

OWNER DRIVERS

Please remember that the Karting North East circuit manager has overall responsibility for the safe operation of the circuit, the safety of our customers and the employees of the company. Please seek their advice and accept their decisions as they have the responsibility of compliance with the guidelines, legislation and agreements that cover the circuit.

Standards

- **All drivers** must **sign in and pay** for testing prior to going on to the circuit. An adult will need to do this for anyone under the age of 17 years old.
- A wrist band will be issued and must be worn on the driver's wrist and shown when asked.
- **New drivers** must make reception staff aware, on arrival, that they have never used the facilities at KNE with their own kart before. A verbal safety briefing will be given by KNE staff and your kart inspected before going on to the circuit.
- It must be understood that all owner drivers take part at their own risk. No personal injury insurance is provided by the circuit operators for participants.
- Any driver suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be asked to leave the premises.
- A driver must drive with care at all times, looking well ahead and within safe limits relating to their skill level and that of other drivers on the circuit. It must be remembered that you are testing / practicing but NOT racing. As a result you should give other karts plenty of room and overtake only when it is safe to do so. The responsibility for safety remains with the driver AT ALL TIMES!
- **If you are deemed to be racing you will be black flagged!**
- The kart must be pushed to and from the pit lane from the car park. (No driving anywhere on site other than the circuit or pit lane)
- When on the circuit a driver must obey all signals (flags/lights) issued by marshals/KNE staff.
Yellow = Warning, you are approaching a hazard. Reduce your speed and do not overtake.
Red = Come to an immediate controlled stop and await further instruction.
Black = Return to the pits immediately. You are driving dangerously or there is a mechanical problem with your kart.
Chequered = End of session. Reduce speed and cease overtaking. Return to the pits at the end of that lap.
- Everybody under 17 years must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult.
- When leaving the circuit a driver must make a clear signal i.e. by raising one hand and move well off the racing line before exiting the circuit.
- Practice time will be split into separate sessions when deemed appropriate by KNE staff based on numbers/experience/kart class.
- Owner Drivers must set up in the hard-standing gravel car park. All repairs, servicing, refuelling etc. must be carried out here. It is strictly prohibited anywhere else on site.
- For exclusive club practice sessions, all owner drivers must enter the pitlane from the gate next to the workshop. The middle gate must remain locked at all times. (The middle gate may be used mid-week)

Equipment

When testing a driver must wear as a minimum:

- A crash helmet (BS6658 type B minimum) which fits correctly with a functional strap, No motorcross helmets.
- An abrasion resistant overall or race suit.
- Gloves
- Flat foot wear that provide foot and ankle protection.
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Should you require, you may hire a helmet or race suit from KNE for £10 per item.

The Kart

- The kart must conform in all ways with ABKC kart safety specifications.
- Refuelling is a fire risk for which the driver is fully responsible. Refuel in the front car park on the gravel away from other vehicles. The person fuelling must not be smoking and have a fire extinguisher on hand.
- Lead or ballast must be attached to the kart with a minimum of 2 mechanical fixings. Do not exceed 25kg of ballast without prior agreement in writing from KNE.
- Silencing of Karts – All karts must always comply with levels defined in the MSA Regulations and additional regulations given.
- YOU MUST INFORM RECEPTION IF YOUR KART IS NEW TO YOU AS ALL KARTS MUST BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO ITS FIRST USE AT OUR SITE.

Classes

Senior

Senior Rotax or similar may only be driven by drivers from the year of their 16th birthday. Drivers who have not reached their 16th birthday must demonstrate previous experience e.g. Motorsport UK licence, ARKS training course or a KNE junior Induction session/experience of driving one of our hire karts.

Senior Prokarts are 4 stroke twin engine karts (they have two engines on them). Senior Prokarts use unmodified Honda GX200 engines. They may only be used by drivers from the year of their 16th birthday. Drivers who have not reached their 16th birthday must demonstrate previous experience e.g. Motorsport UK licence, ARKS training course or a KNE junior Induction session/experience of driving one of our hire karts.

Junior

Junior Rotax may only be driven by drivers from the year of their 13th birthday to 31st December of the year of their 16th birthday. Drivers who have not reached their 13th birthday must demonstrate previous experience e.g. Motorsport UK licence, ARKS training course or a KNE junior Induction session/experience of driving one of our hire karts.

Junior Prokarts are 4 stroke twin engine karts (they have two engines on them). Junior Prokarts either use unmodified Honda GX160 engines or Honda GX200 engines fitted with a 15mm carb restrictor. These may only be used by drivers from the year of their 12th birthday to 31st December of the year of their 15th birthday. Drivers who have not reached their 12th birthday must demonstrate previous experience e.g. Motorsport UK licence, ARKS training course or a KNE junior Induction session/experience of driving one of our hire karts.

Mini Rotax may only be driven by drivers from the year of their 12th birthday to 31st December of the year of their 15th birthday. Drivers who have not reached their 12th birthday must demonstrate previous experience e.g. Motorsport UK licence, ARKS training course or a KNE junior Induction session/experience of driving one of our hire karts.

Cadet karts may be driven by drivers from their 8th birthday to 31st December of the year of their 13th birthday.

Bambino karts may be driven by drivers from their 6th birthday to 31st December of the year of their 8th birthday.

Bambinos

- All Junior circuit users and parents must be briefed on the use of the circuit the first time they come to KNE to use the circuit.
- Drivers must use the junior training circuit only until they have been deemed competent, by KNE staff, in all manners of circuit use to progress onto the main circuit.
- When using the junior training circuit, drivers must operate from the pit lane. The circuit must only be used in an anti-clockwise direction.
- Parents are responsible for supervising their children at all times both on and off the circuit.
- When parents are recovering karts on the circuit they must be aware of their own personal safety at all times and wear a high visibility top.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that helmets and safety clothing are fastened and adjusted correctly.
- Bambino drivers that have been deemed competent may drive on the main circuit but only at certain times (please refer to current Owner Driver Practice Times and Costs sheet for details).

If in doubt seek the advice of the KNE Circuit Manager supervising the sessions.

The Circuit & Paddock

- Do not move any tyre barriers or interfere with any safety equipment without the permission of the member of staff supervising the circuit. This particularly applies in the pit lane area!
- **Do not drive karts through the car park at any time. Either use a kart trolley or push the kart to ensure the safety of pedestrians.**
- Trolleys must not be left in pit lane, move them to the designated trolley park area.
- Do not enter the workshop. This is a staff only area.

Recoveries (Main Track)

Bambinos & Cadets – The driver must try and get their kart to safe position if possible. Once the kart has come to a stop the driver must stay in their kart and raise their hand in the air. A KNE marshal will go over to the driver, parents and mechanics are not allowed on the track whilst a session is in progress. If the marshal can get the kart going again they will, if not they will walk the driver back to the pitlane. Once the session is over a parent or mechanic must recover the kart but only once they have been given permission from Race Control.

Juniors/Seniors & Prokarts – The driver must get the kart to a safe position. Ideally by staying in the kart and driving it there but if that's not possible they will have to push the kart to a safe position. Once the kart is in a safe position the driver must go to the closest marshal hut and wait until the end of the session. **THEY MUST NOT WALK BACK TO THE PITLANE UNESCORTED MID SESSION.** At the end of the session the driver can leave the marshal hut and recover the kart. They can ask for assistance from their mechanic or another person with them but they must get permission from Race Control before the extra person can go onto the circuit.

** For information relating to recoveries mid-week please speak to a member of KNE staff **

Others with you

- **No one is allowed onto the circuit without the permission of Race Control.**
- No one is allowed into the pitlane area except a mechanic. All spectators must stay outside of the pit lane and remain behind the wooden fence. The pit lane wall is a 'NO SPECTATING' area.
- The pitlane is a non-smoking area. **Smoking is only allowed in the outside spectating areas.**
- A novice, inexperienced or young driver **MUST NOT** be allowed to drive any kart on the circuit without undergoing the appropriate training.
- No dogs or animals allowed on site with the exception of guide, hearing and assistance dogs.
- No Bikes, Scooters, Skateboards or ball games allowed on site.

Practice Availability

Monday –Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>From 9am between hire kart events.</p> <p><i>No 2 strokes after 5pm.</i> Except on a Wednesday when they can run till 8pm</p> <p>£40 per driver</p>	<p>No testing</p>	<p>2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, Exclusive Practice from 9am to 12pm</p> <p><i>There will be no owner driver practice on other Sundays.</i></p> <p><i>Practice time will be split into separate sessions based on numbers/kart classes.</i></p> <p>£40 per driver</p>
<p>BAMBINO KARTS</p> <p>From 9am on Junior Circuit between hire kart events.</p> <p>£25 per driver</p>	<p>No testing</p>	<p>BAMBINO KARTS</p> <p>2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, Exclusive Practice from 9am to 12pm</p> <p><i>There will be no owner driver practice on other Sundays.</i></p> <p>£25 Junior Circuit / £40 Main Track</p>
<p>Monthly passes are available from reception for £120 per driver per calendar month.</p>		

We recommend contacting the circuit on 0191 521 4050 prior to your visit to check the latest circuit availability.

Please note that Bambinos are only allowed to use the Main Track during Exclusive Club practice or if there are no other kart classes signed in. If another class is signed in they will only be allowed to use the Junior Circuit.

KNE staff are here to help. Any foul language, verbal or physical abuse towards any member of staff will result in a permanent driver ban with no refund. Do not use foul language or be abusive to other drivers or their team. If problems arise either on the circuit or in the paddock please contact a member of KNE staff.

These regulations are to protect the interests of all circuit users and the Operators. If you have any questions or concerns please go to reception and ask for the Circuit Manager.