Speedway – Monarchs bitter over Becker

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Alex Harkess (left) speaking to Scott Courtney of Berwick. Harkess and Campbell did all they could to bring Becker to Armadale. Picture by Nigel Duncan Media

Edinburgh Monarchs have stepped-up their bid to sign a seventh rider after moves to bring exciting young American prospect Luke Becker to Armadale hit the skids.

He was the man selected to fill the final position in the team and the deal was signed before Christmas.

And Becker was endorsed by former world champion Greg Hancock and top TV pundits.

But British speedway bosses have turned down his visa application and Monarchs co-promoter John Campbell has no other option than to look elsewhere.

A bitterly-disappointed Campbell said the application went to the British Speedway Promoters' Association (BSPA) Management Committee for a final decision and was turned down.

He said: "We must move on. I feel very sorry for Luke but he's determined to ensure that he has all the necessary qualifications for a visa in 2019."