

Paul Holmes Conquers Kegums at Round 5 of the Goldspeed European Quad Championship

Kegums, Latvia (6th – 7th August 2011)

HOLMES Racing's Paul Holmes took all the glory at Kegums in Latvia last weekend with two clear race wins and closed in on the Championship lead.

The picturesque sand based track was perfectly prepared as usual. With blue skies and extremely high temperatures, Holmes opted to limit the amount of laps he turned in free practice to conserve energy for Sunday's two 30 min + 2 lap races. Despite his lack of laps in free practice Holmes shot straight to the top of the timing screens in the 40min Qualifying session but was pipped by a local rider at the end of the session meaning a 2nd choice of gate pick for the races.



Paul Holmes on the traditional presentation/ceremony lap

Race 1: With a perfect jump out of the gate, Holmes grabbed an amazing Holeshot and immediately began to show immense pace by pulling away from the pack at around 1 second per lap. At the half way stage of the race Holmes had built up a 20 second lead over Championship points leader Couprie. As the race wore on Holmes continued to set a great pace whilst riding within his comfort zone and took an incredible win 37 seconds clear of 2nd place.

Race 2: Race 2: Hoping for another win, Holmes wanted another Holeshot but as he led into the first corner he was rammed from behind and got trapped in the resulting multi quad pile up. Holmes eventually got going but he was down in 16th place and had a lot of work ahead of him. He wasted no time passing Couprie on the opening lap, who'd also been caught up in the carnage, and began to dice through the field making passes look easy on the rough sandy track. Holmes continued his pace with an incredible show of speed all the way until he took the lead on lap 8 and set the fastest lap of the race which was a full second clear of any other rider. Keeping consistent speed and concentration levels Holmes rode smart all the way until the chequered flag which he took 26 seconds ahead of Couprie in 2nd with early race leader Torraco claiming 3rd.

With two clear race wins Holmes took the overall 1st place position and made the top step of the podium his own all weekend and grabbed a maximum amount of points which puts him within 15 points of the overall lead in the series.







Race 1 Podium with Romain Couprie, Paul Holmes & Nicola Montalbini

Round 5 Overall results

1st - Paul Holmes	.50 points
2nd – Romain Couprie	44
3rd – Nicola Montalbini	38
4th – Matia Torraco	36
5th – Renaldas Petrulionis	24

2011 Championship Standings;

1st – Romain Couprie (F)	232 points
2nd – Paul Holmes (GB)	217
3rd – Nicola Montalbini (I)	198
4th – Stefan Schreiber (D)	160
5th – Mattia Torraco (I)	146

Holmes next adventure takes him to Southern France to compete in the prestigious annual 12hour Endurance event of Pont de Vaux. Holmes will again join Romain Couprie, Joe Maessen and Team Audemar Yamaha as they attempt to repeat their winning performance of 2010.



















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