

Ipswich Kart Club, Junior Development Officer Report, General Meeting, 21st April 2018

Cadet Beginners

For Club Rounds 1 and 2 we have included Cadet Beginners in the race day programme and this has provided a good introduction to racing for a large group of new Cadet 9 and 12's.

From discussions with the parents of a lot of these Cadets, quite a few will be stepping up for Club Round 3 and running the normal Cadet Classes, and I am comfortable in watching their progress that they will be confident and capable to do this. A good indication of this is that 3 of the Cadet 9 Beginners actually finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Final at the recent Warwick Club Round. So the opportunity to start out in the Beginners Class at Ipswich has been very beneficial for these Cadets and served its purpose.

Going forward we will be offering the Cadet Beginners Class again for Round 3 and possibly one more round later in the season.

I would like to reiterate that the Cadet Beginners Class on our race day program is purely an introductory demonstration opportunity and therefore championship points and trophies are not awarded.

Going forward, due to our constraints on fitting everything in to a race day schedule that ensures we finish at an agreeable time, they will not be provided with the same number of races and laps as other classes on a race day programme.

Junior Come and Try Day

We held a Junior Come and Try Day last Sunday (April 15th) and this was very well received by all participants. We had some very positive feedback from a lot of parents of the 29 participants and interest already in joining the club.

As this was the first Come and Try Day that I have organised for Ipswich Kart Club, I learnt a lot of things from the experience which will allow us to do some things better next time.

We do need to have more resources available when we do these Come and Try Days in the future and we are working towards ensuring that we will have 3 complete Cadet Karts and 3 complete Junior Karts ready for the next Come and Try Day.

In addition, we will ensure we have 2 fully charged Starter Motors available.

Overall though it went pretty good and I would really like to acknowledge and thank the entire support team that were there on the day, which included most of the committee and other club members Dale Verrall, Steve Peacock, Trudy Lynch and Leon Comley. Also, thanks to Oscar Comley for providing demonstration laps in one of the Junior karts and entertaining us with rediscovering how little grip SL1A's have.

Senior Come and Try Day

Our Club President has asked me to also organise a Senior Come and Try Day for Thursday night the 10th of May. Details for this will appear on our Facebook page and Website shortly.

Come and Try Karts

Once we get all these Come and Try Karts and all the donated race equipment together, we will compile a complete inventory of club equipment and these karts and all the race equipment will be stored appropriately on site in a secured area.

We have had some recent donations of equipment and in particular I would like to acknowledge and thank Luke Caseur for the donation of a Comer engine and Craig Holmwood for the donation of some Senior racesuits.

Clubday Challenge Program

Starting at Round 3 of our Club Championship we will be introducing the Clubday Challenge Program

Initially the Driver Classifications will be based on Club Championship placings in each class after the 1st 2 rounds. This does not include any bonus points for club duties performed, etc.

We have a Driver Classification Review Group which includes some senior club members, who will periodically review the driver rankings and ensure as much as possible that we provide fair opportunity for all IKC members to be in contention for the Clubday Challenge Program placings at each club round.

KA4 Junior

At Round 2 of our Club Championship we sought the collective opinion of the KA4 Junior field regarding the suggestion that we should run club rounds at the KA4 Junior National Championship weight of 132 kg, instead of the KA4 Junior Light weight of 128 kg.

The majority consensus from those present was to stay at 128 kg, however there was some good contributions put forward regarding ways to increase the chance for those who struggle to make the Light weight to be more competitive.

A suggestion to run at a Medium weight of 138 kg, i.e, midway between the Light weight of 128 kg and the Heavy weight of 148 kg was offered and we agreed to request from Karting Queensland if this could be offered. That request was not agreeable to KQ as that weight is not listed in the KA Manual.

Club display at Queensland Raceway Supercar Round

I have sought assistance from KA to facilitate an opportunity for the club to have a display at this years Supercar round at Queensland Raceway. KA have made a commitment to raise this with Supercars and I hope to hear back from them soon with some positive news.

Along with this, I will seek out further opportunities for IKC Junior members to have some direct introductions and access to Supercar teams during that weekend.

Russell Innes

Junior Development Officer

Ipswich Kart Club