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## Major in good heart despite crashing out

Saffron Walden skier Billy Major admitted he had let a medal opportunity pass him by as his European Youth Olympic Winter Festival came to an end in Romania.

The 16-year-old was the top-rated British hope in yesterday's slalom [competition](#) in Brasov but he crashed out in the morning run, failing to register a time.

Ranked in the top 10 in the world for his age group in the slalom, he had a fantastic chance to repeat the efforts of team-mate Charlie Raposo, who finished sixth in the giant slalom.



Billy Major

The tough slalom course contributed to more than half the field failing to finish, something that left the former Dame Bradbury's School pupil Major (above) to rue what might have been.

"That was a great chance for me and an opportunity missed," he said. "I'm disappointed of course, but these things happen and as a **racer** you just have to try to deal with it.

"I definitely felt like there was a medal chance there having seen so many people crash out but, to be honest, I didn't think that I did all that much wrong.

"It was just one of those things, the run was going well up to that point and then I got caught."

The six-day festival in Romania marked the first time Major had represented Great Britain on the international stage.

And, after failing to register a finish in both the giant slalom and the slalom, he admitted he had learned a great deal from taking on the best that Europe has to offer.

"This has been a great experience for me and I have enjoyed every minute of the week," he added. "I would have liked to have registered a time, of course I would, but I will learn from this and take it on to the rest of the season.

"I would not change anything from the week; I don't see the point in being cautious just to get down the slope to register a time.

"I'm going out there to **race** and get good results, I give every race my all and that will always be the way."

**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](http://www.olympics.org.uk).

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