

NEW BRIT DK CHAMP LAURIE MCCALL TAKES FLIGHT OFF A FOAMY FISTRAL SECTION ON HIS WAY TO VICTORY.



AARON DINHAM, NEW BRITISH CHAMP.



The Solomon Hare / Smith and Williamson British Bodyboard Championships

Report by Jonny Roberts/Louise Searle

When: October 2006

Where: Fistril Beach, Newquay

Who: Pablo Prieto

A new British champ was crowned in October. Aaron Dinham was the highest placed British rider, coming second to Pablo Prieto Serrano who surfs for Germany, lives in the Canaries and goes to Plymouth Uni. Pablo put on an explosive display to pip Aaron and take the winners cheque of £500. Pablo said, "I'm stoked to win because the standard of bodyboarding in Britain is excellent. It was a great contest with a strong final." Aaron commented "I'm well happy, Pablo was ripping but I'm stoked to take the title." The other finalists Remi Goffroy and Cheech Fleck surfed well in one of the best finals in recent years for the Nationals, but Pablo was unstoppable with his reverse to roll combos and effortless ARS's in average two- to three-foot waves.

Due to epic conditions in the North East and Ireland and other riders being abroad, top names like Prisk, Storey, Franklin, Splinter and Johns were absent from the competition but nonetheless the contest was of a good standard.

In the women's division British team rider Gemma Harris demonstrated why she's just placed 11th in the world, ripping into first place. Bude's Taz Sheppard came second, Gemma Britton third and Newquay's Candice O'Donnell fourth.

In the U18 division there were standout performances

from Luke Brabyn from Porthtowan and Ben Chandler from Constantine who finished first and second respectively. Fifteen-year-old Chandler also picked up third place in the Cadets. Event organiser Steve Berriman said, "The standard in both the Cadets and the Juniors was exceptional, which is extremely promising for the future of British bodyboarding."

The dropknee division was particularly strong despite the absence of Wall who was chasing swell near Newcastle. Richie Peters, Ollie Medland, Dave Spencely, Alex Winkworth and Laurie McCall battled it out against each other and some solid riding went down. In the final the style and speed of Laurie McCall was to win the day over veteran Ollie Medland. Mccall is a loose DKer who is going to be a massive part of the future DK scene in this country. In the Seniors, Alisdair Newby from Porthtowan took the honours.

Rich Hall representing sponsors Solomon Hare and Smith & Williamson said, "We are really pleased with how the event went off. Over the two days of competition the level of riding was excellent, with stand-outs across all the divisions. Laurie really ripped in the DK, as did Gemma in the Womens. Many congratulations to Pablo as winner of the British National Championships, and Aaron as the new British Champion. The success of this year hopefully gives us a great platform for 2007."

Event organisers the BSA would like to thank Solomon Hare, Smith & Williamson, Headworx, ThreeSixty, Rob Barber's Bodyboard School, Kernow Bodyboarding and Prone for sponsoring the event.

Results:

Open: 1. Pablo Prieto Serrano 2. Aaron Dinham 3. Remi Goffroy 4. Cheech Fleck. **Womens:** 1. Gemma Harris 2. Taz Sheppard 3. Gemma Britton 4. Candice O'Donnell. **Dropknee:** 1. Laurie McCall 2. Ollie Medland 3. Richie Peters 4. Brad Holt. **Senior:** 1. Alisdair Newby 2. Davey Jones 3. Steven Black 4. Dom Prevost. **Junior:** 1. Luke Brabyn 2. Ben Chandler 3. Jo Hone 4. James Blackwell. **Cadet:** 1. James Blackwell 2. Alex Wade 3. Ben Chandler 4. Tom Hammett.



PABLO HOISTS AN EXTENDO ROLL ON HIS WAY TO FIRST PLACE.

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BJORN STOREY PLUMBS THROUGH A HUNTINGTON BEACH KEG DURING ONE OF HIS HEATS IN THE ISA GAMES.