

#01	Commercialbank Grand Prix of Qatar	Losail
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MotoGP facts & figures

■ **Valentino Rossi** won in Qatar in both 2005 and 2006 and finished 2nd in 2007 and 2009. He crashed out of the race in 2004 after starting from the back of the grid as a penalty for cleaning his original grid position at the end of qualifying. In 2008 he finished 5th in his first race on Bridgestone tyres.



■ **Casey Stoner** has a great record at Qatar; in 2005 he won the 250cc race, in 2006 he finished fifth in the MotoGP race after becoming the second youngest rider ever to qualify on pole in the premier-class and in 2007 he scored his first ever MotoGP victory on his debut riding the factory Ducati. In 2008 he won again in the first ever GP to be held under floodlights and repeated the victory last year, leading from start to finish after qualifying on pole.



■ **Jorge Lorenzo** has a good record at Qatar in the smaller classes; he won the 125cc in 2004, finished second in the 250cc race in 2005 and won the 250cc race in both 2006 and 2007. In 2008 he started on pole and finished second in Qatar on his debut in the MotoGP class. Last year he took the last place on the podium in his first race using Bridgestone tyres.

■ Losail is one of only four current circuits (that have been used previously) where **Dani Pedrosa** has not had a victory in any class of GP racing. The others are Estoril, Misano and Indianapolis. Pedrosa's third place finishes in Qatar in 2007 and 2008 are the only MotoGP podium finishes for a Honda at the Losail circuit since the introduction of the 800cc capacity limit.

Thirteen world champions line up in MotoGP

This year's entry list for MotoGP is arguably the strongest ever, with thirteen of the seventeen riders having won world championship titles and sixteen riders who have won races at world championship level. The changes in the full time entry list for this year are as follows:

- Out from last year have gone – James Toseland, Chris Vermeulen, Toni Elias, Alex de Angelis, Nicola Canepa, Yuki Takahashi and his mid-season replacement Gabor Talmacsi, and Sete Gibernau who competed in six races in the early part of 2009.
- Into the MotoGP class come the following riders – Hiroshi Aoyama, Hector Barbera, Alvaro Bautista, Marco Simoncelli, Ben Spies and Aleix Espargaro who raced as a replacement rider at four races in 2009.

The following table shows the achievements of the riders who have won at world championship level. The only rider competing in MotoGP in 2010 who has not won a world championship race is new Ducati recruit Aleix Espargaro.

The strength of the MotoGP grid can be illustrated by the following facts about the riders lining up:

- There are thirteen riders who have won motorcycling World Titles in either Grand Prix or Superbikes.
- These thirteen riders have won a total of twenty-seven World Championship titles between them.
- Of the seventeen riders competing full-time in the MotoGP class in 2010, sixteen have had race victories at World Championship level in either Grand Prix or Superbikes.
- Between them these sixteen riders have scored 362 race victories at world championship level.
- The combined total of Grand Prix victories for the full-time entry of riders is 317. The current record for the combined number of Grand Prix wins for all riders starting a GP is 289 at the Dutch TT last year.

The oldest rider on the grid will be Loris Capirossi who celebrated his 37th birthday exactly one week before the GP in Qatar. The youngest rider is Spanish rider Aleix Espargaro, who is just 20 years old.

	WORLD TITLES					RACE WINS				
	Total	MotoGP /500cc	250cc	125cc	WSB	Total	MotoGP /500cc	250cc	125cc	WSB
Valentino Rossi	9	7	1	1		103	77	14	12	
Dani Pedrosa	3		2	1		31	8	15	8	
Loris Capirossi	3		1	2		29	9	12	8	
Colin Edwards	2				2	31				31
Jorge Lorenzo	2		2			26	5	17	4	
Casey Stoner	1	1				27	20	5	2	
Marco Melandri	1		1			22	5	10	7	
Alvaro Bautista	1			1		16		8	8	
Marco Simoncelli	1		1			14		12	2	
Ben Spies	1				1	14				14
Andrea Dovizioso	1			1		10	1	4	5	
Hiroshi Aoyama	1		1			9		9		
Nicky Hayden	1	1				3	3			
Mika Kallio	0					12		5	7	
Hector Barbera	0					10		4	6	
Randy De Puniet	0					5		5		
	27	9	9	6	3	362	128	120	69	45



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■ **Colin Edwards'** only podium finish in Qatar came in the first Grand Prix at the circuit in 2004 when he finished second behind his then team-mate in the Gresini-Honda team, Sete Gibernau.

■ **Andrea Dovizioso** finished on the podium on three occasions at Qatar when riding in the smaller classes; in the 125cc class in 2004 and the 250cc class in 2005 and 2006. In 2008 he was 4th on his debut in the MotoGP class and last year was first Honda rider across the line in 5th.

■ **Loris Capirossi's** 3rd place in 2006 is his only good result at Qatar. He retired from the race in 2004 with mechanical problems, finished a disappointing tenth in 2005 after qualifying on pole and crashed out in 2007. In 2008 he was 8th on his debut on the factory Suzuki. Last year he crashed on the 8th lap while lying 5th.



■ **Marco Melandri's** best result at Qatar was in 2005 riding a Honda, when he finished second after battling with Rossi for the victory all the way to the last lap.

■ **Randy de Puniet** has only twice managed to reach the finish in his six starts at the Losail circuit; in 2008 he was 9th in the MotoGP race and last year he was 10th.

■ **Nicky Hayden** has twice finished on the podium at the Losail circuit; 3rd in 2005 and 2nd in 2006. Last year in Qatar he was having his first race on a Ducati and finished down in 12th after suffering a painful highside during practice.

■ **Mika Kallio** has had three podium finishes in the smaller classes in Qatar; 2nd in the 125cc class in 2005 and 2006, 3rd in the 250cc class in 2008. Last year in Qatar he finished 8th on his debut race in the premier-class.

■ **Hiroshi Aoyama's** best result at Qatar, from six starts in the 250cc class, was 3rd at the first ever visit to the circuit back in 2004.

Nineteen Grand Prix winners line up in Moto2

In 2010, the 250cc class which has been part of the Grand Prix world championship series since 1949 is replaced by the new Moto2 class. The new intermediate class has attracted a very strong line-up of riders and machines for the first season, as illustrated with the following facts:

- Nineteen of the riders on the full-time entry list have previously won Grand Prix races. In the 61 years history of the 250cc class there was never a race that had as many as 19 previous Grand Prix winners line up on the grid.
- The full-time entry list includes riders from 19 different nations, including entries for the first time in the Grand Prix world championship for riders from Qatar and Ukraine.
- Fifteen different chassis constructors will be represented in the new Moto2 championship.

The youngest rider in the full-time entry list is British rider Scott Redding at just 17 years and 3 months old. The oldest rider is Spanish rider Alex Debon who will be 34 years of age at the opening race of the year in Qatar.

	WORLD TITLES		RACE WINS		
	125cc	Total	MotoGP	250cc	125cc
Gabor Talmacsi	1	9			9
Julian Simon	1	8			8
Thomas Luthi	1	5			5
Mike di Meglio	1	5			5
Toni Elias		10	1	7	2
Mattia Pasini		10		2	8
Hector Faubel		7			7
Simone Corsi		5			5
Fonsi Nieto		5		5	
Andrea Iannone		4			4
Sergio Gadea		3			3
Roberto Rolfo		3		3	
Stefan Bradl		2			2
Alex Debon		2		2	
Lukas Pesek		2			2
Yuki Takahashi		2		2	
Alex de Angelis		1		1	
Anthony West		1		1	
Scott Redding		1			1
	4	85	1	23	61

All change in the 125cc class

With several of the more experienced riders moving up to the Moto2 class for 2010, this has opened the field up for a number of new riders to entry Grand Prix racing as full-time competitors. The main changes in the 125 full-time entry list for 2010 are:

Out from last year have gone: **Julian Simon, Sergio Gadea, Scott Redding, Dominique Aegerter, Luca Vitali, Lorenzo Zanetti, Simone Corsi, Takaaki Nakagami, Andrea Iannone, Joan Olive, Stefan Bradl, Cameron Beaubier, Michael Ranseder** and **Lukas Sembera**.

Into the series as full-time riders come the following (age and nationality in brackets): **Alberto Moncayo** (Spain – 18), **Adrian Martin** (Spain – 17), **Sturia Fagerhaug** (Norway – 18), **Muhammad Zulfahmi** (Malaysia – 18), **Marco Ravaioli** (Italy – 20), **Marcel Schrotter** (Germany – 19), **Quentin Jacquet** (French – 19) and **Jakub Kornfeil** (Czech – 17). **Luis Rossi** (France – 20) also returns to the class having missed last season, having competing as a full-time GP rider in 2008.

The youngest rider on the full-time entry list for the 125cc class is German rider **Jonas Folger** at just 16 years old. The oldest rider is **Tomoyoshi Koyama** who will be 27 years old at the first race of the year in Qatar.

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■ **Ben Spies** won both Superbike races last year on his race debut at the Losail circuit.

■ **Alvaro Bautista** won the 125cc GP in Qatar in 2006 on his way to becoming world champion, but has had less success since at the Losail circuit; he crashed out in 2007 on his debut ride in the 250cc class, in 2008 he finished 6th suffering from a mechanical problem after fighting for the lead up to mid-race distance. Last year he finished in 7th in the 250cc race after qualifying on pole.

■ **Hector Barbera** has a great record at the Losail circuit having finished on the podium in the 250cc class in Qatar for the last three years; third in 2007, 2nd in 2008 after leading the race for several laps and a victory last year.

■ **Marco Simoncelli's** best result at the Losail circuit is 3rd in the 125cc race in 2005. His 8th place finish in 2005 was his best result in the 250cc class in Qatar. In 2008 he failed to finish after crashing on lap eight and last year he did not start the race, still suffering from a fractured scaphoid.

■ **Alex Espargaro**, who scored points in each of his four starts that he made on the MotoGP Ducati in 2009, did not compete at Qatar last year as he was without a Grand Prix ride.

Moto2 facts & figures

■ **Gabor Talmacsi** won the 125cc race at the Qatar GP in 2005 and finished second in 2007 after qualifying on pole. Last year he finished 10th in Qatar on his debut in the 250cc class.

■ **Alex de Angelis'** 2nd place finish in 2007 was the only time he reached the finish from four starts in the 250cc class at the Losail circuit. In 2008, on his debut in the MotoGP class, he was the only rider to crash out of the race. Last year he finished 6th in the MotoGP race and the first non-factory Honda across the line.



Loris Capirossi scheduled for 300th Grand Prix start

At the Qatar Grand Prix Loris Capirossi is scheduled to become the first rider in the history of Grand Prix racing to make 300 Grand Prix starts. Below are a collection of statistics relating to Capirossi's Grand Prix career:

- He has taken part in 39.3% of the 760 Grand Prix events staged since the start of the world championship series back in 1949.
- Capirossi has the longest winning career of all-time: 17 years 49 days between his first win in the 125cc class at Donington in 1990 and latest MotoGP win in Japan in 2007
- He has finished in a point scoring position a record 245 times.
- 2010 will be his 21st year as a full-time GP rider – something no other rider has ever achieved.
- He has won GP races on seven different motorcycles: 125cc Honda, 250cc Honda, 250cc Aprilia, 500cc Yamaha, 500cc Honda, 990cc Ducati and 800cc Ducati.
- He is one of only two riders who have won on 500cc two-stroke, 990cc four-stroke and 800cc four-stroke machines; the other is Valentino Rossi.
- During his career he has competed at 41 different Grand Prix circuits.
- The circuit at which Capirossi has made most GP starts is Jerez, where he has appeared in each of his twenty years in Grand Prix racing.
- He still holds the record set in 1990 of being the youngest ever rider to win a world championship at the age of 17 years 165 days.
- Capirossi needs just one more top three finish to become just the seventh rider in GP history to reach the milestone of 100 podium finishes.

Capirossi heads the following table that shows all riders who have made more than 200 Grand Prix starts during the 61 years that World Championship Grand Prix racing has taken place:

	Total	MotoGP/500cc	350cc	250cc	125cc	80/50cc
Loris Capirossi	299	188		84	27	
Alex Barros	276	245		14		17
Jack Findlay	275	157	77	34	5	2
Brno Kneubuhler	261	71	46	50	86	8
Angel Nieto	260	1		16	156	87
Chas Mortimer	233	33	65	93	42	
Giacomo Agostini	231	119	109	3		
Valentino Rossi	227	167		30	30	
Roberto Locatelli	224			130	94	
Stefan Dorflinger	223			7	96	120
Carlos Checa	220	192		27	1	
Max Biaggi	214	127		87		
Phil Read	212	53	42	79	38	

Aprilia close in on MV Agusta

Although the 250cc class, in which Aprilia have had their most GP victories, is no longer part of the World Championship series, they still have a major presence in the 125cc class. The victory for Hector Barbera in the last ever 250cc race at Valencia last year was the 274th victory for Aprilia across all classes. One more Grand Prix victory will place them equal with MV Agusta as the third most successful manufacturer of all-time in Grand Prix racing and also most successful non-Japanese manufacturer. The following table shows the ten most successful manufacturers in terms of Grand Prix wins:

GRAND PRIX VICTORIES BY MANUFACTURERS								
	Total	MotoGP	500	350	250	125	80	50
1. Honda	630	55	156	35	207	164		13
2. Yamaha	450	51	120	67	165	47		
3. MV-Agusta	275		139	76	26	34		
4. Aprilia	274				143	131		
5. Suzuki	155	1	89			35		30
6. Derbi	93				1	50	25	17
7. Kawasaki	85		2	28	45	10		
8. Kreidler	71							71
9. Gilera	59		35	4	12	8		
10. Garelli	51					44		7

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■ **Jules Cluzel** finished second in the 250cc GP last year in Qatar, after leading the race in the mid-stages. This is Cluzel's only podium finish in GP racing.

■ **Toni Elias'** best result in Qatar was 6th in the 250cc race back in 2004. At the opening race of the year Elias will become the first winner of a premier-class Grand Prix to appear in one of the smaller class since **Loris Capirossi** moved down to compete in the 250cc class in 1997 after winning the final 500cc race of 1996 at Phillip Island.

■ **Andrea Iannone** won the opening race of the 125cc world championship last year in Qatar, a race that was cut to just four laps due to rain.

■ The 125cc world champion of 2008, **Mike di Meglio**, made his debut in the 250cc class at Qatar last year and finished third.

■ **Sergio Gadea** won the 125cc race in Qatar two years ago - his only podium finish of 2008.

■ Reigning 125cc world champion **Julian Simon** qualified on pole and set the fastest lap last year in the 125cc race at Qatar, on his way to finishing second. Simon will be aiming to maintain his winning streak, having won the last three 125cc GP races of 2009.

■ **Mattia Pasini** won in Qatar in 2008 on his debut ride in the 250cc class.

125cc facts & figures

■ Derbi won the 125cc GP at Qatar in 2004, KTM in 2005 and Aprilia for the last four years.

■ None of the riders competing in the 125cc class in 2010 have previously won a race at the Losail circuit.

■ **Bradley Smith** finished on the podium at the final six races of 2009. A top three finish for Smith in Qatar and he would become the first British rider since **Barry Sheene** in 1971 to score seven successive podium finishes in the 125cc class.

■ **Sandro Cortese's** third place last year in Qatar was his first ever podium finish in Grand Prix racing.

Grand Prix racing numbers

986 — Casey Stoner has accumulated 986 points during his career in the MotoGP class. If he finishes either first or second in Qatar he will become the 17th rider to pass the milestone of 1000 points in the premier-class of Grand Prix racing.

199 — Valentino Rossi has scored points in 199 GP races across all three classes. A top fifteen finish for Rossi in Qatar will make him just the third rider to reach the milestone of 200 point scoring finishes in Grand Prix racing. The only other riders to have achieved this are Loris Capirossi and Alex Barros.

136 — Qatar will be the 136th MotoGP race since the advent of the four-stroke formula at the start of 2002. Of the riders who competed in the opening MotoGP race of 2002 in Japan only Valentino Rossi and Loris Capirossi are still competing in Grand Prix racing.

99 — Nicky Hayden has finished in a point scoring position on 99 occasions. A top fifteen finish in Qatar will make him the 15th rider to reach the milestone of 100 point scoring finishes in the premier-class of Grand Prix racing.

10 — The first day of practice in Qatar will be the tenth anniversary of the 2000 Japanese GP at Suzuka when Norick Abe won the 500cc race, Daijiro Kato the 250cc race and Youichi Ui the 125cc race. This is the only occasion that Japanese riders have won all three classes at a GP event.

7 — This will be the seventh occasion that a Grand Prix event has been held at the Losail circuit and the third under floodlights. Ducati are the most successful manufacturer with three MotoGP victories at Qatar followed by Yamaha with two and Honda a single MotoGP victory at the Losail circuit back in 2004 with Sete Gibernau.

5 — Ducati riders have won the opening race of the year for the last 4 years – Loris Capirossi at Jerez in 2006 and Casey Stoner in Qatar for the last three years. If a Ducati rider wins again this year they will become only the second manufacturer to win the opening race of the year in five or more successive seasons. The only other manufacturer to have achieved this is MV Agusta.

4 — If Casey Stoner wins in Qatar this year he will become only the fourth rider ever to win the opening premier-class race of the year in four or more successive years; the other riders to have done this are Giacomo Agostini, Barry Sheene and Valentino Rossi.

3 — The 2010 season will be the fourth year of the 800cc capacity limit in MotoGP. With Chris Vermeulen dropping out of Grand Prix racing, only three riders who have competed in all 53 races since the regulation was introduced at the start of the 2007 season, are scheduled to start in Qatar: Colin Edwards, Randy de Puniet and Valentino Rossi.

