

2013 AT A GLANCE

-  **1** PHILLIP ISLAND
AUSTRALIA
FEBRUARY 24
-  **2** MOTORLAND ARAGON
ARAGON
APRIL 14
-  **3** ASSEN
THE NETHERLANDS
APRIL 28
-  **4** MONZA
ITALY
MAY 12
-  **5** DONINGTON
EUROPE
MAY 26
-  **6** PORTIMÃO
PORTUGAL
JUNE 9
-  **7** IMOLA
ITALY
JUNE 30
-  **8** MOSCOW RACEWAY
RUSSIA
JULY 21
-  **9** SILVERSTONE
UNITED KINGDOM
AUGUST 4
-  **10** NÜRBURGRING
GERMANY
SEPTEMBER 1
-  **11** INTERCITY ISTANBUL
TURKEY
SEPTEMBER 15
-  **12** LAGUNA SECA
USA
SEPTEMBER 29
-  **13** MAGNY-COURS
FRANCE
OCTOBER 6
-  **14** JEREZ
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-  **15** BUDDH INTERNATIONAL
INDIA
NOVEMBER 17



DUCATI FINALLY GIVEN A GLIMMER OF HOPE

Team Ducati Alstare head to Silverstone for this weekend's round of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship with the boost of a first podium of the year to build on.

The Italian manufacturer have long been one of the dominant forces in the series, winning championships with the likes of Carl Fogarty, Troy Corser, James Toseland, Troy Bayliss and Carlos Checa. But 2013 has seen them struggle with the 1199 Panigale R, with Checa and team-mate Ayrton Badovini languishing outside the top 10 in the standings.

Prior to the last round in Russia, the best finish managed by either rider was Checa's sixth place at Portimão. But after an encouraging test before the trip to Russia, there were noticeable signs of improvement at Moscow where Checa qualified sixth on the grid. The Spaniard could not capitalise after an incident involving Jules Cluzel during the race, but Badovini produced a sensational wet-weather ride to rise from 14th to finish third behind the BMWs of Chaz Davies and race-winner Marco Melandri.

Their joy was dampened by the death of Italian rider Andrea Antonelli during the FIM Supersport World Championship race, which led to the cancellation of the second Superbike race, but the team can approach Silverstone with more confidence.

Badovini said: "Russia was an important day for me, having achieved my first podium with Team Ducati Alstare, and the first for the Panigale in this championship. The race was really hard and conditions were difficult. We knew we'd have good pace if it was wet and everything went as I had hoped. My guys did a fantastic job, my pit-stop was really fast and, back on track, I was really able to push. I'm sorry for the accident in Supersport and for the tragedy involving Antonelli. It's impossible to revel in a podium finish when something of that magnitude happens."

Team boss Ernesto Marinelli said: "You can't celebrate a podium when the paddock has suffered such a loss. The thoughts of everyone in Ducati and Team Alstare are with Andrea's family, team and everyone that knew him."

Marinelli added: "Analysing race one, Ayrton's podium was a very important result for the team and for Ducati. He rode very well in dry conditions and even better when the track was wet. Unfortunately, once more, bad luck prevented Carlos from finishing what started as a very positive weekend. The results in practice, combined with Ayrton's race, nevertheless represent a step forward."

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SUPERSPORT FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The FIM Supersport World Championship returns to action this week still mourning the loss of Italian rider Andrea Antonelli. He died following an accident at Moscow Raceway, and his funeral was held at Castiglione del Lago, near Perugia, last Thursday. Among the 5,000 paying their respects were fellow racers Marco Melandri, Michel Fabrizio, Alex Polita, Lorenzo Zanetti, Massimo Roccoli, Luca Scassa, Raffaele De Rosa and Pierfrancesco Chili.

SUPERSTOCK 1000 FIM CUP

Sylvain Barrier heads into this weekend's Superstock 1000 FIM Cup double-header at Silverstone knowing an extension of his winning streak could put him within sight of retaining his title. The BMW Motorrad Goldbet rider won the last two rounds at Portimão and Imola, and holds a 12-point advantage over Niccolò Canepa at the top of the standings. Third-placed Jeremy Guarnoni and fourth-placed Eddi La Marra are 25 and 26 points back respectively.



SUPERSTOCK 600 UEM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Franco Morbidelli will be looking to take another bite out of Gauthier Duwelz's UEM Superstock 600 European Championship lead when the series heads to Silverstone for a double helping of races this weekend. The San Carlo Team Italia Kawasaki rider has been slowly chipping away at his Belgian rival's championship advantage. His win at Portimão reduced the margin to 23 points, and he clawed back 13 more at Imola.

BUZZONI BIDS TO GO OUT AT THE TOP

BMW Motorrad general manager Andrea Buzzoni hopes the team can finish 2013 strongly as the German manufacturer prepares to pull out of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship to focus on its customer sports programme. Buzzoni is disappointed by the decision, coming during the course of a season in which the team have taken five wins, but has vowed to maintain their level.

"The team is a very professional and motivated group of people, and I am sure they will continue to do everything to end the season on a high note", said Buzzoni. "We are satisfied with the current results and, of course, we will keep working hard. Therefore I am convinced we can celebrate more successes with Marco (Melandri) and Chaz (Davies) as the season goes on. I am sorry about the decision, but I understand the strategic decision-making of the company."

SUZUKA JOY FOR PATA HONDA MEN

Pata Honda team-mates Leon Haslam and Michael van der Mark linked up to triumph in the prestigious Suzuka 8 Hours endurance race in Japan last weekend. World Superbike rider Haslam and Supersport colleague van der Mark teamed up with Japanese rider Takumi Takahashi to give Honda their fourth consecutive win in the event and 26th in its 36-year history.

It was another feather in Pata Honda's cap after Haslam's current SBK team-mate and fellow British rider Jonathan Rea was in the winning trio last year.

And there was a real blast from the past on the podium with the third-placed Suzuki outfit featuring former MotoGP world champion Kevin Schwantz. The popular Texan, who is now 49, won his world title 20 years ago in 1993.

SYKES SO HAPPY TO STAY WITH KAWASAKI

Tom Sykes will race the Ninja ZX-10R again in the 2014 eni FIM Superbike World Championship season after signing a contract to extend his time with Kawasaki into a fifth straight year.

The Englishman is out to regain his lead in the current championship at Silverstone after a technical problem ended his race in Moscow last time out, which saw him overtaken at the top by Sylvain Guintoli.

Sykes said: "For me, this is an awesome place to be. I have made my feelings quite clear to Kawasaki and all the individual team members and sponsors. I am really happy in my working environment and very relaxed. The deal has been done so early in the season, which is an absolute first."

MARCO MOVES UP ALL-TIME SBK LIST

Marco Melandri is already among the top 20 most successful World Superbike riders of all time after only two and a half seasons in the championship. His win in the rain at Moscow last time out was his 13th in the eni FIM Superbike World Championship, which puts him joint 17th with New Zealander Aaron Slight on the all-time list.

Melandri won four times for Yamaha in his debut season in 2011 and, after switching to BMW, won six times last season, while the Moscow win was his third of the current campaign.

Carl Fogarty heads the all-time list with 59 wins, ahead of Troy Bayliss (52) and Noriyuki Haga (43). Only three Italians have won more than Melandri: Max Biaggi (21), Pierfrancesco Chili (17) and Giancarlo Falappa (16). Only Spanish ace Carlos Checa (24) has more wins among current riders.

MAMOLA FOLLOWS DAD'S FOOTSTEPS

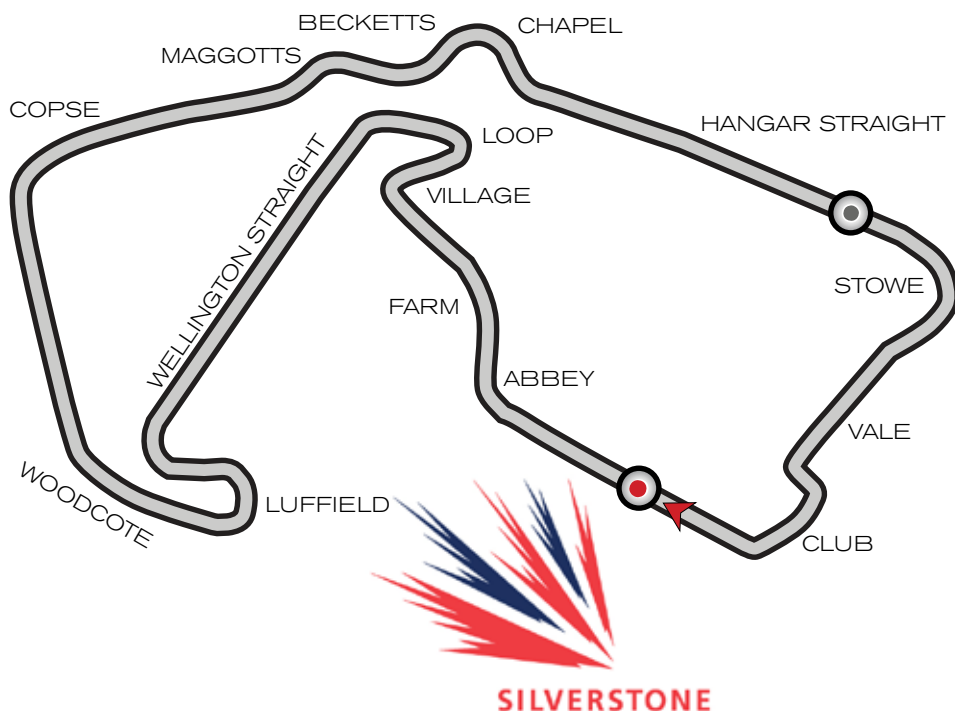
There was a familiar name on the podium in Moscow when Dakota Mamola won the Cup of Nations event. The Barcelona-based 17-year-old is son of American bike legend Randy Mamola, who had 13 career wins in the 500cc World Championship and is now among the instructors with the SBK official riding school.

The Cup of Nations is a three-race series, and Mamola Junior's win from pole position on the Yakhnich Motorsport Yamaha R6 took the Russian team into second place in the championship, one point behind leaders Italy and one ahead of third-placed nation Belgium.

The first race at Imola was won by Italian rider Tommaso Lorenzetti, and the championship will reach a climax with the third and final race at the Nürburgring in Germany in September.



CIRCUIT GUIDE: SILVERSTONE



CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

WORLD SUPERBIKE

1	Sylvain Guintoli	FRA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	239
2	Tom Sykes	GBR	Kawasaki ZX-10R	235
3	Marco Melandri	ITA	BMW S1000 RR	207
4	Eugene Laverty	IRL	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	190
5	Chaz Davies	GBR	BMW S1000 RR	174
6	Loris Baz	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	144
7	Jonathan Rea	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	138
8	Michel Fabrizio	ITA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	131
9	Davide Giugliano	ITA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	99
10	Leon Camier	GBR	Suzuki GSX-R1000	87
11	Jules Cluzel	FRA	Suzuki GSX-R1000	83
12	Ayrton Badovini	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	75
13	Max Neukirchner	GER	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	69
14	Carlos Checa	ESP	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	59
15	Leon Haslam	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	42

WORLD SUPERSPORT

1	Sam Lowes	GBR	Yamaha YZF R6	140
2	Kenan Sofuoglu	TUR	Kawasaki ZX-6R	106
3	Fabien Foret	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-6R	85
4	Michael van der Mark	NED	Honda CBR600RR	73
5	Lorenzo Zanetti	ITA	Honda CBR600RR	68

SUPERSTOCK 1000

1	Sylvain Barrier	FRA	BMW S1000 RR HP4	95
2	Niccolò Canepa	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	83
3	Jeremy Guarnoni	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	70
4	Eddi La Marra	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	69
5	Leandro Mercado	ARG	Kawasaki ZX-10R	60

LAST TIME



MARCO WINS IN WET

Marco Melandri took his third eni FIM Superbike World Championship win of the season in an incident-packed race in Moscow. A pit-stop for new tyres in heavy rain saw the Italian close the gap on race leader and BMW Motorrad Goldbet team-mate Chaz Davies, who he eventually passed to win by more than seven seconds. Davies had to settle for second place to complete a one-two for the BMW S1000 RRs, while Ayrton Badovini of Team Ducati Alstare brought the 1199 Panigale R home for a long-awaited first podium.

Melandri's win saw him leapfrog Eugene Laverty to take third place in the standings, while ahead of him Sylvain Guintoli regained the championship lead from Tom Sykes. Guintoli put in a heroic performance by finishing sixth after remounting his Aprilia RSV4 after a fall early in the race which saw him suffer a dislocated collarbone. Sykes failed to score after his Kawasaki ZX-10R caught fire after completing only three laps.

Race 2 was cancelled after the death of Andrea Antonelli in the FIM Supersport World Championship race.

MOSCOW 21.07.13

RACE ONE (25 laps)

1	Marco Melandri	BMW	46'03.043
2	Chaz Davies	BMW	@7.441
3	Ayrton Badovini	Ducati	@12.754
4	Jonathan Rea	Honda	@21.317
5	Michel Fabrizio	Aprilia	@47.456
6	Sylvain Guintoli	Aprilia	@1'00.999
7	Max Neukirchner	Ducati	@1'04.762
8	Loris Baz	Kawasaki	@1'04.947
9	Leon Camier	Suzuki	@1'09.140
10	Jules Cluzel	Suzuki	@1 lap
11	Federico Sandi	Kawasaki	@1 lap
Ret	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia	@10 laps
Ret	Leon Haslam	Honda	@10 laps
Ret	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki	@22 laps
Ret	Davide Giugliano	Aprilia	@24 laps
Ret	Lorenzo Savadori	Kawasaki	
Ret	Vittorio Iannuzzo	BMW	
Ret	Carlos Checa	Ducati	