

Weather forces play-off to be abandoned

Glasgow Tigers' SGB Championship play-off, semi-final, first-leg was abandoned after five heats due to the condition of the track.

Tigers were leading 17-13 before a break for rain which then saw the team captains and the referee out on the track for an inspection.

The riders went to tapes for Heat Six but it was stopped after Glasgow guest Paul Starke fell on bend three of lap one and was excluded. No re-staging date has been given.

Tigers, however, aim to continue their bid to end an 11-year wait for a league trophy when they eventually go to tapes against in-form Poole.

Under-strength Tigers would have gone into the meeting with Ulrich Ostergaard and Danyon Hume injured but Craig Cook returned at No 1 after injury after claiming third place in the British Championship.

The abandonment was a blow to fans as this was Tigers' first home meeting in more than a month. Cami Brown (picture by **George Mutch** courtesy of Glasgow Tigers), the club's team manager, was set to use rider replacement for Ostergaard, who sits fourth in the averages, and former Tigers racer Starke was in as a guest at Reserve for Hume.

Brown admitted: "The task ahead is mammoth. Poole's results against (league winners) Leicester shows how good Poole are. Poole only lost by two points on the road (46-44, in the Knockout Cup) and won by 30 points (60-30) at home and Poole are the only team to take points off us at home (a 45-45 score)."

The team boss added: "If we're to overcome Poole over two legs it will take a top-class performance. We're 100 per cent up for it. Poole will be looked at as favourites, however it's what happens on the day."