

Bristol Bulldogs Speedway

Press Information Release

13th October 2008

Bulldogs storm to victory at Swindon

Bristol 37 Leicester 27 Swindon 22 Oxford 22

30 years after leaving Eastville Stadium Bristol Bulldogs Speedway team pulled off a remarkable victory over Leicester, Swindon and Oxford on an entertaining night of four team tournament action at the Abbey Stadium.

Led by the flamboyant Semen Vlasov, Bristol really turned on the style as they continue to press for a permanent racing venue.

The Bulldogs side boasted a powerful quartet of riders with experienced campaigners such as Mark Burrows and Mark Simmons combining well with young Swedish sensation Linus Sundstrom, who's lightning speed from the gate quickly endeared him to the large, vociferous travelling band of Bristol fans.

Leicester were well served by experienced Russian Sergei Darkin who notched an impressive fifteen point score.

Oxford and Swindon both finished on twenty two points, incredibly twenty one were amassed by Richard Sweetman and Cory Gathercole. Both Charlie Saunders and Danny Warwick were hampered by mechanical problems throughout whilst Ben Reade took just one ride. Gathercole and Sweetman both impressed, Sweetman in particular whose stylish heat victory in race eighteen concluded the night in style.

Bristol's ten point cushion over second placed Leicester was well deserved and Glenn Cunningham's side collected heat wins in seven of the eighteen races. After the match Cunningham commented "We really wanted to win this one for all the fans who have supported us. It was great to see so many of them here tonight and hopefully it wont be long before we can have Speedway back in Bristol.

Work will continue over the winter in order to find a new track for the Bulldogs in Bristol, whilst a possible ground share scheme with either Swindon or Newport is also being considered.

Sunday, October 12, 2008

SWINDON: CHURNGOLD CHALLENGE CUP FOURS

BRISTOL 37

Semen Vlasov 3 3 3 2 2 (13)

Mark Burrows 3 1 1 1 (6)

Mark Simmonds 1 2 2 2 (7)

Linus Sundstrom 3 2 3 3 (11)

Jordan Tyrer F (0)

Team manager: Glenn Cunningham

LEICESTER 27

Sergei Darkin 2 3 3 3 3 1 (15)

Simon Lambert 1 1 1 2 (5)

Luke Priest 0 0 2 1 (3)

Adam Lowe 1 1 2 0 (4)

Team managers: David Hemsley

OXFORD 22

James Cockle 2 R R 1 R (3)

Kyle Hughes 1 1 0 0 3 (5)

Rider replacement – Jamie Courtney

Lee Smart 3 2 2 2 0 (9)

Brendan Johnson 2 3 0 (5)

Team manager: Nick Andrews

SWINDON 22

Cory Gathercole 2 3 1 3 1 (10)

Charlie Saunders 0 0 0 0 (0)

Richard Sweetman 2 3 2 1 3 (11)

Danny Warwick R R R FN (0)

Ben Reade 1 (1)

Team manager: Alun Rossiter

HEAT DETAILS

1: Burrows, Cockle, Lowe, Warwick (ret), 70.46

2: Vlasov, Sweetman, Hughes, Priest (fell, remounted), 68.18

3: Smart, Darkin, Simmonds, Saunders, 69.92

4: Sundstrom, Gathercole, Lambert, Cockle (ret), 69.02

5: Darkin, Sundstrom, Hughes, Warwick (ret), 68.52

6: Sweetman, Simmonds, Lambert, Cockle (ret), 68.93

7: Vlasov, Johnson, Lowe, Saunders (fell, remounted), 68.49

8: Gathercole, Smart, Burrows, Priest (fell, remounted), 69.08

9: (re-run) Johnson, Lowe, Reid, Tyrer (fell, remounted then fell), 71.12

10: Vlasov, Smart, Lambert, Warwick (ret), 67.71

11: (re-run) Darkin, Sweetman, Burrows, Hughes, 68.90

- 12: Sundstrom, Priest, Cockle, Saunders, 69.37
- 13: Darkin, Simmonds, Gathercole, Hughes, 68.58
- 14: (re-run) Sundstrom, Smart, Sweetman, Lowe, 68.90
- 15: (re-run) Gathercole, Simmonds, Priest, Johnson, Warwick (fell, injured), 69.08
- 16: Hughes, Lambert, Burrows (15m penalty), Saunders, 70.58
- 17: Darkin, Vlasov, Gathercole, Cockle (ret), 69.02
- 18: Sweetman, Vlasov, Darkin, Smart, 68.77