



Raga wins to become new championship leader

Adam Raga – Gas Gas snatched a last gasp win at his home Grand Prix held in the city of Tarragona, Spain earlier today, when he cleaned the final section to claim the victory and with it the championship lead. Albert Cabestany – Sherco was within touching distance of fulfilling the dream of winning in his home town, but a bad mistake in the last indoor type section resulted in a five and him losing the trial by a single mark after having led the event from start to finish until that point.

Marc Freixa – Repsol Montesa HRC made it a Spanish 1-2-3, as he found a new level of consistency to post two strong lap scores and net himself a long awaited and much over due podium finish. Reigning outdoor champion Takahisa Fujinami – Repsol Montesa HRC endured his second poor weekend in a row and could only manage fourth place as he failed to find his form on the dry and grippy coastal sections. With the exception of Freixa, the Repsol Montesa HRC team did not have the best of days, as last week's winner Dougie Lampkin suffered an electrical fault that cost him dearly and left him in fifth place at the finish.

The event was far from a typical Spanish Grand Prix, with the course consisting mainly of sections on a man made sea defence wall, with only a few hazards being of a more natural kind. The sea played its part in adding additional severity and a certain element of luck, as a random pattern of waves crashed on to the sections and over the unfortunate riders. Because of this problem with the water extra time was given to all the riders as they were faced to wait for valuable minutes before selecting the safe time to attempt some of the more exposed hazards.

It was an equally exciting day in the Junior category with James Dabill – Beta just pipping Daniel Gibert – Gas Gas by two marks to take the win, and again to lead the overall standings. It was an historic day for Ladies World champion Laia Sanz – Repsol Montesa HRC as she gained her first ever podium finish by taking third position.

There was another home winner in the 125 class with Daniel Oliveras – Gas Gas taking a clear victory from the French rider Loris Gubian – Sherco. A new name in the form of Lee Sampson – Sherco completed the podium in this the youngest of the three classes.

The championship will now take a short break before resuming outside of Europe, at the Japanese Grand Prix that will take place in late May.



(1 Day event)
World
1: Raga 21
2: Cabestany 22
3: Freixa 24
Junior
1: Dabill 39
2: Gibert 41
3: Sanz 70
125cc
1: Oliveras 15
2: Gubian 28
3: Sampson 28

Championship
standings to date :
World
1: Raga 37
2: Cabestany 32
3: Lampkin 31
Junior
1: Dabill 37
2: Gibert 37
3: Garrido 26
125
1: Oliveras 37
2: Gubian 37
3: Sampson 25
3: Karim 15

2005
Manufacturers
Championship
standings to date:
1: Montesa 56
2: Gas Gas 51
3: Sherco 49
4: Beta 40
5: Honda 24
6: Scorpa 8

This round: 24th April,
Tarragona, Spain

Next round: 21st-22nd May
Motegi, Japan

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