

## **VKA Board Meeting October 13, 2024**

Call To Order: Vice President Louie Figone called the meeting to order at 8:01pm

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

### Board Members in Attendance:

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

### Board Members Absent:

John Copeland  
Joe Swantek

### Guest:

Rolf Hill  
Amy Scoggins

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

John Copeland currently not on the call

### **Vice President Report:**

L Figone advised the VKCA had an event at Redding , CA and is not sure what the turnout was, due to having some rain.

L Figone advised the September 2024 minutes were approved via email.

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

J KammueLLer advised he has gone into the conference recording account, and has cleared up some extra space, as he has deleted some recording from 2023 and before.

J KammueLLer has spoken with J Donovan and will be filing the annual Not for Profit report in January, and he will work with A Scoggins and get her involved and will be working on obtaining a registered Agent in Nevada.

J KammueLLer also advised he has sent out a form to the board to review and possibly help with closing out some of the events. The form is to help collect the event information from the promoters, and those forms can be used as they see fit, but hopefully it will help in collecting the event data and maybe of some use to have a standard reporting form.

B McCornack advised that he and S Nagal will be working on the 2025 Promoters package and will consider using that form to use.

### **Membership report:**

M Westin provided the September membership report number.

Current total memberships is 502 with the following breakdown by region: Northeast- 82, South- 84, West -63 and Midwest- 273

November renewal postcards were mailed Oct. 1 and Decembers are ready to out on Nov. 1

Membership list for Bakersfield was sent this last Monday, so they should have that for their event.

M Westin provided the following inventory count: 22 patches, 7 bumper stickers, 92 membership cards, and a few other VKA stickers.

M Westin requested clarification, on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary patch bumper stickers and how they will be sent out to the members.

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

Vice President Figone advised the Treasurers report was approved via email.

#### **National Event Directors:**

S Nagel advised at the time of the call all events except Bakersfield are complete for 2024 and feels it has been a successful year, outside of some rain/weather event. S Nagal advised he was at Whiteland and it was a short/ long weekend, due to the hurricane coming up. The event was run on Thursday with the rain coming up on Friday and Saturday. Practice was run up until lunch, and three heats were run the remainder of the afternoon and into the night with the last heat being under the lights. The track staff and John stayed on top of everything and kept the event going and did a really good job.

S Nagal advised they are working on the schedule for next year, and some already have dates and some have tentative dates, with the hopes of locking down the date within the next few weeks.

The promoters' package is being worked on, and they are trying to get some of them simplified a little more.

#### **Rule and Guidelines:**

L Haddock advised the tech committee met about 10 days ago and the meeting minutes were sent to the board for review. L Haddock asked if anyone has any questions? He suggested reviewing the reviewing the competition committee suggested changes and voting on them at one vote. And asked if anyone had anything they would like to discuss about the suggestions.

A board member asked about the Yamaha Rear. L Haddock gave a detailed report regarding how the kart came about and the performance of the kart over the weekend. A Scoggins entered the kart in class 5C and came in second overall. And L Haddock feels like it could be a good option to offer people. B McCornack asked what clutch was in it? L Haddock advised it was a standard issued dry Max Torque clutch inside of a Hartman drum and cover. B McCornack asked what color springs? L Haddock: Orange. L Haddock advised that the competition did discuss changing or replacing group C, since there were no entries in it for 2024, but then they did not want to remove that option if someone did show up, wanting to run in that class. Discussion took place about adding group D to class 5. Discussion took place among the board.

Discussion took place among the board regarding participants who want their own classes and do not want to have to run in a mixed engine class. The consensus is that most people have a place to run, but they need to run in the class and then partition to the board to have their own class possibly broken out due to the participation numbers. The problem lies when people do not show up in the class that they are eligible to run in, and low or no participation is shown in that class and then they request to have their own class in order to participate in an event.

L Haddock asked if anyone has any more questions regarding the tech committee findings/ report? Clarification that this will be reviewed/ voted on under new business.

#### **Judging and Shows:**

K Bogerman advised he currently has nothing to report for Judging and shows at this time.

## **Regional Reports:**

### Midwest-

B McCornack advised not a lot going on this time of year.

B McCornack advised he is working with S Nagal on the promoters package and will have a bullet point sheet for drivers meeting, and make some simple changes in the contracts.

Will be working on the EMT reimbursements and contribution back on entry's and will be taking a look at those items.

B McCornack advised he was only at Delmar for one day for practice, and asked M Westin if he could provide an update. M Westin advised that there were 74 entries, one more than last year. Great weather and great times, a memorial was held on Friday in honor of S. Nelson with Tony leading the group around the track for one lap. Everything seemed to go really well and had a lot of good help at the event. Waiting on pictures to come in from the photographers and will be working on an articles shortly for the website.

B McCornack wanted to thank everyone for the great work that took place at the Whiteland event, and worked hard to get the event in, in one day with the impending rain event that was coming in. Hats off to everyone who worked really hard to get the event in. S Nagle confirmed that there 95 entries and was very appreciative of the turnout.

B McCornack stated he has firmed up 5 of the 7 Midwest dates and is working on the last two events.

B McCormack advised that he and S Nagel are working on a project that would allow the VKA to buy trophies in bulk for events, and if the promoters want to buy trophies from the VKA they can. This may allow for a cost savings to the promoters for trophies, and would allow them to return trophies not used, so they do not just have unused trophies laying around.

### Northeast-

S. Palatucci stated he provided the following Northeast report prior to the call for the board to review:

1) 2023 no events, 2024 4 events

2) Attendance in that context was awesome; but we need to build on that in 2025.

3) The VKA drove approximately \$14,400 to our local tracks this season based on 120 drivers x \$120/average fee

4) Sent out annual "how did we do" survey to 120 +/- members and former members.

Got 14 replies: sending it out again.

Overall "Fun" response was 5 - very happy;

Preference is for 4 NE events next season (spread was 2-8)

Responders liked 2 day events with 2 heats on Saturday (for two day events) and 3 and 3 for three days events.

I will be posting all the responses after getting whatever comes back the 2nd time in 2-3 weeks

5) NE volunteers helped to be introduced a new go kart track to America; we ran it ourselves; never took my kart off the trailer. It rained on Saturday and pretty much everyone left Saturday night. But not a single driver said to any of us below, that they didn't love the track and can't wait to come back next year. The owner seemed to be pleased but requested a non September 2025 date due to fickle weather that far up in New York State.

6) The volunteers who made that happen at Batavia and our previous NE events are:

Sam Polito	Bruce Ristow
Rolf Hill	Linda Vega
Kurt & Natalie Bogerman	Russ Jennings
Skip Own	Alan Davidson
Karl Ginter	

7) Event enhancement results:

Monte grew incrementally; drivers who aren't afraid to enter say it is uniquely exciting; will continue it in 2025

Free cash and prize experiment: modestly successful - but will try something different next year

Regional didn't come off but we will give it a shot in a simpler format next year based on a Jesse James

suggestion

Very disappointed we couldn't do Kurt and Natalie's Kart show at Batavia. Kurt made a special framed art piece for Mike and he was thrilled! (Thank you Kurt and Natalie - 3 -4 years of kart show perfection under their belts)

8) Honored Guests: VKA President and Mrs. John Copeland

VKA Regional Head Honcho: Scott Nagel

Former VKA President Gary Wlodarsky

Total driving miles from home for the 3 of them: 11,252 miles... or something near that far .

9) Planning for 2025 has started:

Moved our 1st event Avon one week earlier in June to distance from NC;

Waiting on 2nd event Nicholson's confirmation for Maryland in July;

Hoping to move Batavia one week earlier than tentative Aug 9th as well; we are awaiting the person Mike Lauterborn hired to run his events to let me know after her CKNA schedule comes out.

Lafayette ends our season the weekend of Sept 13

South-

B Barthelemy advised he is working on the schedule for 2025 and trying to find the third event for the South. The Jacksonville and Barnesville events are working on firming up those dates within the next week or two.

West-

L Figone advised the Bakersfield event is this coming up weekend and is going to make it, but not sure if he can.

### **Old Business:**

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

R Hill advised he sent out an email to everyone regarding the patch design and asked for everyone to take a look and vote for the ones that have been narrowed down to, as there are two patches.

Motion made by S. Palatucci to vote for 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary design number 4

Seconded by L Haddock

Call for vote: All in Favor: 9

Opposed: 1

Motion passes

R Hill advised that he has received estimates, rough estimates for the stickers and the patches were \$2,300 and would like to request approval for this expenditure. 750 patches and 1000 stickers, not to exceed \$2500

B McCornack provided a breakdown of the cost to the board. Regarding the cost of the patches, stickers and mailing cost.

Motion made by S Nagel to approve expenditure not to exceed \$2,500 for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary patches and stickers

Seconded by: B McCornack

AI in Favor: 10      Opposed: 0      Motion passes

R Hill advised the board that J Kammuller has drafted a letter to be sent out to helmet manufacturers asking for a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary helmet, and will be asking for 4 helmets, one for each region and would be used as door prizes or raffles? And this is what the board will need to make the decision of. K Bogerman advised that discussions took place among the committee that the helmets are commemorative helmets for display purposes only and should not be used in competition. Discussion took place among the board regarding requesting and obtaining a commemorative helmet and the possibility of having them painted for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

K Bogerman asked if this topic could be discussed within the committee as not to hold up this meeting any further. An agreement was made that the Anniversary Committee will discuss and bring their findings back to the board.

R Hill advised the board that B McCornack had already touched on this topic a little bit but would like to get the boards opinion on creating an awards medallion for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and third place, and the estimated cost would be approx. \$3,400, with some of that coming back to the VKA as the promoters purchase them. B McCornack asked if a hold can be placed on this as this is something that he and S Nagel were working on.

R Hill asked for a few other items to be considered:

- Community outreach materials, such as tri-fold pamphlets to be placed in kart shops.
- Part of the promoter's package/ agreement should be a requirement that they allow a 10 min presentation during their event regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VKA.
- Photos of the driver, decide their kart with helmet, driver information, so that information can go in a booklet for future consideration.

B Barthelemy advised he would like to make a motion for the 4-cycle stock a minimum weight of 370lbs be set. He feels this will drive a larger crowd for the Barnesville and Jacksonville events.

B McCornack asked if this motion is event specific for Barnesville, Jacksonville events?

L Haddock advised that a motion would not be needed if the promoter wanted to do something different at his event, such as running an additional class, and the promoter would just need to reach out/ petition the board and request permission for that event. Since this is not an item that would go into the guidelines a motion would not be needed and this is just event specific.

Discussion took place among the board on if this change needs to be made in the guidelines to attract more 4-cycle participants to future VKA events in the other regions. At this time no motion was made, but the board granted permission for B Barthelemy to make changes to his event for the 4-cycle class increasing the minimum weight to 370lbs.

M Westin advised the board that a suggestion was made to increase the membership dues to:

1 yr Single Membership- \$40

36 month Single Membership- \$110

1 yr Family membership- \$55

36 month Family membership- \$ 150

B McCornack advised that the membership dues have not been increased in a long time and this is a \$5 increase for the year.

Discussion took place among the board regarding the pros and cons of increasing the prices due to inflation and other increasing cost.

Motion made by M Weston to raise the membership fees to:

1 yr Single Membership- \$40

36 month Single Membership- \$110

1 yr Family membership- \$55

36 month Family membership- \$ 150

Seconded by B McCornack

Discussion continued among the board members.

M Westin asked if the board could look at the family memberships, as there really is no clear guidance on who is a family member other, that it states they must reside in the same household.

A recommendation was made that maybe an age limit, such as 18 yrs old, could be placed on those memberships regarding children.

Call for Vote: Roll Call: L Figone: No, J Kammuller: No, S Palatucci: No, L Haddock: Yes, M Westin: Yes, B McCornack: Yes, S Owen: Yes, K Bogerman: Yes, S Nagel: Yes, B Barthelemy: Yes

All in Favor: 7    Opposed 3    Motion Passes

L Figone clarified that this new increase begins January 2025. M Westin advised that the website and membership applications will need to be updated.

Discussion took place regarding the motion made in the previous meeting by J Copeland:

“J Copeland advised he would like to discuss driver weight. J Copeland advised he had sent out a proposal for the board to review prior to the call, that suggested the outline for the weight proposal that any class that has more than 12 or more entries be split. The split is to be done based on the median driver weight. Drivers weighing less than 150lbs must make up the difference and will note at registration how much weight the driver is required to add. Light and heavy division will run together, but for separate trophies and light drivers will start in front of the heavy.

B McCornack stated he would like rear engine classes excluded from the weight requirement. As he feels putting additional weight on a rear engine kart can be challenging. Discussion took place among the board.

L Haddock advised he would like to make the motion for J Copelands proposal in hopes someone will second it. But table it for the vote in order to capture the data for the last two events in order to get a clear and accurate picture with more data in place to make the appropriate decision. Discussion took place among the board.

**Motion** made by L Haddock to accept J Copelands proposal: any class that has more than 12 or more entries be split. The split is to be done based on the median driver weight. Drivers weighing less than 150 must make up the difference and will note at registration how much weight the driver is required to add. Light and heavy division will run together, but for separate trophies and light drivers will start in front of the heavy.

Seconded by B McCornack

Discussion took place among the board. J Copeland asked if anyone opposed tabling the motion until the data from the last two events can be collected and included in the data. No one objected.”

L Figone read the competition committees recommendation into the meeting minutes:

the committee reviewed all the data from Camden, Delmar, Batavia and Whiteland ----- There is a motion and a second on the floor from the September meeting with the minimum driver weight left to be determined -- the committee recommends 150 pounds be the minimum driver weight. Drivers under 150# will need to add weight to come up to 150#

M Westin asked to abstain from making a vote on this issue- there have been many false and malicious accusations made against him as being the author regarding this issue and promoting one option over the other, which is not true. He will abide by whatever decision is made by the board and apologizes to the board for not voting on this matter.

Call for Vote: Roll Call: : L Figone: Yes, J Kammuller: No, S Palatucci: Abstain, L Haddock: Yes, M Westin: Abstain, B McCornack: Yes, S Owen: Yes, K Bogerman: No, S Nagel: Yes, B Barthelemy: Yes  
All in Favor: 6 Opposed 2 Abstain: 2 Motion Passes

New Business:

L Figone asked L Haddock to present the tech committees recommendations, L Haddock provided the following recommendations:

Tech committee recommendations:

1 -- delete the 0.813 venturi restriction from the West Bend class #18.

2 -- add to guidelines 112 Weights / Ballast

Any weight mounting bolts must have double nuts (two nuts jammed together) or a nut with safety wire or pin through a drilled bolt. If mounted to the seat, large washers with a 1.5" minimum diameter should be utilized to prevent the fasteners from pulling through the seat. All weights MUST be painted or plastic coated WHITE and marked with appropriate kart number in contrasting colors that are easy to read. Weights less than 7 pounds may be secured by one 5/16" (8mm) bolt. Weights weighing 7 or more pounds must be secured by two 5/16" (8mm) bolts. Stacked pieces of weights that total over 7 pounds require two 5/16" (8mm) bolts. No weights may be mounted to the nerf bars or rear bumper.

3 -- we recommend a two minute starting rule -- when the gate is opened for karts to enter the track for a race, drivers have 2 minutes to get started and on to the track -- after 2 minutes, the gate is closed and no karts may enter -- this also applies to mechanics going out to restart karts

4-- Yamaha masters class #16 -- change the tire requirement to modern tires

5 -- class 5 -- Single rear ----- add group D -- YAMAHA REAR -- Limited engine rules with spec RLV Spec exhaust system --(two will be made available (one for rear karts and one for SASW karts) -- (same muffler can with different header and connector tube configurations)

6 -- a review of the class participation indicated the need to combine several of the smaller classes to be run with other classes on track but we recommend no class deletions or combinations at this time.

Motion made by B McCornack to accept the proposed tech committees' recommendations as presented

Seconded by S Owen

Call for Vote: Roll Call: L Figone: Yes, J Kammueler: Yes, S Palatucci: yes, L Haddock: Yes, M Westin: Yes, B McCornack: Yes, S Owen: Yes, K Bogerman: Yes, S Nagel: Yes, B Barthelemy: Yes

All in Favor: 10 Opposed 0

Motion Passes

L Haddock advised he will get these changes made in the Guidelines; his goal is to get the guidelines out before Christmas holiday.

L Figone advised the next Item on the agenda is Bumper stickers.

M Westin provided the update that the last set of bumper stickers were purchased in 2021, and he received a quote for 300 which was \$1.19 per sticker, for a total of \$357, however if they purchased 500 stickers, he would match the 2021 pricing of \$.98/per sticker. 300 stickers would last approx. 3 years and 500 stickers would last approx. 5 years.

M Westin asked for clarification/ guidance for bumper stickers going out to new members for the 2025 session. Will they get both the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary one and the regular bumper sticker included in the membership or just one?

L Haddock advised that he feels that every renewal should receive a standard VKA bumper sticker.

Motion made by L Haddock to purchase 500 bumper sticker at \$.98 each

Seconded by: J Kammueler

Call for vote: All in favor: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion passes

J Kammueler asked for clarification if we have over 500 existing/active members and everyone is getting one in their renewal packet, do we need to order more than 500 for 2025?

M Westin asked if he needed to get a quote for 1000? If we are handing them out to all new and renewing members?

L Haddock suggested requesting a higher number quote of maybe 750 or 1000?

M Westin advised he will reach out for an additional quote

K Bogerman suggested that maybe instead of a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bumper sticker, it could be an oval shaped one?

R Hill advised that can be done, and a quote can be requested for an oval sticker with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary design that was approved earlier in the meeting.

The board discussed reaching out to multiple vendors to request cost comparison for the stickers.

Meeting adjourned 10:03pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier