

SNBL Round 4 report

3 Wise Monkeys, Fort William

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The 3WM event saw two new Junior Female competitors take part and do well enough to match the rankings of the current competitors. As a result Emma Davidson is now joint 1st in this category with Tilly Knight.

The round 3 2nd placed Junior Male, Charlie De Beaux, now moves into 1st place with Matthew Fall having missed this round. Charlie is now 55 SNBL points ahead but the next two rounds are Mathew's 'local' walls. There were three new faces in this category including Duncan Riley who scored high to take 2nd place at the comp and to gain joint 4th place overall alongside Euan Farmer, in this his first SNBL round.

The Adult Female category had eleven competitors. It was won by Naomi Hatto whose other SNBL round was Aberdeen where she came 3rd. 4th in that round was Bex Whitehead who came 2nd at 3WM and Lilly Hueber took 3rd place. These results now rank Naomi in 5th place, Lilly 6th place and Bex in 8th place overall. However, the developing contest between Alison McDougal, Laura Anne Begbie and Aimee Burns who all finished round 3 with few points separating them, is now hotting up. Aimee missed the 3WM round but Alison gained 4th place and now takes 1st place in the SNBL League (knocking Ajda Remskar into 2nd) whilst Laura moves up to 3rd place in the SNBL league. With two rounds to go, there is still time for others in this category (such as Kirsten Taylor and Eilidh vas Payne) who have missed a couple of rounds to alter these rankings.

The Adult Male category was the biggest with 16 competitors climbing in SNBL. Of the previous league front-runners, Stephen Kier did not take part but David Elder took the win at 3WM and remains in 1st place overall with an eighty point lead over Stephen that might be hard for him to meet. But an excellent 2nd place result for Callum Armour puts him ahead of Stephen in 2nd place in the league. It was good to see a large group of those who competed at Alien Bloc travelling north to try out 3WM. Of those Craig Figures took 3rd place which keeps him at 9th place despite only doing two rounds! A few notable top 10 performers were missing from round 4, particularly Jack McKechnie, but his results in previous rounds mean he is still 5th overall, although Hristo Gavrillov in 4th place possibly has the best chance of gaining a podium position!

And so to the vets. Koon Morris missed the 3WM event but retains her 1st place in the league but her dominance of the female vets is reduced to just 50 SNBL points ahead of her nearest rival, Ali Nimo, still in 2nd place. Debbie Riley and Avril Gall competed at 3WM and remain in 3rd and 4th place respectively (although Debbie did well sharing joint 1st in the round with Ali so there is everything to play for). Ruben Welch continues to dominate the Male Vets winning his third round at 3WM which means he stays at 2nd in the league, despite Gareth Yardley coming 3rd. This is because Gareth has a round in hand but this could all change as we near the end of the league when the best four rounds are ranked and

Gareth is only 10 SNBL points ahead! Paul Diffley came 2nd in this round which means he retains 3rd place for now, but Dave Hainsworth and Sandy Sharp have been quite consistent and are now in the top five.

Feedback from the event is that everyone enjoyed the competition; the setting was spot on, as was the hospitality of the 3WM staff. Dan Timmis of *3 Wise Monkeys Climbing* said: "After a Saturday night of psyche watching the Brit Rock Film Tour, the church doors burst open on Sunday morning to a congregation of keen climbers. It was, as ever, a pleasure to host the SNBL as the congregation brought with them an atmosphere that is rarely rivalled in Fort William. Congratulations to everyone who took part in the competition and best of luck with the rest of the series. See you in Glasgow for Round 5 at TCA on 23rd Feb!"

NOTE: There were a few corrections to make prior to Round 4 which resulted from trying to decipher people's hand writing on the score sheets at previous comps (always a little difficult). As a result Andrew Ngan Kee was listed as two separate competitors; Jack McKechnie was thought to be Jack Mckenzie; and a score mistake made in the adult female category at Avertical for Claire McGhie was rectified. So make sure your name is consistent at each round and your scores are clear and let [Kevin Howett \(Sports Development Officer\)](#) know of any mistakes as soon after results are posted.

Kevin Howett
Sports Development Officer