



RAINBOW-JEPARIT ARGUS

Kart track extension officially opened

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Submitted by Sabrina Luciani

It might have been cold and wet on Sunday, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of the Wimmera Kart Racing Club members as they held their first race meeting since the completion of a total circuit refurbishment.

After nine months of construction works, which included over a thousand hours of volunteer time, the official opening of the upgrades was held during a break in the

days racing.

Sixty local and visiting kart racers and their supporters came along to sample the much hyped new circuit in preparation for a major race meeting in two weeks.

In 2021, for the first time the Victorian Government provided a grants program for community motorsport. The Wimmera Kart Racing Club applied for a grant to extend the tired existing circuit located at Dooen and were one of the successful applicants.

The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions provided \$153,706 through their Community Motorsports Grants which when combined with the Wimmera Kart Racing Club's funds and the generous contributions of local businesses resulted in a total project value of around \$250,000.

Karting Australia spokesperson Tony Manson and Karting Victoria spokesperson Phil Lane spoke about the facility in glowing terms.

"Victoria is the only state in Australia to have the benefits of a Community Motorsport Grants program. This has allowed the club to deliver a brilliant facility for the Horsham community and the wider karting community," Mr Manson said.

Mr Manson went on to thank the club's members for the huge effort that they put into the massive improvements and, in particular, praised the efforts of Wimmera Kart Racing Club president Mr Remo Luciani.

"Remo's determination and passion driving this project has seen it completed on time and on budget," he said.

Mr Lane recognised the wonderful collaboration between local businesses and the club to produce such a wonderful facility.

"There is a long list of contributors to the project but special mention needs to be made of Millers Civil Contractors and Horsham Concrete for their outstanding support of the club," he said.

"The presentation of this facility today is the only evidence you need to show that this was a very well run and well organised project. Congratulations to all."

Horsham Rural City Council Mayor, Councillor Robyn Gulline concluded the ceremony by cutting the ribbon to officially open the circuit.

The next event at the circuit will be the weekend of 13th and 14th of August when round four of the Victorian Country Series returns to Horsham.

Two hundred plus kart racers will descend upon the Dooen circuit in one of the most successful kart racing series in Australia.

Spectator entry is free and a great way to experience top level wheel to wheel competition. For further information, contact the club secretary at wkrsecretary@gmail.com or <https://www.wimmerakartracingclub.com.au/>