

MOTORSPORT

Boulogne-Billancourt – 19 September 2021

## **MICHELIN Power Slick tyres reign in San Marino**

- Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) makes it back-to-back MotoGP™ race wins
- Jordi Torres (HP Pons 40) crowned 2021 MotoE™ Champion
- New all-time circuit lap record of 1'31.065 for Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team)
- New race lap record of 1'32.242 for Enea Bastianini (Avintia Esponsorama)
- New MotoE race lap record of 1'42.660 for Dominique Aegerter (Dynavolt Intact GP)
- New Misano MotoGP race duration record of 41'48.305

Francesco Bagnaia led from start to finish to take a well-earned victory in a dry Gran Premio Octo di San Marino e della Riviera di Rimini at Misano on-board his MICHELIN Power Slick-shod Ducati Desmosedici. Following hot on his heels in second and third places respectively were Fabio Quartararo (Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP) and Enea Bastianini.

In Qualifying, Bagnaia repeated his Aragon performance of last week by setting a new all-time circuit lap record of 1'31.065 using Hard front and Soft rear MICHELIN Power Slicks.

While charging through the field from twelfth on the grid to an impressive third place finish, Italian rider Enea Bastianini broke the race lap record with a time of 1'32.242.

Variable weather conditions during the weekend, with some very heavy rain affecting both of Friday's Free Practice sessions, meant that finding the optimum set-up in the event of a dry race was something of a challenge for the teams. This led to some difficulty deciding on race tyres, but on the grid there was a roughly 50/50 split between riders choosing Medium or Hard fronts, and Soft or Medium rears.

Saturday's FP3 session enjoyed much better weather conditions and this gave the teams the chance to test the slick tyres to try and find the best race options. Later in the session the lap times tumbled as the riders fitted Medium or Soft MICHELIN Power Slick tyres and went into time-attack mode to try and book their places in Q2 while the track was dry. Despite using a variety of tyre combinations, the lap times of the top 10 riders were covered by less than 0.5 seconds.



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With the final two races of this year's FIM Enel MotoE™ World Cup taking place this weekend and with everything still to play for in the title race, the 2021 crown went to Jordi Torres after victory in Saturday's race and thirteenth place in a controversial Race 2 on Sunday.

Race 1 on Saturday afternoon was won by Torres, with Dominique Aegerter (Dynavolt Intact GP) in second and Mattia Casadei (Ongetta Sic58 Squadracorse) in third. However, a crash towards the end of the race effectively took two of the title favourites - Eric Granado (One Energy Racing) and Alessandro Zaccone (Octo Pramac MotoE) out of contention.

In Race 2 on Sunday, Matteo Ferrari (Team Gresini MotoE) took the race win, with second and third spots being taken by Mattia Casadei and Miquel Pons (LCR E-Team) respectively, while Aegerter set a new race lap record of 1'42.660.

Speaking at the end of the weekend, Piero Taramasso, Michelin Two-Wheel Motorsport Manager, said: "Overall it was a very good weekend in terms of tyre performance, and as last weekend at Aragon, we saw that all of the allocation worked in the different sessions, and in both wet and dry conditions. It was also great to see three more new records set on our tyres.

"With the threat of rain always present on Sunday afternoon it was touch-and-go whether the MotoGP race would be dry, but I was glad to see that it stayed dry throughout and that riders using both our Soft and Medium rear slick tyres, which showed good race-long consistency, were on the podium.

"I would also like to congratulate Jordi on his second consecutive MotoE championship title, and give a special mention to our MotoE tyres, which throughout the season have shown that using bio-sourced and recycled materials in their construction is no barrier to close and exciting racing."

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