



## Paul Holmes moves up to 3rd in European Championship

The second round of the closely contested MAXXIS European Quad Cross Championship was held at Reutlinger, Germany this past weekend. With mixed weather running up to the event and a great forecast planned for the weekend at the hard pack based, hillside venue it was set to be another exciting instalment of the prestigious championship. Paul Holmes entered the round sitting in 4th place in the Championship after a difficult opening round and was keen to claw back some points in his search of success.

Holmes used the 2 free practice sessions on Saturday morning as valuable set-up time as his hard pack preparations were hampered with a big crash 2 weeks ago resulting in minimal training time. After just one sighting lap in the timed qualification sessions, Holmes posted a 1.56.89 lap time, which was just 1.1s from 1st place showing just how close the competition is in this 2012 season.



Photos by: AtvReport.com

**Race 1:** Not getting the best 'jump' out of the gate, Holmes rounded the first corner mid pack and got to work immediately, making calculated paces on the slick surface. Holmes had worked up to 4th place at the midpoint of the race and moved into 3rd passing local German rider Schreiber on lap 12. Despite reeling in the lead pair during the closing laps, setting his fastest lap of the race on lap 15 of 18 in the 30min + 2 lap race, Holmes took a well deserved 3rd place gaining points on his championship rivals.



Photos by: AtvReport.com

**Race 2:** Getting boxed in a bit off the start, Holmes came around in 6th Place on the 1st lap and whilst trying to make a move for 5th, got caught up in a tangle of riders and dropped down to 9th. Holmes made up 4 places in just 6 laps showing great speed and passing techniques on the very tight, difficult circuit and closed right in on 4th place rider Yoann Ciclet. Whilst trying to make a pass, Holmes went up the inside into a sweeping corner and once alongside the other rider completely closed the door in a very dangerous attempt to hold onto the place and wheels

**Holmes commented after the weekends action:** "I'm reasonably pleased with how this weekend has gone considering I haven't had a great deal of hard pack training coming into the round. I've made some good points this weekend and am happy to be within 3 points of 2nd and pleased with how I am riding. I just have to improve on my starts. I have 2 weeks before I head into my next big race which is the British Championship at Frome so I'm going to be putting a new set-up to the test over that time period and continue to work on my fitness training which took a knock 2 weeks ago when I crashed. I would like to thank the team for their great effort this weekend and another huge shout out has to go to my sponsors for their continued support. collided, resulting in Holmes having a huge off. After turning his quad back onto its wheels, Holmes continued the race with a lower back injury and finished in 8th place.

### Round 2 overall results

1st - Edgars Mengelis	45 points
2nd - Jeremie Warnia	43
3rd - Jan Vlaeymans	40
4th - Joe Maessen	34
<b>5th - Paul Holmes.....</b>	<b>33</b>
6th - Mike van Grinsven	28
7th - Davy Decuyper	27
8th - Yoann Ciclet	26
9th - Stefan Schreiber	24
10th - Antoine Cheurlin	23

### Championship results

1st - Jeremie Warnia	90 points
2nd - Mike van Grinsven	68
<b>3rd - Paul Holmes.....</b>	<b>65</b>
4th - Joe Maessen	64
5th - Jan Vlaeymans	63
6th - Edgars Mengelis	58
7th - Davy Decuyper	57
8th - Romain Couprie	47
9th - Stefan Schreiber	47
10th - Antoine Cheurlin	45

