



Bou wins first day in Japan

Having not tasted victory since the opening round of the 2006 outdoor championship, when he won in his home country, Spaniard Antonio Bou (Beta) today earned his second win of the season by taking top honours on the first of two days of the competition at the Motegi Twin Ring in Japan. Current championship leader Adam Raga (Gas Gas) took second place with Albert Cabestany (Sherco) taking third place and his first podium place of the 2006 season.

In a tough competition, it was consistent riding from Bou in the opening lap which ultimately gave him the victory. With Raga putting in a relatively poor first lap performance dropping four fives in the opening seven sections, it was Cabestany with a resurgence from his recent period of poor results who put up the main challenge along with Dougie Lampkin (Repsol-Montesa HRC).

The second lap saw the same steady riding from Bou, but in what has become typical of Raga, he upped his game in the latter half of the competition and turned in a second lap score half that of his first lap to put in a late challenge eventually finishing just one mark adrift of Bou. Local hero Takahisa Fujinami (Repsol-Montesa HRC), despite the backing of the Japanese spectators, is still struggling to shake off illness and could only manage fourth place. Raga now leads the championship by thirteen points over Bou with Lampkin a further three points adrift.

In the Junior championship Daniel Gibert (Montesa) closed the gap between himself and series leader Michael Brown (Beta) to just four points in the overall standings after taking victory by seventeen marks over Daniel Oliveras (Gas Gas) with Brown finishing in third position.

The Youth category saw Italian Matteo Grattarola (Sherco) take the top podium position over Loris Gubian (Sherco) with Alfredo Gomez (Gas Gas) in third position. With the absence of championship leader after the USA round, Alexz Wigg (Gas Gas) due to school exams, Gubian now leads the 125cc championship table

The championship continues with day two of competition from Japan tomorrow

Day 1 Results:

(2 Day event)

World

- 1: Bou 44
- 2: Raga 45
- 3: Cabestany 47

Junior

- 1: Gibert 42
- 2: Oliveras 59
- 3: Brown 65

125cc

- 1: Grattarola 48
- 2: Gubian 64
- 3: Gomez 64

2006 Riders
Championship

Current Standings:

World

- 1: Raga 91
- 2: Bou 78
- 3: Lampkin 75

Junior

- 1: Brown 90
- 2: Gibert 86
- 3: Oliveras 83

125cc

- 1: Gubian 82
- 2: Wigg 74
- 3: Grattarola 69

2006 Manufacturers
Championship

Current Standings:

- 1: Gas Gas 148
- 2: Montesa 140
- 3: Beta 118
- 4: Sherco 62
- 5: Scorpa 60
- 6: Honda 11
- 7: Yamaha 10

This round: 03rd – 04th June
Motegi, Japan

Next round: 25th June
La Chartre, France

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