



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Le Mans (France), May 12, 2024

Michelin® Grand Prix de France A weekend of records, both on the track and in the stands

- A new public attendance record was recorded during the Michelin Grand Prix de France weekend (297 471 people), confirming it as the flagship event of the MotoGP™ season.
- Hard front and Soft rear MICHELIN Power Slick tyres allowed Jorge Martin (Prima Pramac Racing) to take pole position on Saturday, setting the new all-time circuit lap record of 1'29.919 in the process.
- Enea Bastianini (Ducati Lenovo Team) set the new race lap record by completing the 4.185 km of the Bugatti circuit in 1'31.107, and his motorcycle was also equipped with Hard front and Soft rear MICHELIN Power Slick tyres.
- Two very lively FIM Enel MotoE™ World Championship races took place on Saturday, and Nicholas Spinelli (Tech3 E-Racing) won both. At Le Mans, the 100% electric MotoE motorcycles were significantly faster than Moto3™.

*"What a magnificent 2024 edition this Michelin Grand Prix de France was! Some very good races took place during the weekend in front of the record number of spectators, who did not hesitate to participate in the festivities," commented **Piero Taramasso**, manager of Michelin two-wheel competition. "In front of this exceptional audience, Michelin demonstrated the qualities and performance of its MotoGP tyres, with the records to prove it, and also its ability to combine speed and spectacle with respect for the environment, particularly in MotoE. At Le Mans, the championship's 100% electric motorcycles, equipped with Michelin tyres made from more than 50% renewable and recycled materials, were up to two seconds per lap faster than the Moto3 machines."*

Unexpected weather and variable track grip

Everyone in the paddock was expecting unpredictable weather. During spring in Le Mans, the mornings are generally cool, and the mercury column does not rise until mid-afternoon when the sun shines - and rain frequently invites itself to the festivities. During the 2024 edition of the Michelin Grand Prix de France, the weather was particularly mild and, under clear skies and 27° C in the air, the track surface reached 42° C during the Sprint race.



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However, for Sunday's Grand Prix the sky was overcast and the temperature of the asphalt did not exceed 36° C, as a cool wind of medium intensity swept the circuit.

Asphalt temperature is one of the main factors determining the level of grip of the track. At very low temperatures (less than 15°C) the track offers little grip, but this improves with the rise in temperature, before reducing again above 35-40° C.

In FP1 and Practice on Friday, as well as for FP2 and Qualifying, the riders benefited from ideal grip, while during the Sprint race the grip had already reduced due to the high temperatures. Despite this phenomenon, the lap times were generally fast and Jorge Martin, winner of the Sprint, set a race time 10 seconds faster than in 2023.

The Grand Prix was also 10 seconds faster than the previous record, achieved this time in 2022 by Enea Bastianini, as the winner Jorge Martin completed the 27 laps of the circuit in 41'23.709. The new race lap record was set by Enea Bastianini (Ducati Lenovo Team), who completed his 23rd lap of the Bugatti circuit in 1'31.107.

*"The Hard front and Soft rear MICHELIN Power Slick tyre combination proved to be perfectly suited to both the Sprint race and the Grand Prix," added **Piero Taramasso**, manager Michelin two-wheel competition. "A benefit of the cool wind that swept the track during the race was that it helped cool the front tyre, without putting the riders in difficulty. I would also like to highlight the consistency of the lap times, with the race lap record falling thanks to Enea Bastianini 4 laps from the chequered flag."*

In addition to the Sprint race, Jorge Martin also won the 2024 Michelin® Grand Prix de France. He was followed on the podium by Marc Marquez (Gresini Racing MotoGP), who overtook Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team) in the closing laps after the Italian led the race for the first 21 laps.

The next rounds of the MotoGP and MotoE championships will take place from 24 to 26 May in Catalunya, on the Barcelona circuit.

About Michelin

Michelin's ambition is to sustainably improve its customers' mobility. The leader in the mobility sector, Michelin designs, manufactures, and distributes the tires best suited to their requirements and uses as well as services and solutions to improve transport efficacy.



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Michelin also puts forward offers that allow its customers to enjoy unique moments when traveling. Michelin also develops high-technology equipment intended for multiple fields. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin is present in 175 countries, employs 132,200 people and operates 67 tire factories that, together, produced approximately 167 million tires in 2022. (www.michelin.com).

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