



# MOTUL SPORT NEWS #09

FIM MXGP World Championship - Tim Gajser - Team HRC MXGP - Honda CRF450RW

# MOTUL

ENGLISH VERSION  
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Evgeny Bobryshev  
Team HRC MXGP  
Honda CRF450RW

# FIM MXGP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

LOSAIL



RACE  
**01/19**

## HONDA ON THE RIGHT TRACK IN LOSAIL

### STANDINGS

Antonio Cairoli (KTM), 50 pts	<b>01</b>
<b>Tim Gajser (Honda), 42 pts</b>	<b>02</b>
Clément Desalle (Kawasaki), 40 pts	<b>03</b>
<b>Evgeny Bobryshev (Honda) 32 pts</b>	<b>04</b>

**T**he 2017 FIM Motocross World Championship started in Qatar with one of the finest fields ever seen in the discipline. Honda (Team HRC) and Suzuki World MXGP factory teams are partnered technically by Motul. The former left Losail with a first podium.

Although suffering, defending world champion Tim Gajser won the qualifying race before finishing race 1 third. The Slovenian seemed to be racing well when his energy waned and he surrendered his first-place finish to Cairoli. He nevertheless mounted the second step of the podium at the end of the Grand Prix. *'We were wondering whether it was reasonable to enter Tim, so this 2nd place can*

*be considered a bonus,'* stated Roger Harvey, Team HRC general manager. On the other official Honda, Russian Evgeny Bobryshev performed solidly and was rewarded with 4th place.

Kevin Strijbos and his Suzuki were penalised by their starts. The shape of the ruts did not allow the riders to vary their trajectories, making passing extremely difficult. So the Belgian couldn't do better than 11th of this first GP of the season, which does not belittle his potential nor that of the new RM-Z450WS. Fighting fit in the preparation races for Hawkstone Park and Lacapelle, the Lithuanian rider couldn't express his talents unfortunately, owing to a visa problem.

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# NISSAN & NISMO GLOBAL MOTORSPORT PROGRAMME



## NEW THINGS IN 2017... AND 2018!

**T**he motorsport programme of Nissan and its performance division Nismo was unveiled on 17 February by Takao Katagiri, NISMO's President and CEO. Motul will once again have close ties with the Japanese manufacturer on the technical level, in Super GT and in the Blancpain GT Series. The Super GT Championship is the most highly followed series in Japan, with the presence of three manufacturers in the top category of GT500s. This winter they all presented new models which will be racing until end 2018. Three of the four teams that will be entering Nissan GT-R NISMOs are partnered technically by Motul. Winner in 2014 and 2015, the Motul Autech GT-R Nismo came 3rd last year and bears again its traditional # 23. Ronnie Quintarelli and Tsugio Matsuda will form a duo

for the fourth consecutive season. Kondo Racing has chosen Joao-Paulo Lima De Oliveira to team up with Daiki Sasaki. They respectively bagged one and two wins last year. Last, Satoshi Motoyama and Katsumasa Chiyo will be racing together with Mola.

Nissan has already announced the arrival of a new GT3 in 2018, to replace the present model launched in 2012 and of which 33 have been sold worldwide. Meanwhile, team RJN, managed by Neville, will enter once again a Nissan GT-R NISMO GT3 in the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup Pro category. Also bearing #23 it will be placed in the hands of 2015 champions Katsumasa Chiyo and Alex Buncombe as well as first GT Academy winner, Lucas Ordóñez.

# MOTUL SUPERBIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

## PHILLIP ISLAND



# 2017

# SBK™ MOTUL

FIM SUPERBIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP



RACE  
**01/13**



## ACT ONE ON PHILLIP ISLAND

**M**otul has been the title sponsor of the FIM Superbike and Supersport World Championships for a year now and is continuing to support technically two very fine teams: Barni Racing Team in Superbike and MV Agusta Reparto Corse, present in both categories. The first stage of the 2017 staging of the SBK, which is celebrating its thirtieth season, took place on 25 and 26 February on the fantastic Phillip Island track.

As in 2016, Xavi Forès is riding Barni Racing Team's Ducati Panigale R, while Leon Camier is aboard Reparto Corse's MV Agusta 1000 F4. They followed each other most closely during this Australian weekend. 8th and 9th on the starting grid of race 1, the Spaniard and the Brit swapped positions in lap

ten. Camier had a lead of just 3 tenths over Forès at the arrival to bag 5th place.

The duo left from the first line for race 2 by virtue of the reverse order imposed by the new regulations. 5th place was this time clinched by Forès just 2"3 behind the winner. He occupies the same position in the World Championship ahead of... Camier, who reached the arrival line 8th placed on Sunday.

MV Agusta Reparto Corse has signed up this year PJ Jacobsen in Supersport. The American proved to be the fastest on Friday, before confirming that by bagging pole, ahead of his predecessor in team Jules Cluzel. Having suffered a technical problem, Jacobsen had to satisfy himself with 6th place.

## ROAD RACING BENNETTS SUZUKI RACING PROGRAMME



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

**A** holder of 13 wins in the Isle of Man Tourist Trophy where he broke the lap record last year, Michael Dunlop will be in all the battles this season. The Northern Irish man will be riding the new Suzuki GSX-R1000 of team Bennetts, partnered technically by Motul, in the greatest events of the road racing schedule, and will be contending in the first British Superbike round in Donington.

Apart from the famous 'TT', Michael Dunlop will be entering the North West 200, the Southern 100 and the Ulster Grand Prix. 'I know Steve Hicken and

team Bennetts well and know they are capable of getting the most from a new bike' stated the son of the great Robert Dunlop, who won the Tourist Trophy with Kawasaki, Yamaha, BMW and Honda... It's up to Michael to do the same with Suzuki! 'We've already made substantial progress in developing the new GSX-R1000' stated Steve Hicken. 'With a winner like Michael, we can aim for the win!' After a trial run in Mallory Park, Dunlop and his team will travel to Cartagena and then Almeria, Spain. They will also take part in the official BSB tests in Donington Park on 22 March.



## SOUTH AFRICAN ENDURANCE SERIES WELKOM

RACE  
01/06



## TEAM STRADALE MOTORSPORT WELCOME TO WELKOM!

**S**tradale Motorsport is a South African team partnered technically by Motul and based in Vereeniging to the south of Johannesburg. Charl Arangies is its team manager and also one of its drivers. With his father Harry, he won the opening race of the South African Endurance Series, after six hours of effort on 25 February on Phakisa Freeway, Welkom.

The Ferrari 360 Challenge of the Arangies father and son wasn't the favourite for the absolute win. Several cars, including an amazing Formula Renault 3.5 with streamlined wheels, were indeed faster over one lap. But in endurance, reliability also counts... 'Everything took place as expected

*in the pits and our Ferrari lived up to its promises' commented a happy Charl Arangies. 'We knew we couldn't rival at a pure performance level with respect to cars of higher classes. But, apart from a slight gear changing issue, we headed in the right direction and totally executed our roadmap. That paid off.' 17 contenders out of the 30 on the starting line reached the event's arrival.*

Harry Arangies hoped for just a podium but the latter's first step awaited him at the arrival! 'Charl bagged very good times and I did my utmost to be as steady as possible. This win is really a very good surprise for my birthday!'