

BAYBUTT, David J. (Dave)

Born: October 19, 1947, Wrightington, Lancashire, England.

When teenager Dave Baybutt was injured in a meaningless second half race at Belle Vue in October 1966, the 'Aces', and speedway in general, possibly lost one of its most promising young riders. Dave was primarily a grass track rider and had secured both the British 350cc and 500cc championships on the eve of his crash, but was also having speedway outings at Hyde Road and had made three first team appearances for the Manchester based club. He had previously stated that he was not going to pursue a full-time career on the shale due to his studies in his quest to be a qualified chartered surveyor and it is debateable whether he would have continued to ride for the 'Aces'. However, a serious arm injury sustained when he laid his bike down to avoid the fallen Taffy Owen and was hit by the following Laszlo Munkasci ended all the talk as to his future and tragically ended his career at the age of just 18. He did return to grass track racing in 1968 but never made a comeback to speedway.

Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1966	Belle Vue	BL	3	6	7	2	9	6.00	-	-