



06/03/2017

Wild card Gubian joins the series for second round in Austria

French favourite Loris Gubian - Beta is the wild card rider taking on the permanent seven stars of the 2017 FIM X-Trial World Championship when round two takes place in Wiener Neustadt, Austria this coming Saturday. Twenty-eight years of age from the city of Lyon, Loris will be making his return to the championship after being absent in 2016.



A very experienced indoor rider having made his championship debut in 2007, Loris' highest overall finish was sixth in 2012, the same year he recorded his best event finishes with fifth places in Geneva, Switzerland and Majorca, Spain. He also recorded another fifth-placed finish in Oviedo, Spain in 2014.

In 2012 and 2015 Gubian helped France to podium finishes in the FIM X-Trial des Nations. Loris finished the 2015 FIM X-Trial World Championship in eighth overall after recording a pair of sixth-placed finishes when he competed in his home rounds in Marseille and Pau as a wild card rider.

A five-time French outdoor champion, Loris finished fourteenth in the 2016 FIM Trial World Championship despite missing the final two rounds. His best result was a seventh on the second day of his home round.

“My goal this weekend is to enjoy the event but still do my best,” he added. “As we already know many of the riders are able to reach the final so it will be difficult to do this but in X-Trial we also know that anything is possible so I will be doing my best for sure to create a surprise.” I am very pleased to be able to return to the FIM X-Trial World Championship, especially in Austria as it's an event I have wanted to ride,” said Loris. “I want to thank the local organiser for this great opportunity.”

“Last season was not one of my best years. I arrived at the start of 2016 after a very difficult winter due to many injuries which meant I had very little time training on the bike but I am happy to say that

already 2017 is different and I am much more prepared both physically and on the bike.”

Loris Gubian - Key Facts

- FIM Indoor / X-Trial World Championship debut Marseille, France 2007 – Aged 18
- FIM X-Trial World Championship - best overall finish 6th place 2012 - Aged 23
- Winner – FIM European Championship 2009 – Aged 20
- Winner - FIM Junior World Cup 2008 - Aged 19
- FIM Trial World Championship - World Pro class debut Castelloli, Spain 2008 - Aged 19
- 5 x French Trial Champion 2009 / 2010 / 2011 / 2013 / 2014

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ABOUT THE FIM (www.fim-live.com)

The FIM (Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme) founded in 1904, is the governing body for motorcycle sport and the global advocate for motorcycling. The FIM is an independent association formed by 113 National Federations throughout the world. It is recognised as the sole competent authority in motorcycle sport by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Among its 50 FIM World Championships the main events are MotoGP, Superbike, Endurance, Motocross, Supercross, Trial, Enduro, Cross-Country Rallies and Speedway. Furthermore, the FIM is also active and involved in the following areas: public affairs, road safety, touring and protection of the environment. The FIM was the first international sports federation to impose an Environmental Code in 1994.





08/03/2017

Bou ready to dominate again in Austria

Fresh from his dominant win at the opening round of the 2017 FIM X-Trial World Championship in Barcelona last month, defending champion Toni Bou - Repsol Honda heads to Wiener Neustadt, Austria this coming Saturday as the clear favourite once again.

The Spanish star, bidding for an incredible eleventh consecutive title, recorded an emphatic sixteen-mark victory in the Palau Sant Jordi and will be keen to carry this form into round two.



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Bou is unbeaten in Austria, having won there on the last two occasions the FIM X-Trial World Championship visited the country in 2015 and 2016.

“Of course, the first objective is to make it through to the final to be in with a chance of victory and to be able to pick up twenty more points,” said Toni. “We are arriving highly-motivated for a win and we have prepared as well as we possibly could.”

“It is a short championship and this means that if you want to win the title you can’t make any mistakes. In Austria we will face a Trial with some complicated sections - it is one of the events that I like best in the championship - and I think that we will be on top form there.”

His closest competition is likely to come from fellow Spaniards Adam Raga - TRS, Jeroni Fajardo - Vertigo and Albert Cabestany - Sherco. The trio all made it to the final in Barcelona where Raga took second with Fajardo snatching the final podium place after beating Cabestany in the speed section tie-break.

Of the remaining seven permanent riders, veteran Japanese star Takahisa Fujinami - Repsol Honda was sixth in Barcelona ahead of British champion James Dabill - Gas Gas and Germany's Franz Kadlec - Gas Gas who regards the Austrian event as his 'home' round of the championship.

The eight-man field for Wiener Neustadt is completed by French wild card rider Loris Gubian - Beta whose best overall championship performance was in 2012 when he finished sixth.

From Austria the 2017 FIM X-Trial World Championship moves to France where it signs off with the final two rounds in Marseille on 25th March and Nice on 31st March. However, for the time being all eyes are firmly focused on who will come out on top in Wiener Neustadt this Saturday evening.

Wiener Neustadt - Key Facts

- This Saturday is FIM X-Trial World Championship's third visit to Wiener Neustadt making it the newest venue on the 2017 calendar
- Bou is not the only current rider who has won in Austria - Raga won in 2003 when the event was held in Vienna
- Cabestany / Fujinami also competed in that 2003 event which was the last in Austria until 2015
- Bou has dropped a total of just 27 marks in his two visits to Wiener Neustadt - Raga is next best with 60 marks lost
- Raga has never finished higher than third in Wiener Neustadt making it his least-successful venue in the 2017 championship calendar
- No non-Spanish rider has ever qualified for the final in Wiener Neustadt with Bou, Raga, Cabestany and Fajardo making it through to the last four in 2015 / 2016