

## **2009 RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES GULF COAST KARTERS, INC.**

This document constitutes the rules, regulations and procedures of Gulf Coast Karters, Inc. (GCKI).

### **SPIRIT AND INTENT**

From experience we all know that some racers seek to win because of the omission of some restriction in the rules to prohibit a certain act or conduct. You are reminded that these rules are adopted with the same understanding as the rules of most other forms of racing and that any changes or modifications you may make, and your conduct, are subject to the "SPIRIT AND INTENT" of these rules and regulations, which is defined as follows:

"These rules (including the rules of any sanctioning body adopted by GCKI) are the standard by which karting will be guided. Officials at events are authorized to decide if a change or design is an attempt to "beat the rules." If so, they can and will disqualify an entry and the disqualification will be upheld by GCKI.

The purpose of these rules is to provide a uniform set of standards and procedures to establish the legality of karts used in sanctioned events. While it is intended to be a guide for tech inspectors, we hope it will also provide assistance to the general member in preparing legal karts.

No pretense is made of having designed a foolproof set of rules and regulations. Karting is a sport designed for the fun and enjoyment of the whole family. There have been attempts to test the rules by deviating from the purpose for which the basic sport is intended. The SPIRIT AND INTENT of the rules is going to be the standard by which karting at GCKI will be guided. The agreement by two event officials is authorized to decide if an equipment change or design is an attempt to beat the rules. They can and will disqualify an entry in violation of the SPIRIT AND INTENT of these rules.

The Race Director, or any other GCKI official, shall have the right to initiate action correcting a hazardous condition or a condition not in compliance with the SPIRIT AND INTENT of these rules."

### **SAFETY DISCLAIMER**

Kart racing has certain inherent risks. Each competitor assumes that risk when he/she participates in an event. While everyone involved, including officers, officials and members of GULF COAST KARTERS, INC., drivers and crew members, can and have taken measures to reduce the risk of serious injury, the risk cannot be eliminated and, in fact, will always be present at a high level. Although safety is everyone's concern, GULF COAST KARTERS, INC., its officers, officials and members cannot be, and are not, responsible for all or even most aspects of the safety effort. That responsibility rests with the various participants in the event(s) as follows: Competitors are closer to the racing facilities, track conditions, safety personnel and equipment, than are GULF COAST KARTERS, INC., its officers, officials and members, and are, therefore, better able to monitor track conditions on a continuing basis. Competitors are thus obligated to inspect, observe, and promptly report to the race officials any inadequacy in the facilities, personnel, equipment, or conditions at the track before, during, and after each event.

Competitors also are solely and directly responsible for the safety of their race karts and racing equipment and are obligated to perform their duties (whether as the vehicle owner, driver or crew member) in a manner designed to minimize to the degree possible, the risk of injury to themselves and others. Neither GULF COAST KARTERS, INC., its officers, officials or members will be, or are responsible for the adequacy of a competitor's race kart, racing equipment, or racing activity to accomplish this purpose.

### **GENERAL RULES, PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS**

GCKI is NOT affiliated with nor sanctioned by WKA, SKUSA, ProKart, Stars of Tomorrow, IKF or any other national karting organization. The GCKI Race Director may reference these sanctioning bodies rules to provide clarity to the GCKI rules and procedures. If there is any conflict in the GCKI rules, or if a question is not completely addressed, the Race Director and the members of the Board of Trustees present at the event will make such changes in the rules so that the conflict or dispute can be fairly settled.

## **SPECIFIC RULES, PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS**

### **I. COMPETITOR SAFETY**

- a. Competitor's safety gear will be inspected prior to GCKI races. Competitors will only be allowed to participate if they wear at all times on-track the following equipment.

- i. Helmet meeting one of the following Standards

<b>Snell Foundation Specification</b>	<b>Legal until</b>
1998 K (kart)	12/25/07
2000 SA and M	12/25/09
2005 SA and M	12/25/14
2005 K	12/25/14
<b>SFI Specifications</b>	<b>Legal until</b>
24.1 (youth helmet)	12/25/12
31.2a	12/25/12
41.2a	12/25/12
24.1/2005 (youth helmet)	12/25/14
31.1/2005	12/25/14
41.1/2005	12/25/14

- ii. A visor constructed off shatterproof protection for the eyes
- iii. Unaltered, collar-type, foam-filled helmet support designed for motorsports applications.
- iv. Gloves that completely cover both hands.
- v. An abrasion resistant driving suit, covering the whole body except the head, neck, hands and feet.
- vi. Driving shoes and socks providing protection for the entire foot and ankle
- vii. For all classes, a flak jacket or rib vest protecting the torso is highly recommended to minimize injury. These devices have been proven to reduce injuries.
- viii. Chest protectors meeting SFI Specifications 20.1 are mandatory for all drivers in all classes where the maximum age is 12 or lower.
- ix. Ballast weight may not be added to the driver ie addition of weight to the driving apparel, weight belts, ankle weights, etc without the written permission from the race director.
- x. If driver's hair extends appreciably from beneath the helmet, it is mandatory that the driver wear a balaclava or head sock to prevent the hair from extending outside the helmet. Also, no apparel items such as bandanas, sweater hoods, loose belts, etc will be permitted.

## II. FEES AND REQUIREMENTS:

- a. **MEMBERSHIP:** (to be reviewed by Board early 2009) Membership is open to any person 18 years of age or older. The fee for new members is \$250.00 for one (1) year. After the initial membership term the membership may be renewed for \$225.00 for one (1) year. Any membership not renewed by the last day of the month following expiration will terminate and the person will have to join as a new member. Spouses and/or minor children living at the same address may join as Associate Members for the fee of \$10.00 for each year. All members are required to pay a \$75 workers fee per year. This

money is reserved by GCKI to pay race workers but can be offset by working on race days. Membership is subject to the GCKI bylaws. Member Meetings and Facility Safety Orientation: GCKI will hold member orientation meetings various times through the year. These meetings are open to all members and will review all club rules, driving rules, classes, and member responsibilities. The first such meeting should be scheduled prior to the first race of the year.

A new racer orientation meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on each race day and attendance will be required by all novice drivers.

- b. **USE OF FACILITIES:** Members of GCKI can use the track and facilities any day the track is not being used for an official race event.
    - i. **ONLY** member owned karts are allowed on the track on non-race days. Non-members are welcome at GCKI to race and practice on club sponsored race days as long as they are registered to race and have signed all required waivers to race on that day. On non-race days members and/or their guests are the only persons authorized to operate racing karts on the track. A guest of a member can operate the members kart if the member agrees to sponsor the guest. Guests can drive the members kart but the member must be present. The member must have the guest or the legal guardian of a minor guest sign the official waiver provided by the club to release all liability of GCKI before allowing the guest on the track. These signed release forms must be placed in the lock box prior to driving on the track. Anyone found violating this rule will be suspended from the club for a period of one year from the date of the infraction. **ALL MEMBERS MUST HAVE THEIR ID CARDS AVAILABLE FOR PROPER VERIFICATION AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON GCKI PROPERTY.** This rule is in effect at **ALL TIMES**.
    - ii. On non race days, the track is open for members and their guests. Drivers must be considerate of other drivers. It is recommended that drivers practice with other drivers of similar skill. As a general rule, junior drivers and senior drivers should not drive on the track at the same time and should adopt the same order of practice as race days. Members need to communicate with each other to schedule a safe day of practice. It is highly recommended that kid karts do not drive on the track with more senior classes.
- III. **RACE FEES AND REQUIREMENTS:**
- a. **GULF COAST KARTERS RACE SERIES:** GCKI members and visiting members presenting current membership cards from other sprint kart clubs recognized by GCKI will pay a fee of \$40.00 for each class entered. All other participants will pay a fee of \$75.00 for each class entered. All pit passes will be \$5.00 each.. Race entry fees are also non refundable but can be credited to the next scheduled event if requested prior to the drivers meeting. Pit pass fees, ambulance fees and transponder rental fees are nonrefundable

- b. Other GCKI sanctioned races and/or series at our facility including but not limited to SOUTHWEST REGIONS CUP (SWRC) are managed by their series rules.
- IV. WORKER PAYMENTS:
- a. The GCKI Board of Directors may hire an Event Manager to coordinate races at GCKI throughout the year. The Event Manager will work with the club elected race director or may function as the race director if one is not elected. The Event Manager reports to the GCKI President but is contracted by the Board.
  - b. For each race event there will be up to 10 paid workers, as determined by the Event Manager and or Race Director. Subject to the discretion of the Race Director, the paid workers will be: 4 corner workers, 1 grid marshall, 1 starter, 2 concession stand workers, and 2 workers for registration and scoring.
  - c. Each such worker will be paid for their services in assisting in the event at an amount established by the Event Manager and approved by the Board of Trustees.
  - d. A Head Technical Inspector will be hired by the race director or Event Manager and approved by the GCKI board for the race year and is in charge of weighing all karts and drivers exiting the track and pre- and post race inspections for both general safety and compliance with technical specifications.
- V. RACE SCHEDULE:
- a. ANNUAL SCHEDULE: The race schedule for each calendar year will be determined by the Board of Trustees and approved by the GCKI members at the annual meeting.
  - b. CHANGE IN SCHEDULE: Any change in race schedule dates, other than as the result of adverse weather, must be made at least 30 days prior to the originally scheduled race. Any race that is rescheduled may not be rescheduled to a date that is less than 30 days from the date of the rescheduling.
- VI. RAIN OR ADVERSE CONDITIONS:
- a. Wet weather racing rules will be in effect when the Race Director declares such conditions. Approved rain tires (not grooved race slicks) must be on track to enter the track.
  - b. Raceable wet conditions are defined as a wet track but without deep standing water or heavy running water on the track surface. Heavy rainfall or the presence of an electrical storm in an area is not acceptable wet weather racing conditions.
  - c. The Race Director has the authority to declare wet or dry at any time during the race day. A reasonable period of time will be allowed to change tires (not to exceed 20 minutes).
  - d. Races will be considered complete if the Race Director changes from wet to dry or dry to wet in the second half of a heat race. Races that are changed in the first half will be restarted once the tires are changed. Karts will be re-grid according to their starting positions.

- e. If the Race Director determines that the track is unsafe for racing because of heavy rain or other adverse conditions, the race will be cancelled. The Race Director will not cancel a race due to rain or other adverse weather conditions before 10 a.m. on the day of the race.
- f. If the race day is cancelled before the beginning of the event, the entrants registered will receive a credit in the amount of the entry fees to apply to the **next scheduled race**, no refund or credit will be made for pit passes, transponder rentals or ambulance fees and no points will be awarded to any participant.
- g. If an event cannot be completed due to adverse conditions, awards and point will be distributed based upon qualifying results, or the last completed heat race. Entrants unable to qualify will receive 200 points and credit to entry into the same class in the next scheduled GCKI series race.

VII. REGISTRATION, PRACTICE, AND RACE PROCEDURES:

- a. REGISTRATION: Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m. and cease at 11:45 a.m. on race day. Any participant who changes classes, or registers after **registration closes** will start in last place in the class for the prefinal. Qualifying is scheduled to begin ~~at noon~~ immediately following the driver's meeting.
- b. PROHIBITED TOYS PETS ETC.: Skates, Skateboards, bicycles, scooters, motorcycles, and other like vehicles, balls etc are not permitted on GCKI property on race day, except for authorized race official use. Pets are not allowed at GCKI. First time offenders will be warned, and they will be required to restrain pet on a leash of 6' or less or to keep the animal in a confined space (car, etc.). Second time offenders will be asked to leave.
- c. QUALIFIED ENTRY:
  - i. The kart frame, not the driver, is the official entry in any GCKI event and there shall be no substitution of a frame without permission of the Race Director.
  - ii. The entrant must be present at pre-race technical inspection with all necessary equipment to substantiate legal entry for all classes entered.
  - iii. If any participant enters a race without the intent to race, as determined by the Race Director, the participant will not be considered an entry and no points will be awarded.
- d. PRACTICE: The track will be open for practice for all race day entrants on all race dates, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and continuing until called by the Race Director.
- e. ORDER OF PRACTICE:
  - i. Race day practice may be controlled at the discretion of the Race Director.
  - ii. If controlled, practice will be conducted in 10-minute sessions, beginning at a time determined by the Race Director and continuing until race time.

- iii. In controlled practice, each practice session will be divided into 4 groups and practice in the order of (1) all junior classes; (2) all senior clutch and direct drive classes; (3) all shifter classes, (4) kid karts.
  - iv. Prior to controlled practice on race days, Kid karts and inexperienced drivers should not drive on the track with faster drivers.
  - v. The Race Director has the discretion of combining or dividing practice groups.
- f. **DRIVERS MEETING:** A drivers meeting will be held as soon as possible at the conclusion of the practice. Attendance at the drivers meeting is mandatory for all drivers. A loud sound device (i.e., air horn) or announcement over the public address system will be used to call drivers to the drivers meeting and any driver failing to be present for the drivers meeting within 5 minutes of the sounding of the device or announcement for drivers meeting may be excluded from the racing event. The race director may appoint or solicit a volunteer from each class to act as a Class Chairman during the race event. These Chairmen will help the race director organize the class during the event, answer questions and concerns among the participants, and work independently to resolve issues among the participants instead of involving the technical inspector or the race director. The Race Director, Event Coordinator and Technical Inspector all have full authority over any actions of the Class Chairmen.
- g. **RACING ORDER:**
  - i. The classes will race in the order determined by the Race Director.
  - ii. The Race Director has the discretion of combining classes.
- h. **GENERAL RACE PROCEDURE:**
  - i. Each race day will consist of qualifying session, a pre-final and a feature race.
  - ii. The grid position for each race is determined by qualifying time and the finish position in previous heats. The driver with the fastest qualifying times of the heat will start at the pole position followed by the rest of the field. Ties will be settled by comparing the next fastest lap to determine the race order. As a general rule, races with combined classes will be grid according to time and finish positions and not by class. The race director will grid a class together as a separate race or together but combined with other classes if a single racer in the specific class requests this special grouping. This special request must be received by the Race Director before the end of the race meeting prior to the start of qualifying. No requests to grid separately will be considered once qualification begins.
  - iii. The pre-final and feature races will be a rolling start, except for shifter karts. Shifter karts will have a Grand Prix style standing start; the karts will be lined up in 2 rows, allowing 15 feet from the front tire to front tire with the front tires of the karts on the front row being on the start line (the location of which shall be at the discretion of the Race Director); and a penalty of 2 finishing positions will be given to any

kart that moves to gain an advantage before the green flag is given to begin the race.

- iv. Each participant has 90 seconds from the time the class is given the order to start their engines before the class leaves the grid. After the class has left the grid, a participant may only join the class under the direction of the grid steward and must move to the back of the grid.
  - v. Classes will race a 12 lap pre-final and a 20 lap final. The Race Director has the discretion of altering the foregoing.
  - vi. There is to be a break of not less than 15 minutes, with not less than 5 minutes of open track, at the conclusion of the pre-final and before the commencement of the feature races.
  - vii. As a general rule, racers who have not raced more than 6 heat races are automatically classified as novice racers and are required to mark their helmet or rear number plate with a contrasting "X". A novice racer can begin racing according to the results from qualifying if the race director determines that they are capable of racing in close proximity to other racers. It is the responsibility of the driver to determine their skill level and help the race director place them in a safe position on the grid. Novice racers who are unable to maintain safe lap time in qualifying or heat races may be black flagged by race officials or asked to not race with the other racers. Decisions to black flag racers based upon ability to maintain a safe lap time or driving line must be made by the race director.
- i. **QUALIFYING PROCEDURE:**
    - i. On entering the race, all participants **MUST** provide an AMB transponder number to registration. It is the responsibility of the racer to verify that their transponder is in working condition and that the tracks timing system is able to receive a signal from their transponder. On entering the race each participant will also draw a random number from a container for each class entered. In making the draws for multiple classes the participant will designate the class being drawn before making the draw. These numbers may be used in lieu of timed qualification in the case of a timing system failure etc.
    - ii. When registration is closed, each class will grid and prepare to qualify for starting position in the pre-final. Any participant who is allowed to register after the close of registration will not be allowed to qualify and will start the pre-final in the back of the grid.
    - iii. Qualifying will consist of either three timed laps on the track or fixed period time qualifying sessions. Qualifying procedure is at the discretion of the race director. A kart will leave the grid and make one warm-up lap followed by three hot timed laps (green, white and checkered).
  - j. **ALTERNATE PROCEDURE** (to be used in case of timing system failure):
    - i. On entering the race each participant will draw a random number from a container for each class entered. In making the draws for multiple

classes the participant will designate the class being drawn before making the draw.

- ii. When registration is closed, each class will be allocated grid positions by the drawn numbers. Any participant who is allowed to register after the close of registration will start each heat race in last place on the grid. All beginner racers and novice racers will be positioned at the back of the grid. If more than one novice racer is racing in a class, they will be positioned in the back of the grid according to the draw.
- iii. The first heat race will be run according to the drawn numbers, with the lowest number starting on the pole position, the next lowest starting second, and so on down the entries in the class. At the finish of the first heat the participants will be awarded a number of points the same as the finish position of the participant.
- iv. The second heat race will be inverted to the starting positions of the first heat, with the largest number starting on the pole position, and so on in decreasing numbers, with the participant having the lowest number starting in last position. All beginner racers and novice racers will be positioned at the back of the grid. If more than one novice racer is racing in a class, they will be positioned in the back of the grid according to the draw. At the finish of the second heat the participants will be awarded a number of points the same as the finish position of the participant.
- v. At the conclusion of the two heat races the total number of points accumulated by each participant will be totaled and the lowest total number of points will be the pole position, the next lowest in second position and so on to the last position being the participant with the greatest number of points. In the event of a tie in the total number of points between the participants, the draw and starting position of the participants in the first heat will determine the order of their start in the feature. All beginner racers and novice racers will be positioned at the back of the grid.
- vi. Any participant not leaving the grid at the start of any heat will receive a number of points for that heat equal to the number of entries in the class.
- vii. A participant who is disqualified in any heat will be given points for that heat equal to the number of entries in that class plus not less than one, with additional points to be added at the discretion of the Race Director.

#### VIII. SCORING AND POINTS:

- a. Series points will be awarded to each participant according to their finish position in the feature race. Each participant will receive points equal to the total number of entries registered in the class, plus the number of points determined by the finish position of the participant as follows: 1st, 100; 2nd, 90; 3rd, 85; 4th 80; 5th, 75; 6th, 70; 7th, 65; 8th, 60; 9th, 55; 10th, 50; 11th, 47; 12th, 44; 13th, 41; 14th, 38; 15th, 35; 16th, 32; 17th, 30; 18th, 28; 19th, 26; 20th, 24; 21st, 22; 22nd, 21; 23rd, 20; 24th, 19; 25th, 18; 26th, 17; 27th, 16; 28th, 15; 29th, 14; 30th, 13; 31st 12; 32nd, 11; 33rd, 10; 34th, 9; 35th, 8; 36th, 7; 37th, 6; 38th, 5; 39th, 4; 40th 3; 41st, 2; and 42nd 1 Any

participant who is present at a GCKI event and registers, but whose kart does not pass pre or post race technical inspection, breaks during practice, or otherwise fails to start the feature will be awarded last place points for the class entered. In the event 2 or more participants in the same class suffer this fate, each will receive the same points equal to last place (for example, if there are 8 entries and 2 of them fail to start, they will both be awarded 8<sup>th</sup> place and no one will be awarded 7<sup>th</sup> place).

- b. Any participant who starts a heat race but does not finish will be scored by their position among other non-finishers in their last completed lap. If more than one racer does not complete the first lap of the final event, the grid position for the final will determine the points awarded.
- c. Kid Kart entries will be awarded 200 points per race day unless the participant or kart does not pass technical inspections detailed below.

IX. TECHNICAL INSPECTIONS:

- a. Technical inspections can be performed any time during the race day at the discretion of the Race Director. If a kart is found to not meet the specifications of a class, it will be penalized in subsequent heats by being placed at the back of the grid or not allowed to race. If a kart does not meet post MAIN race technical inspections, the kart and driver will be disqualified from the event and the next finisher will be inspected for the finishing position. The Race Director has the option of asking the top four finishers if they want to waive final technical inspection but the vote must be unanimous. Karts disqualified for tech will still receive points for the day equal to last place in the class. Kid Karts not passing performance related technical inspections will not be awarded point for the race day.
- b. The entrant must be present at pre-race technical inspection with all necessary equipment to substantiate legal entry for all classes entered.
- c. If any participant enters a race without the intent to race, as determined by the Race Director, the participant will not be considered an entry and no points will be awarded.
- d. TIRES AND TIRE TECH:
  - i. To receive series points in any event in which a particular tire brand is specified in the rules for the series, the participant must use the specified brand. Any other tire allowed for the class may be used instead of the specified brand, but the participants not using the specified brand will be eligible only for trophies for the event and will not be awarded any series points or considered in the point order.
  - ii. Tires shall not be treated in any way with any substance or material.
  - iii. At the beginning of each heat race and the feature, the technical inspector may check one tire on 3 karts in the class with a durometer and take the average of the reading. The tires of all of the karts in the class must fall within plus or minus 3 degrees (or points) of Shore hardness of the average reading.
  - iv. The participant will be required to run the full race (qualifying pre and main) on the same tires. After qualifying, the tires on the participants

kart may be marked. In the event a tire is damaged or becomes unsafe during a race, the Race Director shall have the discretion of allowing a legal tire change.

- e. FUEL AND FUEL TECH:
  - i. The participants will provide their own fuel for the events.
  - ii. All fuel will be subject to the technical requirements set forth in these rules and the WKA rules.
  - iii. The primary test for the fuel will be done with the Digatron Test Meter, with cyclehexain set at -75. Any fuel that exceeds a reading of "0" will be disqualified for that heat or feature. The race officials may perform any additional WKA fuel test on the participant's fuel.
  - iv. The participants shall always be entitled to observe the number shown on the fuel tech meter and to observe any additional fuel tech performed on the participant's fuel;
  - v. If fuel is to be tested at an event, every participant shall be entitled to have up to 2 fuel tests made of the participant's fuel prior to the start of the event. If a fuel reads illegal after the second test, the participant will pay a fee of \$5.00 for each subsequent fuel test.
  - vi. A competitor whose fuel is declared to be illegal in the fuel test may be required to provide a sample of not less than one quart of the fuel for such additional testing as may be determined appropriate by the Race Director or the Board of Trustees.
  - vii. If a competitor has used any materials in their fuel which is a known cancer-causing carcinogen, or is dangerous and/or toxic to humans, that competitor will be subject to a permanent suspension "DEATH PENALTY" on the majority vote of the members of the Board of Trustees of GCKI and never allowed to participate in a GCKI sanctioned race.
- X. PROTESTS AND PROTEST COMMITTEE:
  - a. Protests and appeals must be submitted in writing to the Race Director within 30 minutes of the incident or decision of the race official and before any activity that would render the decision moot.
  - b. The Race Director will be the initial arbiter of all protests. The appeals committee shall be the final arbiter of all protest appeals. The appeals committee will be comprised of the President, Vice-President and all members of the Board of Trustees, to the extent they are present at the event. In the event that there are not least 3 individuals available in accordance with the preceding sentence, additional disinterested members present at the event shall be selected by the ranking official present to create an appeals committee comprised of not less than 3 people.
  - c. If a participant desires to appeal the decision of the Race Director, the participant must file a written appeal and submit an appeal fee to the Race Director within 30 minutes of the Race Director's decision and before any activity occurs that would render the appeal moot. Subject to the provisions below, if the appealing party is upheld by the appeal committee, the appeal fee will be refunded. If the appeal committee rules against the party making the

appeal, the appeal fee will be forfeited to the general fund of the GCKI. The appeal fee is \$10.00.

- d. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding section, any appeal of an engine disqualification decision (including any appeal of a decision regarding an engine part) will require that the appealing party pay a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 to GCKI. At the discretion of the appeals committee, the subject engine or part may be impounded for further review. In such event, neither GCKI nor any of its representatives will be liable to the participant for any loss of or damage to the part or engine.
  - e. Anyone desiring to protest an engine after the conclusion of the race day (including exhaust system, drive train, carburetion or intake) for legality must be a participant in the protested class and post a one hundred dollars (\$100.00) cash bond. If the engine is legal, the money will be forfeited to the owner of the engine. If the engine is illegal, the money put up will be returned to the protester and the owner of the illegal motor will compensate the technical inspector \$25. All technical inspections will be performed by the GCKI technical inspector and supervised by the Race Director.
  - f. Except for a protest on the starting position of a heat race or the feature race, all protests and appeals will be considered between the sets of heat races, or at the conclusion of the feature race. Any protest or appeal on a starting position will be heard and considered immediately. Except for a starting position protest, no heat races or feature races will be delayed or interrupted to consider a protest or appeal.
- XI. CLASSES: The classes to be raced during the current year will be as adopted by the Board of Trustees each year. The following items will be detailed in the Classes document approved by the Board.
- a. Class: This will typically be a nationally or regionally recognized racing group GCKI believes will race at the track in significant numbers during the race season.
  - b. Driver requirement: This section details the minimum and maximum competition age for the class. The following competition age rules apply to all classes unless otherwise specified in the GCKI approved class rules. This is the driver's actual age as of December 20<sup>th</sup> 2007. A minor driver of at least 9 years of age whose birthday qualifies them to move up to classes with the next higher age requirement may do so under the following conditions. If their birthday occurs by June 30 2008 they may move up on or after their birthday and compete the competition year in classes with the next higher age requirement. Any 11 year old driver who will reach his or her 12<sup>th</sup> birthday anytime during the 2008 competition year (competition year runs from December 20, 2007 to December 19, 2008) and who meets the criteria of three top three finishes (In SWRC, Stars, IKF, SKUSA, GCKI , or WKA national events) can move up to any Junior class at GCKI. Said driver must petition the GCKI Board for approval. If a driver elects to move up to a class with a higher age requirement he or she may do so, however he or she must continue to compete at that level. A birth certificate is required as proof of driver age and will be held by GCKI for proof of competition age. If a birth certificate is

not able to be provided by the racer at registration for the event or when applying for membership, the driver must certify his or her birth date to prove competition age. Falsification of age or any other information required for membership or registration for events will subject that registrant or member to disqualification and or suspension of membership privileges. GCKI members and race registrants are entirely responsible for supplying accurate information for all registrations.

- c. Engine – this is a description of the required engine for the class
  - d. Fuel – the required fuel for the class
  - e. Minimum Weight – the driver, kart and equipment must equal or exceed this weight when he or she exits the track.
  - f. Kart – overall lengths and widths and or homologation information may be specified as requirements for the class.
  - g. Exhaust – some classes have specific guidelines for the exhaust.
  - h. Intake – some classes have specific guidelines for the intake
  - i. Gearing – some classes have specific gearing specified
  - j. Notes – this area is reserved to detail other requirements that cannot be covered above.
- XII. INSTRUMENTATION: There is no limit on the use of data acquisition systems. These systems are not limited in their purpose or use, and may capture information on the performance of the kart for downloading.
- XIII. RACE SERIES AND AWARDS: GCKI will conduct two (2) race series during the year.
- a. GULF COAST KARTERS SPRING SERIES: This is a seven (7) race series conducted in approximately the first half of the calendar year, with specific dates to be designated in the annual schedule. A participant must be a qualified entry and receive points in at least 4 of the races in the series in order to qualify for the series awards. Each qualifying participant's best five (5) finishes in the series will count for the total points awarded to the participant. Series trophies will be awarded to the top three (3) qualifying participants in each class in the series. Series money collected for each class will be awarded to the top 5 participants in classes with more than 10 series entrants and top 3 in classes with 9 or less.
  - b. GULF COAST KARTERS FALL SERIES: This is a seven (7) race series conducted in approximately the second half of the calendar year, with specific dates to be designated in the annual schedule. A participant must be a qualified entry and receive points in at least 4 of the races in the series in order to qualify for the series awards. Each qualifying participant's best five (5) finishes in the series will count for the total points awarded to the participant. Series trophies will be awarded to the top three (3) qualifying participants in each class in the series. Series money collected for each class will be awarded to the top 5 participants in classes with more than 10 series entrants and top 3 in classes with 9 or less.
  - c. A participant is not required to be a member of GCKI to enter races in any race series, but must be a member of GCKI to accumulate points in the series. Trophies or other awards will be presented to the top three (3) finishers in the

feature race of each class at each event. All kid kart feature race finishers shall be awarded equal trophies or other awards at each event.

- d. GULF COAST KARTERS ANNUAL HI-POINTS CHAMPIONSHIP: An ANNUAL HIGH POINTS CHAMPION for each class will be determined on the basis of the total points awarded to each driver in the SPRING SERIES, and the FALL SERIES (i.e., the best 5 finishes in each series). A participant must have qualified for the series awards in both the Spring and Fall Series in order to qualify for the annual championship. Jackets will be awarded to the top qualifying participant in each class. A participant must be a member of GCKI to accumulate points for the Hi-Points Championship.
  - e. Lap times will be monitored at all kart races held at the GCKI track during the calendar year and fastest times will be recorded for each class. Awards will be given to GCKI members who have the fastest times at the end of the year. Fastest times will be reset each year and direction of travel will not be considered.
  - f. In the event of a tie in series points among the participants in any class, the series finishing order will be determined by the participant with the most first place finishes in the series races. If the tie continues after this tie-breaker, then the determination will be made by the participant with the most second place finishes in the series races. In the event the tie then continues, the subject participants will be declared co-fininishers in the position.
  - g. Spring and Fall Series first place awards will be presented to all Kid Karters who qualify for the series awards. Kid Kart participants who tie for the High Points Championship will be declared co-fininishers in the series.
- XIV. GCKI Sponsorship Program
- a. Various levels of sponsorships are available at GCKI.
    - i. GCKI Sponsor - \$250 per season. These sponsors will be recognized for their contributions on the GCKI Website. 6 feet of fence advertising space is available for GCKI Sponsors.
    - ii. GCKI Class Sponsor - \$500 per class per season. These sponsors are recognized on the website as class sponsors and names are included on year end awards for the class. These sponsors are named whenever the class is discussed ie “sponsor”’s TAG Senior class. Class sponsors have preferential access to one 10 wide pit space within the front 40’ at GCKI race events till 10 am. 2 - 6 foot fence advertising spaces are available for GCKI Class Sponsors.
    - iii. GCKI Series Sponsor - \$1500 per series. (two available per year) These sponsors are recognized on the website as series sponsors and names are included on all Series race trophies and year end awards. These sponsors are named whenever the class is discussed ie GCKI Fall Series by “sponsor”. Series sponsors have preferential access to three 10’ wide pit spaces in the front 40’ at GCKI race events till 10 am. 4 - 6 foot fence advertising spaces are available for GCKI Series Sponsors.
  - b. Sponsors logos and links to their websites will be added to the [www.racekarts.com](http://www.racekarts.com) website.

- c. Sponsors perforated banners will be attached to the fencing first come first serve.
- d. Access to sponsors pit spaces is available on a first come first server basis on race days. Space is limited and not guaranteed..

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