

WEST AUSTRALIAN 2/3/06 #29

Soutar-Dawson stars in Karratha round

KART RACING

KEN SEEBER

The recent WA State Title Round 2 at Karratha has been run and won.

With more than 100 entries from Port Hedland, Bunbury, Geraldton, Perth, Kalgoorlie and, of course, Karratha, it was a weekend of brilliant performances.

As with many country meetings, practice started on the Friday with racing on Saturday into the evening (under lights) followed by the presentations.

The trek there and back for many was uneventful but some kangaroo-afflicted vehicles were evident

Karratha's 668m track has a beautifully flowing design and a good, smooth surface minimising tyre wear.

Star of the meeting was B.D. Soutar-Dawson, driving for the Flatout Karts team, who made virtually a clean sweep of all the heats in the Open and Sportsman 100 Light classes to take two convincing wins.

He stayed on to conduct a driver-training course for the Karratha Club members on Sunday.

As usual, there were some minor incidents but everyone lived to tell a story or two.

If there was a complaint about the meeting, it was that it was bitterly cold in the evenings and mornings, unlike Karratha's usually hospitable weather. A warming log fire

during the presentations was compensation enough. If the weather was all there was to complain about, there's no reason not to go back next year.

WHAT'S ON IN KARTING

With the WA State Championships to be held in Bunbury over the first weekend in October, many karters will be entering the Bunbury club's open event on September 3 to gain experience on the track before the big one.

My next article will cover the Wheatbelt Dirt Karting scene. While karting is the most affordable form of motorsport, the Wheatbelt karters are doing it on an absolute minimum budget and enjoying it all the way.

ken@strikeproducts.com.au



Rotax Max karters have fun at Karratha. Picture courtesy of Dave Brierley