

WEST AUSTRALIA 12/4/06 #22
Should HAVE BEEN 22A!

Seniors have some fun

KART RACING

KEN SEEBER

In the last article, we looked at the Yamaha J engine and its application to all ages of karters.

Certain ageing members of the Tiger Kart Club, which has the circuits at Wanneroo and Cockburn, have decided that they want to continue racing in a less expensive and less hectic manner than they might do in other classes.

They chose the Senior National class, using the J engine as the basis of their fun. With the blessing of the Tiger club, the group run at the back of the Senior National class, not interfering too much with the main

group and their winning aspirations.

Starting off with four in the group at the beginning of the year, it appears that this will have doubled in size for the next meeting at Wundowie on April 8.

While the group has been given all sorts of alternative names by the other karters, they (including myself) just call themselves the "Over 50 Js". Irrespective of the name, it is good to be out there. No trophies, no points, just get into it.

Interestingly, the event at Wundowie, being hosted by the Hurricane Kart Club, will be unusual in that the two clubs will combine for a club day, when the norm is to have just club members at the monthly club days.

The reason is to foster good inter-club relations as well as providing some extra variety of tracks for the

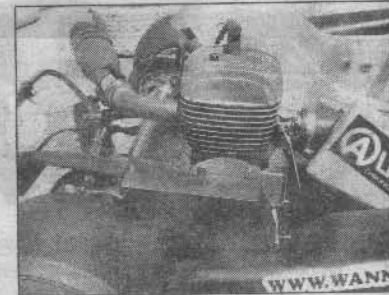


Some of the 'Over 50 Js' at Cockburn Raceway.

karters. If successful, the Hurricane club will "come down the hill" to race at one of the Tiger club's tracks.

GROWTH SPURT FOR KARTS

Karting is undergoing strong growth. Whether it's the booming WA



The J engine: suitable for all ages.

economy or the fact that karters just want to see their growth rate exceed the rising prices of Perth's housing, the fact is that karting numbers are on the rise.

Typical of this was last weekend where the Tiger club hosted an Open event at Cockburn. Normally this might have attracted about 100 karters, this time it was nearly 130.

While all motorsport can be regarded as expensive, karting is relatively low-cost and accessible to many, making it a hobby rather than an investment.