

# WA tracks easily accessible

## KARTING

KEN SEEBER

There are 13 sprint kart clubs in WA, all with their own bitumen circuit.

These circuits vary in length from 1070m down to just under 600m metres, but all have a minimum width of 8m.

The length of the track determines the number of karts allowed on it for a race, with 40 karts being permitted on a track of 1000-plus metres.

As part of karting circuit standards, there is a main straight with the starting and finishing line usually half way.

Unlike car racing where standing starts are the norm, karts have rolling starts with the field in a predetermined formation but with only two karts per row.

Opposite the start/finishing line is an elevated timing tower where the lap scorers can view and record the kart positions during the race.

For a full-length circuit, there can be up to 13 corners of varying size.

The slowest corner might be 30kmh, compared to a 90kmh top speed on the straight. The corresponding engine speeds would be 5000rpm to 15,000rpm.

A typical one-day race meeting might run up to eight separate classes, with each class running in four heats, giving a total of 32 races over the day. A typical race distance would be around 10km.

Does this sound like fun? It sure is.

Many clubs offer free "come and try days", so sampling the intense excitement of karting is not difficult.

With clubs all around the State, motorsport couldn't be more accessible.

The following is a list of the clubs, their track length and a contact phone number:

- Albany — 591m, 9853 1057.
- Bunbury — 735m, 9724 9100.
- Kalgoorlie — 986m, 9022 2434.
- Esperance — 655m, 9076 5046.
- Exmouth — 700m, 9949 1293.
- Hedland — 695m, 9172 1260.
- Wundowie — 752m, 9291 0695.
- Tom Price — 670m, 9188 1483.
- Karratha — 668m, 9144 1107.
- Lake King — 680m, 9874 4060.
- Geraldton — 700m, 9923 3222.
- Newman — 876m, 9175 0602.
- Perth — 1025m (Wanneroo), 1070m (Cockburn) 9314 1092.

The two tracks in Perth are of international standard, with the Wanneroo circuit being the venue for the recent National Sprint Karting Championships.

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