## **StarClassNewsletter**



StarClass in Milano opened the season with a record number of Countries participating! Over one hundred skaters from 10 different Countries met at the beginning of October to start their qualifying progress towards the final, this season to be held in Munich from March 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> 2011. Skaters from as far east as Kazakhstan and as close to the Artic circle as can be (Sweden!) chose this competition to test their preparation for the season and to touch first hand their standing at international levels. It is interesting to notice that some of the protagonists of the more recent editions of the Starclass series were not there; where are they??

Easy! Just have a look at the list of participants of the World Cups in Canada and you will see some familiar names!

This is the idea which generated the Starclass series in the very first place, years ago: to provide an opportunity for European skaters to race in high level competitions and improve their skating skills. What was just an idea is thus becoming reality; we are sure to see some of these athletes in Sochi in four years' time.



Jun A men in action with Thibaut Crolet (second overall in this category) leading the race - Photo courtesy of Mr. Palla

As always, the competition ran live on <u>www.shorttrackonline.info</u>, and full results are posted on this website, a must for all short-track fans!

Clubs are reminded that all entries are to be done through <u>www.shorttrackonline.info</u> and that the next competition, the Reims StarClass for Junior C and Novices categories, has closed its entries on November 1<sup>st</sup> !

Reims has been hosting StarClass events in the past and is ready to welcome the younger skaters on its ice for their first qualifying event. Over 100 skaters from seven Countries and 36 Clubs are entered for this competition and are ready to meet in the capital of Champagne next week.





The second qualifying event for these categories will be in Mannheim from December 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>; the announcement of this competition, the Baden Württenberg Starclass, is online and entries are open on <u>www.shorttrackonline.info</u> until December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Before the competition in Mannheim, the Starclass older juniors along with the Starclass and Senior categories will be on the ice in Hasselt (Belgium) from November 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. For the second year, the Ijsschaatsclub de Schaverdijn will be welcoming these categories at the Bloso-centrum Arena. This will be the second chance for



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Junior As and Bs to gather precious points to qualify for the Final which will bring together, once again, the best 8 junior skaters per category from the Starclass and the Danubia series.