

2013 AT A GLANCE

-  **1** PHILLIP ISLAND
AUSTRALIA
FEBRUARY 24

-  **2** MOTORLAND ARAGÓN
ARAGÓN
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
SPAIN
OCTOBER 20

-  **15** BUDDH INTERNATIONAL
INDIA
NOVEMBER 17



APRILIA DETERMINED TO KEEP ON PUSHING

Aprilia sporting director Gigi Dall'Igna insists the Italian marque will not be resting on their laurels as they look to continue their stunning start to the eni FIM Superbike World Championship season.

Aprilia, who won the 2012 championship with now-retired Italian veteran Max Biaggi, made a dream start to the 2013 campaign when they won both races at Phillip Island in Australia. Eugene Laverty and Sylvain Guintoli shared the victories between them, while Michel Fabrizio secured a podium on the satellite Red Devils Roma machine.

Rivals will now be desperate to ensure the championship battle will not be exclusively fought out between Irishman Laverty and his French team-mate, in a repeat of the dominance enjoyed by Biaggi when he won the 2010 title.

But Dall'Igna believes the team are well-placed to continue their fine start to the year, especially after a successful test at this weekend's venue, Motorland

Aragón. "We certainly got off on the right foot at Phillip Island with results that provide us with confirmation of the good job we did over the winter break," he said. "However, in the racing world, if you snooze you lose, especially if you base everything on a single, albeit excellent, result"

"We are fully aware that not every weekend will be like the one in Australia, so we will keep working on the RSV4 and testing new solutions that will allow us to gain precious tenths of a second," he added. "These tests are also important for the riders. A long break between the first and second round could lead to a drop in tension."

"I must say that Eugene and Sylvain are two great professionals. They are very skilled at enhancing and developing the work done by our engineers and mechanics. The work done at Aragón is an excellent calling card for the rest of the season."

Kawasaki's Tom Sykes, who came so close to securing championship glory last season, is the top non-Aprilia in the standings, and managed to set the quickest time in testing at Aragón.

The Briton feels he is almost back to full fitness after his pre-season crash in Australia. He said: "I think that my wrist is about 80 per cent and my ribs are 98 per cent back to normal, so that was good. I was able to ride the bike again without too many limitations."

SUPERSPORT 
FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Michael van der Mark hopes to continue his encouraging start to life in the FIM Supersport World Championship. The Dutch rider, last year's Superstock 600 UEM champion, was third on his debut with the Pata Honda team in Australia, and enjoyed a productive test at Aragón. He said: "We tried a lot of different things at the Aragón test, and we were happy with the race pace that we found in simulations. I know the areas where I need to improve."



SUPERSTOCK 1000 
FIM CUP

Sylvain Barrier is out to defend his FIM Superstock 1000 title when the 2013 season begins this weekend. Barrier and his BMW Motorrad Italia team were the class of the field in 2012, the Frenchman claiming four wins. With South African Greg Gildenhuys newly installed as his team-mate, Barrier is expected to be at the front again, with 2012 rival Eddi La Marra and Niccolo Canepa likely to challenge on the Barni Racing Ducatis.



SUPERSTOCK 600 
UEM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

EAB Ten Kate Honda rider Bastian Chesaux has declared himself ready for the start of the Superstock 600 UEM European Championship at Motorland Aragón. The Swiss rider enjoyed a fine campaign last season, and now hopes he can build on an encouraging test programme. He said: "I enjoyed the test a lot. Our goal was to be ready for the first race, and now we are. We are happy and confident to fight for the podium."



AITCHISON IS BACK WITH EFFENBERT

Australian Mark Aitchison will return to the eni FIM Superbike World Championship with the Effenbert Liberty Team. Aitchison had been due to race in the British Championship with the Splitlath Redmond Aprilia team, but their late withdrawal left him without a ride.

Effenbert had a tumultuous 2012 season, which ranged from a race win to disputes with their riders, but after missing the opening round in Australia, they are back this weekend at Motorland Aragón, with Aitchison aboard their Ducati.

Aitchison admits a lack of testing on the 1098R means they are likely to endure a tough weekend. He said: "We know that it will not be easy coming in late. We have not had testing and development time, so it's fair to say we have planned to use the first few rounds to accustom myself with the bike."

YOUNGSTERS TO SHOW OFF TALENT

It will be a truly international affair when the 2013 European Junior Cup kicks off at Motorland Aragón this week. A full grid of 36 youngsters from 18 different countries will be keen to impress and show off their talent.

Riders from as far afield as Indonesia, USA, Australia, New Zealand and throughout Europe will battle it out over eight rounds as Honda back the championship in 2013 and use it to showcase their new CBR500RR machine.

Series director Gerry Bryce said: "It's a real privilege for us to welcome so many talented young riders from all over the world. 34 riders, including several national champions, will line up to race on the fantastic new Honda CBR500R. I'm sure the EJC will again provide some of the weekend's most spectacular racing."

DORNA SEAL NEW AUSTRALIAN DEAL

The eni FIM Superbike World Championship is to stay at Phillip Island in Australia for a further three years. The opening round of this year's championship, which attracted 61,500 spectators in February, saw an announcement that the current agreement will be extended from 2015 to 2017.

Ken Smith, Speaker of the Victorian Government, said: "The Government recognises the importance of the World Superbikes as part of Victoria's regional major events calendar, and I am thrilled to announce another three years."

Javier Alonso, Managing Director of Dorna Group, the global rights holder of the championship, said: "Phillip Island is a special place, a unique track in a unique location. The island always delivers intense competition, with its long straight and fast flowing turns. It's a great test for riders."

GYORFI STAYS ON HONDA – FOR NOW

Alen Gyorfi and his H Moto team are to stick with Honda machinery for the first two rounds of the FIM Superstock 1000 Cup. The Hungarian rider has campaigned on a Honda in the STK1000 class for the past couple of seasons, and was due to race on a BMW in all of this year's races.

But bad weather in eastern Europe meant their planned 2,000km of testing on the BMW was wiped out, forcing them to use the Honda again in the first two rounds, at Aragón and Assen.

The team now plans to introduce the BMW in the third round at Monza, and Gyorfi said: "I know the BMW is a good bike, and I think we will have a good season. Now I am waiting to test the new bike, to understand how it differs from the Honda, and then, of course, to push in the races for some good results."

CHAZ RELISHES HIS PART IN THE BIG TIME

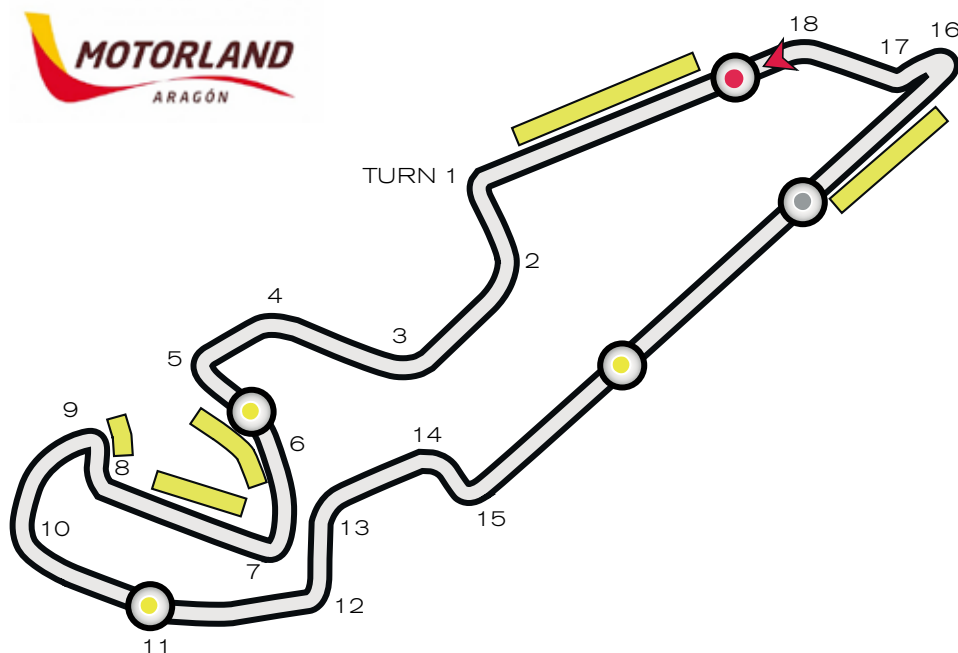
Chaz Davies is revelling in being part of a factory team for the first time after joining the BMW Motorrad GoldBet outfit for the 2013 eni FIM Superbike World Championship campaign.

"It's actually even more than I expected, especially away from the racetrack," said the 26-year-old Welshman. "I was in Germany for some BMW Motorrad dealer conferences, and I was really impressed. I feel part of a big family but at the same time of a close team. Everybody gets along very well. It's like a family team under a big organisation."

Davies finished an impressive fourth in his first race on the S1000RR at Phillip Island, before falling foul of pit-stop regulations in the second. He added: "No doubt I'm still improving, but also the time when you can smell a victory brings out the best in everybody."



CIRCUIT GUIDE: MOTORLAND ARAGÓN



LAST TIME

PHILLIP ISLAND 24.02.13

RACE ONE

1	Sylvain Guintoli	Aprilia	33'47.109
2	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia	@1.352
3	Michel Fabrizio	Aprilia	@1.359
4	Chaz Davies	BMW	@5.702
5	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki	@5.753
6	Loris Baz	Kawasaki	@6.769
7	Leon Haslam	Honda	@6.830
8	Jonathan Rea	Honda	@17.944
9	Leon Camier	Suzuki	@19.152
10	Max Neukirchner	Ducati	@26.557
11	Jules Cluzel	Suzuki	@30.305
12	Ivan Clementi	BMW	@30.411
13	Alexander Lundh	Kawasaki	@45.185
14	Glen Allerton	BMW	@48.632
15	Jamie Stauffer	Honda	@53.453
16	Federico Sandi	Kawasaki	@1'22.730
17	Vittorio Iannuzzo	BMW	@4 laps
Ret	Carlos Checa	Ducati	@10 laps
Ret	Marco Melandri	BMW	@10 laps
Ret	Davide Giugliano	Aprilia	@20 laps

RACE TWO

1	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia	33'45.938
2	Sylvain Guintoli	Aprilia	@0.418
3	Marco Melandri	BMW	@1.382
4	Michel Fabrizio	Aprilia	@2.282
5	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki	@11.545
6	Davide Giugliano	Aprilia	@12.508
7	Jules Cluzel	Suzuki	@17.330
8	Jonathan Rea	Honda	@17.339
9	Leon Camier	Suzuki	@19.886
10	Leon Haslam	Honda	@19.996
11	Max Neukirchner	Ducati	@27.629
12	Glen Allerton	BMW	@42.809
13	Jamie Stauffer	Honda	@42.893
14	Federico Sandi	Kawasaki	@44.899
15	Alexander Lundh	Kawasaki	@57.824
16	Vittorio Iannuzzo	BMW	@1'22.574
17	Chaz Davies	BMW	@2 laps
Ret	Ivan Clementi	BMW	@11 laps
Ret	Loris Baz	Kawasaki	

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

WORLD SUPERBIKE

1=	Eugene Laverty	IRE	Aprilia RSV4	45
1=	Sylvain Guintoli	FRA	Aprilia RSV4	45
3	Michel Fabrizio	ITA	Aprilia RSV4	29
4	Tom Sykes	GBR	Kawasaki ZX-10R	22
5=	Marco Melandri	ITA	BMW S1000 RR	16
5=	Jonathan Rea	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	16
7	Leon Haslam	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	15
8=	Jules Cluzel	FRA	Suzuki GSX-R1000	14
8=	Leon Camier	GBR	Suzuki GSX-R1000	14
10	Chaz Davies	GBR	BMW S1000 RR	13
11	Max Neukirchner	GER	Ducati Panigale 1199R	11
12=	Davide Giugliano	ITA	Aprilia RSV4	10
12=	Loris Baz	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	10
14	Glen Allerton	AUS	BMW S1000 RR	6

WORLD SUPERSPORT

1	Kenan Sofuoglu	TUR	Kawasaki ZX-6R	25
2	Sam Lowes	GBR	Yamaha YZF R6	20
3	Michael van der Mark	NED	Honda CBR600RR	16
4	Fabien Foret	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-6R	13
5	David Salom	ESP	Kawasaki ZX-6R	11

SUPERSTOCK 1000 – HOW THEY FINISHED 2012

1	Sylvain Barrier	FRA	BMW S1000 RR	153
2	Eddi La Marra	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale	130
3	Jeremy Guarnoni	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	123
4	Bryan Staring	AUS	Kawasaki ZX-10R	122
5	Lorenzo Savadori	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale	107