



entry. Swindon Eagles waded through opposition to become the first ever al junior team champions. They beat ley Hawks in the semi-final meeting in Tudors in the final who had in turn C Claydon Greyhounds.

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nday 21 September 1958, the oldest club olk, Claydon Greyhounds, visited the club, Leiston Aces. A crowd just short gathered to watch the opening match on ying Field off King George's Avenue and arded by some spirited riding.

Annual Meeting Ends in Disorder

The annual general meeting of the National

This caused further outburst in all quarters and

National Champion



Dutch supremo Hartog de Ronde who was instrumental in the development of international racing

With Union Jacks fluttering everywhere there was a truly festive spirit about the 1958 national finals held at Hungerford Berkshire. In a thrilling triple run-off, Sandy McGillivray easily won from Derek Lockwood of Suffolk and Bill McGuinness of Cheshire after the three tied on 12 points. Modest in victory McGillivray said he was lucky to win. 'Fraser of Middlesex' should have walked away with it but for the fact that his cotter-pins went in his first ride," he said after his victory.

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Jeffrey Wins BCSF Riders Title

When the British Cycle Speedway Federation was formed six months ago, its chairman, Mr Derek Bacon, stated that one of the Federation's main aims was to give its members the best of everything with first class organisation. With that in mind, everybody present at Garratt Park, London on Sunday 14 September 1958 will agree that Mr Bacon kept his promise when the Federation presented its first ever individual championship, the Britannia Shield. The meeting, promoted by the South London club, attracted a large crowd who enjoyed some top class racing.

The first winner of the shield was Edmonton Monarch's Mike Jeffrey who became the holder after a run-off with Roy Baker of South London Rangers after both riders finished on 14 points. North London rider Len Adams of Tottenham Kangaroos came third with 11 points. The handsome trophy and medals were presented to

the winner and runners-up by Miss Joy Shelton, the television, radio and film actress, assisted by Mr Sidney Taflor, well known on television and films.

Scorers

Mike Jeffrey (Edmonton Monarch) 14, Roy Baker (South London Rangers) 14, Len Adams (Tottenham Kangaroos) 11, Vic White (Warwick Lions) 10, Nobby Watson (Barling Brigands) 10, Derek Cattle (Tooting Tigers) 9, Wally Bracey (Tottenham Kangaroos) 9, Charlie Read (Warwick Lions) 9, Pete Jarman (Beckenham Monarchs) 8, Richard Baker (Thornton Heath Cobras) 8, Mike Smith (Tottenham Kangaroos) 6, Sam Sabourne (Ditton Devils) 4, Len Baker (Raynes Park Stars) 4, John Tutin (Raynes Park Tigers) 3, Burt Rand (Shoebury Devils) 1, Terry Walter (Warwick Lions) 0

1958

Ill Feeling Emerging

Relationships between NACSA and the BCSF are already strained. NACSA officials objected to the BCSF calling their team England when they compete against Holland next year.

Van De Brakel Crowned World Champion

Dutch star Martin van de Brakel, age 22, became the first cycle speedway world champion when he raced to a faultless maximum in front of his own supporters at Minklerstraat, Hilversum. Although the awards went to the home country, the home countries provided several of the lower placings including Dixie Dean (Wembley All Stars) and Pete Blackwell (Kingstanding Monarchs) who finished second and third respectively. Five countries were represented in the final - England, Germany, Holland, Scotland and Wales.

First on parade was Donald Reiche (Germany), followed by Keith Bristow, Dixie Dean and Vic Cowell (England); Scotland's Norrie Allen, whose beard proved quite a sensation with the locals, came next followed by three more Englishmen, Mick Jeffrey, Gerald Kean and Willy Evans. Next on parade were the Dutchmen Kees Koudijs and Jan Langhout, Bill Punter (Wales) and Tom Smith (England); and final four were Pete Blackwell (England) and Henk Koot, Johnny van Meteren and Martin van de Brakel, all representing Holland.

The greatest race of the day proved to be the fifteenth heat when Dean and van de Brakel met. Both were unbeaten (each having nine points) but the Dutchman, who was on the inside of Dean, made a fast gate and although

Dean tried hard he could make no impression on the "Flying Dutchman". Another great race was the nineteenth when Blackwell, with 10 points from four rides, met Dean (11 points); what a tear up these two English boys had before Blackwell crossed the line inches ahead of Dean to give them 13 points each, and the right to race off for the second place. Norrie Allen won the last race to earn the fifth place for Scotland.

For the vital run off for second and third places Dean had the inside of Blackwell; both riders made the gate together but Dean used his inside advantage to pull away on the first turn and take a comfortable win.

Following the run off the first three riders paraded on the rostrum in the centre of the track and Martin van de Brakel was crowned with a laurel wreath and Dixie Dean and Pete Blackwell were presented with bunches of carnations. After the Dutch national anthem van de Brakel returned to the pits, but the small group of English supporters were not satisfied with the honours accorded their fellow country men and insisted on parading Dixie Dean and Pete Blackwell round the track. The reception given to the two Englishmen was terrific and many local supporters rushed onto the track to shake hands with the great English riders.

RIVAL BODY FORMED

Three areas, North West Middlesex, Southern Premier and Southend, were represented at the first official meeting of the British Cycle Speedway Federation, held in Wandsworth. The North London League were also represented but took no part in the proceedings. Following a short discussion the operative proposal was made by Mr Derek Bacon "That a British Cycle Speedway Federation be formed"; the proposal was seconded by Mr. Joe Bloor and carried unanimously.

A "caretaker" committee for the Southern Region was formed, the following persons taking office for a period of three months; Chairman - Mr D.A. Bacon; Vice Chairman - Mr W. Punter; Secretary - Mr V. Merner; Assistant Secretary - Mr J. Whittaker; Treasurer - Mr C.J. Shelly. A Public Relations Officer has still to be elected.

Three Leagues have affiliated so far - North London have voted to stay out for the present, although they will watch with great interest the arrangements of the Federation. The founder members are N W Middlesex, Southern Premier and Southend. "We shall fight NACSA and hope for a good fight; there is room for both of us and also room for improvement. The Federation will stand for improvement", said Mr Bacon.



Photograph left:

By 1958 international racing was proving increasingly popular. Styles contrasted markedly. Note the small back wheel of the Dutch rider pictured in this photo and compare it with the traditional English machine.