



## Imola – Qualifying Practice 2 & Superpole. Saturday, 29th June 2013.

Weather conditions: Sunny.

Temperature: Air: 22 – 27 °C, Track: 36 – 51 °C

Number of riders participating: 19/18 from 12 teams

Fastest lap Qualifying Practices: Jonathan Rea (Pata Honda World Superbike) 1:47.205 min

Fastest lap Superpole 3: Tom Sykes (Kawasaki Racing Team) 1:45.981 min

It was a busy Saturday for the BMW Motorrad GoldBet SBK Team at its home race in Imola (ITA). Factory rider Marco Melandri (ITA) will start the seventh round of the 2013 FIM Superbike World Championship from the third row. In today's Superpole, Marco finished seventh on his BMW S 1000 RR after he had crashed at the end of the free practice session at noon. His team-mate Chaz Davies (GBR) only narrowly missed the deciding Superpole 3 session and qualified tenth on the fourth row.

Marco's crew repaired his bike in time to compete in this afternoon's Superpole qualifying. In the first part of the session, both Marco and Chaz began with a few laps on race tyres before changing to the first qualifying tyre with three minutes to go. Marco recorded the second fastest time of the session and Chaz was eleventh to proceed to Superpole 2. In this second part, both used the second qualifying tyre for their first outings. While Marco was sixth fastest and returned to the garage as his progression to Superpole 3 was not in danger, Chaz was ninth fastest and went out again on a race tyre. He improved his time but missed qualification for Superpole 3 by only a tenth of a second. The deciding Superpole 3 had to be red flagged after a few minutes due to track contamination following a crash. It took a quarter of an hour to clean up before the final five and a half minutes of the session could be completed. Marco, who was on a race tyre, set the seventh fastest time.

In the FIM Superstock 1000 Cup, Sylvain Barrier from the BMW Motorrad GoldBet STK Team secured pole-position for tomorrow's race. The Frenchman, who is leading the overall ranking, set a new best lap of 1:49.900 on his new BMW HP4 in today's second and final qualifying practice. His team-mate Greg Gildenhuys (RSA) qualified 17th. He is still affected by the pain of his broken left heel.

Marco Melandri:

Fastest lap Qualifying Practices: 1:47.658 min (P5) / Fastest lap FP: 1:47.872 min (P6) / Fastest lap Superpole 3: 1:47.221 min (P7)

"It was a difficult day. In the free practice I crashed but it was a simple slide. Our guys fixed the bike quickly and I did not hurt myself. During the Superpole qualifying we struggled with the qualifying tyre and unfortunately it was not so good also with the race tyre. Our race pace is not as fast as the front guys, though we are only missing a little bit. For the races we need to make a step forward and try to find a solution. Tomorrow the start will be crucial because it is difficult to overtake on this track. Anyway, I want to try to fight for the front positions."

### Media Contact

BMW Sports Communications

Danilo Coglianese

+49-176-601-72405

[danilo.coglianese@bmwgroup.com](mailto:danilo.coglianese@bmwgroup.com)

Media Website

[press.bmwgroup-sport.com](http://press.bmwgroup-sport.com)

Chaz Davies:

Fastest lap Qualifying Practices: 1:48.197 min (P10) / Fastest lap FP: 1:48.680 min (P12) / Fastest lap Superpole 2: 1:47.736 min (P10)

"The bike improved quite a lot today. I am happier with it than I was yesterday but everybody else

# GoldBet

3asy Ride

BOMBOOGIE

Castrol

GEN-ART

G  
GRUTTI

BMW PERFORMANCE PARTS  
powered by

Class d'itori

La Gazzetta dello Sport

HP

M  
BAGUTTI

WP

E  
BENNETT

FA  
EATON

2D

ACCOSTATO

AKKROPOVIC

ALTRAN

Beta

Bonamici  
Racing

BRECAV

CM  
composte

DELLORTO

ETAS

FF  
PAPARO

RICCARDO RISBO

PATRIZIO

PIRELLI

PEUGEOT  
SCOOTERS

SG

starm  
SG

STEIN

T

TIR-VALVOLANIA

WRC  
Racing Parts

PIEROBON

Alcanada





has also improved so we need to make another step for tomorrow. In today's Superpole I did my best lap with a race tyre as I found that the qualifying tyre was loading the rear too much on the gas and I could not turn the bike very well. It is good to know that I can do a decent lap time with the race tyre but I still believe that lap time isn't enough. We need to further improve our pace for tomorrow and then I think it won't be too bad because at the moment the bike is feeling the best it has been all weekend. We are getting there; we just need a good warm-up tomorrow morning and a good start in both races."

Serafino Foti (Sport Director BMW Motorrad GoldBet SBK Team):

"It was a very complicated day. We are not satisfied with the results. We still lack something to close the gap to the front. We must find a solution to put our riders in the position to have a good race. Marco has a decent lap time; it is not great, but I'm confident for the races. Chaz has struggled more, even though his feeling with the bike is better than yesterday. I hope we can find a solution for both. Tomorrow the races will be very hard for everyone. The track is very demanding for the riders. It will be important to have a good start to avoid the front riders pulling away. In any case, the races will be open to any result until the end."

In the Superstock class, every time we are on a new track we need some time to find the right setting for our new electronic damping system of our HP4. Our team did a very good job and enabled Sylvain to claim his fourth pole-position of the season. Tomorrow it will be a battle of three for the victory: Sylvain and the two riders from Ducati. Greg unfortunately did not improve from yesterday. We need to understand the reason. Anyway, we are looking forward to a good race tomorrow."

Andrea Dosoli (Technical Director BMW Motorrad GoldBet SBK Team):

"It was not an easy day. We did not achieve the grid positions we were hoping for. With Chaz, we made a step forward regarding the setting of the electronics and the chassis but he still is not 100 percent confident with the bike. We will try some different solutions in the warm-up and or confident we can improve. With Marco, we started well on Friday but today with the warmer temperatures and more rubber on the track we could not further improve with the front end feeling limiting us. So also for Marco the warm-up is important as a final preparation for the races. We hope that both riders will have a good start, then a lot is possible on this track."

## GoldBet

