

May 2019 Kartorque



Newsletter of KartSport Taranaki

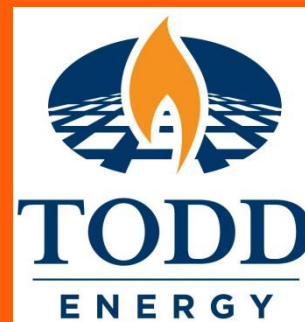
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Presidents Report – Campbell Jamieson

Hi all

We completed our fourth and final summer series event with mixed weather conditions – the series finale and rainfall signal that summer is indeed over in Taranaki, and gone too is daylight savings. This doesn't change all that much for us, but I would like to remind everybody that our winter hours are 9:30-5:30pm for practicing.

This month we are running our annual hour enduro. There will be keepsie trophies up for grabs at prizegiving for this event. For those who haven't participated before, this is a real physical and mental test to complete so I encourage you to jump in and challenge yourselves! A mandatory pitstop also adds another dimension to your race. If you have raced before

why not test how much you've improved by and see if you can squeeze one more lap into that hour.

This year we will be running a warm up session and two heats. The heats will qualify you for the enduro grid draw. Bucket bikes will have a sprint race between each endurance race. Clubsports will be separated from Opens and Rotax's to complete their 50 lap enduro.

We'll be having a working bee on Saturday morning at 9:00am, the day before racing. We've got a bit to achieve including unblocking the track drainage, spraying the weeds and removing gauze, laying grass, repairing gates and a bit of carpentry. We'd appreciate some help and if you can bring ladders, gas plants, grinders, weed spray and spray bottles, gardening tools and other general tools that would be fantastic too.

See you all at the track,
Cheers, Cam

Club News

Apologies for the lack of a newsletter last month. Not enough hours in the day sometimes.

We've had a few new members join the club lately which is great. A few have managed to make it to a club day, we hope to see the rest of you soon. Remember to reach out to one of the committee members before your first race day so you know what to do. We will help you out and buddy you up with someone in your class to show you the ropes. Contact details are on the website.

Congratulations to all of the summer series winners. Results are on the website for your perusal.



We've had a few guys and girls away racing at Goldstar over the past couple of months.

Results from Round 3 in Wellington:

Nathan Cox – 11th Rotax Lights

Brad Still – 1st Senior DVS

Garth Lacey – 8th Clubsport 120

Brendon Jury – 1st Open

Ryann Windley – 6th Cadet ROK

The final round of Goldstar is on the 1st of June if you're thinking of heading down to Palmerston North. It's a great track so get amongst it.

Myself, David Cox and Matt Barton were over at Taupo last month for a round of the superkart series. The weather gods had other ideas as the meeting was abandoned after 2 races, due to heavy rain, so not a lot to report. Matt had an engine drama on the practise day caused by an issue with his cooling system but had good pace on race day. I had no pace early on, being too conservative on the jetting, only managing 3rd for race 1, but tuned things up a bit for race 2 to take a win. Dave had a 2nd and a 3rd. It was all a bit of a let down, driving home with minimal racing under our belts. As they say though, that's racing sometimes!

Thomas Boniface had a great year in the NZ Formula First championship. I hear he's going to be back in a kart for the enduro round....in a Clubsport 120! I'm sure some of the old boys will give him a great initiation into the senior ranks! Robert has sent in a great report on Thomas' season.

Congratulations on a stellar season Tomo and we all look forward to seeing you guys at the track again.

That's it from me, see you all at the enduro round. Cheers, Nick.

NEXT EVENT ENDURO DAY SUNDAY 26 MAY 2019

Duty Class : Juniors

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!



Thomas falls agonisingly short of championship title

The goal was simple, put the head down and score as many points as possible for the round to recover 55 points and take the Rookie of the Year title. Qualifying was held in dry conditions and the car looked good. A confusing session, with cars all vying for position making it difficult to set a great time. Thomas managed to latch onto the rear of Chris Symon which put him in P5 after a torrid qualifying. The pole sitter was over 0.5s quicker than the entire field. Following some setup

changes to improve handling, Thomas set about chasing down the field from P5 in Race 1. This proved a challenge, unable to make up any spots and finishing in 5th.

An overnight review of the car and some of the on-board video brought a renewed optimism of better results. Another start from P5 was hampered by the car on P3 suffering a broken axle on the line and Thomas having to take evasive action to avoid the stricken vehicle. This resulted in the front three cars putting a sizeable gap on the field. However, Thomas battled away through the race, dicing with a fellow competitor for 6 of the 8 laps. On the final sprint down the long back straight, Thomas managed to bravely out-brake his competitor for a well-deserved 4th place finish.

Race 3 of the weekend was again from P5. This race had all the elements of a tense tussle, as the points were critical to all the front drivers to establish final positions in the championship. Thomas needed at least 8 placings between his finish position and that of his Rookie rival to take the title. However, across the stripe there was only 3 positions difference, handing the title to that driver. A gut-wrenching situation, considering Boniface had been fastest Rookie at every round prior to Rd 6 at Hampton Downs where he suffered two mechanical DNFs. The final points differential was 14.5, placing Thomas 2nd overall. The team will now focus on the 2019/20 race season with some exciting developments to announce in future months.



Report from Robert Boniface

Hi everyone,

The formal end to the 2018/19 Formula First NZ Championship Season arrived this past weekend. It has been an incredibly satisfying and challenging season for many reasons, but one rich with learning and development of Thomas as a driver, person and potential professional driver. They say you can't enjoy the highs without suffering the lows, so we are satisfied with how it all played out. Thanks go out to so many people who contributed to Thomas's success this season, we are very grateful to you. The next step is very exciting, there are some amazing announcements coming soon so stay tuned. As always, we're constantly trying to find more support for our plans, and Thomas will be in touch regarding this very shortly.

With regard to the 1 Hour Enduro on Saturday, this win rates right up there as a perfect "little engine that could" story. Since Formula Vee/First began in New Zealand in 1968, the Enduro has only ever been won by a single driver team. That is....until Saturday!! Thomas and Kaleb Ngatoa (the people we purchased the car from) drove their way into the history books, not only winning as a dual driver team, but by lapping the entire field doing so. This is significant in so many ways. The rules stated that all teams had to make at least 2 pit stops for fuel and had to take on at least 2 litres of fuel (minimum). Those who had installed large fuel tanks were immediately in better shape than those of us who only had a small (13 litre) fuel tank. Through some

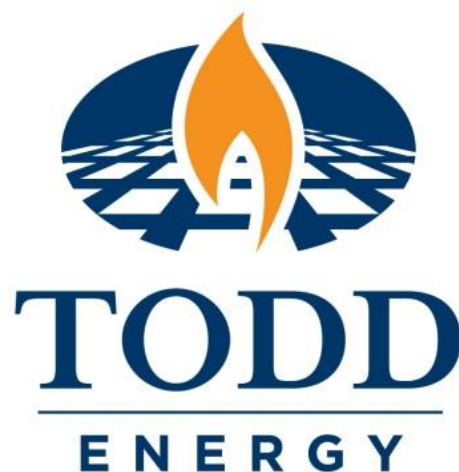
classic "kiwi ingenuity" I developed a quick fill system that allowed us to deploy 10 litres of fuel in around 10 seconds which worked a treat for our two fuel stops. We didn't employ a "dry break" system like the others, as this was an expensive exercise. What it meant however, was that we had to switch the car off when refuelling each time, costing more time. The driver changes had to be completed in a separate area to the refuelling as well, for safety reasons, which added potential for time delays over the teams who were not changing drivers. All this aside, with slick refuelling....lightning driver changes, great and consistent track speed and some clever strategy we were able to complete the 39 laps and take the victory. Awesome stuff!

The season prizegiving was then held at Manfeild Circuit Chris Amon on Saturday night and Thomas was recognised for his efforts behind the wheel with some beautiful trophies which he was very humbled to receive. When you read the list of recipients on these trophies and see names like Scott Dixon, Shane van Gisbergen, Chris Pither, Ashley Stichbury, Nick Cassidy and many many more top NZ drivers...you then comprehend the magnitude of the achievements this season. Whilst Thomas didn't win Rookie of the Year outright...he grew so much and learned from some great people!

So last week was an amazing collection of memories for him, from driving the awesome FT-50 Toyota Racing Series car to his win at Manfeild....and there is so much more to come yet!

As a dad, it's great to see your children following their dreams and doing well. I can't thank others enough and look forward to the next step in the journey with your continued support.

Cheers, Robert









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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!!!

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TSB Community Trust

