



Team Scotland ISDE 2009
Portugal
Team Report

Life in the paddock

17/10/09 Day Six of ISDE 2009

Traditionally the final day of the ISDE sees the riders complete a relatively easy day with a short ride out the final motox venue. This years ISDE of Portugal proved to be a little different with the competitors completing an 85km ride. The first check of the day was some 50km and proved to be tight on time for some of the club riders. Team Scotland had no such problems and came in with time to spare.

The Agueda Motox GP track was the venue for the final test of this hot and dusty six days. Ricky was our first rider to take to the track for his race. Taking the hole shot from fellow Scot Kevin Murray, Ricky sensationally led his six lap race from start to finish securing his first finish and Silver medal in fine style. With Kevin taking second place the Saltires were flying high. Grant had made it into the A final race of the club E2 class. Lying fifth out of the first corner holding his own until a heavy landing on one of the steepest drop offs seen him crash over the bars. With the remaining 35 or so riders charging hard behind him Grant recovered quickly with a gritty ride that seen him finish inside the top 15 to secure a Silver medal on his first attempt at an ISDE. With live TV coverage planned for between 2 and 4pm the Trophy, Junior and Ladies class races were next on the schedule. Euan McConnell had a bit of a slow start but was soon passing many riders for a respectable finish to his ISDE and another Gold medal in the premier class. With the TV coverage over Derek's race had a scheduled start of 4pm. Come 4 pm Derek was behind his start gate and really fired up. Not getting the best of starts didn't deter him in moving through the pack and passed several riders mid air over one of the large table top jumps. Having passed James Jackman he broke away to finish first British rider home in his race and securing his first ISDE Gold medal.

After an absence at the ISDE since 2001 Team Scotland can feel proud to having gained a very respectable result. This would not have been possible without the 100% commitment and efforts by everyone that supported us both at home and during the event. A sincere thank you to you all.