

North Texas Karters Newsletter

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New Officers Elected

At the February club meeting, elections for new club officers were held. The new officers are:

President:	Bob Schabel
Vice President:	John Ray
Secretary:	Yaani-Mai Gaddy
Treasurer:	Tom Stawicki
Membership Chairperson:	Susan Schabel
Board of Directors:	Dirk Korte Greg Clarke

In gratitude to their long years of service to the club, Rod & Tammy Heslor were granted a lifetime membership to NTK

Message from the President

First I would like to thank Rod and Tammy for their years of service and hard work to make this club and track what it is today. Thanks also to last year's Board Members Vic Mauk, Tom Settles, Ron Brown and VP Don Schrum, Track Manager Weldon Welborn, Membership Chairperson Kelly Wolfe, for their work and contributions.

Welcome with me the new Board members Mark French, Dirk Korte, Jeff Oaks, and DJ Ortiz. I would also like to welcome our new Officers John Ray-VP, Tom Stawicki-Treasurer, and Susan Schabel-Membership. Thanks to Tom Harris for staying on as a Board Member. We're glad to have Vic Mauk continuing as Points Chairperson and Jim Freeman as Awards Chairperson. Yaani-Mai Gaddy, who served as treasurer last year has returned to serve as Secretary this year, we are glad to have her back.

As President I have set two goals for myself and the organization for the next year:

- 1) Increase the year end membership numbers by at least 20% and
- 2) Focus on the condition of the race track and making improvements as needed.

We've already had a good start to the year with the Polar Bear

series and its attendance. The club participated in the Dallas Autorama custom car show and had a lot of people come by our booth and show an interest in Karting. You should see a lot of new spectators at the track because of it. Please make the effort to talk to them about the sport and your karting experiences. New members will help us to continue to grow.

We presently are investigating the installation of an irrigation system. This will help stop the track from cracking and breaking up in the future.

I welcome any suggestions that you have so please feel free to contact me. I thank you for your support and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Bob

Club Meetings

Held at the IHOP at I-35 & FM 3040 in Lewisville
7:30 pm

- ❖ March 2nd
- ❖ April 6th
- ❖ May 4th
- ❖ June 1st
- ❖ July 6th
- ❖ August 3rd

New Web Master

The NTK web site has recently been renovated due to the efforts of our new web master Andy Lewis. Please join me in welcoming him to the club and thanking him for stepping up and volunteering to take over the NTK web site. Andy has not only renovated the web site, but added a new Photo Gallery as well. So next time you see Andy, be sure to introduce yourself and say thanks.

We would also like to thank John Denman for designing and maintaining the website for all the years he has done it, we certainly appreciate all the hard work he put into the site, so THANK YOU John and look forward to seeing you at the track.

Upcoming Races

- ❖ March 11th & 12th – KART
- ❖ March 19th
Spring 1
- ❖ March 26th
Spring 2
- ❖ April 2nd
Spring 3
- ❖ April 23rd
Spring 4

NTK to Host RMax Challenge

NTK will once again be hosting a RMAX challenge series four (4) of the five (5) races will be required for racers who are thinking about going to the West Grand Regional August 23rd through the 26th at Willow Springs Motorsports Park in Rosamond, CA. A SFA approved Chest protector will be required for all Mini Max Rotax drivers and it is highly recommended for Junior Rotax drivers. All drivers under 18 years of age must turn in a birth certificate when applying for an RMAX license, so make sure you bring yours to the first race of the series. Some of the important tech issues to remember for the series include: a valid engine passport with matching numbers to the seal on the engine, Snell 2000 or later helmet, brake cable backup of 1.8mm min. diameter, and a good chain guard. The spec tire for the NTK Rotax Max Challenge Series will be the Bridgestone YHC tire. As there have been some rule and weight changes this year, it is highly recommend that you read the complete Rotax Max Challenge rules at the www.maxchallenge.com website to make sure you will not be DQ'd for a technical issue.

Appointed Positions Still Need to be Filled

There are a number of positions that still need to be filled for the club to run effectively. These are appointed positions, so if you are interested please speak to one of the Club Officers.

Track Manager:

Publicity Chairperson:

Sunshine Chairperson:

Remember; NTK is Your Track

Please remember that NTK is a member owned and operated track. Thus we are asking everyone to help us keep the track and facilities clean and maintained. This can easily be done every time you are at the track, just place your trash in trash cans, clean the sinks when you finish with them, if you spill something or make a mess, clean it up, empty the trash cans into the dumpsters. These are all things that you would do at your own house, so please help keep the track in as good as shape as possible.

NTK Rule Book Updated

NTK members reviewed and voted on all the proposed rule changes at the annual rules meeting January 28th. The meeting went very well and we were able to finish up by about 1:30. The new rulebook, which can be downloaded from the NTK web site, will go into effect March 1st. The first race where these rules will be enforced will be Spring 1. While there were a number of updates / changes to the rulebook, I will highlight a few of them here:

- Transponders must now be mounted on the back of the seat, centered, 25cm from the ground.
- The race entry fee has been raised \$5.00. So the entry fee is now: Members, \$25.00, Non-members \$40.00.
- The Yamaha class has had its minimum weight changed to 360 lbs.
- Series and Year End awards will now be given through 5th place.
- We have renewed our Sponsorship agreement with Bridgestone, so the spec tire will not change.

YSRs to Rent the Track in 2006

At the February NTK Club meeting, the club voted to allow the YSR Motorcycle club to rent our track on three separate weekends this year. As usual then means the track will be closed to all kart traffic on the weekends of:

- May 6 & 7
- July 22 & 23
- September 2 & 3

Board Meetings

Held at Alforno's Italian Kitchen in Flower Mound
7:00 pm

- ❖ March 14th
- ❖ April 18th
- ❖ May 16th

Work Days

Held at the track 9:00 am

- ❖ February 25
- ❖ March 18
- ❖ April 15
- ❖ May 28
- ❖ June 24
- ❖ July 1
- ❖ July 22
- ❖ August 19
- ❖ September 23
- ❖ October 21
- ❖ November 11
- ❖ December 2
- ❖ January 13
- ❖ February 10

Birth Certificates Needed

If you have not yet turned a birth certificate into the club secretary for the under 18 year old racer in your family you **Need to do so before the Spring 1 race in March otherwise you will not be able to race.** We have several drivers moving up in class and need to verify that they are eligible to move up under our club rules and insurance. So bring those birth certificates to the club meetings or the Polar bear races, before Spring 1.

MARCH 2006						
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MAY 2006						
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Proposed By Law Change

At the February NTK club meeting there was a proposal to change a By Law. The By Law to be changed is Article VII, dealing with Elected Officers and their term of office. This By Law also describes each office and its duties. The By Law and its proposed change are listed below (note only the paragraph to be change is listed as it is a long By Law):

The existing paragraph:

The office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairperson, and Newsletter Editor will be for two (2) years beginning January 1 and ending at midnight on December 31 the following year.

The proposal is to change the last paragraph to the following:

The office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairperson, Newsletter Editor, as well as each Board of Director will be for two (2) years beginning March 1 and ending at midnight on February 28 the following year. Newly elected officers and Board members will be trained by outgoing officers or Board members during the time between the elections are held and the term takes effect.

This proposed change will be voted on at the March Club Meeting, so please come and voice your opinion and your vote.

NTK Workday Credits – Vic Mauk, Points Chairman

As many of you may (or may not) know, all NTK members are required to work at least four workdays per membership year to remain in good standing. These are not race day works, but workdays where track and facility maintenance are performed. This can include painting, weed control, trash pickup, straightening the tire barriers, or any number of other things that need to get done. They usually last from about 9AM – 2:30PM, and the track is closed for practice at this time. And while Spring, Summer, and Fall Series club races do not count towards these

work day credits, working a non-club event such as a K.A.R.T. race or a club Polar Bear race *can* count towards your four required work days.

We are currently in our second year in which members who do not fulfill this requirement are charged an extra \$25 per work not accomplished, up to a maximum of \$100, on renewal. This was implemented to try to encourage more people to come out and help the club, as well as to generate revenue to pay for the services that are required to make-up for a lack of help by some members.

The current membership year ends in April 2006, so there are limited work day opportunities available for the remainder of the year. Actually, the available work days, or races that can qualify as a workday, are:

- Feb 25 Workday (Make-up for Feb 11 cancelled workday)
- Polar Bear 4 (Feb 26)
- K.A.R.T. Regional Race March 11-12 (Registration, corner workers, scoring, etc)
- March 18 Workday

Many of our members are lacking their required work days. And while, yes, you can just pay the extra \$25 per work day, that was not the intent of the rule. We are a club, and we all contribute to NTK's success. Having help at the workdays and qualifying races is much more needed and appreciated than the extra money.

If you have any questions about how many workday credits you may have this year, drop me an email at vicmauk@aol.com. Please include something referencing NTK work credits in the subject line so I don't delete it as SPAM, and include the *master member's* name in the text (some of your screen names are shall we say, not too obvious as to your real identity). If you don't have email capability, pick up the phone in your cave and call me at 214-274-4466 (cell) or (972) 874-9837 (home). Email is the preferred method, though.

Remember, we are a club, and the track is pretty unique as far as member availability is concerned. Go to a private track, and you will be paying for every day you get on it. We are all supposed to contribute to NTK's success. And four workdays are the minimum, not the maximum. So, come out and spend a morning with your fellow karters, and help keep NTK the great facility it is. Any questions drop me a line.

Pre Tech is Coming

As a new season of racing approaches, it is once again time to make sure your kart is in safe and working order. Hopefully everyone continues to do this through out the year, but for those of you that need a reminder, here it is. We will be requiring all karts to pass a pre- race technical inspection before the Spring 1 race. So if you have any doubts, check your kart before you get to the track. Some of the items that will be checked include:

- Helmet is Snell 2000 or later
- Driving Apparel is correct
- Neck Brace
- Safety Wire on all bolts
- Weights are White and properly attached
- Brakes are working
- No Loose wires or components

Spring Cleaning is Coming

As renewal time is coming up again for club membership, I am also going to be cleaning the mailing list for the NTK Newsletter. So I wanted to make everyone aware, that if you are not a club member, you may soon be dropped from the mailing list. I also wanted to put this notice in here, just in case I have someone's membership status incorrect. If you do not get the April NTK Newsletter (next month's issue) and you are a member, please contact me, so that I can resolve the situation.

Guest Speaker at March NTK Meeting

At the March NTK Club meeting John Sefcik of SRS Engine will be speaking. Some of the topics he will address include Blueprinting engines, breaking in new or rebuilt engines, and keeping your engine and carburetor in top condition. Please come and hear how you can get and maintain your competitive advantage.

NTK to Host K.A.R.T. Regional

NTK will host the first race in the KART Regional series the weekend of March 11th & 12th. The format will be qualifying, pre-final, and final using AMB Transponders on Sunday with practice on Saturday. Additional information is available on the KART web site at: www.kart.org or see the attached flyer. So come on out and join us at the kick off to the KART 2006 Regional Series. The host Hotel is Denton Inn & Suites, (940) 387-3511, mention NTK for room rates of \$52.00 a night plus tax.

As always, we will need workers for this race, so even if you aren't racing, come out and help the club by working.

Road to the Rock Series Returns

NTK will once again host a "Road to the Rock" challenge series. Details are still being worked out, but the first race is currently scheduled for Sunday March 26th, in conjunction with the Spring 2 race. The champion from each class shall be awarded a monetary award to be applied towards the cost of competing in this years Rock Island Grand Prix. Last years inaugural series went very well with some of the class champions not being decided until the final race. This year we are expecting even more participation as we continue to build this series. So check the NTK website for upcoming details and then come on out and race for your chance to go to America's premier street race.

Kart Show and Auction

Come out and join us at the KAM Karting facility in Rhome TX for a KART Show and Live Auction. This event is being put on by KAM Karting to help raise awareness of karting in the area and hopefully bring new people into the sport. So if you know anyone that may be interested in karting, this could be a good introduction. There will not only be the auction, but also exhibitors and Racing and Technical Seminars, and with the free admission price, you won't be able to beat the value. For additional information contact KAM Karting at: 817-638-5278.