

**World Junior/Youth Biathlon Championships
Torsby, Sweden**

Report No 3 – Sunday 31st January 2010

As promised, the day began very cold with the temperature at -21 at 7.30am. Due to the cold, the Youth Men's Pursuit was re-scheduled to the afternoon and the Men's Junior Pursuit Zeroing moved back ½ hr to 10.15am.

Alex woke this morning uncertain as to whether he should race given the cold and the need for him to avoid any situation which might set his recovery back. After waiting until the final moment before having to withdraw and with the temperature still at -16, Alex elected not to race and went back to the warmth of our accommodation.

Lucy was due to zero at 1pm and the temperature had warmed to -13, just a little less than Lucy had raced in yesterday. Lucy raced at 2.30pm with the temperature hovering at between -14 and -15. Lucy's 1st half of the race was good and she had made up ground on the skiers in front of her reaching a high of 47th, but in the 2nd half of the race she was having trouble feeling the trigger with the cold and her shooting fell away. She finished the race in the same place as she had started 60th.

So that wraps up the World Youth/Junior Championships for 2010. The 2011 World Youth/Juniors are to be held at Nove Mesto in the Czech Republic, from 28th Jan to 5th Feb, just a few days later than this year. Congratulations to our 3 athletes who competed at Torsby and to Lucy and Alex in particular for qualifying for the Pursuit Race.

Nick Almoukov and Toni Hulme
With the Australian Junior/Youth Biathlon Team in Torsby