

## **HKRC 2011 Championships Round 4 – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

Glorious sunshine greeted close to 200 competitors at Kimbolton on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April for the fourth round of the club championships. The club also welcomed competitors for the inaugural round of the Kartmania Honda Challenge, the first time Prokarts have been seen racing at Kimbolton circuit.

**Mini Max:** - James Webb had two heat wins, Tom Gadd one, so Webb lined up on pole for the first final of the afternoon. Lewis Outten started from the inside of row two with two fastest laps to his credit. It was Webb who did the business in the final. Gadd following was unable to make any impression on the leader and then lost two places to Outten and Max Clarke. Kieron Metson took the Novice award.

**Cadet Libre:** - This race was a battle of wits between Cole Atkins and Ellis Hanks. Hanks grabbed the lead at the start, but Atkins who had already won two of the heats was soon ahead. He couldn't shake Hanks off though and they circulated nose to tail, pulling away from those behind. Jack Bliss was out of sorts in the final, dropping from second to fifth in the space of two laps. Scott Snell battled with Teddy Wilson for third with Bliss trying to stay in touch. Up front Hanks took the lead with two laps to go, but Atkins wasn't giving up. Onto the final lap Atkins got good speed on down Hines Straight to retake the lead, but Hanks out-fumbled him at the Bus Stop to snatch first place back and there was nothing further Atkins could do. Snell finished third with Jake Blackledge and Jack Bliss demoting Teddy Wilson to sixth. Adam Sparrow won the Novice award.

**Junior Rotax:** - This was one of the closest Junior Rotax finals for some time with eight karts in contention for the top three spots. Josh Hatton made his mark early on, leading Toby Reynolds and Danny McCarthy. Reynolds was briefly ahead on lap two but Hatton struck back straight away. Reynolds kept plugging away and crossed the line in front at half distance, only for Hatton to get him back one lap later. Reynolds then tried for the lead at Stow, but ended up on the outside line and had to watch as five karts went past him! Now it was Chad Shiner's turn to battle Hatton and he took the lead next time round. Bobby Neil was watching on and saw the opportunity to follow Shiner through into second. Neil was now focussed on top spot and taking the lead with three laps to go, stayed there to the end. Shiner followed him over the line in second and Liam Ferguson grabbed third on the final lap. James Lambton took the novice trophy for the second month running.

**Honda Cadet:** - William Tregurtha was the only one of the front runners to have an uneventful race as he consistently extended his lead lap after lap. The group that followed was lead initially by Rory Hudson, then by Ben Scott, with Harrison Huggan and William Stacey popping up in third from time to time, as positions swapped on a regular basis. There was drama on the last lap when back marker Anthony Wade spun on the exit of Kestrel and was unable to move. Tregurtha managed to avoid him on this way to the flag, but some of the chasing pack weren't so fortunate and either clipped the stricken kart, or each other as they tried to take avoiding action. Harrison and Stacey were two to lose out, but Hudson and Scott survived to finish second and third. Evan Colquhoun was the Novice trophy winner.

**Junior TKM:** - Danny Keirle made short work of passing Matthew Green and Ryan Stronach and went on to build a lead of over a second. Stronach made his move for second with three laps to go, but on the last lap lost out to both Davies and Daniel Burton, with Davies getting the verdict by less than a tenth. Ryan Owers took home the Novice award.

**Kartmania Honda Challenge:-** The inaugural round of the Honda challenge saw Steven Welsh take a clean sweep winning all three heats and the final. Sam Tugwell made a race of it finishing close behind in second, with Steve Lyall coming through from the back of the grid for third – just half a kart length ahead of Andrew Johnson as they crossed the line.

**Senior Rotax:** - Henry Easthope is making a habit of lights-to-flag wins in Senior Rotax - this was his second in two months - but he had to work hard on the last lap to keep Ben Palmer behind him. Palmer took some time to move from fifth to second and with fastest lap under his belt, it looked like he might go one step further, but it was not to be. Andrew Winter finished where he started in third, recovering the position from Jake Dawson with two laps to go.

**TKM Extreme:** - Throughout the heats, Michael Cornell looked to be the only driver to have the pace to stop Will Van Es running away with things, but sadly, this speed deserted him in the final and he immediately slumped from his grid two start back to fifth. Van Es disappeared into the distance leaving Sam Grogan, Chris Pike and Lewis Raine to battle for the runner up spot. Grogan seemed to have the initiative, but at the Bus Stop on the last lap, Raine saw the narrowest of gaps open up and went for second. Unfortunately the gap closed as quickly as it opened and the two collided, forcing Raine to a stop. Grogan continued, but Pike was now right with him. Pike went down the inside at Kestrel and as Grogan turned in there was another coming together. Pike survived to finish second, but Grogan ended up off the circuit allowing Cornell through to third. Kyle Rollins won his scrap with Phil Meakins for the Novice trophy.

**Rotax 177:** - Tim Penton is making winning a habit at Kimbolton and he continued his fine run of form with another well judged drive. Disposing of Matt Barnes on lap two, Penton went on to build up a comfortable lead. Rob Carter went from twelve to fifth in one lap and continued this rapid progress into second before half distance. There he stayed however with Barnes third, just ahead of Kelvyn Woodhead who had also been second early on before Carter arrived and Barnes followed Carter past.

**Rotax 177 Masters:** - Martin Reader held sway throughout, pulling out a decent lead whilst those behind him sorted themselves out. Paul Bell led the chase, but was caught and passed by Paul Cook who really got the hammer down and began to reel in the leader. With one lap to go, Cook had caught Reader, but was unable to find a way past. Martin Gadd dropped back at the start as the outside of the grid were all shuffled back a few positions around Stow Corner first time. Gadd's recovery drive took him past Neil Varden and Paul Bell. Wayne Smithers looked like he might be a threat to Gadd's third spot, but he ran out of time to make a challenge.

Results round up	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Novice
Mini Max	James Webb	Lewis Outten	Max Clarke	Kieron Metson
Cadet Libre	Ellis Hanks	Cole Atkins	Scott Snell	Adam Sparrow
Junior Rotax	Bobby Neil	Chad Shiner	Liam Ferguson	James Lambton
Honda Cadet	William Tregurtha	Rory Hudson	Ben Scott	Evan Colquhoun
Junior TKM	Danny Keirle	Matthew Davies	Daniel Burton	Ryan Owers
Kartmania Challenge	Steven Welsh	Sam Tugwell	Steve Lyall	-
Senior Rotax	Henry Easthope	Ben Palmer	Andrew Winter	-
TKM Extreme	Will Van Es	Chris Pike	Michael Cornell	Kyle Rollins
Rotax 177	Tim Penton	Rob Carter	Matt Barnes	-
Rotax 177 Masters	Martin Reader	Paul Cook	Martin Gadd	-