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INVOICE

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Hire karts the fast track to fun

KART RACING

KEN SEEBER

Of all motorsports, sprint karting is the easiest and most accessible for anyone to experience.

Hire karts are the key and Perth is fortunate to have two hire kart facilities that run on sprint racing kart tracks.

Both these tracks come under the control of the Tiger Kart Club and are in Cockburn and Wanneroo.

The Cockburn circuit, completed in 1980, has a long history of State, national and international events.

In 1981, the Asia-Pacific Championships were held at Cockburn and attracted Michael

Schumacher, who went on to win six Formula 1 championships, and Russell Ingall, who went on to V8 Supercar fame.

Before 1980, there was a circuit at Cockburn where the shipyards are now located. As this was close to the beach, the karters were able to go swimming between heats.

The Cockburn track is the best track in Australia according to many and, with the track set in a slight hollow, all of its 12 corners and 1070m length are visible from the canteen area.

As a hire kart facility, it was the first of its kind in Australia when it opened in 1985. It is operated by Mike Sully, who was a six-times Australian national karting champion.

The kart hire can be as basic as one kart for one person rising to

corporate events, which can cater for groups of up to 50 people with up to 10 to 12 karts on the track at any one time.

These bigger events are organised into a series of mini races, with the focus on fun and enjoyment for all. The youngest age to hire is about 12 years but this is dependent on size as the driver must be able to reach the brake pedal.

The kart hire is available all week, Saturday mornings and Sundays. The only time they are not available are Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday and when race meetings are being held. Bookings can be made on 9410 1497.

The karts use a 110cc two-stroke engine fitted with a centrifugal clutch and are capable of speeds up to 65kmh, which is adequate for the tight corners of a sprint kart track.



Karts are available for hire at the Cockburn and Wanneroo tracks.