

2026 FIM ENDURANCE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SPA FRANCORCHAMPS 8HRS RACE RESULT & REPORT

- **EVENT PLACE:** Spa Francorchamps circuit/Belgium
- **EVENT DATES:** Jun. 5-6
- **TEAM:** Team Kawasaki Webike Trickstar
- **MACHINE NO. :** #11



RIDER "Blue"	RIDER "Yellow"	RIDER "Red"
Roman Ramos Alvaro	Christian Gamarino	Gregory Leblanc
QUALIFY (riders best lap)		
● Roman Ramos 2.19' 945	● Christian Gamarino 2.19' 753	
● Gregory Leblanc 2.20' 042		
QUALIFYING POSITION average lap time of 2 fastest riders		
5th	2.19' 849	
RACE RESULT Laps best lap time		
3rd	190 2.20' 186	



Jun. 5 Qualify

Team KWT, having secured a third-place podium finish at the opening round, Le Mans 24 Hours Endurance Race, will carry that momentum into the second round, Spa 8 Hours Endurance Race.

The private practice sessions held on Thursday were hit by Spa's typical and characteristic unpredictable weather and it was expected that the weekend weather forecast will be more or less the same.

Under these challenging conditions where the weather changes every 30 minutes, the team completed many laps, experiencing both dry and wet track conditions, and confirming the direction of the setup.

The new machine introduced this season has further matured after its practical use at Le Mans, and a stable feeling was confirmed even at Spa-Francorchamps, the track which has many high-speed corners.

KWT riders have made a smooth start toward improving the performance at high-speed corners, which was insufficient last year.

In the free practice session in the morning, following the qualifying sessions in the afternoon, the final adjustments were made based on the data from the previous day.

In the first qualifying session, the weather improved, and the riders began their approach in conditions suitable for time attacks.

Rider Blue Roman Ramos set 2.19' 945, placing him fourth in his group.

He consistently delivered solid lap times, steadily putting his best times.

Rider Yellow Christian Gamarino set 2.19' 753, placing him 4th in his group as well.

This was the fastest lap time for the team, proving the potential of the new machine even in high-speed sections.

Rider Red Gregory LeBlanc also secured 4th place in his group with 2.20' 042.

All three riders demonstrated consistent performance, placing 4th in their respective groups.

Their times were more than a second faster than last year's best qualifying times, confirming the maturity of the riders and the evolution of the new machine.

The second qualifying session followed under difficult conditions due to the rain. As it was challenging to improve their lap times, the team avoided risky attacks and instead focused on confirmation runs and setup work with the final race in mind.

The team steadily collected data even amidst the constantly changing track conditions, and finished the qualifying day without any major problems.

Based on the combined times of 2 fastest riders, Gamarino and Ramos, Team KWT secured 5th place on the grid overall. The whole team fully sets for competing 8-hour battle, aiming to advance to the top ranks.



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Jun.6 Race

On the final day for the race, the whole paddock faced to the “Welcome to Spa” weather which means the characteristic unpredictable weather at Spa Francorchamps as expected, and the 8-hour race started amidst constantly changing track conditions.

Starting rider Roman Ramos had made a great start from 5th on the grid, and from the beginning, he maintained a pace equal to the leading group, steadily gaining positions.

Team KWT’s superior fuel efficiency allowed the team to complete more laps than the rivals, and KWT even took the lead at one time during this first stint. The first pit stop was a remarkably fast with the time of 43 seconds, demonstrating consistent speed of pit work, before the rider changes to Christian Gamarino.

Gamarino rejoined the track and engaged in a fierce battle for second place with YART. Midway through his stint, he actually overtook YART to move into second place, and utilizing the fuel efficiency advantage, demonstrated his presence as a key member of the leading group, showcasing the team’s high level of competitiveness.

Gregory Leblanc rejoined the track in third place changing from Gamarino, and steadily completed his aps. The race saw intense competition from the start, but he maintained his position within the leading group.



However, as the race progressed, the Spa weather hinders a challenge for the teams.

A light rain began to fall, causing the track conditions to change rapidly, forcing difficult tire choices.

During the fourth pit stop, a tire change was implemented to cope with the rain.

In the following fifth pit stop, as the track conditions improved, the tires were changed back to slicks, allowing the team to maintain third place while adapting to the change of track conditions.

Then approximately five hours into the race, Gamarino, who was heading to the pit to deal with a sudden downpour, crashed just before entering the pitlane.

Fortunately, the rider was unharmed, but the machine sustained damage to the left-side clip-on handlebar.

The mechanics quickly carried out repairs, replacing the part and changing to wet tires in a short time, allowing Leblanc to rejoin the track in third place and remain in contention for a podium finish.

The weather remained unstable, and shortly after switching to wet tires, the track began to dry, forcing a switch back to slick tires.

Twenty minutes later, rain began again, necessitating another switch back to wet tires.

In these challenging conditions, where even slight differences in judgment could significantly impact the outcome, the team calmly assessed the situation and continued to adapt.

Despite losing valuable time due to repeated tire changes, the team maintained third place and remained within podium contention.



Seven hours into the race, Leblanc handed the machine over to Ramos and the race entered its final hour.

With no further rain forecast and the track was starting to get to dry, the team opted for slick tires.

However, at this point, it was clear that the fuel wouldn’t last until the finish, so the team opted for a final refueling strategy.

With 10 minutes remaining, the team performed the final refueling, and Ramos rejoined the track in third place, riding his machine all the way to the checkered flag.

Despite facing numerous challenges—constantly changing weather, repeated tire selections, and accident due to crash—the riders, mechanics, and entire staff all remained calm and composed, finishing the grueling 8-hour race in 3rd place overall.

This marks KWT’ s second consecutive podium finish, following the opening round at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, and KWT has accumulated important points in the championship standings, providing a significant boost heading into the next one, Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Race in early July.



2/4

2026 FIM ENDURANCE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SPA FRANCORCHAMPS 8HRS RACE RESULT & REPORT

Roman Ramos

Honestly, I'm so happy.
Really happy this time.

It was a great honor for us to be on the podium at Spa 8 Hours Endurance Race. Great result! The weather in the race changed rapidly, making it a very difficult but I am happy that we were able to get on the podium in such difficult conditions. This result was also very important in the championship fight. We are still in contention for the title, and for that reason, it was a very valuable podium.

Thank you very much to my team, teammates, and everyone who supports us. We will aim for a good result in the next race, Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Road Race.



Christian Gamarino

I feel so great.
To be honest, this podium finish was a better result than I expected. Spa-Francorchamps has never been a circuit we've been particularly good at in the past. However, this year, thanks to the fantastic work the team has done, the machine has improved significantly. We were able to show great competitiveness in qualifying, and I'm especially confident in our race pace in dry conditions. I'm very happy with this result, and we can carry this momentum into the next race, Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Race. I'm looking forward to having a great race at Suzuka with the new ZX-10R.



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Gregory Leblanc

Honestly, I'm very happy.

It was a fantastic race for the team.

I've been on the podium more than 15 times in 24-hour endurance races, but this is my first podium of an 8-hour endurance race, and the first time podium of 8-hour endurance race with Kawasaki either.

If I had been told at the start of the race week that if I could finish on the podium, I would have been happy enough.

That's why I'm so satisfied with this result.

Everyone on the team did a fantastic job.

Kawasaki provided us a great machine that has evolved significantly, and thanks to that, we were able to be highly competitive.

I feel truly grateful to the team, Kawasaki, and my teammates.

We fought to win, but the result was third place. Nevertheless, we were able to achieve two consecutive podium finishes following Le Mans, which has given the team a great deal of confidence.

Next up is Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Race.

We are heading to Suzuka with high motivation and we are ready to fight for victory.

See you all at Suzuka!



Ryuji Tsuruta, Team Manager

First of all, I am extremely pleased that we were able to achieve a third-place podium finish in this challenging Spa 8 Hours Endurance Race, following our success in the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our sponsors who support the team and to all our fans who give us such warm support.

A major takeaway from this race is that we were able to demonstrate the potential of our new machine, the new "ZX-10R," which we introduced this year, and show that we are competitive enough to challenge the top group head-on.

This is a big step forward for the team, and we feel that we are now able to execute the race we have been aiming for, using the machine's fuel efficiency and combativeness as our weapons, even leading the race at one point.

There was a sudden rain which occurred a crash in the middle of the race, but the strong riding of all the riders, the quick repair work by the mechanics, and the staff's ability to make accurate decisions regarding tire selection led to this podium finish.

I believe that this third-place finish is a valuable achievement, as every member of the team fulfilled their role and overcame difficulties together as one.

This result reaffirmed the growth of the machine, the rider, and the entire team.

With this momentum and confidence, we will take on our home race, Suzuka 8 Hours Endurance Race, in the next round.

We will show an even more evolved Team Kawasaki Webike Trickstar performance with the new ZX-10R and aim for the top of the podium this time.

We appreciate your continued enthusiastic support.

