

Editor : John Leith. 64, Tonbridge Road, Coventry.
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THE MAN FOR THE JOB

NACSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OVERDRAFT
OF £5.19.4

ASSETS OF
£118.13.10
!!!

This headline describes the man who took over the post of Treasurer of the National Association two years ago, faced with a debt of nearly £150 ; Mr.Eric Branch, former Essex Chairman, has brought the Association from financial 'ruin' to a state of solvency. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME FOR YEARS THAT NACSA HAVE STARTED A SEASON IN SUCH A GOOD POSITION.

Here is a copy of the Balance Sheet.

RECEIPTS

Affiliations	£47.0.0
Riders Licences	£16.9.0
Donations	£17.12.6
Catering	£6.9.0
Match Profits	£9.7.2
Stewards Licences	£3.5.6
Sale Rule Books	£8.12.0
Draw Profits	£95.14.0
Advertising	£3.11.0
Sundry Items	£1.6.8

£209.6.10

EXPENDITURE

Hire of Halls & Rooms .	£10.13.0
Travelling Expenses ...	£11.14.0
Stationery	£2.7.6
Insurances	£1.3.6
Printing	£29.14.0
Telephone & Telegrams .	£10.13.7
Catering	£6.9.0
Medals,Cups,Engraving .	£32.3.7
Advertising	£2.12.0
Sundries	£3.18.0
Sundry Creditors, 1956 and 1957	£87.17.2

£215.6.2

Expenditure over Income - £5.19.4

This is an achievement of which Mr.Branch can be proud, but it is also due to the efforts made by every member of the Association.

Told what was wanted, they have done it.

You can be sure that no better man than Eric Branch could have been found for the job which he has done so well.

(Further AGM news inside).

NOVEMBER IS NEW A.G.M. TIME

The Annual General Meeting of NACSA will now take place in November of each year instead of January, as has been the case up to now.

Next year's AGM will be held in Oxford.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Messrs. Fernyhough, Bacon,Bennett, Richardson, Branch, Cowell, Stevens and Whittaker have agreed to form a World Championship Committee.

Closing date is Dec.31st.1959.

NACSA OFFICERS FOR 1959

Chairman G.W.Fernyhough

Secretary F.Bennett

Vice-Chairman ... A.Mansbridge

Treasurer E.Branch

Executive Committee

J.McPate, B.Moston, B.Shapley,

D.Davies, N.Thompson, J.Leith.

Sub-Committees

Fixtures & Trophies - Fernyhough,
McPate and Mansbridge.

Tracks & Stewards - Leith,

Moston and Mansbridge.

Rules - Bennett, Mills, Thompson.

Appeals Committee - Fernyhough,
Bennett and Leith.

Auditors - P.Dorman and B.Davies.

Hon.Solicitors - Moberley and
Wharton.

* Chairman & Secretary are now
commencing their second year of
their three year term of office.

Vice-Chairman & Treasurer are
commencing their term of three
years of office.

RESOLUTIONS

Out of the 33 Resolutions, 6
were passed and 1 passed to the
Rules Committee for consideration.

To Rules Committee :-

"A rider who is late turning up
for a match may enter the match
at any time during its course
provided that the position he
takes up is a vacant one."

Resolutions Adopted :-

"If only one rider is able to
take part in a race he shall be
immediately awarded 3 points and
the next race shall proceed
forthwith."

(Continued in next column)

"That, in national team champion-
ship matches from the intercounty
rounds onwards, any alteration of
venue will be notified to all
concerned seven days in advance
and clubs applying for such an
alteration later than necessary
to enable this stipulation to be
met will be required to concede
the match."

"The association to sponsor and
organise a national team champ-
ionship (Junior) for 1959 to
consist of 6 riders per team. All
riders in junior matches to be
under 16 on April 1st."

"Semi Finals for National Individ-
-ual Championships. Counties to
forward top two riders for these
events."

"That instead of the present
England, Scotland Wales set up,
the following areas to have
representative teams, both senior
and junior.

N.England, Midlands, Home
Counties, Southern England, each
with a board of selectors. Inter
areas matches to be organised."

"That the A.G.M. of NACSA to be
brought forward to November of
each year."

World Championship

The final will take place on Aug.
6th.1960 at Garratt Park, London.
Semifinals will be on June 19 at
Carrs Wood and Hungerford.

PENALTIES

The BCSF and NACSA have agreed
to recognise penalties imposed by
either organisation upon teams and
riders.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photos are required for public-
ation. You send them in and we
will print them if suitable.

WORLD SPOTLIGHT

AUSTRALIA

ADELAIDE

The C.C.S.(Woodville) are visiting Melbourne soon to race the Pedal Club. The CCS boys are aged 17-18. Pedal Club are all 12 !

The O.Y.S.(Northfield) will be racing on Wednesday nights instead of Sunday afternoons in future.

The E.S.K.(Edwardstown) have just built a new track with the help of Rowley Park Speedway.

Riders in Australia like the term "Skid-Kids", the idea caused possibly because they have to retire at 20.

There is no league in Adelaide - each centre has more than one team ; OYS-3 teams, ESK -3 teams, CCS - 4 teams. These teams race each other every week, with both scratch and handicap racing.

There are 3 grades - Junior (12), B Grade (12-16), and A Grade (16-20). At the end of the days racing there are A then B then Junior matches over 8 laps, then an all-in race of 10 to 15 laps.

When OYS have a charity meeting, with a lot of spectators there, they usually finish with a "Butchers Picnic", when dirty riding is allowed. Many a bike has been wrecked and a rider hurt in these matches.

HOLLAND

A team will be visiting England this year, mainly consisting of Junior riders of 16 years of age. They will be taking part in meetings organised by the British Cycle Speedway Federation.

An age limit of 20 has been imposed by the Netherlands CSA. Preparations are being made to receive the Touring Party from Thurrock Stars and Harefield Pirates that may be made during July.

SWEDEN

The only news of Sweden is that there will be international matches between Holland and Sweden this year.

SCOTLAND

Scotland have rejected an offer to join an International Federation, in which the other countries would presumably join.

ENGLAND

The National Amateur Cycle Speedway Association and the British Cycle Speedway Federation have agreed to co-operate in the fielding of an England side for International matches.

SOUTHERN PREMIER

In a recent issue, I reported that Ditton Devils would be with us next season and at the time of writing that was the case, with the Devils looking strong and healthy, but a letter was sent to the Leagues Chairman Mr. W.Cattle, stating that the Ditton Devils have definately disbanded. Reason given was the lack of interest shown by the remaining riders in the club, mostly juniors, who had only been riding a few months. One must commiserate with manager Mr. Mike Smith for the loss of the club that he has worked so hard to keep running, but with the way things have gone lately his efforts have been sadly wasted. I am sure it won't be long before Mike and team mate Sam Sabourne get fixed up with another club for next year. Mike finished 7th in the leagues averages and Sabourne 13th.

Reading through issue No 205 of the Gazette, I noticed that Essex reporter Ron Bull claims that Walthamstow Wolves are the top team in the country. Well, on behalf of the Southern Premier, I am going to dispute that fact and claim that our league Champions for the last three seasons, Raynes Park Tigers, could take on the Wolves home and away and beat them. Well, how about it, Wolves? If you are interested in riding the Tigers, please contact me (T.Jones) at 13 Rookstone Rd, Tooting, London S.W.17 and we'll see what we can do.

RESULTS

In the second leg of the Jack Hulbert Shield Final at Raynes Park, the Tigers thrashed South London Rangers by 61-35 to retain the trophy for the third year running on a 119-72 aggregate. There was very little real racing, apart from heat 7 when Dave Chivers was left at the gate, but with a tremendous burst of speed went right round the outside and then through the middle of Pete Milton and Alan Merritt to take first place. Top men for Tigers were Geoff Penniket (14), Dave Chivers (11) and Fred Laurence (11), while only Ron Webb with 11 offered any resistance for the Rangers.

CHALLENGE MATCH RESULT.

BRICKETT WOOD KANGAROOS: 39: Saunders 12, B.Birch 9, R.Baldwin 6.
RAYNES PARK STARS 56: D.Hennessy 12, R.Girgell 8, L.Baker 7, R.Trigg 7.

With the advent of at least two new clubs possibly more, entering the S.P. for the 1959 season, prospects for this third year appear to be much brighter than they seemed before. The disbandment of Ditton Devils was a serious blow to the league and left us with only seven teams, three of which are virtually junior teams. Although I cannot as yet name the new clubs I can say that they are both very well known and will be a decided asset to the league next season. So, all being well, the plan for two divisions next year will be realised and with interested enquiries being received from at least three other clubs a good seasons racing seems assured for 1959.

In closing I would like to wish everybody connected with Cycle Speedway a Happy 1959, on behalf of the Southern Premier Cycle Speedway League.

TONY JONES.

ESSEX

This article will be the last I will write before the end of the 1958 year, and no doubt it will be read by the readers when the revelry of Christmas and New Year are once more behind us, so I will just say that I hope you all enjoyed yourselves and that 1959 will bring you all that you would hope for yourselves. Now is the time for New Year Resolutions. Here are MINE:-

- 1.. I resolve that I will serve Cycle Speedway for yet another season.
- 2.. I resolve that I will once again attempt to retire from active racing, although I will ride if neccessary, which makes this a resolution soon to dissolve.
- 3.. I resolve not to be impatient with stewards when I am a rider.
- 4.. I resolve not to be too impatient with riders when I am a Steward.
- 5.. I resolve that the Gladiators will again sponsor Junior riders, will agin ride as often as possible and encourage as many teams as possible to travel to new areas to race.
- 6.. I resolve to bore my readers (if I have any) as little as possible in the coming year.
- 7.. I resolve to count to ten always before blowing my top.
- 8.. I resolve not to make any more Resolutions.

Now for some local news. Main news at present is that the South Essex League table is now completed and that the teams finished in the following order.. 1st Walthamstow Wolves..16points. 2nd.. The Gladiators..10points. 3rd..East Ham Stars..10points.,4th..Thurrock Stars.,5th.. Hawbush Hammers.. both 2points. I will let you have the final league table in my next article.

Oddments of news:- Ron Gibbons was married on December 18th. Hope he and his wife Mary will be very happy; Roy Milano is likely to ride on loan with East Ham Stars during the Middlesex Cup, as The Gladiators are not entering or racing during the winter; teams from the Oxford area are likely to be racing challenge matches in this area next year; A few ideas put forward at a recent local Control Board meeting were rather revolutionary and I am writing another article to cope with this elsewhere in the magazine.

BIG NEWS.. Ron Gibbons and Ron Bull (thats me again) plan to open a Cycle Speedway School in the New Year, and we are hoping to base it under the floodlights of Whipps Cross, if they get the "Go-Ahead" from Johnny Brown and his Merry Comets there. We aim to get raw youngsters and make them into reasonable grade riders before the season starts, AND ALLOCATE THEM TO CLUBS MOST NEEDING THEM, in an effort for all clubs to start off even at the start of the year. If a certain well-backed proposal goes through and Essex race their league under this rule next season, these juniors, will be the most sought after riders for miles.....

RON BULL.

MAKE SURE OF YOUR "GAZETTE'S" ORDER THEM NOW !!!

FLASHBACK

TO 1958

No. 2

CRAIGTON EAGLES

BY JOHN A. LETTS

This has been the Eagles most successful year for a long time. In 1958 we won the Glasgow League from Knightswood Toffs by the margin of 3 points ; this being our major triumph. We almost managed to bring off the double of league and cup, but we were closely beaten in the K.O. Cup Final.

Individual honours went to captain Hamish Orr, Norrie Allan and Joe Letts. Hamish annihilated the opposition in the Individual Championship Final to claim the coveted trophy, while Norrie justified some very intensive preparation by returning from Holland with 5th. place in the World Championship. Joe won the vacant Match Race title and managed to retain it for the rest of the year.

A summary of each riders progress is given below :-
NORMAN ALLAN. An asset to the team not only through his riding ability but also on account of the number of ideas which he has. He is the

only bearded rider in Glasgow and is the only team man who "retires" at least twice a season. Match average of 13.57 points (maximum - 18)
DICK BARRIE. A very important member of the team. Tends to be erratic at times but can show frequent touches of brilliance. Promotion to Heat Leader this year should bring out the best in him. Match average of 8.70.

DAVID CRESSWELL. Started this year as a junior and showed great promise but appears to have lost interest. Match average 4.00.

JOHN KERR. A discovery who made his mark right away. He fitted into the team from the start but has now retired. Match average 4.75.

JOE LETTS. Has retained his scoring consistency of previous years. He is the tactician of the team and is team manager. Was chosen as rider/manager for Scottish Team Match average 15.92.

HAMISH ORR. Most prolific scorer in Glasgow. Has scored 5 maximums this year. His brilliance earned him the Individual Championship title. Is Craighton's captain, and has ridden in the Scottish Team. Match average 16.50.

BRUCE REID. A very capable rider who formed a fine partnership with Hamish. Left us in mid-season as he felt that he could not give of his best. Match average 5.50

BLAIR ROSS. Another fine youngster who left us because of parental objections to the sport. Was turning into a fine rider. Match average of 2.60.

DAVID STEVENSON. So far, Davids performances have not been very impressive, but he has now developed a tiger instinct in his riding and has been going very well lately. Looks good for next season. 0.71.

JIM THORNTON. Jim is never spectacular, but is fairly consistent. Has served us well in many ways this season. 7.92.

(continued on next page)

"FLASHBACK" continued

ALEX YOUNG. Alex rode only twice for us this season, but in each case showed that he still retains that Young magic. At present he is serving in the RAF. 12.00

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One important point about the team in 1958 is that it won most of it's matches through it's tactical strength. Next year the team will be stronger in all departments so that there will be a greater outlet for individualism. Most of the youngsters who have joined us lately have responded well to coaching and all show great enthusiasm. Since their riding ability matches this enthusiasm we know that the future is in good hands.

Craigton will be running two teams next season. One will be the major team, while the other will be run independently. Each will be a force to reckon with.

It certainly looks to me that the EAGLES will be flying high next season.

NEXT WEEK : "TOLWORTH TUDORS".

Personality Corner

FLYER HALFORD

The visit in the latter part of 1958 of Leicester All Stars to Coventry marked the last appearance of "Flyer" Halford, who told me that he had decided to retire. "Flyer" has had about eight seasons with cycle speedway, mostly with Aylestone Aces. Starting at No. 8, he slowly worked his way up, until, in 1956, he reached Heat Leader status with Aylestone, scoring two maximums, and totalling 192 points for an average of 1.97 per ride.

In 1957, "Flyer" joined West End Cyclones as secretary, but failed to keep the team going and returned to Aylestone, without quite reaching the heights of the previous season. The year of 1958, "Flyer" appeared in the colours of Leicester All Stars, mainly at reserve, and also turned out for Leicester in the Midland League on a few occasions.

And so another well known veteran hangs up his boots, but it is to be hoped that he will find time to retain some connection with the sport.

ROY WRIGHT.

MATCHES WANTED

If your team wants challenge matches with teams from other parts of the country, why not let them know through the medium of the "Gazette" ? NO CHARGE is made.

NOTICE

Readers who obtain their copies from a Gazette Agent are asked to collect their copies, or pay postage for them when settling with the Agent should he have to post them to you.

MIDDLESEX

In the second leg of the K.O.Cup, Ruislip Lions entertained the Tottenham Kangaroos from the N.L.I.L. on the Uxbridge track. The visitors were ten points down on the first leg and they took a while to settle down on the fast Uxbridge track. Some good team work kept the Lions in front and they went on to win by 66½-41½. Outstanding for Ruislip was Eren Harper who is fast regaining his best form, he scored 14pts, dropping one to his partner Bill Punter. Giving good support were Inky Blackwell 11, Brian Robinson 10½, Geoff Pearce 10 and Bill Punter 9. Best for the visitors were Derek Wills with 11, Len Adams 9, and Wal Bracey 7. Aggregate score. Ruislip Lions 125½-Tottenham Kangaroos 90½.

Ruislip now meet Tolworth Tudors "B" in the second round, the first leg takes place at Uxbridge on January 14th and the return on the 21st.

Whipps X Comets should have ridden Wembley Hawks on Monday under floodlights, but the match did not take place. It appears that the track was not rideable and neither team would agree on this.

Walthamstow Wolves have been forced to drop out of the K.O.Cup owing to rider shortage, this is a great pity as they would have been a good match for some of the teams.

Langley Leopards captain, Johnny Unsworth has announced his retirement. He has been thinking about this for some time now and this will probably be the end of Langley. John has been riding for Langley for some time, and with team mate Geoff Pearce they have kept the team together. One of his greatest performances was in Holland in 1957, he gave a good account of himself and was one of the leading scorers. He has been picked for the Middlesex Test team on many occasions. He missed the World Championship this year through injury and I think he would have done well. Although he won't be riding next season, he hopes to be able to watch some racing, he will be welcomed as he is a very popular chap.

HAREFIELD BANNED - The Uxbridge Council have banned Harefield from using their Public Address system on the Council track. The Council say the loudspeaker would disturb householders, the club were hoping to use this for some of their meetings, now they will probably try to sell it, the ban appeared in the London Evening Star and local papers.

ROGER SEYMOUR.

BERKSHIRE

As in most places at this time, cycle speedway is dormant but waiting to go at Easter. Bucklebury will field two teams, which will include a number of ex-Thatcham Juniors. It is hoped that Thatcham may be reformed in mid-season by one of the club's older members, Tony Worthington, who is due for demob from the forces in the near future. At Hungerford we are looking forward to the return of John North from Cyprus, but his team mate Alan Bai is going to Cyprus at the end of the month.

JOHN O'GAUNT.