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## EMX 125 and EMX 250 European Championship: Coenen and Reisuilis master the sand at the round of Flanders



Round seven of the EMX250 and EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing Championships have concluded at the round of Flanders that saw Jumbo Husqvarna BT Racing Team's Luca Coenen and Janis Martins Reisuilis victorious in the deep and sandy conditions of Lommel.

### EMX250

In the first EMX250 race, it was Sacha Coenen of Jumbo Husqvarna BT Racing who took the holeshot from Hutten Metaal Yamaha Racing's Rick Elzinga and Andrea Bonacorsi.

Elzinga made a quick move into the lead, as Bonacorsi followed through and moved into second as S. Coenen got pushed down to third. Guillem Farres of Raths Motorsports fought his way up the order as he eventually passed Dave Kooiker of Hutten Metaal Yamaha Racing for third.

By the fourth lap, Farres also managed to get ahead of Bonacorsi, though the Italian fought back immediately to take back his position. Farres then crashed and did not carry on with the race.



Meanwhile Lucas Coenen of Jumbo Husqvarna BT Racing caught both Elzinga and Bonacorsi by surprise as he made his way from seventh and into the lead on lap nine. The trio battled closely for the next several laps as Bonacorsi got by his teammate to move into second.

Bonacorsi pushed L. Coenen until the final moments of the race, as the pair crossed the line separated by just 0.549 seconds as L. Coenen took the race win in front of his home crowd. Bonacorsi was second ahead of Elzinga, Quentin Marc Prugnieres of 9MM Energy Drink BUD Racing and S. Coenen.

In race two, it was once again S. Coenen who was the leading rider into the first corner, though it took no time at all for his brother L. Coenen to take over first position. Elzinga was right there ahead of Farres and Maxime Grau of Nestaan Husqvarna Factory Racing. A couple of riders went down in the first corner too, as Bonacorsi started down in 13<sup>th</sup>. S. Coenen then dropped to fifth as Farres and Prugnieres went by. Meanwhile Bonacorsi was making good progress as he fought back to seventh, though as the Italian made the pass, he crashed moments later and had to do the work all over again.

By that point, L. Coenen had a very impressive 18.925 second lead over Elzinga as S. Coenen struggled with what looked like a bike issue and did not carry in with the rest of the heat.

Out of nowhere, Bonacorsi found a second gear as he began his pursuit for the podium after making some quick passes. The Italian went from 14<sup>th</sup> to eighth, then passed Kooiker and Cornelius Toendel of Fantic Factory Team Maddii and eventually Camden Mc Lellan of TBS Conversions Racing Team on the final two laps to secure fourth.

But no rider was a match for the home hero L. Coenen who win the second heat with a 37.187 second advantage over Farres, Elzinga, Bonacorsi and Mc Lellan.

A 1-1 result put L. Coenen on the top step of the box in front of his home fans, while Elzinga finished second and Bonacorsi third. As it stands, Elzinga continues to lead the EMX250 Championship standings, 30 points over Toendel and L. Coenen who is third.



**EMX250 - Overall Top 10 Classification:** 1. Lucas Coenen (BEL, HUS), 50 points; 2. Rick Elzinga (NED, YAM), 40 p.; 3. Andrea Bonacorsi (ITA, YAM), 40 p.; 4. Camden Mc Lellan (RSA, KTM), 30 p.; 5. Cornelius Toendel (NOR, FAN), 30 p.; 6. Maximilian Spies (GER, KTM), 26 p.; 7. Guillem Farres (ESP, KTM), 22 p.; 8. Meico Vettik (EST, KTM), 21 p.; 9. Eddie Wade (ESP, KAW), 20 p.; 10. Quentin Marc Prugnieres (FRA, KAW), 18 p.

### EMX125

In EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing heat one, it was Julius Mikula who took the holeshot ahead of Nicolai Skovbjerg, Mads Fredsoe, Maximilian Werner of DIGA Procross KTM Racing and Janis Martins Reisulis! J.M Reisulis then found his way into third, while his brother, Karlis Alberts Reisulis of Yamaha Europe EMX125 MJC fought through the field in the first lap to move up to fourth.

J.M Reisulis then got himself up to second, as Yamaha Europe EMX125 MJC's Ivano van Erp fought his way through the field, after a mid-pack start to move into sixth. Van Erp was on a charge as he quickly pushed inside the top five and was looking to close in on K.Reisulis.

Mikula was the leading rider from the get-go but was coming under pressure from J.M Reisulis, who was riding well under pressure.

Further down the field, series leader Cas Valk of Fantic Factory Team Maddii had a tough beginning to his race as he started down in 20<sup>th</sup>. After making some nice passes, Valk got caught up with another rider who crashed in front of him, but was able to get going again and made some really good progress to end the race in sixth position.

K. Reisulis and Van Erp then battled closely, as the Dutchman made the pass for third as Mikula stretched his lead to over six seconds. Van Erp then crashed, as did the leader Mikula, but was able to get going quickly and stay ahead of J.M Reisulis.

In the final few laps it was an all-out battle between Mikula and J.M Reisulis for the win but the rider from Czech Republic was able to keep calm and secure his first EMX race victory ahead of J.M Reisulis, Van Erp, K. Reisulis and Skovbjerg.

In race two, the holeshot went to Fredsoe, though J.M Reisulis wasted no time to make the pass and get himself into the lead. Laban Alm got by too, as Lotte Van Drunen got off



to a very strong start in sixth. Mikula was right there in the mix too as he got up to second place, while Valk was down in fifth as Van Erp struggled in 28<sup>th</sup>.

On the opening lap, Mikula fell out of second, as Valk made some fast passes to get by Alm for second. Mikula was looking to recover down in the top 10, as K. Reisulis passed Alm also after making up two positions in a matter of a couple of corners.

By that point J.M Reisulis was around three seconds in the lead as Valk worked hard to close down that gap after setting the fastest lap of the race.

Meanwhile Van Drunen had Mikula applying the pressure, though held him off for a while as she showed her strength in the sandy conditions. Van Drunen continued with her impressive performance and ended up finishing 10<sup>th</sup>.

As Mikula worked his way back up to fourth, J.M Reisulis made a mistake which allowed Valk to get within touching distance of the leader. The two fought intensely for the win, though Valk was able to find his way through on lap 11, but his time in the lead was short as he threw it away moments later.

Valk crashed which allowed J.M Reisulis back in the lead, though the Dutchman got going quickly and held on to second.

J.M Reisulis ended up winning the race and with it secured his first ever overall victory in the EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing category, ahead of Valk and K. Reisulis who finished second and third in the race, but it was Mikula and K. Reisulis who occupied the second and third steps of the podium.

Despite missing out on a top three overall finish, Valk leads the championship standings with 289 points over K. Reisulis who moves up to second on 254 points while Alexis Fueri of Fantic Factory Team Maddii drops to third after a tough weekend in the sand.

**EMX125 Presented by FMF Racing - Overall Top 10 Classification:** 1. Janis Martins Reisulis (LAT, KTM), 47 points; 2. Julius Mikula (CZE, KTM), 43 p.; 3. Karlis Alberts Reisulis (LAT, YAM), 38 p.; 4. Cas Valk (NED, FAN), 37 p.; 5. Francisco Garcia (ESP, GAS), 27 p.; 6. Mads Fredsoe (DEN, KTM), 27 p.; 7. Nicolai Skovbjerg (DEN, YAM), 26 p.; 8. Adrien Petit (FRA, YAM), 22 p.; 9. Edgar Canet (ESP, GAS), 21 p.; 10. Lucas Bruhn (DEN, HUS), 20 p.



## European Pairs Speedway Championship:

### Semi Final 2



The Semi Final 2 of the European Pairs Speedway Championship took place in Macon, France, in the east of the country.

The meeting was run with the track in the perfect condition and good weather conditions in front of a warm audience.

The sprint for the first place was in balance since to first heat between Great Britain and Sweden and only in the last heat the five points of Great Britain let them win the meeting. Third place and last qualify to Norway.

Out of the Final Italy with Paco Castagna, who has done the maximum individual score of the meeting, while a new generation of French young riders finished fifth ahead of Netherlands.

All is set for the Final, scheduled on August 08<sup>th</sup> in Denmark.

#### Final classification:

1. Great Britain
2. Sweden
3. Norway

4. Italy
5. France
6. The Netherlands

### Enduro European Championship: round 3 in Finland



Third round of the Enduro European Championship in Sipoo, Finland.

#### Day 1

On the first day of the Borilli European Enduro Championship 2022 in Sipoo, Finland, local hero Eero Remes won on his Husqvarna: the Finn has already collected three World Championship titles in his active career and, although he actually wanted to hang up his helmet, he couldn't resist the temptation: *"I only live 20 minutes from here and I know the terrain and the conditions well. It would be a shame not to have taken the chance to race"* he said after the competition. At first it didn't look like Hein had the advantage, because in the demanding extreme test the small rider got stuck in the long stone field and lost more than 40 seconds, which dropped him to sixth place overall. But Remes



continued to fight his way to the front and was actually able to snatch victory from his compatriot Eemil Pohjola, who had been in the lead until then, by less than a second in the very last special test. *"I got stuck on the logs again in the last special stage, but I was still faster than Eemil"* he commented on his success. Pohjola is no stranger to this, having already been European champion in 2019.

At least there was no Finnish guest entrant in third place in the overall standings, but the current leader in the European Championship, Belgian Erik Willems, who finished less than three seconds behind Remes: *"I rode pretty much at the limit and therefore crashed a few times too much. No serious crashes, more slips, but even with that you lose time. Besides, I'm pretty tired, I was still sick in June and I still have a bit of a training backlog to make up for"*.

However, he remains in front in the championship, especially since his fiercest rival, the Briton Dan Mundell, dropped out with a technical problem in the very first special stage: when landing after a long jump, his front wheel had lost half of its spokes. The Beta rider did not crash, but could not continue.

While the hosts took the first places in the overall classification and almost all classes, Frenchman Clement Clauzier was able to prevail over his Italian rival Manuel Verzeroli in the youth class of the youngest riders. However, GasGas rider Verzeroli remains in the lead of the championship.

There was no Finnish victory in the women's race either: the leader in the European Championship, Nieve Holmes from Great Britain, won ahead of Marie Holt Vilde from Norway and extended her lead.

## Day2

Even after guest starter Eero Remes as a local hero won the second day, Belgian Erik Willems retains the overall lead. The Husqvarna rider was even snatched second place on the day in the very last special test: Briton Daniel Mundell pushed him into third place in the overall standings of day two.





It took Mundell a little while to get going on Sunday: *"After I had dropped out on the first day, I obviously couldn't get to know the special stages as well as the other riders, who had completed three rounds each. For me, especially the first lap was difficult because the tracks had changed in the loose ground, which I couldn't consider before. But every lap went a bit better"*, the Beta rider was happy about the double success afterwards, because besides the second place in the overall standings, he also won the E3 class that day. Due to his retirement on the first day, however, he is missing important points in the championship, so that in addition to the overall championship-ranking, he has now also slipped to second place in the E3 class behind Dietger Damiaens.

But with his furious attack in the last special stage, he had also relegated the Belgian to second place in the day's standings. Nevertheless, Damiaens is almost satisfied, because he was clearly better on the road than the day before: *"Of course we made some changes to the settings after yesterday, but I still can't say what the reason is that I'm so far ahead in the overall standings again now."*

Of course, the Finns used their home advantage again on the second day of riding. But this time they were not as dominant as before because the international riders were able to adapt quickly to the special conditions: besides overall winner Eero Remes (who of course also won E2 class) Peetu Juupaluoma could still win in the Junior 2 class as well as the former European Champion Emil Pohjola in the E1 class. Also in the seniors almost the same picture as the day before, where Marko Tarkkala won ahead of the Italian Alessandro Rizza and the Slovak Martin Gottvald. After yesterday's technical retirement of former European Champion Arne Domeyer, his compatriot and team mate Christoph Lessing pushed him from third place in the championship.

In the women's race, Norway's Vilde Marie Holt stood at the top of the podium for the first time: With a day's win and second place on the previous day, she took her first overall victory of the weekend! She also benefited from the technical problems of the leader in the championship, Briting Nieve Holmes: her chain jumped off three times, which she had





to repair during the stage. Because the women had already reached the end of their strength on

the strenuous course and the demanding extreme test on the first day, the distance for the women was shortened by one lap. The men had also skipped the last special stage and were thus able to finish the competition before the onset of rain, which would have made the surface particularly slippery.

The battle for the Championship is not over: the final will be on 29 and 30 October in Rüdersdorf, Germany.