

# Weeks and Vale rise to the challenge for the Dash4 Ca\$h

Neil McQuoid 27 August 2019 Premium



With each edition of the Da\$h for Ca\$h run by Team Evolution, the quality of racing and the organisation has improved significantly. With a separate men's and women's event for the first time, the timing of the event meant that there was also a bigger field. With just one previous winning in the field, winner of the third event, Andrew 'Smiley' Watson, the quality of the field in both fields was impressive.

Following the two qualifying runs, Rob Holmes had put the fastest time down the red course to lay an early marker down. Weeks was second fastest with the spectacular Chris Carr in third ahead of Jack Feneley. Andrew Watson was down with the eighth fastest time and Craig Speed, making his seasonal debut (and runner up in the first event last year) had posted the 12th fastest time.

In the Women's race there was not much to differentiate the top four with Lauren Vale fastest, Nicole Shering in second, Charlotte Holmes third and Lauren Bloom fourth. Georgia Hallett was best of the rest.

On seeding alone, Charlie Tubbs caused the first surprise of the night as he took out Oliver Steward in the first round. Tubbs would go on to cause further upset when he took out Holmes in the quarter finals after Holmes straddled mid way down the course.

Watson battle his way through to the semi finals yet many felt that he was not looking in the same imperious form that he had shown in Gloucester in the previous event. A late burst in the quarter final against another returning racer, Dan Symonds, had seen him squeak into the semi finals.

The second quarter final saw Jack Feneley line up against Harrison Evans. While Feneley had had a fairly uncomplicated run through the rounds, Evans had disposed of Speed in round two.

the bottom half of the Men's draw saw Weeks and Furse Cope run through the rounds with little problem for the third quarter final. Thomas Upton had been one of the biggest casualties from the first round with Murdo Watson beating him. In the last quarter final, Chris Carr battled his way down through the rounds to meet Ben Vincent. Vincent had knocked sixth seed, Joe Nickson out in the second round while all the rest of the races had gone with seeding.

By the time the Women's event reached the quarter finals, the only racer to have gone further than their seeding was Abi Putman who had knocked out Isabella Tomkinson in the round of 16. It was in the semi finals where the event would light up.

All summer the competition between Lauren Vale and Nicole Shering has been intense as both racers have pushed each other faster and faster. With Charlotte Holmes looking to gatecrash her way into the final, Shering had to negotiate her first over the two legs. Vale in the other semi final had to fight her way past Georgia Hallett.

With Vale and Shering the top two seeds, it was no great surprise that they both made it to the final shoot out for the £1000 first prize.

The Men's race saw Tubbs lose out to Watson in the quarter final and then Watson went on to beat Jack Feneley in the semi final while Weeks, who had seen off Furse Cope in the quarter finals came up against Vincent who had benefitted from another spectacular Corr moment as he pushed it to the limit to try and win. Sadly he went beyond the limit and crashed out.

So the two finals saw Vale and Shering face off and in the men's race it was Watson and Weeks. Weeks had been impressive all night: smooth and tight, while Watson had been getting better with each round.

Run one of the Women's race saw Shering take a 0.12 lead from racing on the blue course, a course that many felt was the slower of the two courses. Could she hang on and use the extra speed from the red course on run two to take the win?

In the Men's race, a mistake by Watson gave Weeks a half second lead for the second run. Could Watson pull that back?

If Shering thought that by being on the red course would give her the edge for the second run, she had not counted on the determination and fight that Vale has been showing this season. With both courses getting faster lower down, Vale took the second run and had enough advantage to win overall. Shering lay on the ground after her run, absolutely spent, she had given her all.

The last run of the night saw Weeks carve out another half second over Watson to win the Men's race.

Another great night of racing and why this event is not picked up by any of the governing bodies is beyond belief. Team Evolution are to be congratulated for their innovation in bringing so many current and past racers to the matting to compete in a great fun event. The £1000 certainly helps but it also raises the profile of the sport.

Support from Winter Sports Foundation, Rossignol and Ski Bartlett helped to make this there biggest and best Da\$h4Ca\$h event yet. Subscribers to Racer Ready were able to watch the event live through Facebook.

## ABOUT AUTHOR

---

NEIL MCQUOID

---

[< Previous Post](#)

**The evolution of Stoke Ski Centre: venue for the British Dry Slope Championships in 2019**

[Next Post >](#)

**Vale takes Ski Bartlett English Open in Stoke**

---



Racer Ready is there for those who are interested in competitive winter sport. We cover Alpine Skiing, Skier Cross, Telemark, Boardercross, Speed Skiing, Bobsleigh and Skeleton.