



Pirelli and Brandon Paasch Emerge Triumphant in the Daytona 200

Tyler O'Hara Grabs Podium Position with DIABLO™ Superbike Slicks

DAYTONA, Fla. (March 14, 2021) – **Pirelli Tire North America** returned to the winner's circle once again at the **79th running of the Daytona 200**, claiming three out of the top four positions in the **57-lap shootout**. **TSE Racing's Brandon Paasch** has come close to **victory** at the speedway previously, but 2021 marked the year that the 19-year old would get the job done, piloting his **Yamaha YZF-R6** to victory by **0.031** of a second. **Tyler O'Hara** used an impressive late race charge to take the final step of the podium in **third** aboard his **Floyd's of Leadville Kawasaki Ninja® ZX™-6R**.

"It feels so good to get the job done here in Daytona," said Paasch. "This has been a goal of mine for a long time, and to finally check this off the list, just feels amazing! My Pirelli DIABLO™ Superbike slicks worked incredible all day, especially towards the end of the race when it really counted, allowing me to chip away at the lead and make the pass for the win."

Both **Paasch's YZF-R6** and **O'Hara's ZX-6R** relied on the performance of **Pirelli's DIABLO™ Superbike SC1 120/70-17 front tire** and **DIABLO™ Superbike Daytona 190/60-17 rear tire** to handle the challenges of the high-banked 3.51-mile course.

"I let the leaders get away from me a little bit there in the beginning laps," said O'Hara. "I just never gave up though, and my Pirelli tires were working awesome. I'm so stoked to be up here on the podium, but to be honest, I really wanted to get that top step of the podium."

Paasch's relentless efforts saw him make up a six-second gap in the final stages of the race, including using the traction of his Pirelli slicks to get a drive and make the pass for the lead to take the **victory** on the final lap. **O'Hara** narrowly edged out fellow **Pirelli** rider **Michael Barnes** in a drag race to the checkered flag, finishing **third and fourth**, respectively. **Geoff May** would race to a hard-fought **seventh** and **Ryan Jones** carded a top-10 in **ninth**.

"What a way to make a return to the Daytona 200," said Oscar Solis, road racing manager, Pirelli. "All weekend long our guys were competitive at the front of the field. Brandon [Paasch] been trying for this win the past few year's, so to see him succeed and accomplish his goal is something that everyone at Pirelli is proud of. The pace that the guys were able to maintain with the DIABLO™ Superbike range showcases not only their performance, but durability, especially in a endurance-style format like we had today."

RESULTS

Daytona 200 – Daytona, Florida
March 13, 2021

1. **Brandon Paasch**
2. Sean Kelly
3. **Tyler O'Hara**
4. **Michael Barnes**
5. Danny Eslick
6. Rocco Landers
7. **Geoff May**
8. Teagg Hobbs

9. Ryan Jones
10. Max Flinders

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ABOUT PIRELLI

Pirelli was founded in Milan in 1872 and today stands as a global brand known for its cutting edge technology, high-end production excellence and passion for innovation that draws heavily on its Italian roots. With around 30,000 employees, Pirelli is a major player in the tire industry and the only global player focused solely on the consumer tire market, which includes tires for cars, motorcycles and bicycles. In particular, Pirelli is a global leader in the production of racing and high performance motorcycle tires both for on and off road applications. Pirelli has a long link with motorsport and the multitude of successes include a record of seventy-two world titles gained in the FIM Motocross World Championship thanks to the performance of its mx product range. In road-racing, since 2004 Pirelli has made the FIM Superbike World Championship for production-based motorcycles the ideal proving ground to develop not only the products used in competition, but also tires used daily by motorcyclists all over the world. Inspired by the philosophy now become a motto "*We sell what we race, we race what we sell*", Pirelli has managed to bring to fruition all the experience acquired in this championship, applying some of the patents and materials developed for racing activity to the product portfolio dedicated to road use.

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