

The First Team Match?

By Robert J. Rogers

Speedway in 1928 was normally regarded as being Solo events with team racing not coming in until 1929.

While researching into the first match at West Ham on 28th July 1928, I came across a poster in the Stratford Express.

It was for Dirt Track Racing at 'Kings Oak Speedway', High Beech, Loughton (Essex) on the same day at 3pm.

The match was ILFORD M.C.C vs AUSTRALIANS.

Mentioned on the posters for England there was Colin Watson and for the Australians Noel Johnson, so I assume they were 'Captains'. There is also another Australian, Ben Unwin mentioned on the poster.

It would seem there was a second half called the Ilford MCC Best Six.

The match was billed as 'A Struggle for Supremacy'.

The admission was 1-2 (6p) (Including tax)

Would anyone know if this was a team event or 'match racing', England vs Australia?

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