

# Goodwood go-kart track ranked among world's best

GOODWOOD — Mario Petti and son Mario Jr. are proud of the fact their Goodwood Park Kartways is known all over the world.

"The facilities we have here are the tops in Canada," says the younger Petti, 27, adding that the Goodwood track is probably ranked fifth best in the world.

The three-quarter mile course, located on Conc. 2 north of Hwy. 47, Uxbridge Twp., is home to the Durham Karting Club. A membership of over 80 includes a number of top local drivers as well as many from Metro Toronto.

A club race is held every other Sunday. The go-karting season runs from mid-March to October, with the Goodwood track open every day except Tuesday.

Training ground. About 95 per cent of all Formula 1 racers have graduated from the go-kart circuit, according to Mario Jr., but North America is behind Europe in this respect.

"The sport hasn't developed here to the point where the competition has developed the talent," he explained.

"But that quality level is improving, largely through the efforts of kartways like Goodwood, which hosted a World Cup event in 1980.

The Petti family, who've been operating it since taking over from Van Bell nearly 11 years ago, recently hosted the first leg of the four-race Ontario Karting Championship.

And this summer, Goodwood will host top professional drivers in the Intercontinental 'A' championship series.

The 25-acre property is also a tourist attraction, with many company and pri-

vate groups holding summer picnics on the grounds. The newest addition is a dirt track introduced this season on a trial basis.

There are a total of four full-time employees at the kartway: Mr. Petti handles kart rentals; his wife Niki, the snack bar and J's son, the parts and service department.

War games. Mr. Petti Sr. recently proposed expanding the operation with development of an adventure game on a large piece of property west of the track.

However, he received negative reaction from some Uxbridge Twp. Council members, many of whom are personally opposed to the principle of war games.

"They play these games all over...there's no noise, no damage, it's kid's play," Mr. Petti commented, admitting "it's a big industry" and he wants "a piece of the pie."

An adventure game would be cleaner and quieter than the property's existing use as a moto-cross trail, he added.

## Minor ball

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Ball Association suffered three rained-out games on Monday night. But, T-Ball action continued with the Country Stop Burgers slipping past the Kinsmen 23-22. Evan Boyd turned an unassisted double play for the Kinsmen. In other action, Signage Advertising doubled MacLean's Carpet Centre 30-15. Signage had grand slams from Aaron Vannostrand and Jeff Baker.

Stouffville Recycling beat Vandorf General Store 27-25. Stouffville's Billy Wray had two triples and a double. The Ballantrae Lions knocked off Rennie Transport 29-23. Led by the homerun power of Doug Templeton, Robbie Housser, Graham Crossland and Jacob McManiman, Farquharson Realty dumped Newtonbrook Block 28-18.

### Mites

Chad Diekinson's game-winning hit gave the Craven Acres Greenhouses a 17-16 win over Claremont. Dwayne Vanderlight hit three homeruns in a losing cause.

The Taber Farm Broncos beat the Stouffville Lions by a 14-10 count on homer by David Marshman and Lawrence Bingham. Vandorf Garage thumped the Stouffville Hawks 18-8 on a pair of homeruns by Stuart Preston. In other action, Signage Advertising romped over Giles Chev-Olds 19-4. Chris Spearen, Lee Bosak and Mike Thompson led the home-run parade for Signage.

### Squirt girls, boys

Claremont 13 Stouffville Sun 8. Main St. Printing 22 Stouffville Lions 19. Princess Chinchilla 19 Helen's Chicks 11. In the boys' loop, the Ballantrae Lions beat Hans Motors 14-13. Mike Pongraz struck out seven and stole home to win the game. In the other game, Lehman Gardens won over Pole Line Electric 10-8.

### Pee wee girls

Floyd Preston Ltd. beat Smurthwaite Heating 15-11 on homers by Sonya Kidd and Lynda Preston. Michelle Hall smacked a homerun for Smurthwaite.

### Pee wee boys

Claremont nipped Brian Dudley Ltd. 7-6 on Jeff Oldham's triple. The other game had Ballantrae Contracting thumping John Doner Ltd. 17-6.

### Bantam girls, boys

Stouffville Fish & Chips and Wesley's Restaurant battled to a 13-13 draw. In the other game, Goodwood General Store cleaned Claremont to the tune of 15-5.

On the boys' side, Ram Forest Products whipped McNeil Labs 14-4 on homeruns by David Randall, Mike Anderson and Richard Derkatch combined on a triple play.



Mario Petti (right) and his son, Mario Jr., are moving into their eleventh season at Goodwood Park Kartways, Conc. 2, Uxbridge Twp. The track, recognized as one of the best anywhere, has been the scene of many major go-kart

competitions, including a World Cup event in 1980 and the Canadian championships last summer. A new dirt track has been added to the 25-acre facility.

—Chris Shanahan

## Fashions on display

GOODWOOD — On Friday, June 7, the Goodwood Christian Women's Club will host a morning coffee meeting called 'Countdown to Summer.' It begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues until 11:30 a.m.

The program includes a fashion show presented by Stouffville's care and

share shop, as well as selections by Ajax vocalist Marg Booker. Tickets are \$2.50 inclusive. Complimentary babysitting is available at Goodwood United Church.

Coffee and nursery reservations can be made by contacting Janet Paxton at 640-5737 or Dorothy Simpson at 852-7312.

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