

Welcome to the 2021 British Pedal Car Championship



The Most Fun on Four Wheels.

- 6 Races
- 5 Race Weekends
- 24 hour race in June
- Classes for junior and adult teams
- Race once, twice or all season long!
- Cars available for hire



www.pedalcarracing.info

What is Pedal Car Racing?

Pedal car racing is a sport where teams of drivers race single-seater human powered cars in races of up to 24 hours in duration on circuits such as go-kart tracks like Sherington, Blackbushe and Wombwell.

With **classes for juniors as well as adults**, the sport actively encourages young people to learn team working and race craft, along with a good dose of physical fitness, whilst having a whole load of fun along the way.

6 team members share the driving, with each completing as many laps as they can before handing over to the next driver.

What are Racing Pedal Cars?

Think part car, part bike, part go-kart, part bob-sleigh?

A pedal car is whatever you make it as long as it complies with the fairly basic set of rules laid down in The British Pedal Car Specification.

These rules allow many variations and basically set the leading dimensions and safety features the cars must carry.

Whereas some people have access to special materials such as carbon fibre and high grade metals, others build theirs from the kinds of steel you might see office furniture made out of and a pedal car can be as basic or as advanced as you can make it.

Cars of all shapes and standards of engineering successfully completed the 2019 season.

Who races Pedal Cars?

Cycling clubs, scout troops, explorer scout units, youth clubs, school groups apprentice schools, university students and some teams are just a **bunch of friends wanting to have a great time**.

This really is ***the most fun on four wheels*** (particularly if you are too young to hold a driving license...)

How does the Sport Work?

There are 6 BPCC races spread over 5 weekends of the year starting at the end of March and finishing at the beginning of October.

You can enter all of them, most of them or even just 1 or 2!

Most race days total around 6 hours of competition either as a series of “sprint races” or as a straight endurance race.

Generally, it’s best to find your local race and give it a try before committing to anything further afield.

4 drivers share the car in most events (more for junior classes) with 6 allowed in the 24 hour race.

Yes! There is a 24 hour race. It’s the highlight of the season and takes place at Sherington on the last weekend of June!



Teams of all different ages and abilities race together on the same circuit at the same time. Negotiating slower cars is something the fast teams have to get good at- especially in the early laps!

The Races

The Wombwell Spring Sprints

Sunday, 28th March 2021

The traditional season-opener takes place at the home of South Yorkshire Kart Club at Wombwell, Barnsley for three two-hour sprint races.

The track is ideal for the first race of the year – a couple of long straights to stretch the car's legs with a tricky complex of corners to see if you got the handling right.

Note: Event & format covid-dependent.

The Welsh Borders 6 Hour

Saturday, 8th May 2021

Kinsham is a brilliant new circuit right on the Welsh border.

The race will be the "classic" 6 hours starting at 2pm on Saturday and running into dusk.

Local camping is available for some social time after the event.

The Shenington 24 Hour Race

26th – 27th June 2021

The biggest event of the season. From Friday night practice, the atmosphere builds all weekend and this race really is something different and special.

Racing twice around the clock, through the night, and sometimes through all four seasons in those 24 hours, is something that has to be experienced to be believed whether your goal is to win, break a record or simply achieve the most rewarding weekend with your friends, this race is a must for anyone who loves racing.

The Blackbushe Sprints

Saturday, 4th September 2021

Probably the best pedal car circuit in the UK. Blackbushe has fast straights, technical corners, changes of elevation and sometimes a unique weather system. The sprint format (5 x 1 hour races in the day) makes for lots of action and last year 3 different teams won races.

Teams can then camp over at the circuit if they are also taking part in...

The 100 miles of Blackbushe

Sunday, 5th September 2021

As if to prove you can't have too much of a good thing, Blackbushe hosts the annual 100 mile race (run every year since 1994!). Tired legs from the previous day's sprints have to be shaken off for a straight endurance race which ends when the lead car completes the 100 miles – or after 5 ½ hours (which can happen if it is wet weather).

The Curborough 7 hour

Saturday, 2nd October 2021

The season ends at the fastest track of the year – the 600m speed bowl of Curborough.

Starting at 1pm and finishing in full darkness, this is another "must-do" event for those who love the atmosphere and challenge of night racing.

After the race we have championship presentations, a barbecue and a chance to socialise with free camping before we head home on the Sunday morning.



The Detail:

Car Specification and Rules

All the rules are available in the BFPCR rule book which can be found on line at www.pedalcar racing.info

The rules set out the minimum safety standards to which the car must comply, together with the leading dimensions and the lighting requirements.

There are no rules concerning how long any particular driver may drive for, how many laps must be completed before a pit stop, what tyres must be used, or even which parts of the body may or may not be used to power the car.

In fact, give or take a few constraints, it is a very open formula and there are no “fake” rules designed to manufacture the racing in any one direction or another what so ever.

It is refreshingly simple: The car must be powered solely by the muscle power of a single driver.

There are sometimes cars available to borrow or hire for individual races such as this.

Please feel free to get in touch with the race organisers to see if any are available if you would like to enter but cannot build your own machinery!

Classes

There are multiple classes in pedal car racing all sharing circuit space, so the safe lapping of back markers is a skill that the faster drivers must acquire.

PC1: Open class - 6 drivers per car in 24 hour races (4 in all other races)
All cars automatically qualify for PC1 and it is the cars at the head of this class which usually fight it out for the overall win.

PC2: Under 18's - 6 drivers per car in 24 hour races (4 in all other races)
All drivers must have been born on or after 1/1/2003 for the car to qualify for this class during 2021
A new class for 2019 to ease the transition from under 16's to full adult competition.

PC3: Under 16's - 6 drivers per car in 24 hour races (4 in all other races)
All drivers must have been born on or after 1/1/2005 for the car to qualify for this class during 2021
The cars are usually very similar in appearance to those racing in PC1 and PCA but they tend to be built a little bit more robustly to cope with the increased number of driver changes and the less sympathetic treatment that teenage drivers can sometimes dish out to racing machinery.

PC4: Under 14's - 6 drivers per car in all races
All drivers must have been born on or after 1/1/2007 for the car to qualify for this class during 2021
The cars are often lighter and generally have to be somewhat smaller for obvious reasons!
Many of the cars in this class do not run aerodynamic bodywork – the drivers change over far more often and do not reach the higher speeds of PC3 and above so a body shell would generally seen as a hindrance.

PC5: Under 12's - 6 drivers per car in all races
All drivers must have been born on or after 1/1/2009 for the car to qualify for this class during 2021
These cars are generally very basic, unfaired and as light as possible.

PCD: Pairs - Self-explanatory. Pedal Car Racing is a team sport but these classes cater
PC0: Solos - for those who want to go it alone, or develop a car away from the pressure of team competition.

PCF: Female teams - All drivers must be female. (Number of drivers depends on age range)
Also self-explanatory.

***Please note:**

Due to safety considerations, PC4 and PC5 cars stop between the hours of 12pm and 6am during 24 hour races.

Do you want to know more?

- **Need more information?**
- Get in touch!
- **Need help and advice on building a car?**
- We can help!
- **Can't see yourself building a car but want to race anyway?**
- We can often put you in touch with someone who can help!
- **Need an entry form?**
- Contact the race organiser (details below) or enter online at www.pedalcarracing.info.

If you need anything then please contact us.

Through websites, forums, facebook or good old fashioned phone calls there is always someone who will help you get started in this fast, friendly and fun sport.

All the information on the races around the country which make up the 2021 British Pedal Car Championship, can be found at www.pedalcarracing.info



...and the view isn't bad either...