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**Snowcross European Championship:  
Mille Andersson clinched 2024 the title**



From Finland to Norway, where the Snowcross European Championship raced the second and last round of this season. In Kirkenes Mille Andersson showcased an extraordinary performance, dominating both races of the final round and clinching the coveted European title.

With a flawless 1-1 record and 50 points, Andersson surged past the red plate holder, Emil Mikalsen, who could only get a 6-9 finish, landing him in 7th place overall. Anton Lindstrom also stepped up to the challenge in Kirkenes, delivering an impressive 2-2, earning him the runner-up position in Norway. Meanwhile, young Norwegian talent Thor-David Rasmus secured a spot on the overall podium.

Despite the intense competition, it was Alfred Gunnarsson who ultimately clinched the bronze medal in the championship standings with his 4th place finish in Norway. Emil

Mikalsen still secured the silver medal in the Championship, thanks to his previous round win in Finland. However, the star of the day was Mille Andersson, who delivered a stunning performance to claim the top spot on the overall podium in Kirkenes and secure the coveted gold medal as the 2024 European SNX Champion.

### EMX Quad European Championship: Turrini takes the red plate



The EMX Quad European Championship was back in action in Alqueidão, Portugal, for round one of the 2024 season.

#### Qualifying Race

The heat had not wavered between the practice and qualifying race session, however, it was evident that the close nature of the riders' lap times would certainly be raising the temperature.

21 riders lined up on the gate to contest the opening qualifying race of the season, and as the gate dropped the lead of the race was highly contested, however, after the initial

scraps for track position had calmed down, only slightly, it was Harry Walker who led the charge ahead of Manfred Zienecker and Patrick Turrini. The second position was short-lived for the German as Turrini found his way through and set about piling the pressure on Walker.

While the leading duo established their lead, Karlis Neija had Joao Vale and Murray Graham for close company, with the former soon succeeding in making the pass, and extend the gap to end the race in 4<sup>th</sup> position. Further down the order, Julian Veldman made his debut in the European championship and, despite a strong start which saw him included in the fight for fifth, it was not to be as he retired from the race with 6 laps to go.

Into the closing stages of the race, the gap was as close as it had been throughout the course of the race, with Walker still fending off Turrini by the slimmest of margins, but, try as he might, he was forced to relinquish the race lead on the final lap, with Turrini coming out on top to kickstart his title defence. Zienecker completed the podium after a lonely but consistent race to 3<sup>rd</sup> position.

### Race 1

After the initial squabbling of position during the opening lap, it was the reigning champion Patrick Turrini who fought off the opposition to claim the lead of the race, with hard-charging local rider Joao Vale in close attendance and Manfred Zienecker chasing after them. Harry Walker was very slightly outside of the top 5 positions in the opening laps, but soon worked his way through the order into 3<sup>rd</sup> position after a handful of laps were completed, however, the most impressive opening lap came from the tall Dutchman, Julian Veldman, who was forced to retire from the qualifying race yesterday due to a puncture. Despite being the last to choose his gate, he would made up a staggering 15 positions to be within the top 6 riders by the end of lap one - a fantastic start on his debut.

With the short nature of this circuit, it wasn't too long before the leading riders were encountering the tailenders, which have proved pivotal in races in years gone by. Turrini,

the first rider to reach the backmarkers would use them to his advantage, with Joao Vale not managing to capitalise on their presence. By this point, Harry Walker had significantly opened his advantage over Manfred Zienecker, who was having a great ride in 4<sup>th</sup> place, unchallenged by the opposition. Despite his speed and determination, it was a mountain too big for Walker to be given the opportunity of fighting for a higher position than 3<sup>rd</sup>, but certainly a great way to solidify his stance in this year's championship from the very start. Great battles were had for the minor placings, with Oliver Sansom inside the top 10 positions along with Murray Graham and Louis Pinchon throughout the mid-point of proceedings, but he would soon slip down the order with local riders Simao Almeida, Diogo Campos and Luis Paulo Machado Mateus moving up the running order.

During the closing laps, a late-race charge was on the cards for Vale, with the gap consistently expanding and contracting between 1.3, and 1.8 seconds, but the metronomically consist Turrini extended the margin to an insurmountable 9.5 seconds by the time the chequered flag was waved - a great effort from the Portuguese pilot. Walker, the reigning British champion attempted to mount a late-race challenge, but it was not to be as he, very happily I'm sure, came home in 3<sup>rd</sup> position.

### Race 2

Racing from the gate and into the first turn, it was Mark McLernon who took the initial advantage as they rounded the first handful of turns, however, this lead was short-lived as Turrini, Walker and Vale found a way past and set about increasing their advantage over the opposition. Turrini completed the first lap with the race lead, however, if he thought that this race would be a similar affair to race 1, he was highly mistaken as the lead changed hand multiple times throughout the duration.

Walker made an impressively close move to take the lead, with Turrini sitting behind to study Walker's lines over the coming laps, however, after challenging Walker for the lead,

they both ran marginally off-line, and Joao Vale said “muito obrigado!” as he went from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> in one move - evidently a fan favourite with the local crowd cheering with delight! Turrini and Walker, in the meantime, sought about a way to reclaim their advantage, and soon relegated Vale to third position, and stretch their gap over the Portuguese rider.

Further down the order, Zienecker seemed to be, frustratingly, losing positions with the passing laps, however, a good point scoring position was up for grabs, of which he grabbed with both hands. Sansom was enjoying a much better race, eventually taking the chequered flag in 9<sup>th</sup> position, ahead of the German rider.

Into the closing stages of the event and the battle was still raging on, with the pendulum of momentum swinging back and forth between the Brit and Italian, but with a move which saw Walker and Turrini almost lock bars, Walker took the reigns and put together a fantastic lap to stretch his advantage to 3.4 seconds by the chequered flag, ahead of Turrini and Vale. Joakim Granli and Karlis Neija finished in positions 4 and 5, separated by only half a second!

At the end of the day, it was Turrini who may have lost the battle, but won the war as he kickstarts his title defence with the championship lead, and the red plate going into the round 2 of the championship in Heerde.

**Race 1 top five:** 1. Patrick Turrini, 2. Joao Vale, 3. Harry Walker, 4. Manfred Zienecker, 5. Julian Veldman.

**Race 2 top five:** 1. Harry Walker, 2. Patrick Turrini, 3. Joao Vale, 4. Karlis Neija, 5. Joakim Granli.

**Overall top five:** 1. Patrick Turrini, 47 points, 2. Harry Walker, 45 points, 3. Joao Vale, 40 points, 4. Karlis Neija, 33 points, 5. Joakim Granli, 30 points, 5. Julian Veldman, 30 points.

### Moto2 European Championship, ETC and Stock: opening round at Misano World Circuit



The curtains finally lifted on the 2024 Moto2 European Championship, ETC and Stock in the Motor Valley and Emilia-Romagna round at the Misano World Circuit Marco Simoncelli, and the Championship opener delivered on everything it promised with stars old and new shining throughout.

The first Moto2™ European Championship race of the 2024 campaign saw Alberto Surra (Team Ciatti - Boscoscuro) claim first place with an accomplished ride. Meanwhile, in the first of the day's two European Talent Cup races Giulio Pugliese (Aspar Junior Team) took victory in dramatic fashion. In the second, Marco Morelli (MLav racing) sealed an emotional first win in the class since 2020. The final winner of the day came in the Stock™ European Championship, with the familiar face of Lorenzo Dalla Porta (Yamaha GV Racing) returning to the top of the rostrum.

#### **Moto2**

Following Surra in Moto2™ ECh were Roberto Garcia (Fantic Cardoso Racing) in P2 and Alberto Ferrandez (Finetwork Team) in P3. It was a hotly contested race with reigning

MotoE™ World Champion Mattia Casadei (Team Ciatti - Boscoscuro) falling just short of joining his Team Ciatti teammate on the podium, finishing in fourth.

### ETC

In Race 1 of the ETC Marco Morelli found himself edged back into second place by Giulio Pugliese by a margin of just 0.009 seconds. The duo vied for first throughout the closing stages of the encounter, while David Gonzalez (AC Racing Team) had a sudden loss of pace towards the end of the race and had to settle for third.

Gonzalez joined Morelli once again on the podium in Race 2 of the ETC, this time able to pressure the leader right until the dying moments, eventually taking second. The two-time podium finishers were joined by Leonardo Zanni (Mir Racing Finetwork Team), who was made to work for the third step on the rostrum by Valentin Perrone (Frando Racing VHC Team) and an inspired Kerman Tinez (Mir Racing Finetwork Team) who finished P5 and P6 respectively.

### Stock

Just behind Stock™ ECh race winner Lorenzo Dalla Porta came newcomer to the class Andy Verdoia (Team Honda Laglisse) and completing the podium in the final race of the day was Dino Iozzo (IUM Motorsports). Iozzo will rue the circumstances that saw him concede the race lead, with Adrian Rodriguez (SF Racing)'s crash resulting in a red flag and a restart, after which Dalla Porta seized the initiative.

### SM Junior European Championship: double victory for Andrea Benvenuti



Andrea Benvenuti (Ktm MTR Racing) ruled both motos with incredible supremacy. In race 2, despite the poor start, the rider worked his way up and won. Second place went to Yevsevii Kovalyov (Husqvarna) and Nathan Terraneo (KTM) was third.

#### Race 1

Solo race for Andrea Benvenuti (KTM Mtr Racing), who pulled away at the start and took the lead without hesitation. The young rider did not make any mistakes on his Ktm 85cc 2 strokes and led the group from first to last lap. Nathan Terraneo (Ktm) moved to second place but could not keep the position and after a few laps where he tried to keep his rival behind, had to let him pass and qualified third. Yevsevii Kovalyov (Husqvarna) lost the chance to worry race leader in the two laps where he was third. Leonardo Lapadula (Team 11) was penalized for an early start and could not do any better than sixth place overall.



### Race 2

At the start Andrea Benvenuti opened the clutch too early and his Ktm reared up so that Benvenuti had to slow down and was overtaken by Nathan Terraneo and Yevsevii Kovalyov.

Swiss Terraneo tried to set a solid race pace to keep rivals behind but did not consider Benvenuti. The rider kept an eye on his rivals for some laps and later attacked them, overtaking Yevsevii Kovalyov and moving to the top spot. Andrea opened a gap and pulled away, eventually winning the race.

Andrea Benvenuti went home with the first victory of the season and showed he is the rider to defeat in the 2024 season.

### Classification Top Ten

1. BENVENUTI Andrea (ITA, KTM) Pts. 50,000 (25+25); 2. KOVALYOV Yevsevii (UKR, Husqvarna) Pts. 44,000 (22+22); 3. TERRANEO Nathan (SUI, KTM) Pts. 40,000 (20+20); 4. MAIMONTE Mattia (BEL, TM) Pts. 36,000 (18+18); 5. NAVARRO BENCOMO Aaron (ESP, Husqvarna) Pts. 32,000 (16+16); 6. BEREZKI David Zsolt (HUN, Husqvarna) Pts. 29,000 (14+15); 7. LAPADULA Leonardo (ITA, TM) Pts. 29,000 (15+14); 8. BANG Lorenz (GER, KTM) Pts. 26,000 (13+13); 9. FERNANDEZ PEREZ Juan Carlos (ESP, KTM) Pts. 24,000 (12+12); 10. IRZYK Liliana (POL, KTM) Pts. 22,000 (11+11).

### European U23 Team Speedway Championship: Pardubice hosted QR1

The QR1 of the European Under23 Team Speedway Championship took place in Pardubice, in the Czech Republic.

The race has been postponed of one day due to the heavy rain that cancelled the schedule of Saturday. In a windy and cold Sunday, teams from the Czech Republic, Great Britain, France and Germany fought to qualify for the Final.

In the end, the tournament was won by home-team: Daniel Klíma, Jan Jenicek, Jan Macek, Bubba Bednář Adam and Jan Kvěch led the Czech squad to the victory, ruling from the first race and increasing the advantage until the end of the competition. Second position for team Great Britain, while team France finished third.

With 15 points Bubba Bednář Adam (Czech Republic) was the best rider of the day.

All is set for the Final, scheduled on August 25<sup>th</sup> in Poland.



### Top three

1. Czech Republic, 50 points
2. Great Britain, 35 points
3. France, 20 points

### Road Racing Hill Climb and Vintage Hill Climb European Championship: the first seasonal round in Austria



The atmosphere in Landshaag, Austria, was electric as the first round of the Road Racing Hill Climb and Vintage Hill Climb European Championship took place thanks to the great organization of the MSC Rottenegg and all the members of the club.

During the first two days, Friday and Saturday, a steady and heavy rain was permanently over the town. With the track in increasingly worse conditions, the qualifying sessions had to be cancelled even before the first one was finished.

On Sunday the track was dry and the day started with the continuation of the qualifying sessions from Saturday.

Here below the winners of the event.

#### Road Racing Hill Climb

250 GP - Guido Testoni, ITA, Honda

SSP 300 - Daniele Stolli, ITA, Yamaha

Supersport - Daniel Kronschläger, AUT, Triumph

Superbike - Stefano Bonetti, ITA, Honda

Supermoto - Bernhard Hörmann, AUT, KTM

### Vintage Hill Climb

Class 2 (Classic up to 500) - Martin HIEBL , GER, Yamaha

Class 3 (Classic over 500) - Alexander Weghofer, AUT, Ducati

Class 4 (125 GP) - Guido Testoni, ITA, Honda

Class 5 (250 GP) - Roman Wannersdorfer, GER, Suzuki

Class 5 (Classic 500) - Bruno Aschauer, AUT, Honda

Class 6 (Classic 750) - Williams Alonzi, ITA, Suzuki

Class 8c (Sidecar) - Peter Gierlinger / Helga Gierlinger, GER, KMS-Yamaha

Class 9a - Karl Vielgut, GER, Kawasaki

Class 9b - Roman Winklmüller, AUT, Yamaha

### EMX65 / EMX85 European Championship South East zone: the season gets underway in Bulgaria



The 2023 EMX65 / EMX85 European Championship South East zone run the first race of the season in Sevlievo, Bulgaria. Lighting up round one in exciting style, the first seasonal race out of six saw thrilling races in a friendly atmosphere.

### EMX85

Amazing performance of the Romanian rider Sami Dimitru, who ruled the event winning both the first and the second race of the EMX85 class. He took the holeshot and dominated the races with no opponents.

In the first heat Serbian rider Ana Kolnookov tried to follow the leader, but at the end was overtook by home rider Georgi Ginov and Turkish Efe Okur.

Race 2 wasn't different. With Dimitru on his way to the victory, Ginov and Okur finished respectively second and third.

### EMX65

In Race 1 race was Hungarian rider Peter Janci to take the lead and hold it almost to the end. Behind him home hero Georgi Iliev and Serbian Viktor Kolnookov. Two laps to go Janci made a mistake, losing the lead and giving to Iliev the occasion to take the first position and the first win. Second place for Kolnookov and third for Bulgarian rider Nikolay Pavlov.

In Race 2 once again Janci took the lead. This time he raced until the end without mistakes, grabbing the victory. Behind him Iliev and the Bulgarian Nikola Mutafchiev.

### EMX85 top three

1. Sami Alexandru Dumitru, ROM
2. Georgi Ginov, BUL
3. Efe Okur, TUR

### EMX65 top three

1. Georgi Iliev, BUL
2. Peter Janci, HUN
3. Nikola Mutafchiev, BUL

### European Handy Bridgestone Cup: round one at historic Le Mans



The European Handy Bridgestone Cup raced the first round of the season in perfect conditions at historical Le Mans Circuit in France. The event took place together with the 24 Heures Moto, the FIM Endurance World Championship.

The Qualifying Practice was scheduled for Saturday morning and 10 riders reached the Qualification criteria for the races.

Race 1 took place on Friday afternoon in sunny weather conditions. Due to a red flag, the grid saw a second start after 7 laps. At the end of fourteen laps of challenges, in the 1000 class Lorenzo Picasso took the win ahead of Martin Horky and Alex Innocenti. The rookie Mirko Koelz from Germany gained the 4<sup>th</sup> position.

In the 600 class Jakob Lorenz finished first and Remo Marinato second.

Race 2 kicked off on Sunday morning in perfect conditions. 14 laps full of overtaking for the first positions between Emiliano Malagoli, Picasso and Horky. Due to a double



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## RACE PREVIEW

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overtaking with a double yellow flag, the leader Picasso took a penalty of 30 seconds finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Malagoli won race 2 ahead of Horky.

In class 600cc victory another win for Lorenz ahead of Marinato.