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# ARMY KARTING TEAM

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## OBJECTIVES

To be the best Army Kart and win the Steve Long Memorial Trophy.

All 3 Endurance Karts to finish the race in order to develop the novice drivers.

Premier 21 to win a third race.

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## WEATHER

Dry throughout the whole weekend, average temperature of 19 degrees and overcast.

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## RACE REPORT

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### RAF MSA INTER SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND 3 – FULBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE

08 – 10 Jun 2018

Round 3 saw the team travel to Fulbeck Kart Circuit in Lincolnshire. Due to the numbers of karts entering this round we were able to have almost 40 karts on one single grid. A lot of traffic and a lot of room for error.

### BRIEF SUMMARY

Premier 21 – 5th  
Premier 22 – 7th

Endurance 1 – 26th  
Endurance 2 – 8th  
Endurance 7 – 14th

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## KART 2 LEADING THE PACK

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## PREMIER 21 – Bdr Haines (RA)

Third round of the championship at Fulbeck for Bdr Haines was his least favourite track on the calendar. Friday testing was critical to ensure a strong and fast setup for race day. Many changes were made but engine problems hampered outright pace. Frustrating end to the day being a massive half a second off lead karts. A busy Friday evening of preparation followed. An engine change, research and technical discussions with team OIC and mechanics saw a bold change made and set for the final test sessions Saturday morning. Confidence was high and back on form as the changes made wiped out the time gap and back onto pace. Heat 1 and 2 saw two strong 2nd place finishes and heat 3 taking 5th from starting last. Unfortunately a 10 second penalty in one of the heats damaged his points gained, giving him 4th overall for the final grid position. It was a positive start to the final gaining 3rd on the opening laps. Lead kart suffered a breakdown which moved Bdr Haines to 2nd place and the fight for lead was on. More bad luck plagued the weekend with a racing incident with the lead kart. Bdr Haines took 2nd at the flag but another 10 second penalty dropped standings to 5th. Overall Bdr Haines was happy he achieved his aim of the weekend retaining the championship lead.





## PREMIER 22 – Cfn Norman (REME)

Cfn Norman's first heat was going well, chasing the competition until her exhaust was ripped off causing her to end the heat short. The second heat proved better with a comfortable finish. Third heat also finish well, finding that the set up of the kart was improving over the heats and that she was happy with how it was performing. The final resulted with a single position gain finishing the race in 7<sup>th</sup>. An extremely strong field, Cfn Norman is performing well for her first season.





ENDURANCE I – Capt Hall (REME), SSgt Bedingfield (RLC), Bdr Harvey (RA)

Kart I had a mixed weekend, Friday practice started well with lap times falling as the session went on. The decision was made to change our gearing due to hi revs. This brought to light that the kart had two different sized clutch sprockets on. A lot of work was put in Friday evening sorting this out and changing the set up. On Saturday practice the team were still half a second off the pace of the front runners. Qualifying was disastrous, 31st with the kart not performing well and feeling very slow out of corners. The team started the race scratching their heads, all the team putting it down to the over revs on the engine from Friday. 31 mins into the race and over a second off the pace the team made a decision to retire the kart from the race before any lasting damage was done. An in depth inspection later found that the axle was flexing when somebody was in the seat, this was causing the brake disc to rub on the caliper. An extra bearing and carrier will be placed on the kart to counteract the flex for the next round.





## ENDURANCE 2 – Sgt Lockyer (REME), LCpl Bishop (REME)

Kart 2 had an extremely good FP 1, with the amount of track time we had at this round we had plenty of opportunity to dial the kart into the track. The mechanic Cpl Todd was making changes after every session chasing down the lap times until both drivers were happy with the set up. Both drivers were feeling confident for the race. Kart 2 qualified in 16<sup>th</sup>, nothing to write home about but a strong position from a field of 40. LCpl Bishop managed to navigate the first few laps of the race without incident, waiting for the field to spread out before moving up the pack. Sgt Lockyer took the second session and managed to get the kart to 11<sup>th</sup> before handing back to LCpl Bishop, on the next handover some time was lost in the pits due to extra fuel being needed. Sgt Lockyer spent the next 45 minutes battling with Kart 50 for position whilst nursing a brake that didn't work properly. A strong performance from both drivers finishing the race in 8<sup>th</sup> military.





## ENDURANCE 7 – Capt Fountain (RE), Sgt Coates (QRH), Pte Cole (RLC)

A good competitive weekend for Kart 7, having rectified some of the niggling mechanical issues, it is finally coming together for the team of novice drivers. Pte Cole setting some quick times in practice, only a few tenths off the quickest karts in the field. The new kingpins and camber adjustments were working well, the kart was generating too much grip in places! The set-up was achieved quickly allowing all drivers the opportunity to learn the technical, bumpy track of Fulbeck. Pte Cole qualified a respectable 17<sup>th</sup> position out of 40 karts, only one place behind Kart 2 and did the first leg of the race. Unfortunately, following an incident on the first lap he dropped to 22<sup>nd</sup> place. He managed to put in a solid performance throughout the first 60min session before handing over to Sgt Coates, at this point Kart 7 was running in 24<sup>th</sup> place. A second incident resulting in a 'safety car/kart' bunched the grid up again, which many decided to take advantage of by pitting, this propelled Sgt Coates to 13<sup>th</sup> place overall. He managed to maintain as best as he could with a solid middle performance. The final leg was completed by Capt Fountain, who came back out on circuit at 20<sup>th</sup> place following the pit stop. He was straight into the action making good ground on those in front of him and was gaining a second a lap on kart 76 of the Army Air Corps but unfortunately meeting the checkered flag before he could take them. Some great racing all round, Kart 7 finished 14<sup>th</sup> but more importantly the team have formed well and are demonstrating great potential.





## Mid-Season Standings

The team are now half way through the 2018 championship. Considering the number of novice drivers the team took on this year we are in a good place. Currently sitting in 4th as a team we still have the potential to win the championship with a strong second half.

Premier Championship –      Bdr Haines 1<sup>st</sup>  
   Cfn Norman 8<sup>th</sup>

Inter Service Trophy -      Army 4<sup>th</sup>

Inter Service Cup -      Army 5<sup>th</sup>

Service Cup -      Army 2<sup>nd</sup>

Steve Long Trophy -      Army 4<sup>th</sup>

