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Malaysia
25/10/2009


OFFICIAL MotoGP CLASS TYRE


Full circle in Sepang

The weekend after the Australian Grand Prix the MotoGP paddock is in action again in Malaysia at the Sepang circuit for the penultimate round of the World Championship. It was at this race last year that Bridgestone's appointment as Official Tyre Supplier was first announced.



The Malaysian Grand Prix has been run as the penultimate round for the last two years, but in both instances the World Championship title had already been decided. This time however the fight for the crown is still on as Valentino Rossi's lead is 38 points with a total of 50 still available from the next two races.

Sepang has the longest lap of any MotoGP circuit at 5.548km and is characterised by two long straights preceded by slow corners. Good

grip on corner exit is crucial from these to maximum speed along each straight.

The ambient temperature is generally the highest of any race on the calendar which brings its own challenges for riders and tyres alike. As the track temperature often reaches 50 degrees Celsius or higher, focus, concentration and rubber are all tested to the limit.

It was during the 2008 Malaysian Grand Prix that Bridgestone's appointment as the Official Tyre Supplier was first announced

The circuit features five left- and ten right-handers and the stresses are focused upon the front tyre rather than the rear. There are many areas of heavy braking from high speed which also load the front tyres, so harder compounds have been selected to cope with the pressure.

Bridgestone has a good record at Sepang in recent years. Loris Capirossi took victory in 2005 followed by Casey Stoner in 2007, both for the Ducati Team, and Valentino Rossi triumphed last year with Fiat Yamaha.

Tyre talk

Tohru Ubukata

Bridgestone Motorsport - Manager Motorcycle Race Tyre Development

“Sepang is a good challenge for our tyres because it is the longest circuit on the calendar and it is often the hottest with track temperatures over 50 degrees Celsius not uncommon. The last corners leading onto the two straights demand good shoulder grip from the rear tyres to maximise straight-line speed, and good braking performance is required at the end of each straight as riders decelerate from over 300 km/h to around just 80km/h. We can afford to choose softer compound rear tyres here to maximise shoulder grip because the loads throughout the lap are focused on the front tyre, which consequently needs to be harder.”



Malaysia - Sepang

Ⓢ : SPEED TRAP - GEAR SELECTION / SPEED km/h

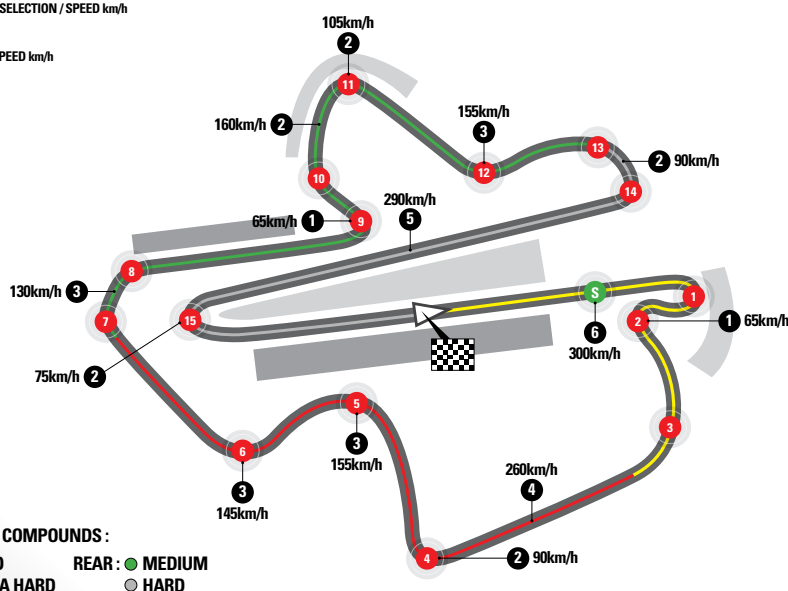
① : CORNER NUMBER

① : GEAR SELECTION / SPEED km/h

— : SECTOR 1

— : SECTOR 2

— : SECTOR 3



Where to watch...

Turn 3 : The wide track and long right-hand corners typical of Sepang mean long entry and exit phases at high lean angles – a tough test for the front tyres in particular.

Turn 14 : Another of the long right-handers that test the shoulder grip of the tyres. Rear traction is important here to maximise straight-line speed.

Event schedule Local time GMT +8

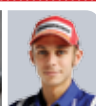
Friday	
12:40-13:40	125cc Free Practice 1
13:55-14:55	MotoGP Free Practice 1
15:10-16:10	250cc Free Practice 1
Saturday	
09:00-09:40	125cc Free Practice 2
09:55-10:55	MotoGP Free Practice 2
11:10-12:10	250cc Free Practice 2
13:00-13:40	125cc Qualifying Practice
13:55-14:55	MotoGP Qualifying Practice
15:10-15:55	250cc Qualifying Practice
Sunday	
09:40-10:00	125cc Warm Up
10:10-10:30	250cc Warm Up
10:40-11:00	MotoGP Warm Up
12:00	125cc Race (19 laps)
13:15	250cc Race (20 laps)
15:00	MotoGP Race (21 laps)

Circuit information		Records	
First race	1999	Pole position	2m 00.605s (165.605km/h)
No. of GPs held	10		Valentino Rossi (Yamaha, 2006)
Laps	21 (MotoGP), 20 (250cc), 19 (125cc)	Fastest lap	2m 02.108s (163.566km/h)
Track length	5.548 km / 3.447 miles (Width 25m)		Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2007)
Race distance	116.508 km / 72.387 miles	Race time	43m 04.405s (162.292km/h)
Longest straight	0.920 km / 0.572 miles		Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2007)
Corners	15 (5 left, 10 right)	2008 Winner	Valentino Rossi (Yamaha)

Teams and riders

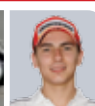
Fiat Yamaha Team

Machine: Yamaha YZR-M1 Web: www.yamaha-racing.com



Valentino Rossi
Age: 30 DOB: 16/2/1979
Nationality: Italian
MotoGP Wins: 77

46

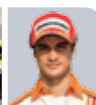


Jorge Lorenzo
Age: 22 DOB: 4/4/1987
Nationality: Spanish
MotoGP Wins: 5

99

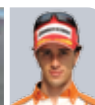
Repsol Honda Team

Machine: Honda RC212V Web: www.hondaracing-eu.com



Dani Pedrosa
Age: 24 DOB: 29/9/1985
Nationality: Spanish
MotoGP Wins: 7

3

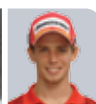


Andrea Dovizioso
Age: 23 DOB: 23/3/1986
Nationality: Italian
MotoGP Wins: 1

4

Ducati Team

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



Casey Stoner
Age: 24 DOB: 16/10/1985
Nationality: Australian
MotoGP Wins: 19

27

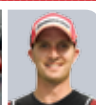


Nicky Hayden
Age: 28 DOB: 30/7/1981
Nationality: American
MotoGP Wins: 3

69

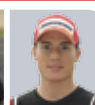
Monster Yamaha Tech 3

Machine: Yamaha YZR-M1 Web: www.teamtech3.fr



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

5

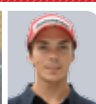


James Toseland
Age: 29 DOB: 5/10/1980
Nationality: British
MotoGP Wins: 0

52

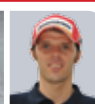
Rizla Suzuki MotoGP

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



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

7

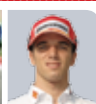


Loris Capirossi
Age: 36 DOB: 4/4/1973
Nationality: Italian
MotoGP Wins: 9

65

San Carlo Honda Gresini

Machine: Honda RC212V Web: www.gresiniracing.com



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

15

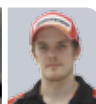


Toni Elias
Age: 26 DOB: 26/3/1983
Nationality: Spanish
MotoGP Wins: 1

24

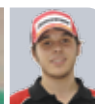
Pramac Racing

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



Mika Kallio
Age: 27 DOB: 8/10/1982
Nationality: Finnish
MotoGP Wins: 0

36

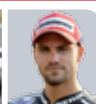


Niccolo Canepa
Age: 21 DOB: 14/5/1988
Nationality: Italian
MotoGP Wins: 0

88

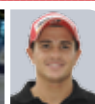
Scot Racing Team MotoGP

Machine: Honda RC212V
Web: www.scotracingteam.com



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

41

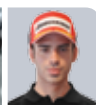


Randy De Puniet
Age: 28 DOB: 14/2/1981
Nationality: French
MotoGP Wins: 0

14

Hayate Racing Team

Machine: Kawasaki ZX-RR



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

33

Teams and riders order based on 2008 team championship position

Front tyre compound allocation

SELECTED TYRE COMPOUNDS : ○ HARD ● EXTRA HARD

Rider	Team	Hard	Extra Hard	Rider	Team	Hard	Extra Hard
Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	Four ○○○○	Four ●●●●
Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Alex De Angelis	San Carlo Gresini Honda	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Toni Elias	San Carlo Gresini Honda	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
Andrea Dovizioso	Repsol Honda	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Mika Kallio	Pramac Racing	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
Casey Stoner	Ducati Team	Four ○○○○	Four ●●●●	Niccolo Canepa	Pramac Racing	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
Nicky Hayden	Ducati Team	Four ○○○○	Four ●●●●	Gabor Talmacsi	Scot Racing Team MotoGP	Four ○○○○	Four ●●●●
Colin Edwards	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Marco Melandri	Hayate Racing Team	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
James Toseland	Monster Yamaha Tech 3	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	Five ○○○○○	Three ●●●
Chris Vermeulen	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	Four ○○○○	Four ●●●●				



Sepang seems to have been good to Italian riders – in the ten grands prix the circuit has hosted, an Italian rider has won seven times.

AVAILABLE TYRE COMPOUNDS:

- ☐ Soft
- ☒ Medium
- ☐ Hard
- ☐ Extra Hard

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Country	Year	Value
Germany	2010	1.0
Germany	2011	1.0
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Germany	2014	1.0
Germany	2015	1.0
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The Italian's job

Marco Melandri is a familiar face in the paddock, having ridden for Honda, Ducati and Kawasaki in the past three years. He has just two races left aboard the Hayate Racing Kawasaki before joining the San Carlo Gresini squad next year, marking his return to Honda. Crucially, he also has experience on Bridgestone tyres with all three manufacturers.

"Yeah being with Honda before will help going into next year, but I think actually it will be this year and last year that are very very important for me. For sure I will be so much more aware of what I have in my garage and my potential, and I am older and more mature now."

"I also know the tyres so maybe sometimes I know better how to set up the bike, but to explain about the tyres it is important to understand the package between the tyre and bike.

"We only have two types of slick tyre each weekend this year so it is the same for everyone and a little easier for the feeling, but actually this year has been hard for us because we haven't been able to develop the bike much on these tyres."



I like Malaysia, it's just a little bit too hot. After 15 laps it's getting too much!

"I hope to find a good bike at Honda next season and have fun riding it and be back on the podium more often. I'm looking forward to next year, but I have two races this year still that I want to do well at first.

"I had a podium in Malaysia in 2007 so I hope to be pretty good there this year. I like the Sepang circuit and I hope this bike is working good there. It's just a little bit too hot. After 15 laps it's getting too much!"

2002-2009
Bridgestone MotoGP
cumulative statistics

- 133 Grands Prix
- 2 World Championships
- 50 Victories
- 47 Pole Positions
- 137 Podiums (in 71 GPs)
- 135 Front Row Starts (in 77 GPs)
- 7042 Championship Points

**FACT**

Three riders have won on Bridgestone tyres at Sepang: Loris Capirossi and the Ducati Team in 2005, Casey Stoner and Ducati in 2007 and Valentino Rossi and Fiat Yamaha in 2008.





Seventy per cent of the 50 wins on Bridgestone tyres came during the years of tyre competition from 2004 to 2008

Bridgestone news

A little off-track competition

Bridgestone Motorsport's website, www.bridgestonemotorsport.com, runs regular competitions to win prizes that have come straight from the paddocks of the various series that Bridgestone supports. To see the latest competition prizes, check the competition section of the homepage. Past prizes have included signed knee sliders, boots from Alex de Angelis, gloves signed by Randy de Puniet, signed pit shirts and a Rubens Barrichello replica helmet.



Stoner marks Bridgestone's 50th

Casey Stoner's victory at the Australian GP was the 50th premier class win on Bridgestone tyres. "We were the ones who converted everyone to Bridgestone so to mark the 50th win is a nice feeling" said the Australian, who was the first rider to win a World Championship title on Bridgestone tyres in 2007. The first win came with Makoto Tamada at the 2004 Brazilian GP.



Bridgestone looks to the skies

Bridgestone Corporation has increased its production of EVA film which is a crucial component in the production of solar panels. The new production lines at the Seki City plant will produce a huge 1,200 tonnes of EVA film per month by the end of 2011. Through the supply of EVA film, Bridgestone is helping to make green energy more available in the world.



Last year's race : Sepang 2008

2008 FASTEST LAP Valentino Rossi, Yamaha
Lap 2 - Average speed: 163.378km/h - Time: 2m 02.249s

2008 Qualifying times						2008 Race results						Source : www.motogp.com	
Pos	Rider	Team	Time	Km/h	Gap	Pos	Rider	Team	Time	Km/h	Gap		
1	Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda Team	2m01.548s	306.818		1	Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	43m06.007s	162.191			
2	Valentino Rossi	Fiat Yamaha Team	2m01.957s	302.521	+0.409s	2	Dani Pedrosa	Repsol Honda Team	43m10.015s	161.940	+4.008s		
3	Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	2m02.171s	305.862	+0.623s	3	Andrea Dovizioso	JiR Team Scot MotoGP	43m14.543s	161.658	+8.536s		
4	Nicky Hayden	Repsol Honda Team	2m02.192s	304.654	+0.644s	4	Nicky Hayden	Repsol Honda Team	43m14.865s	161.638	+8.858s		
5	Colin Edwards	Tech 3 Yamaha	2m02.245s	300.584	+0.697s	5	Shinya Nakano	San Carlo Honda Gresini	43m16.590s	161.530	+10.583s		
6	Andrea Dovizioso	JiR Team Scot MotoGP	2m02.836s	295.162	+1.288s	6	Casey Stoner	Ducati Team	43m19.647s	161.340	+13.640s		
7	Casey Stoner	Ducati Team	2m02.953s	306.209	+1.405s	7	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	43m21.943s	161.198	+15.936s		
8	Loris Capirossi	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	2m03.078s	298.920	+1.530s	8	Colin Edwards	Tech 3 Yamaha	43m24.809s	161.020	+18.802s		
9	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	2m03.110s	295.485	+1.562s	9	Chris Vermeulen	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	43m29.181s	160.751	+23.174s		
10	John Hopkins	Kawasaki Racing Team	2m03.184s	303.285	+1.636s	10	Randy De Puniet	LCR Honda MotoGP	43m31.523s	160.606	+25.516s		
11	Chris Vermeulen	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	2m03.271s	297.193	+1.723s	11	John Hopkins	Kawasaki Racing Team	43m33.616s	160.478	+27.609s		
12	James Toseland	Tech 3 Yamaha	2m03.282s	299.833	+1.734s	12	Anthony West	Kawasaki Racing Team	43m47.406s	159.636	+41.399s		
13	Anthony West	Kawasaki Racing Team	2m03.392s	302.097	+1.844s	13	Sylvain Guintoli	Alice Team	43m51.624s	159.380	+45.617s		
14	Marco Melandri	Ducati Team	2m03.835s	303.541	+2.287s	14	Alex De Angelis	San Carlo Honda Gresini	43m55.010s	159.175	+49.003s		
15	Shinya Nakano	San Carlo Honda Gresini	2m04.001s	297.848	+2.453s	15	Toni Elias	Alice Team	44m05.146s	158.565	+59.139s		
16	Sylvain Guintoli	Alice Team	2m04.378s	306.035	+2.830s	16	Marco Melandri	Ducati Team	44m09.335s	158.314	+1m03.328s		
17	Alex De Angelis	San Carlo Honda Gresini	2m04.679s	296.703	+3.131s	17	Nobuatsu Aoki	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	44m54.370s	155.668	+1m48.363s		
18	Nobuatsu Aoki	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP	2m04.835s	299.750	+3.287s	NC	Jorge Lorenzo	Fiat Yamaha Team	25m38.557s		+9 Laps		
19	Toni Elias	Alice Team	2m05.120s	305.862	+3.572s	NC	James Toseland	Tech 3 Yamaha	4m19.122s		+19 Laps		

Bridgestone Motorsport Round-Up

F1 After finishing in fifth position in the Brazilian Grand Prix, the penultimate round of the season, Jenson Button has secured his first World Championship title and the first for the Brawn GP Team. With Sebastian Vettel and Rubens Barrichello separated by just two points, the battle for second position will come down to the final round in Abu Dhabi on 1 November.

GP2 The GP2 Asia Series starts soon with the first round in Abu Dhabi on Sunday 1 November. Running over the winter, the Bridgestone-supported younger brother of the GP2 Series consists of four rounds, two in Abu Dhabi and two in Bahrain.

INDYCAR Dario Franchitti won his second IndyCar Series Championship the hard way, winning the final race at Homestead-Miami Speedway to pass Scott Dixon for the title. The Target Chip Ganassi driver finished on 616 points with teammate Dixon just behind on 605 and Penske's Ryan Briscoe a very close third on 604.

BRIDGESTONE

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