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British Ski Academy GBR Series Outdoor Races 4 & 5 Race Reports

Written by Dryslope Ambassadors Nicole Shering & Robert Holmes



Photo Credit: Racer Ready

British Ski Academy GBR Race 4 - Pontypool

As the BSA GBR Outdoor Series was coming to a close, the final two races were at the very Pontypool slope, which is always a well organised event. Due to the points, especially in the first run being so very close, it made for an exciting weekend, with competitors potentially feeling the pressure.

On Saturday's GBR 4, in the female race, Georgia Hyett was the first racer out of the top 15 to take to the rather unusual course, including a jump after the first gate, set by BSA. She had a time of 20.72. Closely following her down were the likes of Ellie Jackson (21.36), Jenny Davies (21.36) and Isabel Evans (20.93) who all had good runs resulting in them finishing their first run in the second to last racer down, Nicole Shering had a time of 18.91, putting her 1.29 seconds in front of the field going into the second run. The second run course, set by Dave Eaves was a little different to the first, which suited certain racers, affecting the overall results. Eva Pascoe was 8th after the first run had an improved second run of 20.08 pushing her up to 4th position overall. The top three positions stayed the same after the second run with Georgia Hyett in 3rd (41.41), Jenny Davies in 2nd (41.41) and Nicole Shering in 1st (38.14).

In the male race, the course proved interesting for the racers but exciting for the spectators, with the likes of Toby Case, Adam Lee, Ryan Bloom and Chris Corr not finishing the first run. Callum Flahive (17.70), Callum Witts (18.09) and Craig Speed (18.15) all put down solid runs putting them in contention for the podium places going into the second run. However, a past racer Andrew Watson showed that you can always come back to ski racing after a time out! Setting an unbeatable time (17.36), for all to try and chase on run 2. Ollie Weeks, who had been a favourite into the race put down an impressive first run placing him second however a mistake on the last gate of the course on run 2 meant he was unable to finish. Therefore, Callum Witts took 3rd (36.54), Gerald Flahive in 2nd (35.62) and Andrew Watson in 1st (34.44).

In the under 10 and under 12 race, the jump was a highlight to the course and something different for them. Kitty-Jay Caldwell and Isabel Sadler were the only two competing in the under 10 age group and it was no different to any other race in the fact they were very close. Isabel just pipped Kitty with only 0.05 between them. Amber Fennell impressed the crowd again with her performance however, Emilia Orzel showed determination after a slightly slower first run to finish 0.08 behind her team mate. Heather Heslop, who only made her first run managed to finish 3rd place, just in front of Ffion Lewis. In the under 10 boys, Finlay Royle improved on his second run by 1.21 seconds leaving him over half a second ahead of Ryan Faber who took 2nd place. Frazer Cox finished in 3rd. In the under 12 boys, Harry Duncan won with a 0.2 lead over Jack Cox after they both went considerably quicker on their second run. Lewis Calder, who finished 4th was very consistent on both runs.

An added bonus for everybody was the pro slalom event held after the days main race which proved exciting and something different for the racers to try. Overall ranking 1st Andrew Watson (17.80), 2nd Gerald Flahive (17.95), 3rd Nicole Shering (18.68), 4th Toby Case (18.76) and 5th Robert Holmes (18.87).

British Ski Academy GBR Race 5 - Pontypool

The Welsh sunshine came out for the final race of the series, David Eaves and Robin Kellen setting two interesting courses for the series finale.

The mini's started the day with some fantastic racing with the under 10 category won by Kitty-Jay Caldwell and Ryan Faber. Amber Fennell and Harry Duncan taking top spot in the under 12 category.

The females race also saw some impressive skiing with Nicole Shering convincingly taking the win and Georgia Hyett and young Charlotte Holmes 2nd and 3rd overall respectively.

The males race was very exciting with the series winner to be decided. Andrew Watson Convincingly took top spot and Craig Speed and Josef Huppach 2nd and 3rd overall.

The outcomes of the race crowned Nicole Shering and Eva Pascoe Joint winners of the female outdoor series and Robert Holmes the winner of the male outdoor series.

Submitted by Gareth on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 - 10:13.



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