



London & South East Regional Ski Association **L&SERSA NEWS**

OCTOBER 2002

SNOW IS ON ITS WAY!!

Whilst we are enjoying our last regional race the snow clouds are gathering over Europe. Some of our skiers who have continued to train both here and abroad during the summer months are reporting several centimetres of snow already falling in some places. Are you ready for the races? Will you be going abroad to race this year and compete as so many did last season?

Details about the following races can be found through the ESC or L&SERSA and are suitable for Children (and Minis**).

DHO Christmas Races**	Wengen	Switzerland	27 Dec
BARSC Children Race**	Alpbach	Austria	30 Dec - 4 Jan
John Clark Races	Glenshee	Scotland	25 Jan - 26 Jan
British SchoolGirls Race	Flaine	France	27 Jan - 28 Jan
British SchoolBoys Race	Wengen	Switzerland	27 Jan - 28 Jan
NE Scotland Children Champs	Lecht	Scotland	08 Feb - 09 Feb
Ski Road Skis	Cairngorm	Scotland	22 Feb - 23 Feb
Hird Trophy & Coronation Cup	Cairngorm	Scotland	01 Mar - 02 Mar
BSA Inter-School Challenge**	Les Houches	France	13 Mar - 14 Mar
Scottish Childrens Champs	Cairngorm	Scotland	22 Mar - 23 Mar
Brit Land Jun & Child Champ**	Pitztal	Austria	06 Apr - 11 Apr
English Alpine Championships**	Puy St Vincent	France	14 Apr - 19 Apr

Thank you to our Sponsors

(Some dates still to be confirmed)

ALAN BAXTER THE LATEST CAS hearing in London concludes

The two day hearing at the Court of Arbitration for Sport about Baxter's challenge for the return of his Olympic Slalom bronze medal ended on Friday 6th September.

Baxter's legal team, headed by leading QC Michael Beloff, were satisfied that they had made a strong case and in an unusual step by CAS, they must now wait - perhaps until the Autumn - for the decision of the tribunal.

After the hearing Baxter said, "I would like to thank all those who have supported me in making my case to CAS, and particularly my legal team and appeals co-ordinator, the BOA and the BSSF. I will now wait for the decision of the tribunal and will be making no further comment until that time."



The success of Chatham Race Club has been in the last 2 years one of revival from days gone by.

This has been achieved mostly by the hard work and dedication of Alan Perry. Alan joined Chatham in August 2000 and indicated at the time that he would commit two years of his life, which he has done very well. Sadly Alan has decided to step down from his coaching role with the club to give himself time to concentrate on other aspects of what is a busy life.

Great credit is due to Alan for the progress of Chatham racers and the development of the club. Alan will be sadly missed, good luck for the future from everybody at Chatham.

PS Come and visit us when you're in the area!

RACE ASSOCIATION of KENT SCHOOLS

Schools all over Kent enjoyed their annual race day at Chatham. The event had for many years been organised by SkiAKS whom this year reluctantly decided to dissolve the group owing to lack of support. Luckily for all of us Sally Woods, Sally Wheeler and other members of the skiing organisation supported by L&SERSA decided to keep it going.

A total of 26 teams plus some individual entrants raced in the event. It was good to see skiers of all abilities taking part, from novice racers skiing their first competition to some very accomplished skiers - some of whom have been racing for about a decade!

There was then a fun dual slalom race, which replaced the previous inter-school dual slalom competition. All Skiers enjoyed this and it gave each racer the opportunity to participate on an equal basis. I particularly enjoyed seeing the more experienced skiers helping the beginners, really entering into the spirit of the race and not minding when they were knocked out early on!

This race is always one of the highlights of the year for the racers that I know, and long may it continue. Our thanks to the RAKS committee and everybody who made the race the success it was.

Bridget Owen, Folkstone.

Didn't they do well!!

The region's racers have excelled themselves in the races this year especially when it come to the major events. Anouska Callander decided to visit Scotland and managed to come 1st in her age group in the Scottish Championships.

In the All England Championships held at Wycombe Summit on 7/8th September the top girl in the minis was Alessia Thomas-Jackson maintaining her long run of podium positions. All the females raced very well. First and Fifth overall were Zoe and Nicole Rawlings-Brown from Bromley and in second place was Michelle Palmer. In the men's slalom Andy Proudlove, Aaron Tipping, Josh Doughty, Jack Evans, Tomasz Ondrusz and Ben Clark all managed podium positions in their age groups.

Next came the British Championships at Llandudno, a wonderful sunny weekend with racers, Michelle Palmer (1st), Sally Bartlett (2nd), Emily Goddard (3rd), Ed Drake (3rd) and Ben Wheeler (1st) all receiving medals in their age groups.

The Welsh National and Open Championships took place the following weekend with Michelle Palmer coming 2nd overall and 1st in her age group yet again, along with Jemima Barnes (3rd), Emily Goddard (3rd), Ben Wheeler (1st), Paul Telling (2nd), Joe Ogden (2nd) and Paul Bunton (1st) in their age groups.

Closer to home a very young lady from Chatham, Emily Evans, (just 8yrs old) has been showing her peers how it's done. She has managed a grand slam of 1st in her age group in 3 regional race series, L&SERSA, SRSA and ERSA. Very well done to Emily and her family for all their commitment to the sport.

L&SERSA AWARD SCHEME

The Award scheme, which was introduced this year, is designed to support young athletes from the region maintain their sporting commitments during times of financial hardship. The fund is provided from the money collected by the race committee (from raffles, donations etc.) and held in a separate account for this purpose. The fund is used to provide a subsidy to a skier who, in the opinion of the committee, is deserving of the award. Part of the award includes free entry to L&SERSA regional race series. The award is limited to two athletes per year and has a maximum monetary value of £250.00 excluding the entry cost to the regional races. The number of awards granted and the amount of money may be altered by the executive committee and is reviewed annually.

The Award is only available to a skier who:

1. Races and trains on artificial ski slopes.
2. Belongs to a regional club and trains regularly on a dry slope within the L&SERSA region.
3. Has in the past attended regional and/or ESC races organised in the region, on a regular basis.
4. Can demonstrate that their family are supportive of them and are committed to his/her continuing in the sport.
5. Is unable, or would be unable, to continue in the sport due to lack of finance.

Planning for the Future

As the dryslope season draws to an end with our last race your committee will be planning for the future.

The Regional AGM is on November 13th at Bromley Ski Centre. As soon as an agenda is available it will be sent out to all clubs and slopes. Hopefully we will have a representative from each club and slope present at the meeting.

Anyone who wishes to stand for a position on the committee (chairman, treasurer secretary, etc.) should send their name to the regional secretaries or to one of the committee members along with some details about why they wish to be nominated. The current committee is comprised of members from Bromley, Chatham, Brentwood Park, Becton and Wycombe.

If you require any further information contact Sandy Telling or Sally Woods.

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If you have some news or views you would like to see expressed on this newsletter.

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