

15th March 2006

British Freestyler Nankoo continues to fly the flag for Great Britain

After the Spanish National Cup was postponed at the very last minute and moved from the 11th / 12th March to 4th April, British Freestyle mogul skier Martin Nankoo decided to take part in the Czech National cup in Spicak u Tanvaldu instead. Having lost a fair bit of money due to the postponement of the Spanish competition Martin decided his best options to get to Czech Republic was to drive over instead of booking the expensive flights as the cost were kept down due to other people travelling with him. He arrived in the resort on the Friday and was looking forward to put in some serious training in before the competition on the Sunday. But to his amazement he could not get to train as there was a Czech Cup competition being held we he was not aware of. So in true British spirit Martin decided to enter; by the time he had registered and managed to put in one run down the competition had started! His second run on the courses was his competition run and he finished 8th. 'I was very tired after the long drive and if I had been able to have had at least half a dozen runs to practice I reckon that I would have finished nearer the top if not first; but 8th for my second run down on a very unfamiliar course was not bad!' commented Martin.

Sunday was the day of the Czech National Cup and the weather was not very good with it being very cold, snowing and windy. The course with the conditions had turned soft and the landings off the jumps were not very long. The competition was split into three categories Minis, Juniors and Seniors and then they would do an overall placing with the three mixed.

Martin entered the Seniors competition where everyone bar two were all from Czech. The conditions had got poor when Martin entered the gate but he was determined to do well. He started off very well on the top bumps and executed a heli off the first jump, which was teed out; he then attacked the middle section and executed a clean double twister spread for the second jump and finished the final bumps with strong determination; the run was good enough to see him take 3rd place.

Martin commented ' I decided with the conditions and also still feeling the effects of a 31 hour drive to change my jump routine and not execute an inverted jumps but to use instead good steady reliable jumps. I felt that this was probably the strongest run I have put down all season as I executed the jumps well and also skied very good too; I was chuffed that I got the second biggest cheer from the big crowd that had turned out, not bad considering everyone else was Czech. The only thing I regret is not doing the invert as maybe if I did I would have finished 1st as the winner and runner had but both did not ski the bumps as well as me; but making the podium was good enough prize after making such a long trip. This competition and my result has given me great confidence and I now can't wait for the British Championships later this month and also the Spanish National Cup on the 4th April; I aim to be on the podium for both of these competitions; which place? We'll wait and see but hopefully the first place'.

For comments and questions and enquiries in to sponsorship opportunities please contact: Lawrence Assock – Tel: 020 8 325 2814, mob: 07711 503418 e-mail: lsassock@ntlworld.com

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