



Daytona Manchester

InKart Championship 2011

Round 7

As we pass the half way point of the season, Drivers, Race Officials and I'm sure the parents could feel the tension in the air as every point could mean they walked away as Class Champions!

Cadets (1)

The first race of the day underway and every driver getting a slower start than usual, although the 1 driver having trouble from the start. Michael Whittaker pretty much left the start finish line 3.000s after everybody else. The Race director clearly seeing a problem with his kart pulled Michael out of the race as the kart needed looking at from our engineering team. Further into the race a strange occurrence to add to the motorsport pages with kart 35 having problems with the fuel cap, as a safety precaution the race was stopped and marshals immediately investigated the kart. Although through the drama we did have an overall points total –

1st – Lee Chamberlain (Forced Retirement) Glen Dabo 2nd - Luke Jenkinson 3rd - Sam Dickov

Juniors (1)

With a rough race 1 to start the morning things could only get better from then on. Our junior drivers always have this habit of surprising the viewers when we least expect it and today was no exception. Some minor bumping boards issued to a couple of drivers but nothing to major, but the surprise was the times that we being set with relative ease!

100% of drivers maintained a 26.000s lap time or below from the 8th minute, which is from what we can collect the fastest race of 2011. A strong start and a good example to everybody watching on the balcony.

1st - Joe Bleackley 2nd - Josh Morris 3rd - Jack Richardson

Seniors (1)

A lot more drivers on the grid for our senior class but from the Red lights on the start line disappearing all drivers were locked head to tail from start to finish. At the front of the pack was one of our newcomers Chris Carew who was controlling the pace of the pack from the front. On lap number 9 an excellently timed move from Rhys slipped him up into 1st place with Scott winter applying the pressure. Lap 12 and a beautiful inside line move from Scott Winter gave him 1st place. Moving into lap 14 another very well executed move from Philip Mossdrop pushed him into 4th place loosing to reel in the front 3 runners. Phil did not take any prisoners and on lap 17 a three-way battle left Phil moving into the top 3 chasing Rhys and Scott.

1st - Scott Winter 2nd - Rhys Eccles 3rd - Philip Mossdrop

Cadets (2)

A much better display from the cadets in race 2, some awesome times as usual but some very brave overtakes being shown from the majority. Although where you are willing to take a risk sometimes the gamble does not come off with Sam Dickov suffering a quick drive through for Advantage By Contact on hairpin 1. Half the race completed and a clear race lead gained through hard work and determination put Michael Whittaker in 1st. Steady stuff throughout the race but moving into lap 17 blue flags were issued for the front runners as they were pushing hard. An unfortunate black flag for Sam Reedy as he picked up a black flag for front to left rear quarter.

1st - Michael Whittaker 2nd - Luke Jenkinson 3rd - Sam Dickov

Juniors (2)

Another very strong start to the race for our juniors but an untimed inside line move meant that a drive through penalty was issued to Josh Morris. Lap 6 and with the pack split the front runners were separated by 0.300 of a second. Things keeping fairly quiet until Jason Bagnall produced a 25.85 second lap time in 6th place!

1st - Brandon Bethell 2nd - Matthew Clayden 3rd - Luke Gore

Seniors (2)

An excellent display of driving from all our seniors once more but Scott Winter looking for an early inside line overtake realises that it wasn't going to pay off hit the brakes and ultimately stalled the kart and was at the mercy of the marshals. Lap 16 and there were only 0.800s separating the top 4 drivers as they were displaying some excellent close proximity racing.

1st - Ryan Welch 2nd - Philip Mossdrop 3rd - Colin Samuel

Cadets (3)

All drivers of the grid with a sharp start but a little unfortunate twist for Alex Ravenscroft, as he didn't wait for the gap to open up before he pushed Sam Reedy out of the way collecting a black flag. Lap 5 Sam lost out to a position with Ben Walker stealing the inside line manoeuvre. Bumping boards being issued throughout this race told a story itself but no driver was punished, as this was one to watch! All drivers nose to tail through the majority of the race but with such a tight race an accident was meant to happen . . . and it did, with Sam Richardson misunderstanding which way Ryan was going meant he left Ryan and himself in the barrier system.

1st - Sam Dickov 2nd - Ben Walker 3rd - Sam Reedy

Juniors (3)

Very Standard racing from this race but the battle was definitely between Jason Bagnall and Aaron Walsh as the gap was barely 0.2 as they crossed the line on lap 6. Kallum pushing hard from the back of the pack gave the marshals some deciding to do as he made an inside line move on the final corner, the call was settled as a black flag as he did not have the majority of the kart through before attempting the overtake, so a quick drive through was given to him. On lap 17 our new lap record was set by Aaron with a 25.67s lap time. Immediately after Kallum McBride produced a breathtaking 25.58 to become the new lap record.

1st – Jason Bagnall 2nd – Aaron Walsh 3rd – Blair Henry

Seniors (3)

A bit of controversy with the marshals on lap 1-2 of the seniors as 5 drivers were involved in a collision, after a debate over the radios and much detailed descriptions from various angles Race Control decided to call a racing incident on the matter. Further into lap 8 Ryan Welch was having a very strong race but pushed into the 1st hairpin knocking another driving off line and gaining the advantage. Things moving pretty steady after this meaning the race finished like this –

1st – Adam Bach 2nd - Philip Mosscrop 3rd – Scott Winter

Cadets (4)

After a short break for everyone we continued with our cadets. An early lead for Alex Ravenscroft put him 1.2s ahead of Sam Richardson in 2nd, although on the next lap Sam replied with a great move on the final corner to try and secure 1st place points. Lap number 8 and a very fast Glen Dabo just didn't have the room he thought he had on the first turn, pushing Ben Walker into the outside wall and as Glen gained a black flag for too much contact. Sam went on to pull his lead up to 6.115s and claimed maximum points.

1st - Sam Richardson 2nd - Alex Ravenscroft 3rd - Sam Reedy

Juniors (4)

The endurance style racing must have been taking its toll on the drivers as little mistakes started to creep in. Jack Richardson just making enough contact with Joe Bleakley to force him out wide and gain the position was issued with a black flag and a drive through to place him back behind Joe. A few bumping boards but no major cause for concern as the chequered flag was issued to Connor Woodyatt for a very steady and controlled race win.

1st - Connor Woodyatt 2nd - Kallum McBride 3rd - Aaron Walsh

Senior (3)

The final race for our senior class saw Chris Carew on the front spot ready to try and clinch maximum points from race 3. With the start light vanishing all drivers buried their foot into the accelerator and bundled into turn number 2, meaning that their wasn't much room on the bridge to gain a clear advantage. All drivers were side by side on top of the bridge and with everyone trying to occupy the same piece of tarmac on turn 3 it was anyone's for the taking. But disaster as 3 drivers on the outside of the track were left helpless but to try and hold on to what ever position they had because of a wider line. By far the most exciting race for the senior in round 3 with nose to tail racing until they completed 10 minutes worth of racing.

1st - Adam Bach 2nd - Phillip Mosscrop 3rd - Scott Winter

Cadets (5)

With the cadets round 7 coming to a close it was getting very tense around the grid spots as a lot of our cadets were unusually making a lot of contact. As we all now this is part and parcel of racing but would the last race of the day for our youngest championship racers prove too much?

As usual the light disappeared and all drivers had a brilliant start off the grid leaving Ben Walker out in front with Sam Richardson chasing. Glen Dabo was not out of the running waiting in third and waiting to launch an overtake of the front runners. But a very wide line on turn number 1 of lap 5 left Sam Richardson seeing his opportunity, Sam then wasted no time in undertaking Ben but unfortunately pushed a little deeper than he would have wanted, leaving Ben straying into the outer barrier system. Reds were called on the circuit for a check on Ben as he wasn't feeling 100% and the race team saw fit to retire him.

After retiring from the race with a warm round of applause from the balcony Ben was left in the pit lane with the Race Director to see if he could continue but unfortunately opted out. Racing was then re-introduced back under full course yellow jurisdiction and with Glen now in first brought home the win to secure maximum points.

1st – Glen Dabo 2nd – Lee Chamberlain 3rd – Luke Jenkinson

Junior (5)

The last race of the day had our junior drivers on the grid and not only that but our lap record holder in 1st place position. The race left the grid with a pace that deserved respect, even from a standstill every driver on the grid posted 28 second laps. From here the pace only got quicker with Kallum, Jack and Matthew posting easy 26.000s laps for the rest of the pack to follow suit. Pushing hard into the final few laps and Luke gore posed a huge threat to Aaron Walsh, as he was 2.513s behind on lap 18 and ended up only 1.101s behind on lap 20. The pace of this race was the quickest all season with the drivers lap times speaking for themselves (all drivers posted 25second times)

1st – Kallum McBride 2nd – Jack Richardson 3rd – Matthew Clayden

Race Directors Comments

I would like to thank everyone involved in InKart round 7 for your patience. I also understand that it wasn't ideal that a presentation was not held for the winners but I am sure you will agree that safety is priority. Thank you all again and look forward to seeing you all in Round 8!