

British Mogul Championships 2005

The British Mogul Championships for 2005 were held in Oberstdorf, Germany over Easter weekend. The competitions were staged jointly with the German and Dutch National Championships making a great holiday event.

On Friday 25th March all the competitors were scored as they battled the steep World Cup mogul course at the top of Fellhorn. The course was soft after the warm temperatures so the moguls became enormous and caused many skiers to stumble as they tried to land their jumps in the slush. This decided their ranking for the head-to-head knock-out later when the top 16 men and 8 women went into the final of the FIS event, then each nation paired their skiers to decide the German, British and Dutch national champions. A tumble by Martin Nankoo (Kent) in the qualification round caused him to be the lowest ranked Brit for the finals. This meant that he drew Simon Bates (Edinburgh) in the next round, but a good start by Martin gave him the edge so he won through to meet Jack Mallalieu (Aviemore) in the final. Martin easily beat Jack 25 to 0 and was delighted to become British Dual Moguls men's champion. Two newcomers Ellie Koyander (Derbyshire) and Kate Williams (Sheffield), who were too young to enter the FIS event, battled for the British women's title with Ellie clearly beating Kate 25 to 0. In the international FIS event Simon Bates was on form and ended 7th being knocked out by the eventual winner Grischa Weber of Germany.

On Saturday the course was crisper early morning after clear skies overnight, however it soon softened again tripping up many skiers. In the qualifiers Bates fell after his 360 with spread at the first jump but still made it to the top 10 just one place behind Nankoo, with Mallalieu and Andrew Longley (Sheffield) much further down the field. However Bates put down a much stronger run in the British final with the 3rd highest score of the final events and it was Nankoo's turn to be caught by the slush with an interesting slide over the second air. The tables were turned for the women with Koyander, who had been much stronger in the duals, losing her footing to allow Williams to take the women's singles title.

Easter Sunday was Ski Cross day, not part of the British Championships as this event was included in the Orange Brits Championships in Laax, Switzerland earlier in March. Simon Bates was joined by Angus Morrison as the two Brits to fight their way down the twisting course with four racers in each heat. Morrison put down and excellent qualification time to reach 9th place but some body contact with another racer sent him off into the netting, ending his chances in the next round. Bates was lucky to come 3rd in his heat when another racer tumbled but this did not improve his overall ranking.

FIS DUAL MOGULS 25 MARCH 2005 (33 competitors)

- qualification points out of 30

1	Grischa Weber	GER	22.70
2	Christoph Stark	GER	23.71
3	Stephan Zant	GER	22.26
7	Simon Bates	GBR	20.08
15	Jack Mallalieu	GBR	15.41
30	Martin Nankoo	GBR	2.56

BRITISH DUAL MOGULS 25 MARCH 2005**MEN**

1	Martin Nankoo
2	Jack Mallalieu
3	Simon Bates
4	Andrew Longley

WOMEN

1	Ellie Koyander
2	Kate Williams

FIS MOGULS 26 MARCH 2005 (35 competitors) - points out of 30

1	Christoph Stark	GER	23.02
2	Gerhard Blochl	GER	22.72
3	Vaclav Novak	CZE	22.26
9	Martin Nankoo	GBR	17.55
10	Simon Bates	GBR	16.64
19	Jack Mallalieu	GBR	10.93

BRITISH MOGULS 26 MARCH 2005**MEN**

1	Simon Bates	22.04
2	Jack Mallalieu	9.13
3	Martin Nankoo	8.12
4	Andrew Longley	4.61

WOMEN

1	Kate Williams	6.31
2	Ellie Koyander	2.56

FIS SKICROSS 27 MARCH 2005 (30 competitors) - qualification times in seconds

1	Simon Willmann	GER	24.83
2	Thomas Zangerl	AUT	25.48
3	Thorsten Gotze	GER	24.89
17	Angus Morrison	GBR	26.10
26	Simon Bates	GBR	28.19