

## 2019 Season in Review

Elliot's 2019 season is officially in the books, and it was a great year! This was another year of change for Elliot. The season started with a team change, a new chassis, and moving up to the Junior class for all local races. It didn't take long until all the new pieces started coming together and proved to be the right moves for Elliot and our team. Despite all the changes, Elliot dug deep and fought hard all season long and tallied up a very respectable 13 wins, 13 poles, and 21 podium finishes.



To top everything off, Elliot finished the year winning 3 more point championships. Elliot was crowned



the SKUSA (SuperKarts! USA) Great Lakes Champion; Whiteland Raceway Park Champion in Yamaha Junior, and Whiteland Raceway Park Hartman Cup Champion in Yamaha Junior as well. Elliot also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in points in the KA 100 Junior class at Whiteland Raceway Park, despite only running half of the season in that class.

One of the biggest changes of the year was Elliot being asked to join the CRG Factory racing team as a factory supported development driver. Over the course of the season, Elliot helped CRG develop their new mini chassis that was recently announced as a worldwide release for the company. It was truly a pleasure working with the team and helping them develop one of the top cadet karts on the market today. After a couple months



this class are 13-15 years old. In Elliot's first race he could barely see over the steering wheel, and we had to add 80 pounds of lead to the chassis to make weight. Elliot started his first race in the new class at the age of 11, and in that race he set the pole, led every lap of the race, and won his very first race in the class!

One thing that didn't change this season was Elliot's engine program. We have been fortunate to work with one of the top engine builders in the world, Brandon Jenkins, who owns Allison Racing Engines. Allison Racing Engines once again this season delivered us with some of the best engines in the country and gave Elliot the power he needed to compete against some of the best in the world. We are excited to go into the 2020 season knowing we have the best engine program in place for Elliot.

working on the kart, Elliot was even able to score a national pole and heat race win at USPKS (United States Pro Kart Series), on the chassis he helped develop.

As the year began, we made a strategic decision to move Elliot up to race Junior karts in all local races this season for more challenging competition. This class required Elliot to race on an adult chassis and motors with more horsepower. Most of the kids racing in





One of the perks of racing is the ability to travel and experience new places. This year Elliot traveled to Miami, FL, Ocala, FL, Fontana, CA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Las Vegas, NV. One of Elliot's favorite trips of the year was to Salt Lake City. One afternoon we were able to drive out to the salt flats, and Elliot said that it was one of the coolest places has ever been or seen.

Elliot finished his racing season and Cadet career at SKUSA Supernationals in Las Vegas in November. His class had 50 of some of the most talented drivers in the world. Elliot showed great pace early on in the rain, running as fast as p3 in practice, but a crash that bent up the front of the kart right before

qualifying caused Elliot to qualify 30<sup>th</sup> on a bent chassis. Elliot drove hard during the heat races and final and was able to drive back through the field to finish his last race ever in the Cadet class with a top 10!

Off the track, Elliot continues to focus on his physical and mental health



and knows that will be a key to achieving his goal of becoming the youngest winner of the Indy 500. A new addition to our team, off the track, this last year was Ares Elite Sports Vison and Dr. LaPlaca. Over the course of the season, Elliot worked out weekly with Dr. LaPlaca focusing on maximizing Elliot's vision and increasing his reaction time. This training has proved invaluable for Elliot and has helped to increase



his reaction time by over 135%! Elliot's reaction time is now faster than many of the professional IndyCar drivers, and he is pushing to set the record for the fastest reaction time of all Dr. LaPlaca's professional athlete clients.

Elliot takes his physical training very seriously.
Elliot continues to work out with his personal trainer, Zach Dirr, for an hour three times every week. Zach has proven to be one of the greatest assets on our team. In addition to his personal

training with Zach, Elliot also began swimming with the Flashes Aquatics club swim team. This has added an additional 6 hours of swimming workout a week and continues to make Elliot stronger. On top of swimming to stay in shape, Elliot has proven to be a strong swimmer as well and qualified for Divisionals with his swim team! As a result of Elliot's dedication to personal health, Elliot is one of the most physically fit drivers on the track and never struggles with being physically tired or out of shape on rough tracks.

Elliot graduated from Gray Road Christian School in May, where he was the Student Council President for his final year in elementary school. He started middle school at Hoosier Academy, which is a hybrid program, meaning that he is in





the building two days a week, with a traditional school experience, and has live virtual classes the other days. This program, while challenging, has been a great fit for Elliot, allowing him to take school with him to the race track, and he has continued to maintain his place on the A/B Honor Roll.

Elliot has continued his mission of letting all children with Dyslexia know that it doesn't have to stop them, and he refuses to let it stop him either. This was his second year of hosting Driving for Dyslexia events; through two major events this year Elliot helped to raise approximately \$57,000! All of these funds were donated to the Dyslexia Institute of Indiana, in memory of Justin

Wilson, to help other children with Dyslexia learn how

> that may be dyslexic

to read.

When Elliot's schedule allows, he enjoys speaking to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students across central Indiana, as a speaker for the Joseph Maley Foundation promoting disABILITY awareness. Elliot shares with the students that he has Dyslexia, and that he is also a national champion kart racer. He lets the students know that Dyslexia may make things hard, but it will never define them. He shares that Dyslexia doesn't stop him and encourages any students



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to not let it stop them either. He challenges the other students that are not Dyslexic to encourage their classmates that aren't as good at reading and to never make fun of any other child based on any kind of a disability.

Elliot was fortunate to be recognized by some major media outlets this season for his results on the track and his charitable contributions off the track. This past spring, Elliot was featured on the cover of South Magazine and in May, on Indy 500 Race Day, Elliot had a cover story in the Indy Star that was picked up by the Associated Press and carried his story and

dreams of racing IndyCars to the entire world! Elliot also did his first live radio interview on the Tony Katz Show to promote his Driving for Dyslexia event.

Also, off the track Elliot was recognized by Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY) and was awarded the Youth Hero Award. In addition, Elliot was again recognized by State Senator Aaron Freeman and the Indiana State Senate, through Concurrent Resolution #53, for his accomplishments on and off the race track.





Indy 500 weekend is always a big event in our family, but 2019 came with the added excitement of the red carpet premiere of the film Rapid Response, which was produced by Elliot's Uncle Michael. Elliot made his big screen debut as a stunt driver in the film! If you missed it while it was in the theaters, you can still catch it on DVD or stream on Amazon, iTunes, and Google Play.

We have big plans for 2020, that include racing in several different series, including SKUSA (SuperKarts!

USA) Pro Tour, USPKS (United States Pro Kart Series), WKA (World Karting Association), local races at New Castle and Whiteland, and several other races that come through Indiana, such as Battle at the Brickyard and Cup Karts North America.

We couldn't begin to thank all of you who have been with us and supported Elliot throughout the years. We truly couldn't do it without you!



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Big Things to Come in 2020!