



## **Superkart Drivers Club 2018 AGM**

**Held at Hampton Downs Motorsport Park Saturday 5th May 2018**

**Present:** Steve Sharp, Ron Alexander, Chris Charlton, Teddy Bassick, Eddie Donnelly, Ryan Urban, Tony Bowden, Matt Flaherty, Matt Wallace, Lee Sefton, Mark Ongley, Steve Bowden, Rhys McKay, Phil Green, Brent Gordon, Jenny Parkes, Andrew Hall, Haylee Wallace, Johnny Bassick, Carly Tollenaar

**Apologies:** Kevin Geard, Richard Simmonds, Marty Weiss

Minutes of SGM 2017 Read & Accepted as true & correct. Moved Ryan Urban, Seconded Mark Ongley

### **Presidents Report 2018, Presented by Andrew Hall**

Welcome everyone to 2018 SKDC AGM.

A big thank you to the current committee members for their time, and efforts, to improve SKDC. No doubt you have all noticed a difference in the communication level you now receive and an improvement in the atmosphere at the track.

Since the last SKDC AGM, 3 primary things have happened.

#### The new SKDC App.

After initially getting the APP development under way, due to severe time restrictions, I have handed the reins over the Marty Weiss who has communicated with Andrew Owens from Konnect to get the App to near completion of stage one. This is a very exciting time as I firmly believe the SKDC APP will be a game changer for everyone involved, and everyone wanting to become involved, in our sport. I would like to formally thank Marty for the time and effort he has put into the APP development to date, his work is very much appreciated. I will not be going into great detail about the in's and outs of the APP today. I invite you all to attend a short meeting with Marty tomorrow lunchtime where he will present a detailed description of the APP and what it will mean to you the driver. The APP will revolutionise the way you enter races and make payments. It will also change the way we do gear and licence checking and a lot more. Please attend Marty's presentation tomorrow.

#### Track Hire and Race Entry Fees

This is a biggie. HRC Event will be increasing their fee to us starting September this year. We are still negotiating the exact figure, but even best case scenario the increase is significant. I, like you do not want to see fees increase any more. I feel drivers are paying close to, or at what they can afford and any increase may drive competitors away. Having said that, we currently get 150minutes of track time per round. This is double what the car guys get and

still cheaper than what they pay. Starting Round 4, all events will be charged per weekend. ie there will be no option given to pay or not pay for practice, it is one fee inclusive of practice and racing. This is the only way we can hold the entry fee at the level it is now.

At current track hire rates we need 28-30 entries just to break even. Rd1 and 2 this year SKDC lost money. Only an increase in the number of competitors at each round will save the inevitable fee increase. I would urge everyone to take every opportunity to talk to sprint racers and convince them to come superkarting.

A combination of 3 further measures are possible to hold fees at there current levels.

- a. Find sponsorship for our events.
- b. Increase the number of meetings we have at Manfeild
- c. Reduce track time from 150 minutes by following a similar race time table to that of Round 4 Manfeild. On the plus side an early finish Sunday would allow everyone to get away home with weekend to spare.

I copped some flak last time we had 3 meetings at Manfeild, however you must all realise that we are at cross roads now for the long term future of our sport. Fees can not be held at current levels without changes being made, and the best needs to be made of a bad situation. I would rather travel to Manfeild than not race at all.

#### Pay for practice, race for FREE

I believe this idea came from Ryan Urban. We introduced it in November last year.

10 new drivers have taken up our offer, over 4 rounds.

Terry Palmer, Ezra Jackson, Kim Stevens, Michael MacDowall, Kaleb Gargan, Mark Gargan, Jordyn Wallace, Tony King, John Mehaffy, Shannon Phipps. 7 of these drivers have gone on to do more rounds.

This is a very successful programme that will continue indefinitely.

#### Further to last AGM

Driver of the day recognition. No discussion has taken place around this idea. Simply put I have just been too busy with work considerations to even think about the parameters required to make a judgement call on driver of the day. I will endeavour to delegate this idea to a committee member should you chose to re elect me for the next 12 months.

#### Race Reports

Race reports are integral to the future success of superkarting. They provide an overall rap of each meeting to both drivers and potential competitors who may be considering entering our sport. Race reports give us the opportunity to convey both race results and the fun, friendly, family experience that is possible and indeed desirable if we are to attract new participants into our sport. A committed volunteer from those of you present today is required if you all wish to have race reports published.

#### Nationals

I am still unable to confirm our National event will run. I am awaiting written confirmation of a verbal agreement to sponsor this event. Until this happens I can not book track time. Last year we ran a \$6700 loss, which is not a position I can put the club in again this year.

### Summary

The key to keeping race fees down is an increase in driver numbers. Everyone of you is responsible and can play a part in attracting new members. Some of you are already very active in this regard. Others need to realise that we are all part of the superkarting family. It is not all about our own individual wants, taking from the sport but not giving anything back. When we are away from the track we must all talk positivity to anyone who will listen, the positive, fun, friendship, family experience that makes superkarting unique to other forms of karting, or other motorsports.

Without increasing competitor numbers we are rapidly approaching a turning point in superkarting where increasing fees will reduce participant numbers, leading to further increases and ultimately the death of our sport.

Currently SKDC is still financially healthy, however we must turn the run of losses we are currently experiencing around, if we are to have a long term future.

### President Role

I am happy to stand again, should you re elect me for the next twelve months. In particular I very much wish to see the new App working and any issues resolved. This will be a suck it and see exercise that Marty and myself will work through until we have a refined, working App.

I am giving notice that I will not be standing in 2019. It is desirable that a new president is found before the next AGM so that the knowledge I have can be passed on, and a new president is not just thrown in the deep end. It is possible that other committee members may also step down in 2019, so I very strongly urge you all to ask yourselves what you can do for SKDC and the future of superkarting in NZ.

Moved, Tony Bowden    Second, Teddy Bassick. All in Favour Carried

### **Financial Report for 2018**

Moved, Teddy, Second, Eddie. Carried

### **Committee Elections**

Committee Elections were held, but as only one nomination per position those nominated have been elected.

President: Andrew Hall

Vice – President: Marty Weiss

Treasurer: Nikki Ongley

Club Secretary: Haylee Wallace

Race Secretary Jenny Parkes

Committee Member Richard Simmons

Committee Member: Johnny Bassick

**General Business:**

Ron Alexander, maybe we need to look at going back to 3 races.

Steve Sharpe offered \$10k in sponsorship for 2 years with stickers to be placed on all karts.

Ideas on how to grow our club & sport are welcomed by the committee. Please forward your ideas to Andrew Hall via email by 16th May 2018.

Life Membership nomination for Andrew Hall, Moved Teddy, Eddie Donnelly. All in Favour.

Meeting Closed 18-30