

Speedway – Ricky firing on all cylinders



Ricky Wells in fine form for Edinburgh. Picture Jack Cupido

Ricky Wells powered to 13 points as Edinburgh Monarchs edged Peterborough Panthers 48-42 in their opening Championship clash.

But former Grand Prix rider Scott Nicholls, visiting Armadale for the first time in 20 years, collected 17 points from seven rides for the visitors.

And ex-Glasgow Tigers racer Nike Lunna was next best with 11 points for Panthers.

Earlier, Edinburgh led 29-19 after eight races but a 4-2 in Heat 11 and a 5-1 in Heat 14 brought the scoreline back to 44-40 in favour of the home side.

And Wells guided Edinburgh home with a heat win in the final race, edging Nicholls with Monarchs' skipper Eric Riss third.

In Cumbria, Berwick Bandits let slip an eight-point lead after eight heats to draw 45-45 at Workington Comets in the Championship Shield.

Ty Proctor won the final race for the home side with Dany Gappmaier second and Nicolai Klindt edging Bandits skipper Kevin Doolan to take third place for a 4-2.

But Bandits, who host Comets in the Borders on Saturday (7pm) will feel they have been mugged of a road win.

Back in Glasgow, Tigers sent out a warning to the other clubs in the Championship when they mauled reigning champions Sheffield Tigers 53-37.

And misfiring skipper Chris Harris roared back to form, the former Grand Prix rider claiming three race wins in five outings for 13 points to top score for the home side.

Richie Worrall was next best on 11 points with in-form former Edinburgh Monarchs and Berwick Bandits star Claus Vissing on ten points.

Best for Sheffield was Charles Wright with 14 points from seven rides and he was the only visiting rider to get into double-figures.

Tigers, however, had to come from 13-11 down after four races to claim the confidence-boosting win.