

## **VKA Board Meeting February 18, 2024**

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

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

### Board Members in Attendance:

John Copeland	Sal Palatucci
Jim KammueLLer	Louie Figone
Kurt Bogerman	Joe Swantek
Scott Nagel	Lynn Haddock
Bill McCornack	Bob Barthelemy
Marty Westen	Skip Owen

### Board Members Absent:

### Guest:

Rolf Hill

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

President Copeland advised that his top item to discuss is the closing of TNT in Quency and will ask that that discussion take place under Bill McCornack.

President Copeland advised that he was approached by R Hill about making the conference calls from conference calls to zoom meetings. President Copeland asked the board for their opinions on switching over. Discussion took place and the topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Vice President Report:**

L Figone advised there is an event March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Kingsmans Kart club, one day event, and he plans on going weather permitting. D Severs will be coming out with the last newsletter as they don't have anyone to pick it up and continue it.

President Copeland advised the January 2024 meeting minutes we approved via email vote.

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

J KammueLLer advised he does have an item to discuss under new business.

### **Membership report:**

M Westen advised the board that January was an active month with membership renewals. Total member count is currently 491.

M Westen presented an idea to the board regarding a member blitz to see about getting some of the recent non-renewing members to renew for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Discussion took place among the board.

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

President Copeland Advised the Treasurers report was approved via email vote.

J Swantek advised he currently doesn't have anything additional to add, as everything is good at this moment.

President Copeland advised he had sent out the cash flow statement for this year, but it is kind of early to tell.

### **Public Relations:**

S Owen advised he had reached out to several TV stations to garner some interest for the upcoming Adams event, and they weren't interested in doing anything.

S Owen had received some of the flyers for the upcoming events from M Westen and has been providing those to some of the kart tracks for them to display.

B McCornack stated that maybe reaching out to the promoters to see if they know of any contacts within the news organizations may be some help.

### **Website:**

K Shampine is currently not on call.

### **National Event Directors:**

S Nagel advised he currently does not have a lot to report at this time. The Riverside event was rained out and they are currently working on a replacement date.

There were a few promoters that did not have the VKA banners, those have come in and will be sent out to display at the upcoming events.

The OVKA swap meet had a good turnout. He took a dule-rear and that peaked a lot of interest. A few T-shirts were sold and picked up a few new memberships.

J Copeland wanted to take a moment and thank Scott for his time, attending and displaying at the swap meet.

### **Enduro Report:**

J Copeland advised he currently does not have anything for this section at this time.

### **Rule and Guidelines:**

L Haddock advised he put out the latest revision of the guidelines about a week ago and does not have anything additional to report at this time.

### **Judging and Shows:**

K Bogerman advised he has been working on the show certificates and keeping his eye on the dates for upcoming events. He has been using the Canva software to use as part of the artwork in the certificates and feels they are turning out nice, He has done a few for the memorial certificates and was able to incorporate photos.

### **Regional Reports:**

Midwest-

B McCornack advised the hot topic was about Quincey being sold and has been fielding a lot of calls. The closing date for the track property is in April, if something goes foul with the closing, they may still have the event in August and would like to hold the date.

Springfield, IL event is going to take over the August first week slot for 2024 and 2025. In the event that Quincey does close they would like to take over their slot. This year, 2024, they will run two events the April date and the August date. In 2025 Springfield would only run the August 2025 date.

Southern-

B Barthelemy advised they are just about ready for Jacksonville, and has been receiving some advanced entries for both Jacksonville and Barnesville. B Barthelemy advised he did not receive any request from the board members at Jacksonville to do a memorial race, so he asked K Bogerman to just do the arial of the track on the certificates and those came out well.

For the Barnesville event they will be recognizing Richard Wilson who helped build the track and Bill Shelley who recently passed in December 2023.

B McCornack asked if B Barthelemy had spoken to Kershaw. B Barthelemy advised he has spoken to Mickie about an event in 2025. B Barthelemy advised he would assist and help with the planning the event but doesn't not want to be the sole promoter.

B McCornack asked if B Barthelemy had heard any rumor about the Jacksonville track shutting down due to the recent construction going on around the track there. B Barthelemy advised he had not heard anything about that. B Barthelemy advised that the Jacksonville track is a city park, owned by the Jacksonville-Duval County and has been there since the early to late 50's.

Northeast-

S Palatucci provided the board with a following Northeast report prior to the call for review:

In 2023 we essentially had no VKA branded events although many members did show up at Nicholson Speedway and Avon. This year our committee of Skip, Kurt, Natalie, Rolf and myself plan on making 2024 a lot of fun for our members.

Along with our traditional Tier 1 & 2 classes, we've created two new competitions. One for top drivers 40 years and up, and another for all our drivers: new and seasoned. Driving their own karts in a precision race one at a time.

We also designed 2 events over 2 days with 2 heats, so r members who can only show up on Saturday, race in the two heats and possibly go home with a trophy. They are also intended to cut the cost of attending a VKA event essentially in half so maybe more of our members will show up. For the other 2 tracks our schedule remains 3 day - 3 heats.

**Nicholson Speedway** May 31-June 1 (2 heats on Saturday)

**Lafayette Motorsports Park** July 12-13 (Same as above)

**Avon** August 1-3 (3 heats)

**Batavia** Sept 5-7 with early arrival parking on Wednesday and a rain day plugged in for Sunday. (3 heats)

**Added 2024 event enhancements:**

1) **3 Lap Monte** - a safe race for drivers at all levels of skill and karts they bring to compete with the best of the VKA's best.

2) **First ever, MW - NE regional team competition** between the Midwest and Northeast region in two classes: Yamaha LTD and Sportsman Rear. Grid spots will be earned throughout this season at selected tracks in the MW and NE. A total of 24 drivers will compete in two separate heats at Batavia on Friday Sept. 6th. Bill McCornack is the MW team Captain and I'm the NE one.

3) We are also upgrading our **Kart Show** with multiple free raffle winners, special prizes & other event awards

West-

L Figone advised that the Santa Maria event/dates did not work out. J Swantek advised that he has a few ideas to review for 2025 and will reach out to L Figone next week.

J Copeland asked J Swantek if he knew anything about K1 raceway in Winchester. J Swantek advised that they have a beautiful facility and would be a good venue for C-open or Twin classes and would like to go out there and talk to them again. He went out there about a year ago and had zero interest in putting an

internal combustion engine on the track at that time, as far as they know they have not held an event for any outside organization.

Discussion took place among the board with a few options for 2025 dates and tracks in the West. J Swantek and L Figone advised they will start working on those options and getting some dates pinned down.

#### **Old Business:**

J Copeland discussed the T-Shirt design options for the upcoming T-shirts, a design needs to be decided on for the 2024 events. J Copeland advised he spoke to K Windom about how much time he needs to get the artwork completed and T-Shirts made, so we need to get a decision made. Currently there is not enough time to get them printed in time for Jacksonville but hope to have them in time for Barnesville.

#### **New Business:**

J Copeland advised under new business he has 2024 guideline review and asked for someone to take the lead on that.

B McCornack advised that the issue was the 49 Stock class wasn't put in for a month and then it showed up, and some people were fussing about it. He had spoken to a few people, and they feel a couple of tweaks need to be made and asked L Haddock if he would be available to speak with this week.

J Kammuller asked if B McCornack has spoken to L Haddock about the pressure testing? B McCornack advised he will speak to L Haddock about that as well next week. Discussion took place among the board as to why someone would not want it tested, and why someone would worry about it being tested.

B McCornack advised he and L Haddock to discuss this and follow up with the board.

S Palatucci asked the board if they had an opportunity to read his email, he sent to the board regarding \$300 EMT money to be able to use it for promotion in the North East. B McCornack commented, that if his tracks do not need it for the EMTs, then he does not see an issue with it, to use it for the event promotions.

J Copeland wanted to clarify and ensure that there will be EMT staff at the track if the track does not get the \$300 marked for the EMTs if the track needed it. S Palatucci advised that last year none of the tracks in the NorthEast took advantage of it last year since there were no events up there. There is one track that may request assistance and he is prepared for that. S Palatucci asked if a motion needed to be made?

Motion made by S. Palatucci- To allow the NorthEast region to use the \$300 to use for promotion and revitalization for the four NorthEast events in 2024, in leu of the EMT money provided the track provides the EMTs. If the track needs the \$300 for the EMT, then the money will go to the EMT fund.

Seconded by S Owen.

Call for Vote: All in Favor Motion carries.

L Haddock asked how Batavia was coming along? S Palatucci advised it looks good and really wants to do this and has expanded the days to Thursday, Friday and Saturday. If it turns out the repairs in May aren't sufficient, then it will become and play date. L Haddock clarified some repairs do need to be made. S Palatucci advised they are minor.

Meeting adjourned 9:31pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier