

Geoff Jacobs is the “Mr Karting” of Tasmania, having been involved in the sport since its inception in this State in 1958.

During his career Geoff won 10 Tasmanian championships, over 30 club championships, and also captured the Australian 200 cc super class championship in 1983, as well as also being twice runner-up and twice third in the same title.

“Jake” as he is known to one and all involved in the sport, has also won the prestigious Victa Goldstar Cup four times, as well as the Burnie 6000, Hamilton Cup, Tasmanian Open Kart Classic, Victorian Star Series, and other important non-title events.

He also represented Australia four times in the “Mecca” of karting during the Hong Kong Kart Prix, qualifying for the final in 1980, and also the final of the Asian Open Championship in 1977.

However, his achievements in karting were not restricted to the track, but were also notable behind the scenes.

He is a foundation member of the North Western Kart Club (Tasmania’s first), and has remained a member since 1958, holding various executive positions, including president, secretary, and treasurer.

He was awarded life membership of the club in 1983 and clubman of the year on three occasions.

Geoff was a club delegate to the State controlling body of karting for five years, State delegate to the Australian Karting Association for four years, former vice-president of the State body, and track inspector.

On a national basis he was president of the AKA for five years and was made a life member of the national body in 1986.

After retiring as a driver in the mid 1990s, he continued as national track



inspector and safety officer for the AKA.

He was co-organiser of the first Burnie 6000 and Victa Cup events in 1974 – two of Australia’s longest running non-title feature events, and competed in the Victa Cup every year for 20 years.

He also instigated the famous City of Devonport Kart Prix street race in 1987 and co-designed the Burnie Kart Circuit, alterations to the track, and the Circular Head Kart Club track at Smithton – site of the 1996 Australian championships.

In addition to karting Geoff was also a regular power boat racer from 1955 to 1958, and also competed in a Group A sports car and hillclimbs in the 1970s and 1980s.

He was North-West hillclimb champion in 1981 and 1982, and a class winner in 1972, 1975, 1976, and 1978.

His sports car record included five wins at Baskerville (near Hobart), and two at Symmons Plains (near Launceston) between 1978 and 1980.

In retirement, Geoff kept active as a competitor in the annual Tas-Bash charity rally and acting as an official for the Targa Tasmania International Rally.

Profile by Martin Agatyn.



PROFILE

Geoff Jacobs



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