

**The
Respect
In
Racing
Policy**

2023



Welcome,

Since I introduced bambino racing in the United Kingdom in 2010 I have enjoyed meeting many drivers and parents from all different walks of life and it has been fascinating to watch lots of them grow and develop into the professional racing drivers they are today.

Drivers that stand out to me who began their racing careers in Bambino karts are: Current UAE F4 driver Taylor Barnard, World FIA

Karting champion Freddie Slater, European Karting champion Harley Keeble, F4 & F3

Champion Jonny Edgar, current F4 driver Aidan Neate, all these successful young drivers began in Bambino karts and what stands out to me more than anything else is their parents!

Yes of course the drivers themselves are talented and deserve to be where they are today, but they all have their parents to thank for getting them there in the first place.

The way a parent portrays themselves to their child is very important, we all want to believe that we have the next Lewis Hamilton or Max Verstappen but in reality, no matter how good your driver is or how much money you have behind you, without 'respect' and 'gratitude' you'll never make it!

I have worked firsthand with all the drivers and parents named above and I can put my hand on my heart and say that these drivers and parents are ALL very professional people who understand Motorsport and have respected their fellow competitors and series organisers since the day they started.

In recent years I have noticed the 'competitiveness' and 'rivalry's' between parents spiral out of control to where we are now, in a situation where karting paddocks are often not very pleasant places to be, I could list all the reasons why this is; however it would be unprofessional of me to name individuals and highlight their flaws, after all I understand that the majority of karting parents are new to our sport of Kart Racing and haven't yet learned the expected etiquette.

We know karting isn't a cheap sport or hobby, perhaps this is part of the problem, as it can be easy to become too invested. This in turn increases pressures within us and this naturally extrudes to those around us, including our children.

It's important to remember that how we behave as adults can easily imprint on the young minds of the competitors. If we can keep this in the forefront of our minds when we are conducting ourselves at the track, I'm sure the environment will be much improved for everyone involved. Let's set examples now for the children that they can carry through the rest of their lives.

If you feel yourself getting frustrated, angry or annoyed, take a step back. Regain perspective and remember we are at grassroots level motorsport with small children.

Mistakes can happen on the track with adults, let alone children. Let's encourage positivity instead of negativity and change our sport for the better.

Respect in Racing combines Karting championships across the UK in a common policy to ensure that everyone attending events will understand how to conduct themselves properly in a karting paddock and allow everyone to enjoy their child's best and youngest years of racing better.

Darren Beavers (BKC Championship Founder)

Expectation,

In life we all expect our children to succeed and do better than we did, but in hindsight we can not and must not put that pressure on our children's shoulders. We should reward them when they do well, comfort them when they don't and most of all applaud them wherever they finish.

No matter where you race, (National Level or Club Level)) it's important for you to understand that without us you wouldn't have anywhere to race.

No matter what trophies, prizes or championship points are at stake EVERY child deserves a pat on the back or a high 5 after a race is finished. Let's keep the perspective here as I can assure you that following on from a karting event on a Sunday night you will NOT be getting a call from red bull or Mercedes asking to sign your child up to Formula one! Remember even cadet and junior level karting is still grassroots as far as the motorsport ladder is concerned.

Rivalries can and will happen along the way. Motorsport just like football can and will be competitive at times, but you should always remember that this is a hobby for 6-8 year old children. As much as you want to win, I can assure you that your hunger to win is far greater than your child's.

Children are often happy with 2nd place or 3rd place and quite often most children are just grateful to be there taking part, they play together off track, between sessions and in the evenings whilst their parents are busy cleaning the karts for the following day.

You will NEVER get your Bambino Karting days back, I have always believed that the Bambino days are the best days in karting, fun exciting and learning times, one day you will all realise this I assure you, for some of you it will be too late when you've wished your bambino days away and are in cadets , juniors or even seniors wondering where it all went wrong! Trust me, I've been there and seen many others go there too.

By signing on to an event hosted by a club/series recognised by the BKCRPP you agree to be bound by this policy and all details contained within this document, you understand that all clubs/series have safeguarding officers on site at events and can/will contact authorities with any safeguarding concerns that arise.

Expect less and achieve more!

Mandatory things you are expected to do,

- Make Friends with the families your kids are friends with.
- Regularly teach and remind your driver the flag signals and meanings.
- When they make a mistake (which they will) tell them where they did good rather than highlight the mistake.
- If someone else in your race breaks down, fails to start, needs a spare part..... offer them help.
- Listen to drivers' safety briefings properly and constantly remind your child of all the points noted in the briefing.
- Thank track staff and officials for the event they've put on for you to attend.
- If called in front of a meeting official, listen to them, respect them, and accept what they tell you. Even if you don't agree with what they have said you must understand that their decision is final and arguing with them is only taking them away from the job they are there to do which is to keep ALL drivers on track SAFE.
- Stay behind the safety barriers and within the spectator areas at ALL times.
- Teach your driver to look forwards at all times.
- Respect each other and be always gracious in defeat.
- Always uphold integrity and fairness within the sport.
- Teach your driver NOT to weave or block, wondering across the track left and right is dangerous and not fast.
- Contact the circuit or series in the appropriate manner, via email is usually the best and most professional form of communication

Thing's you must NOT do,

- Shout! Not at your child, an official/staff member, each other and especially not at someone else's child. Even Approaching someone else's child in any way other than positive is deemed a safe guarding issue.
- Swear! Even between friends, swearing is not permitted in karting paddocks due to the amount of little ears always listening. Remember what we said about imprinting.
- Argue or retaliate, It's very easy to argue or retaliate but the bigger person always walks away, BE the bigger person and let us deal with offenders.
- Jump fences and enter a live race track at ANY time, let the Marshals & Medics do the jobs they are there to do. They are insured to be out there, you are not, If they want you on track they will invite and escort you on.
- Don't Rev your karts engine in the paddock unnecessarily (10 seconds at a time maximum)
- Don't post negative or derogatory comments/photos/videos onto social media.
- Don't start your engine on the Grid until instructed to do so by an official.
- Don't lift the rear of your kart while on grid.
- Don't take matters into your own hands.
- Don't have the last word, you'll be respected far more by the organisers and officials for accepting decisions and moving on.
- Don't contact meeting officials on their personal phone numbers unless permissions been given.

Penalties & Policy Breaches,

If a Club or Series deem a driver, parent or team representative to have broken The Respect in Racing Policy one of the following penalties will be enforced, these penalties are not appealable and will be reported immediately via a single form uploaded to a Series Organisers WhatsApp group, the host club/series organiser has the right to implement the Sanction immediately.

All of the above do's and don'ts will be classed as breaches if not followed, level of breach will be given at the series/clubs discretion unless stated below where fixed penalty must be given.

•Level 1 Breach (Minor)

Examples of a minor offense (but not limited to)

- first offense (of something minor or classed as minor)
- failure to attend drivers briefing
- Minor arguing, shouting, swearing, confrontation between adults not near or overheard by children.
- Disturbing an official whilst they are working.
- Reporting false, misleading or inaccurate information.
- 2 contact warning flags/boards during same event.
- Being reported twice (2 times) by officials for Overtaking under yellow flags/boards during same event.

Penalty:- Verbal Warning.

(only a maximum of 1 Level 1 breach can be given during a race weekend, if further offense occurs a £50 fine will be issued and is payable immediately to host club before the driver can continue racing.

Failure to pay and/or any further breaches will result in a level 2 or higher penalty being enforced)

•Level 2 Breach:

Examples of a Level 2 breach (but not limited to)

- 3rd minor/level 1 offense,
- witnessed aggressiveness towards official or fellow competitor,
- entering a live circuit without permission,
- technical infringement (blatant),
- Major arguing, shouting, swearing, confrontation between adults not near or overheard by children.
- Pushing, shoving, barging of competitors or parents/adults (not racing)
- Persistently disturbing an official whilst they are working.
- Receiving 4 or more contact warning flags/boards during a single event.
- Receiving any of the 'driving in a manner deemed incompatible with general safety penalties' 2 or more times during a single event.

Penalty:- minimum 30 day all club Ban from date of offence.

- Level 3 Breach: (Serious)

Examples of Level 3 Breach (but not limited to)

- Witnessed Physical Assault,
- Witnessed serious verbal assault in front or heard by children.
- Persistent breaches of rules and regulations
- Use of serious language witnessed in-front of child/children,
- Racism, criminal damage.
- Second offence on any level 2 breach.
- Swearing and/or aggressiveness towards an official.

Penalty:- minimum 60 day all club Ban from date of offence (maximum season or lifetime ban depending on severity of offence)

All clubs on the RIR program support a 'zero tolerance policy' on the use of action/sports cameras during racing, GO-Pro's and similar must be removed from karts completely before any race or qualifying session. At the series organisers discretion can an on board type camera be used for marketing/filming/production purposes only, if permitted, the footage recorded must remain in the hands of the organiser/filming company.

Remember, if you get banned from any event that's signed up to the BKCRRP, you are also banned from other events and venues for the entire duration of your ban.

Clubs/Championships on the Respect in Racing program are:

- The Kart Championship
- UKIKR Series
- Teesside Karting
- Wombwell Karting Club
- Fulbeck Sprint Series
- Woodthorpe Kart Club
- Stretton Circuit

Although this Policy is primarily written for the Bambino Classes, clubs and series organisers reserve the right to implement sanctions written above (but not limited to) onto any other class or competitor participating at an event and/or as and when they see fit. Organisers reserve the right to look into breaches/safe guarding issues at ANY point with valid reason.

PLEASE, for the sake of your children Enjoy your racing.

