

Please send correspondence to:

“Sabnis Palace”
Alto Porvorim,
Bardez, GOA - 403 521.

Tel: 0832 3292969
Fax: 0832 2410183



Website: www.knkkarts.com

Email: racing@knkkarts.com

Newsletter

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WEDDING BELLS

Ishaan of Karts 'n' Kitcars, makers of KnK Karts and **Lahar** were married on the 6th of this month. We have been busy, to put it mildly.

Lahar is from Delhi and soon after their wedding on May 7th the couple left for Kota Bharu in Malaysia for the first round of the Asia Max Challenge, where Team KnK were racing in the Junior and Senior classes on May 13th.

Lahar pitched in with the chores in the pits and was a great help with updating set up sheets and keeping track of matters in general, alongside of ensuring that the team did not go hungry!

The young couple left on their honeymoon to one of the beautiful Malaysian islands the next day.

How is that for commitment!!

AMC Round 1 – Kota Bharu, Malaysia

The decision to race at Kota Bharu came relatively late and several matters of significance happening at the same time ensured that preparing for the event would not be easy. The team comprised one driver each in the junior and senior class.

Nikhil Kashyap (Junior – Kart - KnK JL) has been part of Team KnK earlier as a Mini Max driver and is now a junior. As a cadet class driver, his achievements include:

- JK Tyres National Championship 2004 – 2 second places and 1 win.
- Rotax Max Challenge 2005 India: Third in the series
- MRF-MAI National Karting Championship 2006: - 2 third places and 2 wins.
- Rotax Max Challenge 2006 India: Only participated in rounds 4 & 5 and finished 3rd and 2nd respectively.



Rayomand Banajee (Senior – Kart – KnK Annihilator) is a well-respected and experienced driver and is an important part of the Indian motor racing scene. Rayo as he is affectionately called has a pleasing disposition, a cool head and a penchant for technical matters making him a valuable asset to providing feed back for setting up the kart. His ardor for racing is only surpassed by his desire to win.

Racing achievements:

- JK Tyre National Karting Champion – 2003 and 2004
- Rotax Max Challenge Champion Indian - 2004
- Winner – Asia Kart Open Championship (Rotax Sr)– Indian Round – 2004
- National Formula LGB Champion – 2005
- Reigning National Formula Hyundai Champion.

Rayo had never raced a KnK Kart in the Rotax series, it would be his first time out in a new chassis at a circuit he does not know. To add to matters, the kart would arrive at the circuit only Friday morning; the kart would be assembled in time for him to get in just two sessions of official practice.

The competition in the Junior as well as the senior classes was severe, established teams from the Asia Pacific region, many familiar with the Kota Bharu circuit included drivers racing Swiss Hutless, Tony Kart, Birel, CRG, PDB and Kosmic. While we went about our respective chores of preparing the karts we knew that we had only 2 practice sessions to get our set ups. Frenzied activity in the KnK pit was the order of the day. We came away quite pleased with what we had learned and with plans of what needed to be done tomorrow. We had direction.



The first round of the Asia Max Challenge was held at the Tengku Mahkota Kart Circuit in conjunction with the birthday of His Royal Highness, The Sultan of Kelantan.

It was heartening to see several drivers from India participating in both the junior and senior class. Aside from Rayomand Banajee and Nikhil Kashyap of Team KnK, Vishnu Prasad, Parth Ghorpade, Karan Goenka and Mohit Ahuja raced in junior max. Aditya Patel was the other driver from India in the seniors.

Nikhil was plagued by a nagging battery problem all weekend resulting in him not finishing in the semi final, which had him sitting last on the grid for the finals. He had a poor weekend and hopes to pull things back in the second round.



Rayo qualified 11th and moved to 7th in Heat 1. Heat 2 saw him retain his position in 7th place. In the semi finals Rayo moved one position to 6th and finished a close 5th in the finals in a field of 21 drivers.

An impressive finish and a happy one for Team KnK, all things considered.

The new KnK livery was appreciated and stood apart from others.

The next round is at Kolhapur in India, we are looking forward to racing on more familiar turf with hopefully more time to set up the karts and for the drivers to learn the new chassis' that they are driving.

Until next time then, thank you for reading

with me, we will talk some more soon!

Micki

KnK karts
Straight Forward!!