

December 2018 Kartorque



Newsletter of KartSport Taranaki

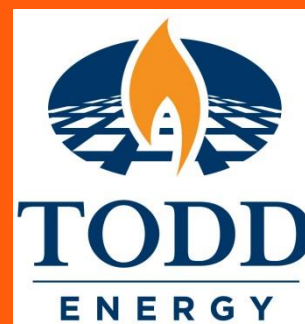
In this issue:

President's report

Event reports

Coming events

And more.....keep reading



Presidents Report – Campbell Jamieson

Hi All

It has been a busy month. Many of us competed in the first round of Goldstar and Club Champs making it back-to-back race weekends. For this reason the club has opted to swap our January and December meetings, making December our annual fun day. January will be round one of the Summer Series.

The fun day is a great opportunity to bring your friends and family out to the track to experience karting, too. There's no timing or points. Drivers can swap karts with each other, there is also a ladies session for daughters and wives, and a mechanics session. If you have friends who are interested in the sport, why not bring them along for a drive? The club has helmets, gloves and overalls available to fit a large variety of people.

Earlier in the year we ran a poll which asked how our membership would prefer our prizegiving to be organised. The favourite option was to book a function room and have a formal prizegiving with a meal. We have arranged to have this at the Plymouth Quality Hotel on Saturday, 26 January 2019. Tickets are required to attend the event so that catering numbers can be arranged prior to the event. Adult tickets are \$35, this includes a Buffet Dinner. Kids under 12yo have the option of a) enjoying the Buffet Dinner for \$2 per year of age, or b) Chicken Nuggets or Fish Bites, a drink, and an ice cream sundae for \$15. Please purchase tickets from Supreme Kart Supplies before 18 January.

I would like to congratulate Nick Isaac for winning his second national road racing title in treacherous weather conditions. Nick has been a long time road racer, but has recently returned to

sprint racing for the Pro Kart series - clearly he still has the knack for the big tracks, too!

Thanks,

Campbell Jamieson

Club News

Well that's another club champs done and dusted. Well done to everyone who competed in the wet and wild conditions. Congratulations to all of the class winners. Looking through the results, there was some very close finishes in the vortex mini rok class especially. Well done to Jacob Bellamy for taking the class win in what has been a busy year for the Bellamy family. Nathan Nolly managed to grab the win from Derek in the wet as well! Campbell was feeling greedy and has got a few trophies to pick up at prizegiving.



Thanks to past member Leith Robertson, there are a load of really cool photos from club champs on our facebook page. Check them out.

2018 Club Champs class winners:

Cadet – Ryann Windley

Mini ROK – Jacob Bellamy

Junior Rotax – Thomas Boniface

Senior DVS – Brad Still

Rotax Light – Campbell Jamieson

Rotax Heavy – Hamish Scott

Clubsport 120 – Nathan Nolly

Senior KT100 – Brayden Schreiber

Open – Brendon King

Champion of champions – Campbell Jamieson

Sutton Speed Trophy – Campbell Jamieson

NZ National Superkart Championships and Grand Prix race report.

Our club was represented by David Cox and Nick Isaac in the KZ2 class of the NZ Superkart Championships and Grand Prix at Hampton Downs on the 25th of November.

Dave's been racing in the superkart series all year and had a series win under his belt leading up to the event. Nick, on the other hand, hadn't road raced since winning the national class title back in 2016. Preferring to do the prokart series this year instead. Running the vortex engine against the rest of

the field with their TM's would be interesting and we were looking forward to the challenge.

As was the case with our club champs, the weather was average, with a wet practise day on the Saturday and a mixture of wet and dry racing on Sunday.

The practise day was cut short due to a major car crash on the front straight, which took quite a while to sort out, meaning we got limited testing completed. We ended up losing 2 complete sessions which was up to an hour in track time. Although frustrating, everyone was in the same boat, so we just had to work with what we'd learned earlier in the day and rely on experience to make the best setup decisions we could for Sunday.

The tuning run went well in the wet conditions on Sunday with Nick the fastest of the KZ2 karts by a healthy margin of 2.5 seconds around the 2.7km circuit. So far it was all going to plan. Then came the 12 minute qualifying session.....we were sitting on the dummy grid when Nicks' rain light failed....cue mad panic stations as Logan, Steve and Nick tried to fault find and rectify the issue. We finally got out onto the track with most of the session already completed. The pressure was on to punch out a fast lap in a small amount of time.

So it was straight out the gate on brand new wets to try and scrub them in and get them gripped up on a single warm up lap to do 1, maybe 2 flying laps to post a time. Luckily, we were able to rise to the challenge and we qualified on pole by 1.3 seconds with Dave managing

a very respectable 5th. With our blood pressure and heart rates slowly dropping, we were hopeful that would be our one and only drama for the day. The rain light fault was diagnosed as a faulty cell in the battery. Dave was kind enough to lend us a spare battery and we were back in business.

Race 1 was wet again, with Nick able to run away early and build a manageable gap, before backing the pace off to conserve tyres. An easy win which eased the nerves a bit further. The weather had started to change and it was likely we'd be racing on a dry track at some stage, even though we were quite happy in the wet conditions, and to be honest, would have preferred it to stay wet, with the way the kart was hooked up. We knew there was more speed in the engine but we were being conservative with the jetting while we could afford to be.

Race 2 was on a dry track as suspected, and the competition started to heat up. We knew everyone, especially Prokart regulars Andrew Hunt and Regan Hall would be harder to beat on a dry track. Hunt got off the line well and took the early lead in the race. There was some good drafting and race craft on show, with a few lead changes early in the race, but we managed to eek out a gap towards the end of the race to take win number 2.

It was evident from the revs we were pulling at the end of the straight that we needed to take a tooth off the rear axle in the dry conditions. The vortex was literally running out of breath, sitting at almost 15000rpm at 175km/hr so

Logan and Steve made the necessary sprocket changes to the kart and we hit the track for race 3. A win in this race would seal the title with a race to spare, so we were eager to get it done and celebrate early. Regan Hall was right on the pace now and we had a good battle with him, with numerous lead changes throughout the early stages once again. It was clear that the gearing change we'd made would be the right one, as we had the legs to run past the others at the top of the hill and got over the 180km/hr mark in the process. As we entered the final sweeper before the finish straight, Hall dived up the inside to take the lead. We weren't worried at all though and had a little chuckle under the helmet as we tucked in behind Hall, got the draft up the hill and pulled out to pass him for the win and to take 1NZ with a heat to spare! Lady luck was on our side though because the chain broke on the warm-down lap! We couldn't care less at that point though and had a laugh with the boys after we got back to the pits.

The Grand Prix was wet again, we had another good race, built an early lead before pulling back on the pace. We took an easy win by a margin of 11 seconds.

David Cox managed to secure 6th place overall for the event. He didn't have the pace he would have liked but no doubt, he learnt a bit more and will continue to improve.

A huge thanks to Steve and Logan Boyde for giving up their weekend to come and crew for me. It makes life so much easier when you have an experienced and able pit crew to make changes for you. It really

does take the pressure off, so thank you again guys, you're awesome! Ben also did a great job of limiting everyone's calorie intake by eating **ALL** of the chocolate brownies Donna had baked! I guess we'll be taking a bit of lead off Bens kart soon! I'd also like to thank Simon Wilcox for letting me borrow his fairing and to David Cox for helping us out with a spare battery for the rain light. Also thanks to Maurice and Kane for supplying a spare engine just in case we needed it, and for all of their ongoing support. The vortex RKZ engine ran like a swiss watch and pulled like a train against the worked TM's, even with a very safe tune, and my tony kart chassis was hooked up all weekend with minimal changes needed as usual.

I also need to thank my very understanding wife Rebecca. She never gives me grief when I spend hours upon hours in the shed getting karts prepped, rebuilding engines and everything else that goes with doing everything you can leading up to an event, to be successful.

That's 2 years in a row now that our club members have taken out the KZ2 class at the nationals, with Logan winning last year when I was on his pit-crew. Hopefully that Taranaki teamwork trend continues into the future.

Cheers, Nick.

Other News

We have our Christmas fun day on the 16th of December. It's a good chance to come and socialise and have a few skids in a non-competitive environment.

Our next competition club day is on the 27th of January. We have the club prizegiving for 2018 on the evening of the 26th of January, so you can go to prizegiving on Saturday night and go racing on Sunday. This event is being held at the Plymouth Hotel and everyone needs to pre-book their tickets. It would be great to see everyone there to celebrate our club members successes.

The club would like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time and resources so we can all enjoy racing. It's been a good year and we have seen good growth. See you all next year! Happy holidays! A big thanks also to our track naming rights sponsor, Todd Energy for their on-going support of the club.

NEXT EVENT FUN DAY SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2018

Duty Class : Everyone

Direction: Anti- Clockwise
Convenor(s) :
Gates open: 8.00
Scrutineering: 8.30 – 9.00
Drivers briefing: 9.15
Racing Starts: 9.30
Lunch: 12.30
Prizegiving at the conclusion of the day!







KARTSPORT TARANAKI SPONSORS



TSB
COMMUNITY
TRUST



RoTech
Automotive





www.kartsporttaranaki.co.nz

Do you have what it takes to drive a real racing Kart?

Do you have a young person bugging you to try karting?

Our Cadet kart is suitable for 6-12 year old drivers.

The 120cc kart suits drivers 12 to 80 years old....

Come and experience the thrill of driving at speed at the Todd Energy Raceway, you will leave with a smile!

It only costs \$60 to climb aboard an 85cc Cadet or 120cc Senior racing kart and turn some laps at the Todd Energy Raceway. This includes an introduction, full safety briefing and 20 minutes on the track!

Bookings are essential...contact the club to be "buddied-up" for an introductory session.

If you feel karting is for you, the kart is also available to hire for a full race day sortie, with support and mentoring from an assigned club member once you've had an introductory session.

IT DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THAT!



All race gear will be provided and use of the kart is by appointment only. Contact us now by email to book your session!!

What a perfect gift for the petrol-head of the house!!!

htbauto@xtra.co.nz

TSB Community Trust

