BRITISH UNIVERSITIES KARTING CHAMPIONSHIP

24 HOUR RACE 2026

DATES & TIMINGS

MONDAY 9TH JUNE

Sigining-on & digital briefing. Check your email for the signing-on link.

FRIDAY 12TH JUNE

Checking-in & BigFoot Collection
One person from each university needs to be present on Friday between 12pm and 5pm in order to collect their team's BigFoot (nose cones), transponders and wristbands for all of their drivers.

Setting up camp
If you want to arrive on Friday afternoon / evening, you are more than welcome. However the circuit **gates will shut at 11pm**, so don't arrive any later than that.

Practice sessions
Are available for £65 between 11am and 6pm. To book in to a practice session

1) Go to:<link here>
2) Change the date to Fri 13th June
3) Select a session and pay

Nose cones
Can be picked up on Friday if you if you wish to spend time making it look awesome!

SATURDAY 13TH JUNE

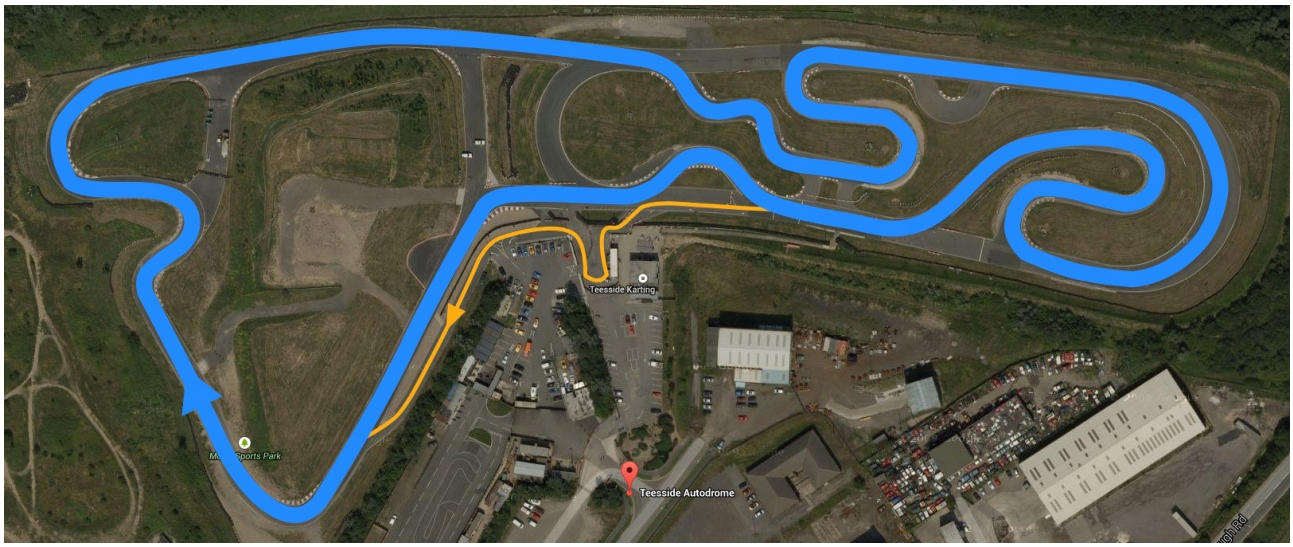
- Kart allocation: 7.30am
- Team captains briefing: 8.30am
- Practice: 9am - 11am
- Super Pole Qualifying: 11:15am - 11.45am
- Grid formation: 11.45am (or earlier depending on how fast we get through qualifying)
- Grid photos: 12.15pm
- Race Start : 12.30pm

SUNDAY 14TH JUNE

- Race End: 12.30pm
- Presentations: 1pm (ish)

TRACK LAYOUT

The track is the usual high speed Teesside International layout as shown below:



Onboard footage of this layout can be found here, courtesy of our very own commentator Andrew Mather: https://youtu.be/oVPiOqjVEQo

NOSE CONES

Every team will be given a Nose Cone (also known as a Foot).

The only thing you can do with a borrowed Big Foot is attach sticker vinyl.

You are not allowed to:

- spray paint or draw on it with pens or any other form of permanent decoration
- Stick duck tape on the Big Foot
- Drill holes for lights

If you wish to do any of the above, you will need to purchase the Big Foot from Teesside at a cost of £75.

If you go down the route of buying your own and attaching LED lights, you may do so but the LED lights are not allowed to:

- change colour
- Flash
- Be yellow or red colours

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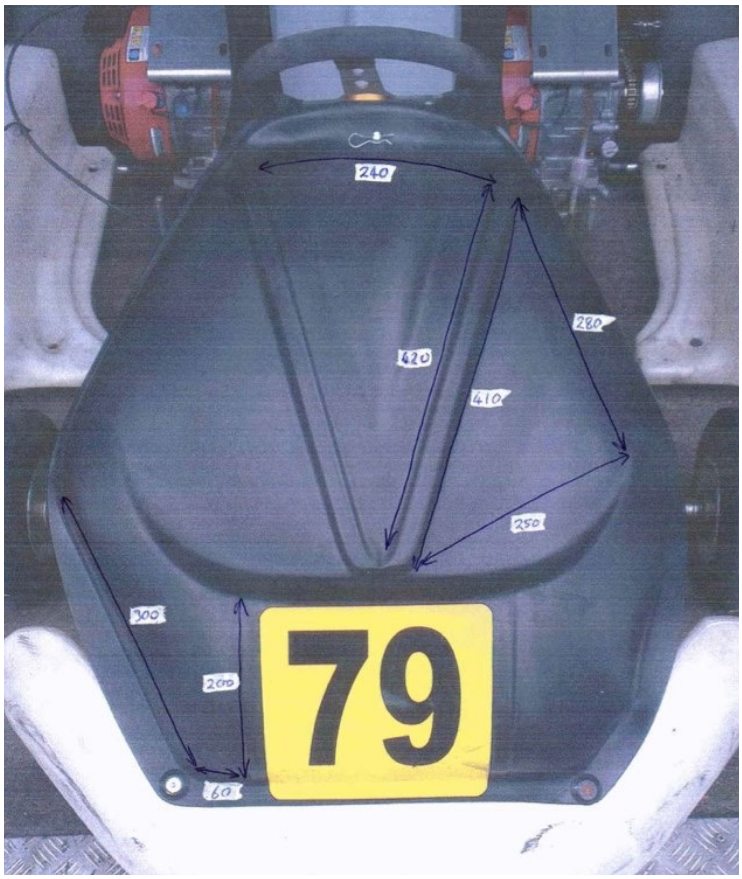
Please note the **number is standardised**. So where you see the number 34 in the photo above, instead, you will be given a standardised sticker by Teesside Autodrome to make it easier for the Teesside team to identify the karts over the course of the weekend.

The sticker will be 25cm wide by 20cm high. You can place it on top of your design or work your design around it but it has to be placed where you see the number above or as in the picture below which also shows the dimensions:

For those with a design bent, the sticker will simply be white numbering on a black background (not black on yellow as in the picture above)

You will be able to pick up your nose cone either on Friday afternoon between 1pm and 6pm OR when you arrive on Saturday morning. If it's going to take you time to get it sorted we recommend picking it up on the Friday afternoon.



KART ALLOCATION

You will be allocated a kart at random. All the karts will be specially numbered and the number will be picked out of a hat at registration first thing on Saturday morning. Get there early and get signed on quickly. You can then pick up your kart and start getting it prepared for the race.

KART MODIFICATIONS

You are not allowed to do anything to the kart other than decorate it.

If you wish to change the steering wheel, you may do so but you MUST get the Teesside Autodrome mechanic to do the change on your behalf. You are NOT allowed to change the steering wheel yourself (there have been issues in the past where the steering wheel boss has been damaged by people attempting to replace the steering wheel with their own).

You can only use an Alfano / Mychron if you supply your own steering wheel.

BALLAST & MOUNTING LEAD

The minimum driver weight is 80KG for the 24hr race. The karts have weight posts that can fit a maximum of 16KG, so if you need to use more than that you will have to attach it to a seat insert.

The karts have unique mounting points, along the rear of the bumper. See pic:

You'll need to make sure that the lead you use conforms to the dimensions listed below otherwise the lead **may not fit**. Teesside **do not** have lead to rent either, so you'll need to supply your own. However they do have lead you can buy if you order in good time. You can buy lead ready made from Teesside for £10 for 1KG or £20 for 2.5kg. Call them on 01642 231 117 to order some lead and make sure you do this a good few weeks before the event.

Rules for lead are as follows:

- All ballast must be **lead or steel** material only
- Cast iron is **not** permitted
- The use of dumbbells are **not** permitted
- The diameter of the central hole drilled must be a minimum of 12mm and not exceed 15mm
- The diameter of the ballast pieces must not exceed 120mm
- The height of all of the lead on a single pole must not exceed 120mm.
- No more than 8kg of lead ballast is permitted on each pole.

Additionally, in previous years we had several instances of lead falling off on circuit (!!) as they were shaken loose by the vibration of the engine. This was confined to lead flashing (roofing lead) that teams had cut and shaped into blocks and then drilled a hole through the middle. The vibration and heat softened the lead, the holes expanded, and the lead flew off. When using flashing, make sure to **reinforce the hole you drill** - use washers and copper tubing, for example.

With the minimum driver weight of 80kg, the kart, with fuel & driver at all times must be at least **232KG.**

A full tank of fuel will weigh 9KG so after taking on some new fuel you should end up weighing at least 241KG. When you come in for your next fuel stop you should weigh at least 232KG.

The weighing is done on a weigh bridge every time you come in for fuel or for your service.

If you are underweight at any time, you will be penalised by 1 lap per kilo underweight (rounded up). For example if you are underweight by 0.1KG you will be penalised 1 lap. if you are 1.1KG underweight, you will be penalised 2 laps.

Lap deductions will be applied during the race and not at the end.

THE KARTS

As you'll no doubt know, we are using Teesside's special fleet of 24 hour karts. These karts are purely used for 24hr races. Please don't use that as excuse to whack the kerbs! If a wheel falls off, it will be your fault for abusing the kerbs too much.

Every kart will start off on Saturday morning with an almost brand new set of tyres (front and back). These tyres will have be brand new except for 5 laps of running prior to the weekend by one of Teesside Autodrome's expert kart testers to iron out any issues prior to the weekend. At roughly just before half way into the race each kart will be, in turn, called into the service area for the following:

- some new tyres (fronts only)
- a check of the brakes
- a check of the oil levels
- sort out any damage if need be

This service will take a minimum of 5 minutes (to make it fair for everyone). However if your kart has sustained damage enough to warrant making some adjustments / fixes then the service may take more than 5 minutes. Bear this in mind.

This is a 24 hour race and it's not just about out and out sprint racing. It's about being smooth and staying clear of incidents and away from the kerbs.

The servicing window will span 3 to 4 hours and it is likely to start at 10pm depending on the weather. However if it is raining it is likely that the service window will start even later into the night.

Please make sure that your drivers are aware that once the service window is declared open, he / she may be called in to have their mandatory service. You will not have a choice when to take your service - you will be called in by the clerk / marshals at their discretion. Your driver will be called in via a "mechanical flag" on the e-flag. Failure to pit will result in a black flag.

KART DAMAGE/REPLACEMENTS

There will be no replacements in the race what so ever regardless of blame. You will have to wait for the kart to be repaired.

This is a long race where consistency, driving smoothly and most importantly **STAYING OFF THE KERBS** as well as avoiding incidents will be key. I can't emphasise this enough.

Please do not expect for your kart to be swapped if your engine goes down, a chain snaps or a stub axle brakes. You will have to wait for it to be repaired.

Please also note that the Kelgate brakes will easily last 24hrs if they are not abused. So whatever you do, **do not ride the brakes** otherwise they will at some point burn out causing you to have to pit and get them repaired.

Also, a tip I've been given from Bob Pope, is to not stamp on the brakes and fling the kart around the corner like you would in a Club100 kart. You must be far more gentle on the karts to be quick and to keep the kart reliable.

KART REPLACEMENT DURING PRACTICE

During practice, if you have any issue with your kart, please bring in the kart to get it looked at and possibly even tested as you may be given a replacement kart. The sooner you do this in the session the better so stick your best driver out to get a feel for the kart.

No replacement karts will be offered during any other time of the weekend. Only in this first hour of practice.

BORROWING KIT

Unlike in the BUKC proper, if you wish to borrow kit you will have to put down a deposit which will be returned to you at the end of the event. Teesside will have kit available to borrow for a £50 deposit per set. This will be managed either by a cash deposit or a simple pre-auth on your credit card, which will of course be cleared when you return the kit. Wet suits are limited. We recommend you purchase your own one if you haven't got one. Teesside will only lend out their limited stock of wet suits but the cost is a £10 non-refundable fee (rather than a deposit).

24 HOUR RULES

Make sure you read all the rules and regs. You can find them here:
BUKC24_rules_and_regs.pdf

SUPER POLE QUALIFYING

Every team must refuel at the end of practice prior to going into the Super Pole Qualifying format.

Your driver who is in the kart at the end of practice must come into the pit lane when directed, queue up and fully refuel. You will then be directed where to position your kart in a queue.

When all of the karts have been refuelled, are all queued up and ready to go, then Super Pole Qualifying will begin.

Groups of up to 10 karts at a time will be sent out in a session with each kart being separated by at least 5 seconds.

Each kart must do an out-lap, a timed lap and in-lap. At the end of the in-lap each driver will return to the pits to be weighed. After being weighed the driver must move to the kart to where directed.

AFTER QUALIFYING

After qualifying has finished and the grid for the race has been generated, the drivers will be sent out on to the track where they must drive around and stop where directed (after the last hairpin). From here karts will be sent out towards the grid in the order in which they are starting the race.

No teams will be allowed on the grid until we have declared the grid clear and open for teams via the PA system.

TEAM PHOTOS

Once the grid has been formed, all drivers will be asked to make their way to the grid to stand behind their kart for the team photos. The race will start shortly after. Good luck!

ACCOMMODATION/CAMPING

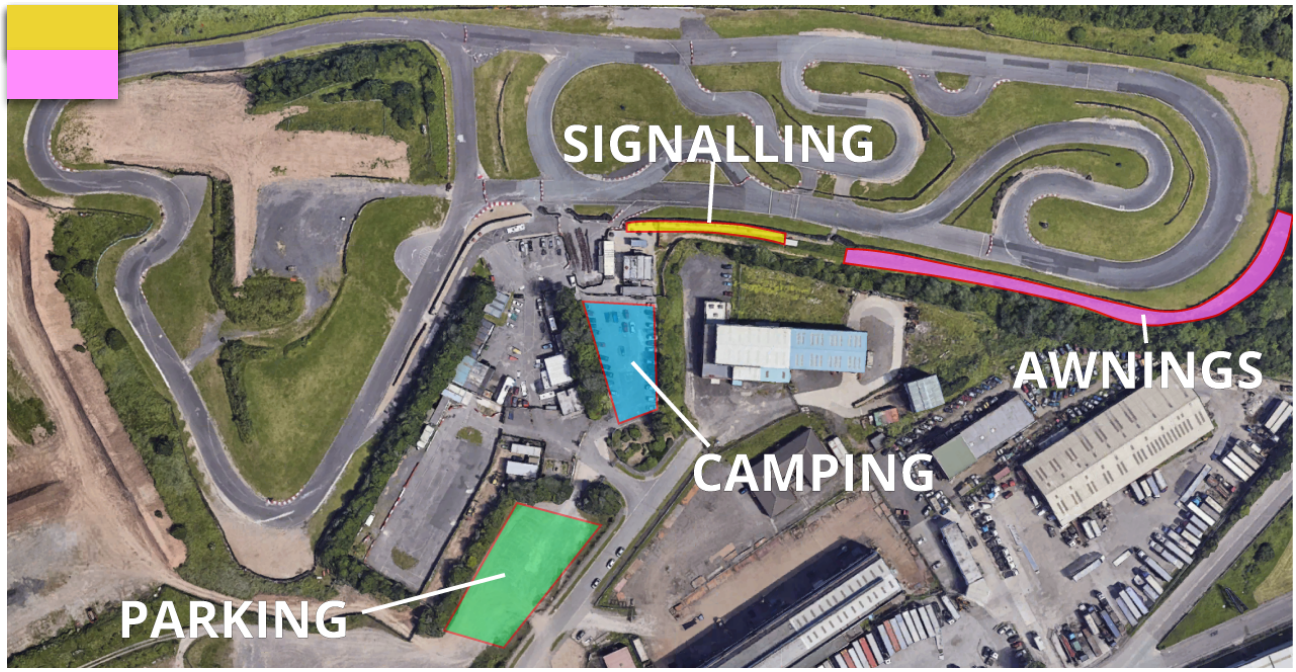
There are several cheap hostels/hotels in the nearby area and in Middlesbrough town centre. We'd suggest that you camp at circuit as it is free!

Each team will need to report to the main office to be allocated a pitch before setting up camp.

Please note the following guide to setting up:

BLUE: Camping area. Please do not park here

GREEN: Parking area.



YELLOW: Signalling area (where to signal your drivers from)

PINK: Awnings only. Awnings must have open sides, and must be able to be walked through (we need access)

TOILETS

The toilets will be open for the duration of the race, so please PLEASE (it's in your best interests!) keep these in a clean state. If they are ruined Teesside will remove your toilet privileges which none of us want!

POWER

There will be no power facilities available to recharge phones/laptops/cameras - so do make sure you make suitable arrangements. Bring power packs to charge your devices.

FOOD/DRINK

The Teesside cafe will be open on both days and overnight for hot food and drink.

Teesside have asked us to let you know that the cafe is open only to people that are actually eating and drinking in there. There were a lot of teams that set up camp inside and took up space so actual punters weren't able to sit down - so they'll be asking you to clear out if you aren't a customer!

They've also created a special Meal Voucher for £48 which includes 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner, 2 snacks, 1 chocolate bar and 4 drinks.

You can buy a meal voucher at the cafe on arrival.

ALCOHOL

No alcohol is to be consumed during the race by any team member. Any competitor deemed to have consumed alcohol will be banned.

TOP TIPS

STINT LENGTHS

From last year we recommend a maximum stint length of 1h 45 minutes. We suggest you stick to them (for obvious reasons!). If you're new to 24 hour race we strongly advise against doing back-to-back stints.

NIGHT RACING

Obviously, you'll be racing during the hours of darkness. As the race falls over the weekend of the year with the longest daylight hours, these will be kept to a minimum.

Make sure you have clear visors ready for your night stints and make those LED strips shine! If you have a dark / tinted visor on during the night stint you may be black flagged.

Anyone wishing to run an iridium must be scrutineered by the clerk of the course before sundown at 2130hrs.

TEAM RADIO

We are happy for you to use radio/walkie-talkies to communicate with your drivers on circuit, **as long as they do not clash** with the frequency used by the staff/marshals.

Please make sure that the radio is securely fastened to the kart in a sensible place (ask a staff member if you are unsure) or to the person racing (underneath your suit!).

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

It is entirely likely that you will get minor racing-related blisters, aches and pains from your long stints. Please make sure that you are well stocked to deal with these if and when they crop up - blisters being the most prevalent problem. Blister plasters/tape are an absolute must! Think about buying Ibuprofen and wrist strapping as well. You will thank us!

STAYING FIT AND ENERGISED

It's a long race. Like, really, really long. You need to be in good shape! In previous years we have had to black flag drivers (especially during the night stints) because they literally looked like they were about to fall asleep at the wheel. Don't do more than you think you are capable of!

We'd also suggest stocking up on energy-based products at a supermarket - gels, tablets, nuts and even the good old fashioned banana!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Make sure to use the hashtag **#BUKC24** on social channels.

ADDRESS

Teesside Autodrome
South Tees Motor Sports Park
South Bank Road
Middlesbrough
TS6 6XH

GOOD LUCK!