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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Five elite athletes chosen to represent Great Britain on the World Stage at one of the toughest, physically demanding winter sports.

The British Telemark Ski Team today announced the five world-class athletes who will be competing at the 2011/12 Telemark World Cup with a further two athletes selected for the World Cup Development Team.

Selection took place on the Hintertux Gletscher, Austria during the second week of October. With a large turn-out the triallists were put through their skiing paces with tests to determine their ability with particular focus on the fundamentals required to be a successful World Cup telemark race. "Conditions at Hintertux have been fantastic" said Ian Roberts, one of the athletes selected to ski on this season's World Cup race team which will also feature 2 new athletes to the women's team including ex-alpine racer Jasmin Taylor who said she was delighted to have made the cut.

The 2011/12 British Telemark Squad will feature the following athletes:

World Cup Team

Andrew Clarke – Plymouth, Devon

Jack Harvard Taylor – Virginia Water, Surrey

Ian Roberts –

Jasmin Taylor – Ipswich, Suffolk

Anna Morrissey – Beath, Ayrshire

World Cup Development Team

Hugh Long – Ontario, Canada

Colin Shepherd – Perth, Perthshire

Whilst previous team members, including the team's vice-captain, unable to attend the trials it is hoped that they will trial under testing conditions during the British Championships in Rauris, Austria in January 2012. Team Captain Andrew Clarke reported that it was a good turnout but urged more telemark skiers from the UK to participate in the British Champs and unleash their potential and let the selection committee decide. Participation at the British Champs is mandatory for anyone wishing to be selected to trial for the British Team.

The coming season the team will be taking part in a series of promotional events around the UK including appearances at the British Ski and Board Show at Earls Court. There is also a chance to mix with the athletes and hear from an esteemed record breaking mountaineer at the Team's pre-season fundraiser to be held in Wimbledon on 22 Oct, more details are available from Cocktails with the British Team. There is a great prize line up from a year of free Meteor Meet and Greet Airport Parking to fabulous skiing prizes. We hope to see you there.

With an impressive last season the team hopes to build on that, with athletes breaking convincingly into the top 15. Confirmed FIS World Cup venues next season are Slovenia, Austria, Norway, USA, France and Spain. "With telemark skiing on the up this is an exciting time for the British Team as we look to introduce the sport into the Winter Olympics in the future" said Clarke who is also the FIS Telemark Chairman, "it really is exciting times".

- Ends -

Notes to editors:

Telemark skiing originated in Norway and is considered by many to be the original and purest form of skiing. Racing is very similar to conventional 'downhill' skiing and involves going through a number of 'gates' with red and blue flags. Where telemark varies is the athlete has the extra challenge of negotiating a large jump half way down the slalom course as well as a 'cross-country' skating section towards the end of the course to really test the competitor's endurance.

If you'd like more information about the team, would like to come and see us compete, or to schedule an interview, please contact the GB Telemark Communications and Marketing Manager Jack Harvard Taylor

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