

## **‘Combi’ Success and Record Results for GBR – 2006 Trofeu Borrufa, Andorra**

Following on from the hugely successful results in the Czech international races, the British Children’s Ski Team returned from Andorra yesterday with a record haul of trophies and top 15 places.

12 year old Alessia Thomas-Jackson (Haverhill, Suffolk), on top form throughout the week, completed two difficult runs to take the bronze medal in the Slalom event in Arinsal, and picked up a further trophy for her 5th place in the new FIS ‘Combi’ event.

James Filsell (14) from Cambus by Alloa, Clackmannanshire, was placed 5th in the Giant Slalom in the older category – our best result in this discipline here for many years.

The new FIS ‘Combi’ event attracted a lot of interest – this was the first time it had been run. A single run comprising a combination of GS gates, with some broad sweeping doubles that turned sections in to a SuperG, along with rollers and jumps – and finishing with some slalom turns – was rated a huge success by coaches and athletes alike.

‘That was the best race I’ve ever done’; ‘so many different things to think about’; can we have one at the British Championships?’; ‘wow, that was amazing’; ‘the most fun’ – from team members. It left the coaches in no doubt that this was an event for the future, an excellent test of all-round skiing skill, with some surprising aspects (never before had they had to decide whether to advise the racers whether to absorb a double roller or jump from one to the next!).

Alessia Thomas-Jackson became the first British ‘Combi’ trophy winner, gaining 5th place in the younger girls’ category, while 12 year-old Tommy Kirton, only 1.41 seconds behind the winner, was 7th in the younger boys’ group. 14 year old Mike Thelwell also put in an excellent performance to take 9th place in the older age category.

With 29 nations competing, Great Britain was placed 5th in the team competition. Between them, the team gained 17 ‘front page’ (top 15) results, with many notable individual successes. The increased professionalism and fitness of our young athletes is making a noticeable difference to success at international level!

For further details see [www.gbjuniorski.com](http://www.gbjuniorski.com)

With particular thanks to BCST sponsors Trespass, Xscape/Sno!, Terry Bartlett, AdrenalinX, Kidski and the Skiers’ Trust

*Jenny Shute, Children’s Coordinator, SnowsportGB  
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