

Road Race

WSBK, Misano Adriatico, Republic of San Marino

Tom Fights Hard And Leaves Misano Third Overall

Tom Sykes (Kawasaki Racing Team) had a highpoint of fourth in race one at Misano today but kept his third position overall. Loris Baz was unlucky in race one but rode well to go eighth in race two.

Sykes, who once again started raceday from pole position, took an early lead in race one, only for Jonathan Rea to pass him. Tom was in contention for the win for a few laps but as rear tyre grip issues on the warming tarmac played their part he had to drop back. He was as low as seventh on lap 13 of 24, but battled back to fourth at the flag, only eight seconds from the race winner Max Biaggi.

As Biaggi doubled up his wins in race two, and as the temperatures climbed in the Adriatic coastal sun, Sykes and his team chose a tyre that was unable to handle the great increase in track temperatures and Tom had to ride hard as his rear traction dropped off, finishing seventh.

The end result for Sykes and KRT is that Tom remained third in the championship, with Biaggi on moving clear of new overall second place rider Rea.

On his Kawasaki Racing Team Ninja ZX-10R Loris Baz was unlucky to be forced out in race one when the electronic part of his gearshift started to fail. He had qualified well in Superpole and was able to make up ground in race two, finishing right in the wheel tracks of his team-mate Sykes, for an eighth place finish. This equalled his best finish in SBK racing so far, and put him to 19th in the championship.

Kawasaki Team Pedercini competitors Leandro Mercado and David Salom found no good fortune on raceday, with Salom having a technical issue in the opener and Mercado finishing 19th. Salom fell in race two and re-injured his right shoulder, while Mercado was 16th and one place away from scoring points in the second race. In the Superstock 1000 race Jeremy Guarnoni (MRS Kawasaki) was sixth and Bryan Staring (Team Pedercini Kawasaki) seventh. New Team Pedercini Superstock rider David McFadden fell in the race and no scored, after qualifying tenth.

Tom Sykes: "To be honest race one was not too bad after we have had a difficult weekend trying to find traction with the bike in hot conditions. We have done a great job in the first part of the year and we know where we can improve. In race one we did what we needed to do to finish top four. I'm satisfied with race one best four and eight seconds off. It was certainly good compared to last year. Track temperatures went up considerably for race two and unfortunately because we have been struggling with bike setting we had to concentrate on this. We were very limited on track time for tyres and the main focus for us was to improve the bike to get the result. In race two we made the wrong tyre selection. We did not have the tyre experience to gamble on another tyre choice. Rea chose a different tyre and look what happened to him. If we had done the same we would still be in the same ballpark. Others made bigger mistakes today. So, we lost a few points but I'm still third in the championship after a bit of a hard weekend."

Loris Baz: "I had a problem in race one, with the electronics in the gear shifter, after five laps. I tried to ride without it for ten laps but it became a bit risky, so I came in. I knew I had a good race pace so I think in race one I could have finished between tenth and 12th, something like that. In race two I tried to start a bit better, which I did not do! Then I tried to go faster in the first few laps and then our race pace was really good, so I could come back to Laverty, Tom and some other riders. I was comfortable where I was so I did not want to make a stupid mistake trying to overtake Tom. For me eighth is really good. I would have like to try and pass Tom but I did not want to take any risks."

High resolution images are free to download at press.kawasaki.eu.

WSBK

Race 1

1	Max Biaggi	Aprilia RSV4 Factory
2	Carlos Checa	Ducati 1098R
3	Davide Giugliano	Ducati 1098R
4	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki ZX 10R
5	Jonathan Rea	Honda CBR1000RR
6	Chaz Davies	Aprilia RSV4 Factory
7	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia RSV4 Factory
8	Sylvain Guintoli	Ducati 1098R
9	Jakub Smrz	Ducati 1098R
10	Leon Camier	Suzuki GSX-R1000
19	Leandro Mercado	Kawasaki ZX-10R
DNS	Joan Lascorz	Kawasaki ZX-10R
DNF	David Salom	Kawasaki ZX-10R

Race 2

1	Max Biaggi	Aprilia RSV4 Factory
2	Jonathan Rea	Honda CBR1000RR
3	Leon Haslam	BMW S1000 RR
4	Marco Melandri	BMW S1000 RR
5	Ayrton Badovini	BMW S1000 RR
6	Michel Fabrizio	BMW S1000 RR
7	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki ZX 10R
8	Loris Baz	Kawasaki Ninja ZX-10R
9	Jakub Smrz	Ducati 1098R
10	Matteo Baiocco	Ducati 1098R
16	Leandro Mercado	Kawasaki ZX-10R
DNS	Joan Lascorz	Kawasaki ZX-10R
DNF	David Salom	Kawasaki ZX-10R

Standings

1	Max Biaggi	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	210.5
2	Jonathan Rea	Honda CBR1000RR	172
3	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki ZX 10R	164.5
4	Marco Melandri	BMW S1000 RR	155.5
5	Carlos Checa	Ducati 1098R	150.5
6	Leon Haslam	BMW S1000 RR	123
7	Sylvain Guintoli	Ducati 1098R	103
8	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	95
9	Davide Giugliano	Ducati 1098R	80
10	Jakub Smrz	Ducati 1098R	75.5
20	Joan Lascorz	Kawasaki ZX-10R	17
22	Leandro Mercado	Kawasaki ZX-10R	9
23	David Salom	Kawasaki ZX-10R	9