## TEAM USA TO NAME WORLD CUP SQUAD IN JUNE, Youngsters aiming for dream call ups!

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The USA Speedway Team and its management are planning to name a 9 man squad for this Summer's World Cup competition in Great Britain and Poland, and the places on the final roster are far from decided.

Team Coordinator Steve Evans explains, "We are able to name a squad of up to 10 for the competition. We have elected, as we did last year, to choose a squad of 9 who will take us through the full tournament. Given that we currently have 5 Americans racing in the European leagues; Greg Hancock, Ryan Fisher, Ricky Wells, Aaron Fox and Gino Manzares, there are likely four places left up for grabs if everyone stays fit. We intend to award the remaining spots on the squad to the best four contenders from the domestic scene – not all will necessarily travel with us, but given that this is a long term project with the emphasis on the new generation of riders coming through, being on the final nine will be a huge season accomplishment for all who make it."

Last year the USA team took 16 year old Max Ruml to Europe to experience the final stages of the World Cup first hand. Ruml was a sensation in his rookie season on a 500cc bike, he placed an astonishing 4th place in the AMA National Speedway Series and won the Under 21 National title. He practiced with the USA team before the World Cup Semi Final at Kings Lynn, England, and the next night made his UK racing debut at the prestigious 'Golden Hammer' Invitational. Ruml, when asked about last year's trip and his plans for 2014 said, "It's been a great experience and I hope the team can put it all together and that I make the squad this year. It would be an honor to be a part of the team again and look forward to seeing this year's team make a dream come true."

# Max Rumi



#### Rocco Scopellite\_\_\_\_



17 year old Rocco Scopellite, who represented the USA in the Under 21 World Cup last April in Germany, has been training with senior squad for the last two weeks said, "To make the final 9 man SWC squad would be a life-long dream come true. It would be my first step forward in following my dreams of making it big on

the European Speedway scene."

A rider who rode one season in Europe in 2011, Tyson Burmeister, is very much looking to put himself in the shop window for the 2014 World Cup. Burmeister stated, "Being part of the World Cup team is a great privilege. It's something I take very seriously. In 2011 when I was racing overseas I was able to ride for the USA team in the World Cup in Germany and scored 8 points, which is by far one of the highlights of my racing career."



### Tyson Burmeister



An unexpected squad addition last year was Scott Campos, who races in the British National League but has American parentage and citizenship. This year Campos knows that despite the semi final is at his home track of Kings Lynn, he'll be facing much pressure to retain his spot, "Being part of the squad last season was a great experience for me. Although I didn't ride the atmosphere of the team was great! And with me back riding full time this year I'm aiming to earn my place back in the final 9!"



Team Manager Billy Hamill, who won a record four Gold Medals in the World Team Cup for USA, added "Team USA is just that! A team of passionate people working very hard to get to this point. We have a lot of enthusiasm from everyone involved and that momentum is rolling forward. It's really a grass roots effort and that is the beauty of it all; you can feel the passion because it's for real! It is

a defining moment for American Speedway and something I am very proud to be a part of."



The 2014 Speedway World Cup takes place in England, Sweden and Poland between July 26th and August 2nd. The USA, for the first time since 2007 is seeded straight into the final stages, which consists of themselves and eight other nations. They have been drawn in the first semi final, returning to Kings Lynn, England where they astonishingly eliminated #4 ranked Sweden last year in an epic encounter. Their opponents this year will be Australia, Great Britain and the winner of a qualifying round 3 weeks earlier between Italy, Russia, Germany and Slovenia. The winning country of the semi final goes to the final at Bydgoszcz, Poland on August 2nd, with 2nd and 3rd places going to a 'Race Off' 2 days earlier for the last spot in the final.

We encourage all ambitious American riders who are interested in representing their country at the highest level to apply to be on this years squad. Early season race results, professionalism, positive attitude, and hard work will be key elements for a squad place. Anyone who wants to be considered should talk with Billy Hamill or team management.



10

AMA

#### Scenes From Kings Lynn 2013 Team USA SWC Photos Courtesy Of: Steve Dixon

#### Greg Hancock leads Edward Kennett

Ricky Wells leading Dennis Andersson



Gino Manzares pressuring Peter Ljung



Bjerre - Ljung - Fisher - Cook



Hancock - Ljung - Bjerre



Hancock - Wells - Fisher - Manzares







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