

FRANKIE STOTZ GOES 6.98!



Pic: Eric Tolton

It looks like six-second passes are going to be the new norm for Pro Street bikes. Frankie Stotz (son of legend Kent Stotz) piloted his dad's turbo Honda CBR1000RR to a 6.98 @ 199 MPH at the Manufacturer's Cup event in Valdosta. Like many in the Pro Street class, he'd been knocking on the door for some time, but after his historic run he

became the second member of the ultra-exclusive six-second club. "We had the bike set up for low sevens and I didn't know I was 6.98 until after we were waiting at the end of the track to be picked up. When I found out I couldn't believe it. My dad met me halfway back on the return road and gave me a big hug!"

The CBR is an impressive piece of machinery but doesn't pump out the massive power that some of the bigger bikes in the class do, proving chassis setup is the name of the game. A Velocity Racing turbo system with a Garrett GT35 turbo produces about 480 horsepower at the wheel—nearly 100 short of some of the CBR's competition.

1199 PANIGALE UNVEILED IN AMERICA

In true Ducati fashion, no expense was spared in a Hollywood premiere.

Pics: Ducati North America

Fresh off a launch party in Italy, Ducati brought its new 1199 Panigale superbike to Drai's nightclub in Hollywood for a special US unveiling. A company standard fashion show and copious champagne and Peroni preceded the unveiling, led by Nicky Hayden.

Why spend upwards of \$25,000 on a sportbike



though? For the recession proof Nicky summed it up: "This bike really is ahead of its time. I was in Mugello testing the GP12 for a couple of days when the test riders were going around on the Panigale, and after talking to those guys, just hearing their comments, it does things like a MotoGP

bike. It just does things better; the brakes are better, the power is smooth and the handling seems good. Some of our same MotoGP R&D people had parallel projects with this bike. The same engineers working on the GP12 were also working on the Panigale."

f POLL

What skillset would you like to improve the most?

Cornering	58%
Stunting	19%
Launching	9%
Lap times (track riding)	7%
Lap times (drag racing)	4%
Braking	3%