



**2016 ANNUAL REPORT
OF
COMBINED DISTRICTS KART CLUB**



Mission Statement

Combined Districts Kart Club aims to deliver good quality race meetings that caters for all levels of ability as well as actively promoting a family friendly environment.

Values

We will:

- Conduct race meetings in accordance with Karting Australia rules & regulations.
- Treat people with dignity, be open, respectful, ethical and accountable in our behaviour and outcomes
- Maintain high quality services and continuous improvement
- Value input from members and other stakeholders
- Ensure compliance with CDKC Constitution
- Consider member and stakeholder safety at all times.





History of Combined Districts Kart Club

Art Ingles built the first Go Kart in California in August 1956 and racing commenced in Sydney on 24 July 1960 at Castlereagh air strip.

The first purpose built tar go kart track opened at Caringbah in August 1960. Lithgow City Go Kart track was then opened for racing in February 1963. Lithgow Go Kart Club conducted the Australian Sprint Kart Championship at Easter of 1965. In the 1970's karting went into a recession and the Lithgow Go Kart Club became Western District's Kart Club. In February 1981 a meeting was called and a new club was formulated and named as Combined District's Kart Club (CDKC).

Racing commences under a lease arrangement with the owner of the property Clyde Marshall.

The founding President, Col Becker, was instrumental in the purchase of the property from Clyde Marshall and in 1987 CDKC became the proud owners. In 1992 the track was further developed into its current format and improvements to the clubhouse and grounds were made.

The club was host to the 2005 NSW State Kart Championships. With this event in mind, the committee made a great deal of improvements including the upgrade to the club's electrical system including in the pit area. Other upgrades included improvements to the toilets and showers, a new weigh shed / technical area and to the club pit area including the tarring of all the access roads.

Several National and State Championships along with CIK and Pro Tour events have been conducted by CDKC over the past 48 years, the last being the NSW State Championships in October 2013.

CDKC over the years have been innovators in karting promotions including one of the driving forces in the promotion of the Premier State Cup which was then replaced by the State Cup. Additionally, the introduction of the Junior Development Camps in NSW in conjunction with Karting NSW and the AKA. CDKC is also the market leader in promoting females to the sport and hosts the Ladies Nationals on an annual basis. CDKC also is proud to support the National Breast Cancer Foundation and has raised over \$100,000 in funds to support this great cause.

CDKC is regarded as a "family oriented club" that has also generated many champions in motor sport including former Australian touring car champion James Courtney and international competitor Ryan Briscoe along with former members Daryl Smith who now works for Rotax Austria and Joseph Mawson who is currently racing karts in Europe.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee and the members of the club for their support over the past 12 months.

Although as a club, and a sport, we have faced a number of challenges with a reduction in numbers CDKC has continued to focus on the long term strategy of providing a "family friendly" environment to go racing.

For the past 2 years the club has been working alongside Karting New South Wales and Karting Australia to make application for \$100,000 to contribute to the resurfacing of the circuit. These funds have been approved via the Track Development Fund and planning continues to ensure that the best product is sourced to ensure the circuits longevity.



Paige Raddatz at the Christmas Event

We have also been reviewing our IT infrastructure and with the support of Dallas Beattie we have been able to confirm that some of the issues that we face are due to an unstable internet cable connection to all locations around the track. As you can appreciate we need to ensure that this work is complete to ensure that we can run a race meeting.

There were a number of renovations to improve efficiencies and provide privacy and security. The canteen has generally been a high traffic area that needs to be closed off to passers by. We will also be looking at additional stock control to avoid temptation to wander through and help yourself as if it was your own kitchen.

The race secretary's office was moved to the pit area to assist with access for drivers and pit crew. Thank you to Brett Ezzy for his assistance in volunteering his time and supplying all the new benches to the office. It definitely makes for a much more user friendly space.

The steward's room was relocated to the south end of the clubhouse veranda. This was to assist stewards, drivers and pit crew to conduct investigations in a more private location. A huge thank you to Jeff Buchan and Peter Toole for erecting the new wall in this office.

To all the volunteers that so kindly give up their own time at race meetings and in between events; THANK YOU! This sport could not run without you. I couldn't write my last report without also saying thank you to an amazing lady, Wendy Abbott who has been your time keeper for 10 years. Wendy will be handing over the reins at the end of the year. She will be truly missed.



CDKC was again the proud host to the Ladies Trophy Event in January. The club has now raised over \$150,000 for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The event could not have been held without the passion and dedication to the event by Russell Grimson and the determination of our current Princess Kiara Beattie and her mum Cathy. In 2017 we will be considering the event as a single day event on the Saturday followed by the dinner and presentation then a special combination sprint and endurance event on the Sunday.



Once again CDKC was well represented at the Metropolitan Invitation hosted by Wollongong Kart Racing Club in November 2015. For the 2nd year in a row the event was the largest club event of the year. In 2016 the event will be hosted by Newcastle Kart Racing club on 3rd & 4th December. We will be looking for drivers for all classes. Details of the event will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Unlike some of our fellow metro clubs CDKC has the wonderful challenge of owning our own circuit. Although this brings flexibility it also brings additional cost, responsibility and the need for more resources on an ongoing basis, not just at the race meeting. If you are able to give

up any of your time please do not hesitate to send us an email with what you might be able to assist with. Email president@cdkc.com.au

I would also like to thank Michael O'Brien for his support with the Club Championship point score. This is another job that takes place behind the scenes which is very important to the success of the club throughout the year.

I will not be standing for re election this year due to a change my families personal circumstances and additional commitments at work. I will however continue to support the committee as needed in the coming months.

I wish the new executive committee all the best of luck.



Tim Colombrita, Jett Cotter, Greg Rust & Anthony Colombrita at the Metro Invitational

As some of you may know I have been associated with CDKC since the late 1980's, my brother and I raced, my mum lap scored, my dad was on the committee, I met my husband through karting and have now been a mum on the sidelines watching my own boys progress through the sport. They say racing is in the blood and is addictive, I would say that my own experience is testament to this. Karting is a fabulous family hobby, enjoy it, but remember it is not who you are just something that you love to do!

Thank you to all the members who have supported me over the past few years in the position it has been a wonderful challenge that I will always remember.

Yours sincerely

The committee's ongoing commitment to stream lining our race meetings in an effort to make your time at race meetings more relaxed and enjoyable will be enhanced towards the second half of this year as we move forward with 'secure pay' for race entries.

Our July race meeting will be our introduction to this system. While this will remove a huge work load for the Race Secretary it will also allow competitors additional free time the morning of the meetings.

KA is also working on incorporating memberships on CM: S however due to the differences in club memberships throughout the country this may be a while coming. In the mean time we will be taking membership as per normal and on that note I can report that at the time of writing this report we have 270 members on our listing this includes Life Members and additional family members not just licenced members. While I'm on the subject of membership I would like to take this opportunity to ask everyone to please let us know if your details, particularly emails, have changed. Emailing is the most common means of communication to you from the committee so it's important you keep us up to date.

January saw the 10th anniversary of the 'Ladies Trophy Cup' race meeting. Once again numbers were down but a good time was had by those competing and we were treated to some great racing and congratulation to all our new 'Pink Plate' winners for 2016.

Congratulation also to Cathy & Kiara Beattie for the work and effort they put into the fund raising for the NBCF and to all the Ladies who contributed. A big 'thank you' to Paul & Tracy Giuntini and Craig Harradine for their help with the Dinner and Auction on the Saturday night and to everyone else who helped it was very much appreciated.

This year as Secretary my biggest challenge has been securing officials for our race meetings. We have some wonderful people that I call on quite frequently and my personal thanks to them but I have to tell you it's very hard to find replacements when your regulars have a change of plans or just want a rest for a while. Ever club has these issues but I don't want our club to ever be in the situation again that we were in earlier this year where we were very close to cancelling the meeting because we could not get key officials. Help is always needed. We also have some of our regulars that are getting on in years (me included) so we need new volunteers. Please come and talk to us if you would like to become involved or you know some who is enthusiastic about motor sport.

We have been able to secure loans for our tracks resurface which is fantastic. This has been a long awaited improvement.

We have put in an expression of interest to the State Council to hold a round of the State Championship Series for next year and with track improvements I would like to see the club also hold a round of Pro Tour and the AKC.

April saw us have a welcome addition to our format by way of the second round of the KZ2 series. Eleven competitors joined us at Lithgow and I believe had a great time. The standing starts for this class made for a longer day than normal but was fantastic to watch. I hope they will come back and join us next year.

We also held our annual ANZAC ceremony at this meeting and congratulations and thank you to Michael O'Brien, Chloe Cosis and Nick Becker who all gave out standing performances.

Our Karters clinic was once again conducted in May. Numbers were down a bit from last year but hopefully everyone left knowing a little more than they did at the beginning of the day.

I would like to see our efforts as a club directed towards increasing our competition numbers, a hard job I know but the theme running through my report is "and numbers were down" the reason we are involved in Karting is because we love motor racing and we love to race. We have over 160 members with licences and yet we can only expect to see 80-90 (on a good day) at a race meeting and not all of these are CDKC members. We need to make our meetings exciting to come and be part of but the committee cannot do it alone we need your help. Invite a friend.

To end my report it is with great sadness that we say good bye to Belinda as she will not be re-standing for President.

It has been a great pleasure working with Belinda she has brought a level of professionalism to the club that has been sorely lacking for many years. Her ability to resolve difficult issues, make decisions without procrastination has been a pleasure to witness. She has dragged this club into the 21st century whether we liked it or not. Congratulations Belinda you will be missed but I have no doubt that the level of professionalism you have established will continue.

I would also like to say thank you to all my fellow committee members and to everyone who has supported the club this year. Once again we have had a challenging year but we are still afloat and with hard work and commitment we will overcome our current down turn to once again be a force in the Karting community. I look forward to another year working with you all for the betterment of the club as a whole.

Thank you.

Lilian Stones



2015 Club Champions

Cadet/Rookie
Kent Fias Ayon

Junior
Zac Raddatz

Senior
Michael Micallef

Treasurers Report – Gillian Martin

Audited Accounts will be available for review at the AGM.

Special Events Coordinator Report – Russell Grimson

Ladies Trophy Event

The ladies event was started to provide the ladies in our sport an opportunity to a race meeting of their own where ladies compete against ladies and to replace the ladies classes that were removed from the national calendar in 1987 and recognise the important contribution that females within our sport play in conducting race meetings along with their support in many roles they play.

The numbers at the event are not large, however the passion at the circuit throughout the event is amazing. Many of the ladies raising thousands of dollars for breast cancer as well as taking part in racing. The event has gained national recognition to a point where the competitors race for there own sort after pink plate and girls travel from all over Australia and NZ to take part

Since the commencement of the event CDKC has been able to present over \$150000.00 to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

In 2017 the committee are proposing a change to the format for the event. The track will still be open for all entrants to practice the week leading up to the event, ladies only practice on Friday 20th January, followed by a single day Ladies event on Saturday 21st January with the dinner and presentation on the Saturday evening then an open meeting on Sunday 22nd January. The ladies who stay around for both days will be offered an incentive to race in the open event. More details will be available as soon as Karting NSW have confirmed the calendar.

2016 Pink Plate Winners

TAG 125 Light – Lauren Shand
TAG 125 Restricted Light – Ashley Chebaia
TAG 125 Restricted Heavy – Reanna Tate
KA4 Junior Heavy – Sharnay Seal
KA 4 Senior Light – Katie Everingham
Cadet 12 – Paige Raddatz
Cadet 9 – Ruby Gibson
KA 3 Senior Light – Courtney Becker
KA 3 Senior Heavy – Olivia Bell
KA 4 Junior Light – Elise Raddatz
Junior Performance – Taylah Agius



Clyde Marshall Memorial

This event has a long tradition and many infamous names in motorsport are on the wall of fame for the event.

2015 Winners

Cadet 9 – Ryan Tomsett

Cadet 12 – Rhys Smith

Junior National Heavy – Anthony Wiskich

TAG 125 Light – Joshua Car

Junior National Light – Zachary Heard

Restricted 125 Light – Matthew Kenneth

Restricted 125 Heavy – Nick Karmalis

Junior Max – Anthony Wiskich

Senior National Heavy – Reece Harradine

National Masters – John Horsburgh

Clubman Light – Nicholas Becker

Clubman Masters – Wayne Bailey

Clubman Heavy – Craig Thornton

2015 State Championship – Round 3

It was a cold weekend in Lithgow when the NSW State Karting Championships rolled into town. The event was the final round which determined the NSW State Champions. It was great to see a number of CDKC members included in this group.

We will doing our best to include a round on the 2017 calendar in one of the warmer months of the year.



20016 Annual Karters Clinic

CDKC has been passionate about the development of young drivers for many years. Many of our past young drivers have had successful careers in other forms of motorsport. Just to name a few; Mark Winterbottom, Dean Canto and James Courtney, like many of our young members these boys had a dream of making racing their career. This year we hosted a small group of drivers at the karters clinic. They all had the opportunity to learn some new skills on and off the track, tutored by senior members Josh Buchan and Jason Varley.



2016 Col Castle

This event is in memory of CDKC's first President, Mr Col Becker. Col was instrumental in the success of the club in the early years. Many of the Becker family are still involved in the club today. This year Cadet 12 was the feature class that competed for the Col Becker Memorial Trophy. All drivers drove a great race and the event was won by Kent Fias Ayon.



Thank you

It is with the valued support of loyal volunteers, organisations and members of the community that support CDKC to continue to provide great racing events.

Volunteers

A each and every person who has held a flag, sold a hot dog, completed a race entry, lap scored, been an official, attended a working be or fixed something

Sponsors



Affiliated Association

