

## **MCofS Youth Climbing Series**

### **North Scotland Rounds**

Firstly I would like to commend the MCofS in dealing with the administration and helping co-ordinate these fantastic climbing events; events that, every year get, well attended and are such fun for the kids and parents. Well done chaps. And thanks for the support from TISO - giving all these prizes again this year - cheers guys.

#### **Round 1:**

The Ice Factor at Kinlochleven was very well organised as usual and are always perfect hosts, so the day with 37 young, very strong, climbers started and went very well apart from some of the kids still feeling a bit travel sick after the journey down. Some parents seem to love roasting their car down that road. Guilty as charged.

#### **Round 2:**

Transition Extreme routes were set by myself and Robert in a record eleven hours and we were sure the routes would split the competitors nicely but no, a climb offs were required in the 8—10 category and 11—13. Still 35 kids and parents all had a fun filled day and the kids seemed happy with all their performances. It's always easy to set good boulder problems here at Transition as they have nice angles to work with - a great venue.

#### **Round 3:**

Climb @ Inverness leisure was well attended with 40 competitors and the route setters were convinced they had got it perfect this time. We warned the kids that the boulder problems were a lot harder this time. But, yep! it made no difference and most categories required a climb off to split the leaders. The skills displayed at bouldering were awesome to watch and the hard working attitudes from all the kids reward enough for all the graft. Even then, the 8-10 girls super final was a true heart stopper and worthy of a pizza I reckoned.

Special mention must go to the climbers who tried till they couldn't try anymore – you know who you are. As far as climbing performance goes these kids are the best I've ever seen in 8yrs, with the young girls on-sighting 6C, and the middle girls on-sighting 7a, our chances this year of more new champions at the British Finals must be high. Keep up the good work kids.

What makes me smile the most about all of these youngsters is the team spirit and genuine camaraderie between them all, I even think some of the parents like each other too!

A huge thanks to the host walls for the venues and all their hard work, and for encouraging these events to happen. I'm always really, really grateful for all the help from parents for belaying and judging and bringing me much needed coffee. Ta.

2008 MCofS YCS were fantastic events, all three rounds; the smiles said it all.

## Tip for finals:

Watch the demonstrators MORE!

Eat and drink little and often.

SMILE!

See you at the finals

Ruairidh Mackenzie (Area Youth Coordinator)

8—10

1<sup>st</sup> Karyna McCormick

2<sup>nd</sup> Amy Ryan

3<sup>rd</sup> Lauren Sandbach

1<sup>st</sup> Rory Cargill

2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Kerr

3<sup>rd</sup> Jamie Peden

11-13

1<sup>st</sup> Nikki Addison

2<sup>nd</sup> Dawn Longworth

3<sup>rd</sup> Sofie Hvide

1<sup>st</sup> Dylan MacKenzie

2<sup>nd</sup> Steven Addison

3<sup>rd</sup> Ruairidh Macaskill

14--16

1<sup>st</sup> Jade Longworth

2<sup>nd</sup> Ellen Macaskill

3<sup>rd</sup> Ellen Barber

1<sup>st</sup> Alisdair Johnstone

2<sup>nd</sup> Scott Grosdanoff

3<sup>rd</sup> Tom Jones



PHOTO: Ruairidh Mackenzie

Ruairidh Macaskill  
going for the big dyno