



TVKC Winter Series

Round 2

5th January 2014

The start of a new season of racing came early in the year to PFI but was fantastically supported by 200 drivers. It was the 2nd Round of the 2013/2014 Winter Championship (Round 1 being in December). The weather has been fearless of late with strong winds and very heavy rain causing problems – Saturday was one of those days but Sundays forecast looked better.....other than a late call that there may be a frost! Oh....Sunday at 07.30 the track, wet from the previous day, now looked like a skating rink!! Thankfully with a slight rise in temperature and the use of our special salt-less de-icer pellets, the track was fit for action (although 80 minutes behind schedule). This brought into action what seems to be a well supported format of TQ/Pre Final/Final.

The meeting also signalled to the UK debut of the IAME X30 Junior & Senior engine/class – 9 Juniors & 10 Seniors taking part.



IAME Cadet – Enough entries to require a split grid meant that, as always, competition would be fierce! Two Timed Qualifying sessions showed that the second session was slightly quicker with Kiern Jewiss taking the pole. Jewiss converted his pole into a Pre Final win while Tom Wood looked in great form as he dominated the second Pre Final. So onto the main Final with a drying track. It was a fight between these two – Jewiss while leading for most of the race always had the threatening Wood on his bumper – in fact Wood appeared to have something in hand and so it was with a few laps to go, he took the lead and went on to win by almost 2 seconds. Lewis Thompson was also in strong form as he made the break with Wood and ended up with an excellent second place. Jewiss fell back into third and had his work cut out to hold off Zac Robertson who finished a close fourth and Dexter Patterson fifth.



HONDA Cadet – TQ is not very familiar to these guys – so it almost turned into an 8 Minute race! The BRK Team must have been delighted with the TQ result – Tom Canning on Pole and Mark Kimber on two! Jamie Rogers was an excellent third fastest. Wow what a Final these young drivers gave us!! There is no fear and no quarter given. The dice at the front was a real ‘cat and mouse’ affair between Apps and an ‘on form’ Rogers. Rogers used his head to great effect in the race and was always able to respond to the challenges from Apps – these two battled all the way to the line where for all the world it looked as though Jamie Rogers had held it to the line.....but.....a well timed charge by Myles Apps to the line just saw him take the win (as declared by the Timekeepers). A brilliant race. Harry Thompson drove very well all day and despite a lowly TQ, managed to fight his way to a very creditable third at the finish.



JUNIOR MAX – A very strong entry and one which had many potential winners! Fastest in TQ was Tom Harvey who looked very comfortable in the very wet conditions. Stef Charalmbous was a creditable second fastest with Tom Gamble third. In the main Final, Tom Harvey couldn't find the set up as he slipped to a disappointing fourth place finish. Cameron Roberts showed pace in the slippery conditions to claim third, while Tom Gamble had a solid race finishing second. But the man of the race had to be Josh Skelton who came alive in the final and looked very composed as he headed the pack to take the win!

1st Rookie – Shaun Davidson



MINI MAX – Well it was a ‘clean sweep’ for Dean McDonald – Fastest in TQ, converted into a Pre Final Win and then a well controlled Final - led from start to finish – Game over! Lucas Vaus was his closest rival in the final and drove a strong race to claim second. A little way back the dicing trio of Rory Hudson, Elliot Harvey and Thomas Turner had a great battle for the final podium spot which ran out as above – Hudson taking third.

1st Rookie – Jae Dale (an excellent 18th overall)



SENIOR MAX – An excellent grid and some very hard racing. TQ belonged to Nathan Aston who looks more and more assured as time goes by – claiming Pole. A surprise and welcomed return to karts for Jake Dennis as he took an excellent Grid 2 slot in very wet conditions. Thomas Arme was, as always, in reliable form and was third fastest. Nathan Aston continued his domination of the event by taking the Pre Final win and the main Final win – the final, would you believe, being contested on slick tyres (Oh how we love the British weather) In the final his nearest challenger was Arme who was inching closer to Aston lap by lap but had to settle for the runner up spot. Odhran Henry drove a strong race to take third, just beating a flying Matthew Hirst into fourth.



JUNIOR TKM – Arran Mills was the star of this class showing great skills in all weather conditions. Second went to Alex Forward with Stephen Letts third.



JUNIOR X30 - All the drivers were getting used to their equipment so it was a bit of a lottery as to who was going to take the win. Daniel McAuley however mastered everything and took an historic first ever UK X30 Junior win. Nice to see Matthew Round- Garrido taking the challenge and moving from TKM – his reward was the runner up spot – 2nd.



SENIOR X30 – The class obviously has some ‘pulling power’ as amongst the entry list was none other than multiple British and CIK Champion George Russell, who was joined by the very experienced John Norris, Jack Dex having a return to karts, and the perennial hero Danny Cruttenden. So this was always going to be a lively affair and on new equipment. From the beginning, although not the ultimate pace setter, Cruttenden worked his ‘mature’ magic! When it mattered he drove a blinder and took the historic first X30 Senior class win. Russell always looked dangerous but just couldn’t find the ultimate pace – running in second in the final, he retired late in the race. This handed the place to John Norris – a solid drive. Jack Dex, who at times looked very quick, finished a creditable third.

All Results and current Championship standings can be found on the website.

Published 08 January 2014

Images Courtesy of Chris Walker (Kartpix).