

XDL SPORTBIKE FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS DESCENDS ON THE QUEEN MARY

Alex Flores Wins the Championship

Alex Flores took home the XDL Sportbike Freestyle Championship at the final round for the 2007-08 season in front of a record crowd at the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California, March 22, 2008. He did so in convincing fashion, taking the victory from last year's champion, Aaron Colton, as well from stunt stars such as Chris "Teach" McNeil, Kane Friesen, Dan Jackson, Darius Khashabi, Ernie Vigil and Josh Clem.

The grassroots XDL Sportbike Freestyle Championship has now put two successful seasons in the books and is now an established professional sport organization with a solid following. XDL rounds are invitation-only and consist of a maximum of 30 riders who are awarded points based their finishing order. Points are tallied throughout the series to determine the National Champion. Competitors are judged by the stunt's difficulty, the execution of the stunt, and the variation of their repertoire, and competitors lose points if they crash. Overall performance is a large part of the scoring, too, and considers the complete package, including the rider's appearance, the motorcycle's appearance, the fluidity of the run and tricks, and how well they play to the judges and the crowd. Great showmanship is a bonus.

"Winning the XDL Championship has been the biggest accomplishment of my career," said an elated Flores of his win. "It is a dream that came true and all of my hard work and dedication to this sport has finally paid off. I have become a true champion. Although I have many more dreams and goals connected to this sport, this is just the beginning of what I have to offer. The culmination of the 2007 XDL Series in Long Beach had 30 of the nation's top riders fighting for the title. This was no easy gig. I have seen and learned a lot from my fellow riders; they encouraged and drove me to push myself to the limits. The road to success is a long one and I've learned to keep driving. I would like to thank XDL, the competitors, sponsors, friends and family for knowing and believing in me, which made one of my dreams become reality."

The final round for 2008 is planned to be held at the Queen Mary grounds on November 8, with the rounds leading up to it scheduled for June 21 - New York, New York; July 26 - Nashville, Tennessee; August 30 - Pomona, California; September 13 - Indianapolis, Indiana; and October 18 - Phoenix, Arizona.

RESULTS: MARCH 22, 2008 (FINAL ROUND)

TARGET STOPPIE: Alex Flores
TANDEM: Jason Pullen and Jessica Castro
SICKEST TRICK: Nick Brocha
CIRCLE CHALLENGE: Dan Jackson
FREESTYLE BURNOUT: Jaxon Stevens

TOP 10 2007-2008 SEASON FINISHERS: 1. Alex Flores; 2. Aaron Colton; 3. Lin Eshalom; 4. Chris McNeil; 5. Kane Friesen; 6. Brian Bubash; 7. Nick Brocha; 8. Dan Jackson; 9. Ernie Vigil; 10. Josh Clem.



Alex Flores took the overall win of the 2007-08 season.



(front row, left to right) Jason Pullen, Kane Friesen, Chris McNeil, Nick Brocha, Dan Jackson; (back row) Jessica Castro, Aaron Colton, Alex Flores, Lin Eshalom, Jaxon Stevens.



TV star Jason Britton of Superbikers made it out to the XDL Finals.



Jason Pullen and Jessica Castro took the tandem win.



All 16-year-old Aaron Colton needs now is his driver's license.



Aaron Bullo doing a circle wheelie.

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