

Portimao: Kawasaki tripled on drying track ...



Fantastic race with several lead changes and overtakings for four drivers including Matthew Lussiana. Three Kawasaki riders on the podium and disappointment for Ducati after technical problem with Jezek and only a 9th place for Mercado who loses his 1st place in the Championship.

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When we arrived at Portimao on Wednesday, some teams are already present as they came riding on the previous Sunday. Matthieu therefore thinks it will be a disadvantage especially in the first free practice session ... but « que nenni »! He will be efficient immediately and will concede only 8/10 second with first best lap.

Same thing the next morning where he finished 3rd in the session : so, he's confident for qualification.

Unfortunately, a clutch problem will destroy any chance of to have good result; without anti-dribbling, Matthieu will do his best with an undriveable bike to finish in a unexpected 11th position.

Starting from the fourth line, it would take a miracle to finish in the Top 5 ... because other top riders won't wait and will make a gap that will be difficult to catch up.

But the sky (literally and figuratively) will be with us. The rain made its appearance in the 2nd round Superbike and the track is still wet Superstock 1000 race.

Nobody has riding in the rain, and Matthieu knows that some riders aren't confident in first laps in these conditions and he decided to take this opportunity.

He realises a good start, is seventh in the first corner and finishes first lap in 4th place.

Then it will be a beautiful fight between four drivers who will forget others riders: Kyle Smith, David Mac Fadden, Lorenzo Savadori and Matthieu will overtake several times during the race, each taking the lead of the race successively.

Matthieu leader during several laps will contain Savadori. Leaving a bit large of a corner, Savadori takes advantage three laps before the end of race and Matthieu feeling his rain tire deteriorate on the drying track prefers finish at a good 2nd place.

Now 3rd on the Superstock 1000 Championship, Matthieu will take some well deserved rest before going back to Brazil for the third round of the Brazilian Championship at the end of July.



Kawasaki

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Another circuit to learn for Guillaume it isn't the easiest. With its high and down configuration, Portimao track requires time and a lot of experience to be able to throw blind corners confidently. Guillaume is going to understand this during practices; he progress slowly but narrowed the gap with the fastest rider from five to three seconds.

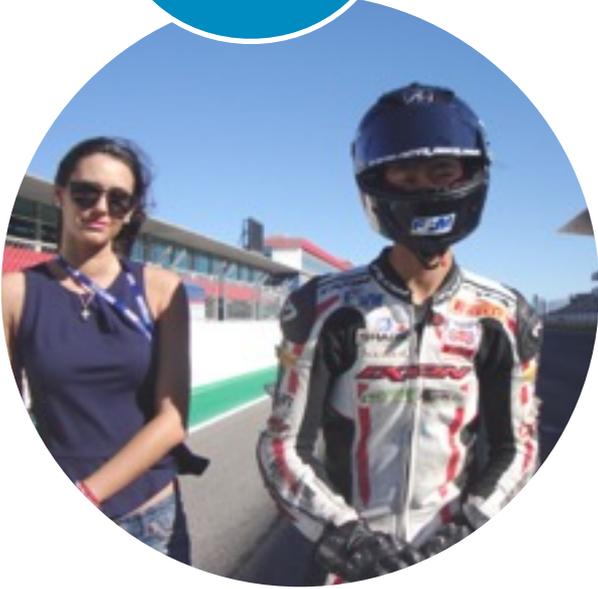
In qualify session, in first lap, he rides with a motivated group of riders but in a corner, Guillaume crashes because of a rider a little spirited. The team hopes having time and parts needed to repair the bike for the race. And it will be possible. But, Guillaume didn't realise one complete lap and therefore have no lap validated. He will start at the end of grid for the race.

Very good start and Guillaume ends his first lap 16th. It will lose positions because of a small oil leak consecutive of crash. A little oil on footrest will prevent him to have a good support with his foot and he will retrograde in 23rd position.

Superstock 600 where riders are numerous has particularly a high level this year and the arrival of a young beginner rider in this category is a difficult learning. But this is the best way to gain experience and a sustained rhythm riding.

Guillaume needs also a necessary break to relax and expects to do better for the last two races of the Championship.

Une bien jolie umbrella girl pour consoler Guillaume...



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