



Australian Karting Association (QLD) Inc.

State Karting Council Meeting Minutes Saturday/Sunday 6th & 7th July, 2013

Hinkler's Conference Centre
Quality Hotel Airport International
528 Kingsford Smith Drive,
Hamilton. QLD 4007.
PH - 07 3268 6388

Commencing at 11.30am

STATE KARTING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Opened at : 11.41am SATURDAY 8.38am SUNDAY
Item 1 - Confirmation of attendance, proxies and apologies

Proxies	Townsville Mackay	Carried By	Chairman Chairman
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Attendance

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>Attendee</u>	<u>Position</u>
BUNDABERG	Robin PETERSEN	Delegate
CAIRNS	David HARRIS	Delegate
CAIRNS	Annette DODGE	Co Delegate
COOLOOLA	John GALOS	Delegate
EMERALD	Brett AIRD	Delegate
GLADSTONE	David BENNETT	Delegate
GOLD COAST	Buey DEAN	Delegate
IPSWICH	Ian MATHER	Delegate
IPSWICH	Donnelle WALDON	Co Delegate
MACKAY	Chairman	Proxy
MT.ISA	Paul SIDNELL	Delegate
ROCKHAMPTON	Malcolm SAUNDERS	Proxy
TOOWOOMBA	Trevor WHITE (Sat Only)	Delegate
TOWERS	John McCLEVERTY	Delegate
TOWNSVILLE	Chairman	Proxy
VINTAGE	Neil COLEMAN	Delegate
VINTAGE	Allan KING (Sun Only)	Co Delegate
WARWICK	Peter LANE	Delegate
WHITSUNDAYS	Shane THIRLWALL	Delegate

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	Ashley WAARDENBERG
Sen Vice President	Don INGRAM
Treasurer	Richard LOSPER
Secretary	John MARTIN
NKC Delegate	Mark HOGAN

VISITORS

Observer	Richard LITTLER (Sat Only)	Vintage
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Apologies

Track Inspector North	David PRICE	Apologies
Track Inspector South	John BRYDON	Apologies
Junior Vice President	Jill SAMSON	Apologies
State Technical Officer	Terry SHEEDY	Apologies
State Officials Co-Ordinator	Chris ROBINSON	Apologies
NKC Co-Delegate	Steve PATTEL	Apologies
Life Member	Maureen CAPRI	Apologies
Life Member	Alf CAPRI	Apologies

Motion: That the proxies, attendance and apologies be accepted.

Moved : Bundaberg

Seconded : Whitsundays

Voting : For - 15 Against - 0 Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 2 – Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

Trevor White – Engine Builder

Item 3 - Acceptance of digital recorder

Motion: That the digital recorder is accepted to assist with recording the minutes.

Moved : Whitsundays

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 15 Against - 0 Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Motion 1

That John McCleverty be acknowledged as delegate for Charters Towers for this meeting, and that his position be confirmed by Charters Towers for future meetings

Moved : Toowoomba

Seconded : Cairns

Voting : For – 13 Against - 0 Abstain – Warwick, Gold Coast

Motion : Carried

Item 4 - Open meeting to observers

The meeting be open to observers except where it relates to legal matters.

Item 5 - Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation: That the minutes be accepted from the 6th & 7th April, 2013 State Karting Council Meeting be accepted.

Moved : Gold Coast

Seconded : Bundaberg

Voting : For - 15 Against - 0 Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Recommendation: That the minutes of the teleconference held on the 13th May, 2013 State Karting Council Meeting be accepted.

Moved : Bundaberg

Seconded : Emerald

Voting : For - 14 Against : Towers Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 6 – Business Arising from Previous Minutes

SKC Meeting 6th and 7th April

Item 9e - Gold Coast asked if any action. Chair followed up from last meeting with regards to John McLeverly and Graeme Hancock to provide the previously constructed CLG. The current structure can be first improved, model rules addressed later in this agenda.

Item 9f - Neil Coleman wished to clarify that he personally, not on behalf of Vintage raised the item.

Item 9h – Cairns asked if the roster had been circulated. It was put on website. **Secretary to distribute.**

SKC Meeting on May 13th

Towers queried the validity of the voting as per provision 26 of the constitution. The chair directed Towers to provision 21(iv) as discussed during the meeting and reiterated the process that ensued during the meeting to ensure that the vote remained secret. Discussion continued.

Motion 2

That the Delegate from Towers no longer be heard on this matter.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 13 Against - Towers Abstain - Cairns

Motion : Carried

Item 7 - REPORTS

Item 7a – President – Ashley Waardenberg (see attached)
Item 7b – Senior Vice President – Don Ingram (see attached)
Item 7c – Junior Vice President – Jillian Samson (see attached)
Item 7d – Treasurer – Richard Losper (see attached)
Item 7e – Secretary/Licensing Officer – John Martin (see attached)
Item 7f – Officials Coordinator – Chris Robinson (see attached)
Item 7g – State Technical Officer – Terry Sheedy (see attached)
Item 7h – Track Inspector North – David Price (see attached)
Item 7i – Track Inspector South – John Brydon (see attached)
Item 7j – NKC Delegate – Mark Hogan
Item 7k – NKC Co Delegate – Steven Pattel

SKC Delegates Reports – Verbal (maximum 90 seconds)

Motion: Acceptance of all reports

Moved : Mt Isa

Seconded Gladstone

Voting : For - 15

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8 – AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting opened with Item 8L.

Item 8a – Cairns Request for Upgrade to “B” grade to enable drivers to compete in Junior Clubman without required endorsements.

Motion: That drivers licences be upgraded to “Junior Performance”.

Moved : Cooloola

Seconded : Cairns

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - Whitsundays

Motion : Carried

Item 8b – Cairns Request for Karting Queensland Financial Data

See Attached Agenda Item 8b.

Information provided.

Towers delegate excused from meeting at 4:10pm.

Meeting adjourned after item 8n at 5:10pm.

Meeting resumed 7th July at 8:38am.

Toowoomba delegate conveyed apologies for being unable to attend day 2.

Item 8c – Gladstone proposes 7 motions for discussion and voting by Special Resolution.

That the Constitution of the Australian Karting Association (Queensland) Inc. is amended as follows:

Motion 1 - 20. (i) Remove 'three (3) months' and replace with 'four (4) months.'

Reason: *Our AGM is traditionally held in October which currently does not comply with our Constitution.*

Discussion noted that there is a 6 months provision provided for in the Act.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Towers

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Motion 2 - 20. (iii)(f) Add 'The construction of these fees may be revisited at the following quarter's General Meeting.' 20. (iii)(g) Add 'The construction of these fees may be revisited at the following quarter's General Meeting.'

Reason: *The Executive being voted in at the AGM may well not be fully cognizant of the requirements for funding the year ahead.*

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Rockhampton

Voting : For – 7 Against – Emerald, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Bundaberg, Towers, Warwick

Abstain - 0

Motion : Lost

Gladstone noted they will consider submitting a revised version of how the fees could be revisited.

Motion 3 - 21 (vii) Delete 'but always on the official stationary of the Member Club concerned'

Reason: *As most correspondence is now electronic is there a need for headed notepaper, provided the Proxy is submitted by the Secretary of the Member Club concerned.*

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Warwick

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Motion 4 - 17 (b) & 17 (e) Add 'A meeting held under these circumstances waives the right of participants to call for a Secret Ballot.'

Reason: *The impracticality of calling for a Secret Ballot in these circumstances has been demonstrated. If it is the intention of a Member to exercise this option then the holding of a meeting by electronic means should be contested at the time of calling.*

Discussion was held and the motion was withdrawn. **The executive to investigate electronic secret ballot.**

Motion 5 - 21 (iv) Add 'Refer to Rules 17 (b) and 17 (e).'

Reason: To clarify the ruling if Motion 4 is adopted.

Moved :

Seconded :

Voting : For -

Against -

Abstain -

Motion : Withdrawn

Discussion was held and the motion was withdrawn.

Motion 6 - 26 Remove 'Voting at all meetings' and replace with 'Voting at in person meetings' Add 'Refer to Rules 17 (b) and 17 (e).'

Reason: To clarify the ruling if Motion 4 is adopted.

Moved :

Seconded :

Voting : For -

Against -

Abstain -

Motion : Withdrawn

Discussion was held and the motion was withdrawn.

Motion 7 - Add: POSTAL VOTE Where a resolution calls for a Postal Vote the Secretariat will send a ballot form by electronic means to the Delegate and Secretary of all Members entitled to vote within five (5) days of the calling. A fourteen (14) day period will be allowed for the returning of the Member's completed form and those not returned will be classed as in the Negative. The result will be communicated to all Members within five (5) days of the closing date.

Reason: This should represent a saving in time and expense for less contentious issues, most especially when Clubs need to ratify the decision of their Delegate.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8d – The Karting QLD Executive proposes the adoption of the Volunteering QLD Code of Practice.

Reason: This code of practice has been developed by an organisation that liaises with Government and identifies practices with regards to how Volunteers should be respected and the opportunities/rights they should receive. This document also identifies policies and procedures that can be worked towards implementation, including a code of behaviour and disciplinary policies/procedures for the well-being of volunteers engaged with Karting QLD. Such adoption could also be included as part of the “Objectives” of our Association within the constitution.

Warwick raised discussion with regards to the intent of the 16 hours limitation in the code. Cairns also raised considering, aligning to the CAMS policies. Discussion was based both working to together.

Motion 5 : Gladstone moved for AKAQ to adopt the Volunteering QLD Code of Practice subject to clarification of the issue of volunteer hours.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Rockhampton

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Motion 6: To investigate the benefits of adopting CAMS OHS Policy asap.

Moved : Cairns

Seconded : Emerald

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8e – The Karting QLD Executive proposes we apply for membership to Volunteering QLD.

Reason: Volunteering QLD is a support network for volunteer based organisations. In addition to supporting their cause, we have an opportunity to use their network to recruit volunteers and advertise via their website. Note, that a condition of application is to comply with the Volunteering code of practice.

Motion 7 : That subject to the satisfactory acceptance of item 8d that AKAQ moves to applying for membership to Volunteering QLD.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8f – The Karting QLD Executive proposes that a Code of Conduct, and encompassing procedures including discipline/penalties, for the SKC Management and Delegate behaviour, including correspondence, is introduced.

Reason: self-explanatory

Towers explained that the AKA National have a policy that we could seek to align with. The importance of how adjudication would be handled was also discussed.

Motion 8: Mount Isa proposes the executive to investigate AKA National Policy and Others on Code of Conduct including discipline / penalties for the SKC Management & Delegate Behaviour including correspondence.

Moved : Mt Isa

Seconded : Ipswich

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8g – The Karting QLD Executive proposes that we purchase the NEFSIS video conferencing software as per the attached quotation of \$1800.

Reason: This software has been used on a weekly basis by the Executive and has provided a functional interface for the invitation of other parties as required. In addition, the software can be used by all clubs with the introduction of a calendar system. There is a movement in how volunteers are participating in organisations in the digital age and “virtual volunteering” has been hallmarked as a potential source of increased “quality” of volunteers and “engagement” with volunteers; refer to the following: <http://www.volunteeringqld.org.au/web/index.php/policy-research/menu/policy/741-virtual-volunteering>. In particular, the use of video conferencing software enhances the experience of volunteering for organisations, where the duties involved are not traditional “face-to-face” – such as the spread of the management across QLD. Previous trialling by Ipswich Kart Club also found that offering the meetings by video conference, in combination with less regular, face-face meetings, increased the participation and willingness of members to be involved in the club’s management committee – for further information regarding its utility and potential to increase participation at the club level, it is suggested to contact Ipswich Kart Club.

Motion 9: Gladstone moves that AKAQ purchases the NEFSIS Video Conferencing Software as per quotation of \$1800.00 US.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Warwick

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - Towers

Motion : Carried

Allan King from the Vintage Karting Association arrived and gave an overview of an event that they will be hosting in 2014 in conjunction with Ipswich Kart Club. There will be a trade show event, and international drivers including their karts have been recruited to the event. The Ipswich City Council has become involved, and there are plans underway to extend the event further. Allan advised that more updates will be coming in the future.

Item 8h – The Karting QLD Executive proposes that the constitution is brought up to date with the provisions of the Model Rules.

Reason – The current constitution is currently lacking the clarity of the model rules on a number of provisions, this has been noted on a number of occasions. [Add Dispute Resolution](#).

Motion 10: That the constitution is brought up to date with the provisions of the Model Rules.

Moved : Rockhampton

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion :

Item 8i – The Karting QLD Executive would like to discuss items to be budgeted for in preparation for the AGM.

The Karting QLD Executive request all clubs put forward non-frivolous items via their nominated delegates for discussion at this meeting. Executive suggestions for budgeted items: (1) QLD State Open Championships Fund and (2) Travel/Accommodation Fund for club delegates to attend SKC Meetings.

Further suggestions from the meeting included (1) Championship Fund, (2) Training budget, (3) AKAQ Radio's for major events - after experiences at Bundaberg State Titles, (4) Come and Try Trailor review and budget, (5) Advertising/Promotion, (6) State-wide series (discussion continued into QLD Karter of the year), (7) Closed titles sponsorship and series - Closed State Titles winners get free entry to Open State Titles (8) Track Inspections, (9) Track development fund (10) Recording Equipment, (11) Travel funds (with review of reimbursement policy), (12) Mentoring Program

Item 8j – The Karting QLD Executive suggest we approach a professional Organisation / Employ an individual with trained skills in policy development to assist with the implementation and updating of policies.

Reason: The current policies are outdated and require revision. There a number of areas that we, as an association, have fallen behind in, with regards to current practices of volunteer based organisations that require further policies to be implemented. Some of these policies also impact the ability to apply for grants, and as already noted (Item 8e), to utilise volunteer based resources. This would also include the development of clear position-descriptions / requirements, for instance in the handling of the Secretary position. Other policies include the Commission for Children Policy, QLD Smart State Policy.

Motion 10 : Mt Isa Club proposes to approach a person skilled to write and update current policies and assist in the implementation of such policies, alternatively a quote be obtained and budgeted for.

Moved : Mt Isa

Seconded : Cairns

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8k – WHS practices and requirements for volunteer based organisations.

Where does Karting QLD stand - David Price.

Currently in progress.

Item 8l – The Karting QLD Executive recommends that the current QLD National Delegate incumbents are relinquished.

Reason: To be discussed at the SKC Meeting. QLD National Delegates have been requested to attend.

Discussion was tabled with regards to communication, the roles of the Delegates and the importance of interaction with the State Secretary. It was acknowledged that the roles of the Delegate may cease following the next meeting.

Motion 3: NKC Co-Delegate Steve Pattel is stood down. A new delegate appointed by the SKC.

Moved : Bundaberg

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 7

Against – Cairns, Towers

Abstain – Rockhampton,

Gladstone, Toowoomba, Cooloola, Whitsundays, Mt Isa

Motion : Carried

Motion 4: Gladstone moves that the President of AKAQ be appointed Co-Delegate to the NKC.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Rockhampton

Voting : For - 10 Against - Towers Abstain – Mt Isa, Whitsundays, Cairns, Cooloola

Motion : Carried

Item 8m – Introduction of meetings between the Executive and Clubs on a rotating basis using the NEFSIS Software via the implementation of a calendar.

Don Ingram will give an update.

Motion: That the AKAQ Exec introduce meetings between Exec and Clubs on a rotating basis. Updated calendar to be prepared and circulated.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Gold Coast

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8n – The Karting QLD Executive will give an update on Financial Matters in Camera.

Motion: To move to in camera at 4.18pm Saturday.

Moved : Gold Coast

Seconded : Ipswich

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Meeting came out of camera at 5.05pm Saturday. Unanimous resolve to lodge matter with Police.

Item 8o – The Karting QLD Executive proposes to endorse a promotional karting event planned with the V8 Supercars and AKA National to be hosted in QLD – update provided at meeting.

This event is proposed to utilise a non-member circuit that will be licensed specifically (and inspected accordingly) for this event and will be promoted by Karting QLD as a kart meeting for all QLD Kart Clubs. This represents a significant promotional opportunity to expose a professional level of karting to the audiences of V8 Supercars. The event will be a “neutral” cost event, with no out of pocket expenses borne by Karting QLD.

A report was tabled from Lee Hanatschek. Discussion arose regarding the event and the classes, in particular the balance of CIK and regular club meeting classes.

Motion 12 : To endorse a Promotional Karting Event planned with V8 Supercars and AKAQ to be hosted in QLD.

Moved : Warwick

Seconded : Mt Isa

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Motion 13: Add Junior National Class (with clutches and “B” Grade licence) to Gold Coast V8 Supercar Meeting.

Moved : Warwick

Seconded : Cairns

Voting : For - 14

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Item 8p – To enforce the stipulations of Mr. van Doorn’s official capacities – “Mr van Doorn may officiate as a Grade 2 Steward in Qld only”

Reasons: The ruling was to not enable Mr. van Doorn to act in “any other” capacity. To not jeopardise the association and/or clubs in case a potential liability is determined/incurred.

See Attached Agenda Item 8p.

The SKC was advised to consider this when selecting Officials.

Mt. Isa and Whitsundays left meeting.

General Business – Items

9a – Neil Coleman presented his report on Yamaha Engines.

Motion 14: That AKAQ submits the Coleman Report on Yamaha engines, stressing in the strongest possible terms possible our objection to the process.

Moved : Gladstone

Seconded : Rockhampton

Voting : For - 12

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

9b – Emerald requests to move race date on 19th October as it clashes with the C & D grade Titles in Gladstone.

Motion 17 – Emerald would like to have their October Meeting moved from the 19th October to the 6th October.

Moved : Emerald

Seconded : Ipswich

Voting : For - 12

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

Emerald left meeting.

9c – Cairns requested that Management Reports be available half an hour before the meeting so that they can be read to save the time taken by the person reading their report.

9d – Cairns requested traditional Profit and Loss Report as at the end of the month. Discussed with Treasurer. Treasurer will send both end of month and up to date financials.

9e - Cairns discussed the Roster for State Titles

Motion 16 – That the amended Roster under By-laws be accepted and a copy be placed under State Policy Section of the Karting QLD Website.

Moved : Cairns

Seconded : Bundaberg

Voting : For - 12

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

9f – Cairns discussed utilising CAMS Officials. To be investigated.

9g – Come and try trailer was discussed. Gladstone offered to organise a timetable for the Come and Try Trailer.

9h – Next National Titles are in QLD in 2016. Secretary to send out email asking for expressions of interest.

Motion 18 – That the thoughts of the SKC be conveyed to Maureen and Alf Capri and our wish to have them back with us at our AGM.

Moved : Rockhampton

Seconded : Gladstone

Voting : For - 12

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

Motion : Carried

9i – Towers queried expense for NKC Co-Delegate to attend AGM in August 2012 and whether it has been charged back to National. Executive to follow up with National.

Meeting Closed at : 2.45pm SUNDAY

MANAGEMENT

REPORTS

KARTING

QUEENSLAND

Australian Karting Association Qld Inc T/A Karting Queensland

*President: Dr Ashley Waardenberg PhD - Senior Vice President: Don Ingram
Junior Vice President: Jillian Samson - Secretary: John Martin - Treasurer: Richard Losper*

PRESIDENTS REPORT JULY 2013 – SKC MEETING

Dear members,

I had the pleasure of attending the 2013 QLD Open State titles at Bundaberg last weekend and formally welcoming all competitors. I am not sure that everyone had the pleasure of enjoying my commentating however... The lead up demonstrated that Bundaberg was more than competent to organise this event, and given their history with state titles and their engagement of past and still current committee members, this experience unfolded over the weekend – well done Bundaberg! Evidently, the team of officials all worked together well, and in discussion with Robin Petersen (President), this made not just for a seamless inning but also a much more enjoyable experience. There is a lot to be taken from Bundaberg's experiences and I would certainly encourage the engagement of Bundaberg with Whitsunday's Kart Club, moving forward to the closed titles later this year.

Looking over the last period between these meetings, as a state we have achieved a lot in some aspects but still need to seriously address other aspects. Addressing the remuneration of the Secretary position in addition to the financial status of our association have been serious issues and I was pleased that this was recognised at our last teleconference. Looking forward to the AGM, financially, this needs to be backed up by another new budget that encompasses the duties at state level and for appropriate policy building to ensue. Thus a particular focus of this meeting is administrative infrastructure and policy making. These are areas that require drastic attention and improvement, particularly respect for fellow volunteers and meeting all other government requirements.

David Price has been engaging with the Government to assist with better understanding our WHS requirements and we are also engaging with the Insurance company to ensure that any requirements are accordingly covered. This built on a previous address to the state council, whereby I exhibited just a couple of recent examples of correspondence that we had been in receipt of, and emphasised the unacceptability of bullying and harassment. It must be said that the antagonist behaviour observed by certain individuals leading up to and during this process was both unwarranted and an appalling demonstration of membership and communication amongst the council. This continued into my private email, and I was astounded to see it come full circle, concluding with the same life member stating that workplace cover was instrumented for a previous Secretary. The emails that I received were harassing, making uneducated accusations and as the later point makes, non-

productive. It is time that this council seriously contemplates what membership represents to this council. It is disappointing that this requires addressing in my report, but the constant antagonist barraging (fortunately but nonetheless

unacceptable by a minority) does require serious addressing for the furtherance of the sport, not to mention actually promoting volunteers to be willing to be part of the management of this sport. Again, this is part of the Agenda over the weekend, and I ask for everyone to address this seriously and in a constructive manner that focuses the council on addressing the actual issues at hand.

I would like to finish on once again thanking the management, but also the clubs for their support and I look forward to meeting with everyone over the weekend.

Kind regards,

Ashley Waardenberg
President
KARTING Queensland.
PH- 0421 197 153

KARTING **QUEENSLAND**

Australian Karting Association Qld Inc T/A Karting Queensland

*President: Dr Ashley Waardenberg PhD - Senior Vice President: Don Ingram
Junior Vice President: Jillian Samson - Secretary: John Martin - Treasurer: Richard Losper*

Vice Presidents Report July 2013 - SKC Meeting

Dear Council Members,

Firstly, as a member of the executive I would like to pass on my thanks to all of the volunteers and participants at the recent State titles at Bundaberg. Regrettably I could not attend due to work commitments however I did follow the progress of the event across the weekend via various electronic means. The turnout was superb have received many positive comments from attendees regarding the excellent work carried out by Robin Peterson and his team of enthusiastic volunteers.

Over the last three years you will have observed that while at SKC meetings I am often the one that comments on the functionality of our organisation with regard to the human perspective. You may also recall that I have been vocal at times in the past regarding the conduct of the organisation as a whole and the treatment of it's members both good and bad. This in turn led to the tabling of a proposal for a code of conduct for the organisation. In part I took on the current role as a result of a challenge from an individual who stated that, in their professional opinion (& they are indeed qualified in this area), the organisation had become so dysfunctional that it had essentially developed an incurable disease which was for all intents terminal.

In short, the perception was that the negative behaviour had become so ingrained that it was not possible to fix the problem without starting an entirely new organisation. I should add that this should not be seen to target any individuals but instead a process of conducting the affairs of the organisation which had become quite combative in nature. The matter is accentuated by the passion held by the participants in the sport so the challenge is to apply the passion and enthusiasm to the betterment of the organisation.

The goal as stated at the last AGM was to get the organisation into a form where innovative people would be keen to become involved so that we could build the sport to adapt to the current shift in the marketplace. Fresh ideas and the ability to both openly express them and to engage in civil meaningful debate are essential to the growth of the sport and the retention of volunteers.

We have now reached the point where it is useful to examine the current state of affairs and seek active comment from the clubs of Queensland as to how you would like to see us all proceed from this point forward. I ask this because it has been a stated goal of the current executive to involve the clubs of Queensland in an open and transparent dialog to the greatest extent possible so that the clubs rightly get to determine the direction of the organisation.

As the committee has proceeded with the tasks set by the SKC we have where ever possible researched the issues in detail and where doubt has existed, called on professional assistance to ensure that the path recommended is both correct and in the best interests of the clubs of the state. This in particular includes the recent issue of establishing a functional position description and remuneration package for the position of a State Admin Officer to handle correspondence and licensing, regardless of what form the role eventually became. The resultant recommendation as most would appreciate provided a future direction which steered the organisation on a path which ensured that it would meet it's legal obligations and as a consequence end the current practices which may leave the organisation potentially open to litigation.

In the period surrounding this work it concerned me that we are slipping back to the state of affairs which we had hoped that we had long departed. The quality of recent State level communication has plummeted. Most clubs are sitting by watching it all go overhead hoping that they can avoid the issue however taking this path will eventually see matters just get worse and worse until the organisation falls into a state of dysfunctional paralysis. As much as I respect the ability of the person who made the comment earlier in this email regarding the terminal nature of the organisation I am confident that there are enough good people on the SKC to prevent the onset of the forecast terminal state. Saturday night usually proves that regardless of the robustness of the days SKC discussions there is a solid level of good cheer remaining amongst the participants.

The Executive has openly made a point of having the Clubs set the direction for the State on all matters so this meeting is set to be one of those times.

We have a cyber-bullying policy for club members and there is no reason to expect that this should not relate to the operations of the SKC as well.

In the past, one of the issues which the clubs agreed was causing major problems was the bypassing of the A1 process and the broadcasting of emails around the state. Similarly clubs have agreed that the tone of emails should remain polite and businesslike.

At risk of over simplifying the matter, it would be fair to say that the clubs would prefer to manage the organisation within the intent and guidelines of the constitution but have the ability to move forward without the decent into endless debates over literal interpretations of the wording of what has been described as an aging and somewhat dysfunctional document. Most participant volunteers are time poor and have little time to devote to such distractions, they just want to get on with it and move forward whilst meeting a functional balance in constitutional adherence.

We do appreciate the efforts of clubs in refraining from expanding the recent email storms however we have reached the point where the clubs do need to decide on how they would like the organisation to proceed. The Executive can leave the situation to decay or the clubs can decide on what actions that they wish to take to turn the situation around.

Regardless of the comings and goings of individual committee members, it's your organisation and that of the karters that remains. Might I ask that you don't passively stand by and let the fruit of your efforts evaporate before your eyes.

I look forward to a healthy debate on the issue across the weekend and look forward to working with you all to further the sport of karting.

–

Cheers

Don Ingram

Vice-President
Karting Queensland

0418 775 670



Australian Karting Association Qld Inc T/A Karting Queensland

President: Dr Ashley Waardenberg PhD - Senior Vice President: Don Ingram
Junior Vice President: Jillian Samson - Secretary: John Martin - Treasurer: Richard Losper

Report to Karting Queensland SKC Meeting 6th & 7th July, 2013

Junior Vice President Report.

Firstly I would like to apologise for not being at this SKC meeting. Since our last meeting I have completed a further two steward's schools at Rockhampton and Emerald and will continue to help in this area.

I participated in the Queensland State Championships in Bundaberg two weeks ago and I believe it was a wonderful success.

I believe as an Association we have progressed this year but I feel we would have progressed a lot more without a lot of the negativity that has been thrown at us by a small minority. With persistence and consistency I believe that Karting Queensland will continue to improve.

Jill Samson.

KARTING

QUEENSLAND

Australian Karting Association Qld Inc T/A Karting Queensland

President: Dr Ashley Waardenberg PhD - Senior Vice President: Mr Don Ingram
Junior Vice President: Mrs Jillian Samson - Secretary: Mr John Martin - Treasurer: Mr Richard Losper

AKAQ Treasury Report July 2013 SKC Meeting

2012/2013 Financial Year

We have reached the end of the 2012/2013 financial year. In reviewing the period since I was appointed as treasurer I can report that it has been a rocky road financially but, with the support of the majority of council members, we have now established a platform that will take us forward on a much better footing.

The Good

- We worked with the clubs to clear up mistakes and inaccuracies in their accounts and loans and at this point all clubs except one have been reconciled.
- We established best practice in handling the finances of the association. No more transfers to private accounts to pay for expenses, no more single signatories on financial transfers and cheques and a better system for handling licence payments.
- We are in an increasing better financial position, thanks to an increase in fees implemented in May and we should be able to turn around the loss situation in the coming financial year and start to see the bottom line in the black again.

The Bad

- As we close the books for the year we are still running at a loss.

The Ugly

- Unfortunately we have had to address some serious anomalies in the books. There will be more on this later in the meeting.

Goals for this year

In taking on this job we established some clear goals for treasury early on.

- I wanted to see the finances in good standing, which was not the case when the current executive came to office. That meant we had to cut back on expenses and increase fees. I know this has meant some pain for member clubs but clearly we could not continue the way we were. These austerity measures we have implemented will take us back to profitability eventually and allow the association to carry out its charter properly.

- I wanted to establish 100% accuracy in our record keeping. 99.999% was not an option. To achieve this I work strictly from the bank statements. Each line item on the statements must be backed up by an invoice from a supplier for the exact amount or an invoice from treasury for the income received. In using this methodology I have eliminated mistakes and the need to use suspense accounts or some other tricky accounting methods. The secretary and I work closely together, using spreadsheets to detail all licence, race fees and parts sales. No information is entered into the books until I receive these spreadsheets and have reconciled them with the bank statements. This is why there is a delay in showing income in the books.
- I wanted to give member clubs up to the day financial reports. Reports are sent to clubs around the 15th day of each month. If we report to the end of the previous month, the lag of 15 days means the reports are not accurate and can give a false impression of the financial status of the organisation. I know this has seemed confusing to some members but it is as accurate as possible.

Future Goals

For this new financial year we have established some new goals.

- We are working on a budget for the organisation to be presented at the AGM that will attempt to predict income and expenditure more accurately than at present.
- We would like the members to think seriously about what are state financial responsibilities and what are club financial responsibilities. For example, I for one think it's not fair that the clubs have to help pay for someone to come out and do training or an inspection of their track. To me that's a state responsibility. On the other hand, I think that clubs should pay for their delegates to attend a state meeting as to me that's a club responsibility. I would like to hear some discussion about state versus club financial responsibilities and a document put forward at the AGM detailing these responsibilities.
- In line with the above, I would also like to hear some discussion about a fund for sponsoring state title meetings. We attended the recent state titles at Bundaberg (a great event) and it occurred to us that the state provided absolutely no financial support for the event. To me there's definitely something wrong with that.
- We need to make more use of video conferencing for communications as there are significant savings to be made, both for the state and member clubs. For example, the telephone hookup recently to vote for the secretary remuneration cost us \$1100.00 for that single call. A year's subscription for the video conferencing software costs \$1800. Let's move into the 21st century is our recommendation.
-

In closing this report I would like to thank everyone for working with me through this year and I look forward to establishing even better communications in future.

Kind Regards,



KARTING

QUEENSLAND

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Report to Karting Queensland SKC Meeting 6th & 7th July, 2013 by the Secretary.

Another 3 months have passed and the Executive have met every Wednesday Night via Video Conference which has proved invaluable.

Clubs are still struggling to get their Race Meeting Requests in on time and clubs are still struggling to find officials for their meetings.

A new version of CM:S Software is about to be released which will enable Queensland to put a complete list of all officials with grades, email addresses, phone numbers, home club and contact details on the Queensland website. This will be password protected. The password details will be released in the next couple of weeks to club secretaries. Hopefully this will help Race Secretaries in their task of finding Officials for their race meetings. Further enhancements to CM:S Software to allow entry to Race Meetings and Licence Renewals/Applications by preapproved credit card transactions has been approved by the NKC and is currently awaiting a time frame from the Software Developers to be established. This will be relayed to the SKC as soon as it is advised.

I will be issuing a new set of instructions to clubs of the exact requirements for new licence applications that will fulfil AKA and Insurance needs. The main issue is that we need a signed application for a licence (the form with the A0xxx number on it). Licence applications submitted without this document will not be processed. I therefore remind all clubs that all documents relating to licence applications need to be scanned and emailed to licences@kartingqld.com.au.

I have also introduced a new procedure for the distribution of new licence applications in that all new drivers Manuals and Identity Cards will be mailed out by the State Office directly to the driver. This will mean the driver will get the manual and licence in a more timely manner and create less work for the club Licencing Officer.

There is a new transponder available from Mylaps called a FLEX Transponder. The current personal transponder purchase price is \$375 but Mylaps are offering a new option as an entry point which we would like the SKC to consider. This transponder will be offered at a subscription price of 104.50 for one year, \$148.50 for two years and \$285.50 for 5 years. If the subscription option is accepted the transponder is covered under warranty for that period. The transponder can also be renewed for a further period under all periods and will be covered by warranty. The current purchase of a transponder is covered for 3 years under warranty.

In summarising I would like to say that the communication between clubs and the Secretary is working extremely well except for a minority group. The executive has been very supportive of recognising unreasonable requests and I refuse to respond to personnel attacks. It is important that this is seriously addressed.

John Martin
State Secretary
Karting Queensland

KARTING

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Report - State Technical Officer July 2013

Please accept my apology for not attending this meeting in person, as I am attending my sister's funeral today. Les Allen, the National technical Co-ordinator, agreed at very short notice to cover for me as the Interstate Technical Officer at the NT championships this weekend. My sincere thanks to Les for this gesture.

Leave of Absence

I will be on holiday overseas from 27th July to 25th August inclusive. Les Allen, the National Technical Officer has agreed to cover technical matters during my absence. I would ask that this advice be posted on the Karting Queensland web site, but that all enquiries be directed through the state office.

Tech Schools

The following recent schools or practical assessments have been conducted during April, May and June.

Cooloola with 12 attendees and run by David Johnstone.

Rockhampton with attendees from Emerald (4), Rocky (1), and Gladstone (2).

Bundaberg with 1 attendee.

Further practical assessments have been carried out covering tech inspectors from Bundaberg, Gladstone and Cairns.

Queensland Championships

Last weekend saw a very successful championship hosted by the Bundaberg karting Club. The race order, commencing with Rookies worked extremely well for tagging of engines and chassis. All Rookie tagging was completed during the carby session, while the second class was completed during driver's briefing. This allowed a smooth flow without impeding the qualifying sessions.

Bundaberg supplied several assistants for this task, so that it was possible to conduct a wide range of random inspections throughout the entire competition, including both qualifying events. From a technical perspective, with 1 exception, an incorrect fuel as advised by the competitor, no infringements were encountered.

Technical Committee Conference

A very full range of topics has been assembled for this conference next weekend, and it is anticipated that much robust discussion will be carried out.

Terry Sheedy
6th July 2013

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Report to Karting Queensland SKC Meeting 6th & 7th July, 2013 by the Track Inspector North

Northern Zone Tracks

- Cairns
- Mackay
- Mt Isa
- Proserpine
- Townsville

AKAQ Exec, Members Clubs, Et al.

First please accept my apologies for not attending this meeting in person. I have detailed my report below into three sections.

1. Track inspections

All tracks in the Northern Zone have been inspected with no identified works required. I would like to thank the clubs for their assistance in getting the tracks inspected during what has been a very busy time for me. The level of support and proactive attention to track safety is to be commended.

Work took me to Mt Isa last month, and subsequently the track inspection was completed at no cost to AKAQ. Mt Isa has made substantial improvements to their facility since the last time I was out there as a competitor – well done.

Townsville had received some negative feedback from officials regarding lighting and I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the situation and state categorically that as the Northern Track Inspector, they did not receive any special treatment nor favouritism from me as a TKC member. The track was compliant with the track lighting requirements and I actually found some comments from appointed officials quite offensive and ignorant of the requirements.

Charters Towers have still not replied to any e-mail. I understand that there have been significant works promised / donated to the club for planned improvements but I am not aware timeframes or the extent of planned works. Is AKAQ aware of any plans?.

2. Track Standards and Officials

Let me state that NO track in QLD (Nor Australia for that matter) is 100% compliant with the current track construction and safety standards.

Excerpt from the National Track Inspector

....You are quite right in pointing out that few tracks actually comply with the requirements of the current rules. This will be addressed at the upcoming national committees conference in July. N.S.W. have put together their track requirements to satisfy local authorities. This will make it more reasonable for clubs to comply with, without compromising track safety.

Kind Regards
Tom Nipperess

I draw specific reference to the first paragraph of the National Track Construction and Safety Standards as follows:

Preamble:

The following are the regulations of the AKA for permanent bitumen and dirt surfaced Sprint Kart Tracks in Australia. These regulations must be complied with for ***new circuits or major circuit alterations to an existing circuit.***

The important phrase to consider is “***new circuits or major circuit alterations to an existing circuit***”. By default any track that is pre-existing (which all are), is then allowed some latitude under the standards. As an appointed track inspector, we are then required to assess the safety of each track. I don't believe that any track inspector takes this role lightly, however I do believe that the role should also not be authoritarian in nature. Communication is the key to success here.

What this also raises, is the abilities and qualifications that a track inspector should possess prior to being appointed to the role. I have discussed this briefly with the AKAQ exec and I believe that any person making track safety decisions, should be able to demonstrate their competencies. This is not directed at any individual, past or present, but I would like to see future inspectors provide not only details of their suitability to the role but also the introduction of a mentoring / training program for successive inspectors.

3. Townsville 400

On a side note, I will be attending the NKC conference next week, and there are a number of agenda items that we will be discussing, including the practicalities of running “street races”.

This weekend, the V8 Supercars Townsville 400 is being run and the Townsville Kart club has been invited to participating in “demonstration” karting. This opportunity was presented to me, via a long time friend involved with the V8s and will in my opinion provide unequalled exposure to not just the TKC, but Karting throughout Queensland.

It has however been incredibly disappointing that AKA National were unable (?) to provide clear direction to the president of the TKC or myself as the Northern Track Inspector to assist in getting this to happen. There were concern was that demonstrations would portray a “hire kart” image to the public and insurance issues were just all too difficult. As a result, and after a phone call to V8 Supercars and the Muscle Car Events manager, the TKC were offered coverage under two independent insurance policies at no charge. To simplify the process, the TKC have chosen to operate under the V8 Supercars policy, completely removed from AKA.

I find it incredibly frustrating and disappointing that this opportunity would have been missed if it were not for the perseverance of myself and the TKC president.

I would like to take this example to the NKC conference, however would like to hear the thoughts of the meeting. I understand that some clubs have voiced interest in running street events, so if anyone has an opinion that they would like me to carry to the NKC conference, please let me know.

Again, thank you to the clubs, and if anyone would like to discuss these or any other issue in more depth, please feel free to contact me via email or phone as detailed below.

Regards,

Dave Price

Northern Track Inspector

tracknorth@kartingqld.com.au

0410179037

KARTING

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SOUTHERN ZONE TRACK INSPECTORS REPORT FOR JULY SKC

Gladstone- 09/03/2013

Gladstone was my first track to inspect and the main problem is the finishing off of the fence along the boundary after the tower or flag point one. Work still in progress. Barriers around all poles and posts in the track area. Including post of tower and light poles. Fire extinguishers where out of date and I must ask clerks and stewards on the day of racing to check on these. It is to late when a fire stares. . The Track inspection report also have more smaller things to do but just as important

Rockhampton-23/04/2013

Rockhampton was one of the clubs which had done jobs on the list in 2012. Flag points where taken back in order with the rule book, most tyres where gapped, tied and the right height and number. I did the lights as per rule book but was also waiting for DON Ingram's formula for the lights .This was done measuring the lux's by the AKA new light metre. And all was good but I told the club to use the lights until Don's formula came about. . The Track inspection report also have more smaller things to do but just as important.

Bundaberg-05/06/2013

Bundaberg was inspected for the year but mainly for the State Titles .Signs where lacking but where being noted and order as we went around the track. This club is lacking a noise meter and have let the AKA committee know but nothing has been done. This problem has been going on for years. . The Track inspection report also have more smaller things to do but just as important.

Warwick-06/05/2013

Warwick needs to fix a lot of barriers as posts, poles, wires and fence corners are exposed. Flag points are still too close to the track .Fire extinguishers are not up-dated, air gaps along fences need to be done. The Track inspection report also have more smaller things to do but just as important. Thank you Warwick for the work to date which your club has done.

Cooloola- 07/05/2013.

Cooloola needs to but more barriers around start tower all flag points need to be two tyres with air gaps as per rule book. Continue paper mash from out grid along track to stop Karters hitting steel fence. Flag points also need to moved back .

The Track inspection report also has more smaller things to do but just as important.

Toowoomba -12/06/2013

Toowoomba has to remove a tree on the well-known tree corner as the tree is growing and does not pertain with the 4 metre rule from edge of track. Also I would like the fence removed from the infield for it has no benefit and you need more barriers to make the fence safe. If the fence is not completely removed parts of it must be after flag point 1 and before flag point 2. Flag points are all still too close to track. . The Track inspection report also has smaller things to do but just as important.

Ipswich - 13/06/2013.

Ipswich flag points are too close to track .Barriers need to be placed around poles wires posts on track and fences all with air gaps. Lights were not tested as a storm had hit the track at the time of the inspection. Lighting will have to be completed at the near future.

The Track inspection report also has more smaller things to do but just as important I have taken photos of each track as this helps to explain to clubs and official the needed to do thing or that must be done. I need the returned photos from the clubs with the main problems fixed.

The only track I have left to inspect is Emerald.

Thanks
John Brydon
SZ Track inspector.

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Queensland State Officials Co-Ordinator Report for July 2013 SKC

There is not much to report this quarter as everything is progressing very well.

Officials Courses have been arranged for Cairns 13th of July, Brisbane on the 20th July and Townsville on the 9th of August. This complete all Schools for the year.

The round of the Pro Tour at Ipswich in June was a great success and by all The comments received from drivers and crew over the weekend, they were impressed with the way the Ipswich Kart Club and all Officials conducted the Meeting. Congratulations to all concerned.

The Queensland State Titles conducted at Bundaberg 2 weeks ago was also an outstanding success for our State.

Congratulations to the Bundaberg club led by President Robin Peterson and his group of volunteers and members. Well done to all concerned also.

To All Queensland Officials taking part, thank you for your Support and Professionalism over the weekend. Other States now know how good and friendly a meeting can be run. Top job by all Officials.

The infringement notice and procedure is now in use and has been well accepted by most Clubs and Officials. Yes there is some minor issues with penalties but these will be addressed at the National Committee's Conference next weekend.

Jill Samson is away at the NT State Titles this week end as you are aware. Well done to Jill on her appointment as the Interstate Chief Steward.

Thank you to the Qld Executive for their support over the past half year also.

Regards,

Chris Robinson

KARTING

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NKC Delegates Report for July 2013 SKC Meeting.

It's been a very interesting couple of months with the AKA as we head towards a Governance Board. The Directors, Mick Doohan, Brad Collins, Melissa Holzberger, Sam Morton and Phil Smith as Directors and Ross Mallett as the Company Secretary will be taking the reigns as of next month of the new Australian Karting Association Ltd. This means that the NKC meeting next month for the handover will be the last one ever and my position as NKC Delegate and Steve Pattel's position as NKC Co-Delegate will then be defunct.

The Board will be issuing Memorandum of Understanding that will be issued to all States and via them the clubs and are in the process of drafting a mission statement and statement of purpose as well.

There will be a transition period for the current committees to remain in place for a maximum 6 months. My understanding is that will not only mean the national co-ordinators but also the various state elected personal. Tech, Stewards co-ordinator, etc. This is to allow the board to formulate what committees will be required and to advertise for committee nominations during that change over period. It means that any person within the state who feels they have the expertise to fill a committee role can nominate.

The future engine programme for both the Cadet / Rookie and the National / Clubman classes that has been a bone of contention with a couple of members has been put on hold for 6 months after the changeover, pending a review by the Board of the process, procedures and needs of any new engine submission.

The AKA Committees Conference is scheduled for next week-end, I hope that this meeting will go through the various agenda's for each committee so all the clubs directions can be given to those attending, though I haven't seen that on this week-ends agenda.

I do apologise for missing sending out a report earlier last month of a phone hook-up but due to some rather intense personal matters I was not able to write it, plus part the month I had my computer in for repairs. I know submitting of written reports of each meeting attended is not a requirement of the position, in fact I think I have been the only delegate to do so but I do take pride in trying to keep people informed of what occurs without embellishment.

With only 4 weeks or so to go before the NKC no longer exists and even the AKA as we know it also disappearing, I look forward the opportunity to see it through to its close.

Mark Hogan

YAMAHA

REPORT

BY

Neil Coleman

AKA Qld Submission to AKA Aust

Regarding the

Replacement of the Yamaha Engine

The AKA Qld has already communicated its dissatisfaction with the decision making processes undertaken by the AKA National body in its decision to replace the KT100S Clubman engine and the KT100J National engine with another engine, the make of which has yet to be decided. This dissatisfaction is a reflection of the concerns put to AKA Qld by affiliated clubs.

At an AKA Qld meeting held earlier this year, all clubs agreed that they also opposed the replacement of the Yamaha engines.

Club concerns included:

- Current Yamaha drivers are being advised that the Yamaha Clubman engine is being replaced and many of them are leaving the sport
- The pool of inexpensive equipment available to beginning karters will no longer be available, reducing the number of prospective karters.

The Yamaha KT100S and KT100J engines were introduced into Australian karting in the early 1980s and were accepted as classes in their own right from 1987 onwards (Clubman Light and Heavy). Thousands of Junior and Senior karters have used the KT100S and KT100J engines from 1987 to now.

The advantages of the KT100S and KT100J engines for karting during that period include:

- The engines are relatively inexpensive, currently \$1199 and \$999 respectively.
- There are thousands of these engines in the karting community providing a good market for people wishing to try the sport by purchasing cheaper second hand equipment to race.
- The engines are relatively easy to maintain and service.
- Engine measuring is simple and quick at post race technical inspections.

AKA National has determined that a CNC ported engine is necessary to replace the Yamaha. Performance parity is declared as the reason for this. If this is the case, we should wonder why the Yamaha has proven to be so popular with karters since the 1980s. Surely an engine of supposed disparity (according to AKA) would not have been so popular for so long.

Performance parity is raised as an issue by advocates of a new engine. Performance may be influenced by casting irregularities but not to the level suggested by some commentators. Parity is influenced more by the discrepancy between engine builders, drivers and chassis set up.

There has been a recent drop in the number of competitors racing the Yamaha. Queensland clubs believe that the impending removal of the Yamaha has caused some to leave the sport. In addition, many dealers and clubs are directing new karters into other classes such as Restricted because of the declaration that the Yamaha will be replaced.

Clubs and dealers are reluctant to promote the Yamaha to prospective karters as they feel they may be disadvantaging them when the Yamaha is replaced. Unfortunately, Clubs are finding that there are fewer newcomers taking up the TAG classes than those who previously would have purchased a second hand Yamaha.

Recent entries at Club race meetings and State and National Championships show a decline in the sport. This may be attributed to the current economy and/or the increased costs involved in purchasing a TAG engine and kart. It should be noted however, that over half of the entries at the State and National Championships were in the Yamaha classes.

The Yamaha Clubman engine is used in many other countries including Japan, the US, New Zealand and Canada. The compliance rules used in these countries are largely the same as those used in Australia. In these countries the Yamaha is the most popular engine used and also the entry level engine of choice. AKA Aust now wants to remove this internationally used engine and replace it with a one off engine with an Australian requested specification and built solely for the Australian market. Yamaha has been building this KT100 for decades and would be less of a risk of plant/business closure than a small output enterprise as suggested. Why then would Australian karting run counter to other countries and adopt its own engine for the sport?

AKA QLD is concerned that a number of clubs are considering alternatives to AKA affiliation so that they can continue promoting Yamaha classes to their prospective members. We therefore put this submission to AKA National to reconsider its progress towards the removal of Yamaha engines.

Regards
Neil Coleman
0407 591 276

Gold Coast 600

Proposal

Gold Coast 600

Over the past few years, I have continually been working on building a closer relationship between the Australian Karting Association and V8 Supercars Australia.

Last October, I met with V8 Supercar Australia representatives and during this meeting they raised the opportunity of running a karting event in conjunction with the 2013 Gold Coast 600.

This would assist the Queensland Government and Gold Coast City Council that are keen to turn the Gold Coast 600 into more than just another V8 Supercar event, but more so a week-long festival.

Following several months of discussions and investigation of potential sites within the Gold Coast City Council region, a privately-owned facility rose to be a suitable venue in March – namely the Xtreme Karting circuit at Pimpama.

Since this time, I have met with V8 Supercars Australia and the owners of the property before gaining an opinion from Queensland Track Inspector (South) John Brydon on the suitability of the circuit for an AKA event. After some minor changes, more so in terms of placing tyres in specific areas and also a couple of gravel traps, John indicated that the 1125-metre circuit would pass a safety inspection.

With this event being a true showcase for the sport of karting, the concept of the Race of Stars would be to invite 28 drivers (the same number of entrants in the V8 Supercar Championship) in each of the three Pro classes from the CIK Stars of Karting Series. These invitations would also be extended to several New Zealand drivers, of which I have already sought out suitable candidates from Kartsport New Zealand.

This would be a one-day event on October 19 incorporating the three Pro classes, a TaG 125 category (run at a combined weight), a Cadets category and a ProAm race which would use the karts owned by the facility. The TaG 125 and Cadets categories are chosen due to their significant numbers in the local South East Queensland region. The ProAm Race would feature V8 Supercar drivers, corporate and media personalities – similar to the one held in conjunction with a race event in Sydney last year.

The Race of Stars would be supported financially by V8 Supercars Australia and their corporate partners, being a cost-neutral event for Karting Queensland and the Australian Karting Association. The only support requested would be the officials and affiliated personnel to run the event.

After speaking with the Karting Queensland Executive, this event would be hosted by all Queensland clubs and the vision being something that could grow to possibly being held in conjunction with other marquee V8 Supercar events where suitable.

The Race of Stars is the type of event that has the potential to expose the sport to a significant audience, both within and outside the motorsport circles.

I ask for the support of the Queensland Karting Clubs for this event to be conducted on October 19.

Regards
Lee Hanatschek