



■ Vishnu Prasad won the Senior Max category on Sunday. HT PHOTO

Gowda climbs up from eighth to triumph

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HYDERABAD: The first round of the 12th JK Tyre-FMSCI Rotax National Karting Championship concluded on Sunday with Shahan Ali Mohsin of Meco Racing winning comfortably in the Micro Max category at the Chicane circuit here.

The Junior and Senior Max categories were more keenly contested, though. The Senior Max category — the fastest of the three — saw Chennai boy Vishnu Prasad (Meco Racing) making a late charge for the chequered flag. His experience in wet conditions held him in good stead as he beat Nayan Chatterjee of Rayo Racing.

A temporary relief from the rain, between the Micro and Senior Max finals, meant racers in the Junior Max category were given the option of changing tyres — wet or slick.

All but three opted for the faster slicks, and this landed Akash Gowda, winner in the category,

in trouble. The Bangalore boy, quicker on the slicks, was cautioned by the race officials for running Mrinal Chatterjee of Rayo Racing (wet tyres) off the track and that he faced a 10-second penalty. Gowda appealed the decision and was declared provisional winner pending a final decision.

Whether or not he gets penalised, Gowda showed why he is emerging as one of the best in the category. Starting eighth on the grid, Gowda soon climbed to third. He then waited for his chance and with swift manoeuvres managed to emerge leader.

The writer's trip has been sponsored by JK Tyre

PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Micro Max: 1. Shahan Ali Mohsin 15:04.987sec; 2. Ruhaan Alwa 15:07.648.

Junior Max: Akash Gowda 16:10.032; Md Nallwalla 16:11.654.

Senior Max: Vishnu Prasad 19:11.242; Nayan Chatterjee 19:12.136.