

VKA Board Meeting July 12, 2026

Call To Order: President Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:03pm

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

Board Members in Attendance:

John Copeland

Skip Owen

Scott Nagel

Marty Westen

Joe Swantek

Kurt Bogerman

Sal Palatucci

Jack Hoegerl

Bill McCornack

Board Members Absent:

Lynn Haddock

Gene Lang

Steve Mox

Bob Barthelemy

Guest Present:

Cheryl Furtch

Natalie Bogerman

President's Report:

President Copeland advised the board, that just got back from the event at Norway, and it was a great success. We had to dodged some weather, had a good turnout and no incidents. There were a couple of organizational glitches that B McCornack can elaborate on in his report, but overall it was a good event.

J Copeland advised he had sent an email to the board from Richard Neal about an over-70 class. G Lang advised J Copeland they had four or five of those at Norway. He is open to try it as a local option at Whiteland but doesn't want to do it if it's going to further diminish the rear engine classes by dividing them up even more. B McCornack commented to J Copeland, that we can't keep on expanding the schedule to accommodate more classes. But he is looking at some way to mitigate those two problems at Whiteland and see if we can make that work. J Copeland stated he is certainly open to any input that any of you have about that. His concern that he expressed to Richard was that he's not sure that it's going to gain the VKA anything. And asked if anybody has any thoughts on that?

B McCornack provided his feedback; these guys that are 70-plus, if they are going to be in the sportsman rear class, we can merely line them up in back of the younger people in that class, and it should be okay. The other thing, I've known over the past 10, 15 years, guys get in their upper 70s, and for the most part, they can't fit in a rear-engine kart. Those guys that were at Norway this weekend were slender and trim, and it's amazing they're in their 80s, and they were able to get in them. But that's part of the problem, getting over 70 guys in rear-engine karts, so that diminishes more guys going in there. Noting he's not opposed to it, but he would like to put them in back of the sportsman rear guys to line up, and if they feel safer, then that's fine. They're in the back, so he thinks that could be accomplished.

M Westen advised the board that most of the guys that ran this weekend were on straight-axle sidewinders that have been rear-engine mounted, but there were a couple of Mark IIIs and what have you. They asked M Westen if he would run them at Del Mar, and he said he would give them the opportunity if they could get at least four entries.

Discussion took place among the board on if this should be a promoter's option and not necessarily a VKA decision and maybe look at the rear engine class demographics and how the guidelines are set-up for the rear-engine class.

President Copeland advised next up on the calendar is Delmar, and hopefully we can get a good turnout, followed by Chestertown and then Camden. So, if anybody knows of anything we can do to help bring more folks out to these events, let's all work together and try to make that happen.

Vice President Report:

S Mox currently not on the call

J Copeland advised the meeting minutes from June 2026 were approved via email vote.

Secretary's Report:

S Owen advised meeting minutes were approved up to May, and June will be posted shortly to the website.

J Copeland advised he would like to look into Zoom meetings a little further, as it had been discussed in the past and would like to explore what it would take to conduct the meetings via Zoom, as there would be some benefits in using Zoom.

Membership report:

M Westin reported that in June we had 29 12-month individual renewals. Six of them were the Member Get a Member Program.

We had no family renewals.

Three 36-month individual renewals.

Seven 12-month new individual memberships, four of them being the Member Get a Member Program, and we one new 12-month family memberships.

Total membership as of June 30th was 469:

Northeast- 75

South- 79

Midwest - 272

West- 43

The August renewal postcards were mailed July 1, and the September renewal postcards will be ready to be mailed August 1.

B McCornack asked how many memberships were turned into M Westen from Norway?

M Westen advised 20 of them renewed their memberships at Norway and he has been working on those memberships most of the day.

Treasurer's report:

J Copeland advised the was submitted to the board for review prior rot the call and approved via email vote.

S Nagal provided the board with an update on the VKA financials.

Rule and Guidelines:

L Haddock is currently not on the call.

Judging and Shows:

K Bogerman advised he doesn't have anything new to report, other than he did get the certificates out for the Delmar event and has the certificates ready for Nicholson event, and will start working on the Camden ones to get those out.

Regional Reports:

National-

B McCornack advised he hasn't received the official numbers from the Norway event yet, but was guessing it was around 110 to 125 range. The numbers seemed to be down about 20% this year, mainly due to the weather forecast up until Wednesday of the event, was calling for off and on rain, and yet it never rained.

There were no serious wrecks at Norway. There were a few incidences, but nothing bad where we had to do any treatments or anything to people. It was fairly safe. They had a lot of scoring issues. The systems weren't working during the first and second heats. But we got through that by questioning all the classes.

13 hats were sold at Norway, and we currently have 50 hats still in stock, for the Midwest.

S Palatucci advised he still has hats available as well.

B McCornack advised there were several safety concerns he is seeing on the grid, that need to continue to be addressed during the drivers meeting.

B McCornack wanted to thank J Hoegerl for helping tech at Norway and New Castle, with his motor building experience he is able to tech the Yamahas real good.

West-

J Swantek advised the Spring Mountain track visit ended up getting canceled by the track in May, due to a corporate event, and will need to reach out to get that rescheduled and will shoot for middle of August or September.

Several karts in the West had asked J Swantek to reach out to Adams Raceway. J Swantek advised that he had reached out to Adams Raceway to open up some conversation with them. He had spoken with Troy Adams and Troy was going to speak to his team. As of today, he has not heard back from him, so J Swantek will follow up with him again.

Northeast-

S. Palatucci provided the following update, Lafayette had 15 drivers show up, even though it was great weather and promoted it pretty well. That's down from Avon that only had 22 and it was bad weather.

Part of the reason was EVK had a competing event at Avon, which is an hour away. And then also there's a four-cycle series that would not have had an event on Saturday at Nicholson. And they did. So, there were two groups that did not come to the VKA event.

South-

B Barthelemy currently not on the call

Midwest-

G Lang currently not on the call

Member At Large:

J Hoegerl stated that after attending Barnesville, Newcastle and Norway, he was concerned that he had not seen the starting race line up for the third heats being posted and asked if they get posted at the events?

B McCornack advised that they do get posted and they may be in different locations depending on the track.

J Copeland thanked Jack and his wife for helping with the 50/50 raffle.

Old Business:

J Copeland advised the last thing he had under old business was the tire proposal and he doesn't think we've heard back from L Haddock about his conversation with the MG people and asked if anybody know any different than that?

M Westen advised that he had a lot of conversations with people at Norway this past weekend. Everybody's asking what we what we were thinking and as I said at the meeting, you know, we don't want to do we don't know what we want to do yet, but that the Hoosier r70 was one entire in consideration and to a tee every day everyone applauded that they were very overwhelmed overwhelmingly in favor of the Hoosier r70 be the type being the tire.

J Hoegerl on the call asked M Westen to list off the classes the tire rule would affect.

M Westen provided the following: the junior class the sportsman sidewinder class, the three Yamaha classes not the dual Yamaha, but the Yamaha masters a Yamaha limited in the Yamaha piston port, and then the classic piston port class the reason for the classic is because some people do run the Yamaha limited and the class and run their Yamaha in the classic division as well.

President Copland advised he was going to table this for one more month but insist that a decision needs to be made in the August meeting, so it can get announced and publicized.

New Business:

M Westen advised there is some discrepancy on the placement of the transponders I know there was a discussion at Springfield, with there being a protest filed. Currently the VKA does

not have a rule or guideline the states where the transponder should be placed, and in order to avoid future misunderstandings, one ought to adopted in 2027.

Discussion took place among the board.

Comments for the good of the Organization:

B McCornack stated that there was seven board members at Norway and he was very proud of that.

J Copeland advised he had some time to reflect on the current state of the VKA with the following statement:

“I want to share a couple of thoughts with you with you all. We're on sound financial footing, we have a stable membership, even though we wish we had more and our events go off pretty much without a hitch and that is mostly because of the efforts of you. The VKA has been fortunate to have some talented and committed people on the board in the past, but I don't know when we have been blessed with such an assemblage of talent. With so much desire to make things better as we have now, you know each of you bring your individual skills and your collective passion For what we do and that makes this really an unbeatable team and I am so blessed to be in your midst. You have, through your efforts, made VKA better, stronger and more vibrant and while there's still work to do we have the right people to get it done and I just want to thank all of you for what you do. “

Meeting adjourned 8:50pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier