Mildura riders crashed out of the first round of the Australian solo speedway championships which were staged at the Gillman track in Adelaide Saturday night.

In heat 12 Mildura's most experienced rider in the titles Mark Lemon crashed into the fence on the first turn.

He hit the fence hard and the meeting was held up for a quarter of an hour as Lemon was taken to Adelaide Hospital with a back injury.

Just prior to the meeting starting Lemon had told a friend that he was hopeful of success but had not just been able to get his bike super right to race.

He had won a heat and finished third in his first two rides of the night.

Lemon's father was at the Hospital this morning but the exact extent of the injury is not known, although Mildura speedway supporters indicated that while he was in a lot of pain he was still able to take off his leathers.

Lemon was sedated in hospital early this morning to keep the pain of his injury in control.

Cory Gathercole had a spill in his first race of the night which resulted in James Holder putting his bike down to avoid striking the fallen rider.

Holder gingerly got to his feet after putting his bike down and fans hoped he had not aggravated

a serious arm injury he suffered last season.

If Gathercole had not gone down in his first ride he may have made it into the A final and not the B Final following the completion of the heats.

Lemon has been replaced in the Mildura second round tonight by English rider Joe Haines which will see Shepparton's Jake Anderson go to first reserve while the Australian Speedway Commission approved Ryan Sedgmen as the second reserve.

Rory Schlein won the B final and a place in the A Final, which was won by Troy Batchelor from Chris Holder who was second and Darcy Ward of Queensland finished third.

Then followed Schlein (4th) with Jason Doyle (5th), Ty Proctor (6th), Cory Gathercole (7th) and English rider Josh Auty (8th).

A FINAL: Troy Batchelor 1; Chris Holder 2; Darcy Ward 3, Rory Schlein 4.

B FINAL: Rory Schlein 1; Jason Doyle 2; Ty Proctor 3 , Cory Gathercole 4.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS (after first round): Troy Batchelor (Qld) 20 pts; Chris Holder (NSW) 18; Darcy Ward (Qld) 17; Rory Schlein (SA) 16; Jason Doyle (NSW) 15; Ty Proctor 14; Cory Gathercole (Victoria) 13; Josh Auty (Great Britain) 12; Justin Sedgmen (Victoria) 11: Alec

Davies (NSW) 10; Cameron Woodward (Victoria) 9; James Holder (NSW) 7; Sam Masters (SA) 6, Mark Lemon (Victoria) 4; Robert Ksiezak (SA), Josh Grajczonek (Qld) 2.

Second round: Mildura's Olympic Park Speedway Sunday January 3. Racing starts at 7.30pm.