

Welcome to the April 2024 edition of the ABKC news.

The season is in full swing now and some changes are coming into effect which are detailed below.

Cadet Tyres

The new tyre for all Cadet classes, the Vega, is to be used from 1st April after many years of the Dunlop. Vega, via Motorsport UK, will be offering prizes for clubs, details at Kart Council.

Penalties

Please note that the penalties for breaking formation at a rolling start, accelerating early, or coming out of the corridor (tram-lines) have been reduced from 5s to 3s, or 5s for completely coming out of the corridor. If there is not timing, then it is 3 places or 5 places. See U7.8.2 and note there is an updated Blue Book on the Motorsport UK website dated 1st March and an updated Kart Yearbook from 23rd March.

RWP / RPS reminders

Please note that the Kart Rear Wheel Protection regulations have been clarified. If using the adjustable end RWP, in Junior and Senior classes (full sized chassis) then the two adjustable outer parts of the RWP must have a contrasting colour to the main central part. This can be achieved by stickers or by different coloured plastic from production (see FIA Karting TR 9.5.5). Also they must not be fixed with plates with captive nuts, as they would not have been homologated like that.

RWP Tethers

It is common practice to have a wire tether from a bracket on the chassis to keep the RWP from dropping to the track if it becomes loose. Note that a 'scoop' element is not permitted to sit beneath the RWP bracket. It could be cut off, moved back or rotated. It is still likely that, subject to the scrutineer decision, that a black and orange flag will be required if the RWP comes loose.

Judge Of Fact Reports

Clubs are reminded that a list of Judges of Fact must be listed on the Official Noticeboard during the running of your event if they have not been included in the SRs or Final Instructions. These must be listed with full legal name of the JoF and the specific regulations reference for which the person is judging must be identified next to their name.

Rotax

From 1st April the new restrictions for MicroMax come into effect. The new permitted format for the Micro Max class will be as follows: Fixed gearing 14/80 New 16mm exhaust socket Carb restrictor part number (267536) New Vega tyres and the new 16mm Exhaust Socket.

Also there are changes to spark plug regulations covered by Amendment 4 of the Karting Yearbook on the Motorsport UK website. This was just to correct a typo.

Right of Review

The Right of Review regulations C.14 have been tidied up to align with the FIA, limiting the time of a request to 7 days, and introducing a fee. See the Motorsport UK website for full details.

NCR's

The draft National Competition Rules are now published on the Motorsport UK website and are worth a look. Go to "The Sport" and then "Trial National Competition Rules". Dan Parker is looking for some more stand-alone kart events to trial the NCRs before the cut off in September. We are asking to see NCR compliant Championship Regulation and SRs pro-formas for 2025.

Motorsport UK TV links and logos

Hopefully all clubs will have put the link on their website to the Motorsport TV channel, there was a variety of associated pictures available.

Battery charging precautions for lithium batteries

- Use LiPo-specific charger: Ensure your charger is compatible with LiPo batteries.
- Charge rate: Limit charging to the same rate as maximum discharge to avoid battery damage.
- Monitor charging: Always supervise the battery during charging.
- Use fire-resistant container: Charge within a LiPo-safe bag or a similar container.
- Check temperature: Stop charging if the battery exceeds 45°C (113°F).
- Avoid over-discharging: Keep voltage above 3.0 to 3.3V per cell and balance the charge.
- Proper storage: Store batteries at 3.7 to 3.85 volts per cell for longevity, not full, not empty.
- Inspect regularly: Check the battery for wear or damage before and after use.
- Follow manufacturer instructions: Adhere to the guidelines provided by your battery's manufacturer.

Motorsport UK news update

New "Getting Started" websites will be promoted from mid-April. Note that Motorsport Week this year is 11-21 July, so if your event is in that period contact Motorsport UK for publicity material.

We expect to catch up with many of you at Kart Council, to be held at Bicester on 24th April.