

1956 – A snapshot review first published in '50 Years of Cycle Speedway' by The British Cycle Speedway Council in 1996.

1956

London Stars Race In Holland

On 16 June, Dutch team Hollandse Welpen entertained top London team Peckham Stars in an international team challenge match. Despite the indifferent weather, 1,200 people turned up to watch the match. Hollandse Welpen won by 63 points to 44. Leading Dutch official Hartso de Konde

"The English riders rode very well, their teamwork was good and they quickly got used to our new track. But the physical condition of the Dutch riders was better. The English riders gave us a nice demonstration of good sportsmanship and behaviour. The hope for this must go to Miss Noema

SCOTLAND TOPS IN WALES

Scotland defeated Wales by 66 points to 54 in an international match at Newport on 14 July 1956. The match, attended by the Mayor, Chief Constable and town councillors, began in a steady downpour. Scotland quickly mastered the slippery surface and soon established a comfortable lead. Star of the show was Wales's Trevor Jones (Langstone Eagles) who scored 13 points from his five starts. However Scotland's strength in depth won the day. Alex Young

(Craigton Eagles) 11, Doug Maxell (Linthouse Lions) and Chick Glendinning (Everard Eagles) 10 points top scored for Scotland.

Before the match, leading officials including Scotland president Mr Mackie, vice president Mr Ramsey, NACSA chairman George Fernyhough and secretary Fred Bennet were invited to a civ reception at the Mayor's parlour. Directly after the match the Scots left for a tour of Devon.

1956

BIRMINGHAM LEAGUE 1956

Bagley on the Move

Owing to the loss of some of their best riders to Her Majesty's Forces, the Ipswich Vampires have reluctantly decided to announce their withdrawal from competitive racing this season. Three of their riders have signed for Deben Area League side, Woodbridge Wildcats. Among them is the Suffolk and national individual champion Ron Bagley. Racing in Suffolk will be split in to two main groups, the Gipping Valley League and the Deben Area League. Among the teams taking part in the Gipping League are Claydon Greyhounds, Copdock Racers, Capel Comets, Flowton Falcons, Stowupland Swifts and Finningham Flyers. Deben League teams include Ipswich Pirates, Kesgrave Panthers, Trimley Tigers, Woodbridge Wildcats, Melton Meteors and Blaxhall Bees.

Kingstanding Monarchs	P	W	D	L	PTS
Birmingham Lions					
Aldridge Hammers	14	14	0	0	28
Sutton Stars	14	11	0	3	22
Polsall Pirates	14	9	0	5	18
Elmdon Wasps	14	7	2	5	16
Fastmoor Bees	14	5	3	6	13
Hall Green Hurricanes	14	4	3	7	11
	14	1	1	12	3
	14	0	1	13	1

RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Vic White (ex-Warwick Lions) and Dave Stevens (Thundersley) have decided on a plan of action to counteract the falling popularity of cycle speedway in Essex. They are going to try to open some of the closed down tracks by putting on open meetings and inviting riders past and present to take part. In mind so far are the tracks at Shelley Demons, Fyfield Falcons, Black Lions Monarchs, Romford Racers and Dagenham Diamonds

Just over 100 clubs affiliated to the National Amateur Cycle Speedway Association (NACSA) in 1956.



London Peckham Star Pete Mason challenges for the lead in an inter-club match in Holland.