

01 QATAR LOSAIL

20/03/2011



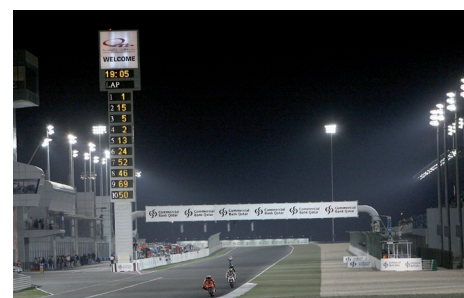
AS DARKNESS TURNS TO LIGHT

Now established as the floodlit curtain-raiser for the MotoGP season, Qatar's Losail International Circuit again heralds a return to action on 20 March for motorcycle racing's top category and for Bridgestone who return as the Official Tyre Supplier to the premier class for the third year.

The Qatar Grand Prix, the season's only night race, presents unique and unusual challenges for Bridgestone's tyres. Night-time

temperatures are relatively cool at around 25 degrees, meaning that softer tyre compounds are required to generate good grip and feeling for the riders, however tyre wear is relatively high because of the nature of the tarmac. Being located in the desert outside Qatar's capital Doha, sand blown onto the circuit makes it very abrasive, demanding harder tyre compounds in order to provide sufficient durability.

Bridgestone's approach to these challenges



remains unchanged from last year when tyre performance and rider feedback was good. This means the medium and extra hard compound slick tyres have been selected alongside the medium and hard rear slicks to provide a balance of cool-weather performance and good wear resistance.

Qatar is a unique challenge: night-time temperatures are relatively cool which makes the circuit slippery but tyre wear is high because of the abrasive sand on the tarmac

EVENT SCHEDULE LOCAL TIME

THURSDAY	
18:00-18:40	125cc Free Practice 1
18:55-19:40	Moto2 Free Practice 1
19:55-20:40	MotoGP Free Practice 1
20:55-21:35	125cc Free Practice 2
21:50-22:35	Moto2 Free Practice 2
FRIDAY	
18:00-18:45	MotoGP Free Practice 2
19:00-19:40	125cc Free Practice 3
19:55-20:40	Moto2 Free Practice 3
22:55-21:40	MotoGP Free Practice 3
SATURDAY	
18:00-18:40	125cc Qualifying Practice
18:55-19:40	Moto2 Qualifying Practice
19:55-20:55	MotoGP Qualifying Practice
21:20-21:40	125cc Warm Up
21:55-22:15	Moto2 Warm Up
SUNDAY	
18:00-18:20	MotoGP Warm Up
19:00	125cc Race (18 laps)
20:15	Moto2 Race (20 laps)
22:00	MotoGP Race (22 laps)

TYRE SEVERITY RATING

MILD SEVERE

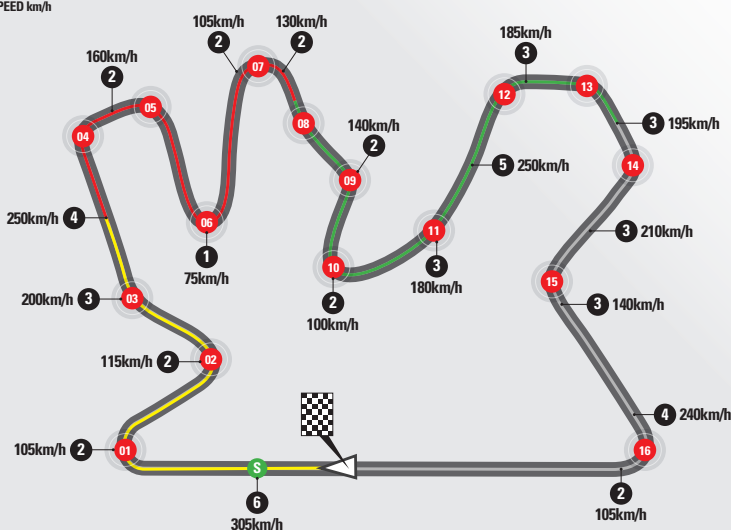


FRONT : MEDIUM / EXTRA HARD



REAR : MEDIUM / HARD

- S : SPEED TRAP
- 1 : CORNER NUMBER
- 1 : GEAR SELECTION / SPEED km/h
- SECTOR 1
- SECTOR 2
- SECTOR 3



CIRCUIT RECORDS

Pole position	1m 53.927s (170.003Km/h)
	Jorge Lorenzo (Yamaha, 2008)
Fastest lap	1m 55.153s (168.193Km/h)
	Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2008)
Race time	42m 36.587s (166.665Km/h)
	Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2008)
2010 Winner	Valentino Rossi (Yamaha)

CIRCUIT INFORMATION

First race	2004
No. of GPs held	7
Laps	22 (MotoGP) 20 (Moto2) 18 (125cc)
Track length	5.380km / 3.343 miles (Width 12m)
Race distance	118.360 km / 73.546 miles (22 Laps)
Longest straight	1,068m / 0.664 miles
Corners	16 (10 right, 6 left)

TYRE TALK HIROHIDE HAMASHIMA DIRECTOR, BRIDGESTONE MOTORSPORT TYRE DEVELOPMENT

The Qatar GP is a totally different challenge for us because it is the only race of the year to be run at night and in the desert. By the time the bikes are on track under the spotlights, the track temperature is around the lowest of the year in dry conditions but the desert sand often blows across the circuit. The sand is not like you'd find on a beach but more closely resembles a powder which makes the surface slippery yet very abrasive which is a difficult situation to deal with. It is very tough for our tyres as they have to be soft enough to provide grip with the low track temperature but hard enough to resist wear and graining and have sufficient

strength to cope with the heavy braking points.

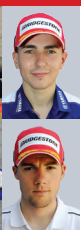
This is the reason that we have selected the medium and extra hard compound front slick tyres for Losail instead of the usual consecutive pair of compounds. The medium compound gives good grip in the cool conditions when the track is clean, but when the track gets sandy the additional hardness of the extra hard compound provides the necessary durability and wear resistance to consistently cover race distance without graining.

TEAMS AND RIDERS

TEAMS AND RIDERS ORDER BASED ON 2010 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP POSITION. *MOST RECENT PERFORMANCE LISTED.

YAMAHA FACTORY RACING

MACHINE: Yamaha YZR-M1
WEB: www.yamaha-racing.com



Jorge Lorenzo Bike number 1

Age: 23 DOB: 4/5/1987 Nationality: Spanish
GP Debut: QAT08 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 52 (MotoGP)
Wins: 14 Poles: 16 Fastest laps: 9 Podiums: 34 Points: 834
Best championship position: 1st (2010)

Ben Spies Bike number 11

Age: 26 DOB: 11/7/1984 Nationality: American
GP Debut: GBR08 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 21 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 1 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 2 Points: 205
Best championship position: 6th (2010)

REPSOL HONDA TEAM

MACHINE: Honda RC212V
WEB: www.hondapracing.com



Dani Pedrosa Bike number 26

Age: 25 DOB: 29/9/1985 Nationality: Spanish
GP Debut: SPA06 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 84 (MotoGP)
Wins: 12 Poles: 17 Fastest laps: 22 Podiums: 47 Points: 1185
Best championship position: 2nd (2010*)

Andrea Dovizioso Bike number 4

Age: 24 DOB: 23/3/1986 Nationality: Italian
GP Debut: QAT08 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 53 (MotoGP)
Wins: 1 Poles: 1 Fastest laps: 1 Podiums: 9 Points: 540
Best championship position: 5th (2010*)

Casey Stoner Bike number 27

Age: 25 DOB: 16/10/1985 Nationality: Australian
GP Debut: SPA06 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 83 (MotoGP)
Wins: 23 Poles: 22 Fastest laps: 20 Podiums: 43 Points: 1211
Best championship position: 1st (2007)

DUCATI TEAM

MACHINE: Ducati Desmosedici GP11
WEB: www.ducati.com



Valentino Rossi Bike number 46

Age: 32 DOB: 16/2/1979 Nationality: Italian
GP Debut: RSA00 (500cc) GP Starts: 181 (MotoGP/500cc)
Wins: 79 Poles: 49 Fastest laps: 65 Podiums: 139 Points: 3317
Best championship position: 1st (x7, 2009*)

Nicky Hayden Bike number 69

Age: 29 DOB: 30/7/1981 Nationality: American
GP Debut: JPN03 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 134 (MotoGP)
Wins: 3 Poles: 5 Fastest laps: 6 Podiums: 27 Points: 1254
Best championship position: 1st (2006)

MONSTER YAMAHA TECH 3

MACHINE: Yamaha YZR-M1
WEB: www.teamtech3.fr



Colin Edwards Bike number 5

Age: 37 DOB: 27/2/1974 Nationality: American
GP Debut: JPN03 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 137 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 3 Fastest laps: 3 Podiums: 11 Points: 1054
Best championship position: 4th (2005)

Cal Crutchlow Bike number 35

Age: 25 DOB: 29/10/1985 Nationality: British
GP Debut: QAT11 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 0 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 0
Best championship position: NA

SAN CARLO HONDA GRESINI

MACHINE: Honda RC212V
WEB: www.gresiniracing.com



Marco Simoncelli Bike number 58

Age: 24 DOB: 20/1/1987 Nationality: Italian
GP Debut: QAT10 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 18 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 125
Best championship position: 8th (2010)

Hiroshi Aoyama Bike number 7

Age: 29 DOB: 25/10/1981 Nationality: Japanese
GP Debut: QAT10 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 12 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 53
Best championship position: 15th (2010)

RIZLA SUZUKI MOTOGP

MACHINE: Suzuki GSV-R
WEB: www.rizla-suzuki-motogp.co.uk



Álvaro Bautista Bike number 19

Age: 26 DOB: 21/11/1984 Nationality: Spanish
GP Debut: QAT10 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 17 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 85
Best championship position: 13th (2010)

LCR HONDA MOTOGP

MACHINE: Honda RC212V
WEB: www.lcr.mc



Toni Elias Bike number 24

Age: 27 DOB: 26/03/1983 Nationality: Spanish
GP Debut: SPA05 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 79 (MotoGP)
Wins: 1 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 3 Podiums: 6 Points: 501
Best championship position: 7th (2009)

PRAMAC RACING TEAM

MACHINE: Ducati Desmosedici GP11
WEB: www.pramacracing.com



Loris Capirossi Bike number 65

Age: 37 DOB: 4/4/1973 Nationality: Italian
GP Debut: AUS95 (500cc) GP Starts: 204 (MotoGP/500cc)
Wins: 9 Poles: 13 Fastest laps: 10 Podiums: 42 Points: 1797
Best championship position: 3rd (2006*)

Randy de Puniet Bike number 14

Age: 30 DOB: 14/2/1981 Nationality: French
GP Debut: SPA06 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 87 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 2 Points: 428
Best championship position: 9th (2010)

TOP RESULTS ON BRIDGESTONE TYRES

RIDER	TITLES	WINS	2NDs	3RDs	PODIUMS	POLES
Valentino Rossi	2	17	12	10	39	10
Casey Stoner	1	23	8	11	42	21
Jorge Lorenzo	1	13	10	5	28	12
Dani Pedrosa	-	6	10	7	23	7
Loris Capirossi	-	6	7	4	17	5
Makoto Tamada	-	2	1	1	4	3
Chris Vermeulen	-	1	3	3	7	3
Andrea Dovizioso	-	1	3	4	8	1
Troy Bayliss	-	1	-	-	1	-
Marco Melandri	-	-	3	1	4	-
Toni Elias	-	-	2	3	5	-
John Hopkins	-	-	1	3	4	1
Ben Spies	-	-	1	1	2	1
Shinya Nakano	-	-	1	1	2	-
Randy de Puniet	-	-	1	1	2	-
Kenny Roberts Jr	-	-	1	-	1	1
Alex de Angelis	-	-	1	-	1	-
Colin Edwards	-	-	1	-	1	-
Oliver Jacque	-	-	1	-	1	-
Nicky Hayden	-	-	-	2	2	-
Carlos Checa	-	-	-	2	2	-
Alex Barros	-	-	-	1	1	-
Jeremy McWilliams	-	-	-	-	0	1
Sete Gibernau	-	-	-	-	0	1
TOTAL	4	70	67	60	197	67

CURRENT RIDERS IN BLACK

MAPFRE ASPAR TEAM

MACHINE: Ducati Desmosedici GP11
WEB: www.teamaspar.net



Héctor Barberá Bike number 8

Age: 24 DOB: 2/11/1986 Nationality: Spanish
GP Debut: QAT10 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 18 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 90
Best championship position: 20th (2010)

CARDION AB MOTORACING

MACHINE: Ducati Desmosedici GP11
WEB: www.karelalabraham.com


































Karel Abraham Bike number 17

Age: 21 DOB: 02/01/1990 Nationality: Czech
GP Debut: QAT11 (MotoGP) GP Starts: 0 (MotoGP)
Wins: 0 Poles: 0 Fastest laps: 0 Podiums: 0 Points: 0
Best championship position: NA

BRIDGESTONE FACT

The 2011 edition of the Qatar Grand Prix will mark the 200th podium finish on Bridgestone tyres in the premier class of the FIM Motorcycle Road Racing World Championship.



AVAILABLE TYRE COMPOUNDS:	 Soft	Losail	Jerez	Motegi	Estoril	Le Mans	Catalunya	Silverstone	Assen	Mugello	Sachsenring	Laguna Seca	Brno	Indianapolis	Misano	Motorland Aragon	Phillip Island	Sepang	Valencia	
	 Medium	QAT	SPA	JPN	POR	FRA	CAT	GBR	HOL	ITA	GER	USA	CZE	IND	RSM	ARA	AUS	MAL	VAL	
	 Hard	 20/03/11	 03/04/11	 24/04/11	 01/05/11	 15/05/11	 05/06/11	 12/06/11	 25/06/11	 03/07/11	 17/07/11	 24/07/11	 14/08/11	 28/08/11	 04/09/11	 18/09/11	 16/10/11	 23/10/11	 06/11/11	
	 Extra Hard																			
 Wet																				
ALLOCATED - FRONT TYRES		 Medium  Ex. Hard	 Medium  Hard																	
ALLOCATED - REAR TYRES		 Medium  Hard	 Soft  Medium																	
RACE WEATHER CONDITIONS																				
RACE TRACK CONDITIONS																				
POSITION - RIDER	TOTAL WINS PODIUM	PTS	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1 Jorge Lorenzo (11)	W - PD -	-																		
2 Dani Pedrosa (26)	W - PD -	-																		
3 Valentino Rossi (46)	W - PD -	-																		
4 Casey Stoner (27)	W - PD -	-																		
5 Andrea Dovizioso (4)	W - PD -	-																		
6 Ben Spies (11)	W - PD -	-																		
7 Nicky Hayden (69)	W - PD -	-																		
8 Marco Simoncelli (58)	W - PD -	-																		
9 Randy De Puniet (14)	W - PD -	-																		
10 Colin Edwards (5)	W - PD -	-																		
11 Hector Barbera (8)	W - PD -	-																		
12 Alvaro Bautista (19)	W - PD -	-																		
13 Hiroshi Aoyama (7)	W - PD -	-																		
14 Loris Capirossi (65)	W - PD -	-																		
15 Toni Elias (24)	W - PD -	-																		
16 Cal Crutchlow (35)	W - PD -	-																		
17 Karel Abraham (17)	W - PD -	-																		

RACE KEY: A: Reason retired B: Final race position C: Grid position D: Championship points F: Front tyre choice at start R: Rear tyre choice at start ●●: Tyre changes AC: Accident DQ: Disqualified RT: Retired DNS: Did not start

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP

[1. Yamaha - 0] [2. Honda - 0] [3. Ducati - 0] [4. Suzuki - 0]

TEAMS' CHAMPIONSHIP

[1. Yamaha Factory team - 0] [2. Repsol Honda Team - 0] [3. Ducati Team - 0] [4. Monster Yamaha Tech 3 - 0] [5. San Carlo Honda Gresini - 0] [6. Rizla Suzuki MotoGP - 0] [7. LCR Honda MotoGP - 0] [8. Pramac Racing - 0] [9. Aspar team - 0] [10. Cardion AB Motoracing - 0]

RESULTS ON BRIDGESTONE TYRES BY SEASON

YEAR	TEAM AND RIDERS	RACES	CHAMPIONSHIP	TEAMS	WINS	POLES	PODIUMS
2002	2 Teams - 3 Riders	16	12th (Aoki)	7th (Proton)	0 (best 5th)	1	0
2003	2 Teams - 3 Riders	16	11th (Tamada)	9th (Pramac)	0 (best 3rd)	0	1
2004	3 Teams - 5 Riders	16	6th (Tamada)	3rd (Camel)	2	4	4
2005	3 Teams - 7 Riders	17	6th (Capirossi)	4th (Ducati)	2	3	8
2006	3 Teams - 8 Riders	17	3rd (Capirossi)	3rd (Ducati)	4	6	11
2007	5 Teams - 12 Riders	18	1st (Stoner)	1st (Ducati)	12	6	33
2008	7 Teams - 13 Riders	18	1st (Rossi)	1st (Yamaha)	15	12	35
2009	12 Teams - 22 Riders	17	1st (Rossi)	1st (Yamaha)	17	17	51
2010	10 Teams - 22 Riders	18	1st (Lorenzo)	1st (Yamaha)	18	18	54
2011	10 Teams - 17 Riders	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		153	4	4	70	67	197

ROSSI BECOMES TYRE DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR FOR BRIDGESTONE CONSUMER TYRES

Valentino Rossi, six-time MotoGP world champion, has agreed to become a Motorcycle Tyre Development Adviser for Bridgestone after a Marketing Service Agreement was signed between Rossi and Bridgestone Europe in early 2011.

Under the agreement, Valentino Rossi and Bridgestone will work together in the consumer tyre segment to promote the passion of motorcycling to end users and enthusiasts throughout Europe. Rossi will act alone as a professional rider; his MotoGP team and

sponsors are not involved in the deal.

Rossi's role will include his evaluation and opinions as an Adviser on the performance of Bridgestone motorcycle tyres, particularly in the hyper sport, racing and sport touring sectors. Bridgestone in turn will use his input in tyre development to deliver road tyres with better performance and improved safety margins.

"Valentino Rossi is a great ambassador for our company" says Takashi Tomioka, SVP Sales & Marketing, Bridgestone Europe. "By having advice and recommendations of the greatest

motorcycle competitor of all times, we will ensure that we bring the best new Battlax tyres to the market".



BRIDGESTONE FACT

Casey Stoner and the Ducati Team took the first win on Bridgestone tyres at Losail in 2007. In his Championship year, which brought the first title on Bridgestone tyres, he scored a further nine victories.

LAST YEAR'S RACE

FASTEST RACE LAP

Casey Stoner, Ducati - Lap 5 - Time: 1m 55.537s - Average speed: 167.634 km/h

2010 QUALIFYING TIMES						2010 RACE RESULTS					
	RIDER	TEAM	TOP KM/H	TIME	GAP		RIDER	TEAM	TIME	TOP KM/H	GAP
1	Casey Stoner	Ducati Team	329.1	1m55.007s	--	1	Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	42m50.099s	165.789	--
2	Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	319.4	1m55.362s	+0.355s	2	Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	42m51.121s	165.723	+1.022s
3	Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	320.5	1m55.520s	+0.513s	3	Andrea Dovizioso	Repsol Honda Team	42m51.964s	165.669	+1.865s
4	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	319.2	1m55.831s	+0.824s	4	Nicky Hayden	Ducati Team	42m51.975s	165.668	+1.876s
5	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	321.6	1m55.899s	+0.892s	5	Ben Spies	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	42m54.002s	165.538	+3.903s
6	Andrea Dovizioso	Repsol Honda Team	325.8	1m55.963s	+0.956s	6	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	42m59.421s	165.190	+9.322s
7	Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda Team	323.0	1m55.990s	+0.983s	7	Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda Tea	43m06.607s	164.731	+16.508s
8	Colin Edwards	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	318.7	1m56.005s	+0.998s	8	Colin Edwards	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	43m09.966s	164.517	+19.867s
9	Nicky Hayden	Ducati Team	322.2	1m56.163s	+1.156s	9	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	43m10.992s	164.452	+20.893s
10	Hiroshi Aoyama	Interwetten Honda MotoGP	323.7	1m56.227s	+1.220s	10	Hiroshi Aoyama	Interwetten Honda MotoGP	43m11.199s	164.439	+21.100s
11	Ben Spies	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	318.0	1m56.271s	+1.264s	11	Marco Simoncelli	San Carlo Honda Gresini	43m21.737s	163.773	+31.638s
12	Mika Kallio	Pramac Racing Team	328.5	1m56.283s	+1.276s	12	Hector Barbera	Paginas Amarillas Aspar	43m22.672s	163.714	+32.573s
13	Alvaro Bautista	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	319.5	1m56.450s	+1.443s	13	Marco Melandri	San Carlo Honda Gresini	43m30.879s	163.200	+40.780s
14	Aleix Espargaro	Pramac Racing Team	321.5	1m56.652s	+1.645s	NC	Alvaro Bautista	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	41m25.290s	163.654	+1 lap
15	Marco Simoncelli	San Carlo Honda Gresini	320.7	1m56.957s	+1.950s	NC	Aleix Espargaro	Pramac Racing Team	13m53.062s	162.744	+15 laps
16	Hector Barbera	Paginas Amarillas Aspar	326.6	1m57.130s	+2.123s	NC	Casey Stoner	Ducati Team	9m48.964s	164.424	+17 laps
17	Marco Melandri	San Carlo Honda Gresini	321.8	1m57.325s	+2.318s	NC	Mika Kallio	Pramac Racing Team	4m08.133s	156.109	+20 laps

BRIDGESTONE MOTORSPORT ROUND-UP

IndyCar Once again in 2011 Bridgestone, through its Firestone brand, is supplying tyres to the IZOD IndyCar Series and Firestone Indy Lights. The first race of the season is the Honda Grand Prix of St Petersburg in Florida on Sunday 27 March.



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