

Cobham school boy returns from Monaco as World Biathle Champion



World Champion: Hugo Fleming

A 13 year old student from Feltonfleet School in Cobham has become the World Champion in his age group, after competing in the 9th Biathle World Championships in Monaco.

In the presence of Prince Albert II of Monaco, Hugo Fleming competed along with more than 340 athletes from five continents in an event that combines the two basic elements of modern pentathlon – running and swimming.

Right at the start he pulled out in spectacular fashion, building up a five second lead with his 500 metre run. After the 50 metre swim and the second 500 metre run he cruised in ahead of two South African competitors, to finish 10 seconds clear of the pack with a time of 4 minutes, 12 seconds – much to the delight of the Union Jack-waving crowd. This was the first victory of the day for Great Britain.

The highest representation in the competition came from Great Britain with 100 athletes and South Africa with over 70 athletes.

Nations participating for the first time in a World Biathle competition included New Zealand and Ireland.

The victory in Monaco has given Hugo a clean sweep of all the 2007 competitions at U13 Level. He previously won the British Championship, European Championship, World Championship, British Series and World Series.

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