

VKA Board Meeting June 9, 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
Jim KammueLLer
Kurt Bogerman
Scott Nagel
Bill McCornack
Lynn Haddock
Louie Figone
Skip Owen
Marty Westen

Board Members Absent:

Bob Barthelemy
Joe Swantek

Guest:

Rolf Hill
Amy Scoggins

President's Report:

President Copeland advised there are a lot of positive things to discuss tonight. The Cincinnati event was a success. New Castle is coming up next weekend, and the first VKA event at Nicolson was a success.

President Copeland advised that S Owen has asked to step away from his position as public relations but will remain on board as a valued board member.

President Copeland thanked S Owen for his time and efforts as the Public Relations director. J Copeland asked the board if they have any ideas of how to help promote the VKA and what we have to offer to please reach out to him.

President Copeland advised that parking reservations are now open and available for the upcoming Whiteland event, the online system is more user friendly than last year, and the spaces are filling up.

Vice President Report:

L Figone advised he attended the Prairie City event and found it interesting. L Figone advised that there were a lot of karts there but not a lot of karts running on the track at the same time. There was an impromptu kart show, no judging or awards, but just showing of karts off.

L Figone also advised that he received a call from T Ives regarding the Feb. Adams event, indicating it has been moved to Tucson and he had not heard anything about this before the call and was wondering if it was regarding another event.

L Haddock advised he had just received confirmation that the event was going to be held at Mussleman Track in Tucson, Jan. 16,17 and 18th

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

Secretary's Report:

J Kammuller advised that A Scoggins has joined the call, and is interested in stepping in as secretary, when J Kammuller resigns and is available to answer any questions anyone may have. A Scoggins introduced herself and provided some background information and a quick question and answer session took place among the board.

Treasurer's report:

J Copeland advised treasurer's report was approved via email vote.

J Copeland also advised that everyone should have received the cashflow spreadsheet through May, and asked if anyone had any questions.

Public Relations:

J Copeland advised they are looking for the next person to fill the space and asked the board if they had any suggestions.

B McCornack advised he has a few suggestions but is not interested in filling the space.

J Copeland advised that he would sit down and write a job description for it, as that needs to be done. R Hill advised that there may be a job description listed in the documents but may require tweaking.

S Owen advised he feels the biggest obstacle he encountered was that no one took the sport seriously. The few people that he was able to get in contact with saw it as an Amusement sport and not a serious sport. J Copeland advised that he has a few organizations that he would like to look more into to see how they promote themselves.

Website:

K Shampine is currently not on call.

National Event Directors:

S Nagel stated there has been a good start to the season, the events have been successful even when rain does happen. An up spreadsheet has been sent to J Copeland for review today, once the New Castle event has concluded, he will get those numbers added and sent out to everyone.

There has been some discussion about moving dates for next year. S Nagel advised that it's a little early to start those discussions but will be discussed as the year gets closer.

T shirts have been selling well, and there is a big bin he will be bringing to the New Castle event.

Rule and Guidelines:

L Haddock advised that he feels the Billet motor issue continues to exist and would like to discuss it to make a decision. Questions were asked and answered, and a long discussion took place among the board regarding the pros and cons regarding approving or disapproving the Billet cylinders. L Haddock suggested polling the drivers that would be affected by allowing the cylinders to see how they feel at New Castle. J Copeland stated he understands the urgency of making a decision but would also like to have a little more data before making a decision. J Copeland asked if the board was ready with making a decision tonight or waiting until more data can be gathered.

Census among the board was to wait to make a decision until more data has been gathered.

Judging and Shows:

K Bogerman advised he has nothing new to report at this time.

J Copeland advised he received the Whiteland package and love the show certificates and work K Bogerman has done to get those created.

Regional Reports:

West-

L Figone advised he will be reaching out to J Swantek to what the future plans are, and possibly work out something to get another event in California

Northeast-

S Palatucci advised that twice the number of members showed up at this year's **Nicholson** weekend compared to last season which was enhanced by a forecast of incredible weather. Rolf Hill who helped run our first 3 Lap Monte competition of the season reported that it was well received, with a 50% increase in competitors vying for the pot. The winner was long time loyal VKA member, Bruce Ristow with an astounding .039 second differential between his 3 laps. Rolf added that every promoter should consider adding this unique precision racing format to their events.

Finally, 5 new or renewing members paid their dues at Nicholson in response with the attached poster that was displayed at the sign in counter

Lafayette owner Tony Goddard was able to get a special discount rate at a brand new Marriott hotel, that we have been promoting enthusiastically on our FBook page and in multiple emails to all our current and delinquent members. The VKA did not have a Lafayette event in 2023.

Avon which had been put up for sale and an unknown future has been purchased by a club member to everyone's delight. That event is scheduled for August 1-2-3.

Batavia Invitational NE vs MW Team competition: S Palatucci advised that the NE team has now identified 5 of the 12 competitors it needs to compete with the MW region in September. Going on to tease MW Captain, B McCornack that he better have his region's game ready! Batavia is on schedule with all it's upgrades to host it's first formal karting race weekend and we will go forward with it only if that event can be a first class event.

I am in regular conversation with the owner and will be traveling to Batavia to meet with the owner next month and again in August following our two upstate NY events. By August I will report to the board if we will be able to host a traditional 3 day - 3 heat VKA event; a softer 2 or 3 day - 2 heat opening weekend, or a fun 2 day drivers' weekend. The owner has invested too much time and money in his plans for the track to have a less than stellar VKA weekend.

South-

B Barthelemy is currently not on the call.

Midwest-

B McCornack wanted to touch on the competition between the Northeast and Midwest, Yamaha Unlimited and Sportsman rear classes. B McCornack advised he only has one for the sportsman rear class, and he will keep working on getting his classes filled.

B McCornack advise the Cinnicinatti event, very few people pre-entered and there was a chance of rain. The entries were low, and not sure if it was due to the difference between the difference in the pre-

entry fee and the at track entry fee or the call for rain. Discussion turned to the schedule of 2025 and would be better to have their event the second week of October and Springfield could go back to their May event, and Norway in mid-July.

B McCornack advised he will be at New Castle, along with his wife, helping the membership table on Thursday morning, we will be doing a tire pole in the master's class.

M Weston advised the he had spoken to the Neilson's and is open to moving to an August event, if that interests anyone. B McCornack advised that would be great as it helps space out some of the events.

Membership report:

M Westen advised that he was bringing some back news to the group as S Wagger broke his arm and to keep him in your prayers.

M Westen provided an updated membership report for May. July renewal postcards were mailed out June 1st. August are ready to go first of July.

The Membership list will be ready to be emailed out for New Castle on Monday.

Old Business:

New Business:

Discussion took place among the board regarding Pre-entry fees versus no pre-entry fees and those karters who pre-enter and those who do not.

R Hill advised that if a track offers a pre-entry fee, the track needs to state their refund policy, as some people maybe apprehensive about pre-entering if they are unsure if they will receive their money back if the event is canceled or rained out.

Meeting adjourned 9:14pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier



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