

# **Daytona Milton Keynes Inkart Championship 2012**

## **Round three:**

Round three of Inkart witnessed the drivers having to adapt to the International Extra circuit. Whilst it adds excitement and creativity to the round, it can also be a curse to those who have never experienced it before. With a lot of new drivers in this year's Championship the crowd were unsure of what to expect....

### **Juniors; Heat one:**

The first heat of the juniors began with the turn 8 strobe (the area with the extra turn) working overtime as the drivers struggled to get to grips with the unique layout. However, after a couple of laps the standard set from the previous two rounds was met and the drivers produced some outstanding racing. Dan Bull started off the day by taking the first heat with a best lap-time of 1:14:413. He managed to stave off the competition by a clear 3 seconds with some very consistent driving. Robert Greenhough took second place with some confident driving and Mathias Read-Simpson just piped Oscar Riley to third place; both drivers were close together throughout the heat, but Mathias' experience was a key factor in him winning a tight battle.

### **Heat two:**

Heat two was clear evidence (if ever it was needed) that this category has an abundance of talent. None of the previous heat's top three drivers were seen and this heat served up some stupendous driving! However, there can only be one winner and Owen Pearce made sure he was going to be that winner! Fighting his way from third to first Owen capped a fine heat by claiming a best lap-time of 1:13:629 and finishing 5 seconds ahead of his nearest competitor Jamil Said. Jamil showed his own class by keeping his concentration to fend off the chasing pack and he fully deserved second place. Much like the first heat, there was a tense battle for third spot. This time however it was Aaron Kidd who was celebrating at the expense of Josh Hoy who literally just lost out on third.

### **Heat three:**

Ryan Ould had suffered some bad luck in the last round but this time he created his own luck by winning a scintillating battle with James Ives. Both drivers were battling for the chequered flag and when it was brandished by the start marshal it was Ryan who took it with a gap of 0.332 seconds; some quite extraordinary driving by both participants. Third place went to Owen Pearce, who will be happy with today's heats as he managed to accumulate some much needed points going into the grand final!

### **The Grand Final:**

Consistency is so important in this type of environment. One spin or slip can mean the end result is disastrous and not euphoric and the grand final epitomised consistency. Daniel Bull managed to secure enough points to start on pole position and he did not look back. He was however run close by Robert Greenhough in what

seemed to be a re-run of heat number one. Daniel managed to keep hold of first spot for long enough to take the chequered flag but only did so with a gap of 0.915 seconds. Some superb racing was the trend in the final with Ryan Ould and Owen Pearce fighting it out for third place. In the end it was Ryan who just managed to take third place and gain some invaluable Championship points.

## **Lightweights:**

The beautiful sunny day at Daytona MK was a great platform for 27 lightweight drivers to show off their talent. With a super mixture of experienced and novice drivers this category was sure to muster up some tremendous battles.....

### **Heat one:**

The heats for the lightweight category are always eagerly anticipated due to the fantastic quality of the drivers. One of those drivers, Daniel Truman, showed he was more than capable of being in that bracket with a superb drive. Managing to engineer himself a 3 second gap over his nearest adversary, Daniel coasted to victory in heat number one to send out an early warning to the rest of the pack! Jake Chisholme and Chris Anderson put on a fantastic show in the battle for second spot and when the two karts crossed the line for the final time it was a photo finish all the way! It was Jake, however, who managed to keep his nerve and take second spot with Chris having to settle for third place.

### **Heat two:**

Much like the junior category, the second heat was dominated by different drivers. Thomas Davis started in fourth spot but as soon as the green flag was shown his pugnacious attitude was there for all to see! Taking first place on his fourth lap, Thomas never looked back and secured the golden 50 points with a very controlled drive. Second place in heat number two was captured by Andrew Collins who had a best lap-time of 1:14:656. Third place (which seemed to be today's most entertaining position) was again closely contended. This time it was Dominic Tucker and Alexandru Damian giving the spectators value for money, and it was indeed Tucker who managed to steal the spot with some very talented driving.

### **Heat three:**

George Wilson had the advantage in this heat by starting on pole. However this does not automatically guarantee victory and it takes a very calm driver to make the most of the advantage. George was indeed calm throughout the heat and did not get overtaken once! Sharp, focused and driven (No pun intended), George was magnificent for the entire heat and really gave the chasing pack little chance and finished a clear 8.293 seconds clear of Matt Cooley, who in his first Inkart round of the season, managed to take second place. Third spot went to Cosmin Tutuianu, who drove quietly but effectively but still managed to send a message to the rest of the category.....more from him later on!

## **The Grand Final:**

The final grid was full of ambitious talent who simply could not wait to start. From the off there were three drivers who slipped into the competitive mood and rapidly accelerated away from the rest of the pack. It seemed for a long time that George Wilson was going to follow up his impressive heats win with a victory in the final. However, this is motorsport and anything CAN happen! And it did happen....with just one lap left Anthony Jordan (Who had a quiet day by his standards) made the move on the inside of turn six and managed to take top spot! He didn't look back....keeping his nerve he manoeuvred his way around the circuit and claim the chequered flag! Wilson now had a battle to hold on to second and Cosmin Tutuianu sniffed blood.....Tutuianu used Anthony's move as a springboard and forced his way into second spot to cap a glorious round.

## **Heavyweights:**

With more than double the amount of heavyweight drivers from the last round, it was sure to be even more competitive with all drivers gunning for glory whilst at the same time trying to match the standards set in the junior and lightweight categories.

## **Heat one:**

Wayne Robson has been slowly chipping away and having steady, but not explosive heats. This heat however was different. Starting in third place, Wayne jumped to first literally straight away and stayed there to take the chequered flag hitting the best lap of the heat with a 1:15:668, it was a double-whammy for Robson who would be hoping this fine start was the catalyst for a successful day. Second spot was comfortably taken by Stuart Shearman and third place went to the ever present Martin Smith.

## **Heat two:**

Stuart Shearman was certainly not content with finishing second in his last heat and he was keen to make amends this time around. And he did just that....although he was pushed ridiculously close by Andy Barr and in the end the gap between the two was a slender 0.297 seconds. Both drivers showed wonderful composure throughout and either one could have taken the chequered flag with pride. Third spot was fought out between Andy Whymark and the last heat winner, Wayne Robson. In the end it was Whymark who managed to glide his way to success lapping a 1:18:942 in the process.

## **Heat three:**

Martin Smith had a bright start to the heats and he ended them on a high by taking first place in this heat also. Being closely pushed by Stuart Shearman, he managed to keep a firm grip on the lucrative position and deservedly took the 50 points on offer. Shearman settled for second and a newcomer to this year's Championship, David Scott, took third spot! David has been receiving rave reviews from fellow competitors and his positive attitude was fully rewarding with a fine third place finish.

## **The Grand Final:**

After a great heats round, Stuart Shearman started on poll position and was eager to extend his lead in this year's Championship. His eagerness paid off and despite a very entertaining tussle with the impressive Wayne Robson he managed to claim the gold trophy and the maximum points! It really was a two horse race and the overall gap between second and third was a staggering 18.2 seconds. Third place was heating up quite nicely and it was Martin Smith and Andy Barr who were going back and forth....In the end Martin used all of his experience to hold on to third place and add some invaluable points to his Championship total.

## **Conclusion:**

Three rounds completed and so far there has been some stunning displays produced. The next round is back to the normal track layout, so it will be interesting to see if the drivers can readjust their focus as well as they did today. Hopefully the remaining rounds will be as entertaining as the first three.....

Kind regards,

Graham Charters

Championship co-ordinator.