

HKRC 2011 Championships Round 2 – 13th February 2011

Over 170 drivers contested the second round of Hunts Kart Racing Club's 2011 championships at Kimbolton circuit on Sunday 13th February. With intermittent rain accompanying the strong wind early on, several grids were left head scratching over choice of tyre for the finals. Later on in the afternoon, the rain set in making wets the only way to go.

Cadet Libre:- James Manning made good use of pole to lead in the opening laps, but Lewis Taylor was soon on a charge moving past Jake Blackledge and Manning in consecutive laps. Ellis Hanks, Manning and Blackledge were occupied battling for position allowing Taylor to make a break for it and secure a commanding victory. Hanks moved up to second, but Manning and Blackledge both passed him with one lap to go. Bradley White won the novice trophy with a strong drive to ninth.

Honda Cadet: - Rory Hudson lead Ethan Andrews and Harrison Huggan, these three pulling away from Ryan Gillespie and James Hillery. Huggan was soon into second and chasing Hudson, with Andrews struggling to hang on in third. A lap later Huggan passed Hudson, but couldn't shake Hudson off. On the last lap, Hudson pulled off a determined passing move into Kimbolton, leaving Huggan no time to respond. Andrews ended up a lonely third with Anthony Ayres the first novice finishing sixth.

Junior TKM: - Front row man Ryan Green was forced into a spin as the pack entered Stow for the first time, leaving him at the back of the field. This left poleman Stephen Letts fending off Toby Sowery with Chris Horn trying to keep up. Sowery eventually managed to get his nose in front on lap eight, but Letts was doggedly determined to fight back and made a great move to regain the lead with two laps to go. Sowery wasn't finished though and stormed back ahead on the last lap. Cassie Clarke took the Novice trophy.

Mini Max: - Jack Bartholomew led from start to finish, but fellow front row driver James Webb dropped right to the back. Matthew Arnold assumed second place to give chase, but never got close to the leader. There was a big battle for third to sixth with Alex Sissins, Lewis Outten, Sam Smelt and Aaron Drury all involved until a rain dampened track caught some of them out, allowing Webb to continue a fine recovery drive through the field to finish third.

Junior Rotax: - The track was properly damp as the Junior Rotax drivers took to the track. Poleman Chad Shiner lost out on the first corner whilst Liam Ferguson shot into a strong lead. Mastering the conditions, Ferguson kept everyone at bay. Bobby Neil took second place from Shaun Arnold and was closing on the leader as the laps counted down. Meanwhile, Toby Reynolds was catching Arnold hand over fist and went for the pass at Kestrel, but the slippery track caught him out and a graceful 360 degree spin resulted. Reynolds continued back in sixth as Arnold gratefully took the flag in third. James Lambton took the Novice trophy.

Senior Rotax: - The Seniors were all out on wets bar one, but it didn't help the front five who all dropped down the order on lap one. Lewis Plato kept his head and drove faultlessly to win to win by seven seconds. In a fairly processional race, Aaron Head and Craig Hook took second and third.

Rotax 177 and TKM Extreme: - Tim Penton was the lights-to-flag winner of the 177 class leaving Matt Barnes and Christian Vann trailing in his wake. Vann had a couple of laps in second early on, but Barnes took the place back and continued there to the flag. In Extreme, Will Van Es was unstoppable winning by over six seconds. Ashley Ruggles has second in his grasp until Ash Crossley passed him at Hanger on the last lap. With

Ruggles going off onto the grass, he had no time to respond. Kyle Rollins was next over the line to win the Novice trophy.

Gearbox 125 and 250: - Martin Smith and Ron Stamp were the main protagonists in the 250 class. Smith held sway throughout surviving Stamp's attempt to pass at Kestrel which ended with the latter in a spin.

With only two 125 karts competing, Paul Lawson was too strong for Richie Schmitz.

Rotax 177 Masters: - Greg Finke and Wayne Smithers had shared the heat wins and it was these two that contested the lead. Smithers pressed hard and made top spot his with four laps to go. Finke was unable to respond and finished second ahead of Martin Reader who had an untroubled race in third.

Results round up	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Novice
Cadet Libre	Lewis Taylor	James Manning	Jake Blackledge	Bradley White
Honda Cadet	Rory Hudson	Harrison Huggan	Ethan Andrews	Anthony Ayres
Junior TKM	Toby Sowery	Stephen Letts	Chris Horn	Cassie Clarke
Mini Max	Jack Bartholomew	Matthew Arnold	James Webb	-
Junior Rotax	Liam Ferguson	Bobby Neil	Shaun Arnold	James Lambton
Senior Rotax	Lewis Plato	Aaron Head	Craig Hook	Henry Riley
Rotax 177	Tim Penton	Matt Barnes	Christian Vann	James Levy
TKM Extreme	Will Van Es	Ash Crossey	Ashley Ruggles	Kyle Rollins
125	Paul Lawson	Ritchie Schmitz	-	-
250	Martin Smith	Ron Stamp	-	-
Rotax 177 Masters	Wayne Smithers	Greg Finke	Martin Reader	-