

# EVENT REPORT



## WELCOME TO NOLA MOTORSPORTS PARK- GRAND FINAL DAY 3

*New Orleans, Louisiana, November 12, 2013* - Welcome to the first RMCGF official practice day here, at NOLA Motorsports Park! Today, 3 15-minute practice sessions will be held for drivers to become accustomed to their new chassis, engine packages and the race circuit.

Standing in the paddock, the hollow and suspenseful quiet from the past few days is broken. As the drivers are given permission to approach the NOLA track surface in their newly fitted Rotax karts, a low, growling thunder can be heard.

The field is comprised of very talented and successful drivers. Pier-Luc Ouellette, 2-time World Champion, is racing DD2, 3-time World Champion Ben Cooper, also racing DD2, and the current Junior MAX World Champion Harry Webb, who is competing in the Senior category. And along with the current Senior World Champion, Charlie Eastwood, driving in the Senior MAX category, all will be vying for an additional victory at NOLA Motorsports Park.

Although the time sheets specify each driver has the opportunity to practice on track for three available practice sessions, competitors can only take advantage of the last two rounds. For those of you who are not yet familiar with the specifics behind the racing equipment, each engine must go through a "break-in" session. To ensure one's engine preforms well, it is vital for competitors to pay attention and not rev them above a specific number of rpms. If the number of rpms exceeds this specified amount, the engine may be at risk to damage. Nevertheless, the second and third un-official open practice sessions already brought forth strong championship contenders.

For the second practice session in the Junior MAX category, those racing under the British flag posted the top four fastest times. The quickest being a 57.897, posted by Tom Harvey. United Kingdom proved, once again, to be the team to beat. The UK was



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not as lucky the following session, however, which saw Thomas Preining of Austria at the top of the timing sheets with a 57.321.

The United Kingdom also posted the fastest time to beat in the Senior MAX class- a 56.072 by Edward Brand. Team USA's driver, Oliver Askew followed closely behind Brand with a 56.176. Practice two, however turned the tables. The top three drivers were all from Team USA; with Oliver Askew posting the fastest time of a 55.735.

In the DD2 Masters class, 3-time Rotax World Champion of South Africa, Cristiano Morgado, once again is at the top of the charts, with a fastest lap time of 55.571. He is followed closely by American Alan Rudolph, with a 55.642. For today's last practice session, Team USA's Alan Rudolph captured the top spot on the time sheets with a 55.228, followed closely by Cristiano Morgado with a 55.375.

The DD2 Senior category is also comprised of extremely competitive times. The top time to beat was posted by Hungarian Ferenc Kancsar, a 54.557, followed closely by Daniel Formal of Team USA with a 54.609. However, the tables turned in the third practice session, with Formal wrapping up the day with the fastest lap time of a 54.453 followed by second fastest, Ferenc Kancsar with a 54.563.

While the racing atmosphere is intensifying with every lap, Vicky Peloquin, a member of the BRP staff, explained some interesting details regarding an engine building competition and a trip to Canada for a lucky winner, hosted by BRP. To bring out the competitive side both on and off the track, BRP decided for the first time ever, to set up a timed competition for mechanics, fathers, racers, you name it, to disassemble and reassemble engine gears, gaskets etc. in the fastest amount of time. According to Vicky, "we have 2 kart engines-125cc Junior MAX engines to be disassembled and rebuilt. The person with the fastest time will win an oversized Rotax bag." But have no fear; BRP is hosting another, very rewarding raffle. However, this raffle is only open to drivers, mechanics, and coaches. The lucky winner of the raffle will be given a free, 3-day trip to Valcourt, Canada to connect and live the BRP experience.

As the day wraps up with another driver briefing for tomorrow, remember to stay alert for our next few posts, keeping you up to date with the intense action of the 2013 Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals.

The Rotax MAX Challenge (RMC) is a professional kart racing series established, owned and organized by BRP and its Rotax kart engine distributors. Approved by and in compliance with CIK / FIA, the RMC is a "one-make-engine" formula: only Rotax kart engines that are checked and sealed (for equal performance) are allowed. The success in the competition is mainly up to the skills of the driver.

The Grand Finals is the annual event gathering qualifiers from each participating country. The event is open to the public; tickets can be purchased on-site or via the website of NOLA Motorsports Park: [www.nolamotor.com](http://www.nolamotor.com). You can also watch the Rotax MAX Challenge Grand Finals live on the web starting with the qualifying rounds at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13 right up to the finals on Saturday, November 16 by following this link: <http://rgf-2013.kart-data.com>.

#### **About BRP**

BRP is a global leader in the design, development, manufacturing, distribution and marketing of powersports vehicles. Distributed in 105 countries, its portfolio of brands and products includes Ski-Doo and Lynx snowmobiles, Sea-Doo watercraft, Can-Am all-terrain and side-by-side vehicles, Can-Am roadsters, Evinrude outboard engines, as well as Rotax propulsion systems. BRP employs approximately 6,800 people worldwide.

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