

British Skiers Show Some Sheffield Steel

Moguls Tour

Saturday the 18th of August saw Sheffield Ski Village host the 4th round of the K2 Ski sponsored "Moguls Tour" and a round of the English and Scottish Big Air League.

Britain's top UK based Freestylers flocked to the K2 sponsored event with a surprise visit from Top French Skier Perrine Aufrere. The event took place on the Devils Elbow the worlds longest and most difficult artificial Moguls run and in the Sprite Virtual Funpark.

The fourth round of the K2 Moguls Tour saw the leaders of the mens and ladies categories, Phil Smith (Sheffield and England) Emma Lonsdale (Settle/Kendal and England) with the opportunity to provide some clear space between themselves and their nearest competition. Each skier would have two runs with the best of the runs providing the final position. Phil took a commanding lead in the first round with his silky smooth run, with second place going to Tom Last (Sheffield and England) his closest rival and third to Ben Lonsdale (Settle/Kendal and England). In the women's event French skier Perrine Aufrere blasted through to take provisional first place with Katie Adams (Sheffield) taking second spot, Laura Heversedge (Sheffield) in third and Emma Lonsdale the pre event favourite trailing in Fourth.

In the second run the skiers went in reverse order of position with the highest placed skier going last. Eddie Thelwell (Sheffield and England) lying in sixth place stormed through with an electrifying run falling short of taking third place by 0.27 of a point. With the challenge of the first round fifth and fourth place skiers falling by the wayside it was down to the final three to battle out the top positions. Ben Lonsdale could only cement third place. Tom last put in a big hearted performance but would it be enough to take first place. Phil Smiths second run was mistake ridden which would result in a second round finish of sixth however it didn't matter, his first round run was enough to give him first place and almost guarantee him the series championships.

In the women's event Emma Lonsdale pushed herself the limit to try and take first spot. Her second run was a gauntlet thrown down on the piste for the rest to challenge, provisionally moving her into first place. Katie Adams secured third spot but would French Skier Perrine Aufrere be able to take first? Despite having only skied on dry slopes for that morning she pushed Emma to the limit but could only secure second place.

The next chance for revenge will be at the British champs on 23rd September in Sheffield.

Results

Male

- | | | | |
|----|---------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Phillip | Smith | (Sheffield and England) |
| 2. | Tom | Last | (Sheffield and England) |
| 3. | Ben | Lonsdale | (Settle/Kendal and England) |

Female

- | | | | |
|----|---------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Emma | Lonsdale | (Settle/Kendal and England) |
| 2. | Perrine | Aufrere | (Megeve) |
| 3. | Katie | Adams | (Sheffield) |

Big Air League

The Big Air League took place on Sheffield's Plush Snowflex Sprite Funpark. Each skier would get three goes at going big or going home. In the men's events the struggle for victor would be between Eddie Thelwell (Sheffield and England), Tom Last (Sheffield and England) and snowblader Mike Wakefield (Sheffield and England). Mike

Wakefield was the pre-event favourite with his huge expansive jumps and street style. However in this event inverts were banned slightly curtailing his style but he still managed an impressive 3rd place. Eddie Thelwell span his way to second spot with 540 and 720 degree spins but it was Tom Last who took the Big Kahuna with his crossed out 720 spin, outjumping the landing and taking a 14 point lead over Eddie in the series.

In the Women's event Emma Lonsdale (Settle/Kendal and England) outjumped all the opposition, with French skier Perrine Aufrere (Megeve) taking second spot and Katie Adams (Sheffield) staking claim to third.

Male

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Tom | Last | (Sheffield and England) |
| 2. | Eddie | Thelwell | (Sheffield and England) |
| 3. | Mike | Wakefield | (Settle/Kendal and England) |

Female

- | | | | |
|----|---------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Emma | Lonsdale | (Settle/Kendal and England) |
| 2. | Perrine | Aufrere | (Megeve) |
| 3. | Katie | Adams | (Sheffield) |

Moguls

Stonkingly fast runs down hideously steep pistes with two jumps in between. Most bump skiers now spin 360 degrees off the jumps to gain maximum marks which means they can't see their landing for half of the time. The best description of a moguls piste is an upturned egg box. Skiers have to turn their way through these "bumps" keeping to the most direct line.

50% marks for quality of turns i.e. snow contact, aggression. line etc

25% marks on speed

25% marks on height and difficulty of air

Big Air

Find a big jump and hurl yourself off it. Flat spins, 1080 degree rotations anything goes including landing backwards. Again judged on difficulty and style. Uses twin tip skis that are also generally excellent for all mountain playing (watch out for the K2 Enemy probably the best all mountain twin tip).

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Alternatively look at our website at: <http://www.carrsilverware.co.uk/skiing>