

BESTER, Roy Petrus Cornelius Edward

Born: May 28, 1928, Ruetenburg, South Africa.

Died: August 1992.

The sensation of the 1952-53 South African season, Roy came from nowhere to become the nation's second best rider that winter behind Henry Long. He was a much sought after prospect by the British clubs and chose to join Edinburgh in 1953, with the 'Monarchs' looking for a new rider to boost their prospects for the Division Two campaign ahead. He scored five, paid six, on his debut against Glasgow in May and went on to have an excellent season as he finished with an average of just under seven points per match.

The following winter he suffered a loss of form and a back injury but took his place in the Edinburgh line-up for the start of the new British season. He again made a good start to the year, recording double figure scores against Leicester and Poole, but the club pulled out of league racing in July, leaving the riders to look for new tracks. Roy was quickly snapped up by Leicester and had an excellent spell at Blackbird Road, scoring two maximums and lifting his average to over eight points per match to finish behind Ken McKinlay in the club's end of season figures. Roy could not agree financial terms to return to Britain in 1955 and was never seen on British tracks again, although he did ride in South Africa for several more years.



Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1953	Edinburgh	NL2	22	89	143	11	154	6.92	-	-
1954	<i>Edinburgh</i>	<i>NL2</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>7.04</i>	-	-
1954	Leicester	NL2	12	48	87	13	100	8.33	2	-

International Honours: South African international – 26 caps, 229 points.