

## Round 4 – April 12<sup>th</sup>

**Sunny skies and perfect racing conditions greeted drivers at Daytona Milton Keynes for the fourth round of the National InKart series, with Sebastian Chodyko and Kameron Khan looking to defend their respective leads in the Cadet and Junior National Championships.**

### Cadets

#### Heat 1

The first heat got off to a hectic start with Zach Walters and others losing out after a spin at a very busy first corner. With the field spreading out Joshua Griffiths was fighting for third at the end of the second lap but carried a touch too much speed into the turn 10 hairpin and ran wide, dropping to sixth – Zach Walters fared better later on, fighting his way back after his early misfortune, highlighted by an excellent move around the last corner to put himself in the top three again. Joshua Griffiths tried a risky move at turn four but ran wide, while William Davison got his day off to a flying start winning by just over 11 seconds after what was a quiet race at the front of the pack for him.

#### Heat 2

With Sebastian Chodyko taking pole position for this heat the field got off to a cleaner start on the first lap, with Fraser Brunton making a move on Sebastian late in the lap. A few warnings were issued for contact but racing was otherwise clean and fair until the fifth lap, where a penalty was issued to Mikey Gleeson for an illegal overtake with excessive contact. Shortly afterwards Harry Winsor was also investigated and penalised for a similar incident at turn 4, which was just a result of carrying too much speed into the turn. As this was happening Fraser Brunton was busy successfully fending off Sebastian to keep first place by just 0.408 seconds.

#### Heat 3

Multiple warnings for contact were issued on the first lap, while drivers were struggling with the hairpin after the long back straight with both Ethan Callum-Fannon and Max Cole spinning out at turn 10. The race ended with the top three drivers spread out over 17 seconds, Connor Brown leading ahead of Milo Pilfold and Lewis Tyler.

#### Heat 4

Several drivers were guilty of excessive contact on the first lap, with the most serious being Philip Strauss committing an advantage by contact on the entrance of turn 6, for which he was issued a penalty board. Boudewijn Long was given a warning flag for weaving on the back straight, which was upgraded to a penalty board after a repeat offence resulted in another driver taking to the grass, meaning he was dropped 5 places down the order. Fraser Brunton made it two wins out of two for the day, effortlessly beating Kuba Wozniak by almost six seconds.

## Heat 5

Zach Walters earned himself first position with a brave move at the full-throttle turn nine, with him, Milo Pilfold and William Davison continuing to fight for the top three places, with moves being made by all three drivers at turns 10 and two. Unfortunately on the last lap William dived down the inside of Zach Walters in the National sector but carried too much speed and lost control, knocking both drivers down the standings, resulting in a retrospective penalty being applied; this left Milo Pilfold to cross the finish line in front of Sebastian Chodyko by 0.150 seconds and setting himself up for a strong qualifying position in the finals.

## Heat 6

With all drivers getting off the start line cleanly, positions remained relatively unchanged until Connor Brown made a fantastic move on two other drivers on the apex of the hairpin at turn ten to gain second place. Max Cole made a move at turn 4 trying to get his place back but lost control, losing several places and dropping to seventh. On the final lap of heat 6 Connor underlined his dominant form with a tight but fair move on Boudewijn Long, winning the heat by 0.2 seconds.

## Heat 7

The first lap of heat seven started with contact between a lot of the drivers, Harry Winsor being the biggest loser after getting stuck on the inside tyre barrier at turn 11. Penalties were issued to the two leaders, Philip Strauss and Zach Walters for two separate incidents involving illegal overtakes with contact at turns 2 and 10 respectively. On the last lap Lewis Tyler made the third illegal move of the heat, prompting another penalty being retrospectively applied; Zach Walters took the chequered flag but because of the penalty handed down earlier in the race Mikey Gleeson was at the top of the timesheets after results were adjusted to take all penalties into account.

## Heat 8

With William Treanor sitting on pole for the penultimate qualifying heat, the race got underway with Fraser Brunton again taking the lead and building an unbridgeable gap of 6 seconds within the opening three laps. Ethan Callum-Fannon spent his race breathing down the back of William Treanor's neck and made a move in the slipstream on the back straight on the last lap, leaving Fraser Brunton to increase his gap even further with a clear circuit ahead of him, taking the chequered flag in style by setting the fastest lap of the day as well.

## Heat 9

Kuba Wozniak and Milo Pilfold easily separated themselves from the rest of the field at the start of the race; the pair pulling out 10 seconds over third place but Kuba eventually dropped Milo and put a few seconds between them. Boudewijn Long was penalised a second time for an advantage-by-contact late in the race at the bottom end of the circuit. Milo looked like he was closing the gap again but was five seconds behind heat winner Kuba as the chequered flag went out.

## C Final

The C Final started with Ethan Callum-Fannon on pole position, who benefitted from contact further back in the field and made up a slight gap – this contact resulted in a penalty for Charlie Clements for an illegal overtake within 50 metres of the start line, which forced another driver wide onto the kerb on the exit of the first corner. Philip Strauss concluded a difficult morning by spinning at turn 4 and dropping to last although he recovered well with some strong overtakes to move up to fifth place. The marshals were kept busy with a few drivers struggling to keep their karts on circuit and out of the tyre barriers around the National sector, while Harry Winsor and Henry Treanor put in very consistent attacking laps to close the gap to the leader, both eventually overtaking the race leader and Harry Winsor being the driver to take victory and earn a place in the next final. Ethan Callum Fannon did manage to get back ahead of Henry Treanor on the final lap to retake 2<sup>nd</sup> position.

## B Final

Kallum Batts started in pole position and stayed there for the opening laps but struggled to build a gap to second place, and he spent the next period exchanging positions with Jamie Rayson. Boudewijn Long ran slightly too wide at the hairpin, got stuck on the kerb and needed recovering by track marshals, which dropped him to the very back of the grid, and although recovering later on an illegal overtake on Max Cole during the last lap resulted in another penalty and a demotion to the rear of the field. Harry Winsor had a solid race, coming from the back of the grid after qualifying from the C Final and moving up to third place, earning a good amount of points for this round of the championship. Lewis Tyler and Joshua Griffiths stayed close to each other, separated by as little as 0.1 seconds at some points but Jamie Rayson was untouchable finishing 0.8 seconds ahead of Kallum Batts and booking his ticket to the A Final.

## A Final

After a dominant afternoon Fraser Brunton deservedly earned the pole position slot for the A Final of this round of the Cadet Championship, with Sebastian Chodyko looking to defend his championship lead starting in fifth, while William Davison qualified in the grid slot directly behind him. Kuba Wozniak immediately put Fraser under pressure from second place, separated by under a tenth of a second after the first lap but ran wide at the double-apex and lost his place to both Connor Brown and Milo Pilfold. Chodyko made several attempts to overtake Pilfold but was kept behind by some aggressive defending moves, while Connor Brown in second slowly closed the gap to Fraser. William Davison was held off by Sebastian Chodyko to the end, finishing only half a second behind, while the final race winner was Fraser Brunton by 0.421 seconds over Connor Brown and Milo Pilfold.

## Juniors

### Heat 1

The first heat for the Junior National Championship got smoothly around the first few corners, but after committing an advantage by contact on the first lap in the Turn 6/National sector of the circuit, Clement Sauvan was issued a penalty by the race directors. Max O'Shaughnessy and Harrison Pughe spent the race fighting a close battle for second and third, with Max getting the better of Harrison with an undercutting move on the apex of turn 5 for second place, leaving Kameron Khan to take the chequered flag by three seconds.

### Heat 2

Although there was a clean start to the race Tom Dobson was guilty of an illegal overtake on the last corner of the first lap – after reviewing the incident it was decided that Tom had sufficiently made an attempt to give the place back and did not incur a penalty. His time near the top did not last long however as he ran wide in the last sector of the track on the following lap and dropped to third, with Oliver Mooij benefiting from the mistake and taking the lead until the conclusion of the heat, winning despite starting in last place on the starting grid.

### Heat 3

Oscar Lancaster and Benjamin Lewis spent the majority of this race dicing over second and third, separated by only a few hundredths of a second for several laps. Late in the race Kameron Khan gained third place from Benjamin around the chicane sector at turns two and three, and the race finished with the drivers well spread out and Max O'Shaughnessy winning comfortably by three seconds.

### Heat 4

As the lights turned green Nat Thomas made a risky move on Kai Mack at the first corner which didn't go to plan - contact to Kai's rear bumper span him out and dropped him to last place, while Nat was relegated with a five place penalty awarded by the officials. Several drivers including Oliver Mooij were warned for bumping, but Luke Richardson came through and finished what was a clean race for him marginally ahead of Mooij and Alex Masefield.

### Heat 5

This race got off to another eventful start with several drivers losing control of their karts at turn 6 and in the National sector of the Milton Keynes circuit. Oliver Willingale made his presence felt, making an impression in second place for all but the last 50 metres after an overtake by Kameron Khan, while Harrison Pughe finished in first place for the second time with a gap of four seconds. Race officials investigated the last lap overtake between Kameron and Oliver but no further action was taken.

### Heat 6

In the final qualifying heat for the Junior category Luke Richardson immediately shot into the lead and remained unchallenged for the rest of the event. Nat Thomas looked to be bridging the gap to

the driver in front of him but span at turn 10, with Tom Dobson having a solid race, the highlight of which was a move into fourth place on the inside of turn 4. Luke finished five seconds in front of Oliver Mooij, who was closely followed by Tyler Fossey in third.

## **B Final**

Despite being unfortunately involved in a few incidents throughout the morning through no fault of his own Kai Mack gave himself the best chance possible of getting promoted to the A Final by qualifying on pole position for this one. Redmond Kerr had an incredible first lap gaining four positions and taking the lead with a good run up the back straight from the bottom end of the circuit, with the rest of the top five setting up an exciting race, all being within two seconds of each other after 4 laps. Alex Masefield was reported for an advantage-by-contact, for an aggressive move on Oliver Willingale at turn 6, but as positions were changed back at turn 10 only a warning flag was issued. Willingale and Clement Sauvan were engaged in a battle to the finish for fifth, with Oliver out-accelerating Clement off the last corner to beat him by just 0.025 seconds on the line, while Redmond was in a class of his own finishing 13 seconds ahead of Kai Mack in second.

## **A Final**

Luke Richardson's strong performances put him in pole position for the Junior A Final, with Championship leader Kameron Khan only two places behind him and looking to get in front of Luke to defend his place in the Championship standings. The first lap was closely fought, with Oliver Mooij and Harrison Pughe overtaking Luke, leaving the first and second placed drivers in the Championship right next to each other. Redmond Kerr looked to be making progress up the field after his win in the previous final, but span after pushing just a little too hard into turn 10. The race was briefly neutralised with yellow flags after a kart stopped on the back straight but was resumed under normal racing conditions within moments. Oliver Mooij and Luke Richardson finished separated by only 0.400 seconds, while Harrison Pughe showed his skill with a great move on Kameron Khan to put himself on the third step of the podium at the last corner – Kameron will still retain the championship lead but Luke will have closed that gap to increase the pressure even more on Kameron for the next round.