

WHAT IS THE CAMPAIGN?

The governing body's new Racing Code, which champions fair play, fun, friendship and respect for all within the sport is underpinned by statements and values for everyone across all levels of karting and sets a level of expectation. This will also be rolled out across Junior Racing and Junior Dragster Championships at the start of their 2016 season.

The Racing Code is an education process and we cannot stress enough how important it is that it is implemented in the best possible and positive light. Ultimately the MSA will deal with cases of disrespect, however Clubs and Championships have an integral role to play in the positive enforcement of the Racing Code and subsequently in dealing with poor behaviour in the initial phases. There is a range of actions that can be taken, starting with a recorded verbal warning and in extreme cases expulsion from the Club or Championship and also onward referral to the MSA. There is little point having a set of rules if no action is taken if and when they are broken, break the Code and bear the consequences!

This in no way replaces the usual judicial process and is set apart from that. However, it may need to be considered if the on track behaviour (for example) would be deemed disrespectful, whilst appreciating that on track incidents can and will occur.

CODE CO-ORDINATION

The Code is to be co-ordinated and controlled by the Club/Championship and led by the Competition Secretary, Club Secretary or Championship Co-ordinator (not the Clerk of the Course / Steward). Please notify the MSA of the point of contact for correspondence etc.

- If the Co-ordinator deems it appropriate, matters to be considered under the Code, may be passed to the Club Committee / Championship Stewards.
- This is an education programme, in the first instance, while the ethos is rolled out to the Championship and subsequently the wider Karting / Racing fraternity.
- Any queries from individuals should be officially submitted/logged in writing, be directed to the local Club/Championship Respect co-ordinator in the first instance. If the co-ordinators themselves have any queries these can be directed to Kart@msauk.org, and the matter will be referred if needed
- It is recommended that a meeting report is completed and provided to the meeting organisers / Club / Championship, which if necessary will also be forwarded to the MSA

POSITIVE ENFORCEMENT

We are all collectively responsible to set a good example and to help provide a positive environment. We need to encourage and champion, for example:

- Applauding good, clean racing as well as success
- Appreciate good behaviour wherever it is displayed
- Parents, PG and Teams need to be thanked for respecting the track regulations at times of distress and for not rushing to restricted areas.
- Parents, PG and Teams need to positively reinforce the code and support any resulting penalty from disrespectful behaviour
- Recognise when someone walks away from an explosive situation without response or retaliation
- Officials recognising the possible volatile situations and helping to calm them



CONDUCT WITHOUT RESPECT

For example.....

PUBLIC CRITICISM OF THE EVENT, THE ORGANISER, OFFICIAL DECISIONS OR THE OFFICIALS THEMSELVES

Such behaviour, for example via social media, is detrimental to not only the individual or the decision being criticised but the Club/Championship and Karting in general.

SOCIAL MEDIA

There is absolutely no room in our sport for abuse, aggression, intimidation or bullying online and this includes inciting, whether intentionally or unintentionally, 'trial by social media'.

TEAM SIGNALS

Signalling which is seemingly common place at kart events is viewed and can be perceived as aggressive and should be considered to be "conduct without respect" and as such would not be in line with the Racing Code. This practice must therefore be discouraged. It is appreciated that this is very difficult in the short term to stamp out but hopefully by working with the Teams and Parents we can help them to understand why the negative impact of perception of this should no longer be used. Positive encouragement is obviously welcomed.

FAILINGS

from "Karter's" / "Parent's & Guardian's" / "Teams" / "Officials" are to be dealt with via notifications on behalf of the Clubs.

All actions are to be recorded, and notified to MSA (Kart@msauk.org), in writing, and a file to be built by the Co-ordinator which may need to be reviewed by the Championship Stewards and/or MSA National Court.

MEETING REPORT

We would recommend a meeting report to be provided by the Championship Organisers which will identify good practices and areas for improvement. A copy of the report to also be provided to the Club/Championship in the first instance who may also wish to pass this on to the MSA to enable this to be recorded and may result in a referral for review.

POST MEETING COMPLAINTS

Post meeting complaints should be in writing, in respect of conduct without respect – will be redirected back to the Championship co-ordinator or Club, in the first instance.

PENALTIES

Ultimately penalties may need to be imposed, whoever you may be – whether Driver, PG, Team/Team member or Official (which includes organisers, marshals and officials of the meeting) in order to react to disrespectful behaviour which will include:

- Apologising
- For Drivers, PG, Team/Team members being required to meet with the Championship Organisers and/or Championship Stewards
- Warnings

- Yellow Card (-10 points Championship points, even if that results in a negative championship score)
- 2nd Yellow Card (-20 points, even if that results in a negative championship score)
- Championship round suspension
- Championship exclusion
- Officials will be required to meet with the Championship Organising Club or Meeting Organiser who may report the matter to the MSA for consideration of identifying training needs or for review by an Officials Appointments Panel.

CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISERS REPORT PROCESS

Recommendation to sit down with organisers/Steward(s) at end of meeting to discuss

EXPECTATIONS

- Shake hands with your fellow competitors at the end of the race
- Adults – walk away from situations that may escalate before agitation erupts. Think of the impact of negative behaviour on our young competitors and those in the surrounding area.
- Awnings Open – between competition hours. It is recommended that organisers actively encourage this “open” environment.
- The Code is all encompassing teams, organisers, competitors, officials – Everyone!

WHAT IS AVAILABLE:

- Stickers
- Wristbands
- Small (credit card size) information document (Z cards)
- Co-ordinator/Organisers report templates
- Posters for Clubs
- Pop-Up banner for each registered Kart organisation
- Track banners for each MSA licensed Kart Track

This is a working document and it is intended for this document to develop as the Campaign gets underway.

NEXT STEPS

- Karting Organisations to notify MSA of their Respect Co-ordinator
- Remember the Co-ordinator is not solely responsible – this relies upon EVERYONE FOR EVERYONE!
- Prominently & Positively display the campaign materials around the Circuit
- Promote & uphold the Racing Code!





THE RACING CODE

www.msauk.org #RaceNRespect

VOLUNTEER OFFICIALS' & ORGANISERS COMMITMENTS

I WILL:

Recognise that there are different groups within the racing family and treat them appropriately

Create a welcoming, friendly and safe environment for everyone

Treat every competitor fairly and encourage others to do so

Recognise that as a representative of the sport, I have a duty to be polite and treat racers, volunteers and supporters with respect

PARENT'S & GUARDIAN'S COMMITMENTS

I WILL:

Encourage my young driver to have fun and enjoy racing

Not put pressure on my young driver to take part

Not impose my own ambitions on my young driver

Not expect my young driver to win and recognise that the benefits of junior racing lie in the skill acquisition and not about winning events and championships

Not criticise my young driver when they make mistakes

Never encourage my young driver to break or bend the rules

Respect other competitors and their families and applaud their success

Respect the decisions of the officials at all times

COMPETITORS' COMMITMENTS

I WILL:

Race for enjoyment

Try my best at all times

Race fairly

Be polite and treat everyone with respect

Not show off if I win

Not get upset if I don't win



TEAMS' COMMITMENTS

WE:

Accept that racing is primarily about enjoyment

Will not put pressure on young racers to achieve results

Will recognise that junior racing is about skill acquisition, not about winning events and championships

Will never speak or behave inappropriately.

Will encourage all racers to respect the rules and the authority of the officials

Will never encourage a racer to break or bend the rules, nor to drive in a manner that could cause injury to themselves or others

Recognise this is not Formula 1