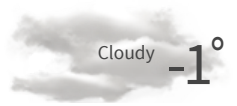




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Sovereign Lake club starts 2015 strong



Clara Hardy of Sovereign Lake sprints in a competitive Midget girls category at the Okanagan Cup at Larch Hills cross-country ski venue in Salmon Arm. — Image Credit: Photo Submitted

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posted Jan 4, 2015 at 1:00 AM

After enjoying a couple days of holiday festivities, Sovereign Lake Nordic Club skiers were right back at it, competing in regional races last weekend at Larch Hills and Telemark ski areas.

Sovereign skiers had some great results on the classic tracks Saturday in Salmon Arm with many racers making the podium.

Younger skiers Dawson Bond and Cole Conner took second and third, respectively, in the Atom Boys. Sierra Munroe uncovered gold in the Atom Girls category, while Mitchell Bond grabbed second in Pee Wee Boys.

The Junior Development team also had strong showings, with Ian Oliphant pocketing first in a close finish in Midget Boys. Hannah Mehain also took first in the Junior Girls, with teammate Michelle

Metza following with a third.

Sovereign's Masters skiers were in great form as well, with Sarah Purslow, Glenn Bond, Mae Hooper, Paul Hardy and Pat Pearce all winning their respective categories.

Sunday's sprints provided non-stop action for athletes and supporters alike, as racers sprinted anywhere from 250 to 800 metres in quarterfinal heats through to finals.

Finishing on the podium were Dawson Bond (1), Sophie Joerissen (1), Munroe (2), Mitchell Bond (1), Oliphant (1), Carson Bassett (2), Emma Smedley (2), Samantha Loewen (3), Metza (1) and Hardy (1).

Strong skis were also seen by some of the clubs younger racers, including Pippa and Nate Hardy, Kaden O'Conner, Jorja Catt, Lucas Sadesky, Torin Andrews and Hayden Catt.

On the biathlon range at Telemark in West Kelowna, the Super Sprints went Saturday and the Individual Sprints on Sunday. Sovereign had two athletes competing Saturday, with the falling snow creating somewhat challenging shooting conditions.

Danica Ariano finished second in the Junior Girls and Deirdra Holmwood took fourth in Recreational Adults. Two of Sovereign's Master Biathletes competed Sunday with Bert Mueller taking third and Laurie Dusik fourth in Recreational Adults.

Several Sovereign Lake skiers are in Prince George this weekend to compete in the first B.C Cup event of 2015.

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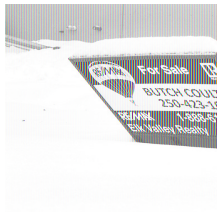
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