



PRESS RELEASE

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CORNISH KICKSTARTS HIS FRENCH ADVENTURE IN STYLE

Following on from successful pre-season testing in Spain and France Lewis Cornish had some terrible luck shortly before the opening round of the French Supermoto Championships at Bresse. He was rushed into A&E complaining of severe abdominal pains and was immediately diagnosed with acute appendicitis and was taken down to theatre for emergency surgery. Luckily the procedure and recovery all went well and Lewis was home within three days. However this meant he missed joining his Raw Motorsports team mates in the Bresse paddock for his attempt on the French S1 Prestige championship.

Lewis was down but most certainly not out and less than three weeks later made his French Championship debut over the holiday weekend at Juvaincourt. Despite a lack of fitness or recent bike time the Norfolk based racer immediately set about the task of proving himself in a field full of world class riders. Qualifying was going to plan when a technical fault caused Lewis to fall in the off-road section which put paid to his bid for a front row start, however fifth place behind multiple champion Sylvain Bidart on the grid was a decent showing.

With a large crowd eager to see the start of race one, Lewis was interviewed on the grid and endeared himself to the French riders and fans by saying this championship is the best in the world and he's here to improve his speed by racing against the fastest supermoto racers in the world. When the lights went out Lewis made a good start but the launch control device on the front suspension stuck in and wouldn't release which sent him off the track. Re-joining the track in around twelfth place he began a charge back up though the pack and made some great overtake moves until the soft rear tyre began to overheat so he eased off and settled for a solid fifth place at the flag.

With confidence high and a change to a harder rear tyre for race two Lewis fired his Raw Motorsports TM450 off the line and straight into third position. A few laps later he was behind legendary ice champion Sylvain Dabart and looking for a way past. As the laps wound down it seemed that whenever Lewis tried to make a pass, his rival in front always had a defensive solution, despite having massive corner speed leading onto the straight Dabart's bike still had the legs on Cornish's stock TM450.

This allowed both Lauren Fath and J-C Decabooter to not only catch them both but also to push past, Lewis decided he desperately needed to do the same and in a brave move finally passed and immediately began to gap Dabert. This put him in a safe fourth place at the flag and a very respectable fourth overall at his first French Championship meeting.



Lewis showing his pace and style amongst some of the World's best supermoto racers

Lewis explained how his weekend panned out. *"I was aiming for regular top five finishes this season because the standard here is extremely high so I'm pumped to be fourth at my first attempt. After missing the first meeting with surgery on my appendix I'm still not 100% bike fit and was concerned that I'd not be on the pace, thankfully with the help from my team I've had a great weekend and to be so near the podium racing against these guys is amazing."*



New season, new livery and new challenge for Lewis Cornish in the French S1 Prestige Championship

Needless to say despite missing the opening round at Bresse, Lewis and his team are finally off to a promising start to the 2016 season. Keep up to date on Lewis' progress in the French and Asia Championships by clicking onto www.lewiscornish.co.uk and CRT Supermoto page on Facebook.

