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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Austin Grand Prix/SW Regional Cup Weekend Preview

The final race of the World Karting Association's Southwest Regional Cup will be held this weekend at the beautiful Iron Rock Raceway in Austin, Texas. Dubbed the "Austin Grand Prix 2005," this race will turn the competition up a notch with \$4,500.00 in cash to be awarded to the top 10 winners of the 125cc Senior Shifter class — \$2,000 going to the first-place winner alone.

Moreover, MRP is offering an additional \$1,000 to any 125cc Senior Birel driver who can capture first, making that place potentially worth \$3,000.

Purses will be determined by the combined points of the Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2 races and will not be affected by SWRC point totals overall. This will give every 125cc Senior entrant an opportunity to compete for prize money on an even playing field.

Spectators can look forward to a full field for that class. All month, the track has been receiving calls and emails from racers anxious to compete for the money. In addition, many new faces, including GP's Kyle Wiegand, are expected to compete in preparation for the Snap-on Stars of Karting National Finals, which will introduce Austinites to some of the finest race competition in the nation when it comes to Iron Rock on October 15 and 16.

In anticipation of both of these events, Iron Rock has constructed new bleachers and made other preparations to ensure the finest accommodations for racers and spectators alike.

Additional events will make the weekend even more exciting. Friday, expect a morning appearance by NASCAR's Sarah Fisher and the entire C.T. Hellmund team, who have requested an hour's endurance race prior to practice time. These NASCAR professionals got their start in kart racing.

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At noon on Saturday, Iron Rock will host the “Challenge for Austin’s Children” race benefiting the Austin Children’s Shelter. Business leaders throughout Austin have donated \$500 each to participate in the challenge, with all proceeds benefiting the shelter. The fund-raiser was the brainchild of Tim Self, TaG Master competitor and owner of Applied Mechanical of Austin. At least 18 racers are confirmed with a maximum of 20 slots. Last-minute entries should contact Laura Wright at 512-530-7224.

The Austin Grand Prix will race 16 different divisions, from Kid Karts to shifters.

Leading the 125cc shifters in SWRC points for both Saturday and Sunday series is Jordan Musser, with Chris Jennings close on his tail. But with the Austin Grand Prix and Birel prizes at stake, the field of non-SWRC racers is expected to expand significantly. Wiegand’s participation is sure to add spark to outstanding event.

Other close races to watch will be TaG Senior, with Mike Jones and Drew Hockenson neck and neck; Tyler Fling and Eric Brunner in TaG Junior; and Brandon Lucido and Lindsey Adams in Rotax International; and Yamaha Junior, with Brandi Edwards and Chuck Jensen battling out the top spots. Junior 1, TaG Junior and Kid Karts also promise exciting shows.

The cash awards for the 125cc Senior Class will be as follows:

Austin Grand Prix/SWRC Finals

125cc Senior Shifter Payouts

1st	\$2,000.00*	6th	\$150.00
2nd	\$1,000.00	7th	\$125.00
3rd	\$ 500.00	8th	\$100.00
4th	\$ 300.00	9th	\$ 75.00
5th	\$ 200.00	10th	\$ 50.00

* MRP Payout: An additional \$1,000.00 for first place Birel driver

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