

Inventory of South African Speedway Tracks, 1927 to date

This recently collated list of South African Dirt Track Speedway Ovals is an inventory of more than 80 tracks and venues known to have staged dirt track motor-cycle speedway in South Africa since the inception of the sport in the late 1920s. Listed A - Z, from Akasia to Zumbug, it includes from that decade the earliest venues of Benoni,(Willowdale Park), Durban,(Greyville), Johannesburg,(Ellis Park), and Pretoria,(Caledonian Ground,) up to the latter-day raceways of the 21st century, giving the years of operation and their number.

Racing was staged in at least 5 locations in 1928/29 but numbers fell back thereafter, in both the Union and the rest of the speedway world, in the wake of the great depression. In the post-war years of league racing the sport in South Africa reached its peak when, in a number of seasons between 1948 and '57, as many as 10 venues were known to have operated, though not necessarily for a full campaign. With the '60s however came a reversal, following political issues both internationally and speedway-wise.

In Durban, fans at Hoy Park, - later to become the Alan Ford Stadium - , had a full decade of racing in the '50s as the home of the Durban Hornets' National Lge. team, the venue re-emerging re-designated in the '70s to give an accumulated 14 years of speedway. Kings Park Raceway took over the staging of speedway in the same city for another 8 season during the 1980s.

In the capital Pretoria, though 4 venues with 5 tracks have presented speedway over the years, it was the 'Speedway Stadium' that thrived best, operating 6 consecutive seasons in the days of the National Lge. of the '50s. Conversely the Cape area, with a paucity of speedway riders and tracks, - just 3 Cape Town venues, where one, Van Riebeeck Stadium, was a mere temporary site for the Tercentenary Festival of 1952 - , has seen little speedway and no continuity of operation.

Prolonged activity prevailed at Germiston's Corobrik track from the mid '80s to mid '90s, - 9 seasons - , and at the Brakpan Oval, a.k.a. Thunder Valley, from the mid-'90s onward for 12 seasons. Earlier Benoni's Dunswart venue provided interrupted activity during the 1970s up to 1984, while the North-West's Rustenburg Showground has seen sporadic staging of motor-bike speedway racing from 1954 u.t.i. the present decade, though limited of late to appearances at a single event per year as part of their annual show, by virtue of visiting riders from nearby Walkerville. Such excursions by Gauteng riders account for the latest addition to the list of tracks that have held motor-bike speedway races by the inclusion of Boshof in the Free State, where, for the first time ever, bike speedway was seen when added to one of their auto meetings at the Boshof Oval in May 2014.

The present day Walkerville track has seen 18 seasons of speedway racing since its construction in 1998, - it lay dormant for a few years in the mid-'00s - , and only at the original Wembley Stadium, Jo'burg, built pre-war for greyhound racing and given over to bikes in 1947, were fans able to enjoy a longer spell of excitement generated by weekly dirt track racing, amounting to 17 season in all by the time of its final speedway days in 1978.

In the current decade only 2 club sites, Walkerville and George, have staged speedway racing, whilst riders from the former have visited to race at Bloemhof, Orkney, Newcastle, Middelburg and Port Elizabeth as well as the aforementioned towns of Rustenburg and George.

SOUTH AFRICAN SPEEDWAY TRACKS

- Motor-cycle Dirt Oval Speedway



Era	
	Pre-War only
	Pre- & post War
	1946 -'99
	incl'g 21 st century

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#	CITY / TOWN	PROV.	STADIUM NAME / LOCATION	YEARS OF OPERATION	Possible YEARS MAY HAVE RUN	No. of seasons
1	AKASIA	Gg	Akasia Motorsport Stadium. (N. suburb Pretoria)	1990/91 to '91/92	1989/90, 1992/93, 1993/94	2(5)
2	ALBERTON	Gg	Old Barn (15 miles SSE of J'burg)	1939/40, 1946/47	1938/39, 1945/46	2(4)
3	"	"	Rainbow Stadium, (Xanadu)	1977/78, 1978/79		2
4	"	"	Log City Raceway / Xanadu	2002/03		1
5	BENONI	Gg	Willowmoor Park	1928/29		1
6	"	"	Dunswart Greyhound Track	1948/49		1
7	"	"	Dunswart Arena/ Dunswart Raceway/ /Texan Stadium/Honeylube Stadium	1972/73, 1977/78, 1979/80 to '83/84		7
8	"	"	Dunswart Raceway (new track inside the old.)	1983/84		1
9	BLOEMFONTEIN	FS	Railway ground	1949/50 to '50/51, 1954/55 to '56/57		4
10	"	"	Schoeman Park International Speedway Stdm	1949/50, 1973/74 to '77/78		6
11	"	"	Central Showground	various from 1959/60 to '04/05		?
12	BLOEMHOF	NW		2010/11		1
13	BOKSBURG	Gg	Prince George Park	1949/50 to '52/53		4
14	BOSHOF	FS	Boshof Oval	2014*		1
15	BRAKPAN	Gg	Blackwell Stadium	1963/64		1
16	"	"	Brakpan Oval / Brakpan Inter. Raceway/ TV	1995/96 to '06/07	1993/94 or 1994/95	12(14)
17	CAPE TOWN	WC	Rosebank		1928 **	1
18	"	"	Hartleyvale		1928/29	(1)
18	"	"	Van Riebeeck Stadium	1951/52		1
19	"	"	Goodwood Stadium / Showgrounds	1956/57, '64/65, '67/68, '75/76, '77/78 to '78/79	1954/55	6(7)
20	DAGGAFONTEIN	Gg		1975/76		1
21	DUNDEE	KZ	Nothern Natal	1984/85		1
23	DURBAN	KZ	Greyville Race Course **		1927/28	(1)
24	"	"	King's Park (diff to #33)		1927 to 1930	(4)
25	"	"	Ordnanace Road		1927 to 1930	(4)
26	"	"	Clairwood Speedway		1927 to 1930	(4)
27	"	"	Agricultural Showgrounds	1928/29		1
28	"	"	unknown locations **	1930/31, 1935/36, 1948/49	1929/30	3(4)
29	"	"	Currie's Fountain Sports Ground	1947		1
30	"	"	Umbilo	1949/50		
31	"	"	Allan Ford Stadium, Hoy Park	1951/52 to '60 /61, 1972/73 to '75/76		14
32	"	"	Ottawa Autodrome	1973/74, 1981/82 to '82/83	1983/84 - 1985/86	3(6)
33	"	"	King's Park Raceway (diff to #24)	1982/83 to '89/90	1990-91	8(9)
34	EAST LONDON	EC	Summerpride Showgrounds, Amalinda	1954/55, 2013/14		2
35	ERMELO	MP		1958/59		1
36	GEORGE	WC	George Raceway	2003/04, 2008/09, 2011/12 to '13/14		5
37	GERMISTON	Gg	Corobrik / Corobrik Superbowl	1986/87 to '94/95		9
38	GLENVISTA	Gg	Wild Thing Raceway	2004/05 to '06/07		3
39	HARRISMITH	FS	**			?
40	JANKEMPDPORP	NC		2001/02		1
41	JOHANNESBURG	Gg	Auckland Park Motordrome		1928 **	1
42	"	"	Old Wanderers Club Sports Ground	1928/29 to '30/31		3
43	"	"	Ellis Park Cindrena	1928/29 to '30/31		3
44	"	"	S A Stadium, Malvern	1934/35 to '35/36, 1938, 1948/49		4
45	"	"	Wembley Stadium	1947/48-'58/59, '60/61, '65/66, '72/73, '74/75-'77/78		17
46	"	"	Milner Park Showgrounds (Outdoor)	1953/54, 1973/74		2
47	"	"	Milner Park (INDOOR DIRT)	1978/79, 1980/81 to '82/83		4
48	"	"	New Wembley Raceway,Sturrock Park	1990/91, 1992/93, 1993/94, 1994/95	1991/92	4(5)
49	"	"	Wembley Stadium & Raceway	1999, 2000		2
50	"	"	Wembley Stadium & Raceway (inner circuit)	2001/02 to '03/04, 2008/09		4
51	KIMBERLEY	NC	De Beers Stadium	1947/48		1
52	"	"	Kimberley Showgrounds	1996/97, 2002/03		2
53	KLERKSDORP	NW	unknown location ***	1949/50 to '51/52, 1953/54		4
54	"	"	The Showgrounds	various in 1950's, 60's, 70's, 90's and 2000's.		?
55	KLIPRIVER DALESIDE	Gg		1981/82		1
56	KRUGERSDORP	Gg	Krugersdorp Wanderers Sports Grounds		1930/32	(?)
57	"	"	Tarlton Raceway	1978/79 to '82/83	1983/84	5(6)
58	LADYSMITH	KZ	Ladysmith Showgrounds	1978		1
59	LICHTENBURG	NW	Agricultural Showgrounds	1981/82, 2001/02		2
60	MIDDLEBURG	MP	Middleburg Raceway	2010/11		1
61	NELSPRUIT	MP	Glenwood Stadium	1988/90, 1995/96, 2001/02		3
62	NEWCASTLE	KZ	Newcastle Raceway	occasional events from 1995/96 to '07/08		?
63	NIGEL	Gg	Showgrounds	1954		1
64	ORKNEY	NW	Orkney Showgrounds, nr Klerksdorp	2009/10 to '11/12		3
65	ODTSHOORN	WC	De Jager Raceway	1978/79		1
66	PIETERMARITZBURG	KZ	Idube Raceway	1995/96		1
67	PORT ELIZABETH	EC	Westbourne Oval		1931/32	1
68	"	"	Showgrounds	1954/55 to '56/57		3
69	"	"	Victory Raceway	2011/12		1
70	PRETORIA	Gg	Caledonian Ground	1928/29 to '30/31	1935/36	3(4)
71	"	"	Zwartkops	1947/48 to '48/49		2
72	"	"	Speedway Stadium	1954/55 to '59/60		6
73	"	"	Mahem Stadium (in Pretoria West)	1972		1
74	"	"	Total Raceway, Mahem Stdm (new track infield)	1977-78, 1981/82, 1991		3
75	RANDFONTEIN	Gg	Speedway Stadium	1947/48, 1953/54 to '57/58	1948/49, 1952/53	6(8)
76	RICHARDS BAY	KZ	ZCBF Showgrounds	1984/85 to '85/86		2
77	RUSTENBURG	NW	Showgrounds	1956/57, 1974/75, 2002/03-2004/05, 2007/08-2014*		13
78	SPRINGS	Gg	Showgrounds	1950/51, 1951/52, 1952/53.		3
79	"	"	Olympia Park	1953/54 to '58/59		6
80	STANDERTON	MP	Standerton Park	1957/58		1
81	STILFONTEIN	NW		1974/75		1
82	SUN CITY	NW	Superbowl (INDOOR DIRT)	1987/88		1
83	VENTERSDORP	NW		1980/81		1
84	VEREENIGING	Gg	(probably Vaal Showgrounds)	1960/61		1
85	"	"	Vaal Showgrounds (infield track)	2006/07		1
86	VLAKPLAATS	Gg		1951/52, 1952/53		2
87	WALKERVILLE	Gg	Showground	1998/99 to '02/03, 2006/07 to date('18)		16
88	WELKOM	FS	70er	1973/74	1967	1(2)
89	ZUMBUGS	Gg		2003/04		1

** Data to be verified

* single annual event with bikes.