

# StarClassNewsletter



**StarClass** season is well under way with half the events completed and the final Starclass classification building up to crown the winners of the season and establish the participants at the 'Grand Final' in Munich from March 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>.

Starclass, Junior A and B categories have already challenged twice; after the opening event in Milano, they met again at the end of November in Hasselt (Belgium) where competitors from 42 clubs and 10 Countries filled the Bloso Ijshal. Timothy Dewispeleare from the Club in Gent won the Junior A men category while the A Ladies' category was dominated by Elena Viviani from Bormio now strongly in the lead having dubbed her performance in Milano. The B men category saw Alexis Yang from the Parisian club in Fontenay triumph for the second time on Christoph Schubert from Dresden, second, and Mark Prinsen, third, from the Dutch city of Heerenveen which will be hosting the European Championships in January 2011. The Junior B ladies category saw Catherine Alexander from the local club win over Ylenia Tota from Torino; the two girls are now at equal points in the overall classification. Full results as well as some great videos of most of the races are to be found on [www.shorttrackonline.info](http://www.shorttrackonline.info)



Men Starclass podium in Hasselt: Rudy Koek, Vincent Jeanne and Bjorn Postma – courtesy Alicja Bartosik

Following the introduction of new racing rules after the ISU Congress and of a different set of sanctions with consequent impact on the classifications, the Starclass co-ordination group has prepared a clarifying document, attached to this newsletter, which will be applicable for future Starclass events beginning with the Baden Wurttemberg Starclass in Mannheim, next week.



Junior B men Skaters preparing for the start in Hasselt.  
Photo courtesy Alicja Bartosik

Particular attention should be taken in the case of withdrawal of skaters from the competition and the possibility of reinstating them with valid reasons. All cases are covered in the attached document which should be read carefully and fully understood.

After the Christmas break, the Starclass will move, for the first time, to Denmark in the City of Odense. Named after the Norse God 'Odin', Odense is located on the island of Funen and is one of Denmark's most ancient cities dating back to 988AD. Its most famous citizen is certainly author and poet Hans Christian Andersen who has entertained children worldwide for 200 years with fables such as 'The Ugly Duckling' or 'The Little Match Girl'. His works have been translated into 150 languages and one of the most visited tourist attractions is Andersen's home.

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