



A message from the President

Hello to all Westwood members,

Another race year is upon us and on behalf of myself and the 2009 executive, we would like to welcome everyone to what looks to be a very exciting year for Westwood. As usual, the executive has had a very busy winter getting everything ready for 2009. With the unfortunate results of not being able to find common ground with Coastal and CARTBC. regarding the joint championship, Westwood will be running their own program again this year but with changes. Changes that we think will make karting more fun and challenging for all the different types of racers who are involved in this sport.

We have made a commitment for this year to raise the standards of racing at Westwood, to make our club stand out from the rest. We are going to implement a tighter rule structure, a more efficient race schedule, a permanent Race Director who has many years of experience and who is currently involved with the IKF Gold Cup series as well, and we will have Post Tech at every race.

This year we have a 10-race season, two are in conjunction with the IKF Gold Cup series and one will be in conjunction with BCKCA, we will have one throw away, but the last race of the year can only be thrown away if you attended that race. The 10th race will be held in Mission with the IKF Road Race format, as there is no under 12 classes the 9th race will be the last race of the season for Junior 1A & B. The 9th race will be a double points race for all classes. Two of the races are going to be one-day events, the first is on the Saturday of the Easter weekend, and the other one is on the Mothers Day weekend.

Westwood will be hosting two IKF races this year, one will be a Sprint race held on June 13th and 14th @ CARTBC., this will be a club points race for our club as well. We will have the best of both worlds, a club race as well as a Gold Cup race, all at the same time. This will give our regular members who usually don't attend these types of races a chance to experience what it is like to be involved in such a big event. It will give the opportunity for our members to race in other classes besides our own, to race in bigger class numbers as well as against other competitive racers.

This is the second year for our club to host this event and the feedback from last year was excellent. There have been a lot of discussions of even more people from the states coming up this year and supporting this race.

The other IKF race will be an IKF Road Race @ Mission on Oct. 17th and 18th. Our V.P. of Road Race, Stan Crocker, has put over two years of work in trying to build up the Road Race part of our club and to bring a race up here in Canada. This race will have Sprint classes available so our members can participate and come out and try a different circuit with higher speeds without having to travel very far!! Also you can see the different styles of karts that are used in road racing.



We will be using a spec tire this year, Bridgestone YHC. The executive has been thinking of this idea for a while and now seems to be the time to do so. First, we will receive incentives for using their tire, this will help reduce the cost of running a race event and put some more money in our savings account for the future. Secondly this puts all the members on the same tire, no one will have an advantage to using a better tire, and this helps even out race advantages by NOT having a better tire. The executive feels that a spec tire is a good way to go, and we hope our members will agree.

This year we are not changing many rules or regulations, Glen Dumore has been working on streamlining some of our Westwood regulations and making sure everything is up to date. We have adjusted our club fees to help the initial cost of getting started. There has been a licensing change, the only license needed will be a Westwood license, and a BCKCA license will not be required. Westwood is an ASN affiliated club and for insurance purposes that is all that is required. If you are going to race at a National event, only then do you need a BCKCA license. Our club license will be recognized at any other ASN club. With this in place we are able to reduce our membership fees. Now the cost of an annual membership at Westwood will be \$50.00 for a single or family. Junior licenses will be \$10.00 each and senior will be \$30.00.

When it comes to rules, not much was changed like I said, a few weight adjustments in JR.1A and in Club WKA. Junior 3 Rok had its restriction adjusted to be in line with the other clubs and with BCKCA. Also available will be a local optional class, this will mostly be directed to four strokes, but could be used for other types of engines and classes.

Classes this year will be pretty much the same, JR1B, JR1A, JR2, 3, Club WKA, Tag Light, Leopard, Rok, Rotax (if they are supported), ICC and Tag Shifter. Westwood has always invited everyone to come out and race, whatever you have, but we will also continue to have the best competitive race classes and the best drivers around. This has always been Westwood's reputation and we are devoted to continue that history.... Run with the best.... at Westwood.

Our next general meeting is March 10th at the WGSS high school, come and register for the 2009 season and bring any questions or concerns to the meeting. The executive is excited to start the year and look forward to seeing all of you at the first race!!

Race on,

Richard Frost
President 2009
Westwood Karting Association