

**Martin Carr**

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**Sent:** 23 December 2005 15:17  
**Subject:** Freestylers go for Gold in World Cup New School Skiing events

### Freestylers go for Gold in World Cup New School Skiing events

Britain's top Freestyle Skiers are preparing for the first of the "New School" World Cups, with a Worldcup Ski Cross taking place on the 14th , and Halfpipe on the 15th Jan. The New School disciplines include Halfpipe, Big Air, Slopestyle and Ski Cross,

In the men's Halfpipe, British Halfpipe Champion Mike Wakefield and silver medalist Andy Bennet will be leading the team with up and coming athletes Richard Martin and Will Burrows taking the last two slots - all of the men are from the Sheffield area. Shelley Jones is the sole British skier in the Women's event. For all of the skiers with the exception of Andy this will be their first World Cup competition. Andy achieved the best position of any British skier in Halfpipe with a 16th place World Cup result in Saas Fee. Both he and Mike are looking to improve on this result and break into the top ten.

In the men's Ski Cross event, Britain is represented by World Cup veteran Angus Morrison. Emily Sarsfield is leading off in the women's event. Emily who took 6th Place in the World Student games, 22nd in her first World Cup and is current British Champion is looking to improve on her previous result at World Cup and break into the finals.

Simon Ashton, British Team Manager and Coach stated "This is the strongest squad we have ever put together for any of these events. Realistically we can look for a couple of top ten results which could come from any of three athletes. Once in the mix for the top ten, lets see how high up we can position. Certainly in World Cup events we should be looking for at least a podium finish in the next couple of seasons."

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