The Williams Equipment-sponsored Race Day 4 in the Barbados Karting Association Inc's Frutee Championship took place in blazing sunshine on May 6th along with a spectacular demonstration of motorcycle, bicycle and ATV stunt riding put on by Skyy Promotions. Another large field of karts turned out and the thousands on hand were treated to a day of close racing – especially in the exciting 125cc-engine, gearbox class known as the Shifter class.

In the Championship class Dane Skeete qualified with a blistering time of 35.47 seconds which was only approached by Orry Hunte who managed 35.79 seconds. Orry has suffered a string of mishaps in the last three race meetings and this was an encouraging sign. It was not to be, however, as once again disaster struck – Orry was forced to retire with a blown engine while leading Dane Skeete and the rest of the field in the third race. Also blowing an engine was Conor Roach but luck smiled on Conor in that the engine failed on the last lap of the second race and he was able to coast home in third. Despite further problems during the day Conor had good enough finishing positions to earn second place overall behind Dane Skeete. Nicholas Gill, using all his experience, held off the youngsters to earn third overall. A commendable day's performance by a fast-improving David Evelyn saw him home in fourth place.

In the Junior classes the 230Lb class was again dominated by Alexander Gill who won all four races. He was followed home by Jacob Kelly and his sister, Samantha Gill.

The 270Lb class once again saw close action between Mark Kinch and Joshua Kelly with Joshua emerging the eventual winner after four races. Both these youngsters showed that they were taking to the sport in their first year like veterans.

Undoubtedly a crowd favourite the Shifter class provided the expected wild thrills and spills. With their blistering acceleration and superb brakes they put on a show that had the crowd on its feet each race. Emerging triumphant after his woes in the Championship class was Orry Hunte – a mere one point ahead of Brett Judd. Third was the ever-improving Peter Hinkson and the Maloney brothers, Mark and Stuart were fourth and fifth. The hot rumour is that motorsport ace Barry Mayers is set to join the class with a brand-new shifter.

All-in-all a good day's racing with the added attraction of the stunt riding. Once again the BKAI would like to thank its sponsors, Williams Equipment and Frutee for supporting this sport which is providing the next generation of Barbadian motorsport drivers.

Visit <u>www.barbadoskarting.com</u> for more information.