

BENSON, Charles Julie (Jules)

Born: June 18, 1928, Gisborne, New Zealand.

Died: 1992

Reportedly christened Julie after a Swedish uncle, he generally used the name of Jules Benson throughout his British speedway career, all of which was spent at Rayleigh. An entertaining rider who delighted the crowds at The Weir with his fence scraping antics, Jules was a useful lower order performer and played an important role in the 'Rockets' triumph in the 1952 Southern League. In terms of his averages, Jules' first season was his best as he recorded a figure of 6.26 points per match and scored a full maximum at Long Eaton in July.

Despite a drop in his average the following year he had the distinction of scoring in all 41 matches in which he rode during the championship winning season. He missed out on the 1953 campaign, preferring to stay at home in New Zealand, but was tempted back to the Essex club the following season to ride in a new Second Division which had seen the amalgamation of the clubs from the two lower leagues. He found the increased competition a little too tough and his comeback lasted just the one year.



Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1951	Rayleigh	NL3	26	78	101	21	122	6.26	1	-
1952	Rayleigh	SL	41	139	164	39	203	5.84	-	-
1954	Rayleigh	NL2	22	64	66	7	73	4.56	-	-

Team Honours: Southern League Championship winner 1952.