



## Spain – Jerez de la Frontera. Preview.

18th – 20th October 2013  
14th of 14 race weekends

Munich/Milan, 14th October 2013. Final push for the BMW Motorrad GoldBet SBK Team: the squad and factory riders Marco Melandri (ITA) and Chaz Davies (GBR) are preparing for the 2013 season finale of the FIM Superbike World Championship. The last races of the year will be held this weekend (18th to 20th October) at the "Circuito de Jerez" in Southern Spain. This will also mark the final round of the factory involvement of BMW Motorrad in the Superbike World Championship. According to its strategic realignment, the German manufacturer will withdraw from the series and focus on its extended international customer sports programme from 2014.

For the Jerez round, Marco and Chaz will have company. The BMW Motorrad GoldBet SBK Team will enter a third BMW S 1000 RR for Sylvain Barrier. The French factory rider celebrated an early title defence in the FIM Superstock 1000 Cup at the previous round at Magny-Cours (FRA). As a reward for the performance he showed in the BMW Motorrad STK Team over the last three years, including winning two titles, BMW Motorrad offers him the chance to debut in World Superbikes at Jerez.

In the Manufacturers' standings of the Superbike World Championship, BMW heads to the final round lying in third with 412 points. In the Riders' classification, Marco is currently fourth with 339 points, followed by Chaz who is fifth with 270 points.

In the FIM Superstock 1000 Cup, Sylvain's BMW HP4 will be raced by Markus Reiterberger at Jerez. The young German will team up with regular rider Greg Gildenhuys (RSA). At the final round of the season, BMW will try to secure the Manufacturers' title.

### **Jerez from the rider's point of view:**

Marco Melandri:

"I really like Jerez and during the last years in World Superbikes I missed it a lot. It is a very technical track with tight and fast corners and with very short straights which don't give you the opportunity to take a breath. On this track, the power of the engine is not the most important factor, but the complete package which has to work properly. For these reasons I expect two great races with many protagonists. The Jerez round not only marks the last race of the 2013 season but will also be the last race for BMW as a factory team. As a farewell I would like to thank my team with a great result."

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Chaz Davies:

"Jerez is the last race and it is a pity as it was a good season and it also marks the end of BMW's factory involvement. I have only raced with the team for one year but it was a productive year. I think every one of us is going to Jerez for the same reason: everyone is

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highly motivated to finish the season strong and to bring home the best possible results. Our target as ever is to be on the podium but I think everyone on the grid will push really hard at this last race of the season. We tested quite often at Jerez. It is a difficult circuit. Jerez is a little bit like Laguna, where power is not the most important factor but the chassis needs to be very good. The straight there is pretty short. After the corner, it takes you half of the straight to get your bike in the right position and then you're already thinking about braking for the hairpin. The track has a little bit of everything, some tight corners as well as fast turns. It is definitely one of the circuits I like."

Sylvain Barrier:

"I still can't believe that I am going to make my debut in World Superbikes. I have no pressure and I expect to have all the time I need to learn how the bike works, because I have no experience with our 2013 WSBK version of the RR and its tyres. I know the track from our winter test with the BMW Motorrad STK Team, and I like it very much. I don't have a real target for these races. But I want to do my best and if I get a good rhythm I am confident that I can. And this is the best gift I could receive from BMW for my birthday, which is on Sunday."

#### **Jerez from a sporting point of view:**

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

"Jerez is a great circuit and, in addition, it is the track we have chosen as our test track. We have been there several times during winter and have collected lots of data, which will allow us to start the weekend with a good base. Our riders like the track a lot, so we are confident that we will be able to have a good season finale. This weekend we will bring a third bike in SBK specification, because at Jerez the old and new Superstock 1000 Champion Sylvain Barrier will make his debut in the Superbike World Championship. This way we want to thank him for the great seasons and the titles he won with us. We are confident that he will be able to make best use of this opportunity to present himself on the Superbike stage. In the Superstock Cup, the Manufacturers' title still has to be won. For this reason we'll leave Sylvain's BMW HP4 to Markus Reiterberger and we are confident that he will support BMW to achieve the title."

#### **Jerez from a technical point of view:**

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

"In Magny-Cours we were not able to exploit our full potential. After the races we were not satisfied with the results so we expect that all those feelings will guarantee an extra motivation for the last races. Jerez is our test track, where we have been testing in the winter and at the beginning of the season. We have important data which will help us to set the bike up properly for the various characteristics of the racetrack. The circuit has slow and short straights, but high-speed corners like turns 11 and 12 and tight hairpins as well. From the chassis side it requires a mix of braking stability and good turning. It is demanding for engine management as well, as it won't be an easy challenge to find the right setting to accelerate as fast as possible out of the corner, putting the torque on the ground and fighting against the wheelieing. We are confident of being well prepared in

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order to give Marco, Chaz and, for his first time on a World Superbike, Sylvain the right package to fight with the top guys."

### **Jerez from Pirelli's point of view:**

For the final stage of the 2013 season, Pirelli will provide riders with rear tyres in soft SC0 and medium SC1 compounds, including the popular standard SC0 that both designers and riders have been very satisfied with. Although the lateral loads generated during the race are not very high, in order to meet the different needs of the Jerez track (fast sections alternating with slow corners, some of these elevated) a rear tyre with a good balance of handling and support in the lean is needed. The great versatility of use of rear standard Pirelli tyres is capable of responding comprehensively to the demands of this circuit. The only unknown remains the temperature, but with the SC1 for cool temperatures and the SC0 in case of warmer ones, Pirelli will be able to cover even the weather variable. The type of asphalt used to cover the track of Jerez can be quite aggressive, a factor not to be underestimated because it may lead to problems of uneven wear or abrasion on the rear tyre, especially with the use of soft compounds.

For the Superbike class, slick solutions will be three for the front and four for the rear. For the front, Pirelli brings the standard SC1, in soft compound ideal for low external temperatures and/or average harsh tracks, and the standard SC2, which is excellent for high ambient temperatures because it guarantees a solid tread strip, both in the range and brought to all rounds this year. As an alternative to the two standard solutions there will be a development SC1 solution, the S283, which offers greater robustness than the standard SC1. For the rear, riders can choose between two SC0 and two SC1. The softest solution of the range is the standard SC0 which debuted at Monza with the reinforced central area and has been used at several rounds with success. It offers maximum tread contact on smooth asphalt and maximum traction development at high temperatures as well as higher resistance to thermal performance decay. As an alternative to the standard SC0 Pirelli will provide riders also with a new development SC0, the S1429, more robust from the mechanical point of view compared to the standard SC0 and that should avoid possible cold tearing to which the standard one may be exposed. The two SC1 tyres are development solutions: the S1258, which was developed with the purpose of improving the thermal-mechanical properties, and the R1431, which should be able to provide with better resistance to laceration but same grip of standard SC1.

### **Background:**

Jerez de la Frontera in Andalusia, southern Spain, is not only known for its good sherry, but also as a motorsport stronghold. When the MotoGP comes to town, the entire region practically shuts down and up to 250,000 fans make the pilgrimage to the "Circuito de Jerez". The circuit was built in 1985 and has been the subject of multiple modifications since then. It was originally designed for Formula One, which was last staged there in 1997.

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However, Jerez has also been a permanent fixture on the calendar of various motorcycle series for a long time. The Superbike World Championship made one previous appearance at the circuit back in 1990, and now returns to Andalusia for the finale of the 2013 season. The mild climate in the south of Spain makes the "Circuito de Jerez" a very popular winter test track for many Formula One, MotoGP and Superbike World Championship teams.

The "Circuito de Jerez" is a real test for the riders. It is on the narrow side and throws up a challenging demanding mixture of slow and quicker corners, a hairpin, and short straights. This layout is extremely demanding physically for the riders, as they barely get chance to catch breath during the course of a lap. At the same time, it is important to find the ideal racing line on this winding track. When selecting the set-up, the teams must ensure the bikes are very stable with good braking and steering response. They must also take the weather into account: whilst it is usually nice and sunny in Andalusia, autumn can also produce some heavy rainfall.

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## Facts and figures:

Circuit/Date	Circuito de Jerez / 20th October 2013
Start time Race 1 (local/CET)	12.00 hrs / 12.00 hrs
Start time Race 2 (local/CET)	15.30 hrs / 15.30 hrs
Lap/Race distance	4.423 km / 92.883 km (21 laps)
Corners	5 left-hand and 8 right-hand corners
Data Winter Testing:	Top speed: 276.5 km/h Longest section at full throttle: 5.79 sec / 362 m Fastest corner: Turn 12, 4th gear, 163 km/h Maximum deceleration: 276,5 km/h – 63 km/h

Riders	Marco Melandri	Chaz Davies
Date of birth	07.08.1982	10.02.1987
Place of birth	Ravenna / Italy	Knighton / Great Britain
Nationality	Italian	British
Residence	Ravenna / Italy	Presteigne, Powys / Great Britain
Marital status	Engaged	In a relationship
Height	1.66 m	1.83 m
Weight	60 kg	70 kg
WSBK debut	2011, Phillip Island (AUS)	2012, Phillip Island (AUS)
Race starts	76	49
Pole positions	1	0
Wins	13	4
Podium finishes	37	10
Fastest race laps	8	3
Best World Championship placing	2nd (2011)	9th (2012)
WSBK points 2013	339	270

BMW Motorrad Motorsport	
WSBK debut	2009, Phillip Island (AUS)
Race starts	132
Pole positions	1
Wins	12
Podium places	40
Fastest laps	11
WSBK placings	2nd (2012), 421 points 4th (2011), 311 points 6th (2010), 201 points 6th (2009), 141 points
WSBK points 2013	412

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