2026 DELUXE HOMEART FIM SPEEDWAY GP OF DENMARK – VOJENS – 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 Deluxe Homeart FIM Speedway GP of Denmark – Vojens this Saturday ...

WHERE?

- Vojens Speedway Center has been known as Denmark's national speedway stadium since it was constructed by triple FIM Speedway world champion Ole Olsen, who sought a grand stage in his homeland capable of hosting world championship events.
- The legendary venue opened on September 21, 1975, to huge interest in the region and beyond – with cars and fans turned away by police due to the huge crowds that flocked to the first event, creating big traffic jams.
- The 2025 season saw Vojens toast its 50th anniversary and the club celebrated the occasion with a Weekend of Champions, which saw the Speedway GP, SGP2 and SGP4 world champions all crowned over two days. Only the 2026 SGP2 trophy will be presented this weekend.
- The circuit staged the last-ever one-off FIM Speedway World Final in 1994, won by Tony Rickardsson after a three-man run-off with Hans Nielsen (second) and Craig Boyce (third). There has never been a run-off for the gold medal in the Speedway GP era.
- The Speedway GP series launched in 1995 and, along with Polish city Wroclaw, Vojens is the only returning venue from the inaugural season. Vojens stages its 20th Speedway GP on Saturday.
- Vojens has also hosted four modern-day FIM Speedway World Cup Finals. The 2003 edition was won by Sweden; Denmark topped the box in 2008; Poland triumphed in 2010, before Sweden claimed victory in 2015.
- Olsen's eldest son Jacob took charge of the venue on January 1, 2019, and has worked hard to put it back in the spotlight.
- More FIM Speedway history was written in Vojens in 2022. At just two weeks' notice, the club took over as FIM Speedway of Nations host when the local organiser in Esbjerg withdrew. Despite having very little time to prepare, Vojens staged a fantastic tournament, with Australia beating Great Britain in the Grand Final.
- Vojens didn't stage a Speedway GP event for five years after the 2014 FIM Nordic Speedway GP, but it made its return to the Speedway GP calendar

with the 2019 FIM Danish Speedway GP. Vojens was unable to host a round in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which saw the Danish league season cancelled. But SGP action returned in 2021 and has been staged here every season since.
- Vojens also entered a team into the 2021 Danish Speedwayligaen – the first time the track had staged league speedway since 2011. The team is known as Sønderjylland Elite Speedway. The club is now regularly among the Speedwayligaen title contenders and took gold in 2022.

WHEN?

Saturday, September 12

- Speedway GP Qualifying – 14:00 CEST
- Deluxe Homeart FIM Speedway GP of Denmark – Vojens – 19:00 CEST

FIM JURY

REFEREE: Craig Ackroyd (Great Britain)

JURY PRESIDENT: Piotr Szymanski (Poland)

FMNR REPRESENTATIVE: Kim Lagoni Andersen (Denmark)

RACE DIRECTOR: Phil Morris (Great Britain)

TITLE FIGHT

- Polish star Bartosz Zmarzlik regained the Speedway GP World Championship lead from Brady Kurtz with victory at the DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Latvia – Riga on August 8. This was a record-extending 31st SGP win.
- The six-time Speedway GP world champion now holds a four-point advantage over Kurtz with two rounds remaining – Zmarzlik has 129, with Kurtz on 125 and Great Britain's Robert Lambert chasing in third on 119.
- With 48 points left to race for across the remaining two rounds and two sprint races, the championship is still very much up for grabs.
- Zmarzlik is bidding to become the first rider in the sport's history to win seven world individual titles, as well as a record-extending fifth on the bounce.
- He has an outstanding record at Vojens Speedway Center, where he has finished in the top two on each of his last five appearances – winning in 2019 and 2022 and finishing second in 2021, 2024 and 2025.
- He didn't race in the 2023 event after being disqualified by the FIM Jury for wearing the wrong race suit during Qualifying. The offending kevlars carried

his personal sponsor Orlen and not then series sponsor Infinite Reality in the main chest position.

- Kurtz made his professional speedway debut on April 25, 2013, at Vojens Speedway Center, racing for Holsted in a Danish First Division match aged just 16.
- He nearly made the ultimate return on a bittersweet night in 2025. Kurtz won the 2025 Deluxe Homeart FIM Speedway GP of Denmark – Vojens to set a new series record of five consecutive SGP victories – beating the four won by Swedish great Tony Rickardsson in 2005.
- But with Zmarzlik taking second place, Poland's finest pipped Kurtz to the world title by one point.
- All of the current top four have won a Speedway GP round in Vojens. Lambert claimed his first SGP victory at the 2024 FIM Danish Speedway GP on his way to World Championship silver, while fourth-placed Michael Jepsen Jensen famously won as a wild card here in 2012.
- Lambert will be hoping for another big result as he bids to close the gap at the top. Having finished in the top two at each of the last four rounds, he stands every chance.
- The sprint races in Vojens and Torun, which offer four points to the winner with three for second, two for third and one for fourth place, could be absolutely pivotal.
- Lambert has scored well in both sprints so far in Manchester R3 and Wroclaw, finishing second in both to add six points to his tally. In contrast, Zmarzlik hasn't qualified for a sprint race yet this season, and Kurtz only scored one point at the sprint in Manchester after hitting the tapes.

QUALIFICATION RACE

- While the frontrunners have burst clear of the Speedway GP chasing pack, a very tight contest is developing for places in the World Championship's top seven – which guarantees riders a spot in the 2027 SGP series.
- Zmarzlik and Kurtz are guaranteed top-seven finishes, while Lambert is a point away from securing this. As 2026 FIM SGP Challenge winner in Terenzano, Italy on July 25, his 2027 Speedway GP spot is already guaranteed.
- Danish star Michael Jepsen Jensen is also nicely poised in the battle for qualification in fourth place on 88 points.
- He is still waiting for his first SGP victory since he won the FIM Nordic Speedway GP here at Vojens as a wild card on September 22, 2012 – 14 years ago. It would be an incredible moment if he could repeat the feat in his Speedway GP comeback season.

- Poland's Patryk Dudek made a huge move in the SGP qualification race. He has scored at least 11 championship points in each of the last four rounds, including a second place in Lodz. He is now fifth overall on 81 points.
- Fourth place for his compatriot Kacper Woryna in Riga saw the Lublin man move up to sixth spot overall on 78 points. His place in the 2027 series is already confirmed after he finished third at the FIM SGP Challenge.
- He is being chased by Denmark's Leon Madsen on 72 in seventh – the last of the automatic qualification places for the 2027 series. Australia's Max Fricke is eighth on 71 – just one off the top seven.
- Also chasing qualification is ninth-placed Andzejs Lebedevs on 60 points. But his 2027 Speedway GP spot could be confirmed this weekend. If Challenge winner Lambert scores one more Speedway GP World Championship point, guaranteeing his place in the top seven, Lebedevs' will qualify for next season after finishing fifth at the Challenge.
- Also chasing top-seven spots are 10th-placed Jason Doyle on 59 and 11th-placed Anders Thomsen on 55. Jack Holder in 12th spot, also with 55, remains sidelined due to injury.
- If three of Lambert, Woryna, Lebedevs and Jepsen Jensen finish in the top seven, this will hand a spot in the 2027 Speedway GP series to Danish wild card Frederik Jakobsen, who was seventh at the Challenge behind sixth-placed Jepsen Jensen.
- If Lambert, Woryna, Lebedevs and Jepsen Jensen all finish inside the top seven, it would hand Great Britain legend Chris Harris a shock Speedway GP comeback for the first time since 2016 after he was eighth in the Challenge.
- The winner of the 2026 Speedway European Championship also qualifies for the 2027 Speedway GP series. Madsen and Jepsen Jensen lead the standings on 24, with Dudek chasing on 22. Czech star Jan Kvech, Denmark's triple European champion Mikkel Michelsen and Germany's Kai Huckenbeck are close behind on 20, with round-two winner Maciej Janowski also back in the title race on 19.
- The 2027 Speedway GP line-up will be completed by three permanent wild cards chosen by the SGP Commission. If the European champion also finishes in the Speedway GP top seven or has already qualified via the FIM SGP Challenge, the SGP Commission will nominate a fourth wild card.

WELCOME BACK & MISSING THIS WEEKEND

- Great Britain hero Dan Bewley has also missed the last seven rounds after suffering a broken femur when he crashed out of a Danish Speedwayligaen meeting in Outrup on May 20.

- He made his racing return for Polish PGE Ekstraliga club Wroclaw, scoring 10 paid 12 points away to Leszno in a play-off semi-final – a huge meeting against their local rivals.
- Bewley sealed Speedway GP World Championship bronze by finishing fourth at the 2025 Vojens event and will be keen to end a difficult year on a high.
- Incredibly, he won all five of his heats at his sole SGP appearance of 2026 so far – the WWK Schwaiger & Partner FIM Speedway GP of Germany – Landshut on May 2, before losing out to Woryna in the final.
- Australia's Jack Holder remains absent after crashing out of the DEWALT FIM Speedway GP of Poland – Wroclaw on June 20, suffering multiple injuries. He missed the rounds in Malilla, Lodz and Riga.
- Poland's Dominik Kubera returns to action in Vojens. He was a late withdrawal from R8 in Riga after suffering an arm injury when he crashed in a Danish Speedwayligaen match for Region Varde on August 5. He also missed the Manchester double-header, and this has left him all but out of qualification contention for 2027. Only a wild card could save him.

HOME HEROES

- Denmark has four riders in the starting line-up on Saturday night – including SGP regulars Madsen and Jepsen Jensen.
- Both men have previously won the Vojens event. Madsen triumphed in 2023, while Jepsen Jensen seeks to repeat his heroics of 14 years ago in 2012.
- Speedway GP first substitute Anders Thomsen covers for the injured Holder after initially being nominated as first track reserve. While he rides for the host club in the Danish Speedwayligaen, Thomsen has not enjoyed the best of fortunes in SGP events here. He has never scored more than seven championship points in Vojens.
- The wild card for Saturday's Speedway GP is Frederik Jakobsen, who earned the spot by finishing second to Madsen at the Danish Championship Final in Esbjerg on June 17.
- Frederik is the son of the late Jan Jakobsen, who was an assistant coach of the Danish national team when Erik Gundersen and Jacob Olsen were team managers in the 1990s and early 2000s. Jan died following a battle with cancer on August 23, 2020.
- He coached a golden generation of riders including brothers Nicki and Ronni Pedersen, Bjarne Pedersen, Hans Andersen, Niels Kristian Iversen, Kenneth Bjerre and Charlie Gjedde.
- FIM Speedway Under-21 World Championship leader Mikkel Andersen is first track reserve for Saturday. With 38 points and a 10-point lead over Maksymilian Pawelczak in second (28), he needs 11 points or more to guarantee the SGP2 title on his Danish home track this Friday. Second track

reserve Villads Nagel is third in the SGP2 standings on 24 and also very much in the medal hunt.

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