

**OHIO VALLEY KARTING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ken Kuethe called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and asked that cell phones be turned off or placed on vibrate. He noted this is the last board meeting before the end of the season. Kuethe thanked Rick and Pam Wagar, Rick and Lynda Coombs, Max Viney and Chad Wilson for helping at the Vintage Karting Association's event. Lynda Coombs said it is her understanding they plan on coming back next year. Aaron Banfield reported they had a good turnout.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lynda Coombs made a motion to accept the August 7, 2018 board meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Don Boles and passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** On behalf of Treasurer Jason Gregg, Ken Kuethe provided bank balances.

**SHOWS & PROMOTIONS:** Aaron Banfield reported Evie Carroll, Nolan Holliday, Mayla Johnson, Brian and Wes Schroeder, Kyle Sheard and Brent and Brody Warren participated in Camden's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade. Banfield said Shelley Powers did a nice job decorating a trailer float and Brian Schroeder printed banners. Wes and Kyle drove their karts in the parade and two of Gary Gregg's employees drove two trucks. Ken Kuethe discussed pricing for the previously ordered canopy, sidewall and flag. Brent Warren noted pricing does not include a breakdown of the art work. Don Boles suggested getting a 10' by 20' since we already have a 10' by 10'. Warren responded that would be hard to carry around. Kuethe explained this is commercial grade fabric. Rick Coombs made a motion to appropriate up to \$2,000 for a 10' by 10' pop-up with one inch tubing and the OVKA logo and one flag with hardware. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben. Warren asked why we are looking to buy another canopy. Coombs explained the club has been using his canopy when we have two booth spaces. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Ted Cradlebaugh will contact the company. McKibben asked Banfield to bring the new booth so he can get it organized in the trailer. Warren asked if we are in need of any lighting. Lynda Coombs explained some rope lighting was purchased for the Lebanon Blues Festival. Cradlebaugh discussed talking with Sean Birkle about producing some more videos for us rather than have the same one all the time. McKibben reported a 206 kart is in the works for shows.

**SPONSORSHIP / PIT SPOTS:** Lee McCready is working with Michael Lewis on getting sponsorship and pit spot information updated on the website. Lewis is in need of the Word documents. Aaron Banfield said Heather Cradlebaugh would have those. McCready explained Josh Johnson is helping with pit spots when extra help is needed. Lewis will put together an additional map showing what spots are available. Brent Warren noted there is a map by the gate and on the website. McCready said people were asking why there is different pricing for banners and billboards. Banfield explained banners are more expensive and are put up then taken down at clean-up day and billboards are up year round. McCready said with banners, the sponsor can use them during the off season. Ray McKibben asked if anyone ever provided a set price for graphics. Banfield responded he can't get anyone to commit to a set price as it depends on whether there is an art work file. He said his are \$250. Ken Kuethe stated we can explain to people the starting point is \$250.

**TRACK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ted Cradlebaugh asked how much is needed for sealing the track and when are we going to do it. Ray McKibben reported he came across what the city department uses to heat up tar. Don Boles replied we don't need to heat it up and Brent Warren stated that system makes it much easier to apply. Warren discussed getting the right product and

said the place he got the squeegees had all of that. Cradlebaugh suggested sticking with what we have been using and McKibben added it has been Rhino Patch. Cradlebaugh discussed having two days; one to do the painting and one with a crew of ten to do the sealing. Warren stated sealing is a priority. Boles said we have to do something with the pavilion too. Cradlebaugh discussed how the weather is going to change quickly. McKibben said we need a date to blow out the cracks using an air compressor. Ken Kuethe suggested we do this at clean-up day on September 30<sup>th</sup> and Aaron Banfield said we can assign a crew ahead of time. Cradlebaugh said a lot of Rhino Patch will be needed. Ray McKibben made a motion to appropriate up to \$5,500 for materials for track repair. The motion was seconded by Rick Coombs and passed unanimously. Warren said he encourages everyone to walk the track and it is rough. McKibben reported he pressure washed the observation deck and is getting a quote for sealer. He said he plans to get it sealed and re-nailed. Lewis suggested he use screws. Kuethe stated he might be able to help. Aaron Banfield discussed whitewashing the tower and concession stand on September 15 and 16. He explained Shelley Powers will pick out the paint. Due to a mini road race, those dates will not work. Banfield will talk with Powers about scheduling this. Warren reported PA amp two is defective and we need to start thinking about what we want to do to correct this. He explained it is necessary to use a compressor limiter to even out loud and soft announcer voices. Banfield has some 70 volt equipment the club can have which Warren can look at. Warren said we could send the equipment back to Bogen but with it being an older amp, he thinks we should replace it. McKibben said there is a repair place in Dayton. Warren reported he talked with Bogen and there are no authorized centers in the area to which McKibben said there is. Warren explained we are borrowing a compressor limiter right now and he will put together some figures for discussion next month. He said he would like us to buy a new one and send the old one to Bogen to have as a backup.

**TECH DEPARTMENT:** Brent Warren asked how the new fuel meter is working. Michael Lewis responded he has not seen it used the past couple of races. Kuethe said his understanding is it is more complicated. Warren stated it has the ability to compensate for temperature which he thinks is really slick. Aaron Banfield said it was used at the last race. Warren explained the sensor depth is deeper which is a challenge. Don Boles responded a baster could be used. Ted Cradlebaugh said their fuel better be drained because they'll say a baster is contaminated. Ray McKibben reported Bobby Gettys with WKA is willing to include someone at their New Castle race or another National race to train in two-cycle tech.

**RULES COMMITTEE:** Ken Kuethe reported Rick Wagar has been provided information for a starting point for next year's rules. Ted Cradlebaugh said he would like the meetings to be on Saturdays to which Lynda Coombs agreed. Ray McKibben suggested having the meetings at the track. Aaron Banfield said they were held at Full Throttle the past couple of years.

**TECHNOLOGY:** Ken Kuethe extended an apology to Brent Warren for not having done anything with the information Warren provided pertaining to website updates. Michael Lewis asked that it be provided to him which Kuethe will do. Lewis said he will take ownership of getting information to Gary Osterholt. Warren explained the KA100 class is not mentioned anywhere but may be somewhere down in the news feed. Kuethe replied we had seven who committed at the beginning of the year. Warren asked if the KA weight we are running is the WKA weight. Banfield responded it is at 360 pounds.

**BANQUET COMMITTEE:** Rick Coombs explained with the banquet being held earlier, he is requesting the amount the board wants to appropriate. Ray McKibben responded we got a lot more sponsorship money. Don Boles said he does not think there will be as many qualifying for 100%. Aaron Banfield stated we are down about 10% and we have spent \$7,500 tonight. He said rather

than splurge on the banquet, we should take care of karters long term. Ted Cradlebaugh stated Rick Coombs has done an excellent job and if the Swap Meet doesn't do well, we don't have the money. McKibben said with getting more tires this year, it affects the amount of money we have to spend. Banfield asked Doug Benson if we will have a good Swap Meet. Benson replied there is no crystal ball and the Swap Meet was designed to pay for the banquet. Banfield asked Coombs what amount he is asking for. Coombs replied it is up to the board. Benson suggested making it what was made at the Swap Meet and asked what can be done to improve the Swap Meet. Banfield explained sponsorship includes money, tires and gift certificates. Ken Kuethe made a motion to appropriate \$33,000 for the 2018 banquet. The motion was seconded by Aaron Banfield. Kuethe noted this is close to 10% less than last year's banquet. Coombs clarified that the subsidy stays in place. McKibben discussed being proactive and giving back to the members as we made a decision but a lot of the people said they didn't want to race in the rain. McKibben asked if there is an expectation by the members to see more. Banfield said he talked with people who said because they missed the first race, it made it easier to miss more races but he doesn't think they expect more. Cradlebaugh asked if this is for the Rules Committee to change to counting twelve races. Banfield replied he does not think we change that and maybe if people get a set and a half, they will show up to race in the rain. McKibben added the club is about giving back to the members. Kuethe replied then let's race for free. Boles said we have the money to give the 100% people more. McKibben responded we need to spread the wealth down the food chain. Cradlebaugh replied the goal is to look at the present and the future and we can't give more this year because people didn't race in the rain. He further stated track improvement is for long term growth to make it better and we put on a great banquet and give out great prizes but we're here to make the club survive. McKibben discussed the way it is set up, you have to have fourteen races to be at 100% and the biggest will be 50%. Kuethe said he will go around and talk with people to see if any of them got into this because of the banquet. Brent Warren said he believes McKibben's point was to give people more this year. Following further discussion, the motion was voted on and passed with nine in favor and one abstained (Coombs).

**SWAP MEET:** Doug Benson explained he and Lynda Coombs have been talking about opportunities for promoting the Swap Meet. He said the WKA magazine's deadline is coming up and he will have the flyer tomorrow or the next day for Coombs to send.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**WEBSITE UPDATES:** Doug Benson explained seven years ago he started the OVKA Facebook page which he and Gary Osterholt have been posting on. He said there are about 1,800 followers. Benson asked if there is anybody who wants to take it over. He discussed how to go about it such as, putting information about an upcoming race or that can be left on the G & J Kartway site. Aaron Banfield said he thinks we need to move Shawn Birkle's and Larry Neuzel's photos over because he is not finding G & J Kartway when he Google's OVKA. Benson explained Gary Osterholt posts about upcoming races and configurations. Banfield replied that is important information to have and more could be added. Ted Cradlebaugh asked Michael Lewis to step up to do this. Lewis said he is not a Facebook aficionada. Benson said he is asking for someone to take it over and consider what direction it should go, such as used occasionally or weekly. Ray McKibben said he does not want it to become a forum. Benson said he won't let that happen. He further explained his goal was not to promote every race but to have general information on it. Banfield responded the more activity there is on a page, the more it will increase the rate of the page and he thinks we could get more activity. Banfield said he thinks it would be controversial to do a race recap. Lewis agreed to move pictures over and take on the Facebook page. Brent Warren noted we've been talking the last couple of months about the club needing a technical ambassador. He further stated the Facebook page should not be open discussion and the board should maintain control as a group.

**TRANSPONDER CABINET:** Ray McKibben reported a cabinet is in place and will need to be wired. Brent Warren explained there is also a little bit of electrical work needed in the tower to have light when walking in and a dedicated circuit.

**BUCKEYE KARTING CHALLENGE:** Don Boles discussed the Buckeye Karting Challenge wanting us to have their race before our Karting 101 and he thinks it should be after our second race. Ray McKibben reported the 206 Cup will return about the same time.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**CLASS STRUCTURE:** Ken Kuethe said we need to discuss the 2019 class structure because it is not part of the Rules Committee. He said the KA100 class and LO206 Juniors are close but there are karters coming up. Brent Warren discussed the Sportsman stating instead of two or there, we will have four or five. Kuethe said the Sportsman 206 is huge. Warren added there are not many who will be moving up. Ray McKibben said we are looking at six or seven in 206 Junior. Kuethe said classes we are looking at taking off are Shifters, TaG Senior and Pro Swift. He said we need to discuss the KA100 class. Aaron Banfield said we need to set a number of run groups then put it in the Race Director's hands. He further stated if they show up, we want to do everything we can to get them on the track; if Shifters show up and can fit in one of the ten run groups, we fit them in. Banfield noted we took out the four or more rule. Warren said he thinks the reason Kuethe and Lynda Coombs want to discuss this is they want to publish it. Banfield replied if you have a published WKA class, we will fit you in. Warren stated he sees more people picking up KA. Banfield said we do not have to decide tonight and need to do our homework and come with information to talk about it. McKibben asked Ted Cradlebaugh if it can be asked at the driver's meeting if anyone is planning on running TaG. Cradlebaugh agreed to do so.

**2019 FEES:** Lynda Coombs asked what the board wants to do about 2019 membership and entry fees. Ray McKibben and Ted Cradlebaugh said to keep them the same. Coombs explained she feels the higher renewal membership fee helped increase the number of memberships submitted prior to the start of the season this year. She said this is helpful so the racers can already be entered in the database prior to the first race.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**BRIDGESTONE SPONSORSHIP:** Rick Coombs made a motion that the sponsorship funds from Bridgestone go straight to savings. The motion was seconded by Aaron Banfield and passed with nine in favor and one abstained (McKibben).

**SAVINGS ACCOUNT:** Aaron Banfield made a motion we rename the savings account to the track improvement fund. The motion was seconded by Ray McKibben and passed unanimously. Brent Warren said he has asked the last two months what is in that account. Banfield said he will go through the meeting minutes to see what should have been transferred. Warren explained he would like to put together preliminary numbers for lights. Banfield asked if there are other things we need to prioritize. McKibben replied he thinks the track is the number one priority and lights can be put off a year. Ken Kuethe pointed out funds have already been allocated for the track. Warren stated he thinks Rhino patching is wasting money on a track that needs to be resurfaced. Banfield replied we don't have the money right now. Michael Lewis said he heard it would be \$200,000 to resurface. Josh Johnson stated he heard \$150,000. Warren responded nobody has done the research on it. McKibben explained the price of petroleum affects the price. Warren said that is a valuable piece of information and he will take this as an action item and educate himself and work with Gary Gregg. Banfield said he would not mind being a part of that conversation perhaps this weekend. Rick Coombs explained cracks are going to come back. Warren said more information is needed.

McKibben asked that the matter be tabled until Warren has the information. Lewis asked if it can be done in segments. Warren stated ideally it should be done all at once.

**CHARITY RACE:** Ted Cradlebaugh asked how much has been collected for the Charity Race. Ken Kuethe replied nothing yet. Aaron Banfield said he will do a match for what we collect and announce this at the driver's meeting.

**RAIN RACING:** Ken Kuethe raised the question whether to race in the rain next year. Ted Cradlebaugh said you eliminate it by canceling before we go. Brent Warren replied we cancel because there is a high probability of thunder storms and he thinks we should poll the club like we did last time. Ray McKibben said people have changed their minds about it. Warren added turnout is very light when there is a chance of rain. Kuethe discussed how in the past racers bought points and he will ask people this weekend. Ted Cradlebaugh suggested looking at the numbers and whether they dropped off that much. Warren responded there is a high probability it will happen again and he didn't think about how early in the year we start when he voted.

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** Michael Lewis asked if OVKA has a designated email address. Ted Cradlebaugh replied it is a group email. Lewis said he thought it would be a good way to collect monies for pit spots and member fees but not entry fees and he does not think PayPal would charge fees. Brent Warren replied they would charge. Lynda Coombs explained membership and pit spot forms would still need to be submitted then matched to payments. Lewis responded we would not get rid of forms. Aaron Banfield said we can take a look at this. Brent Warren added pit spots have to be sent in and it would be a complete shift in how we do things and would be the exit of Lynda but by all means, check into it.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Aaron Banfield, seconded by Ray McKibben, motioned to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

- OVKA Monthly Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 2, 2018 Hampton Inn, 2880 Towne Boulevard, Middletown, OH, 45044 (west side of Interstate-75)

#### **SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:**

- Aaron Banfield – Work with Ray McKibben on putting together a 206 kart for shows, talk with Shelley Powers about scheduling whitewashing of the tower and concession buildings, go through meeting minutes to determine amount that should be in track improvement fund, be part of conversation with Gary Gregg and Brent Warren regarding track re-surfacing, provide match for Charity Race donations and announce this at the driver's meeting.
- Ted Cradlebaugh – Contact company about purchasing a canopy and flag, ask at the driver's meeting if anyone is planning on running TaG.
- Ken Kuethe – Assist with sealing and repair of observation deck, provide Michael Lewis with information from Brent Warren pertaining to website updates, ask people about racing in the rain.
- Michael Lewis – Provide additional map of available pit spots, provide Gary Osterholt with information about website updates, take over as administrator of the OVKA Facebook page.
- Ray McKibben – Work with Aaron Banfield on putting together a 206 kart for shows, obtain a quote for sealer for the observation deck, seal and repair observation deck.
- Brent Warren – Provide pricing for a PA amplifier, educate himself regarding track resurfacing and work with Gary Gregg.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Banfield, D. Boles, J. Calvert, R. Coombs, T. Cradlebaugh, J. Johnson, K. Kuethe, M. Lewis, L. McCready, R. McKibben and B. Warren.

**MEMBERS / VISITORS PRESENT:** D. Benson, A. Calvert, M. Cook, L. Coombs and V. Oatts.

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Coombs, OVKA Secretary, 9/19/18.