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**Yamaha bLU cRU European Championship:  
Emiliano Ercolani crowned 2023 R3 bLU cRU champion in dramatic finale**



Italy's Emiliano Ercolani became the Yamaha bLU cRU European Champion in Magny Cours, France, after a shocking series of twists and turns that saw him crash in both races.

The day's action got underway with Race 1, where six riders were still in contention for the crown. But drama is never far away in the class for upcoming talent and a crash early in the race saw three of those contenders - Aldi Mahendra, Ercolani, and Kevin Fontainha - down and out. The red flag was shown due to the debris and a rush ensued to get the bikes repaired and the riders back on track. Despite their best efforts, Mahendra and his crew ran out of time and were unable to take the restart, ultimately costing the Indonesian rider the crown. Meanwhile, Fontainha and Ercolani were forced to start from the back of the grid.



Spain's Marc Vich came out as the eventual winner of the exciting and unpredictable race, which included several fantastic battles for the victory. French rider Dorian Joulin thrilled his friends and family as well as the assembled crowd when he claimed a brilliant second place, and Shoma Yamane became the first Japanese rider to take a podium in the R3 bLU cRU series. Ercolani made an impressive comeback to fourth, but Vich's calm and calculated victory moved him to 23 points from the Italian title leader.

In Race 2 there were yet more plot twists when Ercolani suffered his second crash of the day and was left waiting nervously for the race result with Vich riding in the lead group. The Mallorcan needed to win the race in order to claim the crown, and he certainly gave it everything to try and achieve that, but it simply wasn't to be when he lost ground after running wide. Vich eventually finished sixth, meaning Ercolani could finally celebrate the title despite not finishing the race. Mahendra came back from a double long lap penalty to win the season finale ahead of Brazilian pairing Fontainha and Gustavo Manso. Mahendra and Fontainha also placed second and third in the final standings.

As the R3 bLU cRU European Champion, Ercolani will now move up to the WorldSSP300 class for next season, a perfect progression for the 19-year-old who won his place in this year's series thanks to a victory in last year's R3 SuperFinale.

### **Individual Speedway Euro Championship:**

#### **Madsen won in Bydgoszcz!**

Leon Madsen won in the third round of the Individual Speedway Euro Championship in Bydgoszcz, Poland.

Madsen's third victory during SEC competitions in Bydgoszcz became a reality. The Dane showed that he really knows the oval secret of the track. This win extends his hopes for the title.



The podium was completed by Mikkel Michelsen and Dominik Kubera.

Janusz Kołodziej might feel the disappointment. After the regular phase the leader finished the most crucial race of the evening in fourth place. Nevertheless, the points he gathered still keep him in the race for medals in TAURON SEC 2023.

Michelsen is continuing his course towards the championship title. The Dane scored fifteen points and gain the second place. Unless something unexpected happens in Pardubice, he will secure his third Individual European Champion title in his career.

Surprisingly, Kai Huckenbeck and Antonio Lindbäck performed admirably on the Bydgoszcz track. The German collected ten points on his tally and came close to reaching the final race. Meanwhile, the Swede had to settle for a respectable sixth place.

### Top five

1. Leon Madsen (Denmark) - (1,2,3,3,3,3) - 15+3
2. Mikkel Michelsen (Denmark) - (1,3,3,2,3,2) - 14
3. Dominik Kubera (Poland) - (2,3,2,0,2,1) - 10+2

4. Janusz Kołodziej (Poland) - (3,3,3,3,2,0) - 14
5. Kai Huckenbeck (Germany) - (2,2,dnf,3,3) - 10+1

**European STK 1000 and SSP 300 Cup:  
perfect weekend for Pavelec and Molik**



Fifth and penultimate round of the European STK 1000 and SSP 300 Cup at the Automotodróm Slovakiaring together with the Alpe Adria Championship in perfect weather conditions.

### STOCK 1000

Race 1 was raced in a smoothly mood without any incidents. Polish rider Milan Pavelec easily won ahead of Austrian Martin Tritscher and Lennart Ulbl from the Czech Republic. Race2 saw a thrilling battle for the second position between Tritscher and Ulbl. Pavelec made the double with a new track record (2'03''368). At the end of the challenge Lennart finished second ahead of Tritscher.



### SSP 300

Perfect weekend for Polish rider Mateus Molik, who took a double win ahead of Hungarians Szamado Mate, two times second. In Race1 third position for Lukas Hamilton, while in Race2 for the amazing home hero Patricia Sowa, who was the only female rider.