

2020

In 2020 the Club built a 'flat pack' podium. This podium was designed to be more portable than the existing one and was first used at the New Zealand Blokart Open in February at Wigram. The South Island Blokart Open held in Richmond (Nelson) at the *Vortex Wind Karting* track, preceded the New Zealand Blokart Open. As part of the preparation for the New Zealand Blokart Open a 'cut-through' was mown at the eastern end of the taxiway between the east/west and north/south sections of the taxiway. This reduced the likelihood, and particularly in strong northerly and north westerly winds, of opposing blokarts colliding.

An 'on-track' coaching day for Club members was held at Wigram in March 2020 with about 15 members attending. A tech-night was held in June.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, limited sailing occurred at Wigram in 2020, and when sailing did occur, member attendances were low.



Asphalt repairs, Wigram. (from L - R, Peter Richardson, Alan Wylie, Logan Ayers (partly obscured), Peter Johnson and Martin Outram).

Where previously the Club had sporadically emailed information to its members and Club associates, 2020 saw the start of a weekly email Club Newsletter using Mailchimp. This is a popular method for communicating information in a timely and interesting way, also serving as a useful record of the Club's activities. About 211 newsletters were sent to members between June 2020 and September 2024, and recipients grew from nine to 72. Regular articles in the newsletter include an update from the President, race results from the previous week, the weather forecast for the following Sunday, a diary of Club activities and other events, and more recently a historic captioned Club photograph ('*A blast from the past*').

National events in 2020 included the South Island Blokart Open at the *Vortex Wind Karting* track at Richmond, Nelson, the North Island Blokart Open at the Hawkes Bay Club's *Higgins Park* track in Napier, and the New Zealand Blokart Open at Wigram.

2021

In 2021 a Club member race ranking competition was started. Results from each Sunday were combined along with points for attendance. Although a relatively popular competition amongst members, it was discontinued after about one year.

Since 2017, when Club membership was 81, there has been a noticeable decline in Club membership. While unable to define a clear reason for this, the Committee was conscious of the need to be constantly considering initiatives to attract new members. There were 51 Club members in 2021.

Along with weed spraying the edges of the 'cut-through', the Club continued to assist with maintaining aspects of the hangar apron and runway taxiway areas. Concrete tiles were constructed by member Justin Annan to replace broken concrete drain grates on the apron. Small asphalt repairs were also completed.

The new race tree countdown tower was demonstrated at the Annual General Meeting and was used for some Club events during 2021 and 2022. Tentative permission was granted by AFMNZ to use Wigram one Wednesday a month during summer for twilight sailing, however, this opportunity was generally not supported by Club members. The annual Club Brass Monkey event was held in June, and the South Island Blokart Open in October 2021. Club members attended the New Zealand Blokart Open in Auckland.

A sausage sizzle was held at Mega Mitre 10 Hornby, raising about \$900.00 for the Club.

2022

In 2022 there were about 47 members in the Club, six of which were Life Members. The South Island Blokart Open was held at Wigram in March. The Club purchased a three-point blokart seat harness with funding from NZBAI and a donation from a Club member. A ‘*bring a mate*’ sailing day was held, with 12 ‘mates’ attending. The partners of four Club members organised and ran a social fun event at Wigram. Club members enjoyed the opportunity to compete in a series of entertaining races and games.

The race tree countdown tower was used at the 2022 World Blokart Championships held at RNZAF Base Ohakea, and at the Manawatu Blokart Club Inc. track at Sanson. Unfortunately, the electronics were damaged because of a power surge.

While the Club held relevant contact information for its members, the Committee decided that it was appropriate that it also held, where agreed to, emergency contact information for its members. Membership continued to show a downward trend during 2022 along with an ‘aging’ average. In 2022 the average age of Club members was 62, and in 2024, 65.

In October 2022, a Club training session was held for Club members planning to take part in the 2022 New Zealand Blokart Open and the 2022 Worlds Blokart Championship (held at the RNZAF Base Ohakea and the Manawatu Blokart Club Inc. track at Sanson). Amongst other matters, topics discussed included basic logistical matters, blokart sailing rules and the general physical environment of the two venues.

The new, disposal (life of up to five years) transponders were trialled by some Club members. These transponders were competitively priced with the older ones which needed to be renewed annually.

For the second consecutive year, the Club celebrated the end of the year with a BBQ at the Groynes.

Naval Point Club Lyttelton members enjoyed a successful ‘*give it a go*’ day at Wigram.

Various beach sailing runs have been held over the years. In December 2022 six members sailed north from the South Brighton Surf Club to the Waimakariri River mouth. Down wind speeds of 62km/hr were achieved. One Club member, Alan Wyllie, sailed his Class 2 land yacht.