





Return to Rimini

In the fourth of the season's back-toback races, Bridgestone's technicians and engineers travel directly to the Misano circuit for round 13 of the season which comes the weekend after the Indianapolis Grand Prix.



The San Marino circuit presents a much smoother circuit with much lower grip, necessitating softer compounds of slick tyre. Bridgestone have selected the medium and hard compound front and rear slicks, and hard compound wet tyres for improved durability as even in wet conditions the ambient temperature is generally high.

The nature of the circuit is twisty and riders spend a lot of time on the brakes, meaning that braking stability afforded by the front tyre is crucial. As with every race since the Dutch Grand Prix at Assen in June, each rider can opt for an even split of four of each compound of front tyre or five of one and three of the other to better suit their individual riding and machine preference.

Appearing in various guises in past years, the circuit remains unchanged from last year allowing Bridgestone to maximise their experience and success at the venue

Bridgestone has a great track record in Misano since its return to the calendar in 2007. Ducati Team's Casey Stoner took pole and won in 2007 on Bridgestone tyres, and in 2008 the Australian grabbed pole again. Valentino Rossi won for Fiat Yamaha last year, setting a new lap record on Bridgestone tyres in the process.

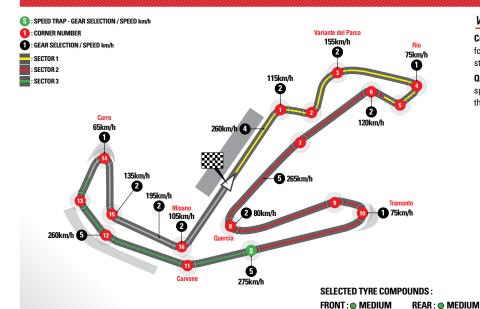
Tyre talk

Tohru Ubukata

Bridgestone Motorsport - Manager Motorcycle Race Tyre Development

The track surface at Misano is smooth and offers relatively low grip. The layout is basically twisty, but there are some long, high-speed corners. There are also a lot of slow and tight corners, and the main straight is not so long, so the focus will be on obtaining good braking stability and traction on corner exit. We have used our experience from last year on the lengthened track, when the performance of our tyres was good, to select the most suitable slick tyre compounds this year.

San Marino - Misano



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Circuit informa	alion	Records	
First race	1980	Pole position	1m 33.378s (162.924km/h)
No. of GPs held	12		Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2008)
Laps	28 (MotoGP), 26 (250cc), 23 (125cc)	Fastest lap	1m 34.904s (160.305km/h)
Track length	4.226 km / 2.626 miles (Width 12m)		Valentino Rossi (Yamaha, 2008)
Race distance	118.328 km / 73.528 miles	Race time	44m 41.884s (158.836km/h)
Longest straight	0.600 km / 0.37 miles		Valentino Rossi (Yamaha, 2008)
Corners	16 (6 left, 10 right)	2008 Winner	Valentino Rossi (Yamaha)

Where to watch...

HΔRD

H∆RD

Curvone: Very high-speed right in the middle of the back straight followed by two more only slightly slower rights: demands stability and edge grip from the front tyre.

Quercia (& Misano): One of the few lefts and a prime overtaking spot. The left side of the front tyre gets high stress going in, and the left side of the rear works hard coming out..

Event schedule Local time GMT +2

Friday	
12:40-13:40	125cc Free Practice 1
13:55-14:55	MotoGP Free Practice 1
15:10-16:10	250cc Free Practice 1
Salurday	
09:00-09:40	125cc Free Practice 2
09:55-10:55	MotoGP Free Practice 2
11:10-12:10	250cc Free Practice 2
13:00-13:40	125cc Qualifying Practice
13:55-14:55	MotoGP Qualifying Practice
15:10-15:55	250cc Qualifying Practice
Sunday	
08:40-09:00	125cc Warm Up
09:10-09:30	250cc Warm Up
09:40-10:00	MotoGP Warm Up
11:00	125cc Race (23 laps)
12:15	250cc Race (26 laps)
14:00	MotoGP Race (28 laps)

Machine: Honda RC2I2V Web: www.hondaracing-eu.com

Machine: Ducati Desmosedici GP9 Web: www.ducati.com

Machine: Yamaha YZR-M I Web: www.teamtech3.fr

Machine: Suzuki GSV-R Web: www.rizla-suzuki-mołogp.co.uk

Machine: Honda RC2I2V Web: www.gresiniracing.com

Machine: Ducati Desmosedici GP9 Web: www.ducati.com





Valentino Rossi Age: 30 DOB: 16/2/1979 Nationality: Italian MotoGP Wins: 76







Jorge Lorenzo Age: 22 DOB: 4/4/1987 Nationality: Spanish MotoGP Wins: 4



Repsol Honda Team





Dani Pedrosa Age: 23 DOB: 29/9/1985 Nationality: Spanish MotoGP Wins: 7







Andrea Dovizioso Age: 23 DOB: 23/3/1986 Nationality: Italian MotoGP Wins: 1



Ducati Team





Nicky Hayden Age: 28 DOB: 30/7/1981 Nationality: American MotoGP Wins: 3







Mika Kallio Age: 26 DOB: 8/10/1982 Nationality: Finnish MotoGP Wins: 0



Monster Yamaha Tech 3





Colin Edwards Age: 35 DOB: 27/2/1974 Nationality: American MotoGP Wins: 0







James Toseland Age: 28 DOB: 5/10/1980 Nationality: British MotoGP Wins: 0



Rizla Suzuki MoloGP





Chris Vermeulen Age: 27 DOB: 19/6/1982 Nationality: Australian MotoGP Wins: 1



Loris Capirossi Age: 36 DOB: 4/4/1973 Nationality: Italian MotoGP Wins: 9



San Carlo Honda Gresini





Alex De Angelis Age: 25 DOB: 26/2/1984 Nationality: San Marinese MotoGP Wins: 0







Toni Elias Age: 26 DOB: 26/3/1983 Nationality: Spanish MotoGP Wins: 1



Pramac Racing





Niccolo Canepa Age: 21 DOB: 14/5/1988 Nationality: Italian MotoGP Wins: 0







Aleix Espargaro Age: 20 DOB: 30/7/1989 **Nationality: Spanish** MotoGP Wins: 0

Machine: Honda RC2I2V

Scot Racing Team MotoGP

Machine: Honda RC212V Web: www.scotracingteam.com





Gabor Talmacsi Age: 28 DOB: 28/5/1981 Nationality: Hungarian MotoGP Wins: 0

LCR Honda MoloGP



Randy De Puniel Age: 28 DOB: 14/2/1981 Nationality: French MotoGP Wins: 0

Web: www.lcr.mc

Hayale Racing Team

Machine: Kawasaki ZX-RR





Marco Melandri Age: 27 DOB: 7/8/1982 Nationality: Italian MotoGP Wins: 5



Teams and riders order based on 2008 team championship position

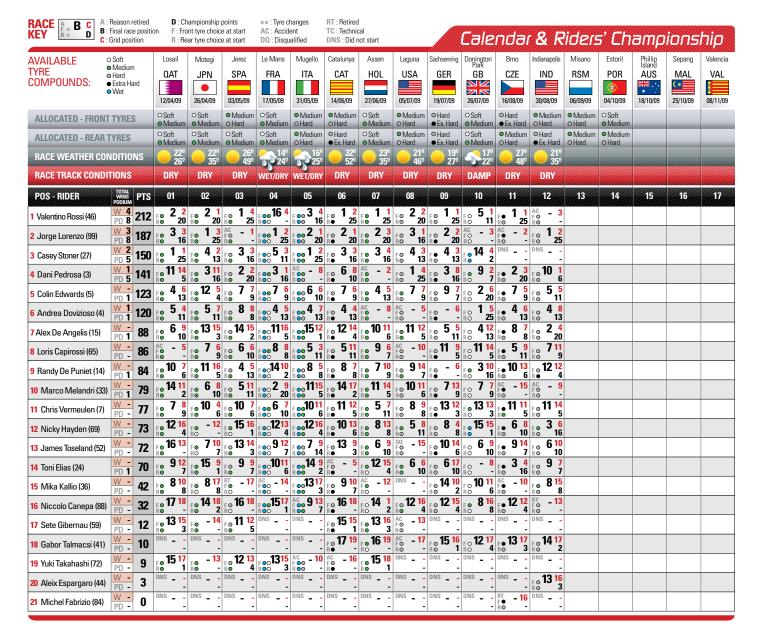
Front tyre compound allocation

ELECTED TYRE COMPOUNDS : ● MEDIUM

Rider	Team	Medium	Hard	Rider	Team	Medium	Hard
Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	Four ••••	Four 0000	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	Three •••	Five 00000
Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	Four ••••	Four 👓	Alex De Angelis	San Carlo Gresini Honda	Four ••••	Four 👓
Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda	Four ••••	Four 👓	Toni Elias	San Carlo Gresini Honda	Four ••••	Four 👓
Andrea Doviziozo	Repsol Honda	Four ••••	Four 👓	Niccolo Canepa	Pramac Racing	Three •••	Five ooooo
Nicky Hayden	Ducati Team	Four ••••	Four 👓	Aleix Espargaro	Pramac Racing	Three •••	Five ooooo
Mika Kallio	Ducati Team	Four ••••	Four ಯ	Gabor Talmacsi	Scot Honda Team MotoGP	Four ••••	Four ಯ
Colin Edwards	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	Four ••••	Four ಯ	Marco Melandri	Hayate Racing Team	Four ••••	Four 👓
James Toseland	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	Four ••••	Four ಯ	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	Three •••	Five •••••
Chris Vermeulen	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	Three •••	Five ooooo				







Home sweet home?

Misano is the home race of San Carlo Honda Gresini rider Alex de Angelis, but whilst he labels it as his most important race, it is far from his favourite. "Of course, it is a very special race for me being my home event" said the Sammarinese rider "and I have many sponsors and many fans.

"It is a slow circuit though, with only one corner to the finish that is really fast, and I prefer faster circuits like Sachsenring. It is a difficult track as there is a lot of heavy braking for slow corners and the bike moves a lot beneath you.

"I crashed on the first lap last year which was very bad in my most important race. Last year the crashes we had came from problems with my qualifying time I think. On qualifying tyres, my starting position would usually be 15th or something like that, and I give myself a lot to do in the race and sometimes I try too hard in the opening laps.

"I think now though that without qualifying tyres this season this has helped me. The other riders compared to me are maybe faster in the first lap when they start on new tyres, so now



that we qualify on Bridgestone's race tyres you can take more laps to get up to speed and the tyre is still there to do the times.

Qualifying on Bridgestone's race tyre this season has helped me I think. The situation is much better for me

"It is not difficult knowing I only have six races left with the team as they are all working hard for me. In the past races I have finished fifth, fourth and eighth position and my mind must be 100 percent so that I can carry on with results like this as I do all I can to help me get a ride next year."

2002-2009

Bridgestone MotoGP cumulative statistics

- I30 Grands Prix
- 2 World Championships
- 47 Victories
- 44 Pole Positions
- I28 Podiums (in 68 GPs)
- 126 Front Row Starts (in 74 GPs)
- 6622 Championship Points









Team news

Espargaro impressed by GP9

MotoGP debutant Aleix Espargaro was full of excitement at being given his first chance aboard a satellite Ducati GP9 at Indianapolis with Pramac Racing. The Spanish 250cc rider said about his first time on track: "The night before I think I woke up about one hundred times, I was so excited! It has been a fantastic experience. These bikes have impressive acceleration but I found my self at ease since the first laps."



New tyre regulations

There was an amendment to the tyre regulations issued during the Indianapolis Grand Prix to address rider changes and front slick tyre allocations. It states that in the event of a rider changing teams, he must retain his originally chosen split of front tyre compounds (whether four of each or five of one and three of the other). Any new rider entering the championship will be allocated four of each tyre for his first race.



De Puniel's ankle improving

Having broken his ankle during a motocross training accident before the Czech Republic Grand Prix, Randy de Puniet feels his ankle is improving, though still not fully recovered. The LCR Honda is being cautious not to take any unnecessary risks to avoid further damage. "I can feel that the ankle is improving but we are being careful to avoid silly crashes and further damages" said the Frenchman.



2008 FASTEST LAP Valentino Rossi, Yamaha Lap 6 - Average speed: 160.305km/h - Time: 1m 34.904s

Last year's race : Misano 2008

2008 Qualifying limes						2008 Race results				Source : www.motogp.com			
Pos	Rider		Team	Time	Km/h	Gap	Pos	Rider		Team	Time	Km/h	Gap
1	Casey Stoner	<u> </u>	Ducati Team	1m33.378s	271.629		1	Valentino Rossi	Z	Fiat Yamaha Team	44m41.884s	158.836	
2	Valentino Rossi	Z	Fiat Yamaha Team	1m33.888s	267.194	+0.510s	2	Jorge Lorenzo		Fiat Yamaha Team	44m45.047s	158.649	+3.163s
3	Jorge Lorenzo		Fiat Yamaha Team	1m33.964s	269.730	+0.586s	3	Toni Elias	Z	Alice Team	44m53.589s	158.146	+11.705s
4	Randy De Puniet		LCR Honda MotoGP	1m34.236s	263.865	+0.858s	4	Dani Pedrosa		Repsol Honda Team	44m59.354s	157.808	+17.470s
5	Toni Elias	<u> </u>	Alice Team	1m34.322s	274.739	+0.944s	5	Chris Vermeulen	Z	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	45m05.293s	157.461	+23.409s
6	Dani Pedrosa		Repsol Honda Team	1m34.398s	273.833	+1.020s	6	James Toseland		Tech 3 Yamaha	45m08.092s	157.299	+26.208s
7	Chris Vermeulen	Z	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	1m34.461s	263.414	+1.083s	7	Loris Capirossi	<u> </u>	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	45m08.708s	157.263	+26.824s
8	Shinya Nakano	<u> </u>	San Carlo Honda Gresini	1m34.494s	267.857	+1.116s	8	Andrea Dovizioso		JiR Team Scot MotoGP	45m09.475s	157.218	+27.591s
9	James Toseland		Tech 3 Yamaha	1m34.652s	266.009	+1.274s	9	Marco Melandri	Z	Ducati Team	45m15.053s	156.895	+33.169s
10	Colin Edwards		Tech 3 Yamaha	1m34.795s	268.189	+1.417s	10	Colin Edwards		Tech 3 Yamaha	45m18.413s	156.702	+36.529s
11	Loris Capirossi	<u> </u>	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	1m34.926s	266.600	+1.548s	11	Sylvain Guintoli	Z	Alice Team	45m23.965s	156.382	+42.081s
12	Sylvain Guintoli	<u> </u>	Alice Team	1m34.961s	273.833	+1.583s	12	Shinya Nakano	Z	San Carlo Honda Gresini	45m25.692s	156.283	+43.808s
13	Alex De Angelis	<u> </u>	San Carlo Honda Gresini	1m35.153s	264.705	+1.775s	13	Anthony West	Z	Kawasaki Racing Team	45m36.758s	155.651	+54.874s
14	Andrea Dovizioso		JiR Team Scot MotoGP	1m35.381s	262.518	+2.003s	14	John Hopkins	Z	Kawasaki Racing Team	45m37.038s	155.635	+55.154s
15	Marco Melandri	<u> </u>	Ducati Team	1m35.418s	269.461	+2.040s	NC	Casey Stoner	Z	Ducati Team	11m11.968s		21 Lap
16	Nicky Hayden		Repsol Honda Team	1m35.584s	270.000	+2.206s	NC	Alex De Angelis	<u> </u>	San Carlo Honda Gresini	1m46.395 s		27 Lap
17	John Hopkins	<u> </u>	Kawasaki Racing Team	1m35.980s	264.187	+2.602s	NC	Randy De Puniet		LCR Honda MotoGP			DNF Lap 1
18	Anthony West	Z	Kawasaki Racing Team	1m37.047s	265.095	+3.669s	NC	Nicky Hayden		Repsol Honda Team			Did not start

Bridgestone Motorsport Round-Up

F1 Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen took victory at the Belgian Grand Prix, held at the Spa circuit. The Finn took victory from Force One India's Giancarlo Fisichella in the team's best finish. Sebastien Vettel was third whilst Jenson Button didn't finish. Button leads the championship by 16 points with five races to go.

GP2 ORT's Alvaro Parente won the first race at Spa ahead of ART's Nico Hulkenberg and Lucas di Grassi of the Racing Engineering team. In race two it was Giedo van der Garde ahead of Roldan Rodriquez and Diego Nunes. Hulkenberg leads the championship on 83 points ahead of Vitaly Petrov on 56 and di Grassi on 46.

INDYCAR Penske's Ryan Briscoe won in a photo finish at the Chicagoland Speedway, Illinois on 29 August crossing the line just 0.0077seconds ahead of Scott Dixon. After 15 rounds of 17 Briscoe now leads the championship by 25 points from Dario Franchitti and Dixon trails by 33 points.

Bridgestone

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