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EMX 125 - EMX 250 - EMX Open European Championship: Valk secures EMX 125 title as Van Erp, L. Coenen and Krestinov take overall victories



litti-KimiRing, Finland, made a memorable comeback to the European Championship racing calendar this weekend, with title celebrations from Fantic Factory Team Maddii's Cas Valk who after the first race was crowned the EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing Champion.

Yamaha Europe EMX125 MJC's Ivano Van Erp was the overall winner of the class, after a perfect 1-1 scorecard, which was also repeated by Lucas Coenen of Jumbo Husqvarna BT Racing in the EMX250class, while in EMX Open the overall winner was Estonian Gert Krestinov.





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#### **EMX125**

In the opening EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing class, it was Yamaha Europe EMX125 MJC's Ivano Van Erp who got himself quickly into the lead ahead of Maximilian Werner of Diga Procross KTM Racing Team. While Fantic Factory Team Maddii's Cas Valk started in seventh.

Karlis Alberts Reisulis of Yamaha Europe EMX125 MJC started down in around eighth, while his brother Janis Martins Reisulis was 12<sup>th</sup>. K. Reisulis had a very strong lap and quickly found himself in third before getting around Werner to move into second by the second lap.

Alm dropped to seventh as Valk climbed his way into fourth and was looking to take third from Werner. He managed to do that just a couple of laps later.

Meanwhile, Van Erp was already more than seven seconds ahead of K. Reisulis who also had a steady seven second gap to Valk in third. J. Reisulis was also making good progress as he took away fourth from Werner on the sixth lap.

Werner crashed and finished the race 27<sup>th</sup>.

In the end, Van Erp took the victory ahead of K. Reisulis and Valk, with Valk celebrating his title victory as he crossed the line! At the beginning of the race, Alexis Fueri of Fantic Factory Team Maddii was his closest rival in terms of the championship but only finished 9<sup>th</sup>.

In race two it was Werner with the holeshot ahead of Van Erp, Hindersson and Maximilian Ernecker of F4E GasGas Racing Team. Lotte Van Drunen started in fifth ahead of Valk who was seventh.

K. Reisulis started in 13<sup>th</sup> while his brother J. Reisulis was 15<sup>th</sup> on the opening lap.

By lap two, Van Erp was in the lead, as K. Reisulis worked his way into fourth after a couple of very strong laps! Valk was in second at the time, as Werner dropped a position. Further down the order, Julius Mikula got by Ernecker for fifth, while moments later the Austrian dropped to seventh after being passed by J. Reisulis, who was looking to pick up vital championship points!





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Fueri then crashed out of ninth, which handed more points to the Reisulis' brothers who were closing in on him in the championship standings.

Van Erp though was no match for anyone this weekend as he secured his first double race win victory ahead of Valk, K. Reisulis, Mikula and Werner.

A 1-1 result put Van Erp on the top step ahead of Valk and K. Reisulis. Though it was Valk who was awarded the gold plate and medal and was officially declared the 2021 EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing Champion! K. Reisulis finished second in the standings with 314 points, just 13 points ahead of his younger brother J. Reisulis.

EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing - Overall Top 10 Classification: 1. Ivano Van Erp (NED, YAM), 50 points; 2. Cas Valk (NED, FAN), 42 p.; 3. Karlis Alberts Reisulis (LAT, YAM), 42 p.; 4. Janis Martins Reisulis (LAT, KTM), 32 p.; 5. Julius Mikula (CZE, KTM), 28 p.; 6. Kasimir Hindersson (FIN, KTM), 28 p.; 7. Edgar Canet (ESP, GAS), 26 p.; 8. Laban Alm (SWE, HUS), 24 p.; 9. Alexis Fueri (FRA, FAN), 21 p.; 10. Roberts Lusis (LAT, KTM), 18 p.

#### **EMX250**

In the first EMX250 race, Fantic Factory Team Maddii's Haakon Osterhagen continued to assert himself as a holeshot king in the category after getting off to another strong start, leading the likes of Lucas Coenen of Jumbo Husqvarna BT Racing and Mike Gwerder of WZ Racing Team. Gwerder then tagged L. Coenen on the opening lap which saw him crash out of third.

9MM Energy BUD Racing Kawasaki's Quentin-Marc Prugnieres was one of the riders who got unlucky at the start and crashed. The Frenchman got going eventually and finished the race in 26<sup>th</sup>.

By the end of the opening lap, series leader Rick Elzinga of Hutten Metaal Yamaha Racing was already third, while L. Coenen took the lead from Osterhagen. The Belgian then clocked the fastest lap of the race to extend his lead.

On lap two, L. Coenen lost the lead as he dropped back to fourth, which meant that Osterhagen was back in first place. Elzinga was promoted to second as TBS Conversion's Camden McLellan was right there in third, looking to get around the Yamaha rider.





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L. Coenen was pushing hard and was keen on making up for his earlier mistake as he got onto the rear wheels of McLellan and Elzinga. He managed to pass Elzinga during lap six, while it took him a few more laps to get around McLellan, but he did eventually on lap 11 as he went straight into the lead. Osterhagen dropped to third.

L. Coenen won the race ahead of McLellan, Osterhagen, Elzinga and Fantic Factory Team Maddii's Cornelius Toendel.

In race two, the holeshot went to L. Coenen who was keen on getting out in front early on ahead of Hutten Metaal Yamaha Racing's Andrea Bonacorsi, Team VRT KTM Veritise's David Braceras, Gwerder, Osterhagen and Toendel, while Elzinga started in 10<sup>th</sup>.

Elzinga found himself quickly in sixth, while Tondel began to push Braceras for third and eventually managed to take away the position from the Spaniard.

Osterhagen climbed into fourth but was coming under pressure from Prugnieres who was keen on taking away the position from the Norwegian. By lap seven he was able to do just that.

As the race went on, Osterhagen then got caught by McLellan who was trying everything to get around the Fantic rider for fourth. After several attempts he managed to make the pass stick four laps from the end.

L. Coenen was fully in control from start to finish and ended up winning the race an impressive 21.885 seconds ahead of Bonacorsi and Toendel.

There was no doubt about who the winner was as Coenen stood on the top step proudly after winning both races ahead of McLellan who secured his second podium finish on the bounce and Bonacorsi who was third.

With one round to go, Elzinga will take the championship fight to France in one week, with Toendel 40 points behind and Coenen in third a further 20 points behind and still has a chance to go for the silver medal!

EMX250 - Overall Top 10 Classification: 1. Lucas Coenen (BEL, HUS), 50 points; 2. Camden Mc Lellan (RSA, KTM), 40 p.; 3. Andrea Bonacorsi (ITA, YAM), 37 p.; 4. Cornelius Toendel (NOR, FAN), 36 p.; 5. Haakon Osterhagen (NOR, FAN), 36 p.; 6. Rick Elzinga (NED, YAM), 32 p.; 7. Meico Vettik (EST, KTM), 22 p.; 8. Scotty Verhaeghe (FRA, KTM), 21 p.; 9. Maximilian Spies (GER, KTM), 20 p.; 10. David Braceras (ESP, KTM), 17 p.





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#### **EMX OPEN**

In the first EMX Open of the weekend, the holeshot went to the championship leader Jose Butron of JD Gunnex KTM Racing who got comfortable in first position from the get-go. Second was Michael Ivanov ahead of Pekka Nissinen, Domantas Jazdauskas and Tomas Kohut of Osicka MX Team.

Michael Sandner of Raths Motorsports started in around sixth place and was looking to close the gap down to Kohut but a small mistake saw him drop back to ninth. Gert Krestinov was 10<sup>th</sup> at that point and was keen to move up the order.

Jazdauskas was second by the second lap but ended up crashing and did not carry on with the rest of the heat.

Butron opened up a steady 10-second gap fairly quickly as Krestinov made progress after getting around Sander and then Juuso Matikainen for fifth. The Estonian then got around John Adamson a few laps later and then Kohut to eventually make his way up to second position by the eighth lap.

By that point, Butron was too far in front for Krestinov to be able to do anything about it and in the end, the Spaniard won the race and extended his championship lead while Krestinov was second ahead of Matikainen, Kohut and Andero Lusbo who worked his way into fifth on the final lap after Erki Kahro dropped two positions.

In race two, it was home hero Matikainen with the holeshot ahead of Krestinov, Butron and Sandner. Kohut started in around sixth place.

Matikainen was looking solid in the lead ahead of Krestinov, with Butron keeping an eye on both in third. Krestinov was able to close the gap after setting the fastest lap of the race. The Estonian was eventually able to get the job done in lap three to take control of the race.

At the same time, Butron was passed by Kohut as Sandner crashed out of sixth. The Spaniard had another mistake a couple of laps later that saw him crash but he managed to get going quickly and stay ahead of John Adamson who was applying the pressure.





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In the final few laps, Kohut put in the work to get by Matikainen to second place from the Finnish rider and also solidify his spot on the podium! Krestinov won the race ahead of Kohut, Matikainen, Butron and Adamson.

A 2-1 result gave Krestinov his first overall win in the EMX Open class ahead of Butron who was forced to settle for second ahead of Kohut who joined the pair in third.

The next round of the EMX Open class will take place in Turkey where the title will be decided. Butron heads into the final round of the series with a 26-point lead over Kohut.

EMXOpen - Overall Top 10 Classification: 1. Gert Krestinov (EST, HON), 47 points; 2. Jose Butron (ESP, KTM), 43 p.; 3. Tomas Kohut (SVK, KTM), 40 p.; 4. Juuso Matikainen (FIN, HUS), 40 p.; 5. Andero Lusbo (EST, HUS), 31 p.; 6. John Adamson (GBR, GAS), 28 p.; 7. Emil Silander (FIN, GAS), 27 p.; 8. Michael Sandner (AUT, KTM), 27 p.; 9. Pekka Nissinen (FIN, GAS), 22 p.; 10. Twan Van Essen (NED, HON), 20 p.

#### European Sidecar Championship: qualifying round in Germany



A very hot day in Bad Hersfeld, Germany, welcomed the qualifying round of the European Sidecar Championship.

The race started in the evening and thanks to the great work done by the Moto Club the track was in good condition and the race had hard-fought battles.





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The final was won by the couple Sven Holstein/Natasja Bartlett at the end of a nice battle with German riders Markus Brandhofer and Sandra Mollema, who finished third due to a problem to the engine just in the last corner. Immanuel Schramm and Frank Schiemer took the occasion to finish second.

The Final of the European Sidecar Championship is scheduled on 28 August in Eenrum, in the Netherlands.

#### Final classification:

- 1. Sven Holstein / Natasja Barlett
- 2. Immanuel Schramm/Frank Schiemer
- 3. Markus Brandhofer/Sandra Mollema





#### Race1

Kevin Farkas (Agria Racing Team) came into Assen with the momentum and in Race 1, the number 28 only hammered that home. Disappearing at the front for another impressive





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win, he did what he needed to as points leader Rossi Moor (Fairium Next Generation Riders) had been homing in on match point. But with Jurrien van Crugten (BB64 Academy) taking an impressive and comfortable second, his first NTC podium, and Valentino Herrlich (Busch und Wagner Racing Team) charging back to overcome two Long Laps and take third, Moor was ultimately demoted to fourth as Farkas cut the 31-point gap by a considerable margin on Saturday.

From the off, Farkas was off and the Hungarian had only van Crugten and Herrlich for real company. Herrlich then took one Long Lap - a double given for speeding in pit lane - and dropped back into the freight train behind, fighting back towards the front and then taking the second to face the challenge down all over again. But that he did.

As Farkas crossed the line with some good breathing space of more than five seconds, van Crugten stayed calm to take a home turf podium and the fight behind went right to the wire. Despite his penalties, Herrlich put in a stunning finish to secure third place, beating Moor by just a tenth at the flag.

Loris Veneman (TeamNL Open Line) was a similar distance back in P5 on home turf, with Lenoxx Phommara (Team Phommara) for even closer company in sixth. Dustin Schneider (Goblin Racing) kept the tiny gaps coming as he took P7, just 0.070 ahead of Martin Vincze (Chrobak Motorsport Egyesület,) who kept his consistent form going.

Tibor Varga (Forty Racing) beat Julius Coenen (Helena and Julius Racing) and Maxime Schmid (Schmid Racing) to ninth, the three the last of the bigger group fighting to decide the top five and ten.

#### Race2

After Most Race 2 and then Assen Race 1, Kevin Farkas (Agria Racing Team) made it a triple threat as he once again laid down the gauntlet on Sunday in the Netherlands. The Hungarian was over eight seconds clear by the flag, with points leader Rossi Moor (FAIRIUM Next Generation Riders) coming home second but seeing his advantage cut to just 14 points. After some tougher times on home turf thus far in the NTC, Loris Veneman (TeamNL Open Line) took third and stood on the podium at the Cathedral.





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As is becoming his calling card, Farkas went full gas from the off to immediately take the lead and start building that further. This time the number 28 had no company to speak of almost from the off, putting the hammer down as his mission to defeat Moor for the 2022 Cup continued in style.

Behind, it was another huge group battle and, as ever in the NTC, it went to the wire. Herrlich started the final lap in second but it was chopping and changing to the flag - and both he and Lenoxx Phommara (Team Phommara) were victim to a late attack from Moor. The number 92 got past Dustin Schneider (Goblin Racing) to set up a grandstand finish and make it past both riders ahead of him for second, through the Geert Timmer chicane with just enough in hand.

Veneman stayed ahead for third, with Phommara off the podium by just 0.034. Schneider beat compatriot Herrlich just behind, with Martin Vincze (Chrobak Motorsport Egyesület) within another 0.019.

Jurrien van Crugten (BB64 Academy) came away with P8 in Race 2, just ahead of Maxime Schmid (Team Schmid) in ninth. Tibor Varga (Forty Racing) beat Julius Coenen (Helena and Julius Racing) once again on Sunday, this time in a private duel for tenth place.

The Northern Talent Cup field now heads back to the Red Bull Ring for the season finale, with the 2022 winner waiting to be crowned!

