



2015 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 is 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.

A lot has taken place in the sport of go karting since our last annual report. Some would say that it has been a tumultuous year for the sport with the introduction of a range of new classes, engines and levels of events across the country. The effects from this change have been felt at CDKC as anticipated.

It was always our view that change like this would effect race entries and people would need to consider what suits them and what they can afford.

Club day entries are down by on 2014 and we are looking at a range of activities to increase numbers towards the end of 2015 and into 2016. Thank you to those who completed the recent customer survey. This type of information helps the committee make informed decisions. The results show a very diverse range of answers and again clarifies for me you will not be able to make everyone happy. We do however need to listen to each and every opinion and make a valued judgement. At this point in time many of these decisions will be based on the financial viability of the club.

Events

CDKC hosted the inaugural Metro Invitational in 2014. This was a fantastic opportunity for the metro clubs to showcase their drivers in a competitive arena. I would like to thank the many volunteers who assisted as well as the other Presidents, Tony, Mick Craig and Peter who made the event such a success. CDKC looks forward to challenge



2014 CDKC Metro Team



The Ladies event again saw some fantastic battles on the track with friendships formed in the pits. It was great to have the



entrants from Tasmania join us. We are looking at ways to increase numbers for the next event. Thank you to Russell Grimson, Cathie Beatie and our reigning 2015 Princess Kiara Beatie who played an integral part of the making the event a success for the National Breast Cancer Foundation raising over \$16k.



In February we once again held the Col Becker memorial, this year Junior National Light raced for the honour to be included on the perpetual trophy. This years winner was Zac Heard. In 2016 Cadet 12 will be racing for the trophy.

Each year the presidents gets to select one member of the club for the Presidents Award. This award it was awarded to Shae Becker. There are so many valued members of the club, but Shae is one that always catches my eye. Shae always has a smile on her face, willing to help out when ever asked and shows amazing sportsmanship on and off the track. Shae is a true leader and an a wonderful example for other young members of the club.



We also launched a new website to try to connect with members and guests of CDKC. This has also been linked to our Facebook page. If you have interesting news stories or photos that you would like to include you are always welcome to email president@cdkc.com.au .

The covered out grid was erected this year and I would like to thank Peter Toole who worked tirelessly during the DA process, the planning and the construction phase of the project. I would also like to thank Ben Edwards, John Horsborough and Ron Harradine for their contribution to the project.

The caretakers accommodation has also been stripped and renovated and I would like to thank Ben and Daryl Ritchie for conducting all the work on the building and Michael Osmond for plumbing the site. We now have a comfortable facility for our new caretaker – Warren Brown.

Warren has recently taken on the role and we welcome him to CDKC family. I would like to thank the outgoing caretaker Paul Varley who has decided to resign from the position to spend more time with his son.

Our next big project will be the resurfacing of the track. As mentioned last year the track life is limited and we need to act now to ensure we have a product to sell in the future. I am pleased to announce that CDKC has been able to borrow \$100k from the Track Development Fund. We are now seeking additional financial support for the project. We require another \$85k to proceed and are seeking financial assistance from Lithgow City Council and other commercial businesses.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members, Lilian Stones, Phil Middleton, Paul Varley, Paul Giuntini, Russell Grimson, Ben Edwards, Steve Bakija, Peter Toole for giving up so much of their time to be part of the club.

Yours sincerely

As another AGM draws near it is time to reflect on the past twelve months.

Towards the end of last year I was asked if I would accept the appointment as Secretary. Following Diane is not an easy task as her work ethic leaves me in the shade but I sincerely hope I have taken some of the work load of Belinda and allowed her a little more free time with family.

The end of last year saw us host the inaugural round of the Metro Invitational which beyond any shadow of a doubt was a very successful meeting. This year will see Wollongong host the round at Picton Kart track and I'm sure you all join me in wishing them every success.



2014 JNL Metro Final line up

The Ladies Trophy Cup meeting this year was a little disappointing in terms of numbers but certainly made up for that in enthusiasm and camaraderie and congratulation to all the Ladies for their marvellous effort in raising funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

With the changes to karting this year, which we knew would be challenging, the committee has been faced with the challenge of how best to service CDKC's customers. With the participation numbers down for the first half of this year we have had to look at the format in which we conduct our monthly meetings. April saw, for the first time in at least twenty years, the club run a one day race meeting, as the numbers altogether were 101, I believe this was the right decision. Whilst this may not be a preferable format for CDKC to adopt we must stay fluid to the changes in front of us.

August will see us host the third and final round of the NSW State Championship Series. I sincerely hope the numbers improve at Dubbo as the first round at Griffith was not at all encouraging. We will also be calling for additional volunteers to help with the meeting so if you do not plan on racing and are able to help please contact us and let us know and of course October sees us running our now famous 'Clyde Marshall' race meeting which will bring us to the close of qualifying for the club championship.

Part of my job also includes Membership and Licencing. Memberships are a bit like swings and roundabouts so it is a bit hard to judge how we are travelling. At the time of writing we have 214 KA licenced members and 343 current members these numbers are licenced members only. Our club listing is showing 440 members. This is made up of licenced members as well as members of the family and life members of whom we have 31.

In closing I would like to thank all the volunteers and officials who have helped run our race meetings, a special thank you to Diane for her help with the sup regs etc, and a very special thank

you to those who have helped in the race office and the canteen, these two areas have been very challenging for us this year and your help has been much appreciated.

I have enjoyed my time with the committee this year, particularly seeing the completion of the cover to the out grid and look forward to next year.

Treasurers Report – Phil Middleton

Treasurer's report & audited accounts to follow.



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

Affiliated Association

