

North Circuit Junior InKart Championship

After three weeks of beautiful weather I woke up to the sound of rain, and the first thought that came to mind was oh dear...Inkart. During the practice sessions, I feared the worse as the rain clouds were looking ominous. However, as the day moved on the skies cleared and the mood in the pit lane improved. Due to a number of reasons we had to adapt the day's original schedule.



Cadets - Heats

H1) As soon as the lights turned green Tor was straight on the pace, pulling away from the rest of the field. The conditions were very testing, dry in parts and wet in others, It made for some very interesting viewing. Only two laps into the first heat we went red due to Nick getting some grit in his eye after an off road adventure behind turn three's tyres. With Jordan in attendance we were good to resume racing in next to no time at all. James had a great drive from fourth place to take second, and Alex moving from sixth to third. Sam found the conditions a real test and spun losing out on track position eventually ending up in seventh place after the seven laps.

H2) It was a great drive by Thomas to take his first heat victory of the 2010 season, with Dean dropping from pole position into second place. Another stunning performance in heat two was by Matthew who carefully manoeuvred his way through the field up into third position. Jamaal fell from fourth place into seventh and Nick dropped from third to fifth place.

H3) We saw Matthew control the heat from pole position to take the victory, with Sam starting in seventh and not quite getting to grips with the national circuit. It was all change with the remaining drivers all battling for points within the heat, which saw some questionable decisions and some outstanding manoeuvres. There were a number of drivers who could have potentially picked up a black flag for contact but very sportingly allowed the driver to regain position. Yet again Tor had a storming heat moving from fifth on the grid into second place.

H4) Our pole position driver Zac found he had all the drivers bearing down upon him but he managed to regain his composure after Dean had made a stunning start to the heat and took up the race lead from fourth place. Both Oliver and Jordan-Lee making up some positions further down the field, with James Nick and Thomas losing out on positions.

H5) With the track pretty much dry, and back to the conditions of the Friday practice, it showed who has put the time in to learn the circuit. Tor made some demonstrated some fantastic overtaking skill moving up from fifth on the grid to take his second heat victory of the day. Jordan-Lee having a solid performance taking a great

second place, with Matthew making up the top three drivers. Both Jamaal and Thomas losing out on a position or two, and with James moving up from seventh into sixth place.

H6) The final heat of the day saw yet more fantastic racing by all drivers, however some contact between a couple of karts on the entrance to turn 10 resulted in a red incident. Jamaal had injured his knee after bumping it on the steering column, after Jordan had safely returned Jamaal into the pit lane the racing could commence. Oliver taking full advantage of the restart and recovered some lost positions to eventually take his first heat victory. Zac stood out as having a great drive moving up from sixth place into second, and Jordan-Lee taking third place. Spencer had a few mistakes throughout the heat which saw him take sixth place.

Cadet Grand Final

As we were running on the National Circuit we were able to run eight drivers in the Final, as opposed to the sixth we normally run on the North circuit. So with the grid for the Final called, the drivers made their way to their karts. Starting positions were as follows;

Pole position – Tor Outfin

2nd – Dean Thomas

3rd – Matthew Diemer

4th – Zac Outfin

5th – Jordan-Lee Plummer

6th – Oliver Rhodes

7th – James Ives

8th – Alex Wright

With the drivers sat on their respective grid positions, all eyes were on the start gantry lights, the tension building and the red lights turn green and the drivers getting a good start and making it through the first few corners which is always crucial, as Martin Brundle said at the Chinese grand Prix ‘you cant win a race on the first lap, but you can loose a race on the first lap’. It was Tor who pulled away from the field almost as soon as the lights went green, lapping sub one minute lap times almost every lap. There was a good battle going on for second place, between Dean, Matthew and Jordan-Lee. I believe Matthew made a small mistake round turn 6 allowing Jordan-Lee to take full advantage, which then allowed him to start closing in on Dean. There was also some good racing going on between Oliver, Alex and James finishing sixth, seventh and eighth place respectively. With only two laps remaining Jordan-Lee managed to get past Dean and held off till the chequered flag, with Dean taking the final podium place. Which meant despite Zac and Matthew’s great performances, they narrowly missed out on a coveted spot on the podium, and finished fourth and fifth respectively.

Final Result

Best Lap

1st – Tor Outfin

58.68

2nd – Jordan-Lee Plummer

59.29

3rd – Dean Thomas

60.10

4th – Zac Outfin

60.42

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| 5 th – Matthew Diemer | 60.70 |
| 6 th – Oliver Rhodes | 60.42 |
| 7 th – Alex Wright | 61.56 |
| 8 th – James Ives | 61.79 |

Juniors - Heats

H1) Daniel Truman started off a little gingerly, despite his round two victory. Not gaining any positions on the field, but more importantly not losing out any positions. It was Stephen Moffat who eventually took the first heat victory, moving from third on the grid. Our newcomer George, didn't quite get up to speed in his first heat of the 2010 season. With our other newcomer Donovan having a great start to his season placing second in his first heat.

H2) Daniel was back on from for heat number two, as the track had started to dry out he was starting to find his winning from again, driving a superb race from pole position to take the chequered flag. Stephen Moffat taking second place, and Jamie having a great drive from sixth place on the grid into third place. A non mover with Jack staying in fourth place, Mathias taking fifth place, Callum another newcomer to the season taking sixth and with Liam in seventh and TaShun in eighth.

H3) It seemed Daniel had certainly had his Weetabix, as he had a great heat moving up from sixth place using some fantastic racing manoeuvres to take his second race victory of the day. Owen held off to take second place with a solid drive, George doing the same and holding onto fourth. TaShun dropped from pole position to fifth, with Mathias finishing sixth, Dillon dropping a couple of places into seventh place and Donovan finishing in eighth.

H4) All drivers got away well, and safely made it through the first few corners. A little contact which is to be expected when all drivers are trying to make their way through the field. It was Stephen who had the best result of the heat moving from eighth place taking the race victory. Callum seemed to follow Stephen all the way through the field, to take second place. We had a big incident at turn 1 where there was contact between Jamie and another kart which sent Jamie flying into the tyre barrier, however after the initial shock Jamie was happy to continue racing. Again the restart gave a chance for the other drivers to make up a few positions.

H5) The final Junior heat was just as interesting as the rest of today's racing, with Jack making a bid for a place in the final by taking the heat win. Jamie seemed as if he was still a little shaken from his incident at turn 1 and dropped from pole position into seventh due to a spin on the first lap of the heat. Owen had a great drive and went from sixth place into second, George held on to yet another third place finish, which is really impressive for his first round. Dillon finishing fourth, Liam fifth and TaShun in sixth place.

Junior Grand Final

As soon as we were able to generate the grid for the Final, we announced it over the PA system to the eagerly waiting junior drivers. The positions were as follows;

1st – Stephen Moffat

2nd – Daniel Truman

3rd – Jack Evans

4th – Oliver Emanuel

5th – Owen Pearce

6th – Callum Bradley

7th – George Clark

8th – Dillon Ogorman

So again under starter's orders, all eyes fixed on the start gantry lights...As soon as they turned green all drivers sprung into action foot to the floor, safely through turn 1, 2 and 3 a little contact round turn 4 but nobody causing too many issues. Both Stephen and Daniel pulled away from the rest of the field, leaving the remaining drivers battling for third place downwards. Around half way into the final Daniel made a great move on Stephen around turn 3 and into turn 4 to take the lead of the race, and both drivers were bumper to bumper for some time. Stephen attempted to go down the inside of Daniel at turn 10 which resulted in him receiving a black and white no bumping, but more importantly it left him around a second adrift of Daniel which was enough for him to hold off Stephen to the Round victory. It was one of our newcomers George that impressed by taking the last available podium place from seventh on the grid. Oliver having a solid final finishing in fourth and narrowly missing out on the glory associated with the podium. Jack finished fifth, Owen in sixth our other newcomer, Callum finishing in seventh and Dillon in eighth.

Final Result

Best Lap

1st – Daniel Truman

59.04

2nd – Stephen Moffat

59.04

3rd – George Clark

60.03

4th – Oliver Emanuel

60.19

5th – Jack Evans

60.26

6th – Owen Pearce

60.45

7th – Callum Bradley

60.55

8th – Dillon Ogorman

61.69

Summary

As it was the first time we had attempted to run all classes of Inkart one the International Circuit, there were always going to be some teething issues. However what occurred today was beyond teething issues, however the main issues were due to mistakes which were out of myself and Graham's control. I can only sincerely apologise for these issues, and can promise they will be dealt with. For round 6 when we will be back on the National Circuit on the 25th July, we will either run in the morning or have the afternoon, either way I will inform you all in due course.

Many Thanks

Marc Lee

North Circuit Inkart Co-ordinator