

2012 AT A GLANCE

-  **1** **PHILLIP ISLAND**
AUSTRALIA
FEBRUARY 26
-  **2** **IMOLA**
ITALY
APRIL 1
-  **3** **ASSEN**
THE NETHERLANDS
APRIL 22
-  **4** **MONZA**
ITALY
MAY 6
-  **5** **DONINGTON**
EUROPE
MAY 13
-  **6** **MILLER MOTORSPORT**
UNITED STATES
MAY 28
-  **7** **MISANO**
SAN MARINO
JUNE 10
-  **8** **MOTORLAND ARAGON**
SPAIN
JULY 1
-  **9** **BRNO**
CZECH REPUBLIC
JULY 22
-  **10** **SILVERSTONE**
UNITED KINGDOM
AUGUST 5
-  **11** **MOSCOW RACEWAY**
RUSSIA
AUGUST 26
-  **12** **NÜRBURGRING**
GERMANY
SEPTEMBER 9
-  **13** **PORTIMÃO**
PORTUGAL
SEPTEMBER 23
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FRANCE
OCTOBER 7



LAVERTY IS BACK ON TRACK AFTER GLITCH

Aprilia's Eugene Laverty believes he can still secure a top-three finish in the eni FIM Superbike World Championship after he and his team finally solved the electronic issue which has "ruined" his season.

The Northern Irishman had been among the pre-season favourites when he was up with the pacesetters during testing, although a crash just before the season opener in Australia back in February left him nursing a broken hand that hindered his start to the year.

But even once fully fit, the former Yamaha rider found it difficult to get results as he struggled to get his Aprilia out of corners quickly.

And it took until a test after the Donington round of the championship in May to find that his RSV4's electronics had been cutting the engine's power due to a defect that made the system think his machine was constantly pulling wheelies.

With that solved, Laverty's results have improved markedly, and he narrowly missed out on a win in race two at Motorland Aragon in Spain last time out. Now the two-times Supersport runner-up has set his sights on getting back on top of the podium, starting at Brno in the Czech Republic this weekend.

He said: "I feel we got robbed of a championship challenge after Donington because we went from 30 points behind to 110, just like that. It ruined my season, that is the long and the short of it, and I am not best pleased.

"The engine has got to be the strongest area but as a whole the package is great, so to be restricted in that way, not to be able to use the engine power from the Aprilia, means I could not get out of the corner and overtake people.

"I was getting desperate trying to overtake, and it was like a yo-yo effect. They would go away and I would pull them back and I then knew there was a problem, because at this level you should be able to follow other riders wheel for wheel.

"I will still try for top three in the championship, but that is not my concern right now. I just want to win as many races as possible. With the bike we have, I reckon we can have a good shot at it. I want to win a lot of races."

infront

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SUPERSPORT
FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

British rider Sam Lowes heads to Brno confident he is firmly back in the FIM Supersport World Championship title hunt.

The Bogdanka PTR Honda rider took his second win of the season at Aragon last time out to close to within 16 points of series leader Kenan Sofuoglu. He said: "We're back in second overall, and I'm looking forward to fighting for more victories and the championship."



SUPERSTOCK 1000
FIM CUP

Barni Racing's Eddi La Marra can take over at the head of the FIM Superstock 1000 Cup at Brno this weekend.

The Italian, riding the new Ducati 1199 Panigale, which is being prepared for a move up to the Superbike class next year, lies just a point behind series leader Sylvain Barrier. "Once we found our pace at Aragon, we finished well and I was happy to have shortened the points gap," he said.



SUPERSTOCK 600
UEM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Ten Kate Honda's Bastien Chesaux hopes to be fully fit for the latest round of the UEM European Superstock 600 Championship.

The Swiss rider failed to finish at Aragon after an injection to alleviate pain from a broken bone in his wrist affected his fingers. He said: "It was impossible to race. Hopefully I will be fully fit at Brno."



POLITA STEPS IN AS CANEPA SITS IT OUT

Red Devils Roma rider Niccolò Canepa has been forced to sit out the Czech round of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship at Brno this weekend because he is suffering from Bell's palsy, a temporary paralysis of the face. His ride will be taken by Alex Polita, who already has World Superbike experience aboard the Ducati 1198R as a wildcard.

Canepa said: "I had a high fever at Aragon, which totally drained me in race two, and a few days later I had a paralysis from a viral attack. Unfortunately I cannot close my eyelid, and riding a bike in this condition would be dangerous. The doctors told me that in a few days the symptoms will vanish and everything will be back to normal, but for the moment I have to abandon any thoughts of going to Brno. I'm happy that Alex Polita will be on my bike, so best of luck to him."

BMW UNVEIL NEW 2013 STRUCTURE

BMW Motorrad have reinforced their commitment to the eni FIM Superbike World Championship after announcing a major re-organisation. The BMW Motorrad factory team for 2013 will see BMW Motorrad Italia take responsibility for the race and test team as well as for chassis development. BMW in Munich will be responsible for developing the power train and electronics.

Stephan Schaller, Head of BMW Motorrad, said: "The Superbike World Championship will continue to be the right platform for BMW Motorrad next year to demonstrate our expertise as a manufacturer of sports motorcycles in close proximity to customers. The new structure, with the focus on one racing team, is lean and efficient, the concept is targeted and logical. We are looking forward to being in a position to develop the existing structures in Munich and Milan."

MOSCOW TRACK READY FOR ACTION

Russia's first international motorcycle race took a step closer after last weekend's inaugural single-seater car event at the Moscow Raceway was hailed a success.

The eni FIM Superbike World Championship action will begin on Wednesday, August 22, with an extra test day to allow teams and riders to get to know the new track. First qualifying will be on Friday, August 24, with round 11 of the championship taking place on Sunday, August 26.

The Hermann Tilke-designed track, 80 kilometres north-west of the Russian capital, measures 3.931km in its bike layout, and features a 800m straight leading to the final corner. Surrounded by forests, the circuit accommodates up to 100,000 spectators, including 60,000 in grandstands which were sold out at the inaugural event.

TWO MORE ENTER SBK HALL OF FAME

Two more World Superbike legends were inducted into the SBK 25 Years Hall of Fame during the last round of the championship at Motorland Aragon.

Catalan rider Ruben Xaus was recognised for his contribution to promoting the championship in Spain after a long and distinguished career in Superbike and Supersport between 1997 and 2011. He is still involved in the sport as test rider and sporting director of Bimota's research and development department.

Honoured alongside Xaus was Lucio Pedercini, who has been an integral part of the SBK paddock since 1998. As both rider and manager of Team Pedercini, he competed in 176 races and gathered 350 points – always racing a Ducati – and was crowned Italian Superbike champion in 2001 and 2002.

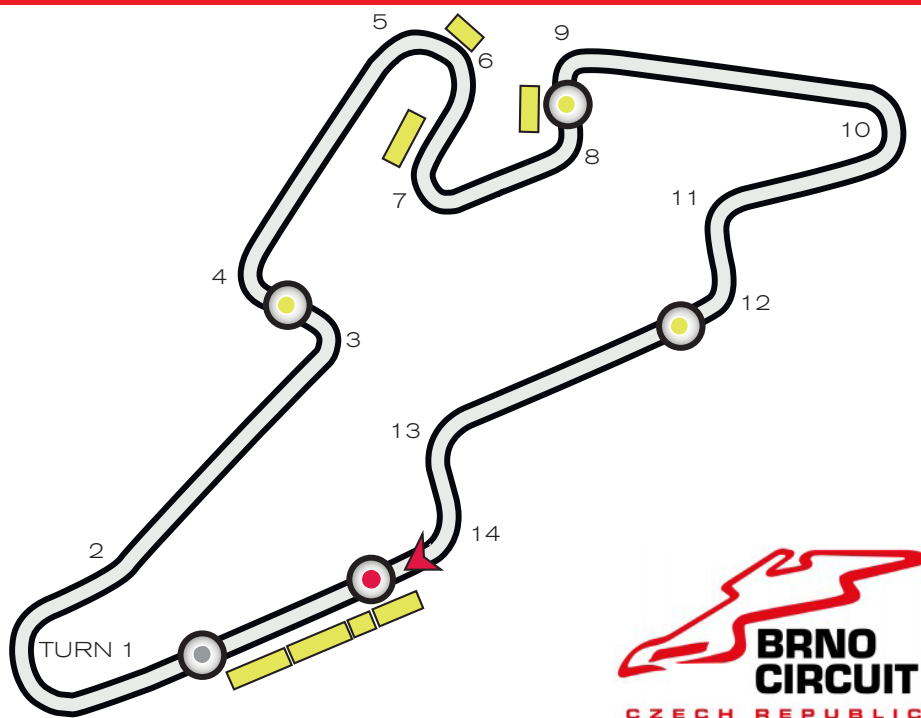
JAKUB FIT TO THRILL HOME FANS AT BRNO

Home favourite Jakub Smrz will shake off the bumps and bruises of his Aragon crash as he aims to give his fans something to cheer about at Brno this weekend.

The Czech racer suffered disappointment last time out as a heavy crash with Jonathan Rea's Honda at the first corner of race one saw him take a trip to the medical centre before being declared unfit to take part in the second race.

But the Liberty Racing Ducati rider is ready to take to the track, and the team are set to receive a further boost with Brett McCormick closing on a return to fitness. The Canadian fractured a vertebrae and injured his hand in a crash at Assen, but could be available for the Silverstone round in two weeks' time.



CIRCUIT GUIDE: BRNO

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS
WORLD SUPERBIKE

1	Max Biaggi	ITA	Aprilia	248.5
2	Marco Melandri	ITA	BMW	200.5
3	Jonathan Rea	GBR	Honda	183
4	Carlos Checa	ESP	Ducati	175.5
5	Tom Sykes	GBR	Kawasaki	172.5
6	Leon Haslam	GBR	BMW	142
7	Eugene Laverty	IRE	Aprilia	126
8	Sylvain Guintoli	FRA	Ducati	110
9	Davide Giugliano	ITA	Ducati	94
10	Chaz Davies	GBR	Aprilia	78
11	Jakub Smrz	CZE	Ducati	75.5
12	Michel Fabrizio	ITA	BMW	73
13	Ayrton Badovini	ITA	BMW	57
14	Leon Camier	GBR	Suzuki	56.5
15	Maxime Berger	FRA	Ducati	48.5

WORLD SUPERSPORT

1	Kenan Sofuoglu	TUR	Kawasaki	117
2	Sam Lowes	GBR	Honda	101
3	Jules Cluzel	FRA	Honda	84
4	Fabien Foret	FRA	Kawasaki	83
5	Broc Parkes	AUS	Honda	66

SUPERSTOCK 1000

1	Sylvain Barrier	FRA	BMW	75
2	Eddi La Marra	ITA	Ducati	74
3	Lorenzo Savadori	ITA	Ducati	67
4	Lorenzo Baroni	ITA	BMW	56
5	Markus Reiterberger	GER	BMW	52

LAST TIME
MOTORLAND ARAGON 01.07.12
RACE ONE

1	M Biaggi	Aprilia Racing	39'51.188
2	M Melandri	BMW Motorrad	@0.278
3	C Checa	Althea Racing	@9.462
4	C Davies	ParkinGO MTC	@10.827
5	E Laverty	Aprilia Racing	@15.708
6	M Fabrizio	BMW Motorrad Italia	@27.597
7	L Haslam	BMW Motorrad	@29.032
8	D Giugliano	Althea Racing	@39.374
9	L Camier	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@40.887
10	M Berger	Effenbert Liberty	@41.440
11	N Canepa	Red Devils Roma	@42.056
12	S Guintoli	Effenbert Liberty	@42.369
13	L Zanetti	PATA Racing	@42.669
14	H Aoyama	Honda	@48.010
15	J Hopkins	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@49.752
16	J Rea	Honda	@54.590
17	N Brignola	Grillini Progea	@1'59.653
Ret	T Sykes	Kawasaki Racing	@1 lap
Ret	A Badovini	BMW Motorrad Italia	@1 lap
Ret	D Salom	Team Pedercini	@8 laps
Ret	L Mercado	Team Pedercini	@10 laps
Ret	L Baz	Kawasaki Racing	@12 laps
Ret	J Smrz	Effenbert Liberty	

RACE TWO

1	M Melandri	BMW Motorrad	39'59.200
2	E Laverty	Aprilia Racing	@0.042
3	C Davies	ParkinGO MTC	@0.446
4	M Biaggi	Aprilia Racing	@0.484
5	J Rea	Honda	@6.611
6	L Haslam	BMW Motorrad	@7.491
7	C Checa	Althea Racing	@9.325
8	T Sykes	Kawasaki Racing	@10.444
9	A Badovini	BMW Motorrad Italia	@10.828
10	D Giugliano	Althea Racing	@10.925
11	M Fabrizio	BMW Motorrad Italia	@21.955
12	M Berger	Effenbert Liberty	@22.046
13	S Guintoli	Effenbert Liberty	@22.486
14	L Zanetti	PATA Racing	@42.801
15	H Aoyama	Honda	@49.144
16	D Salom	Team Pedercini	@50.961
17	N Canepa	Red Devils Roma	@1'00.863
18	L Mercado	Team Pedercini	@1'14.149
19	N Brignola	Grillini Progea	@1'53.388
20	L Baz	Kawasaki Racing	@1 lap
Ret	L Camier	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@3 laps
Ret	J Hopkins	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@17 laps