

COLD GOING FOR SKI

STARS

The water temperature was 38 degrees!



Chris Salmon, of Northwood, "takes off" in the jumping event.
Graphic Photo 75258

Right: Twelve-year-old James Carne, youngest competitor in the slalom.



THE fourth British Winter Water-ski Championships, now regarded as a "pipe-opener" to the competitive water skiing season, attracted most of the country's leading performers to the Aquadrome, Rickmansworth, on Sunday, including double gold medallist Jeannette Stewart-Wood.

She won the overall championship, the slalom and the jumping.

Robin Beckett, the British men's champion, did not compete, although he attended. He is not yet fully recovered from an accident, back in the autumn.

The water temperature at the Aquadrome was a mere 38 degrees, which was not at all comfortable for the bare-footed skiers as they skimmed over the water at speeds of 45 and 50 m.p.h.

The crowd, an estimated 4,000, thinned considerably after a heavy thunder shower early in the afternoon.

The standard of the jumping was particularly high.

A spectacular exhibition of "human kite-flying" was given by Mr. Freddie Strasser, a favourite with Rickmansworth water-ski enthusiasts. An exhibition of bare-foot skiing without skis, the first time in Rickmansworth, was given by American visitor Keith Morgan.

The cups were presented by Lord Wakefield of Kendal, president of the British Water Ski Federation, who was accompanied by Lady Wakefield.

Winners

Slalom. — 1, Miss Jeannette Stewart-Wood, Ruislip; 2, Paul Adlington, Burstwick, Yorkshire; 3, James Carne, Ruislip. (Aged 12 years, James was the youngest competitor of the 18 who took part).

Jumping (15 competitors). — 1, Miss Jeannette Stewart-Wood; 2, J. Fulton, Kyle; 3, S. Gilmore, Kyle.

Combined Overall (15 competitors). — 1, Miss Jeannette Stewart-Wood, 2,000 pts.; 2, F. Fulton, 1,259 pts.; 3, J. Carne, 1,236 pts.

February 1967 - Rickmansworth Water Ski

Club hosts the British Water-Ski

Championships

Water Ski-ing

MISS STEWART-WOOD TAKES ALL 3 NATIONAL TITLES

BY OUR WATER SKI-ING CORRESPONDENT

JEANNETTE STEWART-WOOD, 21, now in her second year at London University, showed just why she is Britain's No. 1 water-skier with a superb display in the national winter championship at Rickmansworth Aquadrome yesterday.

She won all three titles at stake, the slalom, jumping and overall, with form that most skiers in Europe—let alone Britain—would be glad to produce in high summer.

The events, it is true, were run on a handicap basis. In the slalom the boat-starting speeds for women and juniors were slower than for the men, and in the jumping the women and juniors had their marks raised by certain percentages.

In the slalom, however, Miss

Stewart-Wood left even her British team colleagues Paul Adlington and Jack Fulton, trailing, and the handicap served only to increase the margin of her victory.

In the jumping, Miss Stewart-Wood had a best leap of 91ft 2½in, equivalent to a man's jump of about 128ft. It seems that the world record of 106ft may well be within her grasp during the coming season.

BEST JUMP

Promising hopes

Indeed, Miss Stewart-Wood, who last October won the Women's European slalom and jumping titles in South Africa, now has her sights set firmly on next August's World Championships in Canada.

Yesterday, the best actual jump was recorded by the Scot, Fulton, 16, who cleared 117ft 7½in—only two feet less than the jump with which he won the British title last October.

All this says a lot for the standards of this winter meeting, for which most of the entrants are supposed to be out of trim. But even a water temperature of barely 38deg F, and a thunderstorm failed to dampen their enthusiasm.

And of some extremely promising hopes for the future, none impressed more than Ian Walker, 16, who jumped 111ft 6½in in this his first competition, and James Carne, who though only 12, found the handicapping so much to his liking that he finished third in the slalom and third overall—a remarkable performance.

OVERALL.—Miss J. Stewart-Wood (Ruislip) 2,000pts. 1; J. Fulton (Kyle) 1,259. 2; J. Carne (Ruislip) 1,236. 3.

SLALOM.—Miss Stewart-Wood 33 buoys. 1; P. Adlington (Burstwick, Yorks) 23. 2; Carne 20. 3.

JUMPING.—Miss Stewart-Wood 91ft 2½ins (handicap pts 389) 1; Fulton 117.7½ (358pts) 2; S. Gilmore (Kyle) 93.6 (342pts) 3.