

Our youth racing league, known as "RAPS," for Raleigh Area Public Safety Racing League, has been operating at Rush Hour since 2007. It was originally formed by Members of our local First Responder's community.

#### **Overview**

RAPS Racing League is an Arrive and Drive karting league for drivers age 8 to 14 years old. RAPS is considered a teaching league with emphasis on good technique and sportsmanship. RAPS runs a racing league during "the season," which runs from October through March and then offers classes and open practice sessions during the "off season," which runs from April through September.

### <u>Kart Handling Class</u>

To be eligible to participate in any RAPS Youth event, a driver must complete a RAPS kart handling class. The class is typically taught on a Sunday and runs from 0830 through 1230. The kart handling class costs \$99.

### <u>League</u>

Registration for the RAPS Youth League begins each August and runs through the second week in September or when available slots are filled. To register for the league, a driver's parent must complete the registration form, read and sign the Parent Code of Conduct, and pay a \$40 registration fee. The league consists of one mandatory practice, six individual points races, two optional practices, and one team endurance race. In addition to the \$40 registration fee, drivers must also pay a \$50 "track fee" to RushHour Karting the day of each event. The one exception to this rule is the start of season mandatory practice does not have a track fee. The total cost of the league if a driver is new to the league would be \$589. The breakdown of this total cost is below.

KartHandlingClass\$99LeagueRegistration\$40(Six)PointsRaces\$300(Two)OptionalPractices\$100OneEnduranceRace\$50Total\$589

# Race Day

\*The typical race day begins with the driver and parent arriving at RushHour Karting and checking in at the front desk to pay the Track Fee and determine the driver's heat number.

\*Drivers will be called to the pit area by heat number to randomly draw karts for warm-up and qualifying. Drivers will complete an eight minute warm-up heat and then come back into the pits. As soon as track marshals confirm that all drivers are ready for qualifying and the timing computer is reset, qualifying begins. The duration of the qualifying session will vary from five minutes to seven minutes.

\*Drivers will be placed into races and race order based on their single fastest lap during their qualifying session. Races typically last 15 minutes, but there could be some variation at the discretion of RAPS officials.

\*Races will start using a "flying" or moving format. The drivers will leave the pit area and be stopped on track in the correct grid order. Drivers will then proceed behind either a pace kart or the pole kart in single file order for one parade lap. During the second "pace" lap, drivers will grid into a two kart per row order in preparation for the start. Front row drivers will begin accelerating to race pace once they reach the acceleration line. If the starting official is comfortable with the grid structure, he/she will waive the green flag signifying the start of the race.

### Driver's Points

Drivers receive points for "winning the pole," finishing position, and fastest lap achieved within the last five laps of the race. Driver's points are accumulated at each of the six points races and trophies are awarded to the top drivers in each classification at the end of the season.

# Classifications (GT and RHP)

Drivers will race points races within their own classification. Within the RAPS Youth karting program, we have two classifications. The first is the GT classification which is for new and/or young drivers. The GT classification drivers use the RushHour "junior" karts and typically do not race more than a 15 minute race. The RHP classification is for experienced drivers looking for an additional level of difficulty. The RHP classification drivers use the RushHour "adult" karts and they are required to make a strategy-based pit stop during each race. The RHP race duration also varies throughout the season. To be eligible for the RHP classification, drivers must have demonstrated driving proficiency (usually through competing at the GT level for a season) and have completed an individual try-out in the "adult" kart.

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