

World Cup Ski Cross athlete Sarah Sauvey (24) has just switched nationality from Australia to Great. Sarah, 23rd in the World has been competing at International level since she was 15. She was State and Australian National junior champion in both Slalom and Giant Slalom by the age of 17 and in 2003 became National Open Slalom Champion as well as Junior champion in both events.

She made the switch to the Ski Cross in 2005 after competing in Ski Cross at the 2005 World University Games and absolutely loving it. In December 2005 she was diagnosed with Coeliac Artery compression syndrome which was crushing her artery shut against her spine and also causing a great deal of pain for many years. In May 2006, she underwent major surgery to fix the problem. Returning from this surgery was the most difficult time of her career. She took the time to realign her body, and committed herself to an extensive recovery program and after regaining some basic strength she started training again on snow in December 2006. Just 3 months later she represented Australia at the World Championships in Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, completely without support. She skied quickly and qualified 12th. In a very difficult heat she placed 3rd and 12th overall in the World Ski Cross Championships, a fantastic result for anyone let alone someone recovering from extensive surgery and without any support.

Ski cross makes its Olympic debut at Vancouver in 2010, medalling here is her ultimate goal. As both parents are English and holder of a British passport, she has recently switched nationality. She is looking forward to the next season with the Brits as the members of the team are close friends of hers on the circuit. This she believes will give her and the other GB skiers the opportunity to push and support each other, ultimately a much happier and healthier environment.

