

**MICHELIN HEADS EAST ACROSS EUROPE AS BRNO BECKONS**

Michelin has travelled across a large part of Europe as the MotoGP™ paddock moves from Jerez in southern Spain to Brno in Czechia for the second chapter in this unusual season.

With the start of this year's calendar either put on hold or cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Monster Energy Grand Prix České republiky is one of only a few races that has retained its scheduled date, but instead of being the twelfth race of the season, it is now the third following the double-header at Jerez last month.

Michelin will be going to the wide-open and fast Masaryk Circuit, more commonly known as the Automotodrom Brno, following an impressive start to the season for its new construction MICHELIN Power Slick rear tyres. With records broken in Spain and excellent racing, the grip and performance provided by the latest evolution rear slick will now be given a thorough examination in Czechia, on a track that lends itself well to open racing due to the hard-braking areas, powerful acceleration zones and the undulating nature of the track. Compounds will be matched to work at an optimum with the medium abrasive track and will see the front slicks in soft, medium and hard in a symmetric design, whilst the new construction rears will have an asymmetric finish with a harder right-hand side. Although the design of the 5,403m track is six left turns and eight right-handers and has quite a neutral look and feel to it, the greater demands on the clockwise corners necessitates a harder compound to cope with the increased stresses and higher temperatures produced through those turns.

Situated approximately 200km from the country's capital Prague, the location of the circuit - high in the hills outside of Brno and set in a forested area - means it can be subjected to wet weather. With this in mind the weekend's allocation will feature a range of MICHELIN Power Rain tyres in soft and medium compounds for the front and rear, the fronts will be symmetric and the rears will have an asymmetric design, with the harder right-hand-side.

Michelin and the MotoGP field will be in action on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August for the first two of the four Free Practice sessions. Two more Free Practice sessions will be completed on Saturday ahead of the all-important Qualifying, when the riders will challenge for the best grid positions for Sunday's 22-lap race. The main event will get underway at 14.00hrs local time (14.00hrs CEST, 13.00hrs BST, 12.00hrs GMT) on Sunday 9th August.

**Piero Taramasso – Michelin Motorsport Two-Wheel Manager:**

“Brno is usually the circuit we head to after the summer break, so it will be unusual going there as only the second venue of the season. All the protocols that worked so well in Jerez are still in place in Brno, so it will seem strange seeing the large areas around the track not full of people on race-day, but we will be determined to put on a good show for all the fans watching at home. We had a good start to the season in Spain, we broke some records and the new tyres performed very well in the extreme conditions. Brno is a wide track and has lots of hard accelerating sectors that need a lot of grip from the rear to give the riders the best propulsion possible, this is something our new rear tyres have been designed for, so it will be good to see them perform at a circuit that is ideal for their characteristics.”



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