

**BAST, Steven Roger (Steve)**

**Born:** December 25, 1951, Van Nuys, California, United States of America.

**Died:** October 30, 2007.

Whilst the career of Steve Bast in British League speedway was incredibly short, he is one of the greats of the sport in his native U.S.A. with two national titles to his name. Speedway was virtually unheard of in the States for around a decade until news of a recovery began to reach Britain with a new breed of rider coming to the fore. Steve was a major figure in the revival along with riders like his brother, Mike, Rick Woods and Sonny Nutter performing on a regular basis at Costa Mesa and other tracks in the California area.

Ivan Mauger and Barry Briggs were two regular visitors to the American tracks and spoke highly of the elder Bast brother who was tempted across to join Wembley in 1970 who were looking to shore up their team following the decision by Ove Fundin to quit the side in mid-season. Steve joined the 'Lions' in a blaze of publicity and made his debut for the club on August 15, with a modest score of two, paid three against Poole. The following week he failed to score against Leicester at the Empire Stadium before upping and leaving for home, disappointed with his form and with the infrequent number of appearances the British League seemed to offer him. Although Steve never returned to British League racing, he remained a dominant figure in U.S. domestic action for many years.

Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1970	Wembley	BL1	2	6	2	1	3	2.00	-	-

**Individual Honours:** U.S.A. Champion 1969, 1974.

**International Honours:** U.S.A. international – 5 caps, 21 points.