

2026 FIM ENDURANCE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP “Coca Cola” SUZUKA 8 HRS. RACE RESULT & REPORT

- **EVENT PLACE** : Suzuka Circuit/Japan
- **EVENT DATES** : July. 3-5, 2026
- **TEAM:** Team Kawasaki Webike Trickstar Kaedear
- **MACHINE NO.:** #11



RIDER “Blue”	RIDER “Yellow”	RIDER “Red”
Roman Ramos	Christian Gamarino	Gregory Leblanc

QUALIFY (riders best lap)

● Roman Ramos	2.05’ 711	● Christian Gamarino	2.06’ 303
● Gregory Leblanc	2.06’ 869		

QUALIFYING POSITION average lap time of 2 fastest riders

14th		2.06’ 007
RACE RESULT	Laps	best lap time
13th	182	2.18’ 869



July 3 — Qualifying

After securing two consecutive podium finishes at 24HRS of Le Mans and the 8 Hours of Spa, Team Kawasaki Webike Trickstar Kaedear entered to Suzuka 8HRS, Round 3 of EWC championship, carrying strong momentum into the race week.

During the two-day test held prior to race weekend, the team was able to confirm the feeling of the machine in both dry and wet conditions, allowing them to enter qualifying session with a positive direction for the race.

Qualifying was held under clear sky, in the hottest track conditions of the race week.

In the first qualifying session, Rider Blue Roman Ramos recorded 2’ 06.518. In the second session, he launched a strategic time attack and set 2’ 05.711, marking a new team record.

This lap demonstrated the high potential of the new ZX-10R.

Rider Yellow Christian Gamarino fitted a new rear tire for his time attack in the first session and recorded 2’ 06.661.

In the second session, he again attacked strongly and improved his time to 2’ 06.303.

His consistent performance further confirmed the team’s strong race pace.

Rider Red Gregory Leblanc focused on race setup in the first session, using tires already run by the other riders and prioritizing preparation for the race.

He recorded 2’ 08.105, then improved to 2’ 06.869 in the second session, completing qualifying without any issues.

Based on the combined times of Ramos and Gamarino, KWT Kaedear secured 14th position on the starting grid.

Despite the intense heat, all three riders maintained strong performance and confirmed the machine’s condition, giving the team confidence in the new ZX-10RR’s potential ahead of the race.



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Jul. 5 Race

Unlike the usual midsummer sunshine that typically greets Suzuka Circuit, the race was held one month earlier this year at the middle of rainy season, bringing constantly changing weather with intermittent rain throughout the day.

At Suzuka 8HRS Endurance Race, where Japanese top riders compete, even the smallest difference can determine victory or defeat.

Team KWT Kaedear viewed the ever-changing conditions as an opportunity rather than a disadvantage, aiming to fight at the front through strategy, teamwork, and composure.

With the track remaining wet before the start, the team selected Gregory Leblanc as the starting rider, relying on his extensive experience under wet-weather endurance racing.

Starting from 14th on the grid, Leblanc made an excellent getaway and completed the opening lap in 11th position. However, several riders crashed during the opening stages, prompting an early safety car intervention.

Despite the chaotic start, Team KWT Kaedear remained calm and executed its race strategy flawlessly. Capitalizing on the excellent fuel efficiency of the new ZX-10RR, the team extended its stints beyond those of its rivals and climbed as high as second place during the opening phase of the race.

Anticipating the challenging weather conditions, the team opted for a double stint with Leblanc. Despite multiple safety car periods, Leblanc steadily worked his way through the field, moving from 11th to 10th on lap 52. His consistent pace laid a solid foundation for the team's charge toward the front.



Approximately three hours into the race, Leblanc handed the machine over to Roman Ramos. The team pitted in fifth position before Ramos rejoined the race in 9th.

As rival teams encountered difficulties, Team KWT Kaedear continued to move forward, climbing to 7th place by the halfway point of the 8 hours race. Maintaining a strong and consistent race pace, Ramos steadily improved the team's position.

Christian Gamarino took over the machine while running 7th and rejoined the race in 8th place.

Maintaining an impressive average pace, he engaged in an intense battle for 7th position.

Although the rain continued to come and go during his stint before handing the machine back to Leblanc, every team adopted a cautious approach, and the race entered its closing stages without significant changes in the order. With one and a half hours remaining, the team once again committed to a double stint with Leblanc in an effort to gain further positions while running 8th.

However, with just 50 minutes remaining, as the rain intensified once again, Leblanc crashed at the entrance of Spoon Curve.

Fortunately, the rider escaped injury and the machine sustained only minor damage, allowing him to return to the pits by himself.

Demonstrating the experience and efficiency built through years of endurance racing, the mechanics replaced the seat, rear set, and bodywork in just under six minutes, sending the machine back onto the circuit in 12th position.



Shortly afterward, the rain intensified again, resulting in multiple crashes and another safety car deployment. During this neutralization, the team discovered that the tail light had not been refitted after the repairs, requiring an additional pit stop to install it.

Rejoining the race in 13th place, the team continued to push all the way to the checkered flag without ever giving up.

Despite constantly changing weather conditions, multiple safety car periods, and a late-race crash, every rider and crew member fought together as one until the very end.

Team KWT Kaedear completed the grueling 8 hours race in 13th place overall.

Although the final result fell short of the team's expectations, Suzuka 8HRS clearly demonstrated both the competitiveness of the new ZX-10RR and the strength of Team KWT Kaedear as a whole. Building on the valuable experience gained from this race, the team now turns its focus toward the next challenge with even greater determination.



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Roman Ramos

It was a very difficult race for us as the weather condition was severe, lot of rain during the race. The team strategy went in a good way in the beginning of the race by Greg had taken double stint, then I took over from him and I think I had kept a good pace in a wet condition.

We had a small crash in the final stint which had made us to finish the race at 13th position in the end.

The result was not what we aimed for, but we are happy with our performance.

Now it's time to focus for the next race Bold' or 24HRS, and I'm really looking forward for it.

I would like to thank to all the fans for your support especially for the people coming to Suzuka under this special weather condition.

It's always a pleasure to be at Suzuka to meet with all Kawasaki fans and Japanese fans.



Christian Gamarino

The race was really tricky.

We expected that the rain helps us, but it didn't go as we expected.

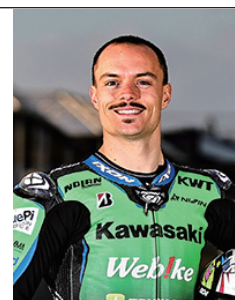
A small mistake at the end of the race costed us some positions, but this is racing.

We change mind now and focus to the next one Bold' or 24HRS.

We are confident that we can show our good performance there again.

I would like to say “Thanks you” to all the Japanese fans coming over to Suzuka to support us.

“Arigato gozaimasu” and I wish to see you all here in Suzuka next year again!



Gregory Leblanc

This race was really difficult as the weather condition was not ideal for the race. We had been fighting for the 7th position mostly through the race by the end, but finally finished 13th position by the mistake I made.

As I had been riding 5 hours 15 minutes with having 2 double stints, I probably got used to the speed and went too fast when the rain got stronger.

It was not the result we wanted, but this is the race.

I feel sorry for the whole team, my teammates and for Kawasaki but I did maximum what I could do.

We completed the race anyway by having a few points and this is important for the championship.

We still have a chance to win the championship so we will do our best for Bold' or, looking for another podium finish.

I would like to thank to all the Japanese fans not only Kawasaki fans but also for the other manufactures supports as I believe it was not easy to stay and watch us 8 hours under this awful weather condition.

Massive thanks to all, and look forward to see you again next year.



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Ryuji Tsuruta, Team Manager

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our fans who continue to support Team KWT Kaedear, to our title sponsor Kaedear, all of our valued sponsors, and everyone involved in supporting our team.
Your encouragement and support mean a great deal to us.



After securing two consecutive podium finishes in the opening two rounds, we arrived at the Suzuka 8HRS with great confidence and momentum.

The race turned into an extremely challenging event under heavy and unpredictable rain, but we believed these conditions would present an opportunity for our team.

Every member of Team KWT Kaedear worked together as one to make the most of that opportunity.

One of our key strategies was to maximize the outstanding fuel efficiency of the new ZX-10RR, reduce the number of pit stops, and use that advantage to move into the leading positions. However, with more than 2 hours of Safety Car periods throughout the race, the amount of green-flag racing was significantly reduced, making it extremely difficult to capitalize on that strategy.

Even so, our riders and crew never stopped fighting, and at one stage we climbed as high as 6th place overall. Unfortunately, with less than an hour remaining, the rain intensified once again. In the extremely difficult conditions that ultimately triggered another safety car intervention, we suffered a crash that cost us several positions. It is naturally very disappointing that we were unable to achieve the result we had been aiming for.

Nevertheless, competing under such severe wet conditions at Suzuka while continuously pushing the limits provided invaluable experience for both our riders and the entire team.

I am confident that what we learned from this race will make us even stronger and more competitive in the future.

The final round of the championship now awaits us. As long as there is still a chance to fight for the championship, we will continue to give everything we have and pursue every remaining possibility until the very end.

We sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to your encouragement in the final round.