



# Newsletter

Volume: 2007

Issue: 4

April 2007

## Upcoming Races

**Spring 2 – March 18 (Mark)**

Spring 3 – April 1 (DJ)

## Club Meetings \*

**April 5**

May 3

## Board Meetings \*\*

**April 10**

May 8

\*Club meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the IHOP in Lewisville (I-35 at FM 3040/Round Grove Rd.)

\*\*Board meetings are held at Tolbert's in Grapevine. 423 South Main St.

They will be the first Tuesday after the club meeting each month.

Meetings start at 7:00 PM and members are always welcome.

## **Track Closures/Limited Access**

There are a few dates coming up when the track will be closed for practice.

March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> - YSR group has rented the track for the weekend

March 31<sup>st</sup> - Track workday to mid afternoon

GoFaster has the track reserved during the following times.

March 17<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 – 12:30

April 7 – 8:30-12:30

April 8 – 8:30-12:30

April 14 – 8:30-12:30

April 20 – 7 PM

April 21 – 8:30 -12:30

April 22 – 8:30-12:30

## **Late Registration Fee Increase**

Starting Spring 1 racers registering after 12pm for a Sunday race will pay an addition \$10 in late fees. This is an effort to encourage all racers to register before registration closes at 12pm. The earlier you can register for a race the less stressful it makes it for the registration and scoring staff as they transition from registration to scoring to prepare the last minute details of the day's race format. Thanks for your cooperation and efforts to register before 12pm.

## **Expert Plates**

NTK rules state that only racers that have earned expert status may display yellow/gold number panels on their karts. This is a privilege those racers worked hard to earn, so it needs to be recognized and enforced. All other karts should have a white number panel with black letters or an orange rookie plate with black letters on the front, back, and both sides of the kart. Even though some karts come with yellow panels, you need to make sure you are complying with NTK rules by changing to the black on white color scheme. Starting at Spring 2, track officials will be watching for correct plates and enforcing the rules. Please respect our expert drivers and change your plates before a track official has to address the issue. If you need clarification on the rule, it is rule 2.3.16 in the rule book. Panels and numbers are available at:

KAM Karting – 817-638-5278

Go Faster – 972-434-5278

Precision – 972-243-0714

## **Transponders**

AMB notified NTK they raised the price of transponders. Due to that increase and other requirements, NTK will no longer sell transponders. You may still rent a transponder from NTK for racing. If you would like to purchase a transponder, you may contact a local kart shop and they can help you.

## **Software Training**

We will be offering a training session for those wanting to help in registration or scoring at the upcoming races. The training session will be on March 31<sup>st</sup> from 10-2 in the scoring tower at NTK. We will spend a couple of hours going over the registration portion of the program and a couple of hours going over the scoring section. We have 4 open spots for the training right now. If you are interested, please contact Lori at 817-637-3578. Attending training will count as a workday.

## **Upcoming Workday at NTK**

March 31<sup>st</sup> is the club's next workday. Our big task for the day is disposing of the old registration trailer that sits by the tech barn. We have built out storage space in the tech barn, so we will be moving everything to that space and getting rid of the old trailer. It isn't road worthy, so that means we are having a "sledgehammer party" at the workday. Bring your heavy duty hammers and your energy and have fun tearing the old trailer down. We will have a roll off container for the parts and everyone there can have fun breaking it into pieces for the roll off. In the end, we'll have a nice clean space and a better looking facility.

## **Lightning Detector**

NTK has purchased and is installing a lightning detector at the track. This should help us make better decisions about when to stop racing, or put a race on hold during the stormy season. The safety of our racers is a top priority.

## **Tech Barn**

There has been discussion at the last two club meetings of finishing out the top floor of the tech barn. At the last meeting, Weldon submitted a bid of \$38,000 to finish the whole upstairs, A/C included. There was a motion to table the decision till the May club so that it could be announced to members and they would have time to think about it. You can get details of the proposal from John Ray or Bob Schabel. Please plan to attend the May meeting to discuss this. The meeting is May 3rd at 7:30 PM at the Lewisville IHOP.

## **Tire Tool**

This month NTK purchased a tire mounting tool that will be kept in the tech barn and made available for racers on race days. This tool should make it much easier to mount your tires. The board members are currently being trained on using the tool so that they can help you if you have questions about using.

## **T-shirts and other items**

With warmer weather starting to show up, it's time to get your new NTK t-shirt. The shirts are available for \$12 each, and come in a wide variety of sizes. You can purchase your t-shirt at race registration, or at a club meeting.

We are getting an order together for new stickers, patches, aprons, hats, and other items for NTK. Keep an eye out for those in the coming weeks.

## **NTK Spring Series**

The Spring racing series is off and running at NTK. We started off on March 4th with Spring 1 and a Rotax Challenge series race. It was an exciting day with several races having photo finishes. One race was determined by a difference of .004 seconds from 1st to 2nd place. If you haven't gotten your kart ready for the new season yet, now's the time. It is shaping up to be a fun and exciting season.

Spring 2 is March 18th. Racing starts at 1 PM. Mark French is the race director. If you aren't able to race, he would love to have you help work the race. Now that we are in the regular race season, working at a race gets you a free pit pass for the day and 210 points for the race. If you work 2 races, you will get a free entry to your next race. You can contact Mark by calling him at 972-414-7249 or via email at [Mark.French@NTKarters.com](mailto:Mark.French@NTKarters.com).

Spring 3 will be April 1<sup>st</sup> and DJ Ortiz is the race director for that race. He is also looking for volunteers. You can contact DJ at 214-215-7704 or [DJ.Ortiz@NTKarters.com](mailto:DJ.Ortiz@NTKarters.com)

Awards from the Fall series will be presented at Spring 2. If you earned an award in that series, don't forget to join us at the next race so you can get your award and recognition.

## Rules and On-Track Behavior

This month's article is going to focus on a safety issue, specifically shoes, and address the rule book overall.

**NTK RULEBOOK, Section 1.2.1 Protective Driving Gear:** "All drivers must wear protective clothing, driving suit or jacket and long pants, constructed of leather, heavy vinyl, or other abrasion resistant material, approved full face helmet with face shield, approved functional neck brace, **enclosed shoes**, and gloves while driving on North Texas Kartway **at all times**". Additionally, on the front page of the NTK Rulebook, it states "NTK adheres to K.A.R.T. rules and regulations unless specified herein." In the K.A.R.T. 2007/2008 Rules/Technical Guide, Page 14, Section D.8.(f) "Footwear: **High top shoes or boots are required. High top shoes shall be laced, buckled or secured as designed.**" Club officials are asking that everybody follow this rule. They do not have to be "racing" shoes. Many drivers have used wrestling shoes or other high top athletic shoes to race at NTK. However, low top athletic shoes are not really in compliance with this rule, and everybody is being asked to dress accordingly.

The second part of this month's installment concerns the rule book in general. The NTK Rules meeting was held in January, and there have been some significant changes made, as well as many minor and editorial changes. **Everybody, from the top track officials down to members who don't even race,** should review the new rulebook when it comes out. If you have never read it, or have not reviewed it since you first joined, now is a good time to go back through it. Also, do you have a copy of it in your truck, trailer, or pit area? If not, you need to correct that. Every racer or tuner should have a copy of the rules available. Ignorance of the rules is not an excuse to violate them, and it can lead to an unnecessarily disappointing race result and/or series standing. Devin and I always race as though we are at a national or regional event. When it comes to rules, "it is just a club race" is not part of our vocabulary, and I would recommend (hope) that everyone race that way. There is no glory in winning by skirting rules, and any victories earned that way are not true victories. Just my thoughts.

Vic Mauk  
NTK Points Chairman

		
		
		
		
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