

RACE REPORT



SANTA POD RACEWAY EURO FINALS 2022

It was as always the latest race for the European Championship in FIM-E and FIA at Santa Pod Raceway in the United Kingdom where all teams from all over Europe came together to battle for the Victory and the crown position in the European Championship.

Not all was decided yet and the teams were eager to give it all to win in their class they competed in. It was not as much as usual because teams from outside the UK have to apply with the new rules because of the Brexit and the paperwork that is involved for the Carnet to enter and exit the UK. Still Top Competitors were there to defend or win the European Title in 2022.

In the FIM-E only 3 Super Twin Top Fuel Bikes entered and that was not good to see. Marcus Christiansen from Denmark already had enough points to win the FIM-E SUPER TWIN title again! Theoretically there was a change for the nr 2 Racer to claim it but it did not happen as with scruteneering and points lead it was enough.

In FIM-E TOP FUEL BIKE it was Dutch racer Rene van den Berg who had a small points lead on Multiple Swedish TFB Racer Rikard Gustafsson who suffered engine damage at the Main Event also at Santa Pod in May during the first Official FIM-E race in 2022. After that he did what he had to do with his team and collected more and more points through the season.

Marcus Christiansen also suffered severe engine damage at the Main Event with his Super Twin Top Fuel bike with an engine explosion and hurt his leg in the accident.

He afterwards did ok and healed good from it and father Claus had a lot on his plate for the repair of the Super Twin for the rest of the season in FIM-E.



Danish Multiple European FIM-E Super Twin Top Fuel racer Marcus Christiansen on a stormer!

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In Super Street Bike it was the Quickest and Fastest racer from Hungary in the name of Daniel Donat Lences who showed his amazing potential with his record running DME build SSB.

At Santa Pod he owns the track records in FIM-E and fellow DME Racer Steve Venables who reigned for years had to see how Daniel took away his records.

Both have immaculate and quick Super Street Bikes that use a special build tube chassis that is allowed in the class, it makes the SSB much lighter and there is no weight rule in the class like they have in the USA

within Pro Street Bike(different rules then FIM-E SSB that has an max wheelbase of 68 inch)

Anyway more creedy racers are knocking on the door of the top competitors as in Matte Bohlin from Sweden who still uses an stock OEM Suzuki chassis with his Hayabusa based Super Street Bike.

And he also still uses Racefuel as most of the racers switched over to Methanol as that is now allowed in the class.

Almost all Super Street Bikes are based upon the Suzuki Hayabusa. Some race with and Kawasaki ZX-12 or ZX-14 Super Street Bike. From Holland Rudolfo Maduro came to the finals with his SSB and he is using a

Suzuki GSXR-1000 also with an Turbocharger to compete in the class. Margot Smit also from Holland is the only female in the class and switched over to Methanol also but still searching with husband Stephan for their smooth and fast set-up and that takes time.

During the Finals there were 15 Super Street Bikes entered but 2 did not show up with their Kawasaki SSB Bikes as they suffered mechanical failllure under way to the UK with their Van.



Daniel Donat Lences showed his potential trough the year with his record setting Super Street Bike!

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In TOP FUEL BIKE there were 7 Dragbikes entered and 4 of them running on Nitro! The other 3 are Funnybikes that use Methanol as race fuel instead of Nitro Methanol. To make it a proper class they mix up otherwise there are not enough competitors at the events. The Super Twin Top Fuel Bikes are not allowed to do this and that resulted in only 3 entries as other racers wanted to come over but the cost of Fuel and travelling are just too high these days and that needs to change to save a good Championship for sure in the future.

Stuart Crane debuted with his Turbocharged Suzuki GSX1400 Based engine now with self-build aluminium conrods instead of the steel h-beam conrod he bended and twisted under pressure. The style of conrod he made himself through his company WARPSPEED is the same principle as the Top Fuel Funny cars use and they can have more stress on the material used.

Over the weekend also Mark Simon Smith racing for WARPSPEED did run with his Turbocharged Methanol Funnybike and showed great potential with strong launches! He is still getting used to the new set-up compared to his Former Pro Stock Bike which he used to run. Stuart before the Turbo used Nitrous Oxide as power adder but in the end went to the turbo platform. Also French Funnybike racer Eric Richard came with a new stunning FunnyBike that is built in the USA by Pete Brown and looks immaculate!

He uses a Hayabusa engine also with methanol as race fuel and a big turbocharger to pump in lots of air and fuel to make in the range of 800+ HP

These Funnybikes are lighter than the Supercharged TOP FUEL bikes that compete in the class. These Funnybikes are capable of running mid to low 6 second runs well over 200MPH!



Eric Richard from France on his newly build FunnyBike by Pete Brown from the USA.

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In FIM-E Pro Stock Bike it was Martin Newbury from the UK that did it in the end and became the European FIM-E Pro Stock Bike Champion! To my knowledge the ever Britain to pull this off! The former Champion from France as in Maurice Bertrand struggled with his set-up after using a new build 2 valve engine. Aswin le Noble was also up in the points but could not compete against Martin and Maurice as they run low 7 second passes during the event.

Martin Bishop also from the UK is there allways to compete also and is capable of running mid to low 7 seconds during the event and can be never counted out.

During qualifying they ended up with Martin and Martin in the top of the qualification list.

Martin Newbury made a strong 7.2124@180.69MPH.

Martin Bishop followed with an 7.6687@172.44MPH.

Then Aswin who made an 8.5317@151.62MPH and Maurice still searching with a slow 9.0815@174.37MPH. It would be Maurice who stepped up during eliminations and showe again that he is a strong competitor with a good run of 7.3538@171.09MPH!

Martin Newbury collected enough points allready to become Champion.

It was Maurice who took the event win against Martin Bisshop who broke and ran a strong 7.3552@175.73MPH during the Final in a nice season ender pass for them as they seem to be back on track! Good for Maurice and the team! Well done!

Hopefully in the next season there will be more Pro Stock Bikes competing at all race events.

It would be great to see the Twins also racing against the now all Suzuki 4 inline based class.

I like to congratulate Martin and Cindy to pull it off and after all the hard work they did.

Fredrik Fredlund is 8 Times PSB Champion provided his knowledge with them and that showed.



FIM-E EUROPEAN PRO STOCK BIKE CHAMPION from the UK MARTIN NEWBURY!

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Swedish Racer RIKARD GUSTAFSSON became again FIM-E TOP FUEL BIKE CHAMPION!

In TOP FUEL BIKE it was all along the Swedish Falkenberg based racer who again did win the FIM-E TFB Championship with his immaculate PUMA Supercharged in line 4 that clocked a new FIM-E TOP FUEL BIKE speed record of 252.25MPH! Well done to the whole team!

Saying that it was also Neil Midgley with his 2nd Quickest Top Fuel Bike on this planet that still is 'searching for that record run, he has the quickest ever 60ft in the class!

His 1/8 mile et's are incredible and so are his MPH on the first half it is only a matter of time that he will be running in the 5.7 or even 5.6 range as this also PUMA Supercharged TFB is capable of!

Mark Simon Smith on the Warpspeed Funny Bike went also in the 6 seconds with a strong 1/8!

Rene van den Berg came close but could not pull it off as he lost his blower belt during eliminations.

Stuart Crane pulled all the teeth of his crank with his newly build conrod set-up but his conrods holded up and he will build a new engine with an billet crank that is made for the GSX1400 engine.

There are lots of details to shared about all these classes and racers and for that it is good that you keep looking on Eurodragster.com for all the information as here you can be informed of all the ins and outs. I made several Pitnotes for Eurodragster during the weekend and they are uploaded and to be readed on the website.

In Super Street Bike it was immaculate performance and the quickest and fastest ever side by side run was made by Daniel Donat Lences and Steve Venables! a new PB for Steve with and outstanding 6.7030@224.41MPH vs Dani his 6.7574@220.37MPH! Incredible with an street tyre on 68 inch wheelbase! Dani still had the 1st Qualifying with and outstanding 6.6828@221.20MPH!

Jake Mechaell also did great with an strong 6.8591@215.13MPH and so did Gary Bowe who ran a new PB of 6.8714@211.09MPH Well Done Gary and Bradley to pull this off!

Lots more to be told about this great racing class that is sponsored by Kathy Taylor of Santa Pod!

www.eurodragstereventcoverage.com/santapod/live/2022fiaeuropeanfinals/default.asp

In the FIM-E Junior Drag Bike Cup it was Hollie King who took all tricks to make her European Champion!

During Qualifying she was 1st and it was enough that she collected enough points to claim the 2022 Championship. Well done Hollie! It was Anouk Burgering who still could become runner up as Meggie Talbot should go out in the first round so she she tried but to no succes and that made Meg also runner up and she took the event win! Well done Meggie and Team!

To see these girls perform allready in this class is just great and a stepping stone for the future!



FIM-E Junior Drag Bike Cup Winners at the Banquet to collect their trophy's.

This is a write up from the EURO FINALS concerning the Dragbikes and there is so much more to tell. It was great to see the racers doing the thing the love and the deication that get in the sport with all the traveland the cost rising. Also It was an emotional weekend for the English racers and friends of Jon Morton who passes away during the event doing what he most loved that was Dragracing. Godspeed Jon and Thank You for all you did for the Dragrace sport.

Also on note that the Queen of Great Britain passed away and that made and impact trough the country so my condolences to all Racers and Family.

I also like to thank SANTA POD RACEWAY for their hospitality and amazing crew that pulled it off during these demanding conditions with the weather playing up and the accidents and oil downs that took place during the event. Their commitment is overwhelming and need to be said!

I am Looking forward to the new season of 2023 with more teams and racers that will attend and breaking records and personal best et and speed. See you all at the track!

Kind Regards,

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