

BEBETO STANDS OUT

By Johnson Were

After a decade of no action and the sport watched on screens, the 2024/2025 seasons saw the Formula One Association of Uganda aggressively start organising Karting competitions in the country.

Youngsters Keven Bebeeto and Lucy Kakuru stood out in the championships organised last year and are set to be crowned this year's Champion.

Bebeeto, whose dream is to carry on the family legacy in motorsport, has dominated this year's championships and managed to defend the title won in last year's championship in the professional category, While Kakuru took the women's category.

Bebeeto is from the family of Kuku Ranjit and Kaka Junior who were prominent rally drivers in the early 2000.

"I'm excited to defend my title but that is not enough because my dream is to compete and win at the international stage, which I have not achieved yet," Bebeeto said.

The 2025 season has had

a tremendous growth of the sport especially in the number of participants and competitions organised.

Unlike last year, when only three championship events were organised,

this year six championship events have been organised on the Calendar and also several non-championships.

Raymond Mugisha the

Formula One Association of Uganda President noted that their target is to have more competitions next year.

"This year we have had six championships but our target was to have more only that funds were not enough," Mugisha noted.

However, there are challenges including, lack of Karts. Whereas a big number of the youth are ready to join the sport, their desire is limited by the lack of equipment.

Karting has the opportunity to tap into the many motorcycling racers who are more skilful but the

karts to be used are not there.

The few karts in the system are privately owned for business purposes and hiring them becomes

expensive.

Facilities are another big challenge to the growth of Karting in the country. There are only three facilities, the Uganda Motorsport Arena Busiika, Lubowa Karting Track and Bugolobi track. This affects the expansion of the sport country wide.

However, Mugisha intends to lobby for more facilities by engaging businessmen outside Kampala to set up karting circuits that will host the discipline in their respective cities and districts.

"Our focus is to engage the Federation of Motor-sport Clubs of Uganda (FMU) to secure tax free equipment," Mugisha said.

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Participants taking position in preparation for a Karting competition recently