



April 2011 Newsletter

2011 Championship

Race entries were good with all classes fairly well supported. We were nearly caught out with the changeable weather conditions and frequent changes from dry to wet. Driving standards generally were improved from last month with some exceptional driving from Jay Taylor in the final, which was a joy to watch. Well done to Driver of the Day, Clubman driver Daniel Cooper. After an incident in the first heat and bad luck during the day, Daniel showed some excellent driving as he made his way through the grid to take 3rd place in the final. One driver doing extremely well was disqualified during the final for overtaking under a yellow flag. Remember that the flags are there for your safety and must be obeyed.

Please ensure that you attend the presentation after all finals have finished as failure to attend the prize giving will result in the trophy being awarded to another driver and forfeiting your results from the event – which nobody wants.

Appeals

We are looking at introducing a formal appeals process to try to take the heat out of the occasion and give drivers time to calm down and look at the details. Rather than taking the Clerk's attention away from the circuit at the time, with safety impacts, if it is formalised we can look at it before the next heat and discuss it at a more appropriate time.

Stop / Go Penalties

Please remember that a black flag does not automatically mean your race is over. If you receive a black flag please exit the circuit at scrutineering as it may mean a stop / go penalty and you may rejoin.

Tyre warming is not permitted. If this continues we will look at introducing a stop / go penalty. Turning hard into corners may be an attempt to be subtle however this has been noted and will be dealt with as tyre warming. I'm sure you appreciate that you would be unhappy if you were taken off by somebody else doing it.

Karts that are deemed to be cutting corners, with more than 50% of the kart off the track, should expect to receive a minimum of a stop / go penalty – this means the old story of the back chicane!

Tyres

As of next month's event, mojos only will be allowed for rotax classes, with only yellow barcodes permitted as per MSA regulations. Please contact Anton in the kart shop by 20th April with your tyre orders to ensure availability for the race day.

Code of Conduct

The following points form part of our code of conduct for circuit use. Please ensure you are familiar with the rules prior to practice or race days.

- All under 16s **must** be signed in by an adult or guardian (this is required by our insurers) and the adult must be present at the drivers briefing with the junior.
- The pit lane is for driver and mechanic only. No spectators (or pets!) are allowed.
- Ground sheets to be used on junior circuit.

We do not want to start excluding people from the event so please be aware that abusive language and conduct will not be tolerated. The conduct of people connected with the driver (e.g. parents/mechanics) could also result in driver exclusion so please be very aware of this rule. Please also note that no bicycles or scooters are to be ridden anywhere on site and no servicing of karts to take place in the new car park area at any time. We want to run safe and enjoyable meetings for all. We don't want to sound dictatorial but clearly rules must be followed for the benefit of all.

Club Spokespersons

In order to improve communication between club members and the club committee, we are proposing that a spokesperson is appointed to represent each class. The aim would be to provide you with a point of contact for queries/issues regarding your class, who in turn would speak to Karting North East and the Tyne & Wear Kart Club committee on your behalf. If you would like to be the spokesperson for your class please email laura@kartingnortheast.com to put yourself forward.

Dates to Remember

Sunday 10 th April	Exclusive owner driver practice 9am to 1pm.
Sunday 17 th April	No owner driver practice (hire kart race day)
Sunday 24 th April	Exclusive owner driver practice 9am to 1pm.
Sunday 1 st May	Fourth round of 2011 Championship.

As always, we welcome your thoughts and views throughout the year. Should you have any queries regarding the race day and race results please email laura@kartingnortheast.com.