

Grassroots sport



BOB A JOB Mica McNeill (inset) and in action at last year's Junior Worlds (main pic)

Ice queen McNeill ready to run in Olympics after world outing

BOBSLEIGHER Mica McNeill has her sights set on the Sochi Winter Olympics next year after enjoying taking on the world's best.

The 19-year-old from Consett finished 20th out of 22 in her first appearance for Great Britain at the World Championships in St. Moritz, Austria.

She said: "It went really well and I enjoyed competing.

"We did not really have a performance-related target as our aim for this season was to do well at the Junior Worlds."

McNeill had a year to re-

Bobsleigh

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member in 2012 when she won silver in the Youth Winter Olympics before adding a bronze at the World Junior Championships.

She was introduced to the sport by former world champion Nicola Minichiello and, after a taster session on a dry course in Bedale, decided to pursue a career on the ice.

She competes with Leicester's Nikki McSweeney in the two-

woman event having lost her partner from last season Jazmin Sawyers, who decided to switch sports to long jump in the summer.

McNeill added: "I work well with Nikki but in this sport so much can change so I have to work hard and be ready to work with a variety of teammates."

McNeill will travel to Sochi this weekend for a test event on the track to be used in the Winter Olympics.

She will find out whether she has made the GB team for the Games in December.