



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **SBS Bank kicks off Winter Classic with two team wins**

The competition has only begun but it's clear there's a strong field taking to the slopes for the Coronet Peak Winter Classic – and the SBS Bank ski team is eager to retain the kudos of their inaugural series results last year.

For the second consecutive year, the SBS Bank team came out strongly when the Winter Classic series kicked off last Tuesday to take out first place in the Recreational Division for the first two series events. It was some exceptional individual results that proved pivotal for the SBS Bank team with Mark Vryenhoek and Martial Bonvin respectively taking out the top two placings in the Men's Masters from a strong field of 18 competitors in the first series. Bonvin continued his strong form to place first in this Tuesday's event, while Tom Grindley took to the field in series two to finish second in the Men's B field.

Meanwhile, SBS Bank business development officer Honor Mathieson again demonstrated that she's right at home on the slopes and consistent as well to finish third in the Ladies B class for two events running.

Run over six weeks this year, the Winter Classic is the oldest local ski race in New Zealand and continues to attract extremely high registrations from those wanting to take part in categories that range from Ladies Masters to Men's Pro Division.

Ms Mathieson said the eight-strong SBS Bank sponsored team was among 16 teams hitting the slopes for the iconic recreational race series in some fantastic conditions and have been raring to go during this week's two races, which finished with a Giant Slalom Event on Friday (*NB: 29 July*).

The placed foursome is joined in the SBS Bank team this year by captain Bryan Parker, Nikki Vryenhoek, Gydene Parker and Frank Wylie. Each week six entries from each team complete the action-packed, down hill course and grand slalom.

Ms Mathieson said "striking success again on day one of the event certainly had everyone pumped and ready for more action and great results over the coming weeks."

The Winter Classic series continues until 30 August.

**For further information please contact:**

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