2026 BOLL FIM SPEEDWAY WORLD CUP FINAL – WARSAW – 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 BOLL FIM Speedway World Cup Final – Warsaw ...

WHERE?

- PGE Narodowy is located close to the heart of Poland's capital Warsaw – walking distance from the city centre.
- The national stadium sits proudly on the banks of the Vistula River. It is a stunning feature on the Warsaw skyline, with its unmistakable white and red façade.
- It was opened in January 2012 ahead of Euro 2012 and built on the site of the old Stadion Dziesięciolecia, which was demolished in 2008 to make way for PGE Narodowy.
- It boasts a fully retractable roof – ensuring FIM Speedway action takes place come rain or shine.
- It has a capacity of around 54,000 fans for speedway.
- The stadium has hosted the FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Warsaw since 2015 – missing only the 2020 and 2021 seasons due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The venue was used as an emergency hospital during some of this time.
- This is the stadium's 10th FIM Speedway event, but the venue is still awaiting its first-ever Polish winner. With a Polish star unable to top the podium as an individual so far, can the home riders fare better as a team and lift the trophy at PGE Narodowy?
- This is comfortably the biggest world team final for generations. Never has the modern-day SWC Final taken place in a stadium of this size. The stakes are high!

WHEN?

- Practice: Friday, August 28 - 15:00 CEST
- 2026 BOLL FIM Speedway World Cup Final – Warsaw: Saturday, August 29 - 19:00 CEST

FIM JURY

REFEREE: Aleksandr Latosinski (Ukraine)

JURY PRESIDENT: Armando Castagna (Italy)

FMNR REPRESENTATIVE: Piotr Szymanski (Poland)

RACE DIRECTOR: Phil Morris (Great Britain)

TEAM NOTES

POLAND

- Reigning champions Poland qualify as host nation, staging a third straight Final in this competition after also hosting the 2017 Final in Leszno and the 2023 edition in Wroclaw.
- Poland won their ninth SWC in one of the all-time great world team finals at Wroclaw's Olympic Stadium in 2023, with Maciej Janowski passing Great Britain star Robert Lambert on the final lap of a last-heat decider to seal gold in his home city. First-placed Poland and fourth-placed Australia ended the night separated by just six points.
- It was an incredible moment for Janowski, who watched Poland win their first SWC title from the terraces in Wroclaw on August 6, 2005 – the day he celebrated his 14th birthday.
- Incredibly, the man who managed Poland to victory that night is back in the hotseat for 2026 as Stanislaw Chomski returns to the national side to replace Rafal Dobrucki, who led the team to glory in 2023.
- In between those wins, Marek Cieslak led Poland to seven SWC gold medals in 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2017.
- After becoming the first country to win the Ove Fundin Trophy three times on the bounce in 2023, they could make it four at PGE Narodowy on Saturday.
- Poland's challenge is led by six-time Speedway GP world champion Bartosz Zmarzlik, who heads to Warsaw lifted by his 31st SGP victory in Riga on August 8.
- He has a four-point lead over Australian captain Brady Kurtz at the top of the Speedway GP standings going into the final two rounds in Vojens on September 12 and Torun on September 26. There are also two sprint races to contest – one at each round.
- Both Patryk Dudek and Maciej Janowski are seeking their fifth SWC gold medals, while Zmarzlik is chasing his fourth and 2023 winner Dominik Kubera eyes No.2.
- Kacper Woryna is the only newcomer to the side, as he represents Poland in an FIM Speedway team tournament for the first time. He lines up in the No.5 substitute role and offers Chomski a very exciting option, with his all-action style.

AUSTRALIA

- Australia qualified for the 2026 BOLL FIM SWC Final – Warsaw as winner of the 2025 FIM Speedway of Nations Final – Torun on October 4.
- This is the first time they have ever been seeded straight through to the Final, as Australia has never hosted an SWC or SON Final.
- They went into 2026 as strong favourites for this event. But their chances of victory suffered a setback with the news that world No.5 Jack Holder will not be fit to join them in Warsaw as he continues his recovery from the injuries that he suffered at the DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw on June 20.
- Holder topped the podium in the 2025 FIM Warsaw Speedway GP and finished second in the 2023 edition. He was two laps from winning that night, only for the final to be stopped and restaged, with Fredrik Lindgren beating him to the chequered flag.
- Australia still tracks two Warsaw winners in Jason Doyle (2024) and Max Fricke (2022), while Brady Kurtz finished second in the 2025 SGP event at PGE Narodowy.

- Doyle seeks to make history as the sport's first modern-day grand slam winner. Having won the Speedway GP World Championship in 2017 and SON gold in 2022 and 2025, he is just an SWC win away from completing a remarkable set. While Doyle didn't ride for Australia in the two SON Finals, he was a non-riding reserve and did feature in the Semi-Finals in both years, therefore playing his part in the victory.
- Kurtz hopes to ride in an SWC Final for the first time. He was Australia's reserve for the 2016 edition in Manchester, but did not take a ride. If he wins on Saturday, he too could end 2026 as a grand slam champion as he's still very much in Speedway GP title contention.
- Aussie boss Mark Lemon hands FIM Speedway team tournament debuts to both Ryan Douglas and Rohan Tungate.
- Both riders are enjoying the best year of their careers so far, with Douglas, 32, top of the Metalkas 2. Ekstraliga averages – Poland's second tier – for Poznan. He finished third in the average charts last year and fourth in 2024.
- His progression comes after he left Britain's Cab Direct Championship behind at the end of 2023, when he led Scunthorpe to the Knockout Cup. Leaving that comfort zone to focus on competing on the continent has transformed his fortunes.
- But he is still racing in the UK for Leicester – a club currently second in the Rowe Motor Oil Premiership. He was part of their teams that reached the play-off finals in 2024 and 2025.
- Tungate makes his SWC debut aged 36 on Saturday. He will make his full-time Speedway GP debut aged 37 next season after finishing second at the FIM SGP Challenge in Terenzano on July 25 to reach the sport's biggest stage for the first time.
- While Tungate starts the night in the No.5 reserve role, he is no stranger to that kind of task. He won both of his heats as a track reserve at the 2017 FIM Speedway GP of Australia – Melbourne and won't be afraid of being thrown into action at short notice.

DENMARK

- Denmark heads to Warsaw seeking its first world team title since 2014 – the year Nicki Pedersen, Niels Kristian Iversen, Peter Kildemand and Mads Korneliussen won in Bydgoszcz.
- Captain Michael Jepsen Jensen is the only member of the side to have previously won an SWC Final with Denmark. He teamed up with Pedersen to win the 2012 edition in Malilla. Leon Madsen was also part of the squad that year but was dropped for the Final.
- MJJ and Madsen are the team's Speedway GP regulars. MJJ has reached four finals in the first eight rounds so far this year, while Madsen won the FIM Speedway GP of Czech Republic – Prague. Jepsen Jensen is fourth and Madsen is seventh in the World Championship with two rounds to race.
- As well as winning the 2012 FIM Speedway World Cup Final in Malilla, Jepsen Jensen also won the FIM Speedway Under-21 World Championship and the FIM Nordic Speedway GP in Vojens in 2012.
- Following that, he largely disappeared from the world stage – aside from one full-time season in Speedway GP in 2015 – the only previous season when he has raced in Warsaw.
- MJJ has made an astonishing return to the top level and could compete for Speedway GP gold in the coming years.

- Speedway GP first substitute Anders Thomsen picked up the second win of his SGP career on July 11, topping the BST FIM Speedway GP of Sweden – Malilla podium, before celebrating with one of his trademark laps in his underwear.
- Madsen was part of Denmark's three FIM Speedway of Nations bronze medal winning teams in 2020, 2021 and 2025.
- He also knows the fastest way around Warsaw, having won the 2019 FIM Warsaw Speedway GP on his full-time SGP debut. Incredibly, he won just one race all night – luckily, it was the final.
- Michelsen lost his spot in Speedway GP at the end of last season, but the record three-time European champion and 2024 FIM Speedway GP of Germany – Landshut winner adds real strength to the side.
- The five is rounded off by Frederik Jakobsen, who could become a familiar face in Speedway GP for 2027. He finished seventh at the FIM SGP Challenge in Terenzano on July 25. Should three of Robert Lambert, Kacper Woryna, Andzejs Lebedevs and Michael Jepsen Jensen reach this year's SGP top seven, Jakobsen will make his full-time Speedway GP debut next year. Only Lebedevs is outside the top seven as it stands, so this could happen.
- Danish team manager Nicki Pedersen was part of the side for all four of Denmark's FIM Speedway World Cup wins in 2006 (Reading), 2008 (Vojens), 2012 (Malilla) and 2014 (Bydgoszcz).

GREAT BRITAIN

- Great Britain goes into the BOLL FIM SWC Final – Warsaw as underdogs following the loss of world No.3 Dan Bewley, who is still recovering from a broken femur suffered in Denmark on May 20.
- They are also without their most successful speedway rider following the retirement of triple Speedway GP world champion Tai Woffinden.
- This leaves skipper Robert Lambert to lead the side, but he is enjoying a stellar season, having finished in the top two at the past four Speedway GP rounds – winning in Lodz and taking second spot in Wroclaw, Malilla and Riga.
- This leaves him third in the Speedway GP standings on 119 points – 10 behind series leader Bartosz Zmarzlik with two rounds remaining. With 48 points still on the table, the title remains within reach.
- Lambert is joined by Charles Wright, who makes his debut in the SWC after missing Semi-Final 1 in Landshut due to a shoulder injury. He took second spot at the Cab Direct British Championship Final on August 15 – an emotional moment that came just under three months after his father Martin passed away. He earned the wild card for the 2027 FIM Speedway GP of Great Britain.
- Leon Flint finished third in the British Final and retains his spot in the GB side after scoring three points at Semi-Final 1.
- Double SON world champion Brennan scored nine in Landshut, and he returns for the Final in what has been a testing year. He has been recovering from the broken tibia and fibula he suffered during practice for an event in California last October.
- Former British champion Adam Ellis also takes his place in the side. He has hit form in recent weeks after making the move to Northampton in Britain's Rowe Motor Oil Premiership.

- Along with Lambert and Brennan, Ellis was part of GB's silver-medal-winning side in Wroclaw in 2023. Ellis and Lambert were also in the team when the Lions won silver at the 2016 Final in Manchester. Ellis did not take a ride in the 2016 Final.
- While GB won the 2021 and 2024 SON tournaments, the Lions are seeking their world title over the four-team format since England won the 1989 FIM Speedway World Team Cup Final in Bradford.

WHERE TO WATCH

Fans can catch every moment of 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 CT Sport and HBO Max

SLOVAKIA: Live on STVR Sport and HBO Max

USA/Canada: Live on Racer

REST OF THE WORLD: Live on FIM-MOTO TV