

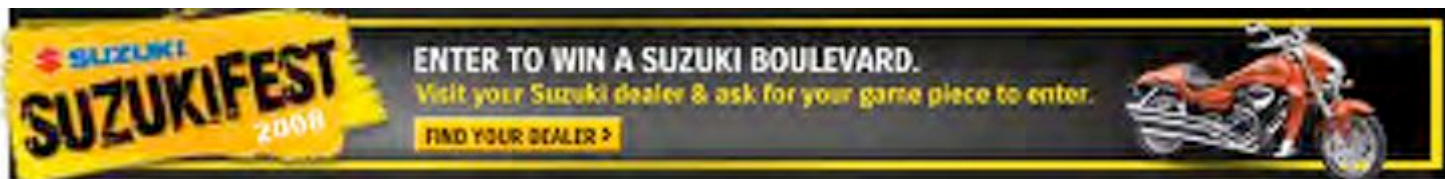
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ROAD RACING - Hayes Disqualified From Daytona 200
By Henny Ray Abrams

Photo By Henny Ray Abrams (Photo © Cycle News, Inc. 2007)

Shocker

3/8/2008

Daytona 200 winner Josh Hayes was disqualified after his Erion Honda CBR600RR was found to be in violation of AMA technical rules.

In the post-race teardown, the crankshaft on the race-winning Honda was found to be "polished, surface treated and metal was removed from it," AMA Pro Racing said in a press release announcing the infraction. "This is in violation of the 2008 AMA rulebook section 5.4."

The release cites a section of the rulebook which states that for multi-cylinder liquid-cooled machines, the homologated crankshaft "may not be altered from the originally homologated model except that the "Bearing surfaces may be polished or surface treated."

Team owner Kevin Erion was told by a team member of the infraction just before flying home to California. Rick Hobbs, Hayes' crew chief, said the team would appeal.

"We've appealed their decision and basically that's our side of it," he said in a Saturday evening phone call. He said he was notified just before the team left the track. "We've appealed the technical inspection and also the penalty, disqualification."

Hobbs didn't dispute

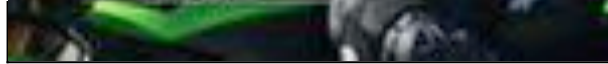


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the wording of the
AMA's charges, saying,
"That's their



terminology, the interpretation of what's the reason for the infraction.
At this point we're not going to make any statement on what our
version is until we file the appropriate paperwork with them."

The appeal process begins with the filing, which "must be received at
AMA Racing headquarters by 5:00 p.m. on the third business day
after notification to the participant via fax, telephone, or mail of the
ruling or incident in question," according to the AMA Road Race
rulebook. The appeal board, which is chosen by the Senior Director of
Racing, consists of three people "with no material interest in the
matter at hand," the rulebook states. The appeal will take place within
45 days of the incident.

With Hayes' disqualification, Attack Kawasaki becomes the winner for
the second year in a row. And for the second year in a row, Pirelli
tires sweeps the podium.

Attack Kawasaki's Chaz Davies becomes the winner, teammate and
2007 Daytona 200 winner Steve Rapp is second, and Leo Vince
Foremost Insurance Ducati Racing's Larry Pegram is third.

Reached late Saturday night, Davies said he was "absolutely shocked.
I'll believe it a bit more when I see it (the AMA release). I'm shocked,
but also gutted for Josh (Hayes)," with whom he's friends. "If Josh
isn't the eventual winner, obviously this stuff is out of his control. He
deserved to win the 200. He was on a mission. I feel bad for him. I
like Josh and feel bad for him. Just shocked and see what happens."

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