

SNOWSPORTS TEAM CARVES NEW HEIGHTS

ACT/STHN NSW INTERSCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Over three days of intense competition in the ACT/Sthn NSW Interschools Championships last week our Snowsports Team have achieved brilliant results spread across all disciplines contested. The record haul of individual Medallions and team Trophies has set a new benchmark in participation and excellence. Impressively, the team's representation from Junior to Senior school ranks has been our broadest yet, and the best depth of Snowboarders for many years.

The Snowboarding programme accounted for the first day of competition, with the challenging adrenalin rush of Boarder-Cross (Snowboarding down a course with berms, rollers and jumps – speed and balance reflexes tested) and Giant Slalom – this year a long course down Perisher's front valley. Blue skies and good course conditions made for some fast and thrilling action – for competitors and spectators alike.

The highlights included:

Snowboard Cross -

- Part-time Snowboarders Lorenz Weiss and Eric Mandl switched from their skis and teamed up to claim 10th place overall in Division 2, and 26th / 28th as individuals respectively. (Lorenz enjoyed a baptism of fire in his first ever Snowboard event – BRAVO!)
- Rebecca Brassler and Annelise Taylor narrowly missed the podium in Division 2 with a gutsy 4th place, Rebecca also 4th individually and Annelise 12th.
- Lachlan Kenny and Sam Whithear in Division 3 also narrowly missed a podium placing with 4th, and 13th and 16th individually. In the same Division, Geoff Cox and Sebastian Cuschieri chased them into 5th place, with 19th and 17th positions respectively.
- Max Mandl went solo in Division 4 (we need more young Boarders!) and missed 3rd by half a second to finish 4th overall.

Snowboard GS –

- 'Part-timers' Lorenz Weiss and Eric Mandl claimed 8th place in Division 2, and managed to equal their time exactly to share 19th as individual competitors – spooky!
- Rebecca Brassler and Annelise Taylor turned up the speed and skill to be the **No.1 team** in Division 2, plus claim 2nd and 3rd respectively as individuals – brilliant!
- Geoff Cox and Sebastian Cuschieri blazed their way onto the Division 3 podium in 3rd, and claimed 5th & 17th respectively! Lachlan Kenny and Sam Whithear made two gutsy runs each to finish with 6th place, and 16th and 18th individually. Well done!
- Max Mandl flew solo again in Division 4 and nabbed 2nd place individually.

The second and third day of competition saw the three Alpine Ski disciplines contested – Moguls, Ski-Cross and Giant Slalom. Under wet and variable skies, Team Radford kept their powder dry and charged down the courses with courageous results – as teams within events and individuals – all under the Radford flag.

Highlights were:

Moguls –

- Our Division 1 teams led the way – Matthew Hall, Hugh Newall and Billy Barron claimed a very impressive 3rd on the podium (5th, 8th and 10th respectively) with Darren Laker and Andrew Deakins chasing in 4th, (9th and 11th individually)
- Our Division 1 young ladies went one better, with Shauna Rigby, Caitlin Evered and Bethany Kenyon brilliantly taking out 2nd place, with Shauna winning 2nd individually, Caitlin 9th and Bethany 7th !
- Lorenz Weiss, Neal Falzarano and Tom Roderick in Division 2 claimed 5th, (15th, 13th and 14th respectively), Sam Hartwig and Eric Mandl nabbed 6th (17th & 18th) - Mitchell Higgins and Matt Smith were 7th with 19th and 20th individually.
- Greg Weber and Jack Sekoranja led the Division 3 assault and took 5th (18th & 13th respectively), Lindsay Kenyon and Dylan Grubb right behind in 6th (15th & 17th)
- Rachel Healy and Nina Weiss turned up the Division 3 heat by impressively taking out 2nd place (6th & 7th) closely backed up by Amelia Hodgson and Sarah Parsons in 4th (9th & 10th)
- Max Mandl, Chris Pianca and Paul Burns in Division 4 came 7th with 14th, 18th and 19th individually
- Alice Hartwig and Claire Purdam wowed the judges with a 3rd place finish (12th and 6th respectively) and a brave Jennifer Kerr on debut for Radford in Moguls with a great 14th in the field!
- Also on debut in 10th place was a courageous Lara Franks, who was our youngest competitor and picked up a special prize of a chrome piggy bank to save for her next equipment purchase!

Ski-Cross –

- Matthew Hall, Darren Laker and Hugh Newall flew down a very challenging course threaded through the Perisher Terrain Park to take out 5th in Division 1 (5th, 25th & 17th) closely shadowed by Andrew Deakins and Billy Barron in 7th (22nd & 16th)
- Shauna Rigby, Caitlin Evered and Bethany Kenyon in Division 1 claimed a respectable 6th place (2nd, 14th & 29th) – Shauna unlucky to be disqualified on her 1st run, although clocking the 2nd fastest time in the event!
- Ben Hood, Neal Falzarano and Tom Roderick led the Division 2 charge, with Ben the fastest competitor sealing **1st place**, and the team also taking **1st place** on the podium (1st, 20th and 15th) In the same event, Mitchell Higgins, Matt Smith and Lorenz Weiss took out 7th (14th, 32nd and 9th) with Sam Hartwig and Eric Mandl close behind in 9th, (28th & 13th).
- In Division 3, James Sekoranja, Jack Sekoranja and Greg Weber narrowly missed the podium by one second, taking 4th (10th, 9th & 18th) with Lindsay Kenyon and Dylan Grubb in 11th (29th and 31st)
- Rachel Healy and Nina Weiss in Division 3 narrowly missed the podium with a strong 4th place, (11th & 10th) followed by Amelia Hodgson and Sarah Parsons in 11th (35th & 23rd)
- Max Mandl, Chris Pianca and Paul Burns in Division 4 stepped up to claim **3rd place**, Max individually taking **2nd** in the event, and Chris 18th, Paul 33rd in a great team effort!
- Alice Hartwig and Claire Purdam secured a strong 8th place in a very hectic field (8th & 22nd) with a courageous 35th taken by Jennifer Kerr.
- Lara Franks was our sole Division 5 competitor and did extremely well to claim 12th place individually!

Giant Slalom –

- A set of booming runs from the Division 1 team of Matthew Hall, Darren Laker, Hugh Newall and Billy Barron secured an outstanding result in **2nd place** (7th, 15th, 11th, 13th) with Hugh all smiles after a spectacular 2nd run wipeout at speed!
- Shauna Rigby, Caitlin Evered and Bethany Kenyon were unlucky not to claim a podium place, securing a great 4th position in a very competitive field. Shauna won **2nd place** individually in two awesome runs well backed up by her teammates (16th & 30th)
- 'A beautiful set of numbers' came through in Division 2 with Ben Hood, Lorenz Weiss, Neal Falzarano and Tom Roderick sweeping away with 1st place, Ben 1st also outright (with the team 8th, 19th, 23rd) Great news following was Eric Mandl, Mitchell Higgins, Matt Smith and Sam Hartwig scooping up 3rd place to have two Radford Teams on the podium – a great moment! (Individual placings 7th, 12th, 24th & 17th)
- In Division 3, Greg Weber, Lindsay Kenyon and Jack Sekoranja skied very competitively to tie up 5th place (9th, 8th & 21st)
- Girlpower in Division 3 saw a very close-to-podium effort in 4th place for Rachel Healy, Amelia Hodgson, Sarah Parsons and Nina Weiss (9th, 35th, 22nd & 7th)
- Our Division 4 boys claimed 8th place in a busy field of competitors, with Max Mandl, Chris Pianca and Paul Burns (7th, 24th & 48th)
- Oh-so-close for the Division 4 girls team of Alice Hartwig, Claire Purdam and Jennifer Kerr making great runs to lock in 4th place, 0.3 of a second from 3rd and individually 4th, 18th and 19th.
- In Division 5, Lara Franks kept our flag flying with a very tidy set of runs to secure 29th in the event.

FORS would like to thank all the Parents, Family and supporters who have encouraged the best from our competitors and assisted with all the logistics including some cold and lonely volunteering on the race courses over the three days!

We have a large contingent from our team who have qualified for the Interschools Nationals events in September at Perisher, and the team looks forward to reporting more successes representing Radford College on snow.

Congratulations to each and every one of the 2010 FORS Team for your commitment and strive for excellence!