



AUSTRALIAN SPEEDWAY RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC

NEWSLETTER Q1/2026



WIZARDS OF OZ: SPEEDWAY STAR

NEW TEAM MEMBERS : STATE YOUTH AMBASSADORS & SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

NEW 2026 MEMBERSHIP FORMS & FEES

BEE GEES MUSICAL HISTORY: BILL POWELL

SIDECAR SCENE : JUDY MACKAY

INTERNATIONAL NEWS : DARIUSZ ZAKRZEWSKI

VETERAN TIMELINES : BRIAN DARBY & TONY WEBB

BUY SWAP & SELL STATE SECRETARY ROUNDUP WHAT'S ON THIS SUMMER



MEET THE ASRA 'A' TEAM

ASRA CONTACT: Please contact Secretary John Walker the first instance and copy other Committee and/or Management as appropriate.

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President
Dave Mills

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Contact Terry Starbuck to book.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT Dave Mills

The summer season is now underway. Darcy Ward kicked it off with a meeting at Cowra. It was unfortunately affected by rain and had to be cut short after round 4. The winner on count back was young Beau Bailey from Ben Cook and 3rd was Zach Cook.



Beau Bailey at Cowra

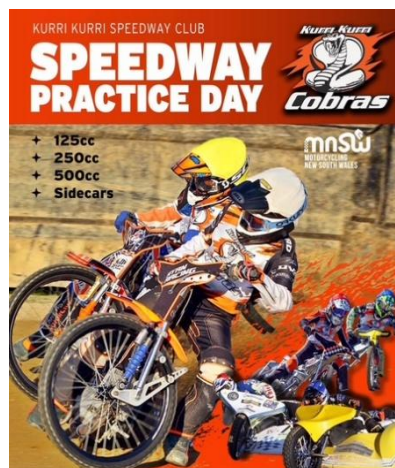
It was good to see Cowra running speedway again especially when Brady Kurts returns home being crowned 2nd in the world championship, only losing out by one point to Bartos Zmarzlik. Brady almost became the only rider to win a world crown in their first season of SGP. Beau went on to win the Victorian Solo Title at Mildura, capping off a brilliant start to his season.

Darcy Ward appears to be on track with his Boxing Day night meeting at Eastern Creek, to bring back solo speedway to Sydney with a world class field. Fingers crossed that it all goes well for him.

Kurri has run some speedway practice days and hopefully this will get them keen enough to run some speedway promotions this summer season.

I have been kept busy for a while with couple of engines from Mark Collins. One being an 891 Jawa engine, which is a double overhead cam 2 valve engine, made for Long Track and Ice Racing in the '70s. Most people would not have heard of one of these, let alone seen one. As you can imagine parts are like gold. Fortunately, Allan Jones, through his contacts, was able to find cams and buckets in Sweden which will allow me to finish it off.

I still have several other exotic engines waiting on parts to finish them off. Sometimes I scratch my head and wonder why some people have spent so much time and money to build these engines. The quality of castings and machining is first class but some people made them so complicated though, for no better results than anything else available. Until my next report, have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



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SECRETARY REPORT John Walker

From a personal point of view, it's been a very complicated three months since my last "Secretary's Report", involving moving house and settling into a new community, contracting a repeat and very painful dose of sciatica, and trying to help keep the business of the ASRA moving on. Because of the timing of our move, the Q4 Newsletter had to be printed before my wife and I left Sanctuary Point and posted to members when we moved into Tura Beach. The move and the back trouble meant that I couldn't attend the November Committee Meeting, but Terry and I, with some help from my daughter, made the Team Video conference gear work, and the meeting was productive.

Some key issues addressed included:

- The meeting welcomed Chantelle Adams and approved her appointment as Social Media Manager. Chantelle highlighted social media opportunities to attract younger members and grow membership.
- We welcomed State Youth Ambassadors for NSW (Chris Streep), VIC (Mark Jones) and SA (Aaron Summers). Yet to confirm YAs for QLD, WA and Tasmania.
- Newsletter - Q4 member feedback – again overwhelmingly favourable. After consideration of the costs of printing and postage the committee agreed on the need to raise membership fees [see next page] and attract more sponsor advertisers to offset costs. Reminder 2026 Q1 copy date November 30th.
- Membership - we currently have 198 paid-up members, up from 186 in August, and 384 members on the FB site, up +112 from August. Our website is averaging around 60 hits per week following the release of the Q4 Newsletter.
- ASRA's various efforts to help junior speedway in Queensland and NSW, including the recent highly successful Nepean Come and Try, helped by Darcy Ward's support of Speedway Experience.
- The Committee agreed to explore a possible reunion event at Maitland in 2026.
- Awards – the Committee agreed that Brady Kurtz was the natural choice for Most Improved 2025 Solo Rider award and discussed the Ranking System that I have been developing and outlined below.

My ranking system, just like the world tennis rankings, is based on Aussie riders' actual results in all major competitions - SGP1 rounds, SGP2 rounds and the SGP3, averages from speedway leagues in the U.K., Poland, Sweden and Denmark and, from next year, results from Australian and State 125/250/U21/Open Championship meetings.

This means that ALL Aussie solo riders, whether racing at U16, U21 or Open levels, in Australia or overseas (or both) will be given a ranking based on actual performance. Comparing next year's rankings with this year's, ASRA can choose to present awards at each of these levels, e.g. most improved Open rider, 250cc rider, U16. U21 and so on.

While the highest rankings will logically go to those at the SGP level, the most IMPROVED could go to riders at any level. For example, in the process of developing the rankings system, (albeit these early versions were based mostly on Australian and State titles results), I was able to compare 2018/19 and 2019/20 rankings.

The overall most improved in 2019/20 would have been Victorian Open riders, Patrick Hamilton and Jamie Crundwell, who each jumped over 50 places in the overall ranking. But not far behind in the "most improved" list were 250cc riders Dane Walsh (Qld) and Lachlan Hayes (NSW). Most improved 125cc rider was Michael Cogdell (Vic), who jumped 18 places.

SECRETARY REPORT John Walker



2026 MEMBERSHIP FEES. We have been forced to marginally increase membership fees to offset increased admin and newsletter print & post costs, The new 2026 fees applicable from Jan 1st are \$30 email Newsletter and \$50 postal Newsletter.

PRIVACY POLICY We are also pleased to announce that ASRA has introduced a new Privacy Policy, now available to read in full on our website. The updated policy outlines how we collect and use member information, the measures we take to keep your details secure, and your rights to access or update your personal information at any time. It also explains how we manage online interactions, respond to enquiries, and safeguard information provided through our forms and subscriptions.

New membership and renewal forms [see below] will be emailed to you in January. Please complete and pay asap. They will include a compulsory checkbox allowing members to choose whether ASRA may share their details in the new Member Directory.

A hard copy will be included with all posted Newsletters

Membership Application Form



Members enjoy:

- A members-only newsletter with history, news, events and rider updates
- Support our historical displays preserving speedway heritage
- Advocacy and practical support for current riders, tracks and emerging talent
- Annual rider awards across Solo and Sidecar Speedway
- An organisation promoting speedway to stakeholders and the public
- A direct connection to the custodians of Australia's speedway history

In the words of ASRA Youth Ambassador Darcy Ward:

'We need to encourage junior and senior speedway riders, supporters and bike enthusiasts to become members, boost awareness and help progress the sport of speedway.'

Thank you for choosing to join our Association

Please complete the form below, either online (download and save) or print and complete.

Once complete, submit your application to our Secretary:

- E: john.walker_rbn@inet.net.au OR
- Post: John Walker ASRA Secretary, 147 Headland Drive, Tura Beach, NSW 2548

Annual Membership Fees

- Juniors, under 18's: FREE inc. email newsletter
- Seniors: \$30.00 inc. email Newsletter Seniors: \$50.00 inc. posted Newsletter (Australia wide).

Pay to ASRA at:
Commonwealth Bank, BSB 062141 Account Number 10148587

IMPORTANT: Include MSHIP and your name in payment description.

Name:			
Address:			
Tel/ MB:			
Email:			
DOB (optional)			

Member Directory Inclusion

Under current privacy laws, we can only share your contact details with your consent.

Please place an X in the box to show your preference — thank you.

Publish all details	Name & email only	Name only	
Name & address only	Name & ph/ mb only	Do not publish my details	

If you would like to offer your time, experience and enthusiasm for an ASRA Committee or Management position please contact Terry Starbuck: E: terry@starbuckvm.com M: 0412 449236.

Facebook: Australian Speedway Riders Association

Website: google.asra.info

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER MANAGER

Social Media Manager; Chantelle Adams

I've been a speedway sidecar fan for as long as I can remember — my very first race at the Royale was when I was four. Some of my best childhood memories are of tearing around the Hill with the other sidecar kids, playing chase, cheering for our dads, and just running amuck like kids do. I'm really looking forward to working with you all, sharing memories and events, collating history, and helping to raise the spotlight on speedway.





YOUTH AMBASSADOR DW43 DARCY WARD talking to Terry Starbuck

Talking to Darcy about the problems facing Queensland junior speedway and speedway in general following the closure of Mick Doohan Raceway on December 15th after the North Brisbane Cup on Dec 6th.

What's your intelligence on NBMCC status? 'As far as I'm aware the club has not found anywhere to relocate to. Apparently there were some rumours about a possible joint venture with Ipswich but to be honest I very much doubt this will ever happen....there would be no real benefit to the Ipswich club'

Is there any progress at Moreton Motorsport Park? 'I've spoken with the owner, Andrew Corbett. The reality is that they would love to have the bikes there but they don't have council approval right now, that's what the whole sports waiting on. He is all focused on cars and building a motorsport precinct but if that can include bikes due to the council approval then they will do it...that's pretty positive'.

Have you heard anymore about Russell Carswell South Burnett venture? 'I know as much as you... I see everything else on Facebook about everything but that venue. I've not seen any photo updates, I've not heard where they are at. It seems all talk at the minute. A little disappointing not to have any updates'

What options do juniors have in Queensland ? 'I'd hate to be a junior in Queensland. Kingaroy are doing everything they can but they're very limited. I haven't heard about Ipswich. I've not seen a practice day there in a couple of months. It would be a golden opportunity for Ipswich with the closure of North Brisbane''.

How do you explain low 250 rider numbers? 'The 250 boom happened three or four years ago and they have all moved up to 500's. So there's a dull spot for 250's right now because four years ago there was nowhere for 125's to ride, only Boyces Speedway Experience and my days in Brisbane. We look like we're going through a bit of a 125 period at the moment with OK numbers, a full field in the Victorian title and I had ten entries for the Queensland title.'

How was the North Queensland Title meeting at Pioneer Park ? 'A successful meeting for me, great for everyone involved, riders and spectators. It was stressful trying to get the numbers to be honest. The track was OK, not to my high standards but OK. We had two crashes with Josh and Tate, probably the two main drawcards. Josh broke his thumb and it's still pretty swollen.

How was your first Cowra event ? 'I can't thank the Steve Kurtz and the Cowra club for giving me the opportunity. We were lucky to run after heavy afternoon rain. The track just drank the water and soaked into the base. We had to adjust and drag dirt off after each round. After four rounds we were down to base and it was too rough to safely race. Given the weather we were lucky to put on a show for around 200 diehard spectators. Cowra just wanted to try it and be as successful as it could be and we'll do it again'

How is Eastern Creek progressing? 'It's all work in progress as the track has not been touched in seven years!. All mistakes and hurdles come with challenges. We have new dirt coming in next week and sprinkler parts for the water truck. We will keep testing every week, learning and improving each session up to Boxing Day and beyond. It's a new NSW venue and could host an Australian title round.'



The Dynamic Duo :
Steve Kurtz and Darcy

MEET THE NEW STATE YOUTH AMBASSADORS



In order to address the nationwide decline in junior 125 riders the Committee agreed to seek and appoint a Youth Ambassador in each state to support the excellent work of Darcy Ward.

State Youth Ambassadors will be responsible for liaising with potential junior members;

- At dirt track club days and/or race meetings, promoting the pathway and career benefits of speedway, encouraging them to attend a 125cc come and try day and join the ASRA.
- At speedway club days and/or race meetings, promoting the benefits of ASRA membership, encouraging riders to join, highlighting free membership for under 18's.

The following appointments have been made to date ;

NSW Youth Ambassador Chris Steep from Wilberforce.

'My name is Chris Steep, my background in speedway extends over many years, my Dad Rob Steep was involved with Speedway Sidecars from the early 70's helping the likes of Doug Robson, Geoff Grocott, Warren Sullivan etc.

I was 16 when got my start in speedway it was in a F500 powered by a Jawa 897 at the Newcastle Motordrome, I then went on to drive Speedcars starting off for the Wells team in the famous #54 car which most people will remember from the Sydney Showground era with Sid Middlemas at the wheel. I have an engineering background and enjoy doing speedway bike builds and restorations in my spare time, I currently race modern and classic sliders in dirt track / longtrack events as well as solos at the Speedway Experience days, my son Cohen is 9 he also rides and enjoys both dirt track and speedway event.



VIC Youth Ambassador Mark Jones from Thurgoona NSW

I was born in Albury/Wodonga and have lived here all my life. I started racing dirt track at the age of 5 and at the age of 9 concentrated solely on junior speedway on the 125cc bikes. I was able to win 2 Australian Under 16 Speedway Championships in 1999 and 2001 and progressed to seniors at the age of 16.

I was able to spend a couple of seasons in the UK racing for the Newport Wasps and Redcar Bears between 2010 - 2012. I'm married to Ella Jones, daughter of Phil Herne and younger sister to Lee and Jay Herne, all former international riders. We have 2 daughters Lennie and Molly aged 8 and 6.

SA Youth Ambassador Aaron Summers;

Brought up around bikes with my dad. Riding trials in my younger days. We used to go watch speedway at North Arm. I had a PW50 and the point came as to whether it was MX or speedway and I chose to go with a speedway at the age of six I think. Went through to 16 years old, winning the Aussie Championship in the last year of my juniors. My dream was to race in Europe but wanted a back up career behind me. So I completed an apprenticeship then left straight away for the UK, starting my career in at Edinburgh and Buxton before moving around to several other clubs such as Coventry and Swindon, winning leagues and several other trophies. I finished my last year in the UK with Oxford and Ipswich before moving myself and family back to Adelaide where I now enjoy helping out and passing on the knowledge I know to others.



THE WONDERFUL WIZARDS OF OZ

Courtesy of **Speedway Star**



FIM SoN 2025 FINAL

WORDS: Paul Burbidge
PICTURES: Jarek Pabijan and Taylor Lanning



Golden times for Australia. Jubilant team manager Mark Lemon, Jason Doyle, Brady Kurtz and Jack Holder

WIZARDS OF OZ

ANYONE hardy enough to brave the bitter cold at Torun's Marian Rose Motoarena will have witnessed a number of speedway miracles last week.

Just 24 hours after Germany won its first world team championship at any level in FIM Speedway of Nations – SoN2, Australian duo Brady Kurtz and Jack Holder delivered a generational performance for the country's second SoN gold medal in three years.

It all threatened to go horribly wrong when hosts Poland thumped them 7-2 in their opening heat – a statement victory that gave Patryk Dudek and Bartosz Zmarzlik a great opportunity to end the country's wait for gold in a competition that very much plays second fiddle to the Speedway World Cup in the hearts and minds of Polish fans.

But the Aussies parted the white-and-red sea with an astonishing opening lap in the Grand Final that allowed Kurtz to turn any SGP tears into champagne as he bounced back from falling just a point short of Zmarzlik in the race for individual gold by bringing the SoN trophy back Down Under.

Chief among Kurtz's growing repertoire of miracles is his ability to not just walk on water, but race on it too. The clouds opened in Torun ahead of tapes up and it rained on and off throughout the meeting. But having developed fins since moving to Manchester, rain is simply manna from

heaven for Kurtz, who is rapidly becoming speedway's master of racing in the wet.

He couldn't have ended his 2025 season with a richly-deserved World Championship gold medal without the heroics of Holder. If Kurtz is the magician of this team, Sheffield's Holder brings the muscle and tenacity.

Despite a great start by European and Polish Champion Dudek in the Grand Final, Holder battered his way ruthlessly, fairly and quite brilliantly around the kerb and up the inside of one of the sport's inform riders. He was a first-bend bulldog all night and his determination facilitated what came next.

Kurtz took to the dirt and quickly blazed around Dudek, but he had the spectre of Zmarzlik lurking on the inside line with intent, ready to slice his way through the Aussie pack if he could.

Refusing to be denied again, Kurtz grabbed a handful of throttle on turn three, hit the hyperspace button and thundered around the six-time world No. 1 for a lead the Roos never relinquished.

Holder even had time to look into the elated eyes of 2012 World Champion brother Chris as he powered down the Torun back straight on his way to a third world title in all competitions for one of the sport's greatest-ever sibling duos.

Wild celebrations ensued as an army of Aussies jumped the fence to embrace their heroes, and if they ride like this in Warsaw on August 29, 2026, they might

make it a double. PGE Narodowy hosts the World Cup Final next summer and SoN victory for Australia means they have already qualified alongside hosts Poland.

Another miracle produced by Mark Lemon's men was ending the Grand Final curse for the country that tops the score chart after 21 heats. Since the competition was launched in 1981, the leaders after 21 races – or 42 when the Final was decided over two days – have never carried off the trophy when the title race has gone the distance.

Britain missed out in 2018 and 2022, Poland slipped up in 2019 and 2021 and Holder and Kurtz experienced similar agony when Great Britain's Dan Bewley blazed past them in Manchester last season to join Robert Lambert at the front.

Six straight 7-2s ensured that result wasn't repeated. Things were not looking great after Dudek and Zmarzlik left them trailing in Heat 2. But a tweak of the set-up later and the Aussies were quickly in the race for gold.

Danish duo Michael Jepsen Jensen and Leon Madsen were dispatched in Heat 6. Sweden's Fredrik Lindgren got between Kurtz and Holder in Heat 9 but the world No. 5 slammed his way through on the back straight on lap two, rattling Lindgren against the safety fence as he joined his colleague from Cowra at the front. Not many people do that to Lindgren but when there's national pride on the line,

FIM SPEEDWAY OF NATIONS 2025

Holder grows horns.

The Latvians were left trailing in Heat 14, before a quirk of the draw handed Australia a menacing position for the final block of races – they had two outings in the final four heats while everyone else had only one.

Poland and Denmark were their main rivals but had to make do with places in the Grand Final Qualifier. The Poles may have pumped up the volume in Torun by beating the Aussies in their opener. But they had to make do with a 5-4 win over Sweden in race five, which saw Lindgren get away while Jacob Thorsell admirably took the fight to Dudek for third.

After a 7-2 against the Czech Republic in Heat 8, Lambert took points off the Poles when he finished second in a re-run race 13. It could have been more as Dan Bewley battled Zmarzlik for second, while Lambert hit the front in the first staging. But the Cumbrian slipped off after an epic tussle going into lap two, turn four. An awkward crash ended Bewley's night and GB's hopes of retaining their crown.

After 7-2-ing Latvia in Heat 17, the Poles

came up against Denmark in the teams' final heat. After opening their night with a maximum victory over Great Britain, the Danes suffered a reverse of that against the Aussies, before winning three of their four remaining races 6-3, with a 7-2 against Czech Republic thrown in.

The Poles went into their final heat on 32 points, with Denmark chasing on 28. Despite Madsen taking the win ahead of Dudek and Jepsen Jensen relegating Zmarzlik to the back, Poland had done enough to at least earn first choice of gates for the Final Qualifier – maybe even direct passage to the Final.

The Aussies raced to a maximum against the Czech team in Heat 18 but still had one last heat up their sleeve – a battle with the Brits in race 21.

With Bewley sidelined, Lions' No. 3 Tom Brennan stepped up. He had already collected a third place ahead of Swedish star Thorsell, following home second-placed Lambert for a GB 5-4 win in race 16.

The Lions picked up heat advantages in three of their six races on their way to fifth place overall, but they couldn't live with the Aussies this year, Kurtz and Holder slamming in a 7-2 to send them straight through to the Grand Final.

The only downside to the knockout-style finish to SoN meetings, which sees all the marbles on the line over two huge races, is if a rider is excluded for any reason, the contest is all but over.

This happened in the Grand Final Qualifier, which saw Madsen and Dudek clash going into a tight third turn on the opening lap. Some will suggest the Dane wiped the Pole out, while others may opine that Torun's finest leaned in, waited for the impact and hit the deck. Ukrainian referee Aleksandr Latosinski went with the former viewpoint and ejected Madsen from the re-run.

All Jepsen Jensen could do at this point was fight his way to the front and pray for a Polish mechanical mishap. He did just that with a sensational opening lap in the re-start but Zmarzlik and Dudek cruised home for a 5-4 to set up a Grand Final showdown with Australia.

It was a miserable end to their least favourite international tournament as the Polish seniors came up short against Australia – 24 hours after their junior compatriots missed out on the Team Under-21 World Championship podium for only the second time in the competition's 20-year history.

Victory belonged to Australia, and it was absolutely deserved. After dropping just six points across two events and falling just one short of maximum points in Semi-Final 2, Kurtz and Holder are very much the sport's best pair.

Their journey to the top started two decades ago as kids on the Australian youth scene, and those who dubbed them the next Chris Holder and Darcy Ward were clearly on to something. Add Jason Doyle and Max Fricke into the mix, and this is now the team to beat in world speedway.

Given that Holder, Doyle and Fricke are all former Warsaw winners and Kurtz finished second there last year, it may take more than 50,000 Poles to roar their side to SWC gold at PGE Narodowy next summer.

Final scene: Patryk Dudek (white) and Jack Holder (blue) are slightly ahead of Brady Kurtz and Bartosz Zmarzlik



WHAT THEY SAID

Interviews: PAUL BURBIDGE

Brady Kurtz

AUSSIE ace Brady Kurtz feared he had blown his final chance of an FIM Speedway gold medal in 2025, before he blazed to Speedway of Nations glory in Torun on Saturday.

He said: "I actually thought it was all



Another fast start from Patryk Dudek saw him ahead of Leon Madsen (red), Michael Jepsen Jensen and Bartosz Zmarzlik in the controversial Grand Final Qualifier

SoN FINAL GATE ANALYSIS

GATES	1	2	3	4
Wins	6	2	8	7
Win %	26.1	8.7	34.8	30.4
Points	65+7	43+5	52+5	47+2
Heat 1	0	3	2	4
Heat 2	4	2	3	0
Heat 3	3	2	4	0
Heat 4	3	0	2	4
Heat 5	4	2	0	3
Heat 6	3	0	4	2
Heat 7	4	3	0	2
Heat 8	0	3	2	4
Heat 9	3	0	4	2
Heat 10	4	0	2	3
Heat 11	3	2	4	0
Heat 12	3	2	0	4
Heat 13	2	3	4	0
Heat 14	2	3	0	4
Heat 15	2	4	0	3
Heat 16	3	4	2	0
Heat 17	3	2	4	0
Heat 18	3	0	4	2
Heat 19	4	2	3	0
Heat 20	4	3	2	0
Heat 21	2	3	0	4
Qualifier	3	0	2	4
FINAL	3	0	4	2

- Gates 1 and 3 produced 14 heat advantages in 23 races: nine maximum 7-2s, two 6-3s and three 5-4s.
- Gates 2 and 4 saw six maximum 7-2s, one 6-3 and two 5-4s.
- SoN champions Australia's six maximum wins were equally split, three from gates 1 and 3 and the same from 2 and 4. The only race in which they didn't finish first and second was their opening 7-2 loss to Poland in Heat 2, when they started from 2 and 4.
- Other maximums: Poland (3), Denmark (3), Sweden (2) and GB (1).
- Latvia's only advantage was their 5-4 against the Czechs, the only country not to beat any of its six rivals, in Heat 4.
- Although gate 3 produced the most wins, gate 1 amassed 13+2 more points. Czechs Milik (Heat 1) and Bednar (Heat 8) had the only two pointless rides from the inside.
- Gate 4 yielded only one second place and four lasts in five races between heats 16 and 20 inclusive. The outside grid also provided the most lasts or non-finishers, including Bewley's Heat 13 exclusion.

WORDS: Paul Burbidge
PICTURES: Jarek Pabijan and Taylor Lanning



over when the tapes went up. I didn't make the best start at all. But I squeezed in there somehow. I got to the outside. I knew I had to get to the fence.

"Sure enough, when the straight came, Jack was in front, looking over his shoulder and waiting for me to come past. Once we hit the front, I was checking the big screen every lap and we were solid all race. We were so good all night together. Once we hit the front, I was pretty confident that we could get it done, and I am really happy with this one."

"It was definitely one I wanted. I would

have liked another one to go with it but this one will definitely do. It has been a hell of a year. Finishing off with this has really made it special.

"I'm relieved. I was a little bit nervous before the meeting. It's a big deal to represent your country. I tried not to let the boys down and I'm glad we didn't."

"Jack was so solid all night. He made every start, looked for me and gave me the run through. It's a real honour to put this suit on."

"We knew the first heat was going to be tough. We had gates two and four early on and we didn't know what the track was going to be like. We made some changes and got it working. I knew me and Jack could be solid for the rest of the meeting. I knew if we got seven points in heat 21, we would be on."

Belle Vue's Kurtz enhanced his growing reputation as a master of wet conditions.

"It was just how I like it," Kurtz smiled. "Throw anything at us! The track had been funny all week. Torun has been really difficult all year in the league. They changed it a little bit last week, which made it even more difficult."

"You didn't always know what was going to happen. Something different was happening with every track grade but we made it work in the end and that's what matters."

His partnership with Holder has been forged over two decades of competing alongside and against each other from youth level all the way to SGP and the SoN. Kurtz was elated to share one of the biggest moments of his career so far with a childhood friend and rival.

"It's definitely a full-circle moment, I guess you could say. Jack and I have done more races together than anyone in the history of speedway probably. We have



SoN FINAL SCORECHART

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 SPEEDWAY OF NATIONS FINAL

AUSTRALIA 37

Brady Kurtz	0	4	4	4	4	20
Jack Holder	2	3	3	3	3	17
Jason Doyle	-	-	-	-	-	-

Team manager: Mark Lemon

POLAND 35

Patryk Dudek	4	2	3	2	3	17
Bartosz Zmarzlik	3	4	4	4	0	18
Piotr Pawlicki	-	-	-	-	-	-

Team manager: Rafal Dobrucki

DENMARK 34

Leon Madsen	3	0	4	4	3	18
Michael Jepsen Jensen	4	2	2	4	2	16
Mikkel Michelsen	-	-	-	-	-	-

Team manager: Nicki Pedersen

SWEDEN 27

Jacob Thorsell	3	0	0	0	3	6
Fredrik Lindgren	4	2	3	4	4	21
Timo Lahti	-	-	-	-	-	-

Team manager: Linus Sandström

GREAT BRITAIN 24

Robert Lambert	2	3	3	3	2	16
Dan Bewley	0	2	4	X	-	6
Toni Brennan	-	-	-	2	0	2

Team managers: Simon Stead & Oliver Allen

LATVIA 18

Arndzejs Lebedevs	3	4	3	2	2	14
Egervyl Kostigovs	0	-	-	0	0	0
Daniils Kolodinskis	2	-	0	0	-	2

Team manager: Vladimir Ribnikov

CZECH REPUBLIC 14

Vaclav Milik	0	-	-	2	0	2
Jan Krecb	2	4	2	R	2	12
Adam Bednar	0	R	0	-	-	0

Team manager: Zdenek Schneiderwind

Referee: Aleksandr Latosinski

SoN FINAL HEATS

- 1 Lindgren, Thorsell, Kvecb, Milik, 60.679
- 2 Dudek, Zmarzlik, Holder, Kurtz, 60.358
- 3 Jepsen Jensen, Madsen, Lambert, Bewley, 60.830
- 4 Kvecb, Lebedevs, Kolodinskis, Bednar (ret), 61.181
- 5 Lindgren, Zmarzlik, Dudek, Thorsell, 60.170
- 6 Kurtz, Holder, Jepsen Jensen, Madsen, 60.246
- 7 Lebedevs, Lambert, Bewley, Kostigovs, 60.691
- 8 Zmarzlik, Dudek, Kvecb, Bednar, 59.923
- 9 Kurtz, Holder, Lindgren, Thorsell, 60.037
- 10 Madsen, Lebedevs, Jepsen Jensen, Kolodinskis, 60.786
- 11 Bewley, Lambert, Milik, Kvecb (ret), 60.430
- 12 Madsen, Lindgren, Jepsen Jensen, Thorsell, 60.787
- 13 (re-run) Zmarzlik, Lambert, Dudek, Bewley (f.ex), 60.942
- 14 Kurtz, Holder, Lebedevs, Kolodinskis, 60.952
- 15 Jepsen Jensen, Madsen, Kvecb, Milik, 61.638
- 16 Lindgren, Lambert, Brennan, Thorsell, 61.809
- 17 Zmarzlik, Dudek, Lebedevs, Kostigovs, 61.160
- 18 Kurtz, Holder, Kvecb, Milik, 61.080
- 19 Lindgren, Thorsell, Kolodinskis, Kostigovs, 61.376
- 20 Madsen, Dudek, Jepsen Jensen, Zmarzlik, 61.249
- 21 Kurtz, Holder, Lambert, Brennan, 61.341

Grand Final Qualifier: (re-run) Jepsen Jensen, Dudek, Zmarzlik, Madsen (exc), 61.565

Final: Kurtz, Holder, Zmarzlik, Dudek, 61.475

FIM SPEEDWAY OF NATIONS 2025

done team events together since we were nine, 10 or 11. Finally, we got it done on the big stage.

"I've done my last match and now I can turn the brain off for a minute. I found it tough last week to keep the focus that I've had for the last few months. I managed to find one last bit of magic to pull it together and now I'm really looking forward to a good off-season."

Jack Holder

AUSSIE skipper Jack Holder added to his victory alongside Max Fricke at Vojens in 2022 by dominating last Saturday's Final with world No. 2 Brady Kurtz.

The world No. 5's tenacity to fight his way under Dudek on bend one in the Grand Final saw him link up with the high-riding Kurtz, who swept majestically around Bartosz Zmarzlik to join Holder on a 7-2.

"It was all happening!" Holder said. "I knew I needed to watch my back and that first corner was pretty tight. I just held on, pushed and shoved, showed some Aussie grit, looked for BK and there he was – Mr Rocket Man!

"I just kept looking up at the big screen to see where the Poles were and rode it home. Once I saw we were one and two, we just kept doing what we were doing and then, on the last lap, we had a cheeky

look over the shoulder and saw they were pretty far back. We knew we had it all sewn up.

"It was not the best conditions. We had rain and the track was covered when we walked it. We could only walk half of it.

"We had Poland in the first race and didn't really know what to do with the track or the bikes. It's not that we went the

wrong way; we just started a little too high on the sprockets. After that, we just went back to what we had on the Wednesday and that's it.

"We are there doing a job for our team. I don't care if Brady wins all of the races and I get second, or vice-versa. That's our biggest thing in Team Australia. When it comes to team events, we are very chilled and work together as a team very well. It's not all about personal success. As long as we are standing on the right step at the end, I don't care who wins."

Holder hopes to take his success in the team events into SGP next year. While he won this year's round in Warsaw and finished fifth overall, he would love to take the next step and mount a title challenge.

"The GPs are another level and it's all about mindset. I know I can do it. It's very frustrating if things aren't going your way. You just need to be chilled out but it's a big thing – you want that gold medal at the end of the year. I know I can do it. It's all learning and you never stop learning. My time will come."

As Holder stormed to glory in the Grand Final, he even had time to give 2012 World Champion brother Chris Holder a look of joy as he powered down the back straight. That fleeting moment underlined the huge pride one of speedway's greatest-ever

sibling duos has in each other's success, as Chris jumped atop the fence to celebrate after the race.

"We are a long way from home, and we are blood," Jack said. "If he's racing, I'm there, and if I'm racing, he's here. No questions asked – we are family. We are taking on the world."

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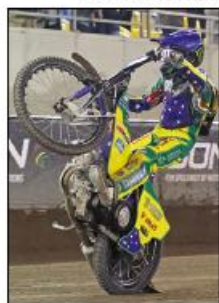
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Czechs Vaclav Milik [white] and Jan Kvec [yellow] trail Brits Lambert and Bewley



Down but not out...Bartosz Zmarzlik

SoN FINAL TELLY TALK

Key comments from the TNT Sports/discovery+ commentary box...

On the Heat 21 first bend incident involving Michael Jepsen Jensen and the fallen Bartosz Zmarzlik...

CHRIS LOUIS: "I put that down to Zmarzlik, although I'm pretty sure it will be all four back. That's a misjudgement, you could exclude him. To a degree, he's got a little bit lucky there because he was coming across and wasn't clear of him (Jepsen Jensen)."

KELVIN TATUM: "Possibly a little fortunate. He (Zmarzlik) just got it all wrong going into the first turn."

On Leon Madsen's exclusion from the Grand Final Qualifier...

KT: "I fear for Madsen here."

CL: "I'll tell you what...I wouldn't want to be the referee here."

KT: "This is a really big call. Championship

gold medals are on the line."

CL: "I feel for the Danes and Madsen because Dudek has actually got off the gas because he had to, he had Jepsen Jensen ahead of him. Right decision but tough on the Danes. They were doing so well, they had worked the first corner."

KT: "Dudek had no choice. He was the meat in the sandwich."

On the Final:

CL: "Wonderful stuff from Australia. Fully deserved. They (Kurtz and Holder) have been the best riders on show tonight, absolutely no question about that. They rode as a team. Dudek made the start but Kurtz rode the berm – he had to because Zmarzlik was threatening. I'm chuffed for Kurtz. He deserved a gold medal after the season he's had."

A-Z OF SPEEDWAY MACHINES 1926-1980

by Tony Webb



A-Z OF SPEEDWAY MACHINES 1926-1980

DIRTRAX 1966-76

ERNIE SUES

BULIMBA MOTORCYCLES. BRISBANE. QLD.

Ernie Sues was a popular rider in Brisbane and Ipswich . in the 1960's, he was also well known for his mechanical abilities. At his Brisbane motorcycle shop he employed John Titman, together they produced the Dirtrax frame to meet the shortage of frames in Brisbane. Based on the Rotrax frame, the early models had the Rotrax type rear end, the later models had the curved Jawa type rear end.

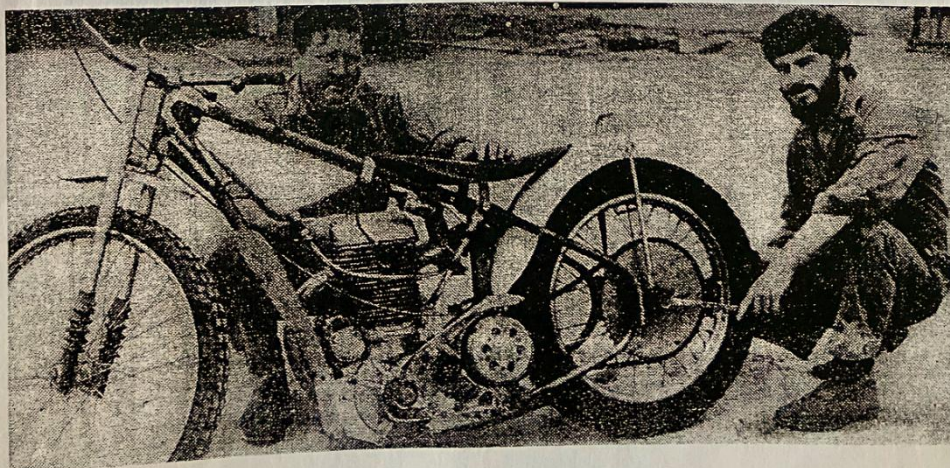
The author met Ernie in Cairns in May 2009, when Ernie revealed several details about his work and the machines he built. Identification was by way of a number system pre fixed by the letters GT or SP , the date of manufacture was pre fixed with the numbers 00 hence 01/002/001/001966 would indicate model number 1, built 2/1/1966. A total 74 frames were made for speedway and 33 for grass track.. Some frames had optional location holes for the bottom stay this gave an option of reducing the wheel base for more drive. Ernie hand beat his own tanks and pressed his own seat bases. As demand grew he imported complete Jawas to obtain the engines and countershafts, so they could offer a complete machine.

John Titman rode a Dirtrax when he won the 1978 Queensland title. Kevin Torpie set up a World track record on a Dirtrax at the EKKA speedway in Brisbane.

A little known fact is that Ernie pioneered the double sided rear hub, he recalls being frustrated when John had 6 rear wheels at a meeting to give a new edge for each ride, Ernie returned to the workshop and produced the first double sided hub.

Apart from frame building Ernie was, and still is a sought after engine tuner. Visting World stars Michael Lee and the late Simon Wigg were so impressed with Ernies skills they both wanted him to go back to UK with them.

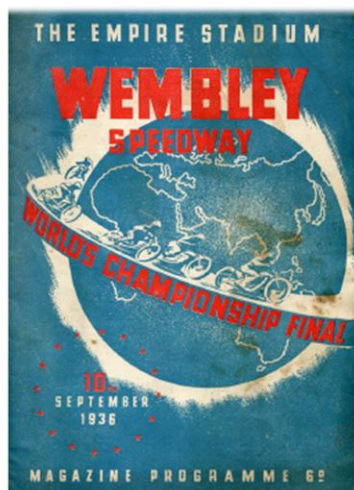
Now in his 75 th year Ernie still potters in his workshop on his cane farm south of Cairns and loves to talk speedway. He was a great friend of Cairns legend, Rusty Rees, who encouraged Ernie to get back in the saddle in his later years



VETERAN TIMELINE courtesy of Brian Darby






CENTRE - Our first and the World's first Solo Speedway Champion - Lionel Van Praag with the World Championship trophy - and placegetters - Wembley UK 1936 . Left to Right: Arthur 'Bluey' Wilkinson 3rd.- Lionel 1st. - Eric Langton 2nd. in a controversial Run Off between Lionel and Eric - and Wembley's Arthur Elvin. Bluey actually came into the Final with more points but was only placed 3rd in the events .



The 1936 World Final Programme
Wembley Stadium
England
September 10
1936 .



Lionel Van Praag
at the Sydney
Sportsground Speedway
still competitive
in the 1950s.

Pos.	Rider	c/f	Final Points	Final Heats	Total Points
1	 Lionel Van Praag	12	14	(3,3,3,2,3)	26+3
2	 Eric Langton	13	13	(3,3,3,2,2)	26+2
3	 Bluey Wilkinson	10	15	(3,3,3,3,3)	25

The final points for the
1936 final.

SIDECAR SCENE

Judy Mackay [Ashleigh Smith]



Brandon Warke & Mitchell Danks-Firth Claim Victory at 2025 Gary Moon Memorial

The Bowen Showgrounds came alive on Saturday, 20 September 2025, as riders and spectators gathered to honour the legacy of Gary Moon at the annual Gary Moon Memorial.

The event delivered thrilling competition, close finishes, and a strong display of sportsmanship befitting the memorial's proud tradition.

Taking out first place were Brandon Warke and Mitchell Danks-Firth, who delivered an outstanding performance across the heats, collecting 12 points before powering through to victory in the A Final. In a tightly contested battle, Hagan Campbell and Riley Campbell claimed second place, also finishing on 12 points from the heats and securing the runner-up position in the A Final after a bump from the Firth/Martin team which saw the latter excluded. Third place went to Tyler Moon and Adam Lovell, who accumulated 9 points through the heats. The pair impressed by winning their B final and Ultimately finishing third in the A Final, securing a well-earned podium spot in the meeting that honours his father.



Rounding out the results, Stuart Firth and Jason Martin placed fourth overall, after collecting 11 points in the heats. Their run in the A Final ended with an exclusion after collecting the Campbell machine, leaving them to settle into the fourth-place position.

Due to an incident in heat 13, a couple of the riders who should have contested the finals withdrew due to injury. Tyler Moon threw a chain causing an incident involving Jamie Moohan and Hamish Golding. Hamish's passenger Bret broke his hand. Jamie suffered concussion. Both riders withdrew from the night.

The event was supported by classic sidecars, with Wayne Ware/Geoffrey Burke taking 1st place on 9 points ahead of Kyle Eames/Edward Hounslow on 8 and Krystopher Mavrenski/Kate Barnes finishing on 5.

North Queensland Speedway Riders and Supporters club thanked all riders, volunteers, supporters, and the Moon family for contributing to another successful memorial meeting, honouring Gary Moon's enduring impact on the sport and the community.



SIDECAR SCENE continued

Judy Mackay



Gillman Championship 23/11/2025

In the Sidecar section of the Gillman Championships held on 23rd November 2025, Justin Plaisted/Brian Anthony were unbeaten in the heats and led for three laps in the final only to be beaten by Trent Headland/Jaxon Rayner.

Plaisted was riding a bike borrowed from Mick Farrell and clung to the inside line all day and in the final Headland attempted to get through on the inside for a couple of laps but then, with a powerful burst of speed, roared around the outside of at the end of the third lap and into the last lap for a narrow victory.

Despite being a former Australian champion the win was Headland's first in his local track championship.

Kiwis Taylor Green/Callum Innes, who stayed over for the postponement despite a lot of extra cost and MA paperwork, finished third and Josh Pascoe/Dale Knights were fourth.

Pascoe/Knight's fourth place continued their fine form from the previous weekend when they won the inaugural Spotty Burke Memorial at Broken hill, and they were direct qualifiers for the final on countback after beating Green/Innes in heat 8 which was the Kiwis first defeat at Gillman after seven straight wins over the opening two meetings.

Highlights amongst the non-qualifiers for the final, were the form of Nate Headland/Harry Hearne and Byron Mordaunt/Jarrad Katzorke. Headland was making his first sidecar appearance at Gillman since breaking both legs 21 months ago (after making his first comeback rides at Broken Hill the previous weekend) and was quickly on the pace, scoring 9 points and finishing second to Green in the semi-final. Mordaunt was much better than his 7 points would indicate, and was even the early leader against Plaisted and Trent Headland in heat three. Mordaunt's brother Jason, in his first season, also rode well and was a lot better than his lowly two points would suggest.



Taylor Green/Callum Innes

Trent Headland/Jaxon Rayner

Josh Pascoe/Dale Knights

Speedway of Nations, Toruń, Poland. Final, 4th October



JACK Yellow & BRADY White



JACK Yellow & BRADY White

After a three-year break, Australia claimed its second SON gold medal. Apart from their opening race, Brady Kurtz and Jack Holder won all their remaining heats by the maximum score, and by the same margin they defeated Poland in the final race. As the winner of the Speedway of Nations, the Australian team secured a spot in next year's Speedway World Cup final in Warsaw, alongside the hosts, Poland.

SEE FULL REPORT 'WIZARDS OF OZ' Page 8 .

Speedway of Nations 2 Final, Toruń, Poland, 3rd Oct.

The Australian team won the bronze medal in SON 2, repeating last year's success. In a closely contested final, Mitchell McDiarmid, Tate Zischke, and reserve rider James Pearson scored only one point fewer than the silver medallists, Denmark, and just two points fewer than the championship-winning German team.

Results: 1. Germany 39; 2. Denmark 38; 3. Australia 37: Mitch McDiarmid 19, Tate Zischke 18, James Pearson 0



The bronze boys: Mitchell McDiarmid, Tate Zischke, James Pearson and Mark Lemon

Premiership Final.

Ipswich Witches, with Jason Doyle in their line-up, defeated Leicester Lions — featuring Max Fricke, Sam Masters and Ryan Douglas — in both legs of the Premiership final. It is the Witches' first British team championship title in 27 years.

Leicester Lions vs. Ipswich Witches, 6th October (1st leg)

Leicester Lions 43: Max Fricke 12; Ryan Douglas 11; Sam Masters 7; Luke Becker 5; Kyle Howarth 5; Drew Kemp 3; Joe Thompson 0 **Ipswich Witches 47:** Emil Sayfutdinov 11; Tom Brennan 9; Jason Doyle 8; Dan Thompson 8; Jason Edwards 6; Daniel King 5; Adam Ellis 0

Ipswich Witches vs. Leicester Lions, 9th October (2nd leg) Ipswich Witches 46: Jason Doyle 10; Emil Sayfutdinov 9; Tom Brennan 7; Keynan Rew (guest) 7; Daniel King 6; Dan Thompson 5; Jason Edwards 2

Leicester Lions 43: Max Fricke 13; Ryan Douglas 9; Sam Masters 7; Luke Becker 5; Drew Kemp 5; Kyle Howarth 4; Joe Thompson 0

Ligue Nationale de Speedway FFM.

Moto Club Marmande — the team of Troy Batchelor, Michael West and Tate Zischke — won the French team championship. In the final standings, MC Marmande finished two points ahead of Moto Start Club Saint-Macaire and three points ahead of Morizès Moto Club.

Golden Helmet of Pardubice, Czech Republic, 21st September

Jason Doyle was unable to secure his fourth victory in the tournament. The winner of the Golden Helmet in 2018–2020 was excluded from the rerun of the final race for causing the fall of Andžejš Ľebedevs (in the initial running, Doyle had fallen himself after battling with the same rider). In the next rerun of the heat — after Adam Bednář had earlier been excluded for touching the tapes — the leading Ľebedevs suffered a mechanical failure and was passed just before the finish line by Dimitri Bergé, who thus became the winner of the Golden Helmet.

Consolation Final (6 laps): 1. Ryan Douglas; 2. Sam Masters; 3. Adam Ellis; 4. Norick Blödorn; 5. Timo Lahti; 6. Nazar Parnytskyi (-). **Grand Final (6 laps):** 1. Dimitri Bergé; 2. Andžejš Ľebedevs; 3. Rasmus Jensen; 4. Jakub Jambor; 5. Adam Bednář (tape); 6. Jason Doyle (excluded).

The Ostrów Wielkopolski Chain Tournament, Ostrów Wielkopolski, Poland, 10th October

Max Fricke won the traditional Ostrów Wielkopolski Chain Tournament. He thus became the first Australian rider to claim the trophy of the oldest long-running speedway tournament in Poland. Jason Doyle did not take part in the additional race for third place, Keynan Rew finished further down the order.

Ryan Douglas Testimonial, Leicester, 27th September

Ryan Douglas won his testimonial meeting, celebrating his ten years of racing in the British leagues. In the main round, he dropped points only to Rohan Tungate and Jason Doyle, and in the final race he beat Josh Pickering, Doyle, and Tungate. Over his British career, Douglas has ridden for the Scunthorpe Scorpions (2013–17, 2023), Wolverhampton Wolves (2019, 2021, 2023), Leicester Lions (2019, 2021, 2024–25). In that time, he has collected numerous team honours: the Championship title and Shield with Leicester in 2019, the Championship Knock Out Cup with Scunthorpe in 2023, and the Premiership Knock Out Cup with Leicester in 2025.

Results: 1. Ryan Douglas (Leicester Lions) 13 – 1st in the final; 2. Josh Pickering (Sheffield Tigers) 10 – 2nd in the final; 3. Jason Doyle (Ipswich Witches) 10 – 3rd in the final; 4. Rohan Tungate (Oxford Spirens) 12 – 4th in the final; 5. Sam Masters (Leicester Lions / Oxford Cheetahs) 12;



Ryan Douglas : Josh Pickering, Jason Doyle and Rohan Tungate

UK Championship Final. Poole Pirates vs. Glasgow Tigers, 15th October (1st leg)

Poole Pirates 51: Richard Lawson 14; Zach Cook 11; Lewis Kerr 8; Anders Rowe 7; William Cairns 5; Paul Starke 3; Tobias Thomsen 3 **Glasgow Tigers 39:** Chris Harris 9; Dan Thompson 9; Kyle Howarth 6; Villads Christiansen 5; Leon Flint 5; Freddy Hodder 4; Max Perry 1

Glasgow Tigers vs. Poole Pirates, 17th October (2nd leg)

Glasgow Tigers 51+2: Chris Harris 15+2; Kyle Howarth 9+0; Dan Thompson 8; Leon Flint 8; Villads Christiansen 6; Freddy Hodder 5; Max Perry 0 **Poole Pirates 39+7:** Zach Cook 10+4; Lewis Kerr 8; Richard Lawson 7+3; Anders Rowe 6; William Cairns 4; Tobias Thomsen 3; Paul Starke 1

Jarosław Hampel Farewell, Lublin, Poland, 5th October

One of the most decorated Polish riders, Jarosław Hampel, has ended his illustrious career. The silver and bronze medallist of the individual world championship bid farewell to his fellow riders and the fans, completing several laps before his farewell meeting at the track in Lublin.

Results: 1. Bartosz Zmarzlik (Motor Lublin) 12; 2. Przemysław Pawlicki (Falubaz Zielona Góra) 12; 3. Dominik Kubera (Motor Lublin) 11; 4. Kacper Woryna (Włókniarz Częstochowa) 11; 5. Emil Sayfutdinov (KS Toruń) 11; 6. Piotr Pawlicki (Włókniarz Częstochowa) 9; 7. Rohan Tungate (ROW Rybnik) 9; 8. Mateusz Cierniak (Motor Lublin) 8; 9. Grzegorz Zengota (Unia Leszno) 7; 10. Oliver Berntzon (Moonfin Malesa Ostrów Wielkopolski) 6; 11. Maciej Janowski (Sparta Wrocław) 6; 12. Jaimon Lidsey (GKM Grudziądz) 5; 13. Jan Kvěch (KS Toruń) 5; 14. Bartosz Smektała (PSŻ Poznań) 4; 15. Kacper Mania (Unia Leszno) 3; 16. Szymon Szlauderbach (PSŻ Poznań) 1; 17. Bartosz Jaworski (Motor Lublin) -

■ USA vs. Rest of the World, Auburn, United States, 4th October

In the traditional match in Auburn, the United States convincingly defeated the Rest of the World team, which included the sole Australian representative, Fraser Bowes.

USA 77: Broc Nicol 22; Chris Kerr 18; Billy Janniro 14; Darren Armbruster 9; Timmy Dion 7; Dan Faria 7

Rest of the World 57: Patryk Wojdyło (Poland) 26; Wilbur Hancock (Sweden) 11; Bartłomiej Kowalski (Poland) 10; Radosław Kowalski (Poland) 6; Fraser Bowes (Australia) 4; Bartosz Bańbor (Poland) 0

Awards. Australian riders were recognised for their performances in the 2025 season. At the World Speedway Riders' Association Gala Awards in Leicester, Brady Kurtz was named Rider of the Year.

Meanwhile, at the Speedway Ekstraliga Gala in Warsaw, Brady was named the Foreign Rider of the Season. In the online fan voting for the Premiership End of Season Awards, Max Fricke was chosen as the British Premiership Rider of the Year. Brady received further honours at the ATPi Aces Awards – The Maugers Awards Night in Manchester, where he was named the Belle Vue Speedway Supporters Club Fans 'Rider of the Year', received the Dent Oliver Team Manager's Rider of the Year Award and presented with the Ivan Mauger Excellence Award. Zach Cook was named Alan Wilkinson Team Man of the Year.



Speedway Grand Prix.



Mayfield Sports Events Ltd has become the new global promoter of the world championships. The British company will oversee the organization of all world competitions until 2031: Speedway Grand Prix, Speedway Grand Prix 2, Speedway Grand Prix 3, Speedway Grand Prix 4, as well as the Speedway World Cup and the Speedway of Nations. The previous promoter, Warner Bros. Discovery Sports, will remain the global broadcaster and distributor of media rights for the next six seasons.

SGP Line-up 2026. Permanent riders: Bartosz Zmarzlik (Poland), Brady Kurtz (Australia), Daniel Bewley (Great Britain), Fredrik Lindgren (Sweden), Jack Holder (Australia), Andžejs Lebedevs (Latvia), Robert Lambert (Great Britain), Max Fricke (Australia, wild card), Jason Doyle (Australia, wild card), Dominik Kubera (Poland), Leon Madsen (Denmark), Michael Jepsen Jensen (Denmark), Patryk Dudek (Poland), Kacper Woryna (Poland), Tai Woffinden (Great Britain, wild card).



KS Toruń became the new Polish team champions., they defeated the champion of the past three years — Jack Holder's team, Motor Lublin.

KS Toruń vs. Motor Lublin, 21st September (1st leg)

KS Toruń 54: Patryk Dudek 13; Mikkel Michelsen 10; Emil Sayfutdinov 9; Robert Lambert 8; Antoni Kawczyński 5; Jan Kvěch 5; Mikołaj Duchiniński 4; Krzysztof Lewandowski -

Motor Lublin 36: Bartosz Zmarzlik 13; Dominik Kubera 10; Jack Holder 5; Fredrik Lindgren 3; Wiktor Przyjemski 2; Mateusz Cierniak 2; Bartosz Bańbor 1; Bartosz Jaworski -

Motor Lublin vs. KS Toruń, 28th September (2nd leg)

Motor Lublin 52: Bartosz Zmarzlik 12; Mateusz Cierniak 9; Jack Holder 8; Fredrik Lindgren 8; Wiktor Przyjemski 6; Bartosz Bańbor 5; Dominik Kubera 4; Bartosz Jaworski -

KS Toruń 38: Patryk Dudek 12; Mikkel Michelsen 10; Emil Sayfutdinov 8; Robert Lambert 6; Jan Kvěch 1; Antoni Kawczyński 1; Mikołaj Duchiniński 0; Krzysztof Lewandowski



Jack Holder

World Championship Calendar 2026.

Speedway Grand Prix

- 02.05 – Grand Prix of Germany, Landshut
- 23.05 – Grand Prix of Czech Republic, Prague
- 05.06 – Grand Prix of Great Britain I, Manchester
- 06.06 – Grand Prix of Great Britain II, Manchester
- 20.06 – Grand Prix of Poland I, Wrocław
- 11.07 – Grand Prix of Sweden, Målilla
- 01.08 – Grand Prix of Poland II, Łódź
- 08.08 – Grand Prix of Latvia, Riga
- 12.09 – Grand Prix of Denmark, Vojens
- 26.09 – Grand Prix of Poland III, Toruń

Qualifications for Speedway Grand Prix 2027

- 25.05 – Qualifying Round 1, Abensberg, Germany
- 30.05 – Qualifying Round 2, Žarnovica, Slovakia
- 30.05 – Qualifying Round 3, Glasgow, Scotland
- 25.07 – Grand Prix Challenge, Terenzano, Italy

Speedway World Cup

- 01.05 – Semi-final 1, Landshut, Germany
- 07.08 – Semi-final 2, Riga, Latvia
- 29.08 – Final, Warsaw, Poland

Speedway Grand Prix 2

- 27.06 – Qualifying Round 1, Pardubice, Czech Republic
- 27.06 – Qualifying Round 2, Krško, Slovenia
- 27.06 – Qualifying Round 3, Fjellsted, Denmark
- 10.07 – Round 1, Målilla, Sweden
- 31.07 – Round 2, Łódź, Poland
- 11.09 – Round 3, Vojens, Denmark

Speedway of Nations 2

- 22.05 – Final, Prague, Czech Republic

Speedway Grand Prix 3

- 13.06 – Semi-final 1, TBA, TBA
- 13.06 – Semi-final 2, TBA, TBA
- 19.06 – Final, Wrocław, Poland

Speedway Grand Prix 4

- 11.07 – Final, Målilla, Sweden

04.07 – **Women's Speedway World Cup**, Donji Kraljevec, Croatia

04.07 – **Women's Speedway Gold Trophy**, Donji Kraljevec, Croatia

Club rider movements for the 2026 Season .

Poland. Beau Bailey (debutant): GKM Grudziądz; Zach Cook: Sparta Wrocław → Orzeł Łódź; Jason Doyle: Włókniarz Częstochowa → Wilki Krosno; Chris Holder: ROW Rybnik → Moonfin Malesa Ostrów Wielkopolski; Jack Holder: Motor Lublin → Stal Gorzów Wielkopolski; Jaimon Lidsey: GKM Grudziądz → Włókniarz Częstochowa; Nick Morris (return to a ride in the Polish league): Lokomotiv Daugavpils; Keynan Rew: Stal Rzeszów → Unia Leszno; Rohan Tungate: ROW Rybnik → Włókniarz Częstochowa.

Great Britain. Fraser Bowes: Workington Comets → Poole Pirates; Josh Pickering: Scunthorpe Scorpions. **Denmark.** Beau Bailey (debutant): Region Varde Elitesport (Outrup); Ryan Douglas (debutant): Grindsted Speedway Klub Liga; Brady Kurtz (return to Danish league): Holsted Tigers.

QLD STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Steve Magro [Darcy Ward]



2025 Queensland Championship Pioneer Park.

Zaine Kennedy is the new Queensland champion after winning the final at Pioneer Park, Ayr, before a good crowd of eager-for-action bike fans. Defending champ Josh Grajczonek was the pre-meeting favourite but he failed to complete a race when his bike reared and met the fence, ending his night on a sad note. A fast performance came from Tate Zischke, who looked set for the final until taking a tumble late in the meeting, earning a precautionary ride to hospital.

Placegetters in the final were Jacob Hook, Declan Kennedy and Bradley Niven. Promoter Darcy Ward was happy with his first Pioneer Park meet, although reports say a field of ten riders nominated. Said Jordy Loftus Racing: "unfortunately with only 10 riders, it meant an uneven draw over four rounds". The 16-year old scored seven, progressing to the semi-finals under "tricky conditions" on a track he'd not ridden before.

Winner Zaine Kennedy said he was "stoked to finally win one. I've been close so many times but just never quite got over the line. I went through the heats, only dropping one point and finished highest scorer and had first pick for the final."

Darcy said "Some of the best racing of the night was the 250s between Viv Muddle and Ky Mitchell. Two-man races — Ky was making some starts and Viv was having to work for it. After 3 heats it was 2–1 to Ky. Heat 4, Viv dive-bombed Ky into bend 3 lap 2 and Ky slid off with a close call, seeing Ky excluded. Heat 5, Viv trapped and claimed Ky to take win, followed by a dirt-deflector wheelie with the chequered flag for a lap, crowd loved it, Sidecars were on fire — great battles between Cohen, Moon, and Campbell. All fair and plenty of passes. 450s had fun and were a delight to have on show.....

TITLE RESULTS

125cc

- 1 Beau Baker
- 2 Blake Schlein
- 3 George Holmkvist
- 4th Jaden Higginson

250cc

- 1 Viv Muddle
- 2 Ky Mitchell

500cc

- 1 Zaine Kennedy
- 2 Jacob Hook
- 3 Declan Kennedy
- 4th Brad Niven



WINNER Zaine Kennedy



...Thanks to the DWSP crew that travelled, dedicated their time, took time off work for the sport and myself — and to the ones that jumped onboard to help the event happen. A team runs these events and it's a challenge."

*One week and 15 hours of drive time later Loftus, Hook, Cordell Rogerson and Brandan Cogan did hot laps for the very last time at North Brisbane's Mick Doohan Raceway. Joined by veterans Troy Dutton, Danny Jordan, Geoff Tomkins, Kerry Maher, Adrian Coney, Rick Maude, Gavin Henricks, Scott Whittaker (modern sidecar run by Jamie Hadden, vintage Viv Muddle).

WA STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Tony Wilton



Pinjar Speedway finally got into action on November 15th after the first two scheduled meetings were called off. The Club did not give any reason for this, but it would appear to be due to a lack of solo riders.

The season commenced with State Titles in all solo divisions plus Flat Trackers. Thankfully Mitch McDiarmid was back from his successful season in Poland which provided a major boost to the solo division. Luke Killeen was also back in Perth but his broken wrist sustained in his last UK meeting kept him on the sidelines. A total of 8 riders nominated which included some young ones still learning their craft and also 2 riders in their mid 60's.

To say that Mitch dominated was an understatement. He demolished the opposition and I doubt whether any rider in Australia could have beaten him on the night. His brother Jack rode solidly in all races and finished runner up in the final with the improving Trevar Dossett third. Veteran Nigel Flatman was fourth.



Mitch McDiarmid by Graham Veasey

Matt Marson showed promise early in the night with a busy schedule of rides in both the 500's and the Flat Trackers, sadly ending up with a fall in the final. Marson looked set to take out another Flat Trackers title after winning all his heats however he had to settle for second after being passed by a determined Riley Mouritz in the final. Neil Follett was 3rd.

The 250cc solos provided fast and entertaining racing, with three different winners in the heats. The final was taken out by Jett Harvey from Phoenix Elliott and Axle McCarthy. (parents come up with some great names these days.)

Mason Robbins won all heats and the final for the 125's. Owen Chapman and Kaden Keen filled the placings in the final.

The sidecars were again dominated by the pairing of Josh Wells and Corey Blackman who took out all heats and the final. Passenger Corey does a great job on the side after riding solos in the UK for British Clubs, Reading, Edinburgh, Exeter, Trelawny and Glasgow.

Bob King/Jonah Sita & Adam Wenn/Jamie Forrest showed good form, however both suffered machine problems on the night. Finishing second behind Wells/Blackman in the final were the father daughter pairing of Phillip & Lara Miller. They continue to improve and look great in their "Freak Show" gear.



Josh Wells and Corey Blackman leading Bob King & Jonah Sita.GV Photography



Daniel Winchester, dual state champion and undisputed King of Pinjar with seven wins to his credit is being honoured with a testimonial meeting on January 17th. 16 A-Grade solos, Sidecars & Outlaw Karts

NSW STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Rod Colquhoun 1



BEAU BAILEY REJECTS ENGLAND

New South Wales based rising star Beau Bailey has turned down a stellar opportunity to compete in the UK in 2026 and instead will follow the modern trend of focusing on Poland as his primary league destination. The sixteen year old has quickly asserted himself as the most exciting Australian prospect since Darcy Ward and whilst he was touted as a key signing for the mega successful Poole Pirates in 2026 – that won't happen.

Speaking from his base in Grenfell NSW, Beau's Father, Tim, explained the situation. "We were grateful and flattered by the interest shown in Beau by the UK clubs and whilst we are relatively new to speedway, we are aware that the UK has been enormous in developing Australian talent over many years," he said.

"However, with Beau being so young we are very mindful of the logistics involved with riding on a fixed night in the UK and we just don't think he's old enough to handle the rigors of that sort of schedule, if he is based on the continent."

"He will race in Poland and Denmark at this stage and obviously his primary goal over time will be to get involved in the SGP series – but that is a long way away."

"In saying that, we would imagine that at some stage racing in the UK will happen, we most certainly haven't ruled it out, but at the moment it just doesn't make sense," he concluded. Bailey's decision may also be attributed to the rapid decline in the number of UK clubs still operating and the inability of the UK hierarchy to give any real clarity around how many leagues will operate in 2026 and how many clubs will be involved, He is certainly 'The one that got away' as far as UK speedway goes.



Lachlan Russell (left) and Beau Bailey (right) with Sam Colquhoun at Beau's Grenfell property

EASTERN CREEK SHAKEDOWN Jack Holder and Darrin Treloar were the first speedway stars to turn a wheel at Sydney International Speedway in November under the watchful eye of Mick Holder and Track Manager Mitch Biner. This was the first of multiple planned tests to assist with the track preparation for the Darcy Ward Invitational on Boxing Day.



Jack Gardening Test



NSW STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Rod Colquhoun 2



BEAU BAILEY WINS COWRA

Boom youngster Beau Bailey won a weather affected season opener at Cowra with a breathtaking display. The Darcy Ward / Cowra Club Co Promotion was a real shot in the arm for the sport in New South Wales, following Kurri's decision to stop running major events.

The meeting was declared after 4 rounds of heats due to track conditions (from earlier rain) and at that time, Bailey had accumulated 11 points (beaten only by Ben Cook).

Cook amassed 10 points after falling while leading one of his races, before getting up to finish 3rd. He was awarded second overall.

The equally impressive duo of Zach Cook and Tate Zitsche also finished on 10 and they were rewarded with third and fourth respectively after a count back.

There were notable heat wins from other riders, including Jacob Hook, Alex Adamson, Jack Morrison and Bradley Page as well as Viv Muddle in the 250cc support (Kobi Canning was also impressive).

It was an enjoyable night and well orchestrated by Shane Clare, Mick Holder, Todd Kurtz and a sterling support crew.

Full credit to everyone who rode in difficult conditions including Harry Ryan, Ben Whalley, Aden Clare, Lochie Russell, Tayla Street, Noah Grabham, Cordell Rogerson, Reid Battey.

Track was mega tricky and everyone did well to stay safe. Thanks to the 125cc Juniors for providing some great action.



1st Beau Bailey 2nd Ben Cook 3rd Zach Cook 4th Tate Zitsche



Beau in winning ways



Charlie Ward on Brady Kurtz PeeWee



Maitland Mayor Philip Penfold and Cr Warwick Penfold checking out Cowra following the Maitland Motorcycle Forum

NSW STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Rod Colquhoun 3



THE RUSSELL HUSTLE A rider who continues to impress and improve with every outing is young New South Wales rider, Lachlan Russell. The Oakdale based youngster has been clocking up the miles with his father, Dean and the results have been improving with every outing. Lachlan is a product on the Craig Boyce / Mick Holder training regime at Nepean and despite being a bit lanky he has a nice compact style. Definitely one to watch in coming months.

BEEN IMPRESSIVE Reigning New Zealand champion Ben Whalley is very likeable young man and everyone he has come in contact with since he relocated to Australia speaks very highly of him. Now based in Seabrook (Melbourne) and working as a Diesel mechanic he is chasing meetings up and down the country, all in an effort to 'Improve himself as a rider'. With competition and meetings very irregular in his home country he made the decision to move here and so far it is paying off. "I've enjoyed my time here and I've found the regular racing has helped me a lot," he said. "Mick Holder and Boycey have been very helpful in terms of my technique and gating and I've met so many people who are willing to help me out. I really feel very welcome."

Whalley rides pretty well and assuming he maintains his current enthusiasm and willingness to learn; an international UK career is on the cards.



ADMIRABLE ATTITUDE Two riders who probably don't get the accolades they deserve in relation to their dedication to riding in Australia every summer are Chris and Jack Holder. Whilst many of their UK based colleagues choose to rest during the Australian season the Holder boys always seem to be giving back to the sport – simply by competing.

On that same subject, I have no issue with the absolute best Aussies taking a summer off here and there, but I get really agitated with middle of the road riders declaring they 'need a rest'. Losing races is the best way to learn and whilst it is not enjoyable it gives you motivation. I was never a good rider, but I was always available and keen to race – I didn't know any other way. Some of these Aussie blokes riding in the UK with four and five point averages who think they need a break are getting bad advice. Racing in Australia will give you memories and stories that will last a lifetime. Take it from me – winning the League, The Knock Out Cup or the Four Team Tournament final means nothing outside the UK. Australia is where you build your reputation. Think about it.

TAYLA TERRIFIC I had the pleasure of meeting young Victorian lady racer Tayla Street at Cowra recently and what a lovely person she is. It's a huge undertaking to wrestle a 500cc speedway bike around a rain effected Woodstock Raceway, but Tayla did it with control and poise – it was great to see. She absolutely loves the sport and I'm sure she will continue to improve. Good stuff.



Motorcycling NSW will live stream the NSW Championships is a strategic move to broaden the sport's reach, improve accessibility, and strengthen community engagement. The live stream will be hosted via the Motorcycling NSW YouTube channel. Fans should subscribe in advance and turn on notifications.

Oakburn Park Raceway, Tamworth Motorcycle Club
Saturday, January 31st 2025

Live Stream: www.youtube.com/@motorcycling_nsw

VETERAN TIMELINE

By Brian Lear



Ken Le Breton

Francis James Le Breton (15 August 1924 Sydney,^[1] New South Wales – 6 January 1951)^[2] was an Australian Motorcycle speedway rider who was nicknamed "The White Ghost" due to his wearing white leathers.^[3]

Biography

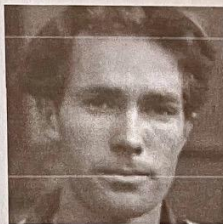
Le Breton served in the Australian Army as a gunner in World War II.^[4] His service in New Guinea ended when he was hospitalized with swamp fever (malaria) and battle fatigue.^[4] He was discharged in 1945 and took up speedway the following year.^[4] He took part in novice trials at the Sydney Sports Ground but failed to impress and was turned away. He then took part in trials at the West Maitland Showground in New South Wales and was immediately noticed by everyone as he appeared with all white leathers and bike. Ray Duggan, who was at the meeting, took an interest in Le Breton and helped him get established back at the Sydney Sports Ground where he rode in all white as "The White Ghost".

Le Breton sailed to the United Kingdom in 1947 to try to get a team place and signed for the New Cross Rangers.^[5] Things did not go so well so the second-division Newcastle Diamonds signed him in exchange for Jeff Lloyd and £1000. He moved with the Newcastle promotion to Glasgow with the Ashfield Giants in 1949 for two seasons until 1950.^[6]

Death

Le Breton was involved in a crash on 5 January 1951 at the Sydney Sports Ground, where he first rode a speedway bike. He was representing Australia in the second Test match of the 1950–51 season against England.^[4] In heat 18, he was attempting to pass England's Eddie Rigg on the last bend, looking to gain third place, when he cut into Rigg's rear wheel. Le Breton's bike locked and he hit the safety fence hard and straight on. He died the next day in St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney due to severe injuries including a fractured skull^[4] and punctured lung.^[4]

Ken Le Breton



Born	15 August 1924 Sydney, New South Wales
Died	6 January 1951 (aged 26) Sydney, New South Wales
Nickname	The White Ghost
Nationality	Australian
Career history	
1947	<u>New Cross Rangers</u>
1947–1948	<u>Newcastle Diamonds</u>
1949–1950	<u>Ashfield Giants</u>

SA/NT STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Shane Parker



- Unfortunately the Dave Adams Classic meeting at Gillman on Oct 25th was rained off. With competitors travelling from afar as Perth it was a big disappointment to the start of the season but the club is looking to reschedule later in the year.

- Despite an at times bitterly cold night, Gillman Speedway delivered on its promise of an entertaining night's racing at the opening "summer" meeting for 2025/26 on Saturday night (8 November). The meeting started with the Group 1 Solos, with the eagerly anticipated debut appearance of just turned 16-year-old Beau Bailey and he didn't disappoint, not only winning the opening race but winning all four of his heats in fine style, including two against multiple state champion Justin Sedgmen, and clocking the fastest time of the night. But, in the all-important final it was Sedgmen who triumphed with Bailey a close second. On another occasion Bailey may have been able to chase Sedgmen down, but this time he had his hands full trying to hold on to 2nd place for the first three laps from Kiwi Jake Turner. NZ champion, Ben Whalley retired while in fourth.



The only rider from group one who didn't figure in the finals was the unfortunate 17 year old Alex Adamson from NSW. After a 1318 km drive from his home in Lapstone, New South Wales, He was nowhere near his best after a crash in practice but still competitive scoring 3 points from three rides before pulling infield in his last ride.

- Steven Graetz, with 10 points, top scored in the Group 2 Solos ahead of Isaiah Hartley (9), Jack Norman (7) and Tayla Street (6), after Hartley, from near Bendigo, was the early front-runner.
- The standout duo in the Sidecar events was New Zealand duo Taylor Green and Callum Innes, who were making their Gillman debut. The night did not start well for them when meeting favourites Justin Plaisted/Brian Anthony slowed in front of them in their first race, and they ran into the back of them and rolled the bike. We thought that might be the end of them, but they came out for the rerun, won it, and then won their other three heats and the final for an unbeaten night. Second in the final went to Kym Menadue/Shane Dolan with Shane Rudloff/Damian Egan third and Brian Silvy/Glen Zaworksi fourth. The best race of the night, across all classes, was without doubt heat five with the same four riders. They were as close as is possible to be, and swapping all four places for the first couple of laps before Green took the win, with Rudloff second, Silvy third and Menadue fourth. Plaisted and Anthony suffered an electrical problem with the bike and only took two rides.



- Byron Mordaunt/Jarrad Katzorke (12 points) also clean-sheeted in the Group 2 sidecars, with brother Jason Mordaunt/Peter Robinson, and Joshua Kerr/Kate Barnes the next best on 8 points.

SA/NT STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP continued

Shane Parker



- The Under 16 250cc Solos produced probably the best racing of the night 'with Cooper Antone, Kobi Canning and Nate Smith wheel-to-wheel in every race. Cooper Antone won the final with Smith second, Canning third and Ruby Chapman fourth.
- The rerun Under 16 125cc Solo final saw an easy win for Hayden Pascoe ahead of Jett Plaisted and Nate Sadler.



- Speedway Experience South Australia ran their first twilight coaching evening in November with a great turn out and superb conditions for practice with light rain falling making the track difficult to ride.



Cooper Antone

Wilbur Hancock



Will Cairns



Gillman Speedway have arranged for several international riders to be based in Adelaide for this Solo season. Luke Harrison from the UK the current British Under 19 champion and a member SON2 rider. Also Will Cairns 3rd at the SGP3 2024 and League Champions Poole rider. Greg Hancock's son Wilbur is hoping to make his Australian debut this season along with 4x AMA youth champion Nick Hohlbein.



Wilbur Hancock

SUMMER SPEEDWAY SCHEDULE

Friday 9 January	Australian 500cc Solo Championship CBS Bins Final Round
Sunday 11 January	CBS Bins FIM Oceania 500cc Speedway Solo Championship
Saturday 24 January	Jim Irwin Sidecar Spectacular
Saturday 7 February	Bowes Family Sidecar Cup, Solos, Classics
Saturday 14 February	Gillman Speedway Classic Championships / David Adams Tribute
Saturday 21 February	Ray White Gawler South Australian Sidecar Championship
Saturday 7 March	Marker Brothers Sidecar Cup, Classic Sidecars, Flat Track
Saturday 21 March	Bob White Sidecar Cup, Solos, Flat Track, Juniors
Saturday 4 April	Ray White Gawler FIM Oceania Speedway Sidecar Championship

VICTORIA STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Howard Williams



Victorian State Titles – Mildura 29th November 2025

500cc senior. Beau Bailey added to his rapidly expanding speedway honours list by emerging victorious at the Victorian State Championship held at Mildura on 29th November. Second was four time Victorian champion Justin Sedgmen, and third was Queenslander Declan Kennedy who had progressed via the B final. Rounding out the top four was West Australian visitor Mitch McDiarmid who was excluded in the first attempt at running the final when he was judged to have made a reckless move when attempting to pass Bailey and had fallen. In the second attempt at running the final Sedgmen from gate 4 could not get around Bailey in the race to turn one and try as Sedgmen may Bailey had all the answers to the Sedgmen challenges and held on for a fine win. The other B finalists were local Jack Morrison (2nd), New South Welshman Reid Battye (3rd), and visiting South Australian Fraser Bowes (4th). Major point scorers were Bailey (14), McDiarmid (13), Sedgmen (12), Kennedy (11), Morrison (10), Bowes (9), and Battye (8).

Tayla Street made history by becoming the first female to ride in a Victorian senior state speedway championship. She didn't trouble the scorers but fair play to her for "having a go" at what is still a very early stage of her speedway career having only first ridden a 500cc laydown in May this year. She will learn from the experience'

Photo courtesy of Mildura Motorcycle Club. Left to right - Sedgmen, Bailey, Kennedy, McDiarmid



250cc Under 16. Cooper Antone is also gaining some major momentum and adding to his speedway highlights reel by winning the 250 cc event for under 16 riders. In a field of nine riders Antone was the leading qualifier on 11 points. His only blemish was dropping a point to visiting Queenslander Ky Mitchell (8). Second was Kobi Canning (10), with Mitchell not far behind in third. Victorian Nate Smith (6) was placed fourth after retiring in the final.

*Photo courtesy of Mildura Motorcycle Club
Left to right – Canning, Antone, Mitchell, Smith.*



VICTORIA STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Howard Williams continued



125cc Under 16. This was held at 3.00 pm before many of the crowd had arrived which was a shame for the young lads who had come from far and wide and would have enjoyed riding in front of a crowd. 1st Blake Schlein 2nd Riley Stout 3rd Ryleigh McGregor 4th Hayden Pascoe

State of Origin Speedway- Mildura 4th October. Mildura held what was originally going to be a four state, four rider per team event on 4th October 2025. Unfortunately due to some late withdrawals the event reverted to a two team seven rider per side match using the same 15 heat format as used in British league speedway. The teams were NSW vs Rest Of Australia. NSW had way too much firepower for "The Rest" and ran out comfortable winners 56 – 34. Star of the meeting was Beau Bailey with 15 points from 5 rides, ably supported by Alex Adamson (10 from 5), Reid Battye (8 from 4), and Noah Grabham (also 8 from 4). Flying the flag for the vanquished were Jack Morrison (11 from 5) with Sam Martin (8 from 5) the only other Rest Of Australia rider to score more than 4 points.



Alex Adamson

Albury Wodonga. At the time of writing the Albury Wodonga club will shortly be embarking on their busiest speedway month ever ! 16th Dec – Ashley Jones 20 Year Memorial meeting, 13th Dec – Australian U21's and U16's solo champ, 3rd / 4th Jan – Rounds 1 and 2 Australian Senior Solo Championship

Mildura – Promoting international speedway again.

As has become customary in the last several years Mildura are again hosting international riders who make the long trek to tackle the Olympic Park circuit at the biggest Mildura meetings outside the national championship round. This years invitees include seven times British champion and SGP rider Scott Nicholls, former British Under 21 champion 22 year old Leon Flint, current British Under 19 champion 18 year old Luke Harrison, and 26 year old American Luke Becker. The above quartet will be racing in the Phil Crump Classic on 27th Dec and the Jason Lyons Trophy on 17th Jan 2026



Undera & Myrtleford Update.

Both Undera and Myrtleford are still plugging away in their respective battles to bring permanent speedway back to each of the towns. Myrtleford celebrated a landmark date in welcoming back bikes on Sat 29th November, only a practice day for dirt track bikes as the track is not yet fully accredited to run speedway, but it must have been a welcome sight seeing bikes back on track for the first time in something like 20 years. Undera is still in the process of making the necessary improvements required (brighter track lights, moving the pit gates, and updating the control tower) in order to also become accredited to run speedway again. Unfortunately they are experiencing the never ending problem of available funds to carry out improvements being less than the cost of items on their wish list. I know the club would appreciate it if anyone who has a few \$'s to spare might like to become a financial member of the club.

SSRAV at Broadford 2026 club race dates. At the time of writing the SSRAV club are still awaiting confirmation of club race dates for 2026. It's a drawn out process, first Broadford have to decide what major championships that the complex will be holding and those dates are blocked for other tracks at the complex, then Broadford decide which will be the noise free weekends (one per month), and then available remaining dates are circulated to the clubs that use Broadford. Clubs then apply for what dates they would like.

A BIT OF SPEEDWAY AND MUSICAL HISTORY – Bill Powell



A bit of history of Redcliffe Showground Speedway in Queensland. The track was always stated as being around 700 yards. Some programs had it listed as a third of a mile. A newspaper article in June 1929 revealed that the Redcliffe Motor and Cycle Club approached the Trustees of Redcliffe Showground for the formation of a speedway, stating that the grounds were ideal for that purpose. Redcliffe is a coastal town situated approximately 28km north of Brisbane. Sadly, the history of Redcliffe Showground Speedway has somewhat been forgotten. The following information has been provided, thanks to the help of a number of Speedway researchers, historians and former competitors.

The speedway ran 'on and off' irregularly and for short durations for much of its history. Redcliffe speedway re-opened on 10th August 1959 with Peninsula Speedway Pty Ltd being the promoting company, of which Bill Goode was one of the Directors. Bill went on to become a Queensland Speedcar Champion and speedway track promoter.

The meetings were a combination of Solo, Sidecar, Stock Bikes, Speedcar, Stockcar and TQs. Bike competitors of note were, Kev Torpie, solos and stock bikes, John Finglas, stock bikes, Ron Johnson, Sandy McCrae, and Alan Chance on sidecars. Kev and Pat Torpie, Bill Honeyman, Les Bentzen and Alan Meires were local boys who were popular riders with the spectators. Some Highlights being:

in May 1982 Five Star Speedway Promotions Interstate Sidecar Clash between QLD and NSW. Six members were in each team. Queensland was captained by the QLD Champion Keith Sewell. Doug Tyerman captained NSW. Phil McCurtayne recalls riding that night. He liked the track, big and fast with a good surface. He remembers that the lighting wasn't that good and the crowd were allowed to get very close to the fence. The final result was a win to NSW 75 points QLD 31.

In 1986 Clive Featherby Jnr, along with Queensland international solo rider Alan Rivett (*having rode for seven British speedway clubs from 1984 to 1990*), was instrumental in bringing international speedway to Redcliffe Showground for an unofficial Australia vs England Super Test. This Test Match brought a crowd of 14,750 to the grounds. England was well led by maximum man Kenny Carter and Simon Wigg, winning the test 66 to 42. John Titman was an outstanding performer for Australia. Not too far distant from Redcliffe Showground was the trotting facility Redcliffe Paceway. This was where Ivan Mauger held the 2002/03 Australian Long Track GP. The winner of that event being Mick Poole. The proposed 2003/04, 2004/05 titles at the Paceway were cancelled.

Redcliffe Speedway received worldwide recognition for the important role it played in the discovery of one of the world's most successful singing groups, the Bee Gees. Redcliffe Speedway became the birthplace of the Bee Gees.

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JOHN CASH, Local Superstar	PAUL FINFOLD, United Kingdom
JOHN BLOWS, Central Qld. Champ.	GARY TRELOAR, Victorian Champ.
PHIL RAUWERS, Gold Coast Champ.	Phil McCurtayne, runner-up NSW
BILL WANT, Northside Suzuki Star	PAUL MAHONY
BRIAN PAYNE, Mr. Consistent	GREG GRIFFITHS

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A BIT OF SPEEDWAY AND MUSICAL HISTORY – Bill Powell

This is how it happened -

In 1959 Brisbane based speedcar driver Bill Goode was the promoter of Redcliffe Speedway. He recalls: *"one of the drivers, Bob McMahon, came to me and said there are three young kids outside wanting to sing at the interval for a coin drop. Being harassed as I was and over busy, I was looking for something to fill in at interval so I said yeah sure. Interval time came and I heard these harmonious voices coming over the cheap old four-inch Tannoy speakers that were in the pits. It just stopped me in my tracks."*

The brothers began to entertain the crowds at the speedway, performing from the back of a truck owned by local fruiterer Duke Bowman during interval. This was the first public appearance by the trio. At the time Barry Gibb was 12 years old and twin brothers Robin and Maurice were 9 years old. The crowd clearly loved the group. The Gibbs made 10 quid that night from money thrown onto the track - a whopping sum to take home to Mum. The boys may have had a degree of motorcycling and speed in their blood, having been born in Douglas on the Isle of Man, home of the world-famous motorcycle TT. Stock bike racer John Finglas remembers three kids with a guitar coming into the pits and asking *"Hello mister, can we sing for you."* Barry Gibb later stated *"The smell of the oil and the noise and atmosphere were incredible."*

They sang through a PA system and people threw money on to the track. Their performances were so impressive that Speedway Promoter Bill Goode introduced them to leading Brisbane 4BH radio DJ Bill Gates, who then hired the brothers to sing their songs on the Brisbane Radio Platter Chatter Show. Barry Gibb, Bill Goode and Bill Gates all had the initials BG and so it was Bill Gates who suggested they call themselves the BGs. They were unaware that the boys' Mother Barbara Gibb was another BG. What is very interesting reading, in an interview with English Speedway Star journalist Peter Oakes in December 2020, Bill Goode spoke about the process he and Bill Gates took to promote the brothers.

Stock bike competitor John Finglas commenced his racing career in 1953 racing a Shesley Limited Matchless, fitted with a high performance Shesley Walsh competition motor. (see photo) this bike was originally owned and raced by Kevin Torpie. John later purchased it and repainted it in his red and white colours. John was a regular and successful competitor at Redcliffe.

Graham Gardiner has visited the Redcliffe Historical Society located at the Redcliffe Library. The very helpful librarian indicated that their archives have a vast collection of archival information regarding the history of Redcliffe Speedway. In compiling this article, I must give my thanks and appreciation for the help I received from Barry Lane - Historian for the Vintage Speedcar Association of Queensland: ASRA Members, Webmaster Brian Darby, Steve Magro, Phil Mc Curtayne, Darren Sonnenberg and Tony Webb.



TASMANIA STATE SECRETARY ROUND UP

Leon Jowett



After a dry mild winter, a traditional Tassie spring arrived greeting us with cold winds and rain with some occasional sunshine. Not to be deterred Tasmanian Speedway MA members were able to conduct several coaching and recreational days at the Moorland Beach Speedway.

OCTOBER 4th Coaching day saw Speedway Experience Craig Boyce come from Sydney. Volunteers did an excellent job draining the Junior track after torrential rain. One good thing about the track being constructed of crushed blue metal, the surface is a good absorber of water. When all the excess water was pumped away the track held up really well

OCTOBER 11th Recreational Day. Thanks to the clubs hard working members Tim Redpath, Danny & Fiona Pearn and Glenn Peters who completed the required accreditation to make this event happen and progressing towards the eventual running of club day events. We saw the first sidecar have a test run on track, thanks to Thomas Adams and his dad Peter. Thomas has recently relocated to Hobart from South Australia (thanks for that) for work as a Paramedic (that might be handy). With no encouragement from anyone, one of our elder club members from an earlier era, mad Mick Beattie slotted straight in as swinger.



NOVEMBER 8th Coaching day cancelled due to rain. Earthworks started with the build up of fill around the outer track perimeter spectator viewing area. Local earthmoving and cartage contractor Treloar Transport have done a great job carting in the fill, also providing an excavator to do the final levelling and banking of the spectator area. The club sincerely thank them for this project, something they thought would take many years to achieve.

NOVEMBER 16th Club member Garry Edwards and myself called in on the Speedway Sidecar Racing Association of Victoria (SSRAV) meeting at the Broadford State Motorcycle Complex Victoria. We had a great chat to Tayla Street and her brother Jacob.



NOVEMBER 22nd Another coaching day held at the track with a great roll up of Junior and a few Senior riders. Coaches Tim Redpath and Danny Pearn advised me that due to the massive support received from Speedway Experience team Craig Boyce (Sydney) and Shane Parker (Adelaide), Moorland Beach Speedway coaching days will now run under the banner of Speedway Experience Tasmania. The Club believes this will lift the profile of Junior coaching in our state and nationally. Several of the junior bikes that had been previously purchased by the Club, have now been sold to up and coming Juniors. Great to see the club slowly building up.

There are two coaching days planned for December, the last being Dec 20th which will end with a Christmas break up and a Sponsor BBQ. As the year comes to an end, to all our speedway friends Tassie wishes everyone all the best for the New Year.

OUR THOUGHTS AND GOOD WISHES ARE WITH YOU

Bill Powell - Welfare Officer



THE LATE KEVIN TORPIE

It is with deep sadness and regret that I have to inform you of the sad passing of long time VSRA/ASRA Member Kevin Torpie, aged 87 years. Kevin passed away on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at a Care Facility in Queensland. He unfortunately had been suffering ill health for some time and now he is at peace.

During his ASRA Membership Kevin was always willing to help out with various club activities and in his retirement years still had a keen interest in speedway. With wife Chris, son John he was a regular attendee to VSRA/ASRA Reunion functions. Kevin also attended QLD speedway meetings and displays, until illness curtailed this activity. A lifelong motorcyclist, he enjoyed touring on his registered road bike. Often travelling from his home in QLD to attend the Phillip Island Motorcycle GP, in Victoria.

For all those who knew Kevin would describe him as the perfect gentleman, extremely modest, quietly spoken, and an unassuming speedway rider. A popular well respected competitor. A dedicated Speedway man with a professional approach to the sport. Undoubtably recognised as one of Australia's most knowledgeable exponents of the speedway art.

Kevin has had a very impressive speedway career.

Starting his speedway career on stock bikes at Redcliffe showground QLD in the 1959/60 season. He became a regular in the solo ranks at the Ekka & Archerfield before travelling to Victoria to compete at the Fred Tracey's Marybynong speedway. He travelled to England in 1962, signing for the Middlesbrough Bears under Reg Fearman, who would become a lifelong friend. In 1964 he was transferred to Edinburgh. Representing his country in tests 14 times from 1967-73 his 15-point score at the Ekka in 1973 was his highpoint. On the individual stakes, Victorian Solo Champion in 1967. Queensland Solo Champion 1969. Kevin was an Australian Solo Championship finalist 5 times between 1967 & 1974.

In June 1967 he moved to Rockhampton for an extended racing campaign on North Queensland circuits. Kev was a member of "Cowboy" Bob Sharpe's Troupe which put on some of the most spectacular and hard fought solo racing ever seen in Queensland. Sharpe's Troupe, bolstered by regular visits from Brisbane "A" graders, gave spectators a standard of racing rarely equaled anywhere in Australia.

Kevin retired in 1973, but when his work took him to North Queensland in 1974 he had a short twilight season at Townsville and Cairns.

Kevin Torpie was a champion not only as a rider but as a human being.

He will be sadly missed yet happily remembered.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Chris, John and his many friends at this sad time.

RIP Kevin.



OUR THOUGHTS AND GOOD WISHES ARE WITH YOU

Bill Powell - Welfare Officer



Following Kevin's passing, many of our ASRA Members have paid tributes and relived memories of Champion Kevin, here are just a few.

Rod McNabb - *I knew Kevin from my riding days in Brisbane in the 70s. He held the utmost respect, both as a rider and as a person from everyone who knew him. RIP Kev.*

Barry Lane - *Kevin was a down-to-earth great bloke. He was a terrific gater. I remember the night he won the Queensland Championship. When the Swedes were in Brisbane for a test match, Kev was a reserve. It was the 15th January 1972, Heat 16 and he came into a heat race as a replacement and promptly beat Anders Michanek who was the top Swedish rider at that time. It bought the house down. RIP Kev*

Reg Fearman - *It is always sad when a fellow rider passes over. The jungle drums seem to beat loudly when someone of Kevin's ilk has gone. We had never been out of touch throughout the years. RIP Kev.*

Charlie Wallis - *So sad to lose a very close, loyal and lifelong friend. I first met Kevin and his lovely wife Chris when they came to Victoria. Kevin and Chris stayed with my wife Joan and I and a close family bond was established which has lasted to this day. RIP Kev*

ED Note. *The attached photo of (L to R) Andy McManus, Rusty Craggil, Charlie Wallis, Jack Skeats and Kevin Torpie was taken at the 1961 Victorian Grass Track Championships held at Romsey, VIC. These three riders were regular competitors at Tracey's Speedway, and had just competed in the Speedway Class event at the Romsey meet. Charlie Wallis winning that title.*



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Jan 3-4 - Wodonga, Aus Solo Champ R1&2
Jan 7 - Mildura, Aus Solo Champ R3
Jan 9 - Gillman, Aus Solo Champ R4
Jan 11 - Gillman, FIM Oceania 500cc Champ
Jan 17 - Mildura, Jason Lyons Solo Trophy
Jan 17 - Pinjar Park Teams Event
Jan 24 - Daniel Winchester Testimonial,
Solos, Sidecars, Outlaw Karts
Jan 24 - Gillman, Jim Irwin Sidecar Spectacular
Jan 25 - Mildura, Gates Sidecar Cup
Jan 26 - Aus Day - Car/Bike Display Albany Creek
Jan 31 - Tamworth, NSW Senior 500cc,
250cc and 125cc Solo Championship
Feb 1 - Broadford (tba)
Feb 7 - Gillman Sidecar Cup & Solo's, Classics
Feb 7 - Pinjar Park, Braxton Sutherland Forever 7
Feb 14 - Gillman, Speedway Classic Champ
Feb 15 - Broadford (tba)
Feb 14-15 - Tamworth NSW Senior & Junior
Sidecar Champs
Feb 21 - Tamworth, TBA
Feb 21 - Gillman SA Sidecar Championship
Feb 21 - Pinjar Park, State Sidecar Champ
Mar 7 - Gillman Sidecar Cup & Classic Sidecars
Mar 7 - Pinjar Park, Jeff Gittus Memorial
Mar 21 - Gillman Sidecar Cup, Solos, Flat Track
Mar 21 - Pinjar Park Sidecar Stampede
Mar 22 - Broadford (tba)
Apr 4 - Gillman FIM Oceania Sidecar Champ
Apr 11-12 - Quirindi Longtrack Grand Prix
Apr 12 - Broadford (tba)
Apr 18 - Pinjar Park, Kings of Pinjar
April 24-25 - Bowen, 2026 Aus Sidecar Champ
May 1 - Landshut, Germany World Cup Semi-final
May 2 - Landshut, Germany, SGP1, Round 1
May 2 - Pinjar Park Rod Slater Best & Fairest
May 9-10 - Tamworth, NSW Senior Longtrack Champ
May 22 - Prague, Czech Rep, Speedway of Nations Final
May 23 - Prague, Czech Rep, SGP1, Round 2
May 25 - Qualifications for SGP2027, Round 1.
5-6 Sept - Tamworth, Junior and Senior Longtrack
Oct 11 - Broadford (tba)
Oct 25 - Broadford (tba) Further meetings at Moreland Beach tbc

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