

# Stouffville kart racers getting dose of TV reality



**JASON RICHARDSON:** Stouffville driver taking part in new Canadian series that shows karting lifestyle.

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA  
Staff Writer

As long-time kart racing competitors, Jason Richardson and Ryan Horses have always dreamed of driving their way to earning some notoriety.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville residents will

have an opportunity to live out their fantasy later this year.

Richardson, 34, and Horses, 29, were among 200 drivers from across Canada chosen to appear in an upcoming kart racing reality TV series called Stars of Canada.

The series will be comprised of 13 parts with each lasting one hour in duration, said Russ Bond, the agent representing each of the participants in the upcoming series.

Filming for the series is scheduled to begin in late March at tracks across Ontario.

Among them are nearby Goodwood Kartways, Mosport, located near Bowmanville, Sutton, Innisfil and Hamilton, added Bond.

Once the tapings are done, the series is scheduled to be aired in late June on what Bond said is a "prominent Canadian sports network".

**\$60,000 PRIZE**

In being chosen for what they describe as a "unique opportunity", not to mention a highlight in their karting exploits, Richardson and Horses were excited by the prospect of being a part of what they feel will be a highly competitive series.

Especially since the series winner in their 16-and-over pro competitive category will pocket \$50,000. Not to mention the opportunity to entice potential sponsors if they do well on the track.

"I'm confident I will be a force to be reckoned with in this series," said Richardson, who began karting at the age of 11. "I have many years of both kart and auto racing under my belt and am no stranger to strong competition."

"The bottom line is this, I have the experience and the maturity in the sport to know what is going to happen and make calculated risks that will put me on top. I have a lot of respect for younger drivers as I was once a kid as well. But this is no game. I race to win."

"For me, it was about the chance to be on television, but also to create more awareness of the sport and myself as a competitor in the industry," added Horses, who made his karting debut at the age of 13.

"I think this show can assist in creating more sponsorship for myself in the future as well as potentially opening more doors to racing opportunities."

Horses said he first found out about the series in mid-January through surfing the Internet and logging onto the Canadian Karting News website.

Being friends with Rich-

ardson, he informed him of the opportunity and the pair submitted their applications to Bond.

In recalling his interviews with Horses and Richardson, Bond said they fit the mould of what the series was seeking. That being competitors with a passion for their sport.

"When they came to us we talked to them and we felt they'd be great for the series. They've begun to market themselves for the series and they're good racers and they're enthusiastic. They're the type of guys we are looking for," Bond said.

The series should give viewers an idea of what transpires during a karting weekend, Bond said.

No competitors will be eliminated early. Rather, they will be involved in each of the shows, the final of which will air a series-ending banquet.

Another unique feature of the series, Bond said, is that all of the competitors will race on equal footing. Each competitor will race karts with the same single gear, water cooled 125 cc engines.

"We're showing the family aspect of karting. That's what we're trying to promote along with creating a level playing field for all of the competitors," he said.

Racers in the series range in age from eight to their late 40s.

Because of the age discrepancy, three racing categories will be up for grabs including Young Guns (ages eight to 12), Future Stars (13 to 15) and 16 and over pro.

**HELP SPORT**

Top prize for the Future Stars division is \$30,000 and \$10,000 for Young Guns.

While anxiously awaiting the start of the series, Richardson and Horses are optimistic it will generate interest.

Not just on a personal level, but for the sport in general.

"I've always supported new ways of creating awareness of the sport," Richardson said.

"I've lived in California for many years and one thing I saw was that Americans have that race bug in them that we don't seem to show enough of in Canada. Yet we have huge talent here in Canada. This series will open new doors and I look forward to that."

**ATTENTION**  
Community Organizations!  
Are You Looking for Free Materials?

**ReUseful**  
Check out ReUseful, yorkregion.com's Free Online Trading Post for gently used items.

**yorkregion.com**  
it clicks home

The Regional Municipality of York  
**York Region Official Plan 5-year Review**  
**Notice of a Special Meeting of Council**

The Regional Official Plan was approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 1994. Since that time there have been approximately 65 amendments to the Plan. A copy of the current Regional Official Plan can be viewed or downloaded from the Region's website [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

As well, since 2005, the Province has approved a number of Provincial initiatives, including the Greenbelt Plan and the Provincial Growth Plan and population and employment forecasts which make a Regional Official Plan update important at this time.

The *Planning Act* requires that an Official Plan be reviewed at least every 5 years. Previous 5-year reviews of the Regional Official Plan have been undertaken in 1999, 2004. 2009 is a 5-year review year.

Section 26 of the *Planning Act* requires that as part of a 5-year review of the Regional Official Plan, Council hold a special meeting to hear submissions in regard to revisions that may be required to the Regional Official Plan.

The duties of Council pursuant to Section 26 of the *Planning Act* have been delegated to Planning and Economic Development Committee by Bylaw R-1290-2002-067.

Consequently, Notice is hereby given of the Special Meeting of Council to be held:

**April 8, 2009, 1:30 PM,**  
**Committee Room "A"**  
**Regional Administrative Centre**  
**17,250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario**

A staff report discussing the aspects of the review will be available Friday evening April 3, 2009. Further information on the Region's growth management work may be accessed from the Region of York website [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca) or by calling Barbara Jeffrey, MCIP, RPP, Manager, Land Use Policy and Environment, 905-830-4444 extension 1526, for further information.

Any person may attend the Special Meeting and/or make oral or written submissions advising Council of revisions that may be required to the Regional Official Plan. Written submissions, referring to the subject information should be made to:

John B. Waller, MCIP, RPP  
Director, Long Range and Strategic Planning Branch  
Planning and Development Services Department  
York Region Administrative Centre  
Box 147, 17250 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1  
Telephone: (905) 830-4444, 1-877-464-9675,  
(705) 437-1617  
Facsimile: (905) 895-3482

Date of this Notice February 22, 2009

**CANLAN ICE SPORTS**  
SCARBOROUGH AND VICTORIA PARK

Canlan Ice Sports offers the widest selection of hockey and skating programs suited for all ages and skill levels. Find out for yourself what Canlan Ice Sports can do for you!

**MARCH BREAK CAMPS**

- Power Skating & Hockey Skills Camp
- Skating, Shooting & Scoring Camp
- Ringette Skating, Shooting & Scoring Camp
- Learn to Skate Camp

**CAMPS WILL BE RUNNING DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 16th - 20th**

**Sign Up Today!**

**HOCKEY SKATING**

CALL US TODAY @ 416-412-0404 or visit [www.icesports.com](http://www.icesports.com)

**Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville are holding a public meeting to discuss the draft Musselman's Lake Subwatershed Assessment and Stewardship Opportunities Report.

The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Ballantrae Community Centre, located at 5592 Aurora Rd.

Copies of the draft report are available on LSRA's website ([www.lsrca.on.ca](http://www.lsrca.on.ca)) and the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville's website ([www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com)). The Musselman's Lake community is encouraged to preview the draft report and provide comments and suggestions.

For further information, please contact:  
Christa Sharp, Watershed Coordinator  
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority  
Tel: 905.895.1281 ext. 225  
E-mail: [c.sharp@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:c.sharp@lsrca.on.ca)

120 Bayview Parkway Box 282 Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X1  
Tel: 905.895.1281 Fax: 905.853.5881 1.800.465.0437  
[info@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:info@lsrca.on.ca) [www.lsrca.on.ca](http://www.lsrca.on.ca) [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com)

