

# **Hagon and Cairns big threats for Monarchs Academy**

**Monarchs Academy race a double-header of National Development League (NDL) matches against the Scunthorpe/Sheffield combined side, followed by the Belle Vue Colts on Friday (tapes-up 7pm).**

The club hope to climb the table with good results in the two home matches and in next week's match against the Champions, Leicester Cubs.

The task against the Scunthorpe/Sheffield side is made a little easier because Nathan Ablitt and Luke Harrison are racing for the senior Scunthorpe side in the Cab Direct Championship play-off.

Danny Phillips, a former Armadale racer, guests and they will also use rider replacement, with the brothers Ace and Stene Pijper plus former Academy favourite Mickie Simpson, the most prominent in their squad.

Belle Vue's Colts are formidable with Sam Hagon, the British under-21 champion, one of the most successful riders in the NDL, Freddy Hodder has recently in good form and, at Reserve, William Cairns who has made a sensation start since reaching the age of 15.

Scott Wilson, manager of the Academy team, said: "The plan will be to get off to a good start against Scunthorpe, to secure a morale-boosting win in the first meeting. If we can

do that then we can go into the Belle Vue match full of confidence.

“Belle Vue will be a tough nut to crack, however, as they track the top man in the league in Sam Hagon with his 11-point average, and a rider who will probably end up with an 11-point average, reserve William Cairns.

“We saw William’s undoubted class at Belle Vue the other week where scored an 18-point maximum.”

Finally, a round of the British Youth Championships will be held at Armadale on Saturday afternoon starting at 1.30pm, with 30 heats to be seen.

Friday’s and Saturday’s matches will be live streamed and details are on [www.edinburghmonarchs.co.uk](http://www.edinburghmonarchs.co.uk).

STELLAR MONARCHS ACADEMY: Connor Coles (captain), Mason Watson, Sam McGurk, Dayle Wood, Max Perry, Mark Parker, Kyran Lyden.

SCUNTHORPE/SHEFFIELD: Danny Phillips, Mickie Simpson, Stene Pijper, Ace Pijper (captain), rider replacement for Luke Harrison, Kean Dicken, Jamie Etherington.

BELLE VUE COOL RUNNING COLTS: Sam Hagon, Jack Shimelt, Matt Marson, rider replacement for Luke Muff, Freddy Hodder, William Cairns, Harry McGurk.

SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER: British Youth Championship, Armadale Stadium, 1:30pm

PICTURE: Scott Wilson (left) with Alex Harkess in the pits at Armadale. Picture **Nigel Duncan**