



# May 2010 Newsletter

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**Warning** - this coming Sunday the circuit is being used by the North Yorkshire Air Ambulance charity for fund raising purposes. Consequently there will be no owner driver practice. As we believe that the air ambulance is an essential part of the health service but lacks the financial support of the government we hope that you understand the need to cancel owner driver practice. It will be the only Sunday this year that we are closed to the club members.

## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

A fantastic day that saw some close and competitive racing. With Lauren unexpectedly absent Paul Frost stepped in to do the timing which he did very well despite the numbers. While we had a record entry the numbers caused problems for the Prokart grid which are discussed in a separate part of this newsletter, however some of the conclusions re the Prokarts do have an impact on all entrants.

Car parking was a small issue that needs to be explained and understood. Northumbria police have an events unit that approves arrangements made by event organisers to keep "Northumbria" safe. As far as KNE is concerned the police do not want vehicles parked on the road. The agreement is that KNE will restrict the use of the front carpark leaving as much car parking space as possible. However some entrants use the front carpark through choice rather than by necessity. Last Sunday there was plenty of space on the tarmac past the shop. In June please let us manage the parking so that we fill the tarmac before using the front carpark. As before the big trucks etc that use the front carpark may continue to do so. If we fail to adhere to the agreement with the police they may rescind our permission to hold race meetings as the meetings create safety issues on the road outside the circuit.

## **Circuit Improvements**

The Dunlop chicane is to be altered so that the tyres can be removed however the kerbs that are to be installed will need to be given respect. The work to install the new rumble strips will be done w/c 17<sup>th</sup> May so the chicane will be out of use that week.

## **Race Day Changes**

**In June there will be no practice prior to driver's briefing.** The briefing will be at 9.00 am with Timed Qualifying starting at 9.30am. Each class will get 10 minutes with the first round of heats following straight away. The Prokarts will no longer get 5 races.

The Mini max drivers are now in a Championship starting with May until November being 7 rounds in total.

The Clerks (normally Peter and Bill) will be reviewing their use of the warning and black flags to enforce the no-contact rules. I believe that there will be little impact on all classes except Prokart. The system used by T&W Kart Club is the same as in professional football i.e. the Clerks will make a decision on the day that cannot be challenged afterwards. Please do not contact me and ask me to view video etc in the hope that I will get involved in a decision made by the Clerks.

Kart numbers must be displayed on all 4 sides of the kart and must be agreed when signing on. Duplicates will not be allowed to avoid confusion during racing. In Tkm may I remind you that direct drive karts are not part of the Tkm Championship and will not be awarded trophies at the end of the day.

### **Practice Sessions**

We have decided to circulate the Code of Practice (along with this newsletter) to all users of the circuit. This will remove the excuse used by some drivers that they were unaware of some of the rules of the circuit. In particular repairs to karts on the circuit/recovering karts from the circuit and the differences between practice days and Race days need to be understood by everyone using the circuit. The practice of letting a “friend” or relative use your kart needs to stop unless they have signed in and have watched the safety DVD. Please co-operate with us on this one.

### **Dates to Remember**

- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** - Exclusive Owner Driver testing from 8am to 2pm
- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May** - Exclusive Owner Driver testing from 8am to 2pm
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June** - **KNE Championship 5<sup>th</sup> Round**
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June** - Exclusive Owner Driver testing from 8am to 2pm
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June** - Exclusive testing 8am to 11am then in sessions until 2pm (T/kart Challenge).
- Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June** - Exclusive Owner Driver testing from 8am to 2pm

Finally if you have any issue that you want to bring up with either the club (Tyne & Wear Kart Club) or the circuit please email me at [ian@kartingnortheast.com](mailto:ian@kartingnortheast.com). I will pass the letters on to Peter or Bill as appropriate.

