

News 7 Dec 2021: Moving Forwards Together

Thanks to everyone that attended our Zoom meeting for all clubs this week. We had a very good response and assurance from members that we are on the right track acting as the interface with MSUK.

Despite the Covid enforced slow start to the year most clubs reported a good year. However one or two had problems which we have promised to try to help.

We asked for your thoughts and herewith a quick précis on key points discussed as a reminder, especially for the benefit of those not at the Zoom meeting:-

Kartmania generally well received but concern over so many non MSUK promoters and few ABKC clubs. Need to build stronger joined ABKC/clubs presence next time.

Dates clashes and lateness of British Kart Champs dates causing problems. ABKC already discussing with MSUK how it can be improved for 2023 but we underline they have final control of championships.

The new test day insurance at zero cost if preceding a raceday is available from MSUK and already used to good effect. Full details have been sent out to all clubs by MSUK.

Historics and electric karting are desperate for use of tracktime. BHKC for Saturday tests and Total Kart Zero for races. Get in touch if you can help.

Cleaner and greener karting policy supported in principle and in general has received a lot of support from drivers. Particular emphasis on huge quantity of tyres used in some classes. We will draw up a suggested scheme to apply at all clubs.

Promotion of karting is needed and making use of various means to help including direct links with local TeamSport circuits, Let's Go Karting scheme, and push for Bambino and Cadets. Concerns that MSUK website very difficult to find anything on.

The **ABKC Facebook page** with 2500+ members is there for the use of all clubs. Members encouraged to make full use of the free opportunities offered. Simply send an ad or info in a form that can be pasted on and it will be published. Any queries to Grahame Butterworth.

ABKC website to be updated and revised. Rapid creation of a live UK map so that potential drivers can check their local clubs. We are looking at a system which will then allow each club to have a page on the website with their full info.

Marshals training day at PFI next year with electric kart training among subjects to be covered. The MSUK training hub offers an intro to use of electric motors.

Membership of ABKC now at 28 clubs. Overhead costs significantly reduced to mirror low cost membership.

Tyre shortage brought problems for many clubs. ABKC requested to take a lead if this happens again to try to find a nationwide solution rather than localised club decisions.

Class structure changes for 2023 publicity is urgently needed so clubs and drivers can understand. Some concern at effect of 950mm Cadet chassis on pushing drivers to non-licenced racing but both will be allowed.

While **some clubs doing well**, others struggling badly with MSUK racing. ABKC will see if anything can be done to help small clubs with their problems.

Here We Go Again

Just when it looked as though we were through the worst of Covid, it raises its head again.

MSUK have stated that from January full safety scrutineering would re-commence because none of the Covid arrangements are enshrined in regulations, albeit that the current digital entry system for logging chassis and engine numbers can continue.

Given the current situation we feel all ABKC clubs should go to a new approved trial system where only a percentage of entrants are physically checked. We are asking MSUK to agree a common trial for all clubs. This will keep everyone protected from Covid but also keep insurers happy that karts and equipment being checked.

Clearly this is an urgent matter and we hope to come back to you very soon with an update.

New Club Karting Structure for 2023

Work is continuing on a new structure of grass roots club karting for 2023 which will make for lower costs all round. Detailed proposals will be available soon and we feel this and the free test day insurance will be a very significant help to those smaller clubs struggling on numbers.

This will include the availability of instant digital licences and is aimed at making the whole process easier for new drivers as well.

And Finally

From the exec at ABKC we wish all of you an excellent Christmas and hope that the current Covid fears will not dampen the spirit of karting in the UK for next year.