

• Also in Arizona and riding in the Pro Singles class were Petrolia, ON rider Harley Dunn and Mike Labelle from Welland.

In the 12-lap final Labelle lost the pace he had set in his heat race and settled for seventh. Dunn placed 12th in the 18-rider field.

• Two-time Canadian Thunder champion Darren James finished ninth in the opening round of the Henderson Harley-Davidson XR1200 Trophy at Britain's Oulton Park circuit on May 3.

The North Vancouver racer is riding for the Warr's Harley-Davidson team in the five-race series, which is running as a support class to the British Superbike Championship.

• Canadian road racer Dan Kruger picked up a class win and another podium finish in the opening round of the Pan Delta Series at the Zhuhai circuit in China April 25.

Riding a 2009 ZX-6R for his BG-Kawasaki team, the former Canadian Superbike regular worked his way up from sixth to place third overall in the feature race and first in Class 3 (Supersport). He was only 0.18 secs. behind the overall runner-up Yamaha YZF-R1. Kruger actually gained two spots on the final lap in his charge to the front. He had finished second in the opening race of the weekend.

• In response to stronger-than-expected worldwide demand for its new fuel-injected product line, Royal Enfield Motors has announced capital investment plans to increase capacity and expand capabilities at its primary production facility. Production at Royal Enfield has been running at full capacity for over a year, with demand generated by domestic and international markets continuing to outpace supply.

• Defending CMA National Trials champion Jordan Szoke rode his Raga GasGas 300 to victory in a shortened opening round of the season in Ohsweken, ON June 12-13.

Riding in soupy clay and standing water took a bit of getting used to as Szoke scored 16 of his total 21 points in the first loop. For the remainder of the trial the Brantford, ON rider kept his feet up and his mind focused and only scored five points in the final three loops to take the victory.

"It feels good to start off my title defense with a win," Szoke said. "It was an extremely well run event and I really appreciate the hard work and effort the organizers put into it."

Szoke's good friends and 2009 Trials des Nations teammates Jonathan English and Andrew Young completed the podium. English came in second with a score of 29 and Young took home third place with a score of 50.

Szoke will continue defence of his CMA Trials Championship at Rounds 2 and 3 in Tweed and Arden, ON Aug. 21-22.

Gold medallist Botterill at Women's event

History will be made Aug. 11-15. That's when riders from across Canada and the US will gather at Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, ON to attend an event which is the first of its kind in Canada – the Motorcyclists Confederation of Canada's (MCC) International Women Riders Congress and Festival (IWCF), presented by Honda.

Motorcycles are the common ground but there's nothing common about the women who are attending. They are leaders, industry experts, visionaries and role models. They are adventurers and change agents and they are showing up – on their motorcycles – and choosing to be present.

Themed One World, One Ride, the IWCF will welcome women and men from youth to youth-at-heart. It will focus on promoting and celebrating the achievements of women riders, raising the awareness of opportunities within motorcycling, and challenging participants to push beyond their own personal limits – all within a non-threatening atmosphere that is fun and conducive to learning.

Delegates will have a wide selection of interactive sessions to attend – whether they want to appeal to their sense of adventure through the stories of women who have completed amazing feats of courage, become educated on safety equipment, take advantage of advanced skills training, or try off-road riding for the first time.

There are innovative sessions that address body, mind, heart and spirit – like Pilates: Core exercises for riding, Psychology of the Highway, Journey of the Heart, and Our Power. And, just to make sure that nothing is overlooked, a unique presentation on Life Balance will provide practical tips and tools to manage stress.

Unique networking opportunities abound – whether it's through organized rides, round-table discussions, introduction to Powerlily which is a unique online networking organization for professional women in powersports, or the Beach BBQ with entertainers Johnny Rev and the Pushrods.

Meg's ride, an annual off-road ride for women of all ages and experience levels, will be held on the Saturday as part of the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR) Trail Ride series and will raise funds for Chrysalis – a local shelter and transitional housing facility in Huntsville.

Industry response has been tremendous, with support from MMIC and Honda, BMW, Harley-Davidson Canada. These manufacturers are all offering demo rides and providing a variety of top notch activities and facilitators. Ducati and Spyder will also be there with their demo fleet.

Closing ceremonies - which will come all too soon - will recognize Canadian women riders of influence and be capped off by a moving address from Jennifer Botterill who - as a three-time Olympic gold medal athlete and member of the Canadian Women's Olympic hockey team - has risen to and remained at the top in another non-traditional sport.

All activities are intended to recognize that by working together, we can make a difference, not only in our motorcycling communities but beyond that, into the communities in which we live, work and play.

Even greater than the energy generated at this historic event will be the synergy that evolves and the positive change that unfolds as a result. For more information and to register, visit www.iwcf-cifm.ca.



XR1200 gets an edge

The XR 1200X model represents Harley-Davidson Sportster performance, honed to its finest edge.

Introduced in 2010 for international markets only, the XR 1200X will be available through Harley-Davidson retailers in Canada as a 2011 model.

Equipped with fully adjustable Showa front and rear suspension components, the 2011 XR 1200X can be dialled in to match rider weight, riding style, and road conditions. The XR 1200X combines this premium suspension with enhanced front brakes and the responsive punch of a high-compression, 1,200cc Evolution V-Twin engine, all in a dynamic, street-performance motorcycle.

With a tank and tail section designed to evoke the legendary Harley-Davidson XR 750 bike – the king of the gritty American flat-track scene – the XR 1200X puts its mechanical character on display. Wide flat-track bars and rear-set foot pegs position an assertive rider for active control. The XR 1200X has a blacked-out powertrain and exhaust, revised tank graphics, and black wheels with an orange rim pinstripe.

The XR 1200X will be offered in two colours: Black Denim and White Hot Denim.