

## AUSTRALIAN KARTING CONTINUES TO MOVE INTO A NEW ERA

### Transponders become compulsory

The Australian Karting Association (AKA) has confirmed it has joined forces with AMB Identification and Timing (AMB) as its timing partner.

Under the partnership all AKA sanctioned tracks will be fitted with the appropriate equipment to ensure that the new Controlled Management System (CMS) will be operational.

The AKA will also be taking advantage of [www.MyLaps.com](http://www.MyLaps.com), AMB's race results website, by uploading all results to this website to make results readily available to its members and karting enthusiasts. These results will also be automatically linked to the AKA's site, [www.karting.net.au](http://www.karting.net.au), once posted by the club to the internet.

"The AKA sees transponder timing as the final step in our process to reform karting through our Card (CMS) system and moves us into a new era in terms of the technology to be used in our sport," said AKA National Treasurer Max Laybutt.

"With the Card system now active throughout Australia, adding transponders will ensure AKA members can take advantage of the most advanced system in karting and focus on what we do best – racing!"

Each racing licence holder can purchase a personal transponder from their Club, State Office or the National Office at a discounted price \*this price may vary slightly depending on the location.

By having a personal transponder every member will be able to see their complete lap times and results from every meeting by logging onto the MyLaps website.

"We have enjoyed a long relationship with the AKA, with their clubs first using AMB timing systems in 1997. The AKA's push to improve the sport should be commended and the integration of transponders into the CMS system is an exciting move forward for AMB," said AMB Australia's General Manager Ben Wyner.

"We look forward to working with the AKA to continue to advance karting in this country while also raising the bar for technology in the sport across the globe."

The CMS is currently being implemented across the country with July 1, 2010 being the date when all karters will be required to have an AMB transponder fitted to their kart in order to compete.

The AKA and AMB are currently negotiating the rights for AMB to market the completed CMS world wide to various other sporting Associations. The outcome of these negotiations and marketing of the product will in turn prove beneficial to the AKA and its members.

#### **There are two types:**

Personal transponder (with charger) \$280.00 includes freight and GST.

TAG Transponder (no charger, uses on board kart battery) \$250.00 includes freight and GST.

## **When do the transponders become compulsory?**

Officially the 1st July 2010, however some clubs are looking to get established earlier, as are the organisers of some major events. The National Karting Council has made this a requirement at the Nationals, and it is understood that each state will make it a requirement at their State Championships.

## **I race Yamaha and Rotax classes throughout the year and need a transponder that does both classes, is the chargeable type the one that I require?**

Yes, unless it is a SEC (electric start) Yamaha. In short, to use the non-chargeable transponder you need an "on board" battery

## **Can I swap my transponder between classes at a race event?**

Yes, but remember that if you are out in the field because of a breakdown, then you need to get your transponder back to your second kart prior to the start of its racing, so should your classes be back to back it may be a problem.

## **Is the transponder able to be used by different people in different classes or just the one person?**

The AKA is looking for each person to have their own transponder, different people would cause a similar problem as above, for example if a junior breaks down on the far extremity of a track, and Dad is on the grid ready to go out then there is no obligation for officials to hold up the meeting while they wait for a transponder, and it could also limit any data collection.

## **Where can I buy my transponder? And at what cost?**

In the first place, from your club, who can get them from their State Office. The Association sourced a very competitive price which they now sell to each state for, however, from there each club/State is free to set its own price to their members so people should ask their individual clubs for their price.

## **What is the benefit for me in buying a transponder?**

There are too many to list but here are a few.

- Better lap scoring with less people required particularly for major events that have large fields
- More efficient race management from the entry collection to the actual race track
- The supply of statistics for all concerned, including the individual karter on his own personal AKA web site
- Instant data display will be available by those clubs who wish to display it at race meetings (providing the club has a wi-fi unit).
- Real time race information by karters on their own lap tops in the pits (providing the club has a wi-fi unit).
- Lifetime storage of race results, both individually, and collectively
- Better availability of actual statistics for the National Body to construct future requirements of our sport

## **Where can I see all of my results and lap times? And how quickly will they be there?**

Direct and live at race meetings on your own laptop, (providing the club has a wi-fi unit); on the AKA Web site basically as soon as the club uploads the results to the AKA server, (which can be done live if so desired) and on Mylaps, the AMB Information site, as soon as the results are uploaded to the AKA Site they will also go to Mylaps.