead lap. Kuethe referred to Derek Hughes' email, which said people have lost because of blue flag racers. Josh Wagar explained he tells every new racer to practice, practice, practice and that we need to continue to work with new karters. Don Boles stated it is the driver's responsibility to pass safely and drivers need to learn to drive as well as pass. Rick Coombs said he feels the driver has gotten better and that if a driver is not at a safe speed, the Race Director can address it. He further stated we do not currently have a novice class for this driver. Randy Landes said there are other classes where drivers are being lapped and not much is being said about it there. He further stated we all start and are an empty spreadsheet and fill it in. Cradlebaugh said we are here as a club to teach and the Junior Class happens to be fastest except for TaG. He said in the two days with the driver and her father, she has improved tremendously. Cradlebaugh discussed whether consideration needs to be given to black flagging drivers who are going to be lapped more than once. Kuethe responded this will only come up on A configuration and it is terrible to be taken off the track. Coombs asked if the expectation would be if lapped twice, the driver would go into the cool down lane. Cradlebaugh responded he is trying to address the email. Kuethe said he does not like what is being proposed. Cradlebaugh said this board is doing something to address the issue by helping this new member. He further stated the Race Director can make the call. Ray Brown responded in his forty years of racing, it is the faster driver's responsibility to not run over the slower driver. He said you are talking about penalizing the slower driver, which will run people off. Brown stated we need to educate the faster drivers. McKibben pointed out there is a Sportsman Novice Class and if we see there are three or four new junior drivers showing up, we could consider a class for them to which Cradlebaugh agreed. Kuethe discussed situations with two approaching drivers, one fast and one slow, where his driver has been pushed out. Cradlebaugh responded one gets around and one does not and it has been that way forever. Lynda Coombs read rule 504. Kuethe said he thinks they should get out of the normal driving line to which Cradlebaugh responded that is the worst thing to do by changing driving lines. Kuethe asked that someone get back with Shannon Slattery to explain what we are doing. Cradlebaugh said we will continue to work with the driver and any other drivers, as well as use the blue flag.

DISQUALIFICATION AT RACE #8: Ted Cradlebaugh explained Pat Slattery requested there be discussion about a disqualification levied at race #8 for not having an engine painted. Slattery wants to know where in the rulebook it states that engines are painted at pre-tech. Lynda Coombs read emails from Slattery and Mike Brown as follows:

On Tue, Jul 30, 2013 at 1:19 PM, <patrickslattery@roadrunner.com> wrote:

"I would like to discuss, Marina Walters DQ and for anyone else that has had the same situation applied to their racing. I see no rule that requires painting of engines and or tires in pre tech. Pre Tech is for safety tech and for clearing the kart to register, only. Painting of engines and tires is not mandatory. If the club wishes to paint tires and engines to verify that they have not been changed or altered, it should be the clubs responsibility to perform this option, and should be done as karts come off the track after the first event or just prior to going to the grid for the first heat. All DQ's for not having tires or engines painted should be removed until such time as we have a written rule and the procedure should not be attempted to be done with pre tech as you should and are allowed to try different engines, tires etc. during practice sessions."

Pat Slattery

On Tue, Jul 30, 2013 at 9:16 PM, <Michael Brown the racer57.mb@gmail.com> wrote:

"As I will out of town for the BoD's meeting I want to reply to the painting of engines and tires in Pre tech. We paint engines and tires for everyone in pre tech so there is less congestion in the scale/grid area, and it is one less line all the racers have to stand in on race day. It has been explained to everyone that they can change anything they wish as long as they have it painted before the first heat or qualifying, including Pat Slattery. The DQ issued was for "not having the engine painted at all", yet the tires were painted. Pat was instructed in pre tech to make sure he had the engine painted when the engine arrived at the track and before the first heat. It is no one's fault other than the karter if the engine and/or tires are not painted. I attempted to discretely explain the DQ to Pat Slattery inside the tech barn and he chooses to show his displeasure outside the tech barn in front of other karters. I took offence that Pat Slattery stated the tech officials were taking the lazy way out to do tech. I guess two people doing the jobs that once took 6 people to do is taking the lazy way. Our members seem to like the way pre tech and painting are being done and have stated so at our meetings. I guess with 100 other karters doing it right, we should look at the problem and place the blame where it belongs...with the one who forgot the do what everyone else has done at all the races so far and not reinvent the wheel. This DQ is in no way the result of how or where painting is be done, it is quite simply the result of someone forgetting to do something and once again trying to stiff the blame onto someone else. Thank You

Mike Brown

Jean Stafford pointed out how long engines have been painted. Cradlebaugh asked Orie Cohen what the procedure is to which Cohen responded engines are painted at pre-tech and it is the karter's responsibility to have their engine painted. Cradlebaugh said the DQ was warranted and should not be discussed. He further stated what does need to be discussed is Slattery's behavior at the past two races in a row. Josh Wagar noted there was not a protest filed that day.

KID KART PURCHASE: Ted Cradlebaugh discussed locating a kid kart for sale from someone whose child is moving up. He explained Ray McKibben found a kid kart online out of town. McKibben asked what the board thinks is a reasonable price for a used kid kart for display at shows and threw out \$500 as a number. Jean Stafford responded we need to give this some thought. Cradlebaugh said he does not like having to keep borrowing a kart. Stafford noted you can sell a kid

kart after two years and almost get your money back. Cradlebaugh stated we will keep looking at this and asked that if anyone knows of a kid kart for sale, to let him know.

TIRE CONTRACT: Ted Cradlebaugh explained our tire contract will be up for renewal after this season. He talked with Keith Freber today about an upcoming tire compound change, tire pricing and gift certificates. Freber is going to get back with him. Cradlebaugh asked if the board wants to look at other tire compounds. Ray McKibben said if a different compound lasts longer, it would be better. Cradlebaugh responded we need to ask the members what they want to which Rick Coombs agreed. He noted that it was thought that the YLC would last longer than the YLB and that is not the case. Dylan Cradlebaugh said sponsorship could come from someone else, not just tires. Don Boles stated in the past, Dunlops were the best deal and he suggests we go with whatever the best deal is. McKibben responded the tire itself has to be good. Coombs suggested staying in line with the Great Lakes Sprint Series and WKA. Jean Stafford discussed how traditionally homologation occurs every two years. He further stated that we are doing a disservice to our karters every time we deviate from WKA rules, as we are not training them to move to the next level. Cradlebaugh said he has heard complaints from TaG drivers because the tires are not lasting. Cradlebaugh should know more in two weeks.

RADIO HEADSETS: Ted Cradlebaugh provided pricing for one-ear headsets at \$130 per set and two-ear headsets at \$200 per set. Jean Stafford asked if we keep losing headsets. Cradlebaugh and Josh Wagar discussed how they wear out. Ted Cradlebaugh made a motion to appropriate \$1,000 for eight headsets including four one-ear and four two-ear. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously. Ray McKibben asked that some foam for the microphones be obtained.

CHARITY RACE: Ted Cradlebaugh asked that board members seek donations from businesses for the Charity Race and inform them that proceeds from the event benefit the local food bank and DARF. Lynda Coombs suggested including the names of the businesses that donate on a flyer at the event and submit a thank you through the Register Herald newspaper. Cradlebaugh said this should also be included on our web site. Dylan Cradlebaugh inquired what the configuration will be for the event. Ted Cradlebaugh said that is to be determined and it will be a 25-lap feature possibly on the bigger track.

WI-FI BACKUP ROUTER: Ray McKibben discussed the need for a backup router in the event the one we use on race day were to go out. Ted Cradlebaugh responded he can approve this purchase. Don Boles said the computers, router and PA need to be on a surge protector. Lynda Coombs responded the computer-related items already are. Jean Stafford asked if there are any printer needs. Lynda Coombs explained while two of the printers are slow, there is no need at this time.

COMPUTERS: Ray McKibben discussed the slow speed of the older laptop and said he would like to upgrade it so there can be a dedicated laptop for the television monitor and Internet. McKibben would also like to purchase a third timing software license. Jean Stafford asked what is the likelihood of Lightning software being upgraded to Windows 8. Lynda Coombs responded the newest laptop

had software compatibility issues with Windows 8 so as of this time, it is better to run it on Windows 7. Don Boles made a motion to appropriate \$1,000 toward a laptop and Lightning software license. The motion was seconded by Jean Stafford and passed unanimously. Randy Landes said to not skimp on processing speed and RAM. He asked about documenting when old items are replaced and taken out of commission. Coombs said dialog about replacing items should be in the minutes as that is when appropriation of funds are made. Ray McKibben explained the hard drive was removed and destroyed from an old laptop due to member contact information being on it. He noted modern copy machines also contain a hard drive. Ted Cradlebaugh directed that hard drives be removed from devices taken out of service.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ted Cradlebaugh explained he is waiting to hear back from a potential photographer. Lynda Coombs asked who the contact is for publishing photos on the OVKA web site. Cradlebaugh responded it is Gary Osterholt once photos have been approved by Cradlebaugh. Ray McKibben reported Ellen Fronk is interested in providing plaques for the banquet. Josh Wagar said he liked the plaques that listed individual finishes. Coombs explained what is involved in putting those together.

OLD BUSINESS:

CLONE 420 CLASSES: Jean Stafford explained following inspection of an engine, he made some adjustments to the 420cc rules. He said he proposes these rules as guidelines, not hard and fast rules until we weed out individuals who have engines not in alignment. Stafford discussed engine variations and said these guidelines are pretty much what the class wanted. Don Boles discussed there being six clutches available. Stafford responded there are others out there but how much do you want to make it expensive? Ted Cradlebaugh thanked Carlson Bogan and Jean Stafford for all of their efforts in putting together the guidelines. Cradlebaugh said he does not want to see the 420s that are out there get disqualified and they may have to make some changes. He reported talking with some people at the Commercial point event who expressed interest in racing this class. Stafford said to keep in mind this is builder modified and not a builder prepared. Ray McKibben asked what pricing information can be shared at shows about this engine. Boles responded including the engine builder, cost is around \$1,500 to \$1,800.

WKA GOLD CUP / GREAT LAKES SPRINT SERIES: Don Boles reported some of the Gold Cup racers talked with him about how much they like our track. Ted Cradlebaugh said there may be some changes in store with the Great Lakes Sprint Series.

TRANSPONDERS: Lynda Coombs reported she is waiting to hear back from MyLaps regarding transponder and charging case pricing.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

CIRCLEVILLE RACEWAY PARK: Ted Cradlebaugh reported Steve Tatman will not be with Circleville Raceway Park next year. He explained there has not been very many youth racing there. Randy Landes said they will continue to run their program for the remainder of this year. It is unknown what plans are for next year. Rick Coombs asked if the facility will be ready for our race there on September 15th. Cradlebaugh will check on this.

WILMINGTON TRACK: Ted Cradlebaugh reported a man from a track in Wilmington would like us to race there. Don Boles said there is also Atkins Raceway and it has a real monza. Ray Brown said in the past at 50" wide, it was hard to pass at Atkins.

TRACK CONTRACT: Doug Benson said we spend a lot of money on upkeep, restrooms and lights and he has thought for a long time we need to have a contract with Gary Gregg. Rick Coombs noted in the past, Gregg has said he is open to this. Benson recommends seeking suggestions from an attorney who specializes in estate planning. Ted Cradlebaugh discussed sitting down with Gregg and asked that Randy Landes, Doug Benson, Rick Coombs and himself meet with Gary and Elaine Gregg. Cradlebaugh will contact Gregg.

HALL OF FAME PLAQUE: Josh Wagar will install plates on the Hall of Fame plaque for Carlson Bogan and Lynda Coombs.

TOUGH MAN EVENT: Randy Landes suggested having a 225-lap tough man event at G & J Kartway next year.

BANNER: Ray McKibben reported \$140 is owed to Ellen Fronk for an OVKA banner. Lynda Coombs will see that a check is sent.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Ted Cradlebaugh at 10:31 p.m., seconded by Rick Coombs, and passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2013, Reyton Inn, 6147 West State Route 122, Franklin, OH (east side of I-75).
- OVKA Charity Race – Saturday, October 19, 2013, G & J Kartway.

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

- Lynda Coombs – Assist with locating volunteers for the doors at the Swap Meet, see that a \$140 check is issued for the OVKA banner.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Check into a canopy with OVKA on it and a black backdrop, see that pit spot information is on the OVKA website and announced at driver's meetings, assist with locating volunteers for the doors at the Swap Meet, talk with Gary Gregg about upgrading the PA wires, purchase and mount fans under pavilion, check into lighting for the night races then email the board, check with Steve Tatman regarding readiness for OVKA's race on September 15th, contact Gary Gregg to set up a meeting regarding a track contract.

- Ray McKibben – Assist with installing new PA wiring.
- Josh Wagar – Install plates on Hall of Fame plaque.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Benson, D. Boles, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, K. Kuethe, R. Landes, R. McKibben, J. Stafford and J. Wagar.

MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT: C. Bogan, R. Brown, O. Cohen, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, Todd Cradlebaugh, G. Lutz, T. Melton, V. Oatts and B. Williams.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 8/22/13.