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## EMX Quad European Championship: Tveraen and Saar shone in Estonia



The 2022 FIM EMX Quad European Championship arrived in Lange, Estonia at the half-way stage, with home hero Kevin Saar on target to retain his title.

### Race 1

The Norwegian Tveraen took initial control in this opening quad race but the reigning champion Saar, as ice-cool as ever, stayed in his wheel tracks, shadowing for the early laps. Gwiazda sat third ahead of Rick Haverdil from the Netherlands. At this stage there were four nations across the first four places.



Joakim Granli also from Norway was in a good fifth place and these five riders were going away from the rest of the field. The geographic location of Lange, and the sheer travel distance had taken its toll on the entry list, keeping many of the other series contenders out of the equation.

Six laps in and Saar had closed to within two tenths of a second on the race leader. Remember, there was not a huge gap in points coming into this second half of the season and Saar would have been acutely aware of that fact. Over half-distance, and the scrap for third was very much on as Granli closed on Gwiazda.

Nine laps gone and still Tveraen held a three second edge over the defending champion. If it stayed this way, Saar's lead would be reduced to seventeen points, with Gwiazda doing himself a power of good in terms of his series status. The lap times had extended somewhat due to the deterioration of the track, although they were still circulating faster than the sidecars as you might expect.

With three laps remaining, Kevin Saar was pushing again, having taken a second out of the Norwegian's lead. One lap later and they were neck and neck, so clearly this would go down to the wire. Little had changed behind them, so it was all about these two and what would be the outcome.

Into the last lap, and there was nothing between them. Tveraen hold on with the rest of the field almost fifty seconds in arrears of this duo.

**Results** 1. Christopher Tveraen, 2. Kevin Saar, 3. Roman Gwiazda, 4. Joakim Granli, 5. Rick Haverdil, 6. Lars Holmen, 7. Matiss Palevics, 8. Tarrald Hellebust.

## Race 2

Sunday's two races would be run in much cooler conditions, with overnight rain settling things down and making the track almost perfect.

Kevin Saar's lead had shrunk slightly after giving away three points to his title rival.

That must have given him impetus, as the Estonia led the charge on the opening lap.

Tveraen was a close second with Gwiazda again third. Granli and Haverdil were fourth



and fifth. Lap two and Saar's lead was three seconds with the top five once again pulling away from the pack.

The sidecar activity had loosened the surface and times were fractionally slower than in race one. The four-times European Champion was not going to let his crown slip easily as he stretched the gap each lap.

Gwiazda and Granli were scrapping hard for third, with the Pole holding on and giving as good as he got. On lap six Saar was five seconds clear in the lead, with no sign of his Norwegian rival having an answer. This position would negate the good work done in the opener.

Rick Haverdil's fifth place would lose him ground to Gwiazda, with the Pole having a good weekend thus far. The Dutchman seemingly could not do anything about it as Gwiazda extended the advantage.

With two minutes left on the clock, Saar had opened a ten second gap and was just bringing it home to redress the balance. Gwiazda now had more trouble as Rick Haverdil got second wind and closed in for fourth place. The challenge seemed to evaporate as Gwiazda found a bit more speed.

Final lap and it was all down to Kevin Saar cruising to the line with a comfortable winning margin.

**Results:** 1. Kevin Saar, 2. Christopher Tveraen, 3. Joakim Granli, 4. Roman Gwiazda, 5. Rick Haverdil, 6. Lars Holmen, 7. Matiss Palevics, 8. Mihkel Salujo.

### Race 3

It was holeshot for Roman Gwiazda chased Christopher Tveraen and Kevin Saar. The pack was very close as they thundered down the back over the succession of jumps. Before lap one had ended, Tveraen was further back having had a moment which allowed Saar and Gwiazda through.

That set the pattern for the race with Kevin Saar once more superior in his speed and race craft. At half race distance he had opened a fifteen second lead over Gwiazda and never



looked threatened in the slightest. At this point in time, he looked every inch the champion he is. The Norwegian Joakim Granli caught and passed Gwiazda as Tveraen made up ground again, going past Rick Haverdil into fourth place. All would not be lost for Tveraen, but he would leave Estonia in a worse points state than when he arrived.

Saar was now twenty seconds clear at the front, with little or no hope of anyone catching him. Having said that, the Norwegian was coming but time was running out.

Into the closing stages, Tveraen was up to third and closing on Joakim Granli for second place having wrestled past Roman Gwiazda. He was now within twenty-five seconds behind the race leader, facing a mountain to climb if he had any hope of catching him. But given the drama in the previous sidecar race, nothing is over until it's over.

Second place was on, but victory against the four-times champion, might be a bridge too far.

Sensationally, as they entered the final two laps, he had chopped the gap to just over two seconds. Saar must have had an issue out of sight somewhere for this amount of time to be lost. Tveraen's time was the fastest, but not that much faster. Then Saar was back in front, this see-saw battle would go all the way to the wire. Saar took the victory and extended his title lead.

**Results:** 1. Kevin Saar, 2. Christopher Tveraen, 3. Joakin Granli, 4. Roman Gwiazda, 5. Rick Haverdil, 6. Matiss Palevics, 7. Wiktor Kusmierczak, 8. Tomasz Jamroy.



SEC: Madsen wins in Rybnik, Michelsen at the lead of standings



It wasn't the easiest start of the day for last year's silver medallist, Leon Madsen. The Dane scored just one point in two starts, but added another nine in the rest of the regular phase of the meeting. What's important, Madsen adjusted his equipment in the second part of the meeting, which translated into another win in the last-chance race. In the final, the 2018 Champion gave no chance to his rivals and crossed the finish line as first.

Janusz Kołodziej had successful return to the TAURON SEC series. The Pole presented a great form, which translated into direct promotion to the final. In the last race of the day, Kołodziej fought for position with Patryk Dudek, but it was the four-time Individual Champion of Poland who reached the finish line behind Madsen.

For the second year in a row, Patryk Dudek stood on the lowest step of the podium in Rybnik. The 2021 SEC bronze medallist started the meeting with three points scored in two heats, but then, it was only better and better with every run. Duzers had a great duel with Madsen in the last-chance heat and advanced to the final, where he took the third place.



Mikkel Michelsen got a fantastic start of the competition. The defending champion dominated from the start, with four straight individual wins. The Dane only lost a point in race 18, where he crossed the finish line behind Madsen. With 14 points, he advanced directly to the final, where he finished fourth.

We witnessed scary moments in the extra heat, in which Polish riders Bartosz Smektała and Piotr Pawlicki fell on the track at the second corner. Luckily, both riders were able to get back to the pits on their own, but the 2018 Junior World Champion was excluded from the re-run.

A huge surprise came from Oliver Berntzon and Dimitri Berge. The debutants in the IEC series were not only scoring points, but also winning their races. Their good performance is best demonstrated by the fact that Berntzon scored 10 and Berge 9 points.

10th place went to Kai Huckenbeck. The German representative scored seven points. It is worth to mention that this year's second round of the TAURON SEC will take place in Gustrow, at Huckenbeck's 'home' track. The last SEC editions at this oval were successful events, so we are already inviting you to Germany on August 6.

Andzejs Lebedevs and Vaclav Milik cannot count today's competition as a successful one. Both the 2017 European Champion and the two-time series medallist scored one point each.

#### Top five:

1. Leon Madsen - 13 (1,0,3,3,3,3)
2. Janusz Kołodziej - 14 (3,2,2,2,3,2)
3. Patryk Dudek - 12 (1,2,3,2,3,1)
4. Mikkel Michelsen - 14 (3,3,3,3,2,0)
5. Bartosz Smektała - 11 (1,3,1,3,3)

**Moto2 European Championship & European Talent Cup:  
fourth round at Jerez de la Frontera**



Incredible day of racing at the iconic Circuito de Jerez - Angel Nieto. The Spanish venue welcomed riders and teams for round 4 of Moto2 European Championship & European Talent Cup, halfway point of the season.

### **Moto2 European Championship**

The sole Moto2™ ECh encounter was also an intriguing one that wasn't settled until the very closing stages; a four-rider fight with Alex Escrig grabbing the holeshot from Xavi Cardelus (Promoracing), his teammate Senna Agius and Lukas Tulovic (Liqui Moly Intact GP Junior Team) soon took place, and it was decided by who managed tyres the best. After mistakes, Tulovic was back in fourth but soon fought back to second ahead of Agius and Cardelus, but nobody could catch Escrig, who became the 32nd different winner in the Moto2™ ECh, clinching a first win. There was late drama as Mattia Rato (MMR) took out





teammate Tommaso Marcon at the final corner on the last lap, whilst it was Juan Rodriguez (Cuna Campeones) who took top Stock honours.

### European Talent Cup

Race 1 was dramatic throughout as South African Ruche Moodley (Finetwork Mir Junior Team) got the holeshot before being pegged back in by the likes of Boggio, Brian Uriarte (Team Estrella Galicia 0,0) and poleman Maximo Martinez (Team Honda Laglisse), whilst Hakim Danish (SIC Racing), Rico Salmela (Team Estrella Galicia 0,0) and an impressive Guillem Planques (First Bike Academy & AMP) were allright there too. In a final lap shootout that went to the final corner, Boggio took honour to give Italy a fifth win in the class and to become tenth different winner in Hawkers ETC at Jerez. Guido Pini (AC Racing Team), who was looking to capitalise on the absence of Joel Esteban (Aspar Junior Team) and hit the top of the standings couldn't do so and only finished eighth.

Race 2 saw a carbon copy of the start as Moodley once again launched off the line but this time, it was a pack of riders jockeying for position. Riders to feature prominently included Casey O'Gorman (VisionTrack Racing Team), Alberto Ferrandez (Finetwork Mir Junior Team) - both of whom came from way outside the top ten - and Amanuel Brinton (Team Estrella Galicia 0,0), who was aiming to bounce back after a double long lap penalty for a jump start in Race 1. Following a hectic final lap, O'Gorman went from third to first at the final corner and held position but was out-dragged to the line by Boggio, who once again came good late-on to take a double. O'Gorman crossed the line second, but the Irishman was demoted to third for exceeding track limits, thus promoting Uriarte to his second second-place of the day. Ferrandez took a well-earned fourth from the fifth row of the grid whilst poleman Martinez was fifth, one place ahead of Brinton in a career-best sixth. The new Championship leader is Boggio by a single point over Esteban.





**EMX 65 / EMX 85 European Championship:**

**North East zone**

**North West zone**



The EMX 65 / EMX 85 European Championship - North East zone and North West zone raced together in Velke Uherce - Slovakia, their last round of this 2022 season.

Now is all set for the Final, that will be held in Loket on July 17<sup>th</sup> together with the MXGP of Czech Republic.

**North West Zone results**

**EMX 65**

1. Maxim Zimmermann, Slovakia
2. Jamiro Peters, Germany
3. Thorius Bertram, Denmark

**EMX 85**

1. Gyan Doensen, The Netherlands
2. Dex Koiker, The Netherlands
3. Freddie Bartlett, Sweden

**North East Zone results**

**EMX 65**

1. Leok Lucas, Estonia
2. Allas Aston, Estonia
3. Lustus Enri, Estonia

**EMX 85**

1. Leok Travis, Estonia
2. Emils Solovyjevs, Latvia
3. Laicans Raivo, Latvia