



Jay Kidwell

Carter Pease

Xtream Rock Island Grand Prix announcing team to add excitement to Labor Day weekend street race

ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS — The Xtream Rock Island Grand Prix, the world's largest karting street race to be run Sept. 4-5 through the downtown city streets of Rock Island, this year will feature a new announcing team designed to bring a new level of excitement to the event. Jay Kidwell and Carter Pease will tag team this year's exciting race action along with deejay Johnathan Condit. Their work will be heard

throughout the downtown which is wired for sound, and on the webcast of eKartingNews.com . All are veterans of many previous Rock Island kart races.

Jay Kidwell joined the WHBF Local 4 News team as sports director in 2001. Previously, he was sports director at the CBS affiliate, WFSB-TV in Hartford Connecticut. Prior to that, Kidwell was a sports anchor/ Reporter at WGGB-TV, the ABC affiliate in Springfield, Massachusetts. He is originally from southern Connecticut, and graduated from the University of Hartford with a degree in Mass Communications. He has always had a passion for sports, even as a child when he would listen to baseball games on the radio and pretend to announce the “play by play!” Kidwell enjoys covering local sports teams in the Quad Cities, and says not only does he get to follow the teams, but he also enjoys the opportunity to meet many great students, families, and people throughout the community. He also takes part in many local charity events for organizations such as NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), The HAVlife Foundation, and The United Way.

Jay, his wife, and two children live in Bettendorf. His wife is a manager at the Family Museum. In their free time, Jay and his family like to play board games, go on bike rides, and take vacations to visit family in New England and Texas.

Carter Pease is a resident of East Moline and graduate of United Township High School, where he played soccer, and Augustana College in Rock Island. He began racing karts at age 13, and continued through high school and college, including racing at the Rock Island Grand Prix from 2015-2019. Following graduation, he attended the 2020 Lucas Oil School of Racing and finished second in the School of Racing Shootout at Sebring, which allowed him to compete in the Lucas Oil Formula Car series in 2020.

Currently he is competing in the World Racing League with Round 3 Racing. He drives the No. 605 Hagerty Drivers Club Porsche Boxter with Jim Ptak, Dennis Neal and Cole Loftsgaard. They have achieved a number of podium finishes including a first place at the 14-hour race at Daytona International Speedway in June and the team currently leads the points standings in National GP3 championship.

Condit will fill in lulls in the action with lively, high-energy music through the downtown PA system.

“Our goal this year has been to partner several individuals with unique backgrounds to provide spectators and racers with a new level of information and excitement,” said Roger Ruthhart of the Xstream Rock Island Grand Prix. “The racing we will feature this year will have race fans jumping out of their seats and it is our hope that we can maintain a level of interest and excitement seldom seen in kart racing.”