

## **VKA Board Meeting – December 11, 2022**

Call To Order: President John Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm.

Roll Call: Jim Kammueler called the roll with the following results

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

John Copeland

Deo Curts

Bill McCornack

Joe Swantek

Lynn Haddock

Jim Kammueler

Gary Wlodarsky

Kurt Bogerman

Bob Barthelemy

Skip Owen

### **Board Members Absent:**

Louie Figone

### **Guest Present:**

Rolf Hill

### **President's Report:**

President Copeland stated that the board should know how the VKA deals with vintage karting in the Northeast has been settled and advised that he sent out an email to all VKA members in the Northeast, including some promoters. His goal is to be completely transparent about his position on continuing to support those tracks, and he hopes to partner with them in 2024.

Copeland advised that he was at Whiteland last Wednesday, and all the site work has been done. The track extension has been completed. And the areas of the old track that needs to be completed have been ground, and it is awaiting the weather to break in the spring for the top coat to be completed.

Copeland advised the board that there are a few vacancies available. If anyone has any suggestions, he would like to explore those individuals. In addition, he has been approached by Marty Westin and Vern Bergman, as they expressed interest in being on the board. Copeland asked for opinions, and some board members said that they are both great people to have on the board. If anyone else knows of anyone also interested, please have them contact him regarding their interest.

OVKA swap meets and firming the board for 2023 in the new Business section.

The November 2022 board meeting minutes were approved by email vote.

### **Vice President Report:**

L Figone is currently not on the call.

### **Secretary's Report:**

J. Kammueler stated he feels something the board should consider is creating a method to promptly notify the membership of any class the board may be watching and is concerned about due to low attendance.

L Haddock suggested posting a spreadsheet mid-season of the class attendance up to that point that shows how many entries there are in each class, which will give the members an idea of the class attendance.

Discussion took place among the board on how to compile this information as sometimes you have to chase down the data due to the time it takes to get the event information after its conclusion.

J Copeland advised that he has a spreadsheet that compares this year's and last year's attendance; he is aware this information has not been shared before with the members but believes it may help them understand why the combining of classes takes place and the decisions that are made due to attendance.

Discussion took place among the board, and putting it up for a month or so for the members to review may be helpful for the members to understand the numbers that are being looked at in order to make the decisions the board makes.

L Haddock asked if this could be tabled and go on the agenda until the next board meeting, as this is an internal document. He is neither for nor against sharing it but feels it needs future consideration. R Hill advised that he agrees with Haddock's statement and that the board should consider the pros and cons of releasing the information. J Copeland asked if anyone has any problems adding this to the January agenda.

J Copeland advised that he will send out the spreadsheet he has to the board for review, allowing them to review it and make the decision at the next meeting if this is something that should be shared with the membership and public, as it will be public if posted on Facebook or the website. The board agreed.

J Kammueler wanted to take a moment to thank G Wlodarsky for all his service over the years and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **Membership report:**

D. Curts advised that memberships were slow in November. In the last three days, she has received 7 renewals from Paypal.

D. Curts okayed the artwork and schedule and has ordered them to be printed and should have them by this week and should be dropped by January 1.

Postcard reminders went out approx. Seven days ago to members whose membership had expired in November and are coming up for membership expiration in Dec. or Jan.

D Curts advised the board that she received a check in the mail from a lifetime member. She asked the board for direction as to how to handle this. Should she send the check back? Discussion took place to confirm the member is a lifetime member in the old database before doing anything with the check.

### **Treasurer's report:**

J. Copeland advised that the board approved the treasurer's report via email vote.

J. Swantek advised the board that there was a debit card charge from a company that did some work on the website before, and he was not made aware that this charge was going to occur, and if authorization to use the card is given for work performed to please let him know.

### **Public Relations:**

G Wlodarsky thanked everyone for working with him over the years and just wanted to thank everyone.

### **Website:**

L. Emanuelson is currently not on the call.

J Copeland asked if R Hill had anything to add.

R Hill advised not at this time.

### **Event Directors**

B McCornack is about to send out the promoters' contracts and the promoters' package coordinators.

B McCornack advised that he has sent out information to J Swantek and L Figone for their upcoming event at Riverside, and he has T-Shirts if they would like some sent to them.

J Swantek advised that he helps mainly with the track event stuff, such as tech inspections, track marshal duties, and such, and suggested reaching out to L Figone to see what he would like to do regarding the T-shirts.

### **Enduro Report:**

J Copeland advised that it's pretty quiet this time of year. He has been in touch with a few people who state they are building some vintage enduro karts, so it will be interesting to see how many will show up at Daytona and in the spring.

### **Rule and Guidelines:**

L. Haddock stated he doesn't have much at this time. He did run across a rule when reviewing rules. And he feels that it would be appropriate to deal with chassis and engines and that it is up to the promoter on how he wants to deal with tech. A rule from another series states "if anyone refuses to allow their equipment to be teched, they are subject to suspension." Haddock feels that this should be noted in their guidelines.

J Copeland asked, since the VKA does not put on events, and each event is held as a stand-alone event by the promoter, does VKA have the authority to say we are going to suspend you from other events for the rest of the season since we are not the promoter?

Discussion continued among the board on the option of verbiage for the rule. J Copeland asked L Haddock to create the language for the guideline and present it to the board for continued discussion at the January board meeting.

D Curts asked for clarification as she thought safety tech was always a requirement and not an option. L Haddock advised that this has more to do with engine tech than safety. Engine check is post-race check, and safety tech is pre-race. So what he is proposing is for post-race if a competitor refuses to have his engine teched.

### **Judging and Shows:**

K Bogerman advised that he will start working on the awards certificates. He requested a copy of the formal composition of the schedule to have the official name of the events for the certificates.

D Curts advised that she would email him the PDF file of the schedule.

B McCornack asked if the showcards can be printed on a thicker material this year.

B McCornack asked if dropping the past champions class had been decided on .K Bogerman advised that he didn't think any decision had been made.

B McCornack suggested that the past champions class is an annual class, and the slate starts clean at the beginning of the year, and previous years do not count. The board discussed this, and many like the idea of the past champions class being an annual class.

### **Regional Reports:**

Midwest- B McCornack does not have anything additional to add at this time.

L Haddock asked if he had been able to reach Shawn. B McCornack advised that he hasn't had any luck yet, and Haddock advised that he is back and could reach him now.

Northeast- S Owen advised that he doesn't predict a significant change this year since promoting the tracks is what the VKA will continue to do this year. Promoters are wanting to try something different in 2023 and try to increase attendance at their events, and he foresees VKA in the North again.

J Copeland asked if K Bogerman had been in contact with Batavia. K Bogerman advised that he has yet to, as it's his understanding that the track is still under construction and not runnable yet, but he will reach out to them to see if there is anything that VKA can help with.

South- B Barthelemy advised that he has the flyer ready for publishing and will send it out to the whole group for review and publishing.

He asked the board for their opinion on the configuration for Barnesville. The configuration that ran last year worked well. B McCornack stated he usually leaves that decision up to the promoter as they typically receive the feedback from the karters on what they like or don't. Barthelemy advised that he will put some feelers out for some attendees and get their input.

West- L. Figone is currently not on call.

### **Old Business:**

J Copeland asked the board if any old business needed to be addressed that he was unaware of. (no reply from the board members)

### **New Business:**

J Copeland advised that the first item is the election/ voting in process for 2023 of VKA board members. Copeland has spoken to everyone, and all except for G Wlodarsky expressed their willingness to continue the board for 2023 and appreciate everyone's desire to carry on.

Motion made by L Haddock to retain the existing board in their current positions, with the exception of G. Wlodarsky, who is retiring.

Seconded by G Wlodarky

Discussion

Call for vote: No one opposed    All in Favor    Motion carries

J Copeland advised that the following item is- Allowance of Shifter karts in VKA events. L Haddock informed that he had seen a post on Facebook that someone seemed to indicate that he was going to enter their 125 shifter kart in VKA's new reconfigured 150 open class, and the way it is written right now would be legal. One sentence could be added to the guidelines to indicate that VKA is only for single-speed vehicles to cover other classes as well.

J Copeland advised that he feels that the presence of shifter karts is not in the best interest of VKA. It's contrary to the mission statement of VKA and contrary to the overall vibe of VKA events.

Motion made by L Haddock to add to the guidelines, where appropriate, that all VKA event racing is to be conducted by single-speed engines

Seconded by B McCornack

Discussion- A question was asked if shifter karts around 30 yrs ago. The answer was no, that shifter karts came around very late 80's early 90's. Since the karts are less than 30 yrs old, they currently would not fit into the VKA guidelines.

Call for Vote: No one opposed the Motion carries.

J Copeland advised that the next topic to discuss is Facebook posts. His concern is that as board members, we need to be aware of the fact that when posting on Facebook unless we state our comments as personal opinions, some people will perceive it as a policy of the board. And would like to encourage everyone to be thoughtful of that. Unless it is an approved policy and decision of the board, he would ask that everyone preface it by saying it's a personal opinion.

J Copeland advised that Deo and Steve staffed a booth at the OVKA swap meet last year and felt that there was much traffic. Deo stated that she thought that the VKA received a lot of exposure.

Unfortunately, Deo and Steve will not be able to attend this year. As a result, G Wlodarsky has agreed to staff the booth. The booth will cost \$60 and asked if the board is okay with that expense.

L Haddock suggested having some karts there. J Copeland stated he plans to bring one of his karts, and Gary said he would also bring one. The swap meet is on February 4, 2023.

B McCornack stated that he feels everyone did a great job this year and is looking forward to 2023.

J Copeland wanted to take another moment to thank G Wlodarsky for his service to VKA over the years and remind him that he is not off the hook just yet.

Motion to adjourn made by B McCornack

Seconded by J Kammueler

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier