

# KARTING 101

OHIO VALLEY  
KARTING ASSOCIATION  
2025 RACING SEASON





# ***WELCOME TO KARTING***

**Today we will cover:**

- **OVKA & G&J Kartway**
- **Kart Safety**
- **Practice Etiquette**
- **Race Day Procedures**
- **Driving Skills**





**Owned by Gregg Family**

**Built 1958, paved 1962,  
expanded 1999 & 2008,  
repaved for 2024**

**Has hosted major Nationals  
races, hosts several  
different series in 2025.**

**Home track of OVKA**



**Founded 1964**

**Not-for-Profit 501(c)(7)  
volunteer organization**

**Run by OVKA Board of  
Directors, general membership  
meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays of each  
month on Teams**

**Known for good karting  
outreach and Swap Meet Event**

# ***PRACTICE AT G&J KARTWAY***

**OVKA does NOT own G&J Kartway or control the circuit on non-race days.**

**G&J Kartway is open daily for practice when there are no scheduled race days (\$20)**

**Always practice the next upcoming track configuration when others are present**

**Save 15 minutes of every hour for Kid Karts (if present)**

**Never run Motorcycles & Karts at the same time, be friendly & coordinate amongst yourselves**

**Do not drive through pit area**

***Ask for help when you need it!***





# ***KART SAFETY***



**Never start a kart on the ground without someone holding the brakes**

**Check critical components at the start of each day at the track**

**Keep a fire extinguisher in your truck & trailer**

**Always wear proper safety equipment**

**Always clearly signal (hand up) when you are entering & exiting the track, and when you spin or are going slowly**

**If you have a stuck throttle or brake failure, STAY ON TRACK and spin into the bags, DO NOT ENTER THE PITS UNCONTROLLED**

# ***ENTRY AND EXIT OF TRACK***

***Enter track from Grid Area ONLY***

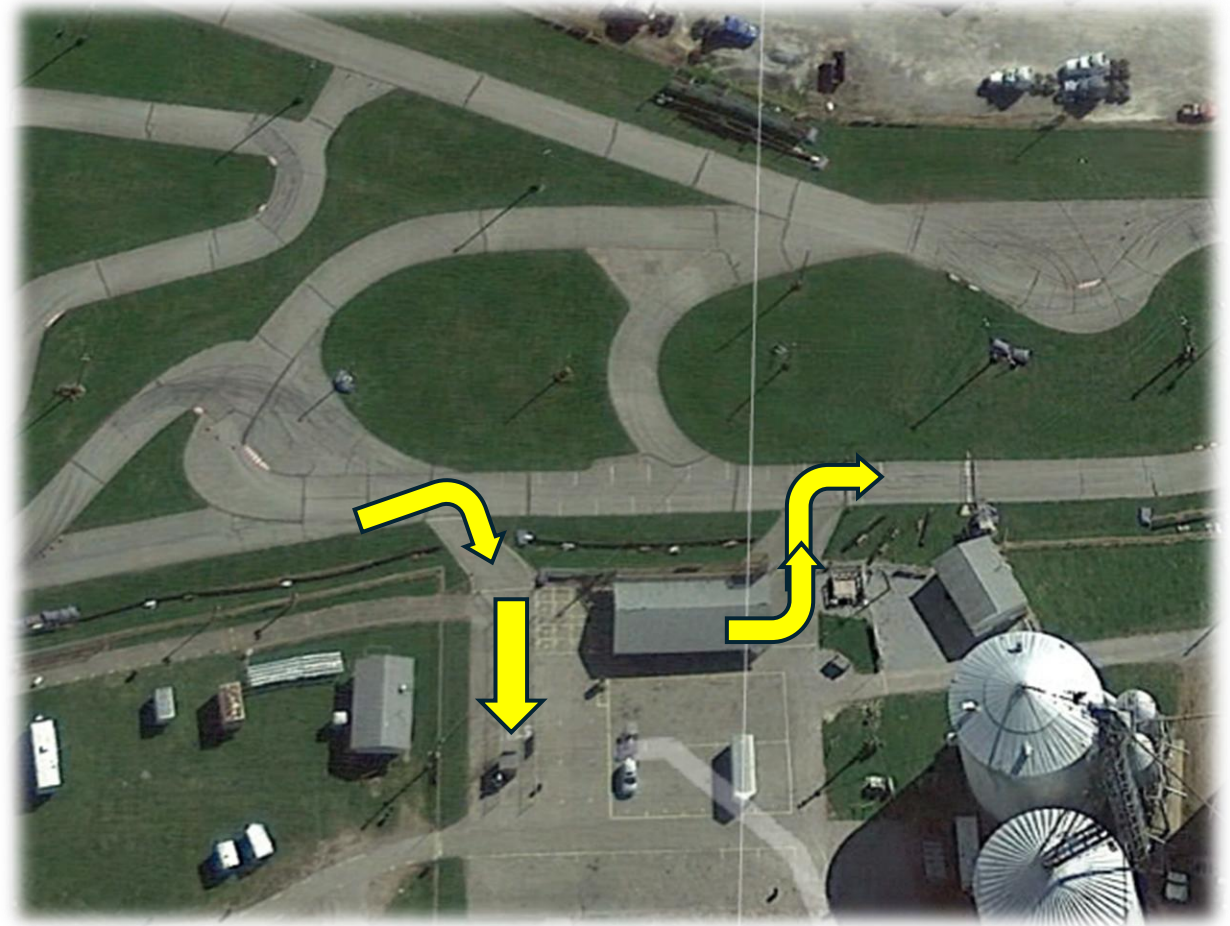
***Hand in the air to signal you're going slowly***

***DO NOT CUT THE TRACK IN WARM-UPS***

***Exit track by raising hand 1-2 corners before track exit***

***Enter scale lane or pit area in a controlled manner***

***DO NOT DRIVE OR COAST ONTO SCALES***





# ***OVKA RACE DAYS***

**Gates Open 7:00 am**

**Sign-In / Pre-Tech 7:30 am**

**Class Warm-Ups 9:00 am**

**Sign-In Closes 9:30 am**

**Drivers Meeting 11:00 am**

**Racing Starts 11:30 am**

**Qualifying**

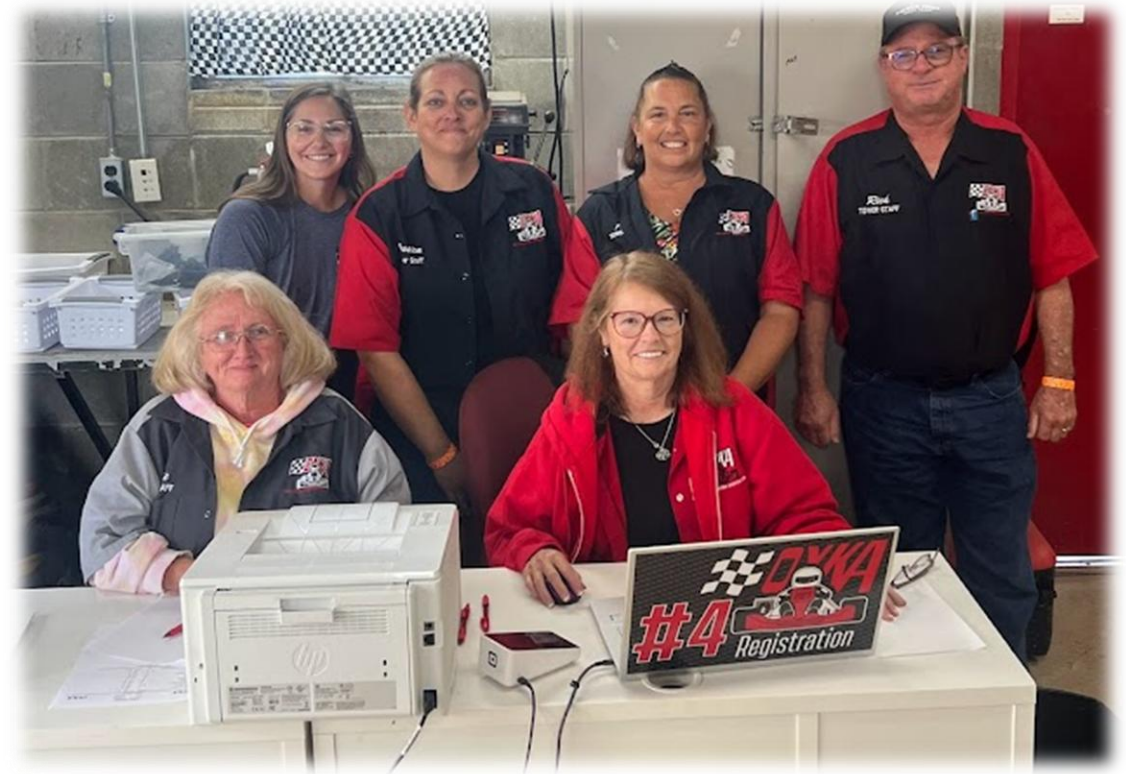
**Pre-Final**

**Final**



# ***SIGN-IN AND REGISTRATION***

- ***Register Online using the Alpha Timing App***
  - >Purchase Fuel if needed***
  - >Rent Transponder if needed***
- ***Check in at Registration to receive your Tech Sheet & Transponder***
- ***Pick up fuel at Fuel Depot***





# ***SAFETY PRE-TECH***

All Karts must pass safety tech before taking to the track.

All racers must pass in-person inspection for Race #1 (self-check for other races)

New Racers must pass in-person inspection for THREE races (self-check for other races)

Return forms to Tech Director to complete registration



# ***WARM-UPS***

- ***Each class will receive two 5 minute Warm-Up Sessions each morning***
- ***All competitors must take at least ONE lap in ONE warm-up session***
- ***This is WARM UPS, NOT RACING, drive safe on cold mornings, give yourself room on track***





# ***DRIVERS MEETING***



***All drivers MUST attend the Drivers Meeting before Qualifying  
Minors must be accompanied by a Parent/Guardian  
Club Announcements and Important race day info will be covered***

# ***QUALIFYING***

***Qualifying will consist of a 5-minute hot-lap session***

***Lineup Order is First-come-first-served***

***Give yourself room and respect other racers***

***Fastest Lap Counts***

***DO NOT CUT THE TRACK***

***After Qualifying your tires will be painted for the day***





# ***PRE-FINAL & FINAL***

***Qualifying sets the grid order for the Pre-Final***

***New Racers will start at the rear for THREE race days***

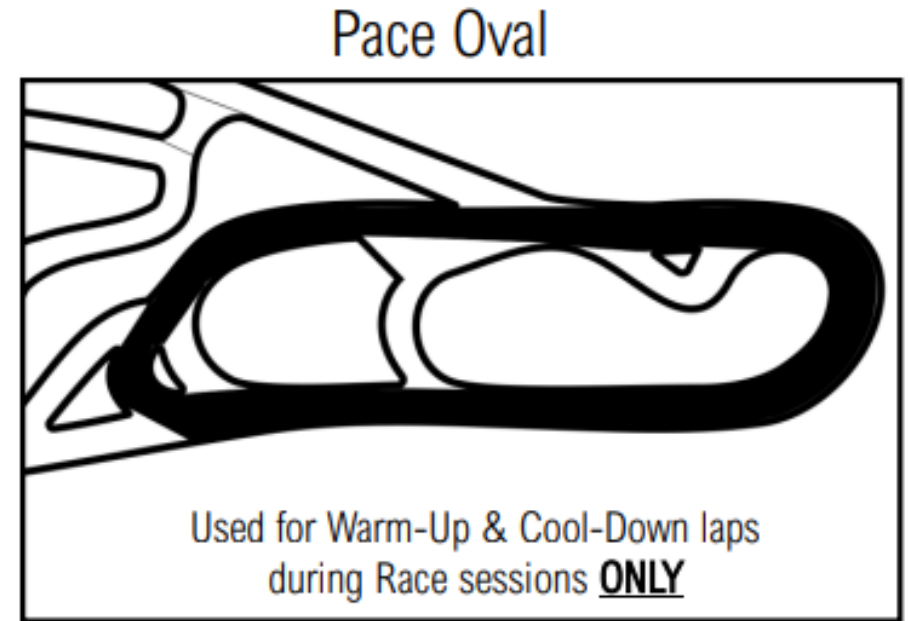
***The Pre-Final finishing order sets the grid order for the Final***

***The Final finishing order pays out the points for the day.***



# ***RACE PROCEDURES***

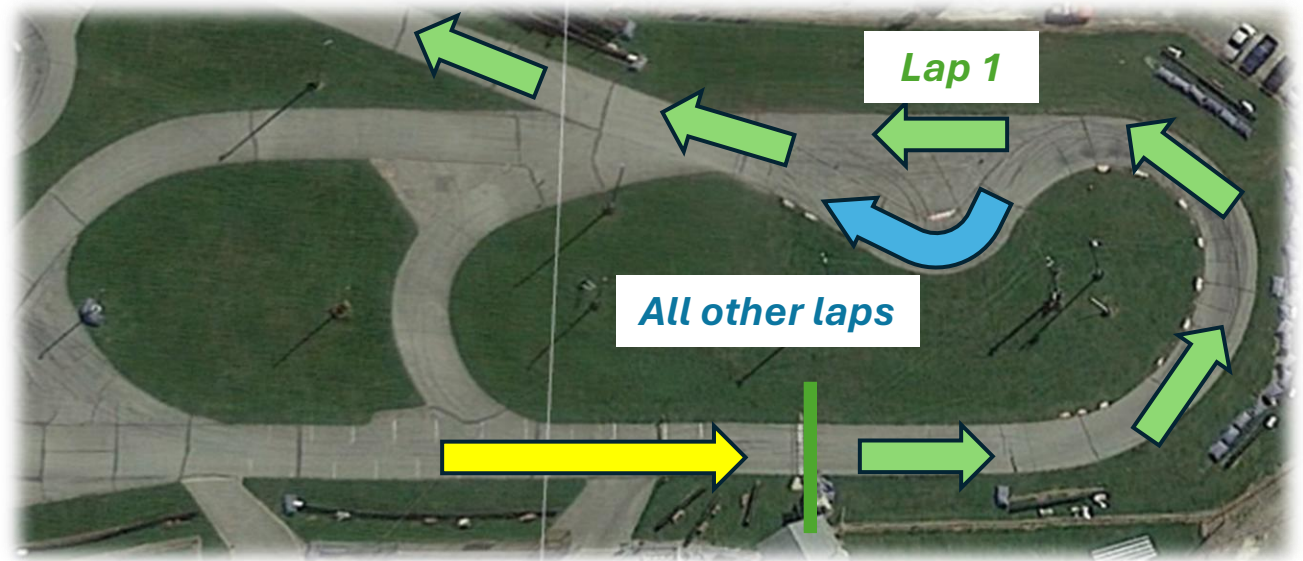
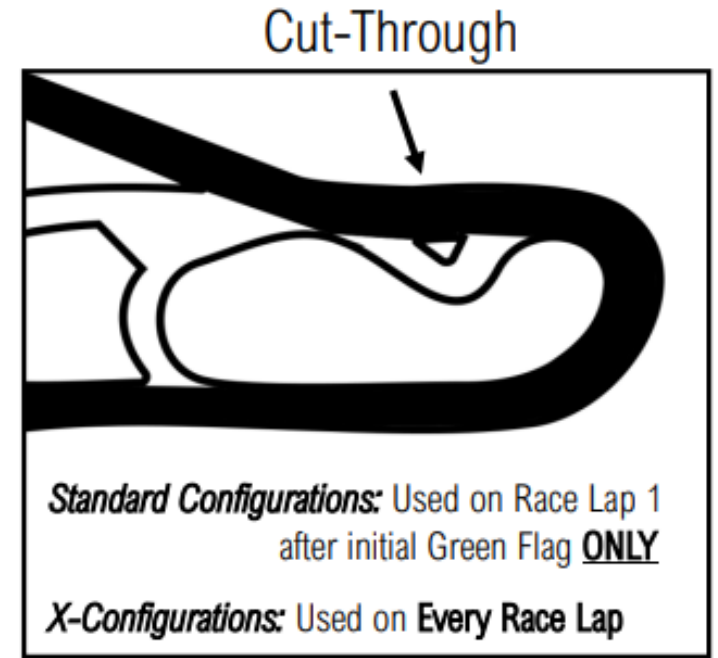
- ***Start signal given by grid worker***
- ***Proceed onto pace oval***
- ***Warming tires is allowed***  
***IF YOU SPIN, YOU GO TO THE TAIL***
- ***Line up and proceed at slow and controlled speed, polesitter sets the pace***
- ***Stay in tram lines***
- ***Accelerate at the cones***
- ***Flagman may send you around again***





# RACE PROCEDURES

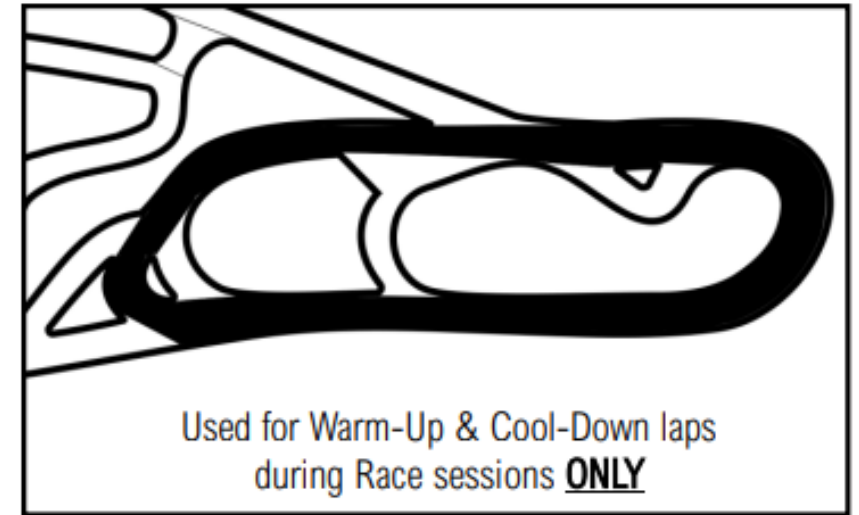
- *Racing begins when green flag is thrown*
- *ON LAP 1 ONLY – Use cut-through from Turn 1 to back straightaway*
- *Race the configuration as drawn for all other laps*
- *RACE TO THE CHECKERED FLAG*



# POST RACE PROCEDURES

- ***After checkered flag, proceed back to pace oval at controlled pace***
- ***STOP when commanded to by track workers to allow others to finish***
- ***When released, proceed to scales at a controlled pace. Shut down engine.***

Pace Oval







# ***FLAGS***

- ***GREEN*** – Track is clear, session is underway
- ***YELLOW*** – Track hazard, reduce speed and no passing in corner displayed
- ***RED*** – ***STOP*** safely & immediately on track. Do not get up until given clear.
- ***YELLOW & RED*** – Complete restart, return to front straightaway and stop.
- ***BLUE*** – yield to overtaking kart lapping you in a safe manner
- ***BLACK (rolled)*** – warning for an infraction, penalty will be assessed
- ***BLACK (waved)*** – pull off immediately into pit area or pace oval for penalty
- ***MEATBALL*** – mechanical or safety issue, pull off into pit area or pace oval
- ***CHECKERED*** – Session is over
- ***BLACK & CHECKERED*** – Race is over with potential penalties



# ***COURTESY FLAGS***

- ***GREEN & WHITE (crossed) - race is halfway over***
- ***GREEN & WHITE (parallel) – two laps to go***
- ***White – final lap***

## ***RACE THROUGH CHECKERED FLAG***



# ***DRIVING STANDARDS***

- ***NO BLOCKING (Zig-but-not-Zag rule)***
- ***NO EURO-SWERVES***
- ***Lapped Drivers MUST give position to overtaking karts***  
***OVERTAKING KARTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AVOIDING UNNESSESARY CONTACT***
- ***Avoidable Contact – no “ramming”, “dive-bomb” moves, or bump-and-run maneuvers – minor contact is sometimes unavoidable, but irresponsible driving will not be tolerated***



# ***DRIVING STANDARDS***

## ***Overtaking - LEAVE “ROOM TO RACE”***

- ***If a kart is at least halfway alongside you, they’ve earned “right to racing room”***
- ***Do not try to “chop” a kart that has “established position” alongside you***
- ***DO NOT “squeeze” or force another kart off of the track for any reason***



# ***SCALE LANE***

***All racers must cross the scales after  
Qualifying, the Pre-Final and Final races***

***Racers must meet the minimum weight for their  
class with full gear on***

***NEVER DRIVE OR COAST ONTO THE SCALES!***

***Parents of small children may wait until they  
reach the ramp to help them push up***

***UNDERWEIGHT IS UNDERWEIGHT***





# ***POST RACE ETIQUETTE***

- ***OVKA is a family-friendly club***
- ***Adrenaline and tension can run high in racing, but DO NOT EXCUSE UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR***
- ***Accidents, penalties, and damage to equipment are unfortunate but they are a part of racing***
- ***Verbal abuse and physical altercations will not be tolerated***

# ***POST-RACE TECH***

***You may be pulled aside for tech at the end of any session***

***Top finishers for the day will always report to Tech***

## ***BRING TOOLS TO TECH***

***Tech items may include fuel, tires, engine components, etc.***

***Competitors' components **MUST** be in compliance with posted rules***



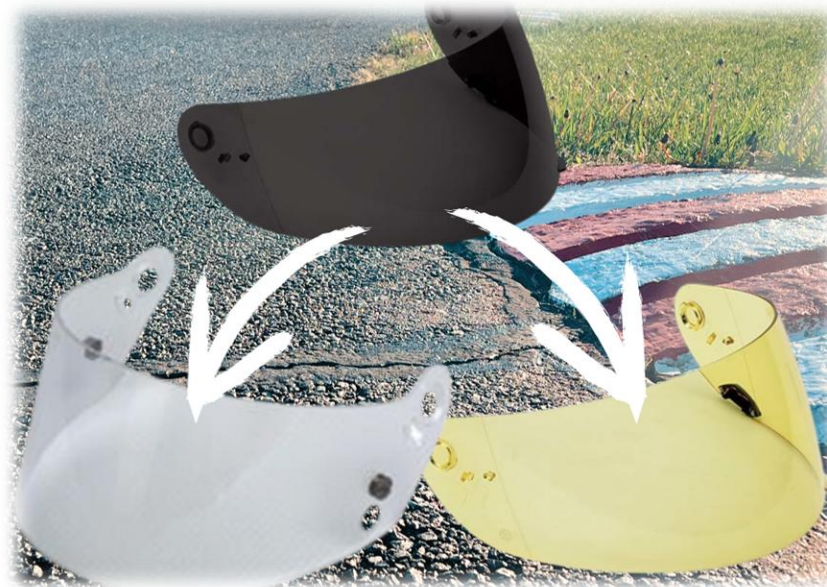
# ***NIGHT RACES***

**OVKA runs several night races a year.**

**Gates open at 2pm instead of 7am**

**There is NO PRACTICE before Gates open on Night Race days.**

**Drivers MUST have CLEAR or AMBER visors after sunset.**





# ***MEMORIAL CHAMP RACE***

***2-Day Event in the Summer***

***Qualifying & Club Dinner and  
Festival on Saturday***

***Pre-Final and Final on Sunday***

***Trophies for top finishers***



# ***WET WEATHER RACES***

- ***OVKA will hold races in safe wet weather conditions (no lightning, no large amounts of standing water)***
- ***Hoosier WET tires are required when the track is declared wet.***
- ***Some sessions may be “driver’s choice” of tire***
- ***Racers who do not wish to participate but who have signed-in will receive last place points.***



# ***CAMPING AT G&J KARTWAY***

***You are welcome to camp at G&J Kartway before and after events.***

***Please be courteous to your neighbors and maintain a family atmosphere and observe reasonable quiet hours***





## ***OTHER SERIES AT G&J KARTWAY***



***Other Series visit G&J Kartway. Please keep the track tidy and move your equipment to make room for them when they visit.***

# ***OVKA CHAMPIONSHIPS***

***OVKA Members earn points into season long class championships***

***Your best 10 of 12 races count to your championship points***

***Top finishers receive trophies and jackets***



# ***OVKA BANQUET***

***The Annual Banquet takes place in the winter after the season***

***Top championship finishers are awarded with trophies and jackets***

***Members are given raffle entries and prizes based on participation levels for the season***





# ***DRIVING HABITS TO AVOID***

Try to lose these habits quickly, they can be dangerous on track:

***Weaving or “wandering” on straights***

**>Pick a line and stay there until the next turn (zig, but not zag)**

***Excessive coasting***

**>Accelerate all the way to the brake zone**

***Early Turn-In, or “leading the turn”***

**>Pick your turn in point, do not drift to the center of the track before you reach that point.**

**Work on Developing “Awareness”**



# ***HOW TO GAIN SPEED***

- ***PRACTICE  
PRACTICE  
PRACTICE***
- ***Make friends with  
people around the club***
- ***Enjoy the experience.***





