

Newsletter of KartSport Taranaki

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Results and report from KSNZ
Nationals

And some more.....read on!

by Robert Boniface

What a month! The KSNZ Nationals have come and gone for the year, and with it a bunch of elation, reflection and what-if's for the teams from around the country. Taranaki was well represented by 7 drivers across 9 classes. As always, our club punches well above its weight compared to some other big clubs. One thing that always impresses me with anyone from Taranaki, no matter the sport, is that gnarly, never-say-die, hardcore attitude of Taranaki folk. No matter what the challenge, instead of bitching and whining, they just get on with it! So many people over the weekend snivelled about everything they could, but all our drivers had issues at some stage during the meeting, but just put their heads down and battled on...bloody great attitudes. I've said this many times, our club isn't the biggest but we have the biggest heart! Well done KartSport Taranaki, I have always been and will always be proud to call Taranaki home!

For us personally, we had a fairytale weekend with Thomas snaring the 1NZ plate for his kart. We went into the meeting hoping for a top 10 finish, based upon the lightning pace our

competitors had. It feels great to have done well, it's been a game-changer for us in so many ways.

The next goal for the club is to get some more members on the books. One of the ways we have in mind is to get the hire kart up and running, to try and get more members of the public to come out and try karting, in the hope they may want to join our great little club too. If anyone has some spare time, and would like to be considered for the roster to run the kart from time-to-time, please make yourself known.

The other initiative has been the significant increase of value of our current sponsorship from The Radio Network. This means every meeting coming up at the Todd Energy Raceway will be supported by radio advertisements in the week leading up to the event across 3 radio stations (Radio Hauraki, Classic Hits and Radio Sport). We had our drivers in the studio recording the voices for the ads, so these are running now. Keep an ear out for them, feedback is always good!

The Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar round 4 meeting is getting close, only 2 weekends to go! Once again, any members not competing, could you please offer some assistance to help run this meeting. To those who want to run in a one-off meeting, the club will do you a special deal on entry for this event so get in contact with Maurice Frost (758 8891), Steve Boyde or Mike Jury to get entered.

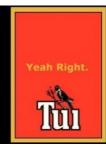
The last thing I'd like to mention is the ongoing support for those who support us. Track and race-day sponsors are not easy to find, so we need to make sure we give them some priority when looking for products or services.

That's all for now...see you at the track!

New Todd Energy Raceway signage

The new signage has now been erected and looks great!! Special thanks to Peter Cottam for organising the scaffolding, for putting the framing together and fitting the sign. Also, thanks to David Cox, Steve Boyde and Mike, Brendon and Ryan Jury for the help.

The weather is always nice in Marlborough...



Did you hear ...?

- Taranaki drivers finished within the top 10 at the recent KartSport NZ Nationals at Blenheim over Easter. Well done to all the drivers and crews on your results.
- John Kenny has recently had some surgery to fix his troublesome foot and is recovering now. Take it easy John, it will be great to see you back at the track with Isiah when you're healed.
- Aaron de Ridder has had a pedal in the Alex Geary Superkart at a recent round of racing at Taupo. Apart from some mechanical issues, he enjoyed the experience. Probably way faster that the Evo and the Nissan anyway?
- The annual club prizegiving is scheduled for July...keep your eyes and ears peeled for the official date to make sure you don't miss out. We'll start collecting trophies soon to get engraved for the new recipients....current holders better go and buy some "Silvo"....
- Brad Still is holidaying in Brisbane this week. It's hard to know which country is getting the most benefit....LOL.
- The club hire kart is not far off being ready for the public to use. Anyone keen to get on a roster to help running this in response to demand is welcomed?
- A little bird tells me that Lydia Frere has a print in the current exhibition at Puke Ariki. Well done Lydia.
- © Euan Dwyer has officially earned the "cutest racer" crown, after watching him record at the radio station recently...what a star!

Monthly Caption Contest

Here's the March photo which received no caption or comments....Just for the record, it is Bruce McLaren on the left and Jack Brabham (14) on the right!



This month's caption contest...

However, this is the latest photo which I'm sure could attract a good caption! It's not from the Cadet final at Nationals, although similar result!



I'm sure you can all come up with something for this send them to me at <a href="https://https:/

Editor: Robert Boniface

Thanks to all those who have supplied information for the newsletter...keep it coming if you want it to be a good publication. Photos of race-days, driver profiles, funny photos for captions are good please? Robert.

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Birthdays for April

2 Apr.	7yrs
17 Apr.	27yrs
17 Apr.	48yrs
21 Apr.	9yrs
22 Apr.	19yrs
25 Apr.	23yrs
26 Apr.	29yrs
	17 Apr. 21 Apr. 22 Apr. 25 Apr.

Happy birthday to all these members!

Next Club Day: 27 April 2014

Event: Last round of Summer Series

Duty Class: Yamaha & Clubsport

Direction: Anti-Clockwise

Convenor(s): Peter Cottam

Race day sponsor: A1 Homes

Taranaki

You are just a few steps away from home! Go to

<u>www.A1homes.co.nz</u> for the Easy way to get the home you want.

Thank you to Dan, Kaz and the team at A1 Homes for your support.

Some comic relief...

Q. How do you get a sweet little 80 year old lady to say the F word?

A. Get another sweet little 80 year old lady to yell *BINGO*!

A mother invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?".

"I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you hear mommy say," the woman answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these dickhead people to dinner?"

Do not argue with an idiot. They will drag you down to their level and beat you with experience.





Presidents Report - Teri Collins

Hi everyone,

I want to start this report by passing on my thanks and congratulations to all the families and drivers who gave up Easter once again to travel to Blenheim to race. There were 7 drivers who travelled south and there was varying levels of success for our club members. Thomas Boniface had another good event, securing the NZ Champion title in the Cadet class to add to his 2 other current National titles. Well done Team Boniface!! Alex Geary was 4th which was brilliant considering he hasn't driven a kart for ages! Dylan Frere scored a great 5th in the tough JR class, so well done to him and his family. Aaron Marr was the other driver who grabbed a trophy, ending up 6th in Yamaha Light. My spies tell me the racing was tough all around and the weather wasn't very helpful either! Good job by all who made the effort, we're proud of you!

The new track sign is up now and it looks great. Thanks to those who installed it, Pete Cottam in particular. The track is looking good heading into Winter. Speaking of Winter, this weekend's racing is the last round of the Summer Series and then the Winter Series kicks off. There are some new ideas about how the points series will be held in future, with a revamp maybe on the cards?

As per the new radio ads, the Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar series is due to roll into town on 4/5 May. Please lend a hand if you aren't racing as our club relies upon our members to shoulder the load.

Cheers for now....Teri

Coming local events (see below)

2013/14 SUPREME KART SUPPLIES WPKA Goldstar Series

Rd2 - 1 December 2013, Wellington Rd3 - 2 March, Hawkes Bay Rd4 - 4 May, Todd Energy Raceway Champs/Trophy - 2 June, Manawatu 2014 National and Other Events

Rd1 - 3 November 2013, Manawatu

CIK, 25-26 Jan 2014, Wgtn.

Top Half Rd 1, 15-16 Feb 2014, Rot.

Prokart Rd 1, 22-23 Feb 2014, Manwtu

Top Half Rd 2, 8-9 Mar 2014, Ham.

Prokart Rd 2, 15-16 Mar 2014, Rot.

Top Half Rd 3, 29-30 Mar 2014, EBoP

Nationals, 19-20 Apr 2014, Blenheim

Prokart Rd 3, 17-18 May 2014, Ham.

Prokart Rd 4, 7-8 Jun 2014, BoP

Top Half Rd 4, 21-22 Jun 2014, Akld

NZ Schools, 12-13 Jul 2014, Manwtu

Prokart Rd 5, 16-17 Aug 2014, H. Bay

Blossom, 6-7 Sept 2014, H. Bay

Prokart Rd 6, 20-21 Sep 2014, Akld

North Islands, 25-26 Oct. 2014, Rot.

2014 Nationals report

After a few torrid days of weather in normally sunny region Marlborough, there were some mixed results for the seven Taranaki drivers. Chuck in some trashed Ezi-Ups, tents and marquees and enough water to float the ark in, there were some crews that considered leaving for home. putting it all down to experience before the racing got underway! The Blenheim track was extremely changeable, making chassis setup and tyre choices very difficult. Some calls proved to be great for some and disastrous for others. The racing was fast and furious with a number of our drivers falling victim to racing incidents, effectively robbing them of a podium finish.

In the Cadet class Thomas Boniface drove well and secured the New

Zealand Cadet Champion title after an epic battle in the 17 lap final. After qualifying P3 for the heats he scored a 6th (H1) and a 1st (H2), placing him on P3 for the Pre-Final. This was a good race and he secured P2 for the Final. The last race was a doozy. He started well but a mid-race incident shuffled him back to 6th place. However, he didn't panic and chased the leader down. During the final lap he made an excellent pass and led the remainder of the race to cross the line 0.449s in front. He now adds the NZ crown to his CIK Trophy of NZ and NZ Schools Champion titles.

Dylan Frere drove hard all weekend in his Junior Restricted kart, surrounded by a very classy selection of drivers from around the country. After a mixed bag during the heats (17, H1 and 14, H2) he started the Pre-Final in 16th. He drove well to advance to 9th position for the Final and then had a great Final to end up in 5th overall. This was an excellent effort on wet tyres with a quickly drying track, earning Dylan a trophy for his hard work.

The four Senior 100cc Yamaha Light drivers battled hard in their class all weekend. Alex Geary was the best from Taranaki, qualifying in 3rd. Brad Still was 5th, with Aaron Marr in 7th and Scott Williams 10th. Some good results in the heat races gave Brad a 3rd position start for the Pre-Final, Aaron 5th, Scott 6th and Alex lined up at 7th. A tough Pre-Final ensued and the start order for the Final was now Aaron Marr (5th), Scott Williams (6th), Alex Geary (7th) and Brad Still (9th). The Senior Yamaha Light Final was epic and plenty of "rubbing" took place! After the dust had settled, the Taranaki contingent was lead home by Alex in 4th, followed by Aaron in 6th, Brad in 7th and Scott Williams was 8th.

Rotax Max Light was represented by Brad Still. This was a tough class and even though Brad qualified 11th, he was only 7/10ths off the pace. After



the heat races, Brad was in P14 for the Pre-Final, but had a tough race and finished in 21st spot. He drove a good final and managed to bring the kart home in 16th.

Aaron de Ridder had entered Senior Yamaha Heavy and Rotax Max Heavy. He put the Yamaha kart on P12 during qualifying, then went on to improve to P11 for the Pre-Final, after a 10th and a 9th finish. He improved 3 places in the Pre-Final to enable him to start 8th for the Final. This was a good race to watch and Aaron finished in 7th position. He then lined up in Rotax Max and bagged 11th during qualifying. A 12th in H1 and an 8th in H2 gave him 8th overall for the Pre-Final. Unfortunately, he got tagged during the race, suffering nose cone damage and slowing him to 18th. A shame, as Aaron showed good pace early on.

Despite the weather, the Taranaki crew dug in over the weekend and did our club proud. Across the 9 class entries, seven Taranaki drivers came away with top 10 finishing positions which was a credit to them all. A summary of the final finishing positions is as follows:

Cadet: Thomas Boniface 1NZ JR: Dylan Frere 5th Yamaha Light: Alex Geary 4th **Aaron Marr** 6th **Brad Still** 7th **Scott Williams** 8th Yamaha Heavy: Aaron de Ridder 7th **Rotax Light: Brad Still** 16th Rotax Heavy: Aaron de Ridder 18th





























Kartsport Taranaki - 2014 Race Calendar



Day	Month	Year	Event Details	Direction	Convenor(s)	Duty Class(es)		
26	Jan	2014	Fun Day	Clockwise	TBC	Yamaha & ClubSport		
26	Jan	2014	CIK Trophy of New Zealand					
15/16	Feb	2014	Top Half Round 1	Rotorua				
16	Feb	2014	Club Day, Summer Series Round 3	Anti-clockwise	Mike Jury	Rotax & Open		
2	Mar	2014	Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar Series Round 3	Hawkes Bay				
8/9	Mar	2014	Top Half Round 2		Hamilton			
29/30	Mar	2014	Top Half Round 3	Ea	stern Bay of Plenty (Edg	ecumbe)		
23	Mar	2014	Club Championships, Sutton Speed Trophy, Champion of Champions	Anti-clockwise	Mike Jury	Cadet, JR & Junior		
18/21	Apr	2014	New Zealand Sprint National Championships					
27	Apr	2014	Club Day, Summer Series Round 4	Clockwise	TBC	Yamaha & ClubSport		
4	May	2014	Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar Series Round 4	Taranaki				
25	May	2014	Club Day, Winter Series Round 1	Clockwise	TBC	Rotax & Open		
1	Jun	2014	Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar Series Championship/Trophy Round	Manawatu				
21/22	Jun	2014	Top Half Round 4	Auckland				
29	Jun	2014	Annual Club Enduro Day	Anti-clockwise TBC		Cadet, JR & Junior		
12/13	Jul	2014	National Schools Championships	Manawatu				
27	Jul	2014	Winter Series Round 2, Senior 50 lapper	Anti-clockwise	TBC	Yamaha & ClubSport		
31	Aug	2014	Club Day, Winter Series Round 3	Clockwise	TBC	Rotax & Open		
6/7	Sep	2014	47th Annual Blossom Meeting	Hawkes Bay				
28	Sep	2014	Club Day, Winter Series Round 4	Anti-clockwise	TBC	Cadet, JR & Junior		
25/26	Oct	2014	North Island Sprint Championships	Rotorua				
25/26	Oct	2014	South Island Sprint Championships					
19	Oct	2014	Club Day, Summer Series Round 1	Clockwise	TBC	Yamaha & ClubSport		
30	Nov	2014	Club Day, Summer Series Round 2	Anti-clockwise	TBC	Rotax & Open		
14	Dec	2014	Xmas Fun Day	TBC	TBC	Cadet, JR & Junior		

Club competition day
Interclub meeting
National meeting
Other meeting

Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar Series 2013-14

The Supreme Kart Supplies WPKA Goldstar Series 2013/14 will be held over four rounds at each of the WPKA clubs from November 2013 to May 2014. This annual event is contested between the four WPKA Clubs being Manawatu, Wellington, Hawkes Bay and Taranaki. The series is again sponsored by **Supreme Kart Supplies** and will run over four rounds as below. The series is open only to members of the four WPKA Clubs.

Round 1 3 November 2013 **Manawatu Anti Clockwise** Wellington Round 2 1 December 2013 **Clockwise** Round 3 2 March 2014 **Hawkes Bay Anti-Clockwise** Round 4 4 May 2014 **Taranaki Anti-Clockwise**



Classes

Cadet

Junior Restricted 100cc Yamaha

Junior 100cc Yamaha

Clubsport 120

• 125cc Rotax Max Light

125cc Rotax Max Heavy

A Series Entry Form plus Series Supplementary Rules, Information and Calendar is available for download on www.wpka.org.nz/ or www.kartsport.org.nz/events/2013-14-wpka-goldstar-series. For further enquires please contact:

Organiser Wayne Zaloum Phone: 06 835 7490

Email: wayne@collisionrepaircentre.co.nz

Race Secretary Lisa King Phone: 06 873 4961 or 021 148 5621

Email: glking@woosh.co.nz

Current Club points

** Penalty Points = Number of E If you have any queries please le	me knov	v, thank	s - Rob	ert Bon	iface	
E-mail: htbauto@xtra.co.nz	KartSpor					
	ОСТ	NOV	JAN	FEB	APR	TOTALS
CADET Penalty Points **	36	40	0	40	0	
Boniface, Thomas	4	5	0	4	0	13
Smith, Logan	8	12	0	10	0	30
Smith, Corbin	12	16	0	16	0	44
Kenny, Isiah	36	6	0	9	0	51
Dwyer, Euan	16	19	0	17	0	52
JUNIOR RESTRICTED						
Penalty Points **	<u>32</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>0</u>	
Johnson, Robbie	12	11	0	4	0	27
Frere, Dylan	4	6	0	28	0	38
Jury, Ryan	8	5	0	28	0	41
Cox, Nathan	32	14	0	8	0	54
JUNIOR 100cc YAMAHA						
Penalty Points **	36	44	0	40	0	
Jury, Brendon	4	4	0	4	0	12
Dwyer, Jonathan	12	12	0	13	0	37
Smith, Jayden	16	16	0	18	0	50
Riddick, Zane	8	8	0	40	0	56
Jury, Ryan	36	44	0	8	0	88
Boniface, Jessica	36	44	0	12	0	92
Biesiek, Stacey	36	19	0	40	0	95
Ingram, Chloe	36	21	0	40	0	97
FORMULA JUNIOR						
Penalty Points **	24	0	0	0	0	
Podjursky, Matthew	4	0	0	0	0	4
<u>, ,</u>						•
CLUB CLASS						
Penalty Points **	32	0	0	24	0	
Greenway, Bronwyn	11	0	0	4	0	15
Robertson, Scott	4	0	0	24	0	28
Robertson, Keith	7	0	0	24	0	31
CLUBSPORT 120						
Penalty Points **	28	28	0	36	0	
Lawrence, Derek	8	28	0	7	0	43
Lacey, Garth	28	6	0	13	0	47
Williams, Eifion	4	10	0	36	0	50
Soper, Gary	28	28	0	4	0	60
Hooper, Mervyn	28	28	0	14	0	70
SUMMER SERIES - POIN	TS Octo	ber 20	13 to	April	2014	
** Penalty Points = Number of E						
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	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	<u>APR</u>	TOTALS
SENIOR YAMAHA LIGHT						
SENIOR YAMAHA LIGHT Penalty Points **						
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	<u>36</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>	0	22
Boyde, Logan	10	4	0	8	0	22
Boyde, Logan Williams, Scott	10	4 28	0	8	0	36
Boyde, Logan Williams, Scott Bruce, Anthony	10 4 9	4 28 28	0	8 4 28	0 0	36 65
Boyde, Logan Williams, Scott Bruce, Anthony Still, Brad	10 4 9 13	28 28 28 28	0 0 0	8 4 28 28	0 0 0	36 65 69
Boyde, Logan Williams, Scott Bruce, Anthony Still, Brad	10 4 9	4 28 28	0	8 4 28	0 0	36 65
Boyde, Logan Williams, Scott Bruce, Anthony Still, Brad Biesiek, Simon	10 4 9 13	28 28 28 28	0 0 0	8 4 28 28	0 0 0	36 65 69
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GRAND PRIX - POINTS October 2013 to September 2014 GRAND PRIX - POINTS OCTOBER 2013 to September 2014										
October 2013 to Septe		_		IK	a		0	ort"		
(Penalty Points = Stand			Donal	hv) 4		-	<u> </u>		TA	ARANAKI
If you have any queries				• /	nke	Poher	t Boni	face		
E-mail: htbauto@xtra.co		e let li	le kno	w, liia	IIKS -	Konei	l Bolli	lace		
E-mail. httpauto@xtra.co	J.11Z									
	ОСТ	NOV	JAN	FER	APR	MAY	JUL	AUG	SEP	TOTALS
CADET GP	<u> </u>	IVOV	<u>UAIN</u>	1120	<u> </u>	<u>IMA I</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	TOTALS
Penalty Points	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
Boniface, Thomas	1	1	0	1	0	<u>20</u>	0	0	0	3
Smith, Logan	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Smith, Corbin	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	11
Dwyer, Euan	4	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	14
Kenny, Isiah	20	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	25
Refilly, Islan	20		- 0	3	-	U	-	-	U	23
JUNIOR RESTRICTED	GP									
Penalty Points	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
Robbie Johnson	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7
Frere, Dylan	1	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	22
Jury, Ryan	2	2	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	24
Cox, Nathan	20	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	26
,										
JUNIOR GP										
Penalty Points	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
Jury, Brendon	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Dwyer, Jonathan	4	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	10
Smith, Jayden	5	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	13
Riddick, Zane	3	2	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	25
Podjursky, Matthew	1	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	41
Jury, Ryan	20	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	42
Ingram, Chloe	20	5	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	45
Boniface, Jessica	20	20	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	45
Biesiek, Stacey	20	6	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	46
SENIOR GP										
Penalty Points	20	20	20	20	20	20	<u>20</u>	20	20	
Boyde, Logan	5	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Johnson, Richard	9	7	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	19
Riddick, Brittany	1	2	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	23
Still, Brad	3	3	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	26
Greenway, Bronwyn	8	20	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	32
Williams, Scott	10	20	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	35
Jury, Mike	20	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	41
de Ridder, Aaron	20	20	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	41
Bruce, Anthony	2	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	42
Humphrey, Andrea	4	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	44
Cox, David	20	4	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	44
Smith, Blair	6	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	46
Biesiek, Simon	20	6	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	46
Dobson, Josh	7	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	47

Club Officials etc.

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Warren Riddick 06 278 4824 fkr-taranaki@xtra.co.nz

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If you need any help, advice, information or just want a chat, feel free to contact any of the team above!

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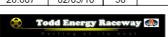
Machine Examiners: Robert Boniface, Steve Boyde, Malcolm Bruce, Greg Dietschin, Maurice Frost, Warren Riddick



Current Track Records as at 23 March 2014

Class	Anti-Clock	Date Set	Kart #	Chassis	Driver
Cadet Rok	32.255	23/03/14	3	Kiwi Kart	Thomas Boniface
Cadet Raket	31.887	26/09/10	77	Kiwi Kart	Matthew Podjursky
Mini Rok					
Junior Restricted	29.983	22/02/09	12		Aaron Marr
Junior Yamaha	28.897	31/07/11	5		Brittany Riddick
KF3	28.138	19/10/12	33		Arran Crighton
Club Class	29.773	30/09/12	5		Warren Riddick
ClubSport 120	31.585	07/05/06	13		Dan Snedden
Yamaha Light	28.978	29/03/09	37		Alex Geary
Yamaha Heavy	29.433	31/08/08	12		Derek Lawrence
Rotax Max Light	27.990	07/08/05	3		Bradley Tyrrell
Rotax Max Heavy	28.617	19/10/12	21		Shaun Reay
KF2	27.088	20/10/12	1		Arie Hutton
Formula 125S	26.782	07/08/05	92		Leigh Tidman
KZ2	26.311	08/03/09	1		Ryan Grant
Open	26.595	29/03/09	95		Michael Kiser

Class	Clockwise	Date Set	Kart #	Chassis	Driver
Cadet Rok					
Cadet Raket	31.978	02/05/10	77	Kiwi Kart	Matthew Podjursky
Mini Rok					
Junior Restricted	30.070	29/05/11	NZ		Thomas Joyes
Junior Yamaha	28.744	28/09/08	37		Alex Geary
KF3	28.229	25/04/10	12		Aaron Marr
Formula Junior	28.431	29/09/13	77		Matthew Podjursky
Club Class	29.656	31/10/10	5		Warren Riddick
ClubSport 120	31.944	30/10/11	9		Warren Riddick
Yamaha Light	28.889	28/09/08	24		Brad Still
Yamaha Heavy	29.353	02/05/10	92		Zac Zaloum
Rotax Max Light	28.128	28/07/13	33		Brad Still
Rotax Max Heavy	28.389	02/05/10	92		Zac Zaloum
Formula 125S	26.764	05/08/07	7		Jason Lee
KZ2	26.205	06/08/07	3		Ryan Grant
Open	26 607	02/05/10	50		Nik Kiser















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TSB Community Trust

Supporting You – Supporting Our Community



How to stop getting stuck behind slower drivers and how to overtake any driver you want

Are you finding that you don't get the results that your lap times say you deserve? Do you find you catch drivers easily and get stuck behind them way too long? Would you like to blast past drivers first chance?

Quite often drivers find it hard to overtake and parents go nuts watching their driver sit behind slower karts. The problem is that everybody thinks that they should be more aggressive, more courageous, and if they can't break through this overtaking problem then they may as well pack in Karting.

- 1) Don't give up racing, because you will always regret it and this problem isn't so difficult to solve
- 2) Learning to overtake is a step-by-step process, you don't need to be more aggressive or change your personality!

You just need to know the secrets of overtaking and braking and to practice them. Then you can order a nice new cabinet for all the trophies you're going to win!

What is it that stops drivers overtaking?

Well it's quite simple....fear takes up all the concentration you have. Fear of what will happen, will I collide? Will I spin? Will I go wide? etc. When you go to overtake another driver, there is extra pressure. You are on a part of the track which you wouldn't normally be on so your visual perspective is different. So, your brain kicks in with basic survival reactions and goes into self-preservation mode. Perfectly normal and logical behaviour too! So, you decide not to take the risk, since diving into the unknown simply isn't worth the trouble, and you let yourself off and decide to try again later.

Now, most people would assume that it's a good idea to beat fear by force, for example force yourself or your driver to be brave...just close your eyes and do it etc. Well, all this achieves is to frighten the driver even more, to the point where they dread driving and will avoid getting close to other drivers, to avoid feeling scared in the first place. It also causes a lot of arguments and bad feeling, which turns karting from the most fun you can have, to quite a tedious activity.

So, that's enough of how not to do things, let's get on to answer the problem.

How to fix a driver's overtaking and braking problems...step-by-step

If you want to make overtaking easy you need to remove the fear factor as much as possible. When you are worried about spinning or crashing, all your concentration is taken up trying to avoid crashing, and you have none left over to drive a kart fast and make overtaking manoeuvres.

To get rid of the fear that you will spin or crash, you just need to learn how to brake and overtake step-by-step. **Once you do this you won't remember even having a problem in the first place!**

Superstar braking

OK, the most obvious overtaking move is to out-brake the opposition into a tight corner after a straight. So, step one of the overtaking master class is to become an expert on the brakes. When you brake in a kart you have to hit the pedal hard and fast, not gently and gradually like in a car. You have to hit the pedal in a flash, so that the tyres almost lock up, and give you a sweet chirpy sound when they bite. Be ready for the kart to kick sideways, and release the pressure slightly to control the rear as you start to turn in. You will find yourself trail braking into the corner and believe me, the grin factor in mastering this is fantastic!

Now, you will need to brake hard and lock up to find the limit, and then brake a tiny bit less hard than that. So, instead of scaring yourself, brake earlier than normal to get a feel for how hard you can brake without feeling like you are in danger. Then once you have mastered braking real hard, try braking from your original braking point, then brake even later once you are confident in your control. And do use a braking point, find marks on or beside the track, this is essential because otherwise you won't be able to tell whether it's working!

Now you are braking as late as anyone can, and you are able to control the kart on its braking limit...you will feel loads more confidence in yourself and your kart, and people will really notice the difference.

Out-braking other drivers - a step into the unknown

When you are on the inside of another driver ready to overtake, you might not be able to see your braking point....or you might think because you are on a tight line it's too risky to brake so late. So what you need to do is practice using an overtaking line. It's simple - approach the corner as if you are overtaking and find new marks on the track as braking points. Do this over and over until you can slide the kart into the corner, all crossed up and in all sorts of trouble....slide wide, spin, hit the kerb or whatever.

Eventually you will learn where you can brake when on the inside line and be able to get round the corner. That way, you will know exactly what you are doing in the real situation. When you are on the inside of another kart you will know how late you can brake, how much grip there will be, and how wide your exit line will be. There will be nothing to be afraid of because you will have seen it all before.

Don't focus on the other driver....focus on the gap

This is the key to pulling off wild looking overtaking manoeuvres, which other drivers will marvel at, and it is relatively simple. When you are driving you will drive where you look. This can work to help you, or can really mess you up. Have you ever watched another kart spin and find yourself watching it until you almost hit it!

So in an overtaking situation, you will notice that your brain will want you to look at the other kart so you won't hit it. This makes you jump into self-preservation mode and usually you will back off, or turn in way too early.

Now, to take advantage of this phenomenon you have to look, yes physically look with your eyes, to where you want the kart to go.

So, the next time you want to overtake, look into the gap between the kerb and the driver you want to pass. Force yourself to stare into that gap, and if you are braking into a hairpin say, actually drive the kart into that gap, even let off the brake a little extra and keep looking into the gap. You will get past the driver if you do this, maybe he will get back past on exit, but you can fine tune your line next time to stop that.

So, don't forget....look into the gap, choose a point on the kerb to focus on and aim for it, look for it and leave the other driver to worry about avoiding you....because when you come steaming through you can bet he will be watching you, and losing his concentration!

That's it, overtaking feels very natural when you follow these steps and driving a kart becomes even more exciting and fun. So give it a try.