

# 2025 FIM ENDURANCE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

## SPA FRANCORCHAMPS 8HRS RACE RESULT & REPORT

■ **EVENT PLACE:** Spa Francorchamps circuit/Belgium

■ **EVENT DATES:** Jun. 6-7

■ **TEAM:** Team Kawasaki Webike Trickstar

■ **MACHINE NO. :** #11



RIDER "Blue"	RIDER "Yellow"	RIDER "Red"
Christian Gamarino	Mike Di Meglio	Gregory Leblanc

QUALIFY (riders best lap)

● Christian Gamarino	2.21' 964	● Mike Di Meglio	2.22' 404
● Gregory Leblanc	2.20' 635		

QUALIFYING POSITION      average lap time of 2 fastest riders

9th		2.21' 300
RACE RESULT	Laps	best lap time
5th	184	2.22' 165



Jun. 6 Qualify

Gamarino, who had returned from his injury sustained during the pre-Le Mans test is back to the team again, and the team was made up of three riders: Christian Gamarino, Gregory Leblanc, and Mike Di Meglio. KWT showed strong performance in the previous race at Le Mans, finishing on the podium in second place. The machine settings refined at Le Mans had a positive effect on the team, and the team made relatively good progress in free practice.

More data was collected during the practice sessions, and the setup in wet conditions showed excellent results but the team prioritized to correspond the best set up both in dry and wet conditions so that they could handle any track conditions in the race.

[Rider Blue | Christian Gamarino]

Qualifying started in dry condition in unpredictable weather with rain expected to fall at any time. Gamarino recorded 2. 21' 964 on his second lap and was attempted to set for another attack, but crashed out then. Gamarino was taken to the medical center for check up, but had no major injury fortunately. He came back to the second qualify session and finished 8th in his group.

[Rider Yellow | Mike Di Meglio]

DiMeglio' s qualifying session was required to check the bike crashed from blue rider, and to check the spare bike with the tires Christian had used in the previous session. He proceeded the session carefully and recorded 2.22' 404 which placing him 12th in his group.

[Rider Red | Gregory Leblanc]

In the first qualifying session, Leblanc recorded 2.21' .618, placing him 8th in the group but had improved his lap time in the second qualifying session down to 2.20' 635, and this brought up to him placing 3rd in the group. He recorded the team's best lap time.

The combined lap time which was 2 fastest lap times of Leblanc and Gamarino meant that the Kawasaki Webike Trickstar starts the final race from the 9th grid. Despite the unstable weather and rapidly changing track conditions, the team carefully made the final adjustments of the bike, and prepare for the race in unpredictable weather condition. The whole team fights as one, aiming to show the performance following Le Mans round.



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### Jun.7 Race

The Spa 8 Hours Endurance Road Race started at 12:30 local time.

Although there were still wet patches on the track surface due to the rain on the previous night to early morning, the temperature was warm and the condition was extremely difficult to predict. Compared to the out lap 45 minutes before the start, the track surface dried rapidly, and the race began under difficult condition changing the track condition from moment to moment even between the warm-up lap and the start. KWT's starting rider is Gregory Leblanc who is known as a very good starter and having fully confidence by the team.

He responded to the team expectation and made a good start from 9th on the grid and returned to the main straight in 5th place in the opening lap. Leblanc continued to ride steadily, completed his session and came in for pit stop at 4th place and changed the rider to Di Meglio.

By this time, the weather had stabilized and the track surface had become almost dry.

However, there were many back markers by then, which had made difficult to ride on the ideal line.

Mike came back for the pit stop at 6th place and handed over to Gamarino.

About two and a half hours into the race, the rain flag was displayed again and it started to rain.

The rain stopped temporarily and the sun came out, and the conditions became very tricky with main straight and Eau Rouge section completely wet, and other areas are mix of dry and wet.

Added to this, the traffic due to the back markers makes it extremely difficult for the riders.

KWT keeps steady riding avoiding any risks, and did another pit stop from Gamarino to Leblanc.

About three hours and five minutes into the race, heavy rain started to fall again and the track got completely wet.

KWT was running solid in fifth place at this stage having one less pit stop compared to the other major teams but was almost one lap gap delayed by the race reader.

About four hours into the race, the rain stopped again and a dry line began to form on the track surface.

Despite being at the mercy of the weather, which was so changeable and known as "Spa weather," KWT managed to maintain fifth place.

After five and a half hours, the weather condition remains unstable, having sunshine but lots of wet spots on the track, gave more difficulty to the riders to avoid mistakes.

In the constantly changing harsh conditions till the end, both the riders and mechanics completed their work without a single mistake, and KWT took the checkered flag in 5th place.

In this Spa 8HRS, the team steadily accumulated points and maintained second place overall in the championship.

The next round Suzuka 8HRS Endurance Road Race which will be held in the midsummer is the special race for KWT to show the team performance in front of Japanese fans and to share the time together between the team and the fans.

Using the experience and feedback that the team has accumulated at Le Mans, Spa and above all, the team will work hard to show the team's progress and to deliver the best moment to Japanese fans and sponsors.



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### Christian Gamarino

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It was a very difficult race.

I expected it from the weather forecast, but I didn't expect it rains so much. The feeling of the bike was not bad overall, but I couldn't get it to work well, especially in the dry conditions, and the limited time for adjustments after the free practice affected it.

Although I think that 5th place is not a bad result, and it is a great achievement for the team to be able to maintain 2nd place in the championship.

There is only a small gap between us and 3rd place, so we will continue to fight.

In fact, there was a violent high side in the first qualifying, and to be honest there was a moment when I thought "I might not be able to race this weekend."

But I am very happy to have been able to fight with my teammates and to be back here again.

We have a test at Suzuka next week, and I am very excited to be able to race in front of the Japanese fans.

look forward to seeing you all at another great event.

Thank you to the Kawasaki Webike Trickstar team, my teammates, and everyone who supported us!



### Mike Di Meglio

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We finished the race at Spa in 5th place.

We got some points and it was not a bad result for the team, but to be honest, it was not an easy race.

This circuit requires the speed and the layout was a bit difficult for us.

The feeling of the bike itself was very good and the controllability was high, but we still need to improve the engine power.

Our weak points are clear, so we will fix them and work hard for the next race.

However, we are currently in 2nd place in the championship and are in a position to fight for the title.

We will definitely use the data we gained here and the challenges we face to carry it forward to the next race.

The next stage is the Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Road Race. For me, Suzuka is a special circuit, and I am looking forward to the cheers and enthusiasm of the Japanese fans every year.

We have tests scheduled for next week and the week after, and we want to be as prepared as possible for the race.

I am really looking forward to this race and really looking forward to seeing you all at Suzuka!



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### Gregory Leblanc

Honestly, I have mixed feelings with the result of the 5th place in Spa like happy and frustrated.

But anyway I think it's positive that we were able to cross the finish line in the top 5 and got important points for the championship.

This race was just as difficult as the last one.

The track surface alternated between dry and wet many times, making it very difficult to acknowledge the conditions, and even a small mis- adjudgment could have been fatal.

Even in such a situation, I think it's good that we were able to finish the race safely without making any major mistakes as a team.

Of course, I would have liked to be on the podium at Spa as well.

But being able to head to Suzuka with this result and maintaining our 2nd place in the championship is a big step forward.

The next race, Suzuka 8 HRS, is a very important one in the championship battle. Using the data and experience we gained at Spa, we will do our best as a team and hope to rise to the top of the championship if possible.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my teammates, Bridgestone, and all our many sponsors. And to all the fans who always support us and love Kawasaki, thank you so much. I look forward to seeing you all again at Suzuka.



### Ryuji Tsuruta, Team Manager

We finished the Spa 8HRS Endurance Race in 5th place.

As in the first race at Le Mans, we were unable to stand on the podium, but I'm glad that each rider and the team crew did their best and managed to finish in 5th place under difficult conditions with heavy rain and constantly changing conditions.

Fortunately, with this result, we are in 2nd place in the championship, and we are well within our sights to win the title.

We believe that the reason that our performance in the race was not as good was due to insufficient preparation.

We will make sure to make improvements before the next race and work hard to win.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our sponsors who always support our team, the people involved who cooperate with us, and the fans who send us their enthusiastic support.

We hope you will continue to support us, Kawasaki Webike Trickstar.

