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Auckland Champs

The Auckland Champs are upon us once more.

We are expecting up to 25 blokarts in each division with international competitors competing once again in preparation for the NZOpen commencing on 30 October.

The event format will consist of two days of racing, in two divisions, with a third day held as a reserve day.

Should the reserve day not be required a series of "fun" events will take place including teams racing, self handicap racing, relays, and maybe some other novelty events.

For this years event the Auckland Blokart Committee has decided to continue with the club's current rule structure for kart equipment. That is that sails and blokart chassis's must be of blokart manufacture, however the remaining items have no restrictions. This is to allow the club members who do not currently meet the new BAI equipment rules time to update their blokarts.

The notice of race and entry forms can now be downloaded from the ABC club website, www.abc.gen.nz

So put the Auckland Championships in your diary's for the October Long weekend ~ 21st 'til 23rd October 2006.

Tony's Safety Tips

Hi Clubbies,

Good to see you're all parking your cars well away from the racing area at BPP and don't forget to keep your kart back as far as possible also.

Always be aware of blokarts around you before changing direction especially in the dial ups.

Sail in a safe manner and enjoy the blokart grin.

Tony.



Auckland Blokart Club Inc.

New BAI Rules

The Blokart Association Inc. has released the official equipment rules under which all future BAI events will be run.

The rules are divided into two classes as it was previously with a Standard Class and a turbo charged Performance Class.

The Standard Class remains largely unchanged permitting only the basic "out of the box" blokart.

The Performance Class, which almost all ABC members sail under, now officially permits downhaul modifications, the new Blokart International "Full Blown Carbon" masts and mast cranes, as well as the usual PODs.

Things under the new rules to watch out for:

1. All equipment must be of Blokart manufacture, unless specified by the rules.
2. Blokart repairs must not change the function of the repaired equipment.

Upcoming Events

So what's coming up at Auckland Blokart Club Inc. in the next few months....

October 2006

- 12th Pre-Xmas twilight race day 1 ~ BPP
- 21st 'til 23rd Auckland Champs ~ BPP
- 26th Pre-Xmas twilight race day 2 ~ BPP
- 30th 'til 4th NZOPEN ~ Blokart Heaven

November 2006

- 9th Pre-Xmas twilight race day 3 ~ BPP
- 23rd Pre-Xmas twilight race day 4 ~ BPP

3. Equipment that is home made such as the mast cranes, pods, & carbon wrapped masts are no longer legal.
4. There is a provision for Timers, Compasses, and GPS's.
5. All blokarts as subject to a safety check, with particular attention to be paid to seat belts.

What does this mean for ABC members? Well lots really, as any club member traveling to the NZOpen this year, or the masters early next year, will need to download the new rules from www.bai.co.nz and ensure that their blokart conforms to the rules.

Future ABC events will also be run under the new rules. There will be a period of grace for the upcoming pre-Xmas twilight series. The new rules will then be introduced for the post-Xmas twilight series next year.



December 2006

- 7th Pre-Xmas twilight race day 5 ~ BPP
- 14th Pre-Xmas twilight race day 6 ~ BPP

January 2007

- 11th Post-Xmas twilight race day 1 ~ BPP
- 25th Post-Xmas twilight race day 2 ~ BPP

February 2007

- 8th Post-Xmas twilight race day 3 ~ BPP
- 17th & 18th MaxOut Event ~ BPP
- 22nd Post-Xmas twilight race day 4 ~ BPP



"Don't Forget to check out the club website ~ www.abc.gen.nz."

Caption Contest

So we all know who it is, but we need a caption to go with the photo...

Email your answer to info@abc.gen.nz as your entry into the caption contest.

The best caption will be decided by the club committee at their November meeting and the winner presented with a bottle of wine.

Deadline for entry... 31 October 2006.



Hi-Tech Ray

Wheel alignment.

After finding out I was using more energy than others to wheel my Blokart in light winds I became suspicious of the wheel alignment. After first checking for bent stub axles I used the simple device as follows:



Two straight and parallel pieces of timber 2.5m long. (ex 100 x 25)

Attach another parallel piece of timber 160mm long and 800mm from one end to the straight edges.

A 150mm length at other end to keep timber parallel to the ground when resting on rear axles.

I then sat in the Blokart, as a person's weight will affect the alignment, and firmly held the 160mm long pieces up against the inside of the rear wheels. Caution not to touch the tyres.

A second person then measured the distance between the straight edges at rear and front. Use a stick with a small nail partially driven in near the end and mark the stick to compare with other ends measurement.

If they were the same then rear wheels are parallel.

If front measurement was larger, then rear wheels are toeing out and causing drag.

Front measurements can also check if front wheel is centred.

The measurement on my kart was toeing out by 65mm.

After some adjustment to the chassis it is now much better in light winds and I am more competitive though I still have much to learn about sail trim and sailing.

I have also used the device when stub axles have become bent to see which side is best to use them on.



Auckland Blokart Club Inc.

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RUSSELL HARRAY

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GRANT CRAWSHAY

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Auckland Blokart Club Inc.

Auckland Blokart Club

Web: www.abc.gen.nz

E-Mail: info@abc.gen.nz

*Always show your
"Blokart Grin".*



Don't Forget to register for the ABC coollist email service via the club website

Russell's Rave

It was thought a newsletter would help keep everyone informed about what is happening in the club. If you want to contribute then email through your article.

A new committee was voted in 2 months ago and are looking forward to a busy year ahead. We have achieved a lot in the past 12 months and the work continues to make our club bigger and better.

I continue to be on the committee that is developing the Puhinui site into a recreational area. The trouble is that there are many interested users and the consultation process will take a while before anything really happens. To date I can report an area has been put aside for blokarting. We are looking at options for the finishing system plus are looking for funding for some of our growth activities.

We seem to have had a busy year sailing wise but not a lot of wind at critical times. The winter series is coming to a close with only 2 days sailing to date, the 100 km pairs race was cancelled as the conditions not right and quite a few of our club days have been in light winds. Hopefully the coming summer series and Auckland Champs will produce a better result and lots of entries.

We have a number of sailors using Bruce Pulman Park outside normal club times.

Survey

Our ever creative webmaster is currently updating the club website to include a special members directory. This directory is intended to help our club members in identifying other members.

To enable our webmaster to complete this task we ask that the following information be emailed to the club on info@abc.gen.nz

Thanks to our club supporters

Blokart International Ltd.

OPTN – SMS Message Service

RJVDesign – Website Creation

Web World – Website Hosting

While this is ok everyone must be aware of safety issues. If anyone sees non ABC members using the park please make contact and outline some of the safety issues including helmets and footwear and not using the road when cars are around. We will be putting a general notice up with key safety issues. We don't want to lose access to the park for all our activities.

I have again asked if something can be done about the 1 annoying speed bump. Hopefully we will have a solution by the start of the summer racing.

It is good to see new members joining the club and coming along on Sundays. Please make yourself known to anyone that is not familiar and make them welcome. We are known as a friendly club with a fun focus. Let's keep this up. See you on the beach or blokart track soon.

Russell



1. Sail number
2. Sailor's Name
3. Sailor's Nickname
4. Sail & Pod Colour
5. When did you start Blokarting
6. Favorite Blokart Spot
7. Favorite Blokart Moment

Club Members:

Tony, Ray & Russell – Articles for newsletter

Ross & Marg – Photos for website & newsletter

Roger & Rowena – Race official duties