Speedway - Monarchs power to top after mugging Bandits

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Dany Gappmaier listens to advice in the Berwick pits ahead of their defeat at Edinburgh Monarchs. Picture by Nigel Duncan Media

Eric Riss powered to a 15-point maximum and impressive American newcomer Ricky Wells claimed 13 points in Edinburgh Monarchs' comfortable 57-33 win over misfiring Berwick Bandits in the SGB Premiership at Armadale. Skipper Sam Masters earned 11 points.

It is a result which sent the Armadale club to the top of the ten-strong table but the defeat continued Berwick's poor start to the current campaign.

Berwick's team manager Gary Havelock urged fans to keep the faith but Monarchs, however, are in fine, early season form with their three top riders performing.

The visitors won only one of the 15 heats when young Monarchs rider Max Clegg went too wide on the final bend in the second-last heat to allow Bandits' Austrian rider Dany Gappmaier through.

Edinburgh have now won all three of their league matches while struggling Berwick have lost their first four and it does not get any easier.

They entertain former league pace-setters Glasgow Tigers at home on Saturday night (tapes-up 7pm) followed by a trip to Ashfield for the return on Sunday (tapes-up 3pm).