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MX of European Nations and Women's Motocross of European Nations:

Team Italy and Team Netherlands victorious in Poland

for the MXOEN and WMXOEN



The 2019 Motocross of European Nations has concluded at the Gdansk circuit here in Poland. Team Italy rode their way to victory as they defended their title once again, and in the women's category, Team Netherlands finally took that all important victory!

The weather in Poland was a mixture of rain and sunshine, as riders battled it out in all weather and track conditions for pride and glory for their country. A total of six races took place this weekend starting off with the Women's Motocross of European Nations and finishing off with the EMX125/250 race, with the EMX85 in between.



Each group rode a total of two races, as they fought for the highest positions, in order to take the least amount of point, with the worst result not being counted.

Motocross of European Nations: 125/250cc

In the opening combined 125cc/250cc race, it was Team France's Thibault Benistant who took the holeshot, followed by Team Italy's Morgan Lesiardo and his teammate Andrea Roncoli. Meanwhile, yesterday's qualifying heat winner, Mikkel Haarup was just outside the top five.

By lap two, Benistant continued to lead as Haarup was pushing for the top three, making a pass on Team Italy's Andrea Roncoli, which saw the Danish rider move into fifth and then just half a lap later into fourth as he passed Team Estonia's Jorgen Matthias Talviku.

On lap five, Morgan Lesiardo was chasing down Thibault Benistant and by the following lap there was a change of leader as Lesiardo moved into first position. Meanwhile, Haarup was already in third, making a charge for second and just 1.804 seconds off the leader, so the top three riders were in a serious battle for the win.

Team Norway's Kevin Horgmo made a pass on Roncoli, which saw him move up into sixth place. Having a good ride for Team Russia though, was Daniil Balandin who was down in 11th.

As we reached the halfway stage of the first race, there were several changes in the leaders, with both Benistant and Lesiardo making several mistakes, which allowed Haarup to get right on their tail. And with Lesiardo making a mistake, this allowed both Benistant and Haarup through as the Dane moved up to second.

With one lap to go, Haarup was just 1.034 seconds off Benistant, and with just one corner to go before the finish, a backmarker got in the way for Benistant which allowed Haarup to charge and take the win with just 0.373 seconds over the French rider.



In the second race things were a little different for Mikkel Haarup as he got a great jump out of the gate and was the leading rider into the first corner. Just behind him was Morgan Lesiardo and Thibault Benistant, with Jorgen Matthias Talviku in fourth.

By the second lap, Haarup was already 7.301 seconds ahead of Benistant in second, with Talviku making a move into third. Having another good ride in 5th was the Russian rider, Daniil Balandin.

Just two laps later, Benistant, Lesiardo and Talviku were in a serious battle for 3rd which allowed Haarup to get 12 seconds ahead of the field. Meanwhile, we saw Lion Florian from Team Germany lose three positions, dropping out of 8th.

As Talviku was pushing to get back past Balandin for fourth, Team Norway's Kevin Horgmo and Xavier Cazal of Team France were in a serious battle for 11th place.

In the end, Mikkel Haarup went on to take another win, but this time with a 20.6 second lead, followed by Morgan Lesiardo who managed to get past Thibault Benistant who finished 3rd.

With two race wins, Mikkel Haarup was the overall winner in the EXM250 class, while Team Czech Republic's Jan Wagenknecht was the overall EMX125 winner.

Race 1 Top 10 Results: 1. Haarup, Mikkel (DEN, Husqvarna); 2. Benistant, Thibault (FRA, Yamaha) +0:00.373; 3. Lesiardo, Morgan (ITA, KTM) +0:18.839; 4. Fernandez, Ruben (ESP, Yamaha) +0:35.913; 5. Talviku, Jorgen-Matthias (EST, Husqvarna) +0:47.414; 6. Horgmo, Kevin (NOR, KTM) +1:06.089; 7. Roncoli, Andrea (ITA, Husqvarna) +1:18.633; 8. Olsson, Filip (SWE, Husqvarna) +1:31.151; 9. Wagenknecht, Jan (CZE, KTM) +1:38.072; 10. Drdaj, Dušan (CZE, Yamaha) + 1:58.996.

Race 2 Top 10 Results: 1. Haarup, Mikkel (DEN, Husqvarna); 2. Lesiardo, Morgan (ITA, KTM) + 0:20.609; 3. Benistant, Thibault (FRA, Yamaha) +0:30.803; 4. Fernandez, Ruben (ESP, Yamaha) +0:58.695; 5. Drdaj, Dušan (CZE, Yamaha) +2:02.666; 6. Wagenknecht, Jan



(CZE, KTM) +2:05.919; 7. Silander, Emil (FIN, KTM) +2:06.981 8. Kraev, Maksim (RUS, KTM) +1 lap; 9. Balandin, Daniil (RUS, KTM) +1 lap; 10. Depoers, Simon (FRA, Yamaha) +1 lap.

Motocross of European Nations 85cc

In the first EMX85 race it was Team Germany's Maximilian Werner with a flying start followed by Team Denmark's Mads Fredsoe and Team Lithuania's Ugnius Liulys.

Mads Fredsoe made a quick move into the lead, with his team-mate Lucas Bruhn not far behind in fourth. This was a great start for Team Denmark as they were hoping to make a podium appearance this year.

In lap five, yesterday's qualifying heat winner, Karlis Alberts Reisulis was up by an impressive seven positions as he found his way into 5th place, with Team Italy's Valerio Lata also moving up 4 places into 19th, following a poor start.

As Latvia's Karlis Reisulis made a strong move into second place, bad luck struck the Latvian rider as a crash saw him drop back down to P9, with a lot of work to do. At this point Fredsoe was already 24.2 seconds ahead of Laszlo Mark Tecsí of Hungary who was second at the time.

In the end it was, Mads Fredsoe who took the win for Team Denmark by an impressive 43 seconds, followed by Team Spain's Victor Puig Cumi and with Karlis Reisulis in third.

In race two, it was Laban Alm of Sweden with a good start, followed by Valerio Lata, Jaka Peklaj of Team Slovenia and Elisey Oreshkin of Russia in fourth. Though Lata made a quick move into first and was the new race leader, with Alm dropping down to 8th. Bad luck struck the first race winner, Mads Fredsoe as he was down in 30th on lap 3.

By lap six, Valerio Lata had a comfortable 19 second lead over Team Spain's Elgar Canet, followed by Laszlo Mark Tecsí, Team Finland's Kasimir Hindersson and Team Italy's Matteo Luigi Russi in 5th. Meanwhile, the 2019 JWC and EMX65 Champion, Vitezslav Marek was in 15th.



With just a few laps to go, Hindersson made the move on Cawet to move up into second place. Also moving up was Team Czech Republic's Julius Mikula who was now in fourth.

In the end it was Valerio Lata who took the win for Team Italy, with Kasimir Hindersson in second and Edgar Canet, Julius Mikula and Laszlo Tecsi rounding out the top 5.

The overall winner of the day was Valerio Lata, with an 8th in race one and a win in race two.

Race 1 Top 10 Results: 1. Mads Fredsoe (DEN, KTM), 25:14.229; 2. Victor Puig (ESP, KTM), +0:43.321; 3. Karlis Alberts Reisulis (LAT, KTM), +0:46.923; 4. Liam Akerlund (SWE, KTM), +0:52.198; 5. Laszlo Tecsi (HUN, KTM), +0:53.383; 6. Edgar Canet (ESP, KTM), +1:04.988; 7. Kasimir Hindersson (FIN, KTM), +1:07.192; 8. Valerio Lata (ITA, KTM), +1:10.523; 9. Laban Alm (SWE, Husqvarna), +1:17.179; 10. Matteo Luigi Russi (ITA, KTM), +1:37.950.

Race 1 Top 10 Results: 1. Valerio Lata (ITA, KTM), 25:33.082; 2. Kasimir Hindersson (FIN, KTM), +0:23.518; 3. Edgar Canet (ESP, KTM), +0:32.705; 4. Julius Mikula (CZE, KTM), +0:33.786; 5. Laszlo Tecsi (HUN, KTM), +0:59.190; 6. Karlis Alberts Reisulis (LAT, KTM), +1:29.280; 7. Liam Akerlund (SWE, KTM), +1:41.242; 8. Elias Auclair (NOR, TM), +2:01.949; 9. Noel Zanocz (HUN, Husqvarna), +2:41.040; 10. Aleh Makhnou (BLR, KTM), -1 lap(s).

Women's Motocross of European Nations

In the WMX opening race of the day, it was Nancy van de Ven of Team Netherlands taking the holeshot, closely followed by Team Germany's Larissa Papenmeier, who briefly made a move into the lead, before van de Ven quickly responded with a pass back on the German rider.

Team Belgium's Amandine Verstappen made a move into second, pushing Papenmeier further down the field. Meanwhile Team USA's Jamie Astudillo and Kylie Fasnacht were down in 10th and 13th.



By lap two, Verstappen was chasing van de Ven, as Team Denmark's Line Dam and Sara Andersen were 4th and 5th and pushing on Papenmeier. Fellow German, Anne Borchers was making her way through the field in 6th position, looking to stay with the Danish pair ahead.

Several laps later, Andersen was forced into the pits, quickly re-joining the race but losing 8 positions in the meantime, while her team-mate was holding strong in 5th.

In the later stages of the race, van de Ven was still leading the way, followed by Verstappen 3.139 second behind and Papenmeier and Borchers together in 3rd and 4th. At the same time, Kylie Fasnacht was looking to make up for the lost position as she was chasing down Team Sweden's Sandra Karlsson who was 8th.

With two laps to go, defending champions Francesca Nocera and Giorgia Montin were in 11th and 17th place, while van de Ven continued to lead her way to the first race win.

In the end it was van de Ven with the win, followed by Verstappen, Papenmeier and Borchers in 3rd and 4th, with the German pair going into race two as the leaders.

In the second race it was Larissa Papenmeier setting a good start, followed by Nancy van de Ven, Anne Borchers and Line Dam.

Once again though, it was van de Ven who got into an early lead, followed by Papenmeier, Borchers and Sara Andersen and Line Dam for Team Denmark. Andersen made the move on Borchers into 3rd place. Meanwhile Shana van der Vlist was in 6th position for Team Netherlands.

By lap 3, van der Vlist made the move on, Line Dam, pushing the Danish rider down to 6th, while her fellow Dane, was chasing van de Ven for the lead. At the same time, Sweden's Sandra Karlsson found herself struggling with the track conditions and was dropping down the field. Later it became evident that her bike was stuck in a rut on track, offering a huge blow for team Sweden.

By lap 8, van de Ven had managed to pull away from Andersen, with Borchers moving past Papenmeier. van der Vlist was now up in 5th with Line Dam just behind her.



In the end it was Nancy van de Ven with the race win as well as the overall victory of the weekend. This was topped off with Team Netherlands also taking 1st overall in the Nation's classifications.

Race 1 Top 10 results: 1. Nancy Van De Ven (NED, Yamaha), 24:20.126; 2. Amandine Verstappen (BEL, Yamaha), +0:07.113; 3. Larissa Papenmeier (GER, Yamaha), +0:39.471; 4. Anne Borchers (GER, Suzuki), +0:43.969; 5. Emelie Dahl (SWE, Yamaha), +0:45.994; 6. Line Dam (DEN, Honda), +0:47.483; 7. Shana van der Vlist (NED, KTM), +1:09.811; 8. Sandra Karlsson (SWE, Kawasaki), +1:22.776; 9. Sara Andersen (DEN, KTM), +1:26.758; 10. Kylie Fasnacht (USA, Yamaha), +1:30.421.

Race 2 Top 10 results: 1. Nancy Van De Ven (NED, Yamaha), 26:13.127; 2. Sara Andersen (DEN, KTM), +0:29.640; 3. Shana van der Vlist (NED, KTM), +1:30.905; 4. Larissa Papenmeier (GER, Yamaha), +1:53.597; 5. Anne Borchers (GER, Suzuki), +1:59.829; 6. Line Dam (DEN, Honda), +4:16.543; 7. Sanna Karkkainen (FIN, KTM), -1 lap(s); 8. Amandine Verstappen (BEL, Yamaha), -1 lap(s); 9. Sanna Mertsalmi (FIN, Honda), -1 lap(s); 10. Emelie Dahl (SWE, Yamaha), -1 lap(s).

The day was concluded with the podium ceremony, which saw **Team Italy** defend their title and be crowned the champions of the **2019 Motocross of European Nations** with **Team Spain** joining the second on the podium and **Czech Republic** in third.

Each team was awarded with trophies and medals, with the overall winners also taking home a golden plate.

In WMXoEN class, it was **Team Netherlands** who stood on the first step of the podium, followed by **Team Germany** in second and **Team Denmark** in third.



MXoEN Top 10 Nations Classifications:

1. Italy (44 points)
2. Spain (45 points)
3. Czech Republic (57 points)
4. France (65 points)
5. Denmark (71 points)
6. Sweden (83 points)
7. Finland (89 points)
8. Norway (106 points)
9. Russia (116 points)
10. Germany (142 points)

WMXoEN Top 10 Nations Classifications:

1. Netherlands (5 points)
2. Germany (11 points)
3. Denmark (14 points)
4. Belgium (23 points)
5. Sweden (23 points)
6. Finland (31 points)
7. USA (37 points)
8. Italy (39 points)
9. France (40 points)
10. Czech Republic (54 points)

Sidecarcross of European Nations and Quadcross of European Nations



On 05th-06th October the MC Schwedt circuit in Germany hosted the Sidecarcross of European Nations and Quadcross of European Nations.

Quad MX Race 1 (Group A + B)

Going into the first race of the day, the question everybody had on their mind was whether or not anybody could stop Team USA, as they were by far the quickest riders out on circuit throughout the duration of Saturday's qualifying events. That question was soon to be answered because as the gate dropped for the first race of the day, it was Team Netherlands' rider #7 Joe Maessen who got the best launch. Maessen made an excellent getaway but it wasn't long before Team USA's #2 rider Thomas Brown got the better of Maessen and led the race coming across the line for the first time. Italy's #19 Andrea Cesari Jr made an excellent start and held onto 3rd place going onto lap 2 ahead of an injured #41 Edgars Mengelis. #1 Chad Wiene was bogged down in the pack in the opening stages of the race, however he managed to recover strongly and came home in a solid position to aid Team USA in their efforts to become 2019 QXoN champions.



Norwegian rider #11 Christophe Tveraen didn't get the best of starts, however throughout the 25 minute + 2 lap event, he kept plucking away and managed to place highly in the final results. Multiple European Quad champion #22 Kevin Saar was outside of the top 10 in the opening stages of this first race, however consistent lap times saw him up inside the top 6 when his Husqvarna cried enough, and all the hard work that Saar had put in was to no avail.

There were battles all down the field, and the biggest one to watch was the battle for 4th place involving #4 Mark McLernon, #34 Davy de Cuyper, #8 Marc de Vries and France's #58 Antoine Cheurlin. Team France were here and aimed to score highly, especially after the events that unfolded last year, and ultimately in the end lead to Team France having numbers that are not favourable to say the least.

The battles raged all around the MC Schwedt circuit, but in the end nobody had an answer to Team USA as #2 Thomas Brown took victory by just 1.714 seconds ahead of #1 Chad Wienen, with Dutchman #7 Joe Maessen rounding out the podium finishers.

Results:

1. #2 Thomas Brown (USA)
2. #1 Chad Wienen (USA)
3. #7 Joe Maessen (NED)

Quad MX Race 2 (Group B + C)

With Team USA asserting their dominance in the first race, they were looking to repeat the earlier antics and bring home another 1-2 finish, but they weren't going to have it easy.



The revs rised once more as the gates slammed down and this time it was #3 Joel Hentrick for Team USA who took the whole shot, but teammate #2 Thomas Brown was to overtake almost immediately on the run up to turn 3. The 3rd place on the opening lap consisted of Estonia's #24 Priit Járvalo, #11 Christophe Tvaraen and the Argentine, #17 Nicolas Fricia. At the end of lap 1 it was Hentrick who led Brown in a USA 1-2, with Tvaraen slotting into 3rd ahead of Járvalo and Fricia. #9 Mike van Grinsven was mired down in the opening stages, as was Edgars Mengelis, however with DNF's from some of the front riders they managed to capitalise on this and put themselves in strong positions for the rest of the race. One of the most notable DNF's was that of Nicolas Fricia; he was forced to submit on the second lap and that hampered Argentina's for the rest of the days racing.

Heartbreak for Ireland's #6 Justin Reid as he was running strong deep inside the top 10, however a mechanical issue meant that he had to pull off momentarily, much to his dismay. UK's #15 Harry Walker was running strongly but he had to deal with immense pressure as he had #5 Dean Dillon bearing down on him. Back at the front, it was still Hentrick leading Brown, with Hentrick taking Race 2 honours ahead of his #2 teammate. Strong finish as well the Dutchman #9 Mike van Grinsven and that mean that the Netherlands were in a strong position going into the third and final race. Local hero #27 Manfred Zienecker had a brilliant ride after qualifying 2nd fastest on Saturday, and he managed to round out the top 5, but unfortunately for him, didn't have enough up his sleeve to get the better of Mengelis.

Results:

1. #3 Joel Hentrick (USA)
2. #2 Thomas Brown (USA)
3. #9 Mike van Grinsven (NED)

Quad MX Race 3 (Group A +C)



The scene was set for what would be a brilliant climax to round off the final quads race of SQMXoN 2019 in Schwedt, and the atmosphere certainly cemented that.

The gates dropped for the final time and immediately there was drama as #1 Chad Wienen came out of the first turn at the very back of the field, it was safe to say that this race would certainly live up to expectations. At the front of the field it was the Dutch pairing of #7 Joe Maessen and #9 Mike van Grinsven who led the way, and it would stay this way for the opening stages of the race, however drama was on the horizon.

#3 Joel Hetrick made a good start and started to take time away from the Dutch pairing, ultimately ending with Hetrick forcing his way into 2nd place despite amazing defending from van Grinsven. While Hetrick was battling at the front, Wienen was carving his way through the pack with menace and determination, overtaking the likes of UK's #15 Harry Walker, #4 Mark McLernon and #58 Antoine Cheurlin. Harry Walker was having a storming ride and managed to place himself inside the coveted top 5 during the mid-point of the race, despite being overcome by Chad Wienen and his quest to catch the leaders.

It was only a handful of laps before Wienen managed to put himself up into 3rd place after a smooth move on #19 Jose Guerra, which relegated the Argentine down into 4th and more importantly, into the clutches of Harry Walker who managed to get the better of him in the closing stages. However more drama was to occur as Chad Wienen was disqualified for crosscutting, so this meant a podium finish for Harry Walker.

Results:

1. #3 Joel Hetrick (USA)
2. #9 Mike van Grinsven (NED)
3. #15 Harry Walker (ENG)

Sidecarcross Race 1 (Group A + B)

The first sidecar race got onto the grid and it was drama for Team Belgium as #32 Arne Dierckens and Robbie Bax had a mechanical issue before the gates had even dropped, this



meant the #31 Marvin Vanluchene and Ben van den Bogaart swapped gate position with Dierckens which ultimately lead to them being disqualified, and this put an end to Belgium's hopes before they had chance to fight.

The sound of 2-stroke and 4-stroke filled the air as the gates dropped for the first time and it was the holeshot for #11 Stuart Brown and Josh Chamberlain, they started off brilliantly and did excellently throughout the entirety of the race to fend off challenges from #1 Etienne Bax and Kaspars Stupelis, #37 Kurt Varik and Lauris Daiders and #10 Jake Brown and Joe Millard. #31 Marvin Vanluchene managed to get the better of Stuart Brown but with that disqualification, that meant that they were discounted in the results. This meant that Stuart Brown could afford to relax ever so slightly, but so many times in this sport have we seen unexpected issues appear due to lack of concentration so Stuart knew he had to keep Etienne behind him for a chance to put the United Kingdom on top.

Jake Brown didn't have an easy time of it during Race 1 as they were involved in a monumental battle including #20 Christophe and Maxime Cuhe and #4 Bastien Thomas and Nicolas Musset, however it was Brown who was successful in that particular battle.

It was a good solid result for the Dutch team as both Bax and #2 Gert van Werven and Kenny van Gaalen were inside the top 5 as the chequered flag dropped, but they were no match for Stuart and Jake Brown as their strong performance put the UK on top after Race 1.

Results:

1. #11 Brown - Chamberlain (ENG)
2. #1 Bax - Stupelis (NED)
3. #37 Varik - Daiders (EST)

Sidecars Race 2 (Group B + C)

The second race got underway and already there was drama as a huge pile up occurred at turn one, however the front pack were safely through and it was the holeshot kings



Dierckens and Bax who got the best launch from their position on the gate. Right behind them was #3 Koen Hermans and Lari Kunnas, and they were all over the rear of the Team Belgium riders in the opening section of the race. #17 Eddie Janecke and Gordon Bothur made a brilliant start in front of their home fans and were looking to impress on home soil.

At the midpoint of the race it was Stuart Brown who put himself up into 3rd place after relegating Van Werven down to 4th in what was an amazing battle, albeit for a couple of laps, but with clear track in front of Brown, he pulled the pin and tried to make up as much ground as he could. In the end he caught up to and overtook the #3 pairing and put himself up into 2nd place.

In the end however it was #3 Koen Hermas who proved to be the quickest out of the bunch as he came home victorious ahead of Dierckens, Van Werven and Brown.

Results:

1. #3 Hermans - Kunnas (NED)
2. #32 Dierckens - Bax (BEL)
3. #2 Van Werven - Van Gaalen (NED)

Sidecarcross Race 3 (Group A + C)

For the final time at the SQMXoN 2019 races the gate dropped and right from the get go in was Bax and Stupelis who made the holeshot, and nobody else had an answer to their pace. Marvin Vanluchene tried his best to stay on the rear of the Dutch team but it was not to be as they battled hard with Hermans, Varik and Cerny. This battle raged on throughout the entirety of the race, with #24 Gary Moulds and Brian Anthony also coming strong as the race went on.

The superior pace of Bax could not be matched, however Vanluchene dropped all the way to the back of the field and had a lot of work ahead of him to make up as many positions as he could. Throughout the remainder of the race he made incredible moves, slicing his



way through the field with relative ease and ultimately came home in a very strong podium position.

Bastien Thomas started to slip down the order as the race came into its closing stages, but the Frenchman still managed to cling onto a good 6th place result which helped France in their final push for championship standings honours.

In the end however, nobody could match the sheer pace of Etienne Bax and Kaspars Stupelis as they came across the line 1st, and this meant that the Netherlands won the Sidecarcross of Nations 2019!

Results:

1. #1 Bax - Stupelis (NED)
2. #31 Vanluchene - van den Bogaart (BEL)
3. #3 Hermans - Kunnas (NED)