



**KartSport New Zealand Inquiry Report – 2016 Sprint Nationals
Guardian Carlos Hedge – Competitor Callum Hedge, Rotax Max Junior, Junior 100cc Yamaha**

Report Prepared by: Graeme Moore (GM)

Inquiry Panel: Richard Moore (RM) , Darryl Roots (DR) , Graeme Moore (Chair)

KartSport New Zealand Rep: Colin Harris National Steward (NS)

Venue: Auckland

Date: Wednesday 20 April 2016

Time: Commenced 6.06.pm Closed 7.40 pm

Terms of Reference

To investigate whether Callum Hedge's guardian and or team members breached KartSport New Zealand Regulations, Rules and Codes including but not limited to G1.8 and G1.9. Also noting G1.4, C3.1.3, C3.19 and C8.3. PNR 414454.

Between:

- KartSport New Zealand Incorporated (Applicant)
- Carlos Hedge (CH) (Respondent/Guardian for Callum Hedge) who had previously advised he was unable to attend the Hearing.

Process:

- Inquiry process explained to the Panel under the KartSport New Zealand's inquisitorial based Judicial Code and process.
- (NS) Statement presented and reviewed. Penalty recommendation held in abeyance until all statements reviewed.
- Supporting statements from related parties verified and reviewed by the Panel.
- Statements and emails submitted by CH reviewed. Noted that CH accepted responsibility for his actions and tendered his apologies to KartSport New Zealand, the Race Official and associated family members.
- The Panel reviewed statements as they related to all the Rules stated, in particular Rule G1.9, and also G1.4 Drivers Briefing where it was noted both the National Steward and the KartSport New Zealand President stated very clearly that KartSport New Zealand has a proven process and due process must be followed.
- (NS) Statement was reviewed in relation to recommended penalties.
- General detailed discussion by the Panel of all matters until no further questions or clarity required by members.

NOTE:

All statements presented and reviewed were distributed to all parties prior to the Hearing other than an email received from Carlos Hedge 18 April 2016 at 16:57 confirming all statements from witness's were correct to the best of his knowledge regarding the evening in question.

Outcome:

The Inquiry Panel determined that the respondent was in breach of the KartSport New Zealand Regulations, Rules and Codes.

The Panel 100% agreed and verified the vilification and abuse of the KartSport New Zealand Race Official in a public place, namely prior to the closing at the 2016 National Sprint Championships prize giving and in front of family and friends of the abused, as a clear breach. Reference to a Race Official in any derogatory manner is unacceptable regardless of the circumstances.

Penalties applied as per KartSport New Zealand Judicial Code and Constitution as below;

1. **Fine:**
\$2,000.00. Payable within 48 hours.
2. **Guardianship:**
Carlos Hedge is not permitted to act as a guardian for 24 months. The first 12 months to be served as mandatory and the following 12 months served as an endorsement (Rule C3.10)
3. **Licence Suspension:**
Callum Hedge's Competition Licence is suspended, effective immediately, for a period of 3 months.
4. **Licence Endorsement:**
Callum Hedge's Competition Licence is endorsed, effective immediately, for a period of 6 months. Any finding against Callum Hedge regarding he or his guardian, team or crew for any matters related in any manner to this offence and in particular under Rule G1.9 *Unacceptable Behaviour* and or including any social media activity by respondents, guardian and or team will result in Callum Hedge's Licence being suspended for the remainder of the endorsement period.
Rule C3.19 Applies: Results from the National Sprint Championships will stand however awards and trophies related to the event are to be returned to KartSport New Zealand.

NOTE: Any delay beyond 48 hours in the payment of respective fines shall be added to the term of the penalties.

Costs:

The Inquiry Panel determined not to award costs.

Appeal to MSNZ National Court of Appeal:

The Respondent is advised of his right to appeal this decision to the MSNZ National Court of Appeal in Accordance with Rule C7.3.

Summary:

KartSport New Zealand wish to make it abundantly clear that, along with ASN's (National Sporting Associations) worldwide, our leadership and members will not tolerate *Unacceptable Behaviour* be it on track, in the field, in the press/TV or on social media.

Where such behaviour involves the use of written, verbal and or physical abuse KartSport New Zealand will no longer issue low key infringement notices but will deliver penalties up to the maximum allowed. This may include fines up to and exceeding \$5,000.00, all associated costs and or life suspension of membership/guardianship and loss of awards/prizes.

As is constantly reiterated, including as it was at the 2016 National Sprint Championships Drivers Briefings, our new Judicial Code has a sound set of policies, procedures and process. If a member, guardian, crew or competitor is unsatisfied with any aspect of the process and or the outcomes there is a path to follow in a mature adult manner that allows review of decisions, rather than taking the matter in ones own hands and then having to suffer the consequences either your self and or your driver.

Graeme Moore
Inquiry Panel Chair