

Speedway – Tigers skid to defeat but Berwick off the mark



Kevin Doolan was once again a leading scorer for Berwick Bandits. Picture Colin Poole

Glasgow Tigers skidded to a road defeat at Ipswich Witches in the SGB Championship with two former Edinburgh Monarchs riders playing a major part.

Rory Schlein collected eight points and Justin Sedgmen seven points in the 48-42 win but guest James Shanes top scored for the home side with ten sensational points.

The sides were level at 12-12 after four races but the home side pulled away with 4-2 scorelines in the next two races followed by a 5-1 in Heat Eight.

A 5-1 for the Scots in the final race, with Aaron Summers and Richie Worrall coming home first and second, narrowed the gap to six points but it was too little too late but they still earned a point as they were within six of the opposition.

Berwick Bandits battled to their first point of the season. The Borders club, who prop up the ten-strong table, lost 49-43 at Redcar Bears and it was a brave performance from Bandits as Redcar raced to a 20-10 lead after five heats.

The Borders club hit back with at 5-3 in the next races followed by a 4-2 in Heat seven. The teams traded 3-3 draws until Heat 12 when Redcar won 5-1 to make the scoreline 42-32.

Bandits then recorded a 4-2 in the next race and a 5-1 thanks to Kevin Doolan and Dany Gappmaier in Heat 14 to close the gap to 45-41 but a 4-2 in the final race secured the home win.

Nick Morris top scored with 12 points for the visitors and guest Steve Worrall (Newcastle Diamonds) collected 11 points with captain Doolan finishing with ten points.

Meanwhile, Berwick racer Lewis Bridger qualified for the British Final in seventh position when he won a tense run-off for one of top eight places in the semi-final at Sheffield.