

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
-  **14** MAGNY-COURS
FRANCE
OCTOBER 7



ONE-TWO PUTS SYKES BACK IN THE FRAME

Kawasaki rider Tom Sykes heads to the Nürburgring convinced his eni FIM Superbike World Championship title hopes are alive and kicking after his excellent results in Moscow.

The Englishman had appeared to be falling out of contention for the title as BMW and Marco Melandri put together an excellent run, but Sykes was back to his best in the inaugural Russian round of the series, taking the win in race one and backing that up with the runner-up spot behind Melandri in race two.

The Kawasaki Racing Team man is now only 41 points behind new points leader Melandri with three rounds remaining and 150 points still up for grabs.

Sykes has also been buoyed by a contract extension which will see him stay with Kawasaki in 2013, and is full of optimism for the championship run-in.

He said: "It has been fantastic to make a commitment quite early in the season. It's great to be on the good

end of the silly season, because that is a weight off my shoulders and I think I have proved my worth this year.

"Last year did not reflect my potential, I do not feel, but this year I was able to demonstrate what I believe I can do. Obviously Kawasaki has done an absolutely fantastic job, an outstanding amount of work and put in so much effort.

"Everybody can see what we have done this year. I have a fantastic bunch of guys working with me, all my guys in the garage.

"It is a good team effort, well managed, very professional and I could not ask for any more. That is another reason why I really pushed to stay with Kawasaki."

He added of his performances in Moscow: "The bike felt great. They were quite long races, to be honest, and it is quite a physical circuit. But, realistically, we are very happy.

"We secured a first and second place, I am still third overall in the standings, and the gap at the front is tightening up. There are still a lot of points to play for."

Aprilia rider and 2010 world champion Max Biaggi is the man lying between Melandri and Sykes in the standings, the Italian 18.5 points adrift of his compatriot.

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SUPERSPORT™ FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Jules Cluzel believes he is well-placed in the FIM Supersport World Championship title race as the series heads to the Nürburgring in Germany. The PTR Honda rider was second in Moscow, moving up to lie behind only Kenan Sofuoglu in the standings. He said: "The good thing is I finished in a good position – it was easy to finish second, and I am really happy to be second in the championship."



SUPERSTOCK 1000™ FIM CUP

FIM Superstock 1000 Cup leader Eddi La Marra has the chance to wrap up the title at this weekend's round in Germany. The Team Italia rider has a handy 31-point lead over BMW rider Sylvain Barrier with only three rounds left, with Kawasaki's Bryan Staring two points further back. And if the Italian replicates his Silverstone win then his French rival must finish in the top 10 to deny him the crown, while Staring would need to finish at least eighth.



SUPERSTOCK 600™ UEM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Ten Kate Honda rider Michael van der Mark has vowed to race at the Nürburgring this weekend despite a broken collarbone. The Dutchman, currently second in the UEM European Superstock 600 Championship, suffered the injury racing in the Supersport class at Moscow. He said: "I'm definitely racing. I want to be back on my Honda CBR600RR after the unlucky weekend in Russia."



GLOBE-TROTTERING ROLL CALL GROWS

The eni FIM Superbike World Championship broke new ground when the Moscow Raceway became the 45th different circuit to host a round of the series, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The first visit of a major two-wheel road race championship to Russia also brought to 26 the number of different countries to host races, although Andorra, San Marino and Ireland all staged rounds outside their own borders, and different countries have staged the European round. The full list is: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Europe, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, San Marino, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and the USA. The Buddh International Circuit in India will join the list next spring.

VARIETY IS SPICE OF LIFE IN SBK WORLD

The competitive nature of the production bike-based eni FIM Superbike World Championship was emphatically underlined in race two at Moscow when the top seven featured no fewer than six different manufacturers.

Championship challenger Marco Melandri won on a BMW, and the Italian was joined on the podium by works Kawasaki rider Tom Sykes and fellow British rider Chaz Davies, whose ParkinGO MTC team run a satellite Aprilia RSV4.

Behind them, the Althea Racing Ducatis of defending champion Carlos Checa in fourth and World Superbike rookie Davide Giugliano in sixth were separated by Leon Camier on the FIXI Crescent Suzuki. In seventh place was a fourth British rider, Jonathan Rea, riding his factory Honda machine.

LASCORZ'S THANKS FOR WELL-WISHERS

Joan Lascorz has thanked fans and fellow riders for their support after it was confirmed his career is over. His Kawasaki team confirmed the Spaniard has been left paralysed by his testing accident at Imola in April. Lascorz suffered a spinal cord injury and remains at the Guttman Institute in Barcelona, but hopes to return home in September.

He said: "What happened to me is a shame. It is undoubtedly a full stop for my career as a SBK racer, and a period in my life. It's a very difficult situation, and I have to be very strong to go forward. "I want to thank everyone for the endless support I'm getting – all motorcycle riders, both in SBK and MotoGP, and all the other categories. I also want to thank all the racing fans that have shown me their affection."

LEONOV DELIGHTS THE MOSCOW FANS

The Moscow round gave the 32,000-strong crowd a moment to savour when home favourite Vladimir Leonov took a superb third place in the FIM Supersport World Championship event on his Yakhnich Motorsport Yamaha YZF-R6.

It was a second podium of the season for the Moscow-born rider, a Supersport rookie this year, following his third place at Assen in April.

Leonov was given a standing ovation by delighted fans, and he said: "I just can't believe I got on to the podium at Moscow! If I had dreamt about a perfect weekend, it could never have been better than this. I still can't believe it, and I'm going to need a few more days to realise what we have done. A big thanks to the Yakhnich team, all our supporters and Russian fans who came to the race, and who shared this historic moment with us."

DAVIES CLOSES IN ON FELLOW ROOKIE

The fight for the unofficial title of rookie of the year in the eni FIM Superbike World Championship could hardly be closer.

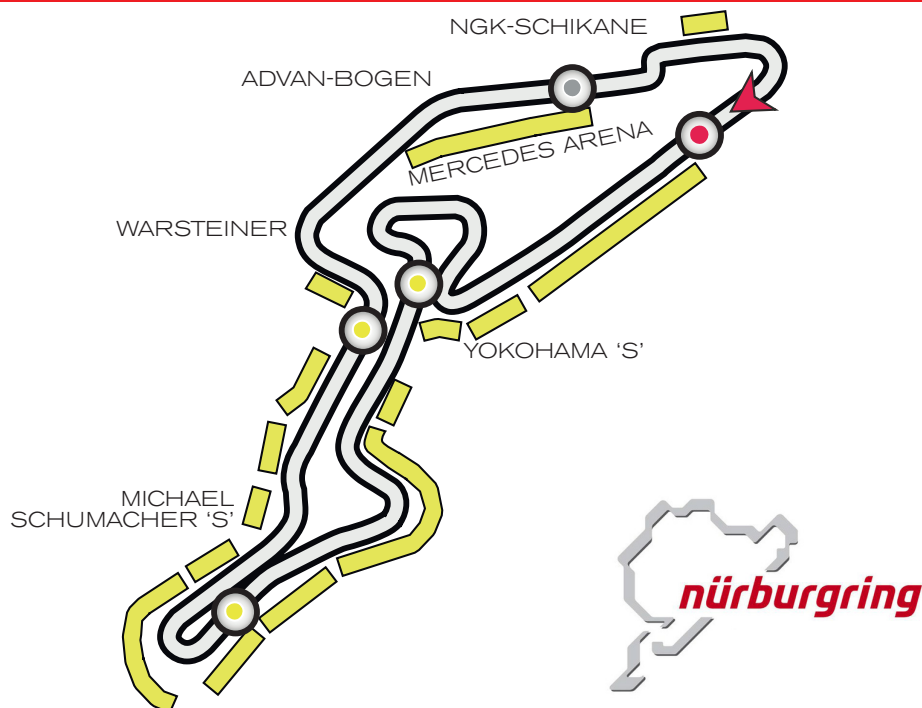
Chaz Davies' third place in race two in Moscow means the Welshman now stands 11th overall and only half a point behind fellow rookie Davide Giugliano (Althea Racing Ducati).

Davies' one-bike team, ParkinGO MTC, are also new to the championship – although they won the Supersport World Championship together last year – and have sometimes struggled to get to grips with their satellite Aprilia RSV4.

Davies said: "It was an unexpected podium, although I did keep pushing in case something happened. We have had that many things go against us, it feels something like redemption."



CIRCUIT GUIDE: NÜRBURGRING



CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

WORLD SUPERBIKE

1	Marco Melandri	ITA	BMW	308.5
2	Max Biaggi	ITA	Aprilia	290
3	Tom Sykes	GBR	Kawasaki	267.5
4	Carlos Checa	ESP	Ducati	233.5
5	Jonathan Rea	GBR	Honda	212.5
6	Leon Haslam	GBR	BMW	180
7	Eugene Laverty	IRE	Aprilia	173.5
8	Sylvain Guintoli	FRA	Ducati	127.5
9	Michel Fabrizio	ITA	BMW	119.5
10	Davide Giugliano	ITA	Ducati	116
11	Chaz Davies	GBR	Aprilia	115.5
12	Jakub Smrz	CZE	Ducati	92.5
13	Loris Baz	FRA	Kawasaki	90
14	Ayrton Badovini	ITA	BMW	85
15	Leon Camier	GBR	Suzuki	77.5

WORLD SUPERSPORT

1	Kenan Sofuoglu	TUR	Kawasaki	173
2	Jules Cluzel	FRA	Honda	140
3	Sam Lowes	GBR	Honda	138
4	Fabien Foret	FRA	Kawasaki	128
5	Broc Parkes	AUS	Honda	109

SUPERSTOCK 1000

1	Eddi La Marra	ITA	Ducati	119
2	Sylvain Barrier	FRA	BMW	88
3	Bryan Staring	AUS	Kawasaki	86
4	Jeremy Guarnoni	FRA	Kawasaki	82
5	Lorenzo Savadori	ITA	Ducati	67

LAST TIME

MOSCOW 26.08.12

RACE ONE

1	T Sykes	Kawasaki Racing	41'07.852
2	M Melandri	BMW Motorrad	@8.878
3	M Biaggi	Aprilia Racing	@12.603
4	E Laverty	Aprilia Racing	@13.027
5	M Fabrizio	BMW Motorrad Italia	@29.582
6	L Haslam	BMW Motorrad	@30.587
7	N Canepa	Red Devils Roma	@32.170
8	L Zanetti	PATA Racing	@34.704
9	J Hopkins	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@40.366
10	D Salom	Team Pedercini	@41.143
11	L Baz	Kawasaki Racing	@44.363
12	A Badovini	BMW Motorrad Italia	@47.813
13	H Aoyama	Honda	@52.650
14	A Lundh	Team Pedercini	@1'20.273
15	L Camier	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@2 laps
16	D McFadden	Team Pedercini	@3 laps
Ret	C Davies	ParkinGO MTC	@2 laps
Ret	D Giugliano	Althea Racing	@12 laps
Ret	J Rea	Honda	@15 laps
Ret	C Checa	Althea Racing	@23 laps
Ret	S Guintoli	PATA Racing	@23 laps

RACE TWO

1	M Melandri	BMW Motorrad	40'14.677
2	T Sykes	Kawasaki Racing	@0.976
3	C Davies	ParkinGO MTC	@4.213
4	C Checa	Althea Racing	@5.954
5	L Camier	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@13.568
6	D Giugliano	Althea Racing	@15.173
7	J Rea	Honda	@23.125
8	A Badovini	BMW Motorrad Italia	@23.696
9	L Baz	Kawasaki Racing	@23.884
10	L Zanetti	PATA Racing	@24.096
11	S Guintoli	PATA Racing	@24.881
12	J Hopkins	FIXI Crescent Suzuki	@39.643
13	D Salom	Team Pedercini	@1'01.449
14	A Lundh	Team Pedercini	@1'36.596
Ret	E Laverty	Aprilia Racing	@1 lap
Ret	L Haslam	BMW Motorrad	@16 laps
Ret	M Biaggi	Aprilia Racing	@16 laps
Ret	N Canepa	Red Devils Roma	@24 laps
Ret	M Fabrizio	BMW Motorrad Italia	
Ret	D McFadden	Team Pedercini	
Ret	H Aoyama	Honda	