

Chairman's Update

Outdoor Track

The Parks Trust has identified the land we can use and have already developed some plans of how things will look. However, they are dragging their feet on getting the various surveys done (currently need to do surveys for Great Crested Newts and Grass Snakes).

It is the belief of the Parks Trust that submission of a planning application without these surveys will prevent the planning being approved.

At the moment it appears unlikely that we will have a track next year, but 2009 is still a possibility. This is a serious concern as our outdoor facility was enjoyed by both local and visiting drivers.

The opportunity still exists for us to build our own track, in or around Milton Keynes. If you know of any "spare land" which would be suitable for a track, please let either me or Ian know so we can follow up on it. The Parks Trust has indicated that the remaining funds could be made available to us if we elected to do things ourselves.

Car Classes

Most of you have noticed that although we are a "touring car" club, we do have a fair number of other types of cars being run regularly, so I thought it would be a good idea to give you a summary of each of these:

1/10th Scale Touring Cars

Most of us run these and forward motion is either by approved brushed stock (27T) or super stock (19T) motors. We don't tend to run modified as our track is small and these require a higher degree of driver control due to the speed provided by modified motors. Recently we have allowed brushless motors to be run alongside the conventional brushed motors (13.5 with stock and 10.5 with superstock)

1/12th Scale Circuit

These "pocket rockets" run regular 19T motors (or brushless 10.5) and their performance increase over touring cars is due to two things; weight and tyres. A typical 1/12th car weighs just over half a touring car and wide foam rear tyres allow for plenty of traction, which is also assisted by aerodynamic body shells. The fact that 1/12 only runs with 4-cell packs doesn't slow them down at all!

Mardaves (V12)

These are very basic cars, rear wheel drive, no diffs, and no wheel bearings and use "silver can" motors. Easy to drive, but difficult to drive fast due to the fact that you are always on the edge...but they are cheap to run – a set of tyres (£2.50) will last a season and there is nothing to break on the car.

Recoils

The latest addition to the club is the new Recoil class – 1/14th scale touring cars. These cars have all the adjustability of our "real" TC's, but smaller. You can adjust toe in/out, camber, caster, wheelbase, ride height, suspension etc and they come ready to Race with shaft driven 4WD, and ball raced diffs, radio, cells and charger, and body shell for under £100. This class is aimed at the new driver who wants to race and learn touring cars without the expense of the best motors/cells/speed controllers etc.

For your Xmas money you can buy a complete racing setup which will be on a par with all the others without having to spend loads of money to compete – which is what happens with 1/10th scale. A set of pre-mounted tyres on wheels (£6.50) will last you at least 4 race meetings, and an optional upgrade to foam tyres (which cost twice as much) will last at least 4 times longer.

Now the really sad thing is, I own at least one of all of these!

Championships

Summer Series

With only the final to go, it is again a close championship. The final is this coming Sunday 16th September at Millmead Hall and is an all day event.

As always there will be an end of series raffle, with thanks to Schumacher Racing for sponsoring the event.

SMTCC

Three of the four rounds are complete and MK is leading Bedworth by 581 points. The final round is at Bedworth on Sunday 30th September, with MK as hosts.

There will be no racing at Millmead Hall, so even if you're not racing why not come along to offer support and watch MK gain the trophy for the first time.

BRCA 1/12th Circuit

MK is hosting a National Championship round on the weekend of 22nd – 23rd September.

19T are running on the Saturday, with sport and open modified classes on the Sunday. There will be 80 drivers competing on both days including some of the UK's top racers.

To ensure this meeting runs smoothly, we need some volunteers to assist in track/rostrum set up on the Friday 21st from 7pm till 10 pm. The meeting is being held at Radcliffe School, Aylesbury Street West, Wolverton, MK12 5BT

Again, there will be no racing at Millmead Hall this weekend so please come along and watch Mk host its largest meeting for a couple of years.

Winter Series

This starts on Sunday 7th October.

Once again, we thank Schumacher Racing for their sponsorship and boosting the prize fund. There will be plenty of trophies and £100's of prizes given away in the end of series raffle.

The following classes will be catered for:

Stock touring car (27 turn brushed or 13.5 brushless) with 4 separate ability formula's

Open touring car (Any motor, brushed or brushless)

1/12 Circuit (19 turn brushed or 10.5 brushless)

Mardave V12

Please ensure you check the calendar as the different championships will run on different dates.

Christmas Fun Meeting

This will be on Sunday 23rd December. The theme is yet to be decided. If you have any suggestions, please pass them to Nick Daman.

10th Birthday Celebration

MKRCTC will be 10 years old on 3rd March 2008. We will be marking this auspicious occasion with something special, which will be announced at a later date.

Club Calendar

Want to know what's happening when?

This is on the web at www.mkrctc.org.uk

AGM

It is almost that time of year. If you would like anything added to the agenda, please let Dave, Ian or me know.

Refreshments

Due to work commitments I am not always able to be at meetings on Sundays.

When I know I will not be around I will post a notice on the forum.

Unfortunately the vagaries of on call and IT do not always bode well for keeping the regulars dosed up on caffeine!

Sundon Model Shop

Sundon Model Shop is offering 10% discount to MKRCTC Members

They are at

30 Sundon Park Parade, Luton LU3 3BJ

Telephone 01582 736718

Or on the web at

<http://www.sundonmodelshop.co.uk/>

Racing Etiquette

At MK we like to encourage a relaxed approach to racing. Our members range from 6 years old to 50+ so we run as a friendly family club.

To help in the smooth running of meetings it is essential that all drivers follow some simple guidelines.

Millmead Hall

As we all know Millmead Hall has undergone some quite major work and unfortunately for us there is still more to come.

As a result of this work all drivers need to be more vigilant in adhering to the few rules that MK Council impose on us.

- Absolutely no soldering in the kitchen area
- If using additives or glue near or on Mill Mead's tables or work surfaces then please make sure the surface is covered with a towel or cloth.
- All 12V batteries must be in leak proof containers
- Mains powered chargers or soldering irons may not be used
- Do not stick anything on the walls, please use the display boards.

Setting Up/Packing Away

All drivers are needed to assist in the set up and packing away.

The sooner we get set up, the sooner you can start racing. Likewise, packing away and leaving the hall and kitchen area clean and tidy are essential in ensuring continued use of the hall.

Marshalling

As per BRCA rules, you are required to actively marshal. If you are not able to do so, you must arrange a deputy. For our more junior members who are not sure what to do, can we please ask that their parents stand with them when they are marshalling?

Rostrum

All drivers must stay on the rostrum until the end of their race. Leaving mid race is distracting and unfair on the other drivers.

Club Transponders

Please ensure these are returned to the cradle at the end of your race.

That's All Folks

That's it from me. Sorry it has been so long since the last newsletter. I was struggling for inspiration so felt I was getting repetitive.

If you would like to see anything included in future editions, please let me know.

All the best

Gill