

# *Sk8scotland*

## *SPEED NEWS*

### **Junior Worlds**

After early season loss of form and injury Elise Christie followed on from a good training period with solid results in this event in Taipei: 1000m – 5<sup>th</sup>, 500m – 6<sup>th</sup>, 1500m – 8<sup>th</sup> with her Overall position 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **European Championships**

The Europeans in Dresden gave Elise her best ever result with an Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place that included 2<sup>nd</sup> places at 1500m & 3000m (where she set a British senior record of 5.14.007). This result is all the more commendable as Elise is still a junior.

### **Olympic Games**

In just over a year we have lost two former Scottish Olympians with the death of Bryan Carbis and Alex Connell but the tradition continues with Elise Christie representing GB in Vancouver next week. Though not amongst the favourites for medals she has a legitimate outside shot at a place on the podium. The last two months have seen continuous improvement in times and performance and at the holding camp in Calgary this week she has been going even quicker! Elise will be competing at 500m, 1000m & 1500m. Every one in Scottish skating wishes Elise good luck and success.

### **Scottish 1000m**

The first championship of the season went to Craig Miller (Ayrshire Flyers) in a Scottish Junior A record of 1.36.41, Euan Taylor (Ayrshire Flyers) in 2<sup>nd</sup> skated a Scottish Junior B record of 1.37.22 with 3<sup>rd</sup> place going to Alan Dobbie (Falkirk).

### **Scottish 500m**

In the first competition at the new Stirling rink the 500m result was 1<sup>st</sup> Craig Miller 2<sup>nd</sup> Euan Taylor 3<sup>rd</sup> Stewart Logan (Ayrshire Flyers).

### **Scottish 3000m**

The 3000m saw Craig take the title from Euan & Alan in the silver & bronze positions. Though all the skaters gave their best on the day, it was a disappointing 3k final and not up to the standard of recent years.

### **Scottish Ladies**

Shelley Thomson took the title from Alison Walker (both Ayrshire Flyers) in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Claire Pirie (Dundee) in 3<sup>rd</sup>, it was an exciting hard fought 1500m final with Shelley skating 2.47.05. In the five years this competition has been run we have had 5 different winners and let's hope they follow Elise Christie, the first winner, to future Olympic Games!

### **Fitzroy Rankings**

The current Fitzroy Smith Trophy rankings are:

<b>Men</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Ladies</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Craig Miller</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Alison Walker</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Euan Taylor</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Rosslyn Waite</b>	<b>188</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Alan Dobbie</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Claire Pirie</b>	<b>186</b>

### **Walker Sprint**

Scott Anderson (Dundee) was back to winning ways as he dominated this sprint event, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Craig Miller with Euan Taylor in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Star Class**

This weekend in Leeuwarden, Netherlands is the final Star Class qualifying event. Last season we had 3 Scottish skaters in the final and we are hoping to have 2 at this year's final in Budapest.

### **Volunteers**

Our sport can only prosper, indeed survive, with the considerable time and effort of volunteers and we are lucky in Scotland to have some of the best. Please give them your consideration and support.

### **Fixtures**

Sunday March 21st – Scotland -v - England - 5 – 8pm Dundee

Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> – Scottish Championships 8:30 – 12am Stirling report 8am Entries to Archie Marshall