

## **VKA Board Meeting December 14, 2025**

Call To Order: President Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:04pm

Roll Call: S. Owen called the roll with the following results:

### Board Members in Attendance:

John Copeland	Louie Figone
Bill McCornack	Scott Nagel
Marty Westen	Kurt Bogerman
Joe Swantek	Skip Owen
Steve Mox	Sal Palatucci
Lynn Haddock	

### Board Members Absent:

Bob Barthelemy

### Guest:

Sam Polito	Jack Hoegerl
Cheryl Search	
Gene Lang	

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

President Copeland advised, they have a pretty busy agenda for tonight, so he's going to try and move things through pretty quickly. As they look at the year in review, they got some good news and some bad. Even with one event in the West canceled and one in the Midwest canceled and replaced for the last-minute event, we're up 56 entries over 2024. Membership is up slightly. Treasury is up about 6% over this time last year.

On the less happy side, we're about \$700 upside down on last year's T-shirts. In retrospect, we probably made some bad choices on those, but hopefully they can recover some of that shortfall next year by selling off the last of them. Otherwise, he is excited to see what 2026 brings.

J Copeland wanted to give S Palatucci and everybody else who had a hand in putting together the MyLapse Transponder Promotion for VKA members. It's a great example of the sort of creative thinking that helps us demonstrate real tangible benefits for our members. J Copeland stated he and S Palatucci are going to do a phone blitz between now and the end of the year with members who have not yet renewed yet and asked that the ideas to keep coming in.

President Copeland stated as 2025 comes to a close, he would like to take a moment to thank L Figone for his years of dedicated service to the VKA. He has served in a variety of roles over the years, and it's no exaggeration to say that we would not be where we are today without his guidance and leadership. On behalf of all the VKA partners, those who know you and those who don't, and for all the board members past and present, thank you, Louie, for all you've done for us.

**Vice President Report:**

L Figone took a moment to thank everybody, stating it's been a pleasure. He currently doesn't have the time to put in now, but he's really enjoyed it. He started Vintage Karting around 2003 and it's been great people to be around.

L Figone stated he has enjoyed the whole ride and thanked everyone for everything the board is doing and are going to be doing in the future. Thank you very much.

J Copeland asked for a motion to approve the November 2025 minutes.

S Nagel made a motion to approve the November 2025 minutes.

Seconded by L Haddock

Call for Vote: All in favor Motion passes

**Secretary's Report:**

S Owen stated that unbeknownst to him, the minutes have not been posted to the website. J Copeland has forwarded the minutes to him, and they have been sent off to K Shamine for posting to the website, which should be posted within a day or two.

**Membership report:**

M Westen provided the membership update for the month of November with the following results: nineteen 12 month individual renewals, three 12-month family renewals and one 36 month family renewals.

There were three new individual membership.

Membership count as of November 30th was 472

Northeast - 66

South -98

Midwest -262

West -46

Renewal postcards were mailed December 2nd and February are ready to be mailed the first of the year here.

The 2026 Membership form will be updated with the 2026 membership rates and will be forwarded to K Shampine for posting on the website.

M Westin asked if they still wanted to use the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary patches and stickers for the membership packets. The board agreed to continue to use those until they are depleted but not reorder anymore when it's time.

M Westin advised 20 microns have been ordered as of today's date.

**Treasurer's report:**

J Swantek advised the treasures report was sent out to the board to review prior to the meeting and has been approved.

J Copeland wanted to take a moment to thank J Swantek for all his hard work over the years.

J Swantek stated he has created a video guide for S Nagel on his processes to assist in the transition and will need to get in touch with S Nagle to reach out to the bank to get that information switched over to S Nagels name as the account contact.

M Westin also stated he will get with S Nagel once the account is switched over as M Westin will need that information as well for membership deposits.

J Swantek stated M Westin has been fantastic to work with and is sure S Nagel will see the same dedication and accuracy he has seen.

**Rule and Guidelines:**

L Haddock advised he really doesn't have anything other than he is sitting on a revision which will probably not do get completed until the first of the year, as little stuff pops up. The main thing that will be put in is the West Bend rules which were not put in the first time around. He now has those ready to go in the first revision. Other than that, he doesn't have anything else to report.

**Judging and Shows:**

K Bogerman stated he doesn't have anything groundbreaking to talk about. He is starting on designs for the car show certificates and has yet to design a form to track the car show participation. Once completed he will include that in those packets and probably have it printed on some brighter paper so that people notice that it's a different form.

J Swantek wanted to remind everyone that the Winter Nationals coming up in January 2026 on the 15th 16th and 17th there will be a car show there and would need the forms and certificates for that.

**Regional Reports:**

National-

S Nagel advised they have pretty much all the dates for the events next year and wanted to mention that we they do have brand new event coming that's going to Biloxi, MS in October next year very excited about this. It's going to kind of combine VKA members and modern karting in the same arena and we're hoping that maybe it's a little bit of crossover and will bring some new members.

S Nagel stated that he will be working with J Swantek to get things sorted out to be able to take over the treasurer's position.

Midwest-

B McCornack advised he doesn't have a lot of activity right now going on in the Midwest. He would like to suggest to all the coordinators and the promoters of events, in the event they're renting transponders that they raise the rental price considerably to push people to buy one. He cannot force them to raise the rental rates of the transponders but will strongly suggest they raise their fees.

Northeast-

S. Palatucci is currently not on the call but provided a report on the activity in the Northeast to the board prior to the call. Report follows:

3 of 4 tracks have given states for 2026:

Avon. 3 days, June 4-5-6

Lafayette. 2 Days, July 10-11, with option of Thursday the 9th track time for an additional charge

Nicholson 2 days, tentatively scheduled for August 7-8

Batavia 4 days, September 16-17-18-19,

The Batavia Downs Group Rate\*\* Package will be emailed to all board members this week.

**\*\*Request Everyone who's planning on coming** to do so ASAP so we can get another batch of rooms made available to us. There's no risk we can all cancel the week before the event if need be.

The MyLaps promotion has two weeks to go.

Two new members joined in order to purchase the product. I'm guessing about a dozen members have purchased them, but Marty will know for sure.

**At the end of the sales on 12.31, we will** send a VKA check to MYLAPS to place the order. Then they will be bulk shipped to B McCornack, who volunteered to ship them individually to each VKA member. (Thank you Bill!) The transponders should arrive mid to late January based on how quickly My Laps can send them to us

Bill McCornack and I are also working on **MW vs NE Top Driver Team National race at Batavia**. We were going to test it out this year, but then there was an incident at the track that cancelled our event.

Each regions best **Yamaha drivers 35-40 years old and up**, will race in one heat for regional bragging rights. We are going to use time trials at Batavia for whoever shows up from both regions. The team that wins will be based on the positions each team member crosses the finish line for their team. At the end, 6 winners will take the podium on Saturday, instead of the usual 3, during our traditional class trophies and the 3 Lap Monte \$200+ cash payout.

If enough **sportsman rear** drivers show up from the NW Region will have a second Top Driver heat race for that class.

B McCornack, stated he is working with S Palatucci on the Midwest versus Northeast challenge and will be there to help and states it will be a lot of fun.

South-

B Barthelemy is currently not on the call.

West-

L Figone advised Joe's event coming up next month and wished him all the luck and he doesn't know if he'll be able to make that one. J Swantek stated, they have a lot of people coming from the Midwest and back east and a whole lot of people coming from Texas and all over, it looks like a lot of people been confirming that they're going to be there yeah and if it's as good as last year or even a little better they'd be fantastic.

J Copeland advised that he attended the PRI trade show and had a meeting with the people from a track in Nevada and they are very interested in having a vintage event at their track. J Copeland advised he will send some information to J Swantek and J Swantek advised he will get in touch with them to start up the conversation.

#### **Old Business:**

J Copeland asked B McCornack if he would like to discuss hats.

B McCornack advised he did some research and started out with National Emblem in California I they offer hats but don't stock them, but they worked out a dealership program to buy them cheap because they normally do the embroidery or sow on a patch. He did receive a quote, and he sent it out to the board for a hat with our VK patch sewn on, they've got 15 different colors, colors can be mixed and matched. He is requesting a sample of the hat to see the material.

J Copeland stated he feels that the board ought to think about the hats as promotion item and not necessarily as a profit center.

Discussion took place among the board about what colors would be good choices to purchase and asked the board to see if they could take a pole among some people to get a feel of the most popular color options. Also discussed were the cost of the hat and the possible sell price.

B McCornack advised he will request a sample of the hat before moving forward.

#### **New Business:**

J Copeland stated the OVKA swap meet in Wilmington Ohio is the biggest swap meet in the country and it will be held on January 24<sup>th</sup>. The last few years we've had a table there to promote the VKA and Steve Mox has volunteered to help out again, and maybe S Nagel can help if available. The cost is \$70 for a table and if the board approves, he will go ahead and send in the reservation.

Motion made by L Haddock to approve the \$70 reservation fee for the OVKA swap meet table.

Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_:

Call for vote: All in favor Motion passes

J Copeland advised he circulated a discussion about possibly adding a subclass 9b to accommodate the Billet engines that would provide a place for people who want to run the Sudam engines. It appears that

the consensus is that we need to start looking at this to see if there's enough of an issue to warrant action but for right now, we leave things as they are.

L Haddock stated he'd like to leave the same for 26 and also thinks at some point they need to have a discussion about which Billet parts we're talking about because he personally don't have any heartburn at all and so far as the bottom end of the engine goes but he fully believes the cylinder is the main deal. You can say cylinder and head if you like but I think that you know that's going to be something we need to talk about when we do in fact if we do in fact put in this b division.

J Swantek stated, as L Haddock had made the point before that billet aluminum does transfer heat a little bit better than cast aluminum, but what they really need to be clear on, is are we looking at billet or are we concerned about the sedan exhaust port being put into k-35s and if you're concerned about that you need to be aware that K Buller has been making and selling cast IAME k-30 and k-35 barrels for the last decade and some of these engine engines end up on dirt track racing and some of them end up in vintage and some of the top people out there right now and he knows for a fact they're running them. If you're going to start opening up engines to take a look at what's inside you're really going to need to open up all of them.

Discussion took place among the board and J Copeland stated it is worthy of some more study before any decisions are made.

S Palatucci joined the call.

S Palatucci presented to the board the idea of the VKA having a separate Facebook page regarding strictly dedicated to selling kart parts. The idea of moving the items for sale post to a separate page is so that the important post regarding upcoming events does not get lost or buried in the posts listing kart parts for sale. Discussion took place among the board regarding monitoring the new page and logistics of maintaining a new page.

J Copeland suggested the moderators for the current page have a call to discuss how this may work and report back at the January meeting. S Polito suggested the possibility of making a tab

On the current page for just parts for sale, where people could go there and post their items.

J Copeland stated that may be another idea to discuss on the call and asked S Palatucci to set up a call with some board members to discuss and report back.

President Copeland advised the last new business item he has to discuss is elections and asked the current board if they got the slate of board members and officers that agreed to serve, in the email that he sent out? To recap:

President- John Copeland

Vice President -S Mox

Treasurer -Scott Nagel

Secretary -S Owen

Membership -M Westen

Rules and Guidelines L Haddock

Kart Shows – K Bogerman

National Event Coordinator – B McCornack

West Coast Coordinator J Swantek

Midwest Coordinator- G Lang

Northeast Coordinator S Palatucci

South Coordinator B Barthelemy

Member-at-Large- J Hoegerl

Motion made by L Haddock to accept the slate of board members as stated above

Seconded by B McCornack

Call for vote:                    All in Favor                    Motion Carries

J Copeland thanked everyone for their willingness to serve on the board and asked the two new members J Hoegerl and G Lang to introduce themselves.

J Hoegerl stated he has raced quiet a few years himself, he also served on the IKF board and as chairman of the two cycle tech committee. Also served as vice president and treasurer until IKF went to SKUSA. He began following VKA attending the races and wanted to participate on the board.

G Lang stated he retired at 60 and decided he wanted to go kart racing. After trying modern karting, he found that vintage karting was more his speed, and it's been a wonderful six years, making a lot of friends along the way. He stated he has a lot to learn but looks forward to helping the VKA move forward into the future.

B McCornack added G Lang is also a promoter at the Norway event and is owner of a kart shop. G lang stated he has been a mechanic off and on his whole life and it's his passion.

J Copeland welcomed the new board members, stating the VKA survives purely on the generosity of people who are willing to donate their time and effort to make this work and he really appreciates them joining the board.

J Copeland thanked everyone for their willingness to support what the VKA does. Most of our members have no idea how much time and effort all of you devote to this so that they can enjoy the hobby that we all love. So, on behalf of all the members, those that know you and those that don't, please accept sincere thanks.

With that J Copeland wished everyone the happiest of holidays and is looking forward to talking again in the new year.

Meeting adjourned 9:01 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier