



The incredible fight for the title continues in France

The opening half of the 2005 FIM trial World championship has been simply incredible, with almost a different winner at each round and the points leader changing as quickly as the series shifts from country to country on its re-established ten leg tour. With only two points separating the first four riders in the overall standings at the mid point in the season, the second part of the year promises to be equally interesting as these elite motorised athletes continue to fight for the right to be called World champion.

Dougie Lampkin – Repsol Montesa HRC is the man who currently holds the slim advantage at the top of the table, but with seven outdoor titles already to his name, the British rider will know more than most that this not a lead at all. The charging pack is full of pedigree, which each of the three riders who are in joint second place at this point, each having won at least one round during the early part of 2005. Adam Raga – Gas Gas joined Lampkin and reigning outdoor champion Takahisa Fujinami – Repsol Montesa HRC, as being one of only three riders to have recorded more than one day victory this season. Raga's win at the previous Grand Prix in Andorra last Sunday brought him right back into the title race with five rounds still remaining.

A winner on the second day in Japan, Albert Cabestany – Sherco still remains very much a threat to the other three leading contenders, having moved teams over the Winter Albert has done amazingly well to quickly adapt to his new mount and to keep himself in the championship hunt. It can only be assumed that Cabestany will continue to improve as he spends more and more time on his factory Sherco and just could be at his strongest during the most vital point of the season.

Certainly out of the main championship race Marc Freixa – Repsol Montesa HRC and Antonio Bou – Beta are enjoying their own personal duel for the final top five placing in the series. Whilst both riders certainly have the talent to score a round win, neither has yet put together a consistent enough performance on the day to upset their peers. Although it would seem impossible for one of them not to at least take one win before the end of the year.

In the Junior category James Dabill – Beta has become the run away leader by winning six out of the seven counting days to date. This is a feat that Daniel Oliveras – Gas Gas has almost matched in the 125 class, the young Spanish rider having achieved five victories to his name so far this season.



Past winners –

GP France

1992 – Tommi Ahvala
 1993 – Amos Bilbao
 1994 – Jordi Tarres
 1995 – Jordi Tarres
 1996 – Marc Colomer
 1997 – Dougie Lampkin
 1998 – Dougie Lampkin
 1999 – Dougie Lampkin
 2000 – Dougie Lampkin
 2001 – Dougie Lampkin
 2002 – Albert Cabestany
 2003 – Dougie Lampkin
 2004 – Takahisa Fujinami

2005 Riders

Championship standings to date :

World
 1: Lampkin 111
 2: Fujinami 109
 3: Raga 109
 Junior
 1: Dabill 137
 2: Gibert 112
 3: Garrido 105
 125cc
 1: Oliveras 134
 2: Gubian 121
 3: Kregeloh 78

2005

Manufacturers Championship standings to date:

1: Montesa 191
 2: Sherco 170
 3: Gas Gas 158
 4: Beta 136
 5: Honda 116
 6: Scorpa 33
 7: Yamaha 7

This round: 25-26th June
 Ales, France

Next round: 09-10th July
 Valbondione, Italy

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