



Press Release

European Drag Racing in Santa Pod (England)



Rikard Gustafsson copyright Rose Hughes

The last weekend saw the opening round of the FIM-Europe Drag Bike Championship at Santa Pod Raceway, England.

FIM-Europe Top Fuel Bike class attracted eight entries, with multi-time series champion Ian King qualifying in the number one spot and the quickest run of the event with a 5.830s/232.52 mph run, but the home rider lost out to Filippou Papafilippou at the semi final stage. The final proved to be a Sweden vs Greece affair, with Rikard Gustafsson taking the win when Papafilippou stopped for

brief fire shortly after leaving the startline. Gustafsson ended up idling to a 21 second clocking from his Suzuki Funnybike.

The final of FIM-Europe Super Twin ended up as an all-Dutch affair, with low-qualifier Martijn de Haas defeating fellow countryman Job Heezen with a 6.6056s/212.81 mph to a 7.3536s/205.24 mph decision.



Martijn de Haas copyright Rose Hughes



Fredrik Fredlund copyright Rose Hughes

Defending FIM-Europe Pro Stock Bike champion Fredrik Fredlund was struggling to run really quick numbers but used race-craft to work his way through eliminations to defeat Britain's Alex Hope in the final using a 7.2021s/186.66mph from his PAF Suzuki (against Hope's 7.2559s/180.66 mph) to take the trophy home to Åland.



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FIM-Europe Super Street Bike Cup saw record-breaking and personal best performances throughout qualifying and the early rounds of eliminations, with Dave Holland taking the elapsed time mark with a 7.0387s run.

Holland lost out at the quarter-final stage, with Rick Stubbins taking the event win with a eight second clocking, slowing after seeing opponent, and 2014 Cup champion, Steve Venables leaving before the green light and disqualifying himself.



Rick Stubbins copyright Ivan Sansom

Full results on FIM Europe website: www.fim-europe.eu/events/61

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About FIM Europe (www.fim-europe.com) - The FIM Europe (in the past UEM, Union Européenne de Motocyclisme) includes 47 National Federations (FMNs) and 6 Regional Motorcycling Associations and is a European organization acting within its attributions in all matters in relation with motorcycling activities and, as such, in domains ranging from sport, tourism, leisure, environment, mobility, road safety, legislative affairs, protection and defence of the rights and interests of motorcycle users. As far as motorcycle sport is concerned, the FIM Europe is the supreme and sole European authority empowered by the FIM to control European motorcycling sport activities organized under its jurisdiction throughout Europe. The aims of FIM Europe are to develop and promote all forms of motorcycling in Europe as well as the co-operation and friendship between its members, and notably: to examine all questions related to the development of motorcycling in Europe; to organize European Championships and to establish all competitions that appear beneficial subject to the prior approval of the FIM; to co-operate with the FIM in all matters relating to the organization of international events and motorcycling in general; to organize camps and seminars for riders, officials, coaches and administrators of various European FMNs; to support the creation and development of motorcycling activities in all European countries; to promote the co-operation among all European FMNs; to promote motorcycling among young people, both as sport and motorcycling in general; to encourage the use of motorcycles in European countries and to develop motorcycle tourism; to represent the interests of motorcyclists before European authorities; to promote in the media the sport of motorcycling and the use of motorcycles in all of Europe.

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