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Fall's not a Major setback, insists Billy

Saffron Walden skier Billy Major may have crashed out in his first run at the European Youth Olympic Winter Festival, but the 16-year-old insists his confidence remains as high as ever.

In yesterday's giant slalom [competition](#) the Team GB skier fell heavily halfway down his first run after clipping a gate, ending his chances of securing a finish on his Olympic debut.

And while the former Dame Bradbury's pupil admits he is nursing a bruised shin, he insists he will be back firing on all cylinders for tomorrow's slalom.

"It was quite a big crash that I had in the first run, I got thrown up in the air and my skis came off, but I'm feeling okay," he said.

"I've got a bit of a sore shin but nothing that will affect Thursday. Crashes are just one of those things that you have to expect in ski [racing](#)."

"I would have liked to have had a good run like the other British guys but, at the end of the day, these things happen and I still feel good."

"It's a great hill and I'm feeling good about my skiing in general, so it's up to me to make sure that I bounce back."

Of the four British skiers in action yesterday, Major was the sole disappointment as Charlie Raposo finished sixth, Max Baggio 31st and Laurie Taylor 35th.

However, the slalom is Major's preferred discipline and the 16-year-old skier, who currently lives in Savoie, France, is ranked in the world's top 10 for his age group in that discipline.

And the youngster insists he will be holding nothing back tomorrow, despite his big tumble.

"There's no point in being cautious and the slalom is my favourite [race](#), so if I go well I hope that I can get into the top 10," he added.

"That would be a great result for me as I am a year younger than a lot of guys here but we will have to wait and see. I'm going to give it everything and hopefully perform at my best."

* The British Olympic Association prepares and leads British athletes at the summer, winter and youth Olympic Games. It works in partnership with [sport](#) National Governing Bodies to enhance Olympic success and is responsible for championing the Olympic values. www.olympics.org.uk



Billy Major

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