



**WELCOME TO THE
EXCITING WORLD OF
KART RACING**

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO
JOIN THE FUN!!!**

GETTING STARTED IN KARTING

Karting is one of the least expensive forms of motorsports. Karting is not only fun, but it is the training ground for tomorrow's professional drivers. Some examples of drivers that started in karting are: Lewis Hamilton, Max Verstappen, Josef Newgarden, Zach Veach, Martin Truex Jr and Jeff Gordon. Matt Tift, who currently drives in the NASCAR Cup Series even raced at Thompson Kart Raceway!

Kart Racing gives you the opportunity to learn about all aspects of racing, including vehicle dynamics, engine tuning and proper setup and driving techniques.

IS KARTING FOR YOU?

Only you can answer this, and here's how. Start off by watching some racing at Thompson Kart Raceway, admission is only \$8 (includes a Pit Pass). Check the Thompson Kart Raceway website for our schedule to come and experience what karting is about. You can also visit our Facebook page for current updates.

KARTING IS FAMILY FRIENDLY

Racers may begin at the age of 5, and continue well into their 70's. Many family members help during the race day as "pit crews" for Karter's. You will see family members keeping lap times, working on karts, or helping drivers suit up. Many family members help as track volunteers or workers too.

Prior to starting, it may seem that karting is very small, when in reality there is a massive amount of support for the sport. There are mom and pop operations to help get the wheels rolling, to large businesses that are beginning to add to the kart racing experience. From common mechanics to high tech engineering, karting has grown from a grassroots hobby into a serious, professional sport.

What makes karting unique is, there are many levels which you can fulfill your racing dreams. From hobbyist to the future stars of karting, there is something for every family member to do in the sport, creating bonds that will last a lifetime.

COME ON OUT!

The first step in getting started is to bring the family to Thompson Kart Raceway, getting right where the action is. You will get a good feel for how the races are run and have the opportunity to ask questions, talk to the drivers, crews and officials. After the races have ended on race days, spectators are always invited to come into the pits and look at karts and talk to the drivers, crews and officials. Information about rules, schedules, classes, engines etc. may be obtained from track officials or the racers, and can also be found on our website.

Try to gather as much information as you can during your visit to Thompson Kart Raceway!

PONDER THE RISKS

As with any sport that involves speed or physical contact, karting is potentially risky, therefore there is a strong emphasis on safety at Thompson Kart Raceway. Karts should be inspected by their owners every day before going on the track. Competitors that drive roughly will be black flagged and removed from the track. The combination of state of the art helmets and neck braces provide excellent protection for the head, neck and upper spine. Drivers are also required to wear specialized race clothing to help protect them from scrapes and punctures, the addition of improved bodywork, and full with rear bumpers have also improved karting safety.

WORK OUT A BUDGET

Karting, as with any hobby, costs money. Be sure to get the facts first. Ask about entry fees, the cost of purchasing a kart, the cost of maintaining a kart as well as the other weekly cost to race such as fuel, oil, and tires. Once you know the costs, you can work out a racing budget that will help you decide how often you can race. Can you afford to attend every event, or a reduced number? It is best to get involved with your "financial eyes" wide open!

BUYING A KART

Used karts are usually available from the local karting community, and can often be found on display at the track for inspection. Use caution, don't rush in and buy the first kart you see because it looks good, or appears to be a good deal. It may be too good to be true. Here are a few things to look for when purchasing a used kart.

- Check the bottom of the frame rails (Are they ground flat)
- Is there tape on the kart, can it be removed (what is it hiding)
- Is the Kart clean (If not, what may be hiding under the dirt)
- Does it look like it was well maintained
- If it has an engine, does it run, is it legal
- Are there any cracks (be sure to look at the welds)
- Are parts available

Don't be afraid to ask the seller to bring the kart to the track for a test drive. You can also ask the CKRA board, staff members or other participants to assist you with looking over the Kart you are interested in. We do not want you to start your adventure by being frustrated over a bad purchase.

HOW DO I DECIDE, NEW VS USED?

As with any purchase of a vehicle, there are both pros and cons to buying used, and racing Karts are no different. For those looking to enter the sport, or for those on a budget, a used kart is an appropriate way to go. While it won't have that "new car smell", it will typically hold its value better than a new Kart. Just like when you drive a new car off the showroom floor, a Kart loses most of its value the first time it hits the track. And, just like with cars, a new Lexus is going to retain more of its value than a Kia, so chassis brand does matter. The "Top" karting brands will hold more of their original value as a used Kart.

Advantages

- Used karts typically come with some spare parts
- A quality used kart will usually have all of the "bugs" worked out
- A used kart has already seen the majority of its depreciation value
- A used kart is cheaper.

Disadvantages

- Many used karts are just that, used, and in some cases, just plain used up
- A used kart may be outdated, uncompetitive
- You never really know if it has been bent, broken etc
- A used kart will typically require some additional investments to become "Race Ready"
- A used 2 cycle kart will most likely require an Engine rebuild / refresh

So when should I buy new / used?

Buy used if:

- You are a beginner and just want to give Karting a try
- You are on a budget
- You are buying a Kart for a child that has never raced before

Buy New if:

- You want the best equipment
- Budget is not an issue
- You plan to move up to regional / national level competitions
- You are buying a replacement for a child that is serious about racing

I've decided on a used kart, what should I look for?

- Never buy a Kart sight unseen. At the VERY least, request photos from many different angles, especially the underside. (See next line)

- Always, always, always look at the bottom of a used kart. If the frame rails are dented (Look where the motor mounts) or ground flat, find another kart to buy. Rock chips are fine, but excessive D shaped frame rails (ground flat on the bottom) are not. (in today's world of karting, it is almost impossible to find a kart without at least "some" wear on the bottom frame rails)
- What replacement parts are still available for the make / model kart?
- Does my local dealer carry any parts for the make / model kart.

Remember, the kart is not the only expenditure you will have in order to go racing. Keep in mind that additional money may need to be spent on Tires, extra parts, safety equipment etc. In other words, don't spend your entire budget on the Kart.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE (Have I mentioned PRACTICE)

There are plenty of opportunities to practice at Thompson Kart Raceway. Check the schedule for practice dates and times. The most common times are Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons, usually before a race weekend.

It is extremely important that you have all of your safety gear inspected by a track official the first time you come to practice. You will need an approved full face helmet, protective clothing, long socks, racing or high top shoes.

When the track opens for practice, let the person working the practice know that you are new and they will make sure you have the track to yourself the first time you go out. This will allow you to get familiar with your kart and the track without the distraction of other drivers.

Practice sessions are generally 5 minutes in length and rotate by age group until the track closes.

Be sure to learn the flags, however not all flags are used during practice days. You can ask an official for help at any time.

Be sure to practice the basics: starting, stopping and tuning the engine, getting in and out of the kart, hand signals.

The CKRA board, and most every competitor are more than willing to help you get started, including helping with a good starting point for chassis setup so that the kart will drive well. Don't be afraid to ask, it is better for everyone if your kart handles well and you are aware of all of the rules and standard practices.

READY TO RACE

Be sure to arrive early enough to give yourself time to set up your pit, register to race, and perform the safety check of your kart. You will be required to attend the drivers meeting and follow the race directors and flagman's instructions.

Championship Kart Racing and Thompson Kart Raceway truly hope you enjoy and learn from our experiences and that you may feel the thrill of the awesome sensation and adrenaline rush as you sit on the grid, ready for your first race, anticipating the upcoming mind blowing sensation of high speed racing 2 inches off the ground, as well as all of the camaraderie that Kart Racing with your fellow club members has to offer.

So, come on out and spend some time with us. We are always happy to answer your questions and tell you why we love karting, and why we think you will too!

Contacts	
Club Phone	440-853-RACE(7223)
Doug Marsh – Club President	440-289-5291
James Denholm – Club Treasurer	360-633-0173
Bob Davis – Club Secretary	440-749-4701

Guidelines for being a good sport parent

1. Remember that your child's needs come first, not yours.
2. **Kids participate in sports to have fun.** Ask your child if he / she is having fun. What about it makes it fun? What takes away from fun?
3. Treat your child with respect and realize that his / her goals may not be the same as yours
4. Teach your child how to set realistic goals and how to work towards them in small steps.
5. Winning isn't everything, but trying to win is important
6. Encourage your child to participate in decision making. The older they are the more participation.
7. Don't expect perfection: allow your child to learn from mistakes; don't be too quick in pointing out mistakes and offering corrections
8. **Everyone responds better to praise than criticism, especially kids.**
9. **Praise publicly; criticize privately.**
10. **Practice good sportsmanship** and encourage it in your child, even when you perceive unfairness.
11. **Teach your child to respect and appreciate other competitors:** wish them well and congratulate them on their success.
12. **Teach your child to respect and appreciate officials, event staff, and volunteers even when you disagree with their decisions.**
13. **You are a role model: Set a good example**
14. Be a parent; let the officials do the officiating
15. Control your emotions
16. This is a sport; **have fun** yourself!

Cost Guide (Approximates)

Complete Karts		
50cc Kid Kart (5 to 8)	New - \$2400 to \$3000	Used - \$1000 to \$1900
4 Cycle – Jr Sportsman (8 to 12)	New – \$3700 to \$4500	Used - \$1000 to \$2500
2 Cycle – Cadet Sportsman (8 to 12)	New – \$4000 to \$5000	Used - \$1500 to \$3000
4 Cycle – Restricted Jr (11 to 15)	New – \$3700 to \$4500	Used - \$1000 to \$2500
2 Cycle - Jr (KA 100) (11 to 15)	New - \$4800 to \$6900	Used - \$1500 to \$4500
4 Cycle – Senior (15 and up)	New – \$3700 to \$4500	Used - \$1000 to \$2500
2 Cycle - Senior (15 and up)	New - \$5500 to \$7500	Used - \$1500 to \$5000
Engines		
50cc Kid Kart	New - \$975	Used - \$300 to \$1000
Yamaha Engine	New - \$1800 to \$2300	Used - \$500 to \$2000
2 Cycle Engine Blueprinting	\$450 to \$850	
Briggs 206 Engine	New - \$595	Used - \$400 to \$500
IAME KA100	New - \$2395	
Chassis (w/o Engine)		
50cc Kid Kart	New - \$2100	Used - \$400 to \$1000
Cadet	New - \$3000	Used - \$600 to \$1500
Full Size	New - \$2400 to \$5000	Used - \$500 to \$2800
Safety Equipment		
Helmet	\$100 to \$600	
Suit (one Piece)	\$90 to \$400	
Jacket	\$75 to \$120	
Neck Collar (Foam)	\$25 to \$50	
Neck Collar (Composite)	\$90 to \$390	
Gloves	\$25 to \$75	
SFI Chest Protector (5-12 Only)	\$125 to \$200	
Rib Vest	\$50 to \$300	
Additional Equipment		
Tach / Temp Gage	\$495 to \$850	
Kart Stand	\$200 to \$500	
Electric Starter (2 Cycle Only)	\$ 225 to \$350	
Chain Breaker	\$25 to \$45	
Sprockets	\$20 each.	
Air Tank	\$30 to \$80	
Tire Pressure Gage	\$25 to \$75	
Tires	\$200 to \$250	
Race day expenses		
Gate Fee	\$8 Per Person (Includes Pit Pass)	
Race Entry Fee	\$45 1 st Class - \$20 2 nd	
Fuel	\$3.50 to \$8.00 Gallon	
Oil	\$6.00 to \$10 a bottle	

CLASS STRUCTURES

- Thompson Kart Raceway is a member track of the WKA. Racing operations are regulated by the WKA Tech Manual unless otherwise noted.
- In the interests of our Club's membership, CKRA class structures deviate from the associated class structures listed in the WKA Tech Manual.
- If any particular exception or deviation is not specifically indicated below, then follow WKA regulations.
- It is the responsibility of the driver/crew chief to know and understand the rules.
- WKA updates their regulations as necessary throughout the year and can be viewed on the WKA website.
- **CKRA also reserves the right to update regulations as necessary and will post updates on the CKRA website.**
- **CKRA reserves the right to make adjustments to class specs in the interest of maintaining equality.**

KID KARTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 5 to 7 • Participation class per WKA rules to allow children to learn to race in a friendly, fun environment. • No season points. Participation awards to each Kid Kart driver. 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Comer 50/51cc • Weight: Minimum 150 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Weight: Minimum 170 lbs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gearing: Chain #219, 10 tooth front sprocket, 89 tooth rear sprocket • Tire size 10 x 450 or 460 x 5 with maximum rear tire circumference 34" 	

2-CYCLE CADET SPORTSMAN

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 8 to 12 • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Micro Swift • Weight: Minimum 250 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro ROK • Weight – 255 lbs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yamaha is welcome to run @ 235 lbs., but parity will not be possible. 	

BRIGGS 206 JUNIOR SPORTSMAN

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 8 to 12 • Carb Lock Required • Exhaust: RLV pipe (#5506, #5507) • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - Gold Cup or CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Slide: Red (#555733) • Weight: Minimum 265 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Slide: Green (#555740) • Weight: Minimum 305 lbs.

2-CYCLE JUNIOR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 11 to 15 • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: IAME KA100 • Exhaust: 22mm IAME restrictor • Minimum 320 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

BRIGGS 206 JUNIOR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 11 to 15 • Carb Lock Required • Exhaust: RLV pipe (#5506, #5507) • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - Gold Cup or CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Slide: Blue (#555734) • Weight: Minimum 300 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Slide: Yellow (#555741) • Weight: Minimum 325 lbs. • Maximum kart weight is 195 lbs. (without driver)

2-CYCLE SENIOR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 15 and up • Clutch is mandatory • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: IAME KA100 • Exhaust Restrictor: None • Weight: Minimum 400 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: IAME KA100 • Exhaust Restrictor: 1" (Rocketech Motorsports) • Weight: Minimum 375 lbs.
	<u>Option Three</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Yamaha KT100S • Exhaust: SR-Y Pipe • Weight: Minimum 345 lbs 	

BRIGGS 206 SENIOR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ages 15 and up • Exhaust: RLV pipe (#5506, #5507) • Spec Tire: OPEN • WKA bodywork rules - Gold Cup or CIK 	<u>Option One</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Coil: Green • Weight: Minimum 345 lbs. 	<u>Option Two</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine: Briggs 206 • Coil: Blue • Weight: Minimum 385 lbs. • Maximum kart weight is 200 lbs. (without driver)

NOVICE GROUP(S)- This group will be run on an as-needed basis to provide a place for new participants to learn to race without the hazard of running with seasoned veterans. See rules page for additional details.

Race flags and their meaning

Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Race start, or restart.• Unless another flag is displayed at the starter stand, the track is assumed “Green” once the race has started
Single Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caution.• No passing• Caution is in the section of the track from where the yellow is displayed, until the next corner station not waiving a yellow.• Speed is at the discretion of the driver.• Karts involved in another incident in a part of the track already under caution will be disqualified for the remainder of the event
Double Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full course caution.• Proceed at a reduced speed using caution.• The race will be restarted at the finish line, single file when it is safe to do so.
Red	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Race has been stopped.• Proceed to the start line using EXTREME Caution.
White	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One lap to go
Blue w/ Yellow Stripe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Faster drivers approaching to lap you.• No passing for position while you are yielding to the faster drivers
Black (Rolled)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warning flag for actions on the track
Black (Open)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disqualification.• May be for actions on the track, or for a mechanical issue, exit the track.
Green and White (Rolled)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 laps to go• Flags will be rolled and pointing upwards by the head flagman.
Checker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The race has been completed.

Track Configurations

