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RMC ROUND ONE

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PRIZES
2026 RMC ULTIMATE KARTING
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MICRO MAX REPORT

BARTON TAKES MICRO VICTORY AFTER CRAWFORD PENALTY DRAMA



Qualifying saw Sebastian Crawford and Jayan Prakash emerge as the early pace setters, both demonstrating strong one lap speed with Prakash taking the overall pole with a 52.54 laptime. Close behind, Lenny Barton and Kaiden Hanley positioned themselves as immediate contenders, while the midfield remained tightly packed, leaving plenty of room for change heading into the heats.

Through Heats 1 and 2, the competitive picture began to evolve. Crawford and Prakash remained consistently near the front, reinforcing their status as leading contenders, while Barton steadily built momentum with strong, clean drives. Hanley also emerged as a key figure during this phase, delivering consistent results that kept him firmly within podium contention. Meanwhile, drivers such as Arlo Gamble and Freddie Walker showed great pace and consistency across both heats. Further down the order, Benjamin Slijvar and Kai Suri maintained steady performances, while Milo Taylor and Bobby Slater worked to recover positions after more challenging early sessions.

By the Super Heat, the order at the front had become more clearly defined. Crawford and Prakash continued to lead the way, but Barton's consistency ensured he remained firmly in the mix, while Hanley consolidated his position among the front runners. The Super Heat ultimately rewarded those who had combined pace with discipline, setting the stage for a tightly contested final. Arthur Bowers emerged as the Super heat winner giving him a strong 3rd place grid slot for the final.

The final began with immediate controversy. From the front row, Sebastian Crawford was judged to have jumped the start, gaining an early advantage as the lights went out.

While the start official allowed the race to continue, a five second time penalty was issued, setting up a race that would be decided as much against the clock as on the circuit.

2026 ROTAX MAX CHALLENGE ROUND ONE / WHILTON MILL

MICRO MAX REPORT

MICRO MAX FINAL			
1	47 BARTON	OTK / STRAWBERRY	13:20:05
2	44 PRAKASH	KR / SPR	+0.97
3	69 HANLEY	RCE / RCE	+2.60
4	8 CRAWFORD	KR / ORIGIN	+2.63
5	72 GAMBLE	KR / SPR	+2.73
6	13 WALKER	KOSMIC / KR SPORT	+2.92
7	99 BOWERS	RCE/RCE	+3.16
8	78 SLJIVAR	GILLARD/SANA RACING	+3.33
9	17 SURI	KR/SPR	+7.71
10	66 POCKOCK	OTK/ORIGIN	+8.02

11. TAYLOR, 12. GEO, 13. SENNA, 14. GUPTA
15. SLATER, 16. KELLY, 17. EWER,
18. SHEKHAWAT, 19. DANIELS



**47 LENNY BARTON
STRAWBERRY**

By halfway around the opening lap, Barton had surged into the lead, capitalising on the disrupted start and immediately placing himself at the front of the field. Prakash, meanwhile, was forced into recovery mode, while Crawford remained a central figure despite the looming penalty.

By Lap 4, Crawford demonstrated his pace advantage, retaking the lead on track and immediately pushing to build a gap. Fully aware of the penalty, his objective was clear, create a margin greater than five seconds to retain victory. Behind him, Barton settled into second, managing his pace carefully to remain within the critical time window, while Prakash rejoined the lead battle in third. Hanley continued to run consistently, positioning himself to capitalise on any developments ahead.

As the race progressed, Crawford delivered a strong and determined drive at the front, gradually extending his advantage. However, Barton's disciplined approach ensured the gap remained manageable, preventing Crawford from escaping beyond the penalty threshold. Prakash maintained pressure behind, completing a solid recovery from the start, while Hanley's consistent pace kept him firmly within podium contention. Further back, Gamble and Walker contested positions just outside the top three, while Slijvar and Suri held steady inside the top ten. Taylor and Slater rounded out the leading group with measured drives.

Crawford crossed the line first, having built a 2.37 second gap over Barton, an impressive effort, but ultimately insufficient to offset the penalty. Crawford's penalty dropped him to fourth place, handing victory to Barton. Behind him, Prakash secured second after a strong recovery drive, while Kaiden Hanley completed the podium with a composed and consistent performance.



**44 JAYAN PRAKASH
SPR**

MINI MAX REPORT

ABRAHART TIMES IT PERFECTLY AS LATE RACE ACTION DENIES OMAN AND ROLFE



Abrahart's pole lap was as clinical as it was crucial. On a circuit where overtaking opportunities can be limited, securing track position immediately handed him the upper hand. Rolfe slotted into second, just fractions adrift, with Oman and Bearman close behind. Charlie Page completed the top five in a session that underlined the depth of competition across the grid.

The heats reinforced the early narrative, but also began to expose the importance of consistency. Abrahart and Oman remained firmly in control, delivering clean, front running performances to his take 1 win each. Rolfe stayed glued to the fight with Bearman showing strong pace with 2 top 3 results. While further back, drivers such as Otis Cleary and Reian Townsend began to make significant forward progress. The Super Heat saw Oman execute a flawless victory, Maintaining control at the front, he secured the optimal starting position for the final. Further down the order, Hugo McCluskey and Ralph Martin impressed with strong recovery drives, positioning themselves as potential disruptors for the final.

In the final, the race action heated up just beyond the halfway mark. Having shadowed early leader Austin Oman, Abrahart made his move into Christmas Corner, diving cleanly down the inside to take the lead. Crucially, he immediately covered the inside line through the following sequence, neutralising any response and asserting control of the race. From that moment on, the complexion of the final changed.

Behind him, Oman came under sustained pressure from Logan Rolfe, while Sebastian Bearman remained within striking distance, forming a four driver lead group that would define the next phase of the race. Pahal seized the opportunity to dive into the fight and closed rapidly to join the battle, turning it into a five way scrap for the podium as Abrahart edged further clear out front. From there, the contest unravelled dramatically. Contact between Pahal and Bearman forced Bearman off through the chicane, while Oman was pushed wide and began to lose ground. Charlie Page momentarily entered the fray as positions changed corner by corner, with dust, contact, and confusion reshuffling the order.

MINI MAX REPORT



113

MAXIMILIAN ABRAHART
COLES RACING

What had been a tightly controlled battle quickly descended into a fight for survival. While chaos unfolded behind, Abrahart remained composed out front. Managing his pace and track position, he avoided the incidents entirely and maintained a crucial gap. Even as Rolfe began to close slightly in the final laps, traffic and the ongoing battles behind prevented any sustained challenge. It was a drive defined not by aggression, but by awareness and timing.

Beyond the lead group, the mini field once again delivered intense competition throughout the order. Charlie Page produced one of the standout midfield performances, running consistently inside the top 10 before capitalising on late race drama to secure sixth on track. Otis Cleary, despite running outside the lead battle, demonstrated outright pace, setting the fastest lap of the race and climbed into seventh (On track) through a series of clean overtakes. Reian Townsend delivered a quietly effective drive, steadily gaining positions across the race to finish eighth (On track) while Hugo McCluskey and Ralph Martin rounded out the top 10 after both making measured progress through a highly competitive midfield.

No drivers will feel the result more than Oman and Bearman. Oman, who had led the early stages and remained a constant presence at the front, was ultimately undone by the late race incidents, dropping to fourth.

Bearman, meanwhile, saw a potential podium slip away after being forced off track during the closing laps. Pahal received a post race penalty which promoted Oman to 3rd, Rolfe secured 2nd on track with Abrahart taking the victory.

MINI MAX FINAL

1	113 ABRAHART	REDSPEED / COLES	13:09:69
2	132 ROLFE	KOSMIC / KR SORT	+1.13
3	6 OMAN	KR / SPR	+1.61
4	10 BEARMAN	OTK / STRAWBERRY	+2.14
5	133 PAGE	KR / PRIVATEER	+2.54
6	105 CLEARY	LN / DHR	+4.02
7	120 TOWNSEND	OTK / PRIVATEER	+4.12
8	114 MCCLUSKEY	OTK/ORIGIN	+5.85
9	122 MARTIN	OTK/STRAWBERRY	+7.14
10	153 WILKO	OTK/MLC	+7.39

11. DUNCAN, 12. GALLAGHER, 13. MCGILL
14. HILTON, 15. MURPHY, 16. GORDON,
17. EDEN, 18. PAHAL, 19. HERBERTSON,
20. FULBROOK-HARMER, 21. GOKULNATH
22. XIONG, 23. GARTH, 24. ROBERTS, 25. HEWITT
26. BROWN, 27. DANIELS, 28. BURROUGHS
29. T ROBERTS, 30. JACKSON, 31. KOMATSU
32. WARDALE, 33. SADAKOWSKI, 34. MOORE



132

LOGAN ROLFE
KR SPORT

JUNIOR MAX REPORT

WOOLFITT TAKES MAIDEN JUNIOR VICTORY



It was Aaden Clarke who laid down the early marker in qualifying, topping the combined time sheets with a 45.66s lap. Kian Burnard and Blake Southan followed closely, while Charlie Woolfitt, who would later become the story of the weekend, qualified a relatively modest sixth. That set the tone as the outright pace was widespread, with no single driver having a dominant margin.

Across the four heat races, the order remained fluid. Front runners such as Burnard, Southan, and Braith Murdoch all featured at the sharp end with Woolfitt taking two top 3 positions, keeping himself firmly in contention heading into the super heats.

The opening lap of the final was anything but calm. Midfield contact saw early casualties, including Cash Harris spinning out, while Finley Smith's race ended almost as soon as it began. Up front, however, the focus remained firmly on the lead battle.

Clark initially controlled the pace, defending assertively but Woolfitt remained glued to his rear bumper. That pressure paid off just minutes to the race. Seizing an opportunity with precision, Woolfitt dived down the inside to snatch the lead, an overtake that would ultimately define the outcome. From there, the race settled into a high speed chess match.

Behind the leading duo, Kian Burnard held third early on, but the standout charge came from Blake Southan. Showing blistering pace, Southan carved his way forward from 10th on the grid, eventually breaking into the podium positions with a decisive move on Burnard. At one stage, the top four, Woolfitt, Clarke, Burnard, and Southan were covered by less than a second, all trading fastest laps. Every lap was a qualifying lap, every mistake punished instantly.

2026 ROTAX MAX CHALLENGE ROUND ONE / WHILTON MILL

JUNIOR MAX REPORT

JUNIOR FINAL

1	6	WOOLFITT	LN / DHR	14.50.35
2	4	K CLARKE	KOSMIC/KR SPORT	+0.88
3	250	SOUTHAN	LN / DHR	+1.51
4	264	BURNARD	KR / SPR	+3.01
5	214	BELL	OTK / ULTIMATE R	+4.35
6	238	MURDOCK	OTK / ULTIMATE R	+4.92
7	235	MURRO	KR / SPR	+5.59
8	251	GRAY	KOSMIC/KR SPORT	+6.79
9	228	S CLARKE	KOSMIC/KR SPORT	+6.89
10	291	HOLMES-BALAC	OTK/STRAWBERRY	+7.82

11. A CLARKE, 12. RADCLIFFE, 13. JUODATIS
14. CORMACK, 15. GRUBB, 16. CHALK, 17. MINTO,
18. HOOKEY, 19. MATTEWS, 20. KUMMETA
21. VYSNIAUSKAS, 22. WHITE, 23. HAMMOND
24. ASTON, 25. ROBINSON, 26. SMITH, 27. LE PATOUREL
28. CAMBELL, 29. HARRIS, 30. JACKSON,
31. DOWTHWAITE, 32. LARGE, 33. SMITH, 34. JACK



6 CHARLIE WOOLFITT
DHR

Further back, the field was equally intense. Braith Murdoch, Ellis Bell, and Jensen Chalk traded positions in a fierce midfield scrap, while Luca Holmes-Balac produced one of the drives of the race, charging from 31st to inside the top 15 and continuing forward. Despite leading, Woolfitt was never afforded a moment to relax. Clarke shadowed him relentlessly, the gap hovering around four tenths of a second for much of the race. Crucially, though, Clarke was never quite close enough to attempt a move.

The psychological strain was immense. Woolfitt had to be perfect, lap after lap, corner after corner, with no defensive errors, no missed apexes, no hesitation. Behind them, Southan continued to close, setting the fastest lap of the race and reducing the gap to under a second.

As the race entered its closing stages, the order stabilised but the tension only increased. Woolfitt and Clarke remained locked together, matching each other's pace almost identically. Clarke searched for an opportunity, but none came. Woolfitt's driving was measured, composed, and clinical, never over defensive, yet never vulnerable. Southan, despite his impressive recovery drive, could not quite bridge the final gap to challenge for victory. After 14 minutes plus one lap of relentless competition, it was Charlie Woolfitt who crossed the line first, securing a superb and hard fought maiden Junior victory. Clarke followed in second, having applied pressure from start to finish, while Southan completed the podium after an outstanding climb through the field. This wasn't just a race win, it was a statement. Woolfitt's return to the top step signals a serious title challenge in 2026, particularly given the calibre of driver he held off. If Wilton Mill is anything to go by, the Junior Max season is set for an electrifying year.



291 AADEN CLARKE
DHR

SENIOR MAX REPORT

FREEMAN STRIKES GOLD IN ACTION FILLED SENIOR MAX OPENER



Early pace came from Mattie Hingeley, who secured pole position in a tightly packed session where margins were razor thin. The front of the field was stacked with proven contenders, including Bishop and West, immediately signalling that this would be no straightforward weekend. Albie Lapper, Lewie Weaver, Matteo Palazzo, and Dylan Morton, all positioning themselves well for the heats. Across the four heats, consistency proved more valuable than outright wins. Front runners like Hingeley, Bishop, and West remained firmly inside the leading group. Incidents and penalties scattered the order throughout the heats, ensuring no driver entered the final without having faced adversity.

In the final, Pole sitter Mattie Hingeley executed a perfect initial launch, comfortably leading the field into Turn 1, only for the start to be called back due to a false start. The reset tested nerves across the grid, particularly for Hingeley, who now faced the challenge of repeating that getaway under even greater pressure.

When the race finally got underway cleanly, Hingeley once again delivered, defending firmly into the opening corners. But the real story of the launch came from reigning world champion McCauley Bishop, who surged from third to second within moments, immediately applying pressure to the leader. As the field settled, Hingeley edged clear by a few kart lengths, but Bishop was relentless. With clean air ahead, Hingeley maintained control, yet Bishop, benefiting from the chase, began to chip away at the gap, setting faster lap times and closing to within striking distance.

Behind them, Jack West held third, while Jack Lilley and Cian Geraghty battled just behind in a tightly packed lead group. The tension at the front was building but it was chaos further back that would reshape the race. A flashpoint came just over a third into the race when contact in the chasing pack eliminated key contenders. West and Lilley were both spun out in a multi kart incident that also involved several others, instantly breaking the race into two halves.

2026 ROTAX MAX CHALLENGE ROUND ONE / WHILTON MILL

SENIOR MAX REPORT



5

MATTIE HINGELEY
ULTIMATE R

That moment proved decisive as Hingeley and Bishop escaped up the road, leaving Geraghty to inherit third.

What followed was a fascinating strategic battle. Rather than fighting aggressively, Hingeley and Bishop worked together, matching each other's pace and keeping the chasing pack at bay. It was high level race craft with neither driver willing to risk everything too early, both aware that a premature battle could hand victory to those behind. Meanwhile, quietly and efficiently, Harry Freeman was making progress. Starting ninth, the KR Sport driver carved his way through the field, positioning himself just behind Geraghty as the race entered its final phase.

With just minutes remaining, the fragile truce at the front began to crack. Bishop made his move. What followed was a breathtaking exchange, side by side through multiple corners, neither driver yielding but as they battled wheel to wheel, they ran wide, opening the door. Freeman needed no second invitation. In one decisive moment, he swept past both leaders to take control of the race. From there, Freeman was flawless. While Hingeley recovered to second and Geraghty climbed to third, Bishop, one of the pre race favourites found himself in fourth after the dramatic loss of momentum. (Inherited 3rd due to a post race penalty for Hingeley) Out front, Freeman held his nerve through the final lap, crossing the line to complete a remarkable victory from ninth on the grid.

This was karting at its absolute best. Fast, strategic, and brutally unforgiving. Freeman delivered the perfect combination of patience, pace, and precision, striking exactly when it mattered most. If this race is anything to go by, the 2026 Senior Max season promises to be unmissable.

SENIOR FINAL

1	378 FREEMAN	KOSMIC / KR SPORT	15:23:11
2	301 GERAGHTY	OTK/STRAWBERRY	+0.83
3	6 BISHOP	LN / DHR	+1.12
4	397 LAPPER	OTK / STRAWBERRY	+2.41
5	360 PALAZZO	KOSMIC / KR SPORT	+2.59
6	5 HINGELEY	OTK / ULTIMATE R	+5.39
7	311 CULL	OTK / GCR	+5.55
8	327 BARHAM	LN / DHR	+5.68
9	348 WEAVER	CKR/ GMS	+5.83
10	361 ARCHER	KOSMIC / KR SPORT	+6.71

11. RUSSELL, 12. SMITH, 13. VAN WIJK
14. RICHARDS, 15. BULLOCK-CARTER, 16. GRAHAM,
17. THOMPSON, 18. SMITH, 19. METTERS, 20. MORRIS,
21. WEST, 22. BALOO, 23. MERCIA, 24. MORTON,
25. IVES, 26. LILLEY, 27. GHANDOUR, 28. TRAVERSE
29. KING, 30. MONTGOMERY-SWAN, 31. BADHAN
32. WHITTICOMBE, 33. WHERLOCK, 34. KELL



378

HARRY FREEMAN
KR SPORT

177 REPORT

PENALTY DRAMA HANDS HEYWOOD THE WIN AFTER CROOK'S COSTLY SETBACK



A fiercely competitive Senior 177 grid produced action at every stage of the event, with multiple contenders staking their claim before a decisive final showdown crowned a worthy winner.

Early pace was established in qualifying by Reg Heywood who secured pole position with a commanding lap. He narrowly edged out Taylor Bellini, while Harrison Crook slotted into third, signalling a three way fight that would carry through the day.

The heat races saw momentum shift between the leading trio, With both Heywood and Bellini claiming wins, and Crook consistently near the front, the competitive balance remained razor thin heading into the Super Heat.

The Super Heat proved pivotal, as Harrison Crook delivered a standout performance to take victory. Heywood followed in second, with Bellini third ensuring all three drivers had now taken turns at the front of the field. This result tightened the margins heading into the final and set up a perfectly poised showdown.

From pole, Taylor Bellini launched well, but the advantage was short lived as he was forced wide in the opening corners. That hesitation opened the door for the chasing pack, with Harrison Crook wasting no time in making moves, sweeping around the outside to seize control of the race within the opening lap. Behind them, James Lingard initially looked like a contender for the lead before being shuffled back in the early exchanges. Crook's race quickly changed as he was handed a 3 second in race penalty for a race start infringement, whilst Ryan Taylor-Trueman suffered a dramatic off and spin, dropping to the rear.

2026 ROTAX MAX CHALLENGE ROUND ONE / WHILTON MILL

177 REPORT

177 FINAL

1	437 HEYWOOD	REDSPEED / COLES	13.13.64
2	402 CROOK	CS55/TH CORSE	+0.19
3	427 BELLINI	LN KART / PRIVATEER	+0.55
4	480 LAMBERT	REDSPEED / NIB SPORT	+1.65
5	438 SMITH	OTK / PRIVATEER	+2.43
6	403 LINGARD	OTK / PRIVATEER	+6.79
7	411 GOLLIN	OTK / RACING PERFECTION	+7.03
8	424 SIMPSON	KOSMIC / KR SPORT	+10.88
9	417 ELLIS	REDSPEED / COLES	+11.38
10	429 CHAFER	OTK / PRIVATEER	+11.92

11. EDWARDS, 12 DAVIS, 13. NGWA
14. CROSS, 15. SALTER, 16. DONOGHUE, 17. MITCHELL
18. TRUEMAN, 19. CORNWELL, 20. RUDGE
21. FIVEASH, 22. GLOVER



402 HARRISON CROOK
TH CORSE

As the race settled, Crook began to dictate the pace, quickly establishing himself as the driver to beat. His consistency and clean air allowed him to edge out a small but crucial gap. Behind him, the spotlight shifted to a fierce multi kart battle. Bellini held second under increasing pressure, Reg Heywood emerged as the fastest driver on track, carving his way forward with decisive overtakes with Lingard and Matthew Lambert battling intensely just behind, with positions constantly changing

The turning point of the race came in the second half, as Heywood's pace became impossible to ignore. Lapping consistently quicker than both Crook and Bellini, he began to close the gap. First reeling in Bellini with a series of fastest laps Then, with just minutes remaining, executing a clean and decisive move to take second place At that stage, Heywood looked like the only driver capable of challenging Crook.

Out front, Crook remained composed under pressure, managing traffic and maintaining his advantage to cross the line first 2.81 seconds in front of Heywood after 17 laps of racing. It wasn't quite enough to secure 1st with the looming penalty and he was demoted to 2nd. Behind them, Lambert narrowly missed the podium in fourth, with Lingard completing the top five after an eventful race.

The final standings after penalties applied saw Heywood in 1st, Crook in 2nd and Bellini rounding out the podium.



437 REG HEYWOOD
COLES RACING

GALLERY



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2026 ROTAX MAX CHALLENGE ROUND ONE / WHILTON MILL



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Senior 177

CHAMPIONSHIP LEADER AFTER ROUND 2

Free entry to 4 RMC UK events

RMC UKC CHAMPIONSHIP

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Senior 177

1ST PLACE

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RMC NATIONAL TROPHY (UK)

Micro MAX, Mini MAX, Junior MAX, Senior MAX,
Senior 177

1ST PLACE

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