



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

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Motul TT Assen

Following the race last weekend in Sachsenring, Germany the Michelin Motorsport team and the MotoGP™ Paddock will travel west to the historic TT Circuit Assen in the Netherlands, for a back-to-back race with the Motul TT Assen – the 11th round of the 2022 championship, and the final round before the summer break.

Known as the Cathedral of Speed, Assen is the only circuit to have held a Grand Prix since the beginning of the championship, and as was the case last year the circuit will not only play host to the MotoGP World Championship during the weekend, but also the fourth round of the FIM Enel MotoE™ World Cup. In addition, last year the circuit welcomed a socially distanced 11,500 spectators on each of the three days, but this year should see the crowds returning in full.

The circuit was resurfaced in 2020, and despite this leading to some uncertainty last year over how the MICHELIN Power Slick tyres would work due to a lack of pre-race testing, all lap records were broken during the weekend – all-time circuit lap record, race lap record and race duration record.

The TT Assen Circuit has had many changes to its layout through the years, but the current 4,542m (2.822 miles) configuration with its short 487m (0.303 miles) straight and mix of six left-hand and twelve right-hand corners, is still one of the most revered and loved circuits in the world and it has a history of producing exciting and close racing.

It is a traditional track in terms of its layout, in that it still includes high-speed curves and banked corners, whilst incorporating all the safety requirements of a modern circuit. It is this configuration of 18 corners that places greater demands on the rear tyres compared to those on the front. As a result, the rear allocation of Soft, Medium and Hard MICHELIN Power Slicks will be asymmetric, featuring a harder right-hand-side, and these have been designed to cope with the increased temperatures and stresses that the tyres will endure through the numerous fast right corners, which are one of the key features of this track. While the front tyres have a less stressful time, the demands placed upon them are equally important, so the Soft, Medium and Hard options, which are all symmetric, have been selected to complement their rear counterparts.

With the forthcoming race in Finland delayed until 2023, Assen will hold onto its crown as the most northerly track on the calendar this year, and this geographic location has brought its share of wet weather to the event in the past. If these conditions should prevail, the symmetric front MICHELIN Power Rain tyres in Soft



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and Medium will be available, along with the asymmetric Soft and Medium rear options – which have a harder right-hand-side like their slick counterparts.

Sharing his thoughts on the forthcoming race, Piero Taramasso, Michelin Two-Wheel Motorsport Manager, said: “As one of the most iconic circuits on the MotoGP calendar, the Assen TT Circuit is one that we all look forward to every year. Its traditional layout usually leads to some exciting racing, and after the restricted access of recent years, I’m sure the likelihood of a passionate and vocal capacity crowd will give the riders a tremendous buzz during the weekend.

“Following our somewhat ‘blind’ visit to Assen last year, after the resurfacing work that was done in 2020, our 2022 allocation has been selected to resist the very specific demands that will be placed on the tyres by the circuit. Last year we brought four tyre specifications due to new asphalt, but for this year we will only bring three fronts and three rears as per the standard regulations. As a result, I’m confident they will offer consistent grip and confidence for the riders throughout the weekend, from Free Practice to the race. In MotoE our tyres will also offer the same performance characteristics, but constructed using a high percentage of sustainable materials, they are designed to offer a quick warm-up and to take into account the much shorter race distance in this class.”

The MotoGP weekend schedule will start with two Free Practice sessions on Friday, before two further sessions on Saturday, which will be followed by Qualifying 1 and 2 on the same day to decide the all-important grid positions. The MotoGP action continues on Sunday with the 26-lap race getting underway at 14:00 local time.

In MotoE, the riders will have two Free Practice sessions on Friday, followed by Qualifying 1 and 2 later that day. Race 1 will take place on Saturday afternoon, followed by Race 2 on Sunday, immediately after the MotoGP race.

About Michelin

Michelin, the leading mobility company, is dedicated to enhancing its clients’ mobility, sustainably; designing and distributing the most suitable tires, services and solutions for its clients’ needs; providing digital services, maps and guides to help enrich trips and travels and make them unique experiences; and developing high-technology materials that serve a variety of industries. Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 177 countries, has 124,760 employees and operates 68 tire production facilities which together produced around 173 million tires in 2021. (www.michelin.com)

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