

CYCLE SPEEDWAY GAZETTE

EDITED BY JOHN LEITH
64, Tonbridge Road, Coventry

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POLAND VERSUS HOLLAND

POLAND ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE FOR 1959?

FROM A REPORT THAT REACHED US JUST BEFORE GOING TO PRESS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT HARTOG DE RONDE, PRESIDENT OF THE DUTCH CYCLE SPEEDWAY ASSOCIATION, IS NEGOTIATING WITH BRONISLAW RATAJCZYK, PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH CYCLE SPEEDWAY LEAGUE, FOR AN INTERNATIONAL MATCH BETWEEN HOLLAND & POLAND.

The Dutch are also interested in racing against SWEDEN and SCOTLAND.

Mr. Ratajczyk is reported to have invited the Dutch Team to Poland with all expenses paid. (When the Dutch Party visited England in 1957, they paid their own fares to come over, as did the Swedish Team members who were here recently.)

More details will be announced as soon as they are to hand.



Free For All



YOUR

LETTERS TO THE
EDITOR

From: I. Durford, 45 Beverley Road, Ruislip Manor, Middx.

Dear Sir, I have been a regular reader of your magazine for the past five years, in those five years I have never doubted your ability as an editor-up till now that is. Why I make this remark is, how much longer do we (that is the readers) have to put up with this Shapley dribble, I am sure there are a few other readers besides myself who think that if Shapley wants to blow his own trumpet, why doesn't he acquire a soap box and stand on it outside Hyde Park, recalling what a brilliant fellow he is. His fate would surely be a good ducking in the Serpentine.

ADAMSON INJURED

In a practise session on the Wednesday, Doug Adamson our new find was involved in a second bend collision, he fell heavily and was taken to hospital the next day. He suffered from severe bruising and a broken arm and he is expected to be out for at least a month. It was a great pity as he was hoping to be in the team to meet Claydon Greyhounds on the Sunday.

MICHAEL LECK.

MANCHESTER

In the Handicap Trophy Wilmslow took 2 points off their hosts Carrs Wood, the match itself was a last heat decider, Wilmslows Hinchliffe and Davenport scoring a 5-1 over Moston and Mann making the final score 46-50, Wilmslow received a nine points start.

Longsight Pogasus entertained Lupsot Aces of Yorkshire for a challenge match Longsight running out winners by 57 points to 39. Later a combined Longsight Lupsot team went down to the second division side Gorton.

The first round of the League Junior Championship has been held and the following qualified. At Levenshulme, Marsland (L.P.) 14, Lock (L.P.) 12, Vickers 12, Bar 11, Anderson (C.W.) 10, Shaw (L.P.) 9, Scalos (B.V.) 8, Loo (Lov.) 8. At Belle Vue: P. Robinson (C.W.) 13, Kolly (L.H.) 12, B. Robinson (L.P.) 12, Chapman 11, Moore (W.H.) 11, Airey 10, Bowe 10, Watling 10.

J. MOTTERSHEAD.

WALES

Round 9 of Cycle Speedway v Barry Parks Committee comes on Wednesday, 10th Sept. when the Committee will hear a report on the site we have applied for. This is just about our last hope as regards a track in Barry and the only alternative as I see it, is to try to open a club in Cardiff. In Cardiff there is one track in Ely that could be re-made and if we fail in Barry, I think Ely will be our best bet.

If any readers have ever been faced with the same problem, I would be very grateful for any suggestions sent to the Gazette for publication. Advice of this sort would, I am sure, be of great value to many other prospective clubs who are without a track.

JOHN EVELEIGH.

SUSSEX

CLOSE FINISH AT WORTHING. Saturday Aug. 9th saw a fine league tussle between Worthing Sputniks 'A' and 'B' teams and after 15 heats the 'A' team needed a 4-2 or 5-1 to salvage a point, but 'B's' skipper Johnny Humphries had other ideas and skated home to a good win, to win the match. He received excellent support from Ernie Williams (9) and partner M. Bashford (7). For the 'A's' only Dave Eaney and Mick Court hit real form with 9 and 8 respectively. Score 49-47 to the 'B's'.

SCORCHERS FIRST LEAGUE CHAMPIONS. The following week the Brighton Scorchers made certain of the trophy by beating Worthing 'A' by 56½-39½. This was the biggest score the home side have had, and indeed the highest league score. Doll Goddard was in fine form with another "max" and Johnnie Patterson dropped only one point. The whole Scorchers side supported well and made up for the absence of Roger Brazier with their fighting spirit. Mick Court (11) and "Domus" Hoyle (6½) were top for 'A's'.

"Scorchers" captain Brian Makopace became the second holder of the clubs Match Race Sash (retired by Roger Brazier through injury) after defeating young junior Roger Hudson, but only after two somewhat robust races had to be stopped by the steward.

GETTING READY. Saturday, 23rd August is the date of a test match to select the team to do battle with Southern Premier Juniors on the 6th September. The Worthing management have recently made sweeping alterations to the track, which includes "preparing the track surface for faster racing" - which means making it dead "slick" and I personally have a feeling that this will help the Southern Premier boys more than ourselves.

Another big date is September 13th, when the Southern Counties League Individual Championship will be decided. Also on this date will be the presentation of trophies and test colours by the Mayor of Worthing, president of the Sputniks.

MORE CHANGES. More official changes have taken place at Worthing where Mr. A.C. Hill newly acquired "coach" has been sacked. Mr. R. Geore, secretary and Mr. R. Daniels treasurer, have resigned. Seems like the secretarial post is more hazardous than being a football manager.

The new secretary is popular Chris Scott, 4 Montrose Close, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex. Good luck, Chris!!

LEAGUE TABLE. Latest official S. Counties League positions are as follows:

	P	W	D	L	Pts F	Pts A.	Pts
BRIGHTON SCORCHERS	3	3	0	0	156½	129½	6
WORTHING SPUTNIKS 'B'	3	1	0	2	140	147	2
WORTHING SPUTNIKS 'A'	4	1	0	3	180½	200½	2
"BO-BO"							

WILTSHIRE SENIOR LEAGUE: Hoytisbury Hammers 49, Dovor 11 Aces 47.

WILTSHIRE JUNIOR LEAGUE:

SWINDON EAGLES 21, F. Garlick 10, WROUGHTON RACERS 21.

MARLBOROUGH METEORS 13: S. Moorhouse 5, B. Philpott, D. Mercer 3, C. Chilton 2.

WROUGHTON RACERS 29: M. Richards 12, M. Hudd 9, C. Gray 5, S. Kitching 3.

BRINKWORTH PIRATES 26: G. Chesterman 12, D. Pell 9, J. Merrett 3, T. Waite 2.

MARLBOROUGH METEORS 16: C. Chilton 6, D. Mercer 5, B. Philpot 4, D. Dyball 1.

CHALLENGE MATCHES.

SWINDON EAGLES 40 BRINKWORTH PIRATES 56.

SWINDON EAGLES JUNIORS 13, BRINKWORTH PIRATES JUNIORS 29.

BRINKWORTH PIRATES 50½ MARLBOROUGH METEORS 45½.

R.H. JACKSON.

SOUTH LONDON

By defeating Ditton Devils 64-32 at Ditton on Aug 31st Raynes Park Tigers virtually assured themselves of the Southern Premier League championship for the third season running. Although Tigers aren't considered by many to be strong as they were last year, when they reached the National Trophy Finals the main factor in their success has been the excellent form of junior riders Charlie Vaughan and Johnny Tutin and the successful return of Wally Dighton from the forces.

Certain now to take runners up position are South London Rangers for whom Roy Baker has been going some fantastic scoring with an average of 14.07 per match; ably assisted by young Pete Milton who has the excellent average of 9.02 per match.

Likely to fill third place are Beckenham Monarchs who with only two matches to ride are 6 points ahead of their nearest rivals Tooting Tigers.

At a recent Control Board meeting the resignation of Mr. Ron Johnson of Beckenham as General Secretary was accepted with regret by the league members. Mr. Johnson stated that unfortunately due to pressure of work, he was unable to devote all his spare time to his position. A vote of thanks to Mr. Johnson was proposed by Mr. R. Ronwick of Raynes Park for his excellent work during his term of office. Elected to the position of General Secretary was Mr. M. Smith of Ditton.

Also at the same meeting it was decided to adopt the National starting procedure of Under Starters Orders, which would take effect from that evening. The Southern Premier has for some years used their own formula, but it was decided that in the best interests of the league, the National procedure would help all concerned. Sept. 7th sees the start of the League Individual Championship rounds. At Tooting the Senior qualifying round will take place with the top 9 riders entering the first round proper. Also on the same day the first round of the Junior Championship will take place at Thornton Heath and Beckenham. A total of 73 riders in all have entered this seasons championship, 41 seniors and 32 juniors.

RESULTS. On Aug. 31st at Ditton the Devils had a double header entertaining first league leaders Raynes Park Tigers, to whom they went down by 32-64. This victory now assures Tigers of the League title. Only home rider who could not match the fast gating visitors was Sam Sobourne who rode very well for his 11pts, but with little or no support from his team-mates sam was fighting a losing battle. Top for Tigers was Dave Chivers with a 12point maximum while skipper Fred Laurence also took max. points scoring 9 from the reserve berth, with the rest of the team all backing up well.

In the second match Devils scored much better defeating South London Hunters 63-33. Sam Sobourne was again the star scoring a 15pt max. ably supported by Phil Bines 14, and Vince Butler 10. Only Hunter with any fight were Miko Gilliat 7 and ex-Rangers rider George David with 6.

At Raynes Park the young Stars did very well to hold the strong Beckenham Monarchs side to 40-56. Brian Lamard 8, Geoff Cummings 7 and Roy Trigg and Dennis Hennessy 6 all showed up well, while for Monarchs, Pete Jarman was undefeated for his 15pt max.

TONY JONES.

A FIRM ORDER IS BETTER THAN A CHANCE COPY!

COVENTRY

This years league winners are Whitley Stars ; they have also won the A.D.ELLIS BENEVOLENT FUND CUP and the A.D.ELLIS MEMORIAL TROPHY, both knock-out trophies. Winners of the other team competition are Henley Hammers., winning the SPRING CUP.

With Wolverhampton not turning up for their Midland League match at Coventry, Whitley Stars challenged the rest of Coventry to a match instead, to avoid disappointing the crowd who had turned up to watch, having heard an announcement at Coventry Speedway the previous night. The Stars lost 57-39. SCORERS : WHITLEY : Higgins 10, Abbott 7, Muir 6, Sponco 5, M.Tromans 5, Bailey 3, Brown 3, K.Tromans 0. THE REST : Colley 14, Lewis 9, Rollason 9, Swain 7, Blackett 6, Bamford 5, Long 4, Windridge 3,

In their Midland League match at Leicester, Coventry went down 48-47. The match depended on the last heat, in which Leicester needed a 5-1 to win. In the previous race, Gilbert, the Coventry captian, had ridden brilliantly to come in from last to second behind his partner. Manager Taylor put him in again for the nominated race, and on the first bend, Gilbert fell, striking his head on the inner line of bricks.

He was rushed to Hospital, and was detained until 4 p.m. the next day before being allowed to leave. Having previously had an accident on his motorcycle which resulted in concussion, he was kept in for observation.

The Coventry Individual Champion for 1958 is Ray Lewis, who successfully won the run-off in the BOB FLETCHER CUP to win the championship. Joe Abbott, who only needed two points to win outright, was excluded by Steward Ken Lord when in second position in his last ride for running with his machine. This came about as follows :- Colley, who was leading, went into the bend with M.Tromans hard upon his heels. Tromans' front wheel caught Colley's back wheel, and Tromans fell, bringing down first Abbott and then Rollason. Both Abbott and Rollason then pushed their bikes around the fallen Tromans and then remounted, Abbott pedalling off after Colley, with Rollason behind him. The steward then excluded Abbott. Both Abbott and Rollason had run with their bikes, but although an appeal was made for a re-run, the decision was kept to exclude Abbott.

Mr.J.K.Leith has been appointed manager of Whitley Stars, as from September 1st. Whitley Stars would welcome matches, both home and away. Teams interested should write to Mr.Leith at 64, Tonbridge Road, Whitley, Coventry, giving dates (Sundays) when matches can be arranged.

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OBTAINABLE FROM THE "CYCLE SPEEDWAY GAZETTE"

YOUR LETTERS WILL BE PUBLISHED WRITE TODAY!

MIDDLESEX

In a midweek league match at Uxbridge, Harefield Pirates and Langley Leopards, rode a hard match, there was little in it at the halfway stage but towards the end Harefield pulled away to win by $62\frac{1}{2}$ - $33\frac{1}{2}$. The result of the match may appear to have been one sided, in actual fact it was one of the best matches soon for a long time. Leading scorer for Harefield was captain, Dave Stonox who was unbeaten from 4 rides. He was well supported by P.Lockio $10\frac{1}{2}$, B.Robinson 9, S.Collins 8, R.Seymour 8, B.Punter and D.Thompson 7 each.

For Langley, Dave Willis rode well for his $8\frac{1}{2}$, with Geoff Pearco 7 and Johnny Unsworth 6.

Last Sunday the rounds of the Leagues Individual all took place on the Wembley Hawks track, in all there were 3 rounds with 37 riders taking part, this was a far better attendance than the N.A.C.S.A. Individual Round.

In the first event, there were 12 taking part, with the top 5 going into the Final. Winner of this was DIXIE DEAN, who was in great form, he won his 5 races comfortably, for 15pts, 2nd was Peto Peto (Tolworth) with 13pts, 3rd place went to Derek Pearco also from Tolworth, he scored 12pts. 3 riders had to have a run-off for remaining two places. This was won by Frank Makos of Brickett Wood with Dave Willis from Langley 2nd. The other rider, Westons' Dave Jenkins was excluded for riding off the track, he is 2nd. reserve in the Final.

The 2nd round produced some exciting racing, with 3 riders sharing 1st place, they were Roy Fraser, Peto Lockio and Reggie Squires each scored 14. The other two places went to Alec Fraser and Bill Punter with 11pts each. Ron Mallott who scored 10pts had to be content with being 1st reserve.

In the last of the 3 rounds Roger Dowhurst, riding his own track, finished 1st, with 14pts, he was closely followed by Keith Bristow with 13pts. Then came Brian Robinson with $11\frac{1}{2}$, Paddy O'Grady 11, Gorry Wallis 11, Billy Rankmore $10\frac{1}{2}$. The Finals take place at the Tolworth track on September 14th.

Congratulations to Tolworth Tudors on their fine victory over Carrs Wood, they have every chance of repeating their 1956 performance, when they defeated Kingstanding Monarchs. Our Other team Whips X Comets bowed out last Sunday, when they lost to Pride of the Midlands, Kingstanding.

LATEST LEAGUE TABLE.

	P	W	D	L	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
TUDORS	12	4	0	1	7	0	0	733	414	29
ALL STARS	9	3	0	1	4	0	1	$499\frac{1}{2}$	$334\frac{1}{2}$	18
COMETS	6	3	0	0	3	0	0	$359\frac{1}{2}$	$215\frac{1}{2}$	15
PIRATES	10	3	0	2	3	0	2	$507\frac{1}{2}$	$452\frac{1}{2}$	15
STARS	11	4	0	1	2	0	4	$506\frac{1}{2}$	$547\frac{1}{2}$	14
HAWKS	10	3	1	2	1	0	3	450	481	10
LEOPARDS	12	2	0	5	1	1	3	500	665	9
KANGAROOS	11	2	0	4	0	0	5	$445\frac{1}{2}$	$608\frac{1}{2}$	4
TUDORS	10	0	0	4	0	0	6	$343\frac{1}{2}$	$616\frac{1}{2}$	0

ROGER SEYMOUR.

PLACE AN ORDER FOR YOUR "GAZETTE" TODAY!!!

"DOC" SHAPLEY !

In April this year, this guy - a lower of our sport, a 100% racing for racing's sake character - signed for Wallingford Panthers of Berkshire. Since then we've had nine matches!!! And the first one was in June. Terrible.

Unlike most clubs, this one has a bank balance - on the credit side too, and comparatively big. So what's the trouble?

Doctor Shapley has examined the patient and the diagnosis is as follows:-
PHYSICALLY (Riders) SOUND: MENTALLY (Committee) UNBALANCED.

REMEDY - Completely new committee NOW! More fixtures, more travel (Hungerford Panthers on a NIL budget have travelled 1700 miles in 1958).

METHOD - Riders meeting after next match to affect remedy.

EXAMPLES OF EVIDENCE:-

1) Date, Tuesday, 19th August. Venue, Wallingford track. Present, all riders from Wallingford and Cowley Eagles - who'd hired a coach for the trip - and the Wallingford committee. Half an hour after Eagles arrival, no match. Deadlock. Seemed the date was wrong and those in charge would rather they arranged a new match than hold one there and then. After, more or less, a threatened riders strike, there was a match, and a new one arranged. But it was a struggle.

2) Date, Sunday 24th Aug. Venue, Hungerford. Present, Wallingford club and ditto Hungerford, plus rain - lots of it. But, the track was good enough for racing, and so thought Hungerford Panthers, plus yours truly and the Wallingford Committee. Wallingford riders refused to ride and after a wrangle and many harsh words, a re-arranged date. This was Wallingford riders v committee again. So, we're hoping my diagnosis is correct.

OXFORD PROGRESS. Representatives from all clubs are meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Monday Sept. 1st for the purpose of forming an Association, affiliating to N.A.C.S.A. and generally getting the house in order. Two councillors and some of the old Associations members will be there. Driving force behind all this will be veteran rider and Cowley Eagles boss, John Sutherland. Already for his team, he has arranged that they race at Wallingford, Hungerford and probably Fleet, before the season ends. Plus of course, league and individual commitments. Also, a new track - the old Granpounts Giants one, which is equipped for starting gate, and all the modern refinements of the sport.

On a broader scale, efforts to push Oxford back on its pedestal as premier South Midland cycle speedway county, are meeting with some success. Local councils are in favour and probably the Oxford Mail will help.

Fred Bennett has been asked for help and has promised same. Hungerford have offered a starting gate and fixtures. N.A.C.S.A. may let Johnny Thomas (Cowley Eagles, and 1957 National Junior third) race in the finals as Oxford 1958 Junior title holder. Yes, Shapley begins to see big things in this area. And offers fixtures for any date (bar Sept. 7th) - home and away, with Cowley Eagles of Oxford. Fixtures will not only help Oxford, but I must point out that I rank, for instance, Cowleys John Sutherland as capable of 1st string quality with say, Hungerford Panthers.

At the moment, I am acting as secretary, Oxford County, so all mail to 82, Hollow Way, Cowley, Oxford. ALL letters answered.

BARRY SHAPLEY.

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THURROCK "GO SLOW" AGAINST GLADIATORS

MILANO-WATERSON CLASH SPARKS
OFF INCIDENT

ESSEX NEWS BY RON BULL

In the fight for Essex League honours, the struggle is now beginning to show. East Ham ran up an early lead by having their matches earlier, and doing well in them. Now, as one or two of the other teams begin to catch up on matches, so they are beginning to level up on points.

Still behind on points, in third place, but with plenty of matches in hand, are Walthamstow Wolves. A long run in the National Trophy has put them behind in their league fixtures. However, they have the power there to race double-headers and still win easily.

The Gladiators are now back in the second-place spot. Last week they travelled away to Thurrock Stars cinder circuit and won easily 77-31 after Stars had put up some semblance of fight in the first half of the meeting. Then Roy Milano and Bluey Waterston clashed and Bluey went down heavily. He failed to ride anymore, and the Stars captain Coker set an extremely bad example when his next ride was due, by failing to make any race of it at all, and inducing his partner to do the same. Many of the patient home supporters were riled by this and were heard to call out "Make a race of it!". Many more childish displays like this will lose the support Thurrock so desperately need if they are to survive out there.

Roy Milano registered a 15 point maximum, while Alan Wood and Demi Pratt were both unbeaten by the opposition. For Stars, only George Siddons (who told me he is more than disappointed with his team, and resigned as secretary recently) and Paddy Hunt put up any real opposition.

By the way, I recently gave a score of 81-27 for Walthamstow's home match with Thurrock. My apologies. It should have read 87-21. The record win so far this season, for an 18-heat match.

Thurrock Juniors, fielding several 'seniors' managed to break the Crusaders proud record of being undefeated this year, when they won a 6-a-side 12 heat challenge match 38-34 after a close and clean tussle. Crusaders blooded another real youngster in this match in Los Ayres, whose older brother Torry is going well. For Thurrock, Woolley and Raynor scored 11, while this total was reached by Dave Green, Crusaders skipper.

Crusaders defeated Hawbush Diamonds 32-15 in the junior league, but the Diamonds managed to win over the Vikings 28-20 to complete another days racing.

These matches now put Crusaders at the top of the junior league, positions are:

	P	W	D	L	Pts
THE CRUSADERS	2	2	0	0	4
EAST HAM JUNIORS	2	1	0	1	2
HAWBUSH DIAMONDS	3	1	0	2	2
THE VIKINGS	1	0	0	1	0
WHIPPS CROSS JUNIORS	0	0	0	0	0

Walthamstow Wolves, big-dogs in the Essex area are progressing well in the National Trophy and reached the semi-finals by beating Wroughton

Racers recently, and now beat Bolie Vue Cobras. I see the other semi-final was won by Tolworth Tudors from Kingstanding Monarchs 49-46. Must have been quite a decent match.

RON BULL.