



FIM WORLD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2004

Fujinami wins to increase his advantage

Today saw Takahisa Fujinami (Repsol – Montesa – HRC) tighten his grip on his first ever World title when he won the Spanish Grand Prix and in doing so further increased his lead in the overall standings with just one round remaining. Even Adam Raga (Gas Gas) could not contain the Japanese rider at his home round and had to settle for the runners up position after a day long battle. The difference between the top three riders in the championship and the rest of the field was clear to see today, as Dougie Lampkin (Repsol – Montesa – HRC) completed the podium with a large advantage over the fourth place rider Kenichi Kuroyama (Beta).

With most of the sections being ridden for the first time, it was always going to be difficult to gauge the level, and despite some modifications to ease some zones after a request by both the riders and the jury prior to the trial, it still proved to be one of the most severe courses of the season to date. The mountain terrain provided a good mix of sections, the wet and dry hazards asking much of even the top riders.

Even after the first lap it was clear to see that again the victory would be decided by the usual candidates of Fujinami, Lampkin and Raga, although Marc Freixa (Repsol – Montesa – HRC) was doing his best to stay in touch with the front runners at this stage. His challenge would eventually fade and leave him in sixth place at the finish as Albert Cabestany (Beta) produced a much improved second lap score to snatch a slightly disappointing fifth position at his home Grand Prix, where he had hoped at least to be on the rostrum.

The young pairing of Jeroni Fajardo (Gas Gas) and Antonio Bou (Beta) struggled to find their normal form and finished in seventh and ninth places respectively. Jordi Pascuet (Gas Gas) produced one of his best rides of the year to take an excellent eighth position, after losing out on a tie break to Fajardo.

The Junior class, over an equally tough course, was won by Jose Maria Juan (Sherco).

Results:

- 1: Fujinami 47
- 2: Raga 49
- 3: Lampkin 52
- 4: Kuroyama 71
- 5: Cabestany 73
- 6: Freixa 75
- 7: Fajardo 83
- 8: Pascuet 83
- 9: Bou 89
- 10: Jarvis 94

2004 Championship standings to date:

- 1: Fujinami 250
- 2: Lampkin 226
- 3: Raga 222
- 4: Cabestany 173
- 5: Freixa 159
- 6: Fajardo 137
- 7: Kuroyama 120
- 8: Jarvis 118
- 9: Bou 110
- 10: Pascuet 65

This round: 25th July Only
Puerto Pajares, Spain

Next round: 04 –05th September
Moutier, Switzerland

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