Martin Carr

From: "Martin Carr" <martin.carr@freestylesnowsports.co.uk> **To:** "Martin Carr" <martin.carr@freestylesnowsports.co.uk>

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Subject: Top ten double for British Skier at Cham Jam and Verbier Ride

> Andy Bennet (19) marked his return to Europe after a successful season in

- > North America with a brace of top results at the Cham Jam and Verbier ride.
- > Andy (British Freestyle Ski Team, Line Skis and Fat Face)was the top ranked
- > British skier in the Cham Jams Big Air comp with 6th place as well as being
- > part of the third place Chamonix team in the "Boss des Bosses" bumps comp.
- > However he topped this off with a superb second place in the slopestyle at
- > the Verbier Ride only being beaten by Australian Skier Ben Murphy of
- > freeriding and London Ski show fame. Andy now finishes his season with the
- > Europa Cup final in Andorra featuring Bumps, Skier X, Half Pipe and Big Air
- > along with the rest of the British and English Freestyle Ski Teams.

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In Andy's own words...

"The ChamJam was super sick with some huge jumps and some really gnarly rails! The first event we did was the "boss de boss" which is moguls. It is done in teams from different resorts. I skied for Chamonix in this event and we came 3rd. I think it was the team from Zermatt that won. I found it guite easy and won all my heats. I think having trained moguls all season might of helped a little bit, but don't tell anyone! The course was pretty difficult to use most of the features for the slopestyle event. It wasn't that well prepared but the organisers were really cool about it and tried to make it better for the comp. I had a ok run in Slopestyle, I don't know where I came but it wasn't in the top 4. I got 6th place in the Big Air with a cork 7 and a 180. The 180 was pretty scary because it was probably the biggest jump I have ever hit! There were some nasty slams too! My friend Chris who I was travelling with broke 4 ribs in the Slopestyle on one of the rails and had to be taken to the hospital in a chopper! The kid who won the Big Air comp did a switch cork 1080. I don't know his name but it was one of the sickest jumps I have ever seen! The music at the bottom of the course was really cool and they were cooking food and had drinks flowing next to the DJ stand. The parties at night were really cool. The whole event was all about having fun, it was great.

Next up was the Ride in Verbier which was held straight after the Chamjam. The freeride was the first event and the guys had to go down a really gnarly face and pick there line, do some cliff drops etc. They opened the competition with some crazy kydivers jumping out of the helicopter above the face the freeride was going to be on. There were some nasty stacks but Siver rider Jason Shutt managed to put down a clean run, with only one mistake at the bottom and got 6th place! After the freeride it was skiercross. I don't

like it and find it quite boring so I decided to go and build some jumps and have a photo session which was sick. Alex Murphy who I was staying with in Verbier did the biggest Lincoln Loop I have ever seen! The next day, feeling slightly hung over was the Slopestyle. The course in Verbier was amazing. They did a really good job with it. I got 2nd place and I 180'd the big jump so I was super stoked. The guy who won, Ben "Skinner" Murphy had a sick run with a cork 9 off the top jump and some super tech rail slides. It was a little overcast in Verbier so the photographers were having a hard time but all the competitors were happy and having a great time. It was a really well done competition."

For more information please contact martin.carr@freestylesnowsports.co.uk

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