



VINTAGE KARTING ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board of Directors 10 June 2018 Meeting Minutes
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Call To Order: President Gary Wlodarsky called the meeting to order at 8:04 PM EDT

Roll Call: Secretary Bill Bloodworth called the roll with the following results:

Board Members In Attendance:

Gary Wlodarsky	President & Judging
Louie Figone	Vice President
Bill Bloodworth	Secretary & Membership
Dean Kossaras	Rules
Lynn Haddock	Safety & Tech
John Copeland	
Sonny Gerber	
Skip Owen	

Board Members Absent:

Joe Swantek	Treasurer
Jeff Campbell	Website

Guests present:

Rolf Hill	VKA FirsTurn Newsletter/Magazine
Jim Donovan	Finance
Sal Palatucci	Northeast Region Coordinator
Cary Thomas	Future VKA FirsTurn Newsletter/Magazine

SYNOPSIS: There are 423 total members, 381 full members and 42 associate members. The ending May balance is \$23,019.15 which reflects revenue of \$585.00 and expenses of \$253.32.

It was discussed that some participants feel that Tier I events have become too “racy” with an increased level of aggressive driving. It was noted that participation is higher for Tier I events than for Tier II events. Most participants seem to enjoy the competition and receiving trophies. It was mentioned that elimination of Tier I events would probably significantly impact vintage karting. It was felt that there was nothing wrong with completion as long as it was done in a safe manner. It was pointed out that participants always have the option to start at the rear of the pack and just ride. The best path forward seems to be to stress safety during the drivers’ meeting and not to hesitate to use the black flag when called for.

Lynn Haddock’s proposal to allow Yamaha Limited karts to participate in the over 60 class was discussed. Lynn stated that this would provide a more economical means for some to participate. Lynn stated that the performance of the Yamaha Limited karts was not close to the performance of the Mac’s so the Yamaha Limited karts should not affect the results of current over 60 class participants. Lynn would like to see a survey taken regarding his proposal.

Dean Kossaras intends to have such a survey at the upcoming New Castle event along with a survey regarding the tire rule change for the sportsman sidewinder class.

It was reported that the recent Michigan enduro event suffered from low vintage participation. The Summit Point enduro event was shortened due to the weather. The next enduro event will be Mid-Ohio which is to be held on the same weekend as the New Castle sprint event.

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PRESIDENT’S REPORT: President Gary Wlodarsky said that he would wait for the rules report section to discuss the sportsman sidewinder class tire rule change survey.

Gary then initiated a discussion regarding Tier I versus Tier II activities and participants’ preferences. Gary reported that he has attended 3 non-VKA events, the most recent being the Avon “Historic” event billed by the promoter as a non-racing event. Gary estimated attendance at 21 karts. Gary talked to the participants and asked why they chose to attend non-VKA events instead of VKA events. Gary said that 8 to 10 people stated that the VKA events had become too “racy”. Gary posed the question to the board as to what should be done in response.

John Copeland asked how you hold a karting event that is not “racy”. Rolf Hill replied that you drop the green flag, run for 10 minutes, drop the checkered flag, and you don’t award points or trophies. John asked if it was a matter that there was racing at all or that it was too vigorous. Gary replied, “It was too vigorous and aggressive.”

Dean Kossaras said that he believes the aggressive trend started with the inclusion of the Yamaha classes and participation by younger drivers. Dean said that series such as the Northeast Promoters’ Cup where points are awarded also encourage more

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aggressive driving. Dean said that he believes that aggressive driving can be discouraged but that we can't "fix it". Dean pointed out that most participants like the competition format.

Rolf Hill stated that on the positive side, events such as the Promoter's cup also promote attendance. Rolf suggested that promoters be encouraged to discontinue providing trophies. Dean said that people like to receive trophies and that when he promoted events; he passed out trophies so that people would go home happy. Louie stated that as an example the Australians came to race and they complained about the lack of trophies.

Regarding a place for non-tier I participants, Louie did an email poll last year and had hardly any response. Louie said that we should emphasize safety in drivers' meetings and that we should be ready to throw the black flag when aggressive driving is seen.

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Sal Palatucci pointed out that the recent Avon Historic event was billed as non-racing and about 20 participants attended the event whereas last year's July event at the same track had at least 70 participants. Sal then raised what he called an existential question as to what happens when VKA ceases to exist. He believes that people who just collect and store the equipment will not continue the events. He thinks that people who compete are the ones that will carry on the history of vintage karting. Sal believes that racing is ok if it is done safely.

Dean believes that if you stop racing, you kill the sport.

Gary said that his sample was small and that there are not that many who are not coming back.

Lynn Haddock believes that you can't please everyone and that VKA should focus on the majority.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vice-President Louie Figone stated that the Tier I versus Tier II debate is interesting. Louie said that he is at a crossroads and that he is not sure what he will do at the next Riverside event regarding this issue. Louie said that in the past he has told those that don't want to compete to just start at the back of the grid. Gary said that he also has told people to do such but that they don't seem to like that approach. Louie stated that not having an assigned grid position was confusing. At the Riverside event he tried having unassigned grids where people lined up as they came to the grid. Rolf Hill said no one wanted to be in the pole position. It was reported that at one event, a person forced to take the pole position did a u-turn during the warm up laps.

Louie reported that from the pictures of the recent Stockton event it appeared to be 99% sidewinders. Louie said that the event was held by Jerry Van Deusen and listed as a VKCA event.

Someone asked about a Northwest group, not sure what it is called. It was stated that this is Jack Lehmann's group. That it is tied to VKCA, but is running equipment up to 1989.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: -Secretary Bill Bloodworth reported that the May minutes have not yet been released. They will be sent out for review via email. It was requested that board member use email to respond with their approval and / or comments.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: - Director Bill Bloodworth reported that currently there are 423 total members, 381 full members and 42 associate members, a net change from last month's levels of minus 4 full members and minus 5 associate members. This month's membership includes 2 new full members and 0 new associate members plus 0 additional full members and 0 additional associate members from the renewal of former members who were inactive at the time of last month's meeting. The 36-month extended membership option is at 85 full & 9 associate members, no change since the last meeting. Total funds involved are \$8,345. It is suggested that for the month of June, \$4,695 be held in reserve for future expenses.

6 full memberships and 5 associate memberships expired at the end of May.

3 full memberships and 1 associate membership are expiring at the end of June.

The regional distribution of memberships (snowbird adjusted) is:

Midwest:	169 full	17 associate
Northeast:	65 full	9 associate
South:	60 full	9 associate
West:	78 full	7 associate
International:	9 full	

Mailing address information was adjusted to reflect the home address of those temporarily away from home.

Bill reported that he is working on estimates of the costs of future publications based on current memberships levels for the 12 month and the 36-month options. He said that he will furnish that info in the near future.

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TREASURER'S REPORT: - Director Joe Swantek was absent. Jim Donovan then reported the financial results. The figures are:
Ending April 2018 Balance: \$22,687.47.

Revenue: Total \$585.00, Membership: \$445.00, T-shirts Sales: \$140.00,
Expenses: Total \$253.32, Postage: \$103.10, Envelopes & Supplies: \$150.22
Ending May 2018 Balance: \$23,019.15.

Jim stated that this balance is a record high balance.

Bill Bloodworth: Moved to accept Jim Donovan's report.

John Copeland: Seconded the motion.

President Wlodarsky: All in favor say aye, opposed say nay, the ayes are unanimous, the motion passes.

Gary Wlodarsky reported that the VKA t-shirts are now for sale on e-bay and that he sold 2 yesterday and 2 today.

WEBSITE REPORT: - Director Jeff Campbell was absent. Rolf Hill stated that he had nothing to report.

Bill Bloodworth stated that the latest version of the VKA membership application may not be posted on the website. Bill recently received an application from a US member who sent \$45 in payment instead of \$35. The application had the "ws" (website) identifier but it was not the latest version which has the phrase "international only" added after the \$45 fee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: - Skip Owen reported that he has sent emails to the VKA Regional Coordinators requesting planned 2019 schedule information. He is now compiling data. Sal Palatucci asked who was coordinating the Midwest events. Gary stated that Scott Klingler and Bill McCornack were working together to cover the Midwest events.

ENDURO REPORT: - Director John Copeland reported that he would be making a one day stop at the New Castle event on his way to the Mid-Ohio enduro event. Rolf asked John to take pictures and send him an article. John replied that he would. Since Rolf Hill had not received the recent report sent by Dick Charest, Bill Bloodworth read the following:

Since last month's vintage enduro report there have been two more enduro kart events in which there were classes for vintage karts.

The first was the AKRA race at Michigan International Speedway in Belding, MI. The weather was good for the event but the participation was down. For the Saturday vintage races, they only had one open single, two duals, and four piston port vintage karts. For the Sunday vintage races, they did not have any open singles, only one dual, and only one piston port vintage kart. The second event was the WKA race at Summit Point Raceway near Summit Point, WV. The weather leading up to the event was very bad with lots of rain and flooding in many areas of the east coast so understandably participation was down. However the weather on Friday was very nice so the practice day went off well. Saturday also proved to be dry so the races went off as planned. However towards the end of the day lightning developed and the track officials would not allow karts on the track so the last two races were cancelled. The entire track had been repaved and participants said it was very nice to race on and lap times were significantly faster than in previous years. The vintage open class had about six participants and the vintage USA class had about four participants. Unfortunately vintage piston port was scheduled to run as one of the last two classes and that race was cancelled due to lightning in the area. There was light mist all day Sunday and the track ran the sprint classes with rain tires but none of the enduro karts went out so essentially Sunday was a wash out.

The next enduro event with vintage classes is at Mid-Ohio which is unfortunately on the same weekend as the VKA event at New Castle. After that, the WKA race at Virginia International Raceway near Danville, VA will be held on July 20-22.

Bill Bloodworth said that he would suggest to Dick that his future reports be sent to John, the new official Enduro Director.

RULES REPORT: - Director Dean Kossaras reported that he will have the sportsman sidewinder class tire change survey at the upcoming New Castle event. Dean said that so far no one wants to change the rule. Dean asked Lynn if he would be at the New Castle event to which Lynn replied that he would be there.

Gary Wlodarsky brought up Lynn's recent proposal to allow Yamaha powered karts to participate in the over 60 class.

Lynn said that his proposal was based on allowing Yamaha limited karts and not Yamaha open karts.

Dean said that he had not seen Lynn's latest email, but Dean mentioned that there had been push back in the past from the Mac powered participants. Lynn said that they also have an issue with blowing up and costing a lot to repair. Dean agreed that the Yamaha's were more economical to run.

Lynn believes that the uproar in the past was over allowing Yamaha open karts. Lynn stated that the performance of the Yamaha limited karts is not close to the performance of the Mac's. Others agreed.

Gary asked if the proposed class would have vintage tires. Lynn replied that the rule says "vintage".

Lynn said that he has people who just want to ride. They had asked Lynn if Lynn thought that VKA would just let them ride if they showed up.

Lynn said that we need to look down the road and that he is asking for a survey.

Gary said that there are a lot of events coming up at which we can do spot checks.

Dean said that he will have both surveys at New Castle.



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TECH & SAFETY REPORT: - Director Lynn Haddock stated that he had nothing else to discuss.

JUDGING REPORT: - Director Gary Wlodarsky reported that he did not attend the Springfield event and asked Rolf if he had received event info. Rolf replied that he had received the Springfield post-event info and that the results would be in the next issue of the magazine.

Gary reported that he has award certificates in hand for the upcoming New Castle event and that the certificates for the following event are in work.

NORTHEAST REGION REPORT: - Coordinator Sal Palatucci appeared to have logged off; Director Skip Owen stated that he had nothing to report. It was later determined that Sal was having phone difficulties.

SOUTH REGION REPORT: - Bob Barthelemy did not attend tonight's meeting.

NEWSLETTER REPORT: - Rolf Hill reported that he was on schedule to release the next issue to the printer on Monday. Rolf stated that this issue will contain post-event articles for Fremont, Chestertown, Springfield, and a nice article by Jim Donovan regarding the Fox event at Whiteland.

In the New Business section Rolf asked if Cary Thomas was in attendance. Cary stated that he was, that he had received the review copy of the magazine, and that it looked good. Gary encouraged Cary to speak up at any time if he had something to say.

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NEW BUSINESS: - President Wlodarsky opened the segment for discussion. No one raised an issue.

President Wlodarsky adjourned the meeting at 8:47 PM EDT.
Respectively submitted by Secretary Bill Bloodworth.