

# ENGLISH SPORTS CUP

First raced for: 1925

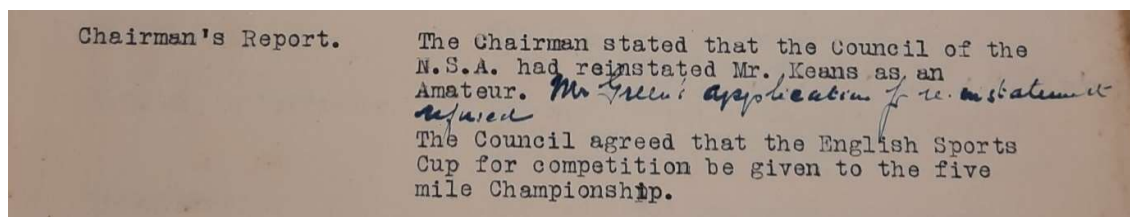
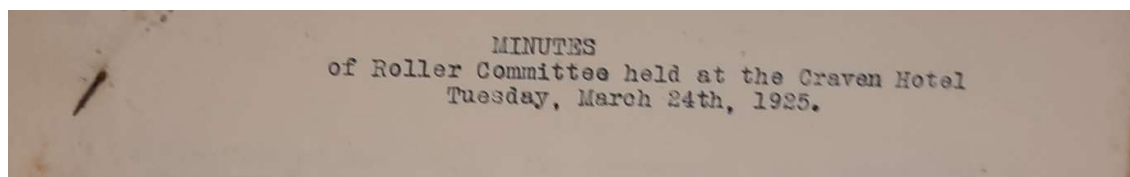
Last raced for: Current trophy

1925-1970	Men's 5 Mile Championship (not held 1940-1945)
1971-1974	Men's 8000m Championship (not held 1972)
1975-1995	Men's 10000m Championship
1996-1998	Men's 10000m Points Championship
1999-2003	Men's 10000m Elimination Championship
2004-2008	Men's 15000, Points Championship
2009-2021	Men's 15000m Elimination Championship (not held 2020 – Covid-19)
2022-Current	Men's 10000m Elimination Championship

The Senior Men's 5 Mile British Championship was first raced for in 1910, but between that first event and 1924 no trophy was awarded to the winner.

In 1924 the weekly sporting and cycling publication, 'English Sport & Amateur Wheelman', donated a trophy to the National Skating Association for a roller skating event. (Coincidentally, the first winner of the 5 Mile Championship was Olympic cycling medallist Leon Meredith). The NSA in turn donated the trophy to the Roller Committee.

At a meeting of the Roller Committee held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1925 at the Craven Hotel, London, it was unanimously agreed that the NSA Council be asked to allocate the trophy to the 5 Mile Championship. On 24<sup>th</sup> March 1925 it was reported back that the NSA Council had agreed.



Whilst Benny Lee had secured victory in the 5 Mile Championship a month earlier it is believed that he was given the trophy retrospectively and thus became its first recipient.

From the outset it can be seen from the Roller Committee minutes above that the “English Sport & Amateur Wheelman Trophy” had already become more widely known as the English Sports Cup.

## SOME PREVIOUS WINNERS



JIMMY REED  
1929



JOE WEATHERBURN  
1931



EDDIE STUMBKE  
1932



JIMMY REED  
1937



JOHN WHATLEY  
1951



LEO EASON  
1957





MICK McGEOUGH  
1966



JOHN E. FRY  
1970



JOHN FOLLEY  
1971



ROY LAWRENCE  
1978



JOHN DOWNING &  
MICK McGEOUGH  
1979



PAT FEETHAM  
1980



MARK TOOKE  
1986



CHRIS STAFFORD  
2000



MATT RODGERS  
2001



SUTTON ATKINS  
2010

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS

- Tony Marriott holds the record for the most number of consecutive wins with FOUR between 1988 and 1991.
- The record for the most number of victories is jointly held by Mick McGeough and Sutton Atkins with NINE. McGeough won his between 1966 and 1983 whilst Atkins victories came between 1993 and 2014.
- Incidentally, Atkins also holds the record for the longest time between first and last victory with 21 years and 16 days.
- Les Woodley who once held the record for the most number of British titles only ever won the trophy once – in 1960.
- World Champion Danny Kelly won the trophy in 1963 and 1964. He also crossed the line first in 1965 and 1966 but was disqualified on both occasions. The official reason given for the latter disqualification was that he was “skating too close”. Believing the officials at that time to be corrupt he quit the sport straight after that event (although he did return to competition as a veteran some 20 years later)
- Mick McGeough, John Folley and John E. Fry are the only skaters to have won the trophy at both imperial and metric distances.
- The old rink at Alexandra Palace has held the event a record TWENTY NINE times – although this is likely to be surpassed in the next few years with Tatem Park already hosting the event twenty five times.
- The highest recorded number of entries was 72 in 1951.

## CHARACTERISTICS

- Height = 420mm (with base) or 330mm (without base)