APBA

Modified Commission

Thursday, January 23, 2020 – Friday, January 24, 2020

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mark Wheeler.
2. Roll Call was taken. Commission members in attendance were: Mark Wheeler, Jeff Williams, Jerry Davids, Karl Dyle, Gary Miller, Jasen Dircksen, Fred Hauenstein, Jean Mackay-Schwartz, Daren Goehring, Kelly Hannon, Bob Koschka, Eric VanOver, and Tom Sutherland.
3. The Oath of Office was administered to all commissioners.
4. Motion by Karl Dyle, second by Eric VanOver to approve the minutes from the 2019 meeting. Motion passed unanimously
5. Review of the Modified Budget. Discussion was held on the $3000 for promotion items. Motion by Fred, seconded by Jeff to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Report on status of existing classes. The chairman noted that the 3 classes placed on probation last year had all increased their numbers and were now returned to regular class status. Those classes were: 250MR, 350MR, and 400MH. A discussion was held on the 750MR class. No action was taken.
7. Report from 125 committee. Jerry Davids reported that we have 3 engines (owned by the Modified Commission) around the country. There are an additional 10 at the importer in Tacoma, over 100 ready to ship from Australia. Pieces and parts are in stock for 5 complete engines. There are 7 adapter plates (commission owned). If someone sends Jerry the mid-section he will assemble for free. 4 gearcases in house. Will not be ordering any new gearcases until these are sold. 2 OMC towers in stock.
8. Awards were discussed. The chairman noted that the Rookie of Year is here. Also the winners of the Bob Goller and Paul Kalb awards are here.
9. Exhaust Pipe Kit – Jerry Davids has parts for plenty of kits. Jerry also has the side plates and the elbows for the 350 motors also. Wedge piece for the 300 gearcase are also with Jerry but he doesn’t install them.
10. Insurance update. Mark Wheeler reported that this is the same program as last year. There will be a slight increase. Loss runs are very good over the last 3 years. Need to keep up the good Risk Management work. Bob Koschka reported that the conditions listed on the insurance application are going to be reviewed and wording changed to be more specific as to distances to keep spectators away from racing boats.
11. Safety Update. Bob Koschka reported on the meeting. Some of the issues to be looked at are man in the water, ANSI clothing ratings, and pointed turn fins. There is a movement to get rid of the sharp point on the leading edge of the turn fin.
12. Championships
    1. 2020 nationals at Springfield, OH
    2. 2021 nationals – 1 bid for Springfield, OH. Motion by Jerry Davids to table until after the Springfield race is held, seconded by Karl Dyle. Motion passed 10-1.
    3. 2020 eastern winter nationals – Jessup, GA 4/2-5 and western winter nationals – Castle Rock, WA 5/2-3. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Daren Goehring to approve both. The motion passed unanimously.
    4. 2020 Divisionals
       1. Central – IOA – Constantine 6/28-29
       2. Northeast - TRORA Kittanning 8/14,15,16
       3. Southeast –
       4. Western – SOA Eatonville, 8/15-16
    5. North American Championships
       1. 125MR – Kittanning, PA 8/14,15,16
       2. 200MR – Engle Lake, WA 9/12-13
       3. 250MR
       4. 350MR – Franklin, PA 5/23-24 and Alexandria, KY 9/26-27. After discussion, Alexandria’s bid was withdrawn.
       5. 500MR – Constantine, MI 6/28-29
       6. 750MR
       7. 850MR – Alexandria, KY 9/26-27
       8. 125MH – Constantine, MI 6/21-22
       9. 200MH – Alexandria, KY 9/26-27 and Angle Lake, WA 9/12-13. A roll call vote was taken. Voting for Alexandria were Jerry Davids, Karl Dyle, Gary Miller, Jasen Dircksen, Bob Koschka, Eric VanOver, and Tom Sutherland. Voting for Angle Lake were Jeff Williams, Fred Hauenstein, Jean Mackay-Schwartz, Daren Goehring, and Kelly Hannon. Bid was awarded to Alexandria, KY
       10. 250MH – Franklin, PA 5/23-24
       11. 350MH – Kittanning, PA 8/14,15.16
       12. 400MH – Alexandria, KY 9/26-27
       13. 500MH – Constantine, MI 6/21-22 and Kittanning, PA 8/14,15,16. A roll call vote was taken. Voting for Constantine were Gary Miller, Fred Hauenstein, Jean Mackay-Schwartz, Bob Koschka, and Kelly Hannon. Voting for Kittanning were Jeff Williams, Jerry Davids, Karl Dyle, Jasen DIrcksen, Daren Goehring, Eric VanOver and Tom Sutherland. Bid was awarded to Kittanning, PA
       14. 750MJ – Constantine, MI 6/21-22
       15. 850MH – Angle Lake, WA 9/12-13
13. Rule change proposals
    1. Proposal 1 – SR 8-1 Age Requirements –

Current rule: Minimum Age 125MH and 125MR - 14

Proposed rule: Minimum Age 125MH and 125MR – 12

Motion by Fred Hauenstein to approve, second by Jeff Williams to approve. After discussion, agreement to amend the motion to 13 years by Fred Hauenstein, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passes 8 in favor, 3 against.

* 1. Proposal 2- SR8.1 Age Requirements –

Current rule: Minimum Age 350MH and 350MR -- 16

Proposed rule: Minimum Age 350MH and 350MR -- 15

After discussion, no motion was made.

* 1. Proposal 3 - Rule 8-1 -

Current Rule: Motors, hulls and other equipment subject to these rules shall be inspected by the Inspector, and a report of any violation of rules and regulations submitted at the earliest possible moment to the Race Committee for action. Except as noted below, it shall be up to the discretion of the Motor Inspector, under the direction of the Referee, as to the extent of the inspection conducted.

Proposed Rule: Motors, hulls and other equipment subject to these rules shall be inspected by the inspector, and a report of any violation of rules and regulations submitted at the earliest possible moment to the Race Committee for action. There shall be three (3) levels of Inspection:

1. Level 1 – At all races, inspection shall consist of:

* Height
* Weight
* Tuck
* Fuel checked with the Digatron meter

1. Level 2 – At Divisionals, Winter Nationals, and North American Championships

* All items in a Level 1 inspection plus
* Gearcase Letters R & S and check the ratio
* Check bore and stroke
* Measure the carburetor throat and venturi
* The combustion chamber volume must be measured

1. Level 3 – Summer Nationals and Record Races

* All items in a Level 1 and Level 2 inspection plus
* Internal inspection to verify that internal dimensions comply with current Modified rules

Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Gary Miller to approve as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 4 – Housekeeping rule change – Rule 16.3–

Current Rule: Cubic Inch Piston Displacement 30 up to and including 44 C.I.

Proposed rule: Cubic Inch Piston Displacement 40 up to and including 44 C.I.

Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Fred Hauenstein to approve as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 5 – Rule 16-6 –

Current Rule: Any new engines approved for use in the Modified Outboard Category are not allowed to use open, megaphone type exhaust systems.

New Rule: None. Delete the current rule.

Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Tom Sutherland to accept the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 6 – Rule 17-c-1 Weights

Current rule: Under 350MH and 350MR: Merc 20

Proposed rule: Under 350MH and 350MR: Merc 20 CI

Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Jerry Davids to approve the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 7 – Rule 20-E Championships

Current rule: There will be an Eastern Winter National Championship for the Northeast, Southeast and Central Divisions and a Western Winter National Championship for the Western Division. Double points will be awarded only to drivers residing in the selected Champion Division(s).

Proposed rule: There will be an Eastern Championship for the Northeast, Southeast and Central Divisions and a Western Championship for the Western Division. Double points will be awarded only to drivers residing in the selected Championship Division(s). The Eastern and Western Championships must be conducted prior to June 1.

Motion to accept the proposal by Jeff Williams, seconded by Karl Dyle. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 8 – Tech Manual - Add a new rule to follow the Ceric Nitrate Fuel Test

Current rule: None

Proposed rule: A new Rule

Combustion Chamber Volume Fluid Measuring Liquid

A mixture of 50% mineral spirits and 50% TCIII outboard oil, or a 50% mixture of mineral spirits and 50% TCII outboard oil, or a 50% mixture of mineral spirits and 50%Marvel Mystery Oil shall be used.

Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Jean Mackay-Schwartz to approve the proposal. Amended to 50% Mineral Spirits and 50% Marvel Mystery Oil by Jerry Davids, Jean Mackay-Schwartz agreed. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 9 – 125 cc Classes – Add a new rule

Current rule: None.

Proposal rule: Starter switch affixed to motor must have a shield to prevent accidental engaging of the starter.

Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Karl to approve the proposal. Motion passed 10 in favor, 1 against.

* 1. Proposal 10 – 125 cc Classes – Add a new rule

Current rule: None, but covered under Rule 2 . Rule 2 states, “Any questionable part may be used to a known legal part to determine legality”

Proposed rule: Any length exhaust adapter may be used between the supplied header and supplied pipe.

No motion.

* 1. Proposal 11 – 125 cc Classes - Add a new rule

Current rule: None, but covered under Rule 2 . Rule 2 states, “Any questionable part may be used to a known legal part to determine legality”

Proposed rule: It is permissible to weld, drill, and tap a boss on the exhaust header for a thermal probe.

No motion.

* 1. Proposal 12 – 125 cc Classes – Add a new rule

Current rule: None, but covered under Rule 2 . Rule 2 states, “Any questionable part may be used to a known legal part to determine legality.”

Proposed rule: Aftermarket reeds may be used.

No motion

* 1. Proposal 13 – 125 cc Classes – Add a new rule

Current rule: None, but covered under Rule 2. Rule 2 states, “Any questionable part may be used to a known legal part to determine legality.”

Proposed rule: Aftermarket carburetor diaphragms may be used.

No motion

* 1. Proposal 14 – 200cc Classes – Add a new rule

Current rule: None

Proposed rule: It is permissible to remove the carburetor choke linage, carburetor choke butterfly, and carburetor choke butterfly shaft. The holes resulting from removing these items may be plugged.

Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Daren Goehring to approve the proposal. Voting resulted in 4 in favor, 7 against. Motion fails.

* 1. Proposal 15 – 400 Mod class Rule 9

Current rule: Any ignition system is permitted on the OMC and Mercury powerheads. In the event an OEM flywheel ignition system is used, ring gears and rewind starter pawl nubs/lugs may be removed from the flywheels. Balancing is permitted. On the OMC flywheel, it is permitted to remove material and the ring gear. Mandatory minimum weights for OEM flywheels are listed on the class specification sheet. The use of the center hub of OEM flywheels or machined versions thereof to accommodate the use of aftermarket ignition systems is permitted.

Proposed rule: Any ignition system is permitted on the OMC and Mercury powerheads. In the event an OEM flywheel ignition system is used, ring gears and rewind starter pawl nubs/lugs may be removed from the flywheels. Balancing is permitted. On the OMC flywheel, it is permitted to remove material and the ring gear. Mandatory minimum weights for OEM flywheels are listed on the class specification sheet. The use of the center hub of OEM flywheels, or machined versions thereof, to accommodate the use of aftermarket ignition systems is permitted. Minimum flywheel weights must be maintained.

Motion by Fred Hauenstein , seconded by Jeff Williams to approve. Vote was 8 in favor, 1 against. Motion passed.

* 1. Proposal 16 –500 cc Classes, Yamato motors – Rule H in the chart

Current rule: H in the chart – 2.597 – 2.627

Proposed rule: H in the chart - 2.590 – 2.630

No motion

* 1. Proposal 17 – 850 cc Classes – Number 1 under Modifications to Motors

Current rule: No special made/manufactured for racing engine blocks and/or crankcases will be permitted as replacement parts for service engines being modified.

Proposed rule: No special made/manufactured for racing engine blocks and/or crankcases will be permitted as replacement parts for service engines being modified. Production service blocks and/or crankcases that have been modified for racing are allowed.

Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Karl Dyle to approve the proposal. Request by Fred to add “or not modified for racing” after the words “modified for racing” in the last sentence. The amendment was accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 18 – 850 cc Modified Classes – Rule 16-4-4

Current Rule: SUZUKI –DF-50 4 CYCLE 50 HP MOTORS

Proposed Rule: Delete current rule and remove the Suzuki 4 cycle enginefrom the list of approved engines in the 850 class.

Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Jeff Williams to approve the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposal 19 – 850 cc Modified Classes – Add a New Rule for the Tohatsu M50D2

Current rule: None

Proposed rule: Add a new number 6 - Open, megaphone type, exhaust systems are not allowed.

No motion

1. Prototype for new 500cc engine request. Discussion was held by the commission on the new project by Kyle Roskowski. Consensus was to ask Mike Weinandt for recommendations on what motor would be the best one to work with and then to work with that motor for the future if needed. Bob Koschka will work with Mike and Kyle on this project. The commission wanted to commend Kyle for his work in taking the initiative on this project.
2. North American Championship proposal from Rick Hannon - No motion
3. Motion by Tom Sutherland to revisit Proposal 10 (item j above), seconded by Jerry Davids. Motion passed. Motion to accept the proposal as written by Tom Sutherland, seconded by Jeff Williams. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion by Jeff Williams to delete the “S” dimension on the Tohatsu in the 850 cc Classes, seconded by Eric VanOver. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Motion to adjourn by Eric VanOver, seconded by Bob Koschka. Adjourned until Friday.
6. Meeting was reconvened Friday by the Chairman, Mark Wheeler. All members in attendance on Wednesday were in attendance.
7. Jeff Williams brought up oversized pistons for the Yamato 102’s and 300 series motor. These are to be built by Mark Tate. Eric VanOver motioned to approve .030 over piston for 500 cc Yamato class motors with dimensions comparable to OEM pistons. Seconded by Tom Sutherland. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Motion by Jerry Davids to approve a proposal from Tom Sutherland for the 125 cc Classes to permit a small hole to be drilled at the bottom of the end cap of the exhaust pipe to permit drainage of any trapper water with addition of 3/16” maximum size, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passed unanimously.
9. David Hale reported that Stocks had voted to go to Springfield, Ohio, for the nationals in 2021. Discussion was held by the commission. Motion by Jasen Dircksen to untable action on the 2021 nationals, seconded by Karl Dyle. Motion to untable passed unanimously. Motion by Jasen Dircksen to accept the 2021 bid from Springfield Ohio, seconded by Karl Dyle. Motion passed unanimously.
10. Discussion on $3,000 allocated for promotion. The Chairman will contact Mark Tate to see what is the status of his proposed purchase of Yamato motors for Modified use. Chairman will also check with Bob Wartinger on possibility of purchasing powerheads and gearboxes. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Eric VanOver to dedicate funds for 2 Yamatos from Mike Ward. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion was held on the inventory for 125 class. Discussion was held on replacement powerheads for other classes for future consideration. No action taken.
11. Motion by Daren Goehring to protype the Merc 15 motors in the 125 classes, seconded by Eric VanOver. Motion passed 9 in favor, 2 opposed.
12. Daren requested to discuss proposal 15 (item o above). Motion to remove #3 “Any ignition” in the 400 cc Mod with Closed Exhaust Motors and the first sentence of #9 “Any ignition system is permitted on the OMC and Mercury powerheads.” in the 400 cc Mod with Open Exhaust Motors and also to remove Permissible Modification #1 in the 400 cc Mod with Open Exhaust Motors by Eric VanOver, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passed unanimously. NOTE: After the meeting ended, the MORC reviewed this proposal and voted to remove it from the upcoming ballot.
13. Discussion on doing another ad in Propeller Magazine for the 125 class motors. Jerry Davids will provide commissioners with a cost breakdown for the motors.
14. Motion to adjourn by Eric VanOver, seconded by Jerry Davids. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams