

# Motorsport News

International Edition – August 2020



## Italy

### Two podium places for Nicolas Covatti

In the first of the six rounds of the Italian National Speedway Championship, FUCHS rider Nicolas Covatti won four qualifying heats out of five, while his teammate – double Italian speedway champion Paco Castagna – won the fifth. A promising start to the season for the team. // Page 3.

## Romania

### First 2020 podium for Valentin Dobre

Driver Valentin Dobre made his mark in the 2020 Campionatul Național de Viteză în Coastă 1 (National Speed Championship in Coast 1) as early as the second stage of the season with an impressive third place in the E2-SH+3000 class. He is hoping to improve on this by the end of the season. // Page 11.



Photo credit: Taylor Lanning

## Great Britain

### Standing ovation for Robert Lambert

FUCHS Silkolene rider Robert Lambert has beaten the best riders in the world on the decisive fifth and final round of the Speedway European Championship, which took place in Poland in July. Not only is he the first British rider to win this title, but it also makes him the first confirmed rider for the 2021 Grand Prix series. // Page 7.



## Germany

### Fourth SP8T class victory for BLACK FALCON

BLACK FALCON continued its winning streak in the SP8T class in the fourth round of the Nürburgring Langstrecken Serie (Nürburgring Endurance Series). Mustafa Mehmet Kaya, Gabriele Piana, and Mike Stursberg pushed the Mercedes-AMG GT4 (#155) up to fifteenth place overall and secured a fourth consecutive SP8T class victory for the BLACK FALCON Team TEXTAR. The Porsche Cayman GT4 (#950), which was acquired at the beginning of the season, took part in the NLS for the first time in the CUP3 class. In the highly competitive Cayman GT4 Trophy, drivers Alexander Böhm,

“Iceman”, Christian Reiter, and Ersin Yücesan celebrated a successful debut, finishing in seventh place.

Head of Motorsport at BLACK FALCON, Timo Frings, explained: “The fourth NLS race was certainly the most difficult so far. Thanks to years of experience, we had the perfect strategy for the race. In the SP8T class, we won again and are still unbeaten – it couldn’t be better. We’re also very happy that Mustafa is back on the grid after the forced break due to travel restrictions. The Cayman premiere was also a great success. The car easily completed the race distance

and our drivers brought the Porsche home in seventh place without a scratch – an excellent result in the CUP3 class, which is largely made up of semi-professional racers and up-and-coming young drivers. As soon as travel restrictions allow, Alexander Akimenkov, Vasili Selivanov, and Tristan Viidas will also be in action in the NLS.”

The next round will be the highlight of the championship. The only six-hour race of the season will also be the dress rehearsal for the 24-hour race which will take place at the end of September.





## Italy

### **Nicolas Covatti wins the inaugural round at Terenzano**

The Moto Club Olimpia Terenzano has been sponsored by FUCHS Italy for many years. The team riders, Nicolas Covatti and double Italian speedway champion Paco Castagna, are racing in the Italian National Speedway Championship in 2020.

Like other motorbike competitions, the Italian speedway calendar has been seriously disrupted as a result of COVID-19. The first of the six rounds finally got underway at the Terenzano circuit in July.

Nicolas Covatti (32) was in great shape and won four qualifying heats out of five. He crossed the finishing line in first place, ahead of Nicolas Vicentin, and his teammate Paco Castagna. Latvian Ricards Ansviesulis, the only foreigner in the race to put the best counter-steering specialists under pressure, took fourth place.

Nicolas Covatti said: "Even though it was quite difficult returning to racing after so many months, I'm really

happy to be back and to be winning. With only two training sessions, I already felt tired after the free practice. In the final round, I made a good start, the bike was perfect, and the new Terenzano circuit allows riders to choose different trajectories. I'm happy to see passionate young riders with the desire to learn. They're the future of this discipline and we need to help them grow."

Nine months after his last race, Paco Castagna (30) has started his pursuit of the Italian National Championship title. "Third place overall isn't satisfactory. I still have five rounds to make enough points to win the championship and I'm confident that I can do it. My focus is on the Italian championship and the Open Meetings around Europe to demonstrate my skills to the other clubs."

Calendar: August 29-30 – Race 2-3; September 19-20 – Race 4-5; October 8 – Final.



## Zimbabwe

### New adventures for Jayden Ashwell in the UK championships

FUCHS rider Jayden Ashwell (24) started to race when he was seven and has since won many titles\* in the South Africa and Zimbabwe MX1 and MX2 Motocross Championships. “What I like most is the unknown. Every race is different. With every turn comes a new opportunity to push my limit and overcome the never-ending challenges. Motocross entails a lot of ups and downs. The hardest thing is to believe in myself when I’m having a tough time, but I’m lucky to have my family to lean on. They help me to see the positive side in every situation.”

The Zimbabwean rider has been sponsored by FUCHS for nine years. “I’ll always be grateful to the whole FUCHS family for believing in my abilities and helping me to achieve my goals while doing the sport I love.”

Jonathan Musgrave has been Jayden’s mechanic for five years. He has owned two motorcycle shops in the past six years. “There are constant new technologies for the bikes. Most are small changes, however the main ones take a lot of time to learn, including suspension and electrical packages,” said Jonathan.

“The most difficult thing to manage during the race is getting accurate and critical information to the rider as the race is progressing. I must also be ready for any repairs to the bike at any time.”

Jayden uses a wide range of FUCHS Silkolene lubricants.

This season Jayden moved to the UK to compete in the ACU MXGB Series, but this championship has now been canceled. However, the FUCHS rider will participate in the last three races of the MX Nationals in the UK, as well as in regional races.

\*2012 SA MX1 and MX2 national champion; 2012 MX2 Motocross of African Nations champion; 2015, 2017, and 2019 MX1 Motocross of African Nations champion

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO 4 SAE 10W-60 XP, Silkolene PRO BOOST, Silkolene WASH OFF, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene CARB CLEANER**



## Great Britain

### Three wins out of four races for Carl Vickers

Like all competitors, FUCHS Silkolene rider Carl Vickers was super excited to return to the four races of round one of Thundersport GB at Donington Park. Carl is competing in the Blackbird Corporate Golden Era Supersport/Steelsport class. With one big change – there is now also a Veteran class embedded in the group class.

On July 25, thanks to a very fast last lap during the qualifying tests, Carl was tenth in the starting lineup with his Yamaha R6. The first race of the season started in torrential rain, so all the riders were equipped with wet tires. Unfortunately, two laps later the track had dried but they had to keep going. Carl achieved fourth place in the first Veteran race and fourteenth place in the Supersport class. In race two, slowly but surely, Carl worked through the pack, coming first in the Veteran class and eleventh in the Supersport class. Race three saw Carl confirming his talent. After racing neck and neck with Dave Langley, Carl crossed the finishing line only 0.013 seconds in

front of him. Thanks to this result, he claimed victory in the Veteran class, and moved up to ninth place in the Supersport class. In the fourth and final race, Carl triumphed with his third victory in the Veteran class.

Carl Vickers said: "Quite a few cobwebs have been blown out! I was happy to get three wins out of four in the new Veteran class and be leading it going into the next race at Mallory Park. I'm also in the top ten of the Supersport class, which is quicker than ever before."

2020 calendar: September 5-6 – Mallory Park; September 26 – Oulton Park; October 24-25 – Cadwell Park.

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene COMP 4 SAE 10W-40 XP, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene CONTACT CLEANER, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE**



## Great Britain

### Josh Brookes kicks season off with podium

After a four-month delay due to COVID-19, the FUCHS Silkolene-sponsored VisionTrack Ducati Team pairing of Josh Brookes and Christian Iddon got their 2020 Bennetts British Superbike Championship campaign up and running at Donington Park.

Josh Brookes – after claiming a podium in the opening race of the season aboard the factory-supported VisionTrack Ducati Panigale V4 R for Paul Bird’s Cumbrian Team – had been on course for a second podium finish. Unfortunately, a collision with Andrew Irwin resulted in a high-speed crash without injury for the Australian rider.

Team Co-Ordinator, Johnny Mowatt, said: “It’s been a disappointing weekend and we intend to look at where we need to improve before the next round. It was great to see Josh get third place in race one, but we struggled in race two and race three, not helped by another rider causing him to crash. Luckily, he’s not injured but it’s disappointing all the same. Christian continued to get to grips with the bike and with a pair of fourth-place finishes, he was unlucky to miss out on a podium. Our aim is to bounce back at Snetterton so that’s our focus now.”

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO R SAE 0W-20, Silkolene PRO 4 PLUS SAE 10W-50, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene PRO PREP, Silkolene WASH OFF**



Photo credit: Curtis Sport

## Great Britain

### **FUCHS Silkolene rider Robert Lambert crowned Speedway European champion**

Robert Lambert delivered an outstanding performance under high pressure in Poland to become 2020 Speedway European champion. He won the fifth and decisive round in Toruń to secure the trophy and become the first confirmed rider for the 2021 Grand Prix series.

It was his second Speedway European Championship victory in a row, with the foundations for his overall triumph put in place when he scored 17 points in Gniezno to turn a six-point deficit to Leon Madsen into a two-point advantage. But that lead came under threat in a dramatic decider, when their progress was threatened by several competitors, who ensured they did not have an easy final round.

“I’m honored to be European champion and maybe a bit later the feelings will sink in. I’m just so happy about it and I can’t believe what’s happened. In the situation we’ve been in with the virus there’s not been so much racing, but to be able to come and pull off something like this, it’s a real satisfaction. Thanks to everyone who has been helping and supporting me throughout. I hope that I’m making the British fans happy because they’ve got no speedway to watch as the league is canceled,” said the 22-year-old rider from Norfolk.

FUCHS UK Marketing Support Coordinator, Sue Connor, said: “FUCHS Silkolene has been proud to support Team GB over the last few seasons.”



## Great Britain

### Exciting first podiums of the season for the MMR Team

FUCHS Silkolene is proud to announce its partnership with Italian team Morlacchi Massimiliano Racing. In 2020, the team is participating in the Campionato Italiano Velocità (CIV Supersport) in the 300 and 600 class, as well as in the Yamaha R3 Cup. The MMR Team has been created by team manager Massimiliano Morlacchi, a famous Italian motorcycle racer.

The team consists of two riders in the CIV Supersport 300, as well as one in the 600 and four others in the Yamaha R3 Cup. Massimiliano is not ruling out the possibility of fielding a second competitor in the Supersport 600.

Diego Goretti is representing the team in the Supersport 300. The nineteen-year-old rider started racing when he was four, rapidly progressing through different championships. The second rider, Kevin Arduini (21), finished third in the Supersport 300, which he had previously competed in with the MMR Team in 2017. He triumphed in the Yamaha R3 Cup in 2018. At the age of 18, Andrea Cavaliere is in the Supersport 600, a championship he first raced in, in 2019. "Riders, engineers, and mechanics will need all the experience they have accumulated over the

past years to get the best results in this category, which is one of the most difficult ever," said Massimiliano. Four rounds are on the program this season, which started in Mugello in July and will finish in October in Vallelunga.

The three men and one woman competing in the Yamaha R3 Cup, Gabriele Esposito, Nicholas Venanzoni, Benny Rasa, and Irene Bramato, race with a Yamaha YZF-R3. Of the 40 young people registered, 27 are also competing for the bLU cRU ranking with the aim of being selected for the Yamaha Masterclass and participating in the FIM Supersport 300 World Championship. The four riders could be in the bLU cRU ranking. The first of the three rounds were held at the Misano World circuit.

Massimiliano said: "I'm very satisfied with this first competition in the Yamaha R3 Cup. Deploying four riders in such a competitive category is not easy, but the results we've achieved are synonymous with the fantastic work the team has done. We won two second places – overall and in the bLU cRU ranking – with Gabriele Esposito, and also second place in the women's class with Irene Bramato. We're confident that we can fight for victory in 2020 from the next race onwards, as well as getting the other two riders into the top of the ranking. It'll be a short but very intense championship."



## Great Britain

### **FUCHS welcomes a new family team**

FUCHS is pleased to announce its new partnership with the Levy Racing Team. Chris Levy (44) races in two different clubs: The MotorSport Vision Racing Monoposto Championship and the Historic Sports Car Club – URS Classic Formula Ford series, while his father Maurice (85) handles the mechanics.

The Monoposto Championship is the largest national club racing category for single-seater cars in the UK, providing cost-effective, competitive, and enjoyable racing for both experienced drivers and newcomers to the sport.

The Historic Sports Car Club – URS Classic Formula Ford 2000 – is for single seater racing cars built and raced before 31.12.1983. The team has been racing cars since 1999. After Chris won the Classic Formula 3 Championship in 2003 and 2004 with a March 713M, the team decided to buy a 1983 Van Diemen RF83 Formula Ford, which it still races.

After the recent lockdown, the first race weekend of the MotorSport Vision Racing Monoposto Championship was held at Silverstone on the Formula One Grand Prix circuit. Unfortunately, this race meeting was held behind closed doors, in line with the government's current guidelines.

"I'm elated to have finished in third and second place in my class," said Chris.



## Great Britain

### A new challenge for Danny Buchan

The 2020 Bennetts British Superbike Championship has been compacted into 18 races of six triple-headers, which started on August 7 and will finish on October 18.

The Massingberd-Mundy FS-3 Racing Kawasaki Team was there for the British Superbike Championship when it finally started with round one at Donington Park. It was a bigger job for the team now that they are operating out of a double garage with two Kawasaki Ninja ZW-10RRs – one each for former two-time National Stock 1000 champion Danny Buchan, and Lee Jackson.

In race one, a steady start allowed Danny to slot into fifth place behind four riders fighting for pole position. But while taking evasive action, the 27-year-old rider lost control of his bike – rider and bike were undamaged but for him, the race was over. Eyes now turned to the 24-year-old rider Lee Jackson. After having started in seventeenth position, he rapidly moved up three places, and finally clinched tenth place.

In race two, after a great comeback, Danny crossed the finishing line in fifth place, only 1.4 seconds behind the winner, Andrew Irwin. Lee could not make it past the

three rivals he had battled with throughout the race, but still managed thirteenth place.

In race three, Danny came in sixth place, a couple of seconds behind Christian Iddon – a FUCHS rider. Lee had another race-long battle and was only six seconds behind Danny after 26 laps, with his fastest lap being only 0.1 seconds shy of Danny's best. Lee reached tenth position. However, an investigation led to a rider being disqualified and, as a result, Danny was promoted to fifth and Lee to ninth position.

Sponsored by FUCHS Silkolene for three years, Danny Buchan, said: "My goal is to win the championship and that's that. There's no other outcome for me. I've made my way to the top in all the other classes I've raced in, because I want to win. For the last three years using FUCHS Silkolene lubricants, it has made a massive difference knowing that the bikes always have the best oils and products to keep them in excellent condition."

**FUCHS lubricants: Silkolene PRO R SAE 0W-20, Silkolene PRO CHAIN, Silkolene BRAKE & CHAIN CLEANER, Silkolene ALL-IN-ONE, Silkolene WASH OFF**



## Romania

### Impressive third place for Valentin Dobre

The 2020 Campionatul Național de Viteză în Coastă 1 (National Speed Championship in Coast 1) started very promisingly for FUCHS driver Valentin Dobre (28) and his team. After only two stages, he won third place in the E2-SH+3000 class with his Renault Clio Sport\*, at Râșnov. "This season, I hope to be on the podium in every race."

FUCHS Romania Sales and Technical Manager, Victor Bogdan, said: "Valentin took a big step forward as he managed to purchase a new competition car, which will be more in line with our competitive spirit. He showed great skill with a podium finish in this popular championship among Romanian fans. We're delighted with his result."

Valentin has been using FUCHS lubricants for two years. "Thanks to the quality and the reliability of these products, I can race with total peace of mind."

His mechanics, Marius Stoica and Ion Dobre, have the skills to keep the car competitive. They said: "The most difficult things are handling big engine problems or changing the gear box."

\*Car: Renault Clio Sport; Cylinder 2000cc; Turbocharger; Power: 370 hp

FUCHS lubricant: TITAN RACE PRO S SAE 10W-60