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Press Release n. 24

**European Team Speedway Championship:
Denmark and Sweden rule Final A and B**



Pictures copyright: Jarek Pabijan

Team Denmark and Team Sweden raced to a thrilling win as the 2024 European Team Speedway Championship got off to a dramatic opening in Final A and Final B of the season last weekend in the Czech Republic and in Poland.

Final A

In a display that met expectations, Denmark's squad took a decisive win in Pardubice, perfect set for Final A in the Czech Republic. Leading the pack, Mads Hansen stood out as the event's highest scorer, dropping just a single "point", with Matic Ivačić being the sole competitor to outpace him. Close behind, Michael Michelsen and Anders Thomsen nearly achieved perfect scores, with the latter notably securing his points across only three heats. In a similar vein, Bastian Pedersen, also competed in three heats, gathering four points.

Finishing in the runner-up position, the home team from the Czech Republic saw Václav Milík at the forefront, amassing 12 points over six heats. Zdeněk Schneiderwind's strategy to make a tactical switch by substituting Jan Macek with a Cellfast Wolves Krosno rider demonstrated a valiant effort though it didn't clinch victory. Jan Kvěch's performance was consistently strong, always crossing the finish line in second place, significantly aiding his team's success. Adam Bednář added to the team's achievements with 9 points from five starts, bolstering his status as a hopeful prospect among Czech supporters.

The Norwegian team, participating for the first time in this competition, claimed the third-place position on the podium, with Mathias Pollestad playing a pivotal role. Pollestad remarkably earned more points than his teammates combined and was the only participant from Norway to win a heat, doing so on two occasions. Matic Ivačić, previously with Unia Tarnów, also made his mark by engaging in direct competition with his adversaries and earning 10 points.

Top three

1. Denmark, 49 points
2. Czech Republic, 33 p.
3. Norway, 23 p.

Final B

Intense day of racing for Final B of the 2024 European Team Speedway Championship. In Gdansk, Poland, Team Sweden secures a strong victory putting in a domination race. Jacob Thorsell and Kim Nilsson set the best results of the day ahead of Andzejs Lebedevs from Latvia, who ensure the second position to his team at the end of a thrilling fight until the end against Team Germany.

Top three

1. Sweden, 42 points
2. Latvia, 31 p.

3. Germany, 27 p.

The Grand Final of the European Team Speedway Championship will take place in Grudziądz, Poland, on the 6th of April.

EMX 65 / EMX 85 European Championship Central Europe zone

**EMX Women' European Championship:
the season gets underway in Denmark**



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With the first race of the Central Europe zone, the EMX 65 / EMX 85 European Championship officially kicked off during the Easter weekend. Lighting up in exciting style, the 2024 season was up and run with the first race of the season kicking things off at the new track in Svebolle, Denmark, together with the first round of the EMX Women' European Championship.

EMX85

Almost 50 riders faced an intense competition in both races. The pressure persisted until the very end of the race in a dramatic fight of 4 riders: Victor Lepalaa (KTM) from Finland, Olivar Jüngling from Germany, Jannes Vos (KTM) from the Netherland and Hayden Statt from Great Britain. Thanks to a clear double win, Lepalaa secured a solid overall victory ahead of Jüngling, second and third, and Vos, second and fifth.

EMX65

29 riders raced in the EMX65 class. Third at the end of a hard-fought 2023, Luca Nierychlo (Husqvarna) won the first round of the Central Europe zone with a double victory. With him on the overall podium the British Jagieski Cohen (GasGas), third and second, and the Dutch Kash Van Hamond (GasGas), second and fourth.

Women

Great and hard-fought weekend for the EMX Women' European Championship, with almost 40 riders at the start of the races.

Local hero Line Dam (Fantic) was Saturday's top qualifier, but on home soil she finished only third in Sunday races. At the end of Race 1 the winner Matilda Huss was disqualified for outside assistance. The victory went to Lucy Barker (KTM), while Tyra Backstrom (GasGas) finished second: last year they both had a great season in the Woman 125. In Women 125 class absolute dominance for Swedish riders with Nellie Fransson (Yamaha) first and Elsa Andersson (GasGas) second. Third overall position for the Finnish Melissa Mäntylä (KTM).

EMX85 top three

1. Victor Leppälä, FIN
2. Olivar Jüngling, GER
3. Jannes Vos, NED



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RACE PREVIEW

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EMX65 top three

1. Luca Nierychlo, GER
2. Jagieski Cohen, GBR
3. Kash Van Hamond, NED

EMX Women top three

1. Lucy Barker, GBR
2. Tyra Bäckström, SWE
3. Line Dam, DEN

EMX Women 125cc top three

1. Nellie Fransson, SWE
2. Elsa Andersson Löf, SWE
3. Melissa Mäntylä, FIN