

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ted Cradlebaugh called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He asked that cell phones be placed on silent or vibrate.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs extended sympathy to the Cradlebaugh family upon the passing of Ted's mother. Coombs made a motion to accept the April 1, 2014 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed unanimously. Coombs read the following letter from OVKA lifetime member, Rob Lehmann, "Please use the enclosed membership renewal gift to continue your positive work advancing the sport of karting. Your selfless contribution of time and effort have benefitted so many over the years. My family and I can attest to this. The countless memories and life experiences we have from our time with OVKA truly shaped our family and provided positive guidance for Liz and Robbie during their formative years. Know that you have made a difference and we will forever be grateful. From a personal perspective, one of my proudest moments in the sport was being selected for life membership in OVKA...a true honor. Thanks for all you do. See you at the track." Coombs reported a \$1,000 donation from Lehmann was included with the letter. Lehmann received a round of applause and tremendous thanks from the OVKA Board of Directors.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** On behalf of Treasurer Jason Gregg, Ted Cradlebaugh provided bank balances. Cradlebaugh reported there was an overage for worker shirts.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**OVKA 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** Josh Wagar reported plans are proceeding to recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OVKA. Heather Cradlebaugh is selling ad space for a printed publication that will be available at the Champ Race. Ted Cradlebaugh asked that ads be submitted by the end of this week. Wagar discussed a time capsule that is going to be buried at the Champ Race. Mike Brown suggested seeing if Steve Rumsey can do a flyover.

**CHAMP RACE COMMITTEE:** Ted Cradlebaugh discussed the need for a couple of people to chair the Champ Race. He explained this would include coordinating activities and making arrangements for setup and cleanup. Lynda Coombs said a template of things to do is available. Josh Wagar and Ray McKibben offered to help but are unable to serve as chairpersons. McKibben discussed amusement options, such as a dunk tank and said there are other new games available for rent. Cradlebaugh asked for input about what type of food to have. He reported John Deis is open to preparing hot dogs, hamburgers, cole slaw, macaroni and chips. Other options are Luigi's from the Sharonville area and Powers Catering. Mike Brown suggested having the dinner and festivities at Cross' Campground and do the qualifying on Sunday instead of Saturday. He said the facilities there are enclosed, there is a refrigerator, stoves, ovens, big grill, fishing pond and playground. Brown offered to obtain pricing to hold the event there. He said five bonus points could be offered for showing up at the festivities. Don Boles responded if it isn't broke, don't try to fix it. Cradlebaugh

said it is a good idea to qualify on Sunday. Wagar stated that will make for a long day. Rick Coombs said qualifying could be so that everybody in the class goes out at one time. Cradlebaugh responded that would need to be on a longer track configuration. Jim Hendricks suggested having people bring food and Pat Slattery said we could cook hot dogs and brats. Cradlebaugh asked if board members think they will have time to do the cooking and clean up. Wagar responded he does not see that as a problem and thinks getting the side dishes may be an issue. Hendricks suggested giving bonus points for bringing food. Cradlebaugh discussed how the whole idea is camaraderie. Roberts said he does not want to leave the track on Saturday and suggested keeping the qualifying on that day and race on Sunday. Cradlebaugh said we are running out of time and he will follow up with the caterers and email the board.

### **SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:**

- Ted Cradlebaugh said the Lebanon Blues Festival will be coming up on Saturday, August 2, 2014. Lynda Coombs responded that Jeff Calvert and Ray McKibben have offered to help. Josh Wagar noted the Vintage Karting event will likely be over around 4:30 or 5:00 p.m. so those who are working that event may be able to go help at the Blues Festival. Lee McCready asked for approval to submit the paperwork with payment for the Blues Festival, which Cradlebaugh authorized.
- Mike Brown reported a lot of people at Cross' Campground are curious about our racing. Brown will be coordinating an event at the campgrounds on Saturday, May 17, 2014. He thanked OVKA for donating some sweatshirts, T-shirts and koozies to give out. Additionally, he thanked Fred at IGA for donating hot dogs and buns for the event. Brown will be providing snow cones and ice cream also. He asked to use the OVKA banners, flags and pop-up canopy to which Cradlebaugh said sounds good. Brown explained his goal is to get people from Camden to come to the track. Ted Cradlebaugh said events like this help the club grow and be healthier.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ray McKibben thanked Brent Warren for his assistance with wiring for the television monitor to display lap times. Lynda Coombs explained in the past there have been issues with Internet service, which is needed to access the timing. McKibben responded there is a network cable in the tower that should connect to the Internet. Coombs said a test needs to be conducted on a non-race day.

**SWAP MEET:** Ted Cradlebaugh reported Doug Benson said he will coordinate the next Swap Meet.

**SPONSHRSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready thanked everyone who reserved pit spots and thereby helped fund the ambulance. He reported he thinks there will be enough revenue to cover ambulance expenses this season. McCready explained Ray McKibben is assisting with a pit spot map, which is having some new numbers added. He said they need to walk the map before it is put on the website. He reported there are some premium pit spots still available. McKibben said painting pit spot numbers needs to be included in the end-of-the-season workday. McCready reported there are a couple of classes that need sponsors and if anyone knows of someone who might be interested, to

please let him know. Ted Cradlebaugh thanked McCready and McKibben for all of their efforts and everyone who has reserved a pit spot.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**TECH & REGISTRATION PROCESS:** Pat Slattery said he thinks a couple of things were implemented at the last race that helped speed things up. Ray McKibben reported with the suggestion of Lynda Coombs, he made announcements reminding people to complete their paperwork and to go directly to registration once they have been pre-teched. Slattery said we still started late to which Coombs responded the start time was changed to 9:00 a.m. last season. Slattery said there were not as many people with two pre-tech lines running. Mike Brown responded we did not have two pre-tech lines and two lines are not needed. Ted Cradlebaugh said there needs to be two lines at pre-tech starting at the next race. Slattery said pre-tech needs to be safety tech. Brown stated it takes time when he has to tell people what needs to be drilled for safety wire. He explained at the first race of year it takes time to inspect helmets and go through the entire kart. Brown noted that people walk back to their trailer before going to registration. Lynda Coombs discussed how registration has very few people arriving the first thirty minutes and McKibben reminding people to go to registration promptly after pre-tech was helpful. She explained how the first two events take longer with people taking out memberships, establishing kart numbers and having a lot of questions. Coombs suggested consideration be given to increasing the membership fee two weeks prior to the season as a way to encourage racers to get their paperwork turned in before the first race. Ken Kuethe reported his wife said it takes her 45 seconds to get signed in. Coombs responded that is because Mrs. Kuethe has all of her paperwork completed and her check filled out. Brown asked why can't people get pre-tech sheets on their own. Cradlebaugh said Elaine Gregg or himself could hand it out then the racer could have their part filled out and give it to Brown. Jimmy Hendricks reported an issue with at the last race where a couple of people missed being painted. Cradlebaugh responded if we have two lines, no one will get skipped. Brown stated out of a hundred people there, one was not painted and got disqualified. Slattery said we are the only ones who paint motors this way and it is usually done on the grid. Cradlebaugh responded some people get missed that way. Brown discussed marking tires and Ken Kuethe reported he brings both sets of tires to be painted. Slattery responded some people don't have two sets of tires and the tires you run for the first heat should be marked while on the grid or at the scales. Brown said he paints at pre-tech to minimize cheating. Cradlebaugh explained you can change your motor and go to Brown to get painted. Brown said he does not get paid for pre-tech and Cradlebaugh explained it's part of Brown's job as Tech Director. McKibben pointed out that Brown takes the time to teach new racers. Cradlebaugh explained how pre-registration takes someone to staff it during the week and Great Lakes and New Castle have paid people who do this.

**RED LIGHT SYSTEM:** Ray McKibben discussed information he had provided the board via email about a red light system. He stated this could be another layer of safety and would be controlled by the head flagman. McKibben explained how this 12-volt plug and play system could be directionally placed at the driver's level in three or four spots along the fence. Ted Cradlebaugh responded we can never stop improving safety. He said there continues to be the need to train driver's about controlled stops. Ken Kuethe suggested discussing this at driver's meetings and get senior drivers to

teach holding your hand up. Todd Cradlebaugh questioned positioning the lights along the fence. Jeff Roberts suggested having a rotating beacon. Ted Cradlebaugh said we want to slow karts down and that could be distraction. McKibben explained three or four volunteers can install this six light system in one day. Randy Landes raised the question if this is a capital improvement, which would need discussion with Gary Gregg. Ted Cradlebaugh responded this system can be taken down. Ted Cradlebaugh made a motion to accept the \$1,300 proposal for a red light system. The motion was seconded by Pat Slattery and passed with nine in favor and two opposed (Roll call: Brown-yes, Coombs-yes, Cradlebaugh-yes, Kuethe-yes, Landes-no, McCready-yes, McKibben-yes, Slattery-yes, Stafford-no, Wagar-yes and Boles-yes).

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Ted Cradlebaugh thanked RSB Snaps who is our club photographer this season. Photos can be purchased through her website [www.rsbsnaps.com](http://www.rsbsnaps.com). Cradlebaugh explained another photographer has been taking photos for the Twin Valley Newspaper and would like to be able to sell them also. With a club photographer already in place, Cradlebaugh will inform him of this and let him we would love for him to take pictures for the newspaper.

**LIGHTS:** Ted Cradlebaugh reported he talked with Drew Young and lighting will be costly. Cradlebaugh will contact a rental company to see if they would be willing to provide lights in exchange for sponsorship benefits. Mike Brown asked if there is any recycling value for the old lights and poles. Josh Wagar responded scrap value is up right now. Cradlebaugh will check into this.

**REQUEST TO MOVE UP:** Ted Cradlebaugh reported WKA approved the board's request for a driver to move up to the Yamaha Junior Class. Since that request, a Yamaha Junior Novice class was created which the driver is participating in. He can run Yamaha Juniors once he his speed increases.

**BOARD MEETING ROOM:** Mike Brown reported board meetings can be held at Cross' Campground for \$100. Rick Coombs responded the current location cost \$138.03. Pat Slattery stated the current location is easier for him to get to. Ted Cradlebaugh asked if anyone is unhappy with the current location. Consensus was to stay at Hawthorn Inn at the present time. Cradlebaugh will look into Cross's Campground which would be a savings.

**OVKA 212 RULES:** Jeff Roberts reported the OVKA 212 rules were taken care of by Ted Cradlebaugh who had them published and updated on the OVKA web site.

**OVKA 420 RULES:** Jeff Roberts explained he has been coming across more camshaft sizes that are bigger than the specs and could result in a disqualification. He is in the process of finding out what the maximum is with the Chinese motors and does want to throw anybody out until we know. Additionally, he is finding stock carburetor bores are all over the place. Jim Hendricks discussed a carburetor disqualification he experienced. Jean Stafford responded carburetors are available that are .906 and up and raised the question how do you tell the difference between stock. Ted Cradlebaugh said he knows what his carburetor is and if you do not check it, you are taking a chance of being illegal. Roberts reported .906 is the biggest number he has gotten. Stafford responded

there are ones out there that are over an inch. Mike Brown discussed how the motors are all over the page and said it is a manufacturing thing. He stated we have to be a little forgiving and the only reason these numbers are showing up is because we are doing real tech. Stafford responded everyone was teched and only one was too big. Cradlebaugh asked Roberts if all the other 420 racers were legal to which Roberts said he did not know. Cradlebaugh directed that a plug be made to test the size and if the carburetor is not the right size, get another carb. Jimmy Hendricks asked where to get another carb and Roberts said they are very hard to get. Roberts explained how four out of five carburetors he had purchased would fail and .906 is the largest he has seen in his checking. He said his recommendation is to make the spec .906 and he will make a fixture to make everybody's carburetor .906. Cradlebaugh responded he has a major issue if there is no place to buy these parts. An additional issue if we change the spec is it is going to cost people. Roberts offered to make changes for them at no cost. Ray McKibben said there is a Chinese carburetor made by Lifan and they make the same motor. Cradlebaugh asked Roberts to test that one. Brown stated from a tech standpoint, we need a number. He asked if for statistical purposes, whether there should be a minimum and maximum or allow a five or ten percent variance. Brown suggested not going much bigger than .998 and said the next load of 420 motors could be completely different. Roberts responded he thinks if you get past .906, you will break out the sides. Randy Landes stated you have no control over manufacturers and suggested making the spec .920. Jeff Roberts made a motion to make the 420 carburetor venturi bore a maximum of .920. The motion was seconded by Randy Landes. Ted Cradlebaugh amended the motion to include it must be publicized by tomorrow and rescind the disqualification for Jim Hendricks. The amendment was seconded by Josh Wagar and passed with nine in favor, one opposed and one abstained (Roll call: Coombs-yes, Cradlebaugh-yes, Kuethe-yes, Landes-yes, McCready-yes, McKibben-yes, Slattery-yes, Stafford-non, Wagar-yes and Boles-abstained). Roberts' motion was then voted on and passed with ten in favor and one abstained (Boles). Roberts explained some stock camshaft specs he is finding are a little bigger and asked what would we do if someone comes through out of spec. Brown responded that Roberts was to get the spec on that and until he does, there should be on disqualification. Cradlebaugh said we can't let this go all year. Roberts responded he will have everybody's numbers by the next board meeting.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**FLAGS & CONES:** Randy Landes suggested more yellow flags and cones be purchased. Ray McKibben will obtain information.

**420 CLASSES TIMING/SCORING:** Lynda Coombs discussed having two sets of duplicate kart numbers in 420 Lite and 420 Heavy, which poses a challenge for manual scoring. Josh Wagar raised the question if we should consider separating these two classes since they are growing.

**RLV MUFFLERS:** Ted Cradlebaugh discussed if any modifications are made to Yamaha RLV can exhausts, an immediate disqualification is to be issued and the matter taken to the board for possible further action (WKA rule 554, page 101). He explained original sheet metal holes must be used; new holes may not be drilled, such as when an end cap needs to be replaced. Cradlebaugh said the key is you can go up to a size twelve sheet metal flathead or Phillips screw but if different holes are drilled, a disqualification is issued.

**TIRES:** Mike Brown reported people are telling others they can change tires. He explained the racer needs to first discuss this with him and replacement tires have to be of equal usage. Ted Cradlebaugh added it has to be a catastrophic tire failure in order to be allowed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Josh Wagar made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:52 p.m. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Discussion of staff-related matters.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 3, 2014, Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)
- Cross' Campground Event – Saturday, May 17, 2014, Camden, OH
- WKA Gold Cup – July 11-13, G & J Kartway, Camden, OH
- Great Lakes Sprint Series – July 19-21, 2014, G & J Kartway, Camden, OH
- Vintage Karting Association – July 31–August 2, 2014, G & J Kartway, Camden, OH
- Lebanon Blues Festival – Saturday, August 2, 2014, Lebanon, OH

**SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Mike Brown – Obtain pricing for having the Champ Race festivities at Cross' Campground.
- Jeff Calvert – Assist with the Lebanon Blues Festival event on Saturday, August 2, 2014.
- Lynda Coombs – Conduct timing testing to display lap times via the Internet.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Follow up with caterers for the Champ Race and email the board, contact rental company about lights, check into scrap value for old lights and poles, look into meeting room at Cross' Campground.
- Ray McKibben – Assist with the Champ Race, assist with Lebanon Blues Festival, conduct timing testing to display lap times via the Internet, obtain information for yellow flags and cones.
- Jeff Roberts – Provide the 420 classes camshaft numbers by next board meeting.
- Josh Wagar – Assist with the Champ Race.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** D. Boles, M. Brown, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, K. Kuethe, R. Landes, L. McCready, R. McKibben, P. Slattery, J. Stafford and J. Wagar.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** B. Bedwell, J. Calvert, M. Cook, L. Coombs, D. Cradlebaugh, Todd Cradlebaugh, Jim Hendricks, Jimmy Hendricks, T. Melton, V. Oatts, J. Roberts, L. Roberts, D. Schroeder and B. Williams.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 5/25/14.