

Story of the day ... Hurry up and WAIT!

Fresh snow forces cancellation of training for the day- we try again in the morning!

It was supposed to stop before training started but it just carried on and on and on! For the holiday maker this was a day you dream of; for speed racers, this was a nightmare! Walking to the bottom of the lift with Chemmy Alcott this morning, her experience told you that it was not going to happen. She was right!

While the racers did an inspection then congregated in the tent at the finish of the course at the bottom of the Stade, the wait just went on. News came through at 10.30 that a training run would happen and then it was a mad rush to get to the start. Going up on the lift, still shrouded in fog, it was difficult to see how this was going to happen. Looking at the course and the amount of soft snow both on the course and to the side, there was no way a training run could happen.

Both of the top two British racers, Chemmy Alcott and Louise Thomas, were advised to go out of the start gate and then stop. In order to

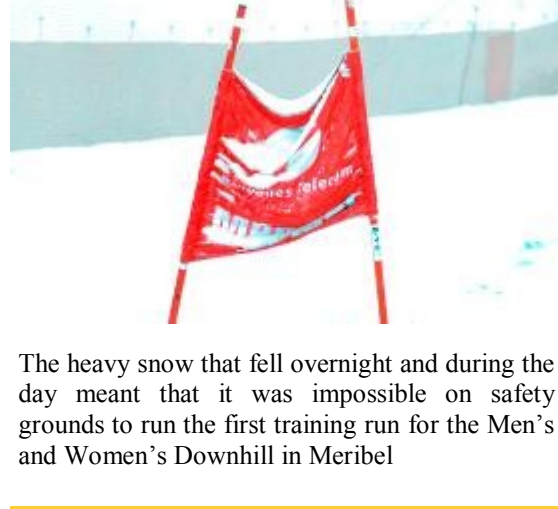
take part in the race itself, all you have to do is start the training run.

In the end with Harriet Stegges, start number 1, all ready to go, the correct decision was taken to delay training for a day and then try and run the training run first thing in the morning and then a race straight after it.

The course will begin at the same start used for the Super G and then stop at the top of the Stade.

Paul Trayner, Chief of Race: "The weather was very changeable and today we tried our very hardest to wait for the weather window that the meteo had promised us. Unfortunately it did not arrive but the competitors were able to spend about two hours inspecting the course so all was not lost. The weather is set to improve overnight and hopefully we will be able to have a timed training run and race as programmed."

It all starts again in the morning!

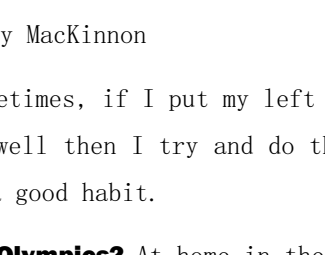


The heavy snow that fell overnight and during the day meant that it was impossible on safety grounds to run the first training run for the Men's and Women's Downhill in Meribel

Newsletter Spotlight:

Over in Les Arcs, Noel Baxter decided to forego an attack on the Overall Title, he currently sits second, to try and make better FIS points in Slalom. Baxter finished 3rd to make a 15point result. After his 14 point result in the British Championship Slalom, Baxter is in great form and with the right race could propel himself up the rankings. Yet again Baxter made the fastest second run but had a little too much to make up on Thomas Mermillod Blondin who won the race overall. Baxter told Racer Ready earlier this week that he is now concentrating on the Slalom after dabbling with the speed and other disciplines.

A selection of photos from Downhill training cancellation.... Photos courtesy of Nigel Dixon



Top left: Mel Piper's miserable Championship continued. Placed second after the first run, Piper crashed out on the second run in the Slalom. (Photo Drake)

Left: Ashley Hill and Harriet Stegges from Ambition displaying just some of the trophies won so far!

Right Top to bottom: Dave Ryding on his way to second in the Men's GS
Jan Sedlac from Sweden tries the alternative way down by running
Tristram More Molyneux crashes out in the GS



Ten questions with... Christy MacKinnon

Are you superstitious? Sometimes, if I put my left sock on before my right and I do well then I try and do the same again. Maybe that is not a good habit.

Where did you watch the Olympics? At home in the living room.

Do you think the right person won the Crystal Globe in your favourite discipline? Yes. I like to watch the downhill and Lindsey Vonn is great competitor and I like to watch her.

Do you put your left or right ski on first? My right but this is just out of habit.

Do you like your family coming to watch you race? I used

not to because it was a bit off putting but this year I have really enjoyed it probably because Dad carries my skis!

What unusual things do you put in your rucksack on race day? Nothing unusual. Goggles, hat, stuff ... rubber bands.

What is your last thought as you head out the start gate? No idea. I used to say destination unknown!

Croissants or Pain au Chocolat? Croissants

Powder or freshly groomed piste? Freshly groomed!

Beer or wine? ... Wine!



Above: Christy MacKinnon has had a number of podium and top 5 results at the GB Championships this year and is the subject for today's 10 Questions.

What's the programme for the racing in Meribel? [Click here](#)

What are the results from the races so far? [Click here](#)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at nel@racer-ready.co.uk

Watch the videos...

Catch up with all the racers as they give their own responses to their performances on video. Chemmy Alcott gives her reaction to winning her ninth GS Title, Alex Tilley and Christy MacKinnon also give their race reports. Noel Baxter and Dougie Crawford comment on their podium performances while David Ryding rues a straddled gate!

To watch [click here](#)



So you want to watch the races live...?

Easy! Go to www.britishalpinechamps.com and then go to results page and scroll to the bottom!

There you go! Now your kids cannot complain when you know how they have done as they cross the line! You will still get their excuses

but you will see the classification, the ranking and the start list as well as the live timing!

If you want to read the latest situation regarding British Ski & Snowboard, Lord Moynihan has written an update on the latest situation. If you would like to read how things are then go to the link on the racer ready website or [click here](#). In the new days of openness, you can also read the [Selection policy](#) for the British team