Speedway – Monarchs skid to defeat at Somerset

Edinburgh Monarchs' play-off hopes are hanging by a thread after skidding to a 55-35 to the Somerset Rebels.

Monarchs made a nightmare start in heavy conditions with five retirements in the first seven races.

And they went 18 points down and there was no way back.

John Campbell, Monarchs' team manager, said: "There was a heavy shower at 6.30pm and that changed conditions drastically.

"While I'm disappointed with the result we now know we need maximum points from the rest of our matches."

Former Monarchs star Rory Schlein top scored with 13 points for the home side while Sam Masters with 12 points was best for Monarchs.