

Speedway Test Matches,

South Africa v. Rhodesia : Rhodesia v. South Africa

incl'g v. Northern Rhodesia & v. Southern Rhodesia

1953 1971 1972 1974 1975
1+1 Tests 3+2 Tests 4 Tests 2+2 Tests 2+1 Tests

1953 Northern Rhodesia v. South Africa

July xxth Kitwe (Kitana Stadium), Northern Rhodesia.

Sept. 11th Kitwe (Kitana Stadium), Northern Rhodesia.

	Northern Rhodesia	40	South Africa	36
July xx th	Bert Clark	10	Toby Boshoff Harry Serrurier Fred van Zyl	? ? ?
			<i>Team manager : B.Fuller</i>	
Sept. 11 th	Northern Rhodesia	?	South Africa	?
	Alan Chambers	<i>No results available</i>	Bruce Aitken	<i>No results available</i>
	Bert Clark		Johnny Bekker	
	Phillip Liebenberg		Brian Ellis	
	Attie Olivier		Sonny James	
	George Paulsen		Doe Luyendyk	
	Stan Paulsen		Bud Messer	
	Bob Serrurier ©		Doug Serrurier ©	
	Johnny Theron		Allan Thomas	

1953 Rhodesia v. South Africa

Bulawayo Showgrounds, Southern Rhodesia.

Sept. 5 th	Rhodesia	34	South Africa	37
	Bob Raw (S A) ©		Doug Serrurier (S A) ©	9
	Johnny Bekker (S R)		Bob Serrurier (S A)	8
	Dave Naude (S A)	10	Sonny James (S A)	
	Joe Blankfield (S A)	9	Harry du Toit (S A)	6
	Toby Boshoff (S A)	8	Doe Luyendyk (S A)	6
	Bert Clark (N R)		Stan Paulsen (N R)	

Royal Show Handicap: Naude, James, Clark

Rhodesian Golden Helmet Match Race: Bob Raw beat Doug Serrurier

This match, the very first speedway meeting in Southern Rhodesia, was held at the conclusion of the Royal Agricultural Show, and the teams were a mixture of riders from South Africa (S A), Southern Rhodesia (S R), and Northern Rhodesia (N R).

The track was 470 yards long and appears to have had four distinct corners.

A 3-lap track record of 70.1 secs was set in the final heat of the match.

The attendance was 12,000 - a record for a sporting event in Bulawayo, and a quarter of the town's population.

The first meeting in Northern Rhodesia was the Northern Rhodesia Open Championship at the Kitana Stadium, Kitwe, on 16.07.53.

It was won by South African Bob Serrurier, who was resident in the country at the time, and who was a prime mover in these early efforts to establish the sport in Rhodesia.

Bert Clark, of Northern Rhodesia, became the first Rhodesian to ride in the UK when he rode for the ill-fated Edinburgh team in 1954.

The above details have been researched by Ken MacLeod from the Herald (Salisbury) and the Chronicle (Bulawayo).

1971 Rhodesia v. South Africa

Rhodesian Stars won series 3-0

06.02 : Bulawayo (Showgrounds) **Rhodesian Stars 49 South African Select 28**
07.02 : Gwelo (Newmarket Stadium) **Rhodesian Stars 55 South African Select 35**
10.02 : Salisbury (Glamis Stadium) **Rhodesian Stars 42 South African Select 28**

This series, for the "Southern African Team Championship" was between the **Rhodesian Stars** and a touring **South African Select**.

The Rhodesian team had to be strengthened by the inclusion of foreign riders.

Team manager for this series for South Africa was Trevor Blokdyk.
 For Rhodesia Stars, team managers were Martin Lee (Bulawayo), Gerald Spanton (Gwelo) and Alex Hughson (Salisbury).
 At Gwelo, Jessup established a new track record of 69.8

Rhodesian Stars	T1	T2	T3	Total	South African Select	T1	T2	T3	Total
Bob Young (Aus)	9	-	11	20	Dennis Newton ©	8	11	8	27
Zak "Abe" Koekemoer ©	10	2	4	16	Vic Pretorius	7	3	4	14
Barry Duke (Eng)	15	-	-	15	Bob Young (Aus)	-	13	-	13
Dave Jessup (Eng)	-	15	-	15	Oyvind Berg (Nor)	-	-	11	11
Oyvind Berg (Nor)	-	14	-	14	Dave Jessup (Eng)	9	-	-	9
Bill McMillan (Scot)	-	14	-	14	Ettienne Olivier	2	5	-	7
Peter Prinsloo	4	5	5	14	Tommy Viljoen	0	3	3	6
Geoff Curtis (Aus)	-	-	11	11	Danie Fourie	2	0	0	2
Laurie Etheridge (Eng)	9	-	-	9	Tony Jongvisser	-	-	2	2
Alan Harris	2	5	-	7					
Bobby Beaton (Scot)	-	-	6	6					
Jim Gallacher (Scot)	-	-	5	5					

1971 South Africa v. Rhodesia

Series tied 1-1

Fri. 24.09 : Bloemfontein (Showgrounds) **South Africa 17 Rhodesia 29**
 Sat. 25.09 : Bloemfontein (Showgrounds) **South Africa 25 Rhodesia 21**

The two matches were staged as part of Bloemfontein's Spring Show at the Bloemfontein Showgrounds. The were scheduled to be run over six heats with the teams originally selected as below. Subsequently, the matches were changed to eight heats with Charles and Squack Harris withdrawing from the Rhodesian team and Eddie Lennox guesting for them.

S.Africa: - Vic Pretorius, Dennis Newton, Ettienne Olivier, Dave Collins and Eddie Lennox
Rhodesia: - Chris Prinsloo, Ian McMillan, Charles Harris, Squack Harris and Zak Koekemoer.

The Bloemfontein newspaper 'The Friend' reported the first Test in its issue of 25th September thus: "TEST WAS NO TEST: Rhodesia won the first speedway test against South Africa at Bloemfontein Showgrounds last night without points being announced. Some spectators were furious about the organisation of the test. They complained that it could not be called a test because two of the Rhodesians withdrew and a South African, Eddie Lennox, substituted for them."

1972 South Africa v. Rhodesia

Rhodesia won series 2-1

08.07 : Durban (Hoy Park) **South Africa 21 Rhodesia 15** (Att: 7,000)
 15.07 : Durban (Hoy Park) **South Africa v. Rhodesia** Cancelled due to rain
 06.10 : Johannesburg (Wembley) **South Africa 14 Rhodesia 22**
 07.10 : Durban (Hoy Park) **South Africa 15 Rhodesia 21**

South Africa	T1	T2	T3	T4	Total	Rhodesia	T1	T2	T3	T4	Total
Dennis Newton	7	-	6	3	16	Peter Prinsloo	9	-	9	9	27
Danie Fourie	3	-	4	2	9	Roni Ferguson	2	-	5	4	11
Neil Mortimer	8	-	0	-	8	Pip Harris	4	-	2	5	11
Vic Pretorius	3	-	-	3	6	Alex Hughson	-	-	6	3	9
Ettienne Olivier	-	-	-	6	6	Ray Barclay	-	-	0	-	0
Louis Fourie	-	-	2	1	3	Dave "Squack" Harris	0	-	-	-	0
Jimmy Chapman	-	-	2	-	2						

1974 South Africa v. Rhodesia

April 5th & 6th. Milner Park, (Outdoor track,) Johannesburg,

A 2-match series, **South Africa v. Rhodesia**, was held as part of 4 meetings at the Rand Show.

No match results available; Information from the Rhodesian press suggests that the teams, and points, were :
South Africa: Brian Stephens 3pts (2 matches), Peter Murray 10pts (2), with probably Vic Pretorius, & Arthur Bruins (though Ettienne Olivier was originally selected instead of Murray)

Rhodesia: Peter Prinsloo 10pts (2 matches), Dave Hemus 10pts (2), Pip Harris 10pts (2), Roni Ferguson ?pts.

1974 Rhodesia v. South Africa

Rhodesia won series 2-0

13.09 : Salisbury *Rhodesia 27 South Africa 21*
 14.09 : Bulawayo *Rhodesia 36 South Africa 12*

Note : The Rhodesia Herald named the teams for these matches as:

Rhodesia : Peter Prinsloo, Mike Ferreira, Pip Harris, & Ray Barclay.

South Africa : Dennis Newton, Louis Fourie, Danie Fourie, & Vic Pretorius

At Salisbury, Peter Prinsloo was only beaten by Dennis Newton in heat 5.

At Bulawayo, Mike Ferreira lowered the track record to 53.9 in heat 8 (all races at Bulawayo were over 3 laps)

At Bulawayo, other than through engine failure, Prinsloo, Ferreira and Harris rode undefeated.

1975 South Africa v. Rhodesia

Rhodesia beat South Africa 2-0

29.03 : Johannesburg (Wembley Stadium) *South Africa 21 Rhodesia 25* (Att: 14,000)
 31.03 : Stilfontein *South Africa 15 Rhodesia 20*

Note : Promoter at Stilfontein was South African rider Danie Fourie.

<i>South Africa</i>	<i>T1</i>	<i>T2</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rhodesia</i>	<i>T1</i>	<i>T2</i>	<i>Total</i>
Peter Murray	8			Malcolm Brown	8		
Dennis Newton	4			Peter Prinsloo	7	8 ?	15
Vic Pretorius	4	-		Dave Hemus	4	5 ?	9
Arthur Bruins	3	2 ?	5	Pip Harris	3		
Brian Stephens	1	1 ?	2	Chris Prinsloo	3		
Danie Fourie	1	9	10	Colin Payne	-	0 ?	0
George Baynes	-						

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## 1975 cont'd . . South Africa v. Rhodesia

Single international meeting, unconnected to the March series.

30.05 : Johannesburg, (Wembley Stadium)

| <i>South Africa</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>Rhodesia</i>   | <i>18</i> |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Dennis Newton ©     |           | Pieter Prinsloo © |           |
| Danie Fourie        |           | Neil Webb         |           |
| Peter Murray        |           | Dave Hemus        |           |
| Arthur Bruins       |           | Malcolm Brown     |           |
| Brian Stephens      |           | Chris Prinsloo    |           |

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