



**Autumn InKart Championships – Cadet Class
16th October 2016**

Qualifying

Today we assemble on a wet cloudy day in Daytona Manchester for the Second round of the InKart Cadet Championship, everyone seemed fresh faced and ready for a good mornings racing.

We take to the track for Q1 and it is immediately clear the cold English temperatures are having an effect on the tyres. For the majority of the first session, drivers were all seen to be struggling to get their tyres up to temperature as times stayed relatively high.

Into Q2 and Fergus Shackleton was the first to settle, finding clean air and getting his tyres up to temperature, the result being a quick drop in lap-time.

The rest of the field appeared to bunch up and race each other, hindering each other's progress and keeping times high.

As the session progressed the drivers all managed to improve on their initial times but again bunching on circuit hindered a lot of their progress.

Q3 and the session started quickly with clean air between all drivers but, after a few laps the pack had once again bunched and progress was hindered.

Alfie Thomas Williams and Jamie Norris, by the end of the session, had managed to find free air and were hurtling around the track aiming for a front row start. Sadly it was too late and neither managed to capitalise on the space on track.

It was a scrappy qualifying in reflection as nobody wanted to give up position on track, drivers should remember to spread out, and look for clear air to put in their best lap-time.

Qualifying Results

P1 Fergus Shackleton	- 35.166	P6 Nathan Hubbard	- 36.884
P2 Eric Su	- 35.191	P7 Ewan Shackleton	- 37.897 Q2 Elim
P3 Alfie Thomas Williams	- 35.543	P8 Christopher Hughes	- 37.924 Q2 Elim
P4 Hugh Parry	- 35.992	P9 Gregory Wood	- 39.125 Q1 Elim
P5 Jamie Norris	- 36.078		

Race

So as the drivers head to the pit lane and the spectators take to the Balcony we get set for the start of the race.

The drivers are now on the grid, primed for the race ahead .As the lights go out everyone makes a quick getaway but, Hugh Parry turns into Jamie Norris causing both to lose some ground, it has been a troublesome start to the season for Jamie Norris!

DAYTONA

As the race settles down the drivers quickly get into their routines. Gregory Wood struggled to keep his tyres warm and had quite a bump under the bridge, but showed great determination to carry on regardless.

A few laps down the line and we have quite a battle brewing in the middle of the field between Ewan Shackleton and Jamie Norris, Ewan uses the track brilliantly to slip past Jamie around the third hairpin. Eric Su and Alfie Thomas Williams are streaking ahead after Fergus Shackleton loses ground and drops back down the field.

As we get to the half way stage the drivers all seem to be in some form of battle, be it with an immediate competitor or just purely with themselves, chasing down the driver ahead.

The field are starting to catch the backmarkers now as the blue flags are waved at Gregory Wood so the two leaders can pass. A slight mistake by Alfie Thomas Williams costs him the lead.

Lap 21 and Christopher Hughes reminds us why it is important to keep concentration at all times, as he mistimes his entrance into turn one and loses the back end. That's cost him a small amount of time after he was closing on his competitors.

Our first black flag of the season today as Fergus Shackleton clips the rear quarter of the kart in front, leaving the bridge into the hair pin. Nothing malicious but an advantage was gained and a penalty given.

As we reach the climax of the race Eric Su and Alfie Thomas Williams have an incontestable lead, they have put in a great performance from the off and take the chequered in 1st and 2nd respectively.

Jamie Norris rounds off the podium with a fantastic drive, the bump at the start clearly didn't affect him and he stayed cool under pressure to excel. Also a special mention today for Gregory Wood, he started at the back of the grid but swept his way up the field to finish a respectable 4th.

This was a fantastic race. There was a real mix of driving conditions as the track warmed up over the course of the round.

We now look ahead to round 3...

Race Results

P1 Eric Su	33.695 (fastest Lap)	P6 Fergus Shackleton
P2 Alfie Thomas Williams		P7 Nathan Hubbold
P3 Jamie Norris		P8 Ewan Shackleton
P4 Gregory Wood		P9 Christopher Hughes
P5 Hugh Parry		