

East Anglian Trophy Meeting – 11th/12th June 2011

Hunts Kart Racing club hosted the annual East Anglian Trophy Meeting over the weekend of 11th and 12th June, and were joined with competitors from the National Karting Federation 125 Championship. With timed qualifying forming the basis of the grid for the first round of heats, it was important to make a good showing early on. The heats on Saturday were run in the dry, but the skies opened on Sunday when wet weather gear was the order of the day.

Junior Rotax: Thomas Prior took the early lead and was looking fairly comfortable until pole man Levi Coombs appeared in second place. Prior did his best to keep ahead of Coombs, but after three laps, Coombs swept past into the lead. Brandon Grinter held onto third place although Bobby Neil was gunning for him towards the end.

Senior Rotax: With Henry Easthope and Marc Dawson fighting for the lead, there was little room for manoeuvre in the first corner and several karts were knocked sideways including the two front row men. Alex Rowley was astounded to find himself in the lead, having started back in nineteenth place, but he made the most of his good fortune to pull out a good gap on the rest of them. Robert Gilford and Josh Collings were also handily placed and they began to close the gap to the leader. With time running out, it looked like Rowley was under threat, but he hung on to take his first ever race win! Tom Jordan won the Novice Trophy.

Mini Max: The Mini Max drivers took to the track as the rain started to come down heavier. This didn't trouble Jack Bartholomew who led from pole extending his lead each lap and setting fastest lap of the race in the process. Jai Nijjar lost out at Stow on the first time round as he was forced wide and had to watch several karts go past him. James Webb was initially running second, but he just didn't have the pace to stay with the leaders. Luke Stark and Daniel O Bierne both passed him early on and then he lost out to Charlie Savage and Jia Nijjar. Of these, O Bierne and Nijjar were the two to come through for the podium positions.

Rotax 177: This was undoubtedly the Final of the day with the result in doubt for much of the race. Tom Clarke made it through into the lead, but was quickly passed by Jordan Aveline. Then Rob Carter, Scott Clee and a recovering Tim Penton began to figure in proceedings. Clee, who had missed the timed qualifying session started from near the back of the grid, but was soon up to fourth, then third and finally second. Penton

Cadet Libre: Jake Blackledge made a great start to lead by over one and a half seconds at the end of lap one. He extended his lead each lap until half distance when Lewis Taylor began to make inroads into the lead. Taylor put in a number of fast laps to catch and then pass Blackledge, but he couldn't shake the SC plate off and had to work hard to keep ahead. Cole Atkins had a lonely race in third; unchallenged by Ellis Hanks who had his hand full defending his position from Jack Bliss. Oscar Proietti won the Novice Trophy.

Rotax 177 Masters: Gordon Chenery was the first to emerge from the pack as they came through the Willows and this was to his advantage as the rest of them tripped over each other slowing themselves down. Greg Finke was quickly into second with Richard Lloyd pre-occupied by the battling Steve Sawford and Wayne Smithers. Lloyd fought ahead of them, but then lost his third place to Sawford. Finke was now closing the gap to Chenery and at half distance had this down to less than half a second. For lap after lap, it looked like Chenery had just enough in reserve, but with on the last lap, Finke went very late on the brakes into Stow to catch Chenery out and take the lead.

Honda Cadet: Ethan Andrews went from first to near last in the first corner whilst new Welsh Champion Max Wieteska rolled to a halt and out of the race. This left the way clear for Uzair Master to dominate the race from his front row position which he had fought hard for in the Pre-Final. Master made it look easy as he extend hi lead to over four seconds. Rory Hudson came through from ninth to second in that first corner, almost the opposite of what had happened to him in the Pre-Final! William Tregurtha, Harrison Huggan and William Stacey went toe to toe for third, but it was Tregurtha who emerged ahead of the others. Bethany Abbott won the Novice Trophy.

TKM Extreme: Jack Kemp had a very successful Pre-Final to line up on pole for the Final and he made the post of his advantage to get away from the pack. With the rain now hammering down, Kemp was too quick for his rivals and finished comfortably ahead. Sam Grogan had a good start to move into second and he spent the race keeping Chris Pyke behind him. Pyke's speed improved as the race went on and a last gasp effort on the run to the line nearly came off, but he had to settle for third. Paul Yemc won the Novice Trophy.

Junior TKM: Once he had successfully negotiated the first corner, Daniel Burton was untouchable, disappearing into the distance at the rate of one second a lap. Jamie Tyler was concentrating on Chris Horn who wouldn't give up the challenge for second. Horn got his nose in front but Tyler fended him off, only for Horn to make a decisive move with two laps to go. Sebastian Jones won the Novice Trophy.

125 NKF and 125 Club Drivers in the National Kart Federation 125 round ran in tandem with the 125 club racers. It was club racer Richard Palmer who led the way pulling out a substantial lead on Tom Witts, the leading NKF runner. Once he had got past Jonny Buchanan and Tom Moore, Dafydd Iles made a determined effort to catch Witts, but Witts was able to respond and kept Iles a safe distance behind him.

Results round up	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Novice
Junior Rotax	Levi Coombs	Thomas Prior	Brandon Grinter	-
Senior Rotax	Alex Rowley	Robert Gilford	Josh Collings	Tom Jordan
Mini Max	Jack Bartholomew	Jai Nijjar	James Webb	-
Rotax 177	Tim Penton	Scott Clee	Rob Carter	-
Cadet Libre	Lewis Taylor	Jake Blackledge	Cole Atkins	Oscar Proietti
Rotax 177 Masters	Greg Finke	Gordon Chenery	Steve Sawford	-
Honda Cadet	Uzair Master	Rory Hudson	William Tregurtha	Bethany Abbott
TKM Extreme	Jack Kemp	Sam Grogan	Chris Pyke	Paul Yemc
Junior TKM	Daniel Burton	Chris Horn	Jamie Tyler	Sebastian Jones
125 NKF	Tom Witts	Dafydd Iles	Jonny Buchanan	-
125 Club	Richard Palmer	Jason Edgar	Chris Thexton	-