2026 DEWALT FIM SPEEDWAY GP OF POLAND – WROCLAW – BURB'S BRIEFING

Hello and welcome to Burb's Briefing! Here is some information and a few talking points which may assist your coverage of the DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw this Saturday ...

SGP NO.300 – BACK WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

- Saturday's DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw is the 300th SGP round since the championship replaced one-day World Finals in 1995.
- Wroclaw's legendary Olympic Stadium hosted the first-ever Speedway GP event 31 years ago on May 20, 1995, won by Polish great Tomasz Gollob.
- This truly is a club that thrives on firsts. They also staged the first-ever modern-day FIM Speedway World Cup Final in 2001 and the first-ever FIM Speedway of Nations Final in 2018.
- In addition, the venue hosted the first FIM SGP3 Final – the rebranded FIM Speedway Youth World Championship – in 2022, won by Danish star Mikkel Andersen, who now races for Wroclaw and finished third in SGP2 in 2025.
- The FIM SGP3 Final returns to the Olympic Stadium, with the sport's under-16 world champion set to be crowned on Friday night.
- Wroclaw returned to the Speedway GP calendar in 2019 after a 12-year absence. The venue hosts its 18th SGP round on Saturday.
- It has hosted Speedway GP rounds almost every season since 2019, missing only 2023, when an incredible FIM Speedway World Cup Final took place at the Olympic Stadium, won by Poland.
- The Olympic Stadium is home to WTS Sparta Wroclaw. The club ended a 15-year wait for a PGE Ekstraliga title in 2021, having last won the league in 2006.
- The stadium underwent a complete refit ahead of the World Games staged in Wroclaw in 2017 – with a new grandstand built on the home straight and the rest of the venue gloriously restored.

WHEN?

Saturday, June 20

- Speedway GP Qualifying – 14:00 CEST
- DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw - 19:00 CEST

FIM JURY

REFEREE: Craig Ackroyd (Great Britain)

JURY PRESIDENT: Darija Pavlic (Croatia)

FMNR REPRESENTATIVE: Dariusz Cieslak (Poland)

RACE DIRECTOR: Phil Morris (Great Britain)

CHANGING PLACES: KURTZ AND ZMARZLIK

- Aussie star Brady Kurtz lines up on his Polish PGE Ekstraliga home track this Saturday, where he topped the FIM Wroclaw Speedway GP podium in 2025 – part of a record-breaking run of five straight SGP wins.
- Kurtz raced to victory at ATPI FIM Speedway GP of Great Britain – Manchester R4 on June 6, following up a second place in R3 on the opening night of the double-header at the National Speedway Stadium.
- Kurtz was part of an Australian one-two-three that night alongside winner Max Fricke and Jack Holder in third.
- The 29-year-old now leads the Speedway GP World Championship standings on 65 points from four rounds – putting him three clear of reigning world champion Bartosz Zmarzlik, who has 62.
- Kurtz has finished in the top two at each of the last three rounds, with an eight-point return at R1 in Landshut the only blot on his score chart so far.
- But Zmarzlik has been ultra-consistent, having finished third in three of the four opening Speedway GPs. He was fourth at R3 in Manchester, crashing out of the final on turn one as he battled Fricke to reach the dirt line first.
- Zmarzlik is the only rider to have reached all four finals so far this season.
- But incredibly, he has now gone over a year without a Speedway GP win. His last victory came at 2025 R5 in Manchester on June 14, 2025. Kurtz has won six of the nine Speedway GPs staged since then.
- Zmarzlik has won a record three FIM Wroclaw Speedway GP rounds – topping the Olympic Stadium podium in 2019 and on both nights of the 2021 double-header.
- Kurtz signed for Saturday's host club WTS Sparta Wroclaw ahead of the 2025 season and the move has coincided with him emerging as a Speedway GP World Championship contender.
- But Kurtz openly admits Zmarzlik has raced more laps around the Olympic Stadium than he has over the years, negating any potential home advantage.

- Kurtz and Zmarzlik are being pursued by Aussie ace Jack Holder, who is third on 55 points – 10 behind Kurtz – after scoring 34 points from a possible 44 over the Manchester double-header.
- Holder finished third in R3, before taking fourth place in R4. He also took victory in the sprint race ahead of round three to collect four championship points.

TREATMENT TABLE

- Two riders miss the DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw due to injury as Great Britain rider Dan Bewley and Sweden's Fredrik Lindgren sit out. Bewley and Lindgren also missed the FIM Speedway GP of Czech Republic – Prague on May 23 and the Manchester double-header on June 5 and 6.
- Their places are taken by Speedway GP substitute riders Anders Thomsen (Denmark) and Jan Kvech (Czech Republic).
- Bewley sits out on his Polish home track after suffering a broken femur and a compressed vertebra in his back when he crashed in the opening race of Danish club Region Varde's meeting in Outrup on May 20. He took to Facebook on Monday to confirm that his recovery is progressing well, but he admits he cannot put a timescale on his comeback for now.
- His absence will be felt on a track, where he topped the Speedway GP podium in 2022, and he has raced for the Wroclaw club since 2020.
- Meanwhile, Lindgren suffered a fall in heat three of Polish club Lublin's 46-44 loss away to Leszno on May 17 and underwent surgery on his ankle.
- Polish racer Dominik Kubera missed the Manchester rounds after undergoing surgery on a broken collarbone, suffered in Swedish club Lejonen's trip to Motala club Piraterna on May 26.
- He was due to practice on Thursday and is expected to make a late decision on his fitness ahead of this weekend.
- We wish all three riders a speedy recovery.

CLIMBING FAST: FRICKE AND JEPSEN JENSEN

- Despite enduring difficult starts to their Speedway GP seasons, Danish star Michael Jepsen Jensen and Aussie ace Max Fricke have both surged up the standings in recent rounds.
- MJJ scored just two championship points, finishing 15th at the opening round in Landshut. But since then, he has rocketed up to fourth spot in the standings after taking fourth place in Prague to collect 14 points, scoring 11 at R3 in Manchester and then taking second spot in R4 to add another 18.

- This leaves him fourth in the Speedway GP World Championship on 45 points – putting him 20 behind leader Kurtz, and very much in the medal mix.
- Jepsen Jensen is a full-time Speedway GP rider for the first time since 2015, and he has made it clear that he is not back to make up the numbers after achieving an incredible return to the top level over the last two years.
- But he is no longer the Danish champion after Speedway GP rival Leon Madsen claimed his first-ever national crown in Esbjerg on Wednesday, topping the podium ahead of Frederik Jakobsen in second, who also earns the wild card for the Deluxe Homeart FIM Speedway GP of Denmark – Vojens in September. MJJ was third, with Thomsen fourth.
- Fricke also suffered a nightmare start to his year, scoring 10 championship points across the opening two rounds – three in Landshut and seven in Prague.
- But he powered to victory at R3 in Manchester – his first Speedway GP win in over four years (since he topped the 2022 FIM Warsaw Speedway GP podium). He followed up with fifth place and 12 championship points in round four 24 hours later.
- Fricke is now sixth in the Speedway GP World Championship on 42 points – 23 behind leader Kurtz. He has never finished higher than eighth in the championship and will be keen to put that right in 2026.

MONSTER ENERGY TRIPLE CROWN

- The race to win a brand-new trophy gets underway in Wroclaw on Saturday as the event forms part one of the Monster Energy Triple Crown.
- The brainchild of Monster Energy's Joe Parsons, the competition sees riders' race points added up over their five heat rides at all three Polish rounds in Wroclaw, Lodz and Torun. The rider who scores the most race points across the three rounds receives the exclusive Monster Energy Triple Crown trophy after the finale in Torun.
- Last-chance qualifiers, finals and championship points are not taken into consideration in a competition that echoes the storied FIM Speedway World Final era pre-1995, when the World Championship was decided on one day over 20 heats, with no semis or finals.
- The Monster Energy Triple Crown is an affectionate nod to the past, as well as having a modern twist.
- As well as having a competitive element for riders, fans have the chance to take part in a special reaction test competition in the fanzones in Wroclaw, Lodz and Torun.
- Fans can register and test their reaction time at the tapes on a special Monster Energy bike. The fan who clocks the fastest time in Wroclaw and

Lodz wins a pair of tickets to the final round in Torun, as well as a money-can't-buy Monster Energy helmet, customised for that event.

- There will also be a reaction test game in Torun and, as well as winning the helmet, the winner will face off with the victorious fans from Wroclaw and Lodz in a special final showdown in the fanzone at the Marian Rose Motoarena. The winner of this earns a trip to a world-class weekend of two-wheeled racing in Valencia this November, courtesy of Monster Energy.

LOCAL HERO: MACIEJ JANOWSKI

- Speedway GP regular Brady Kurtz isn't the only WTS Sparta Wroclaw representative in this weekend's event.
- Polish star Maciej Janowski lines up as wild card in his home city – on the track where he has spent his Polish career, aside from two seasons away at Tarnow in 2012 and 2013.
- Janowski has enjoyed some of the greatest nights of his career at the Olympic Stadium, winning round two of the 2020 Speedway GP series there. He also finished second in both round one in 2020 and round three in 2021, as well as taking fourth place in 2022.
- He has never failed to reach the semi-finals or LCQs of a Speedway GP event in his home city.
- He also produced an unforgettable ride here to win 2023 FIM Speedway World Cup gold for Poland, passing Britain's Robert Lambert going into the final lap in an epic last-heat decider.
- It was an incredible moment for a rider who spent his 14th birthday on the Olympic Stadium terraces, watching Poland win their first SWC title in 2005. The manager that night, Stanislaw Chomski, has been appointed team manager once again for the 2026 BOLL FIM SWC Final in Warsaw on Saturday, August 29.
- Janowski lost his Speedway GP status at the end of the 2023 season but will hope to regain it after qualifying for the Speedway European Championship at last Saturday's SEC Challenge in Lonigo, Italy. The winner is guaranteed a spot in the 2027 SGP series.

SEC CHALLENGE

- Czech charger Jan Kvech took a step closer to securing his Speedway GP return after winning the SEC Challenge in Lonigo, Italy last Saturday.
- The meeting was halted after 16 heats due to concerns over track conditions at the former FIM Italian Speedway GP venue.

- Prior to the stoppage, Kvech racked up 11 points from a possible 12 to secure his spot in the four-round SEC series – the winner of which secures a guaranteed place in the 2027 Speedway GP series.
- He is joined by Janowski, who finished second on nine, with triple European champion Mikkel Michelsen also making it through on eight points in third.
- The final spots were claimed by former Danish champion Rasmus Jensen and Polish brothers Przemyslaw and Piotr Pawlicki, who all scored seven.
- They are joined in the SEC line-up by the top six riders from the 2025 series, European champion Patryk Dudek, double SEC champions Andzejs Lebedevs and Leon Madsen, Speedway GP newcomers Kacper Woryna and Nazar Parnitskyi and Danish star Michael Jepsen Jensen.
- The final three places will be handed to three wild cards selected by FIM Europe and promoter One Sport.

WHERE TO WATCH

Fans can catch every moment of 2026 Speedway GP and SWC action live on global broadcaster Warner Bros. Discovery's streaming platforms HBO Max or discovery+. Coverage of every Speedway GP Qualifying session is also available on these platforms.

HBO Max is available across Europe, with FIM-MOTO TV providing coverage around the world.

ACROSS EUROPE: Live on HBO Max and discovery+

BRITAIN: Live on HBO Max and TNT Sports

POLAND: Live on Eurosport 3, HBO Max and Player

SWEDEN: Live on Kanal 9 and HBO Max

DENMARK: Live on 6'eren and HBO Max

AUSTRALIA: Live on Fox Sports

GERMANY: Live on HBO Max and discovery+

ACROSS THE BALTICS: Live on Go3, TV3 Sport and HBO Max

CZECHIA: Live on HBO Max

SLOVAKIA: Live on STVR Sport and HBO Max

USA/Canada: Live on Racer

REST OF THE WORLD: Live on FIM-MOTO TV