Speedway – Pickering up-beat despite Tigers defeat

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In-form Aussie rider Josh Pickering could be a key man for Monarchs at Redcar on Thursday. Picture by Jack Cupido

Edinburgh racer Josh Pickering is confident Monarchs can regroup ahead of Thursday's trip to Redcar Bears.

But the in-form racer admitted it was tough without crocked skipper Sam Masters.

The Championship match on Teeside is a key fixture as Monarchs are fourth in the ten-strong table with 54 points from 27 starts. Redcar are fifth with 49 points from 28 fixtures.

Pickering, meanwhile, has been in excellent form and logged his third double-digit score in as many matches in Sunday's defeat at SGB Championship pace-setters Sheffield Tigers.

The 20-year-old from New South Wales said: "It is a track specialist type of track and Sheffield riders ride it so well.

"We are without Sam (Masters) but it is what it is and we will re-group."