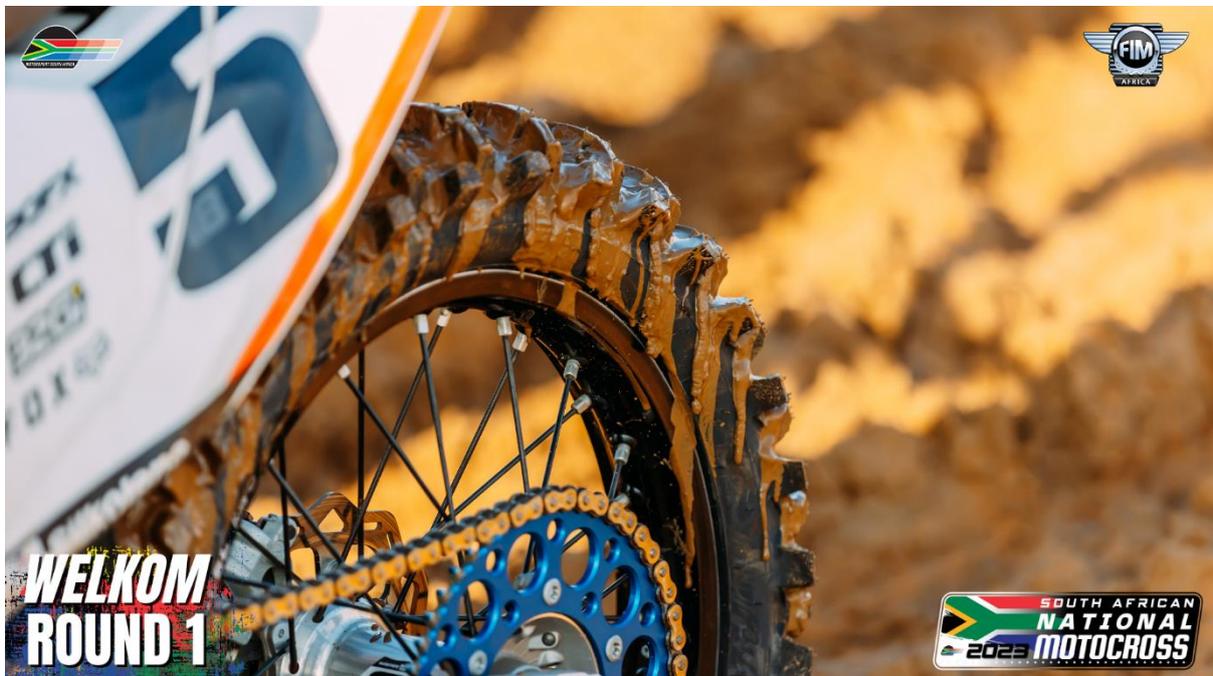


# Race Report



Official MSA MX Nationals  
Phakisa  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2023



As the days grew few before the drop of the gates of the famous Motorsport South Africa Motocross Nationals at Phakisa, preparations were underway among riders for what lay ahead. Was this to be the “mudder” of all races, a tough race or just a walk in the park as weather predictions were looming?

Saturday morning arrived and everyone was well aware and watching their weather apps, selecting tyres, tuning bikes for the unknown that awaits just other side of that steel gate where steel meets soil.

Rider’s briefing was bright and early with no rain in sight, clear skies, a dream of a day to be racing motocross at a well-known track in Africa, Phakisa Raceway, the ultimate legends of racing.

Riders and mechanics braced themselves for the unknown as the COC released them into the wild and wet Phakisa MX track. Some cruised like mud-prawns whilst some

battled with various issues affected by the mud and water-logged track. It was a learning curve for everyone to navigate uncharted territory. This was the dreaded mudder!!

It was amazing to see our MX 50cc champions going bar to bar and not giving up under the gruelling race terrain. Mason Visser from the Free State pinned his mark on round 1, even though taking the win in heat 1 and had bad luck in heat 2, still leads by 1 point. Parker Cik from Gauteng pulled out the magic for sure in heat 1 with champion style in heat 2. Logan de Bruyn from Gauteng ended up on the podium with an overall 3<sup>rd</sup> and had a blast in heat 2. Riley Geldenhuys, Dorian Botes, Richard Smith and Tiaan Scheppel clinching good positions 4, 5, 6 and 7 overall. Aden Fisher from the Eastern Cape was out there giving it gas in 8<sup>th</sup> followed by Ben Jacobs from the Free State in 9<sup>th</sup> with Ulrich Sterley in 10<sup>th</sup> and Luan Jordaan in 11<sup>th</sup>. Coby Kretzmann from KZN had a better 2<sup>nd</sup> heat finishing 12<sup>th</sup> followed by the Eastern Cape Mason Barnes in 13<sup>th</sup> overall. Bjorn Roets from Gauteng ended 14<sup>th</sup> followed by Josh-Zion Naude from the Eastern Cape in 15<sup>th</sup>. Julian Ferguson from Western Cape, Alessandro Green from Gauteng and Jarret Botes from KZN finished 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> respectively.



The MX 65cc class was the pinnacle of effort as the track was pushing the limits on these small wheels on the 65's but they made it happen in glorious MX valour. Amazing effort and kudos to these bold champions for going head to head with the beast. Trenton Kretzmann was out to take a 6-point lead in the Championship and his confidence was marked at Phakisa. Evan Frost had such an amazing smooth ride it appeared he was just doing what he does best. Evan finished with 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the tank. Cassie van Zyl was not giving up under any circumstances and held it tight for a podium finish at 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Ross Mackenzie in 4<sup>th</sup> was good to see along with Kyle Brunette in 5<sup>th</sup>. Raydon Woolls kept it steady in both heats and finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall. Aiden Retief had untold bad luck in heat 2 but still had an amazing finish in

the 7<sup>th</sup> overall. Haydin Victor and Ricky Korte battled it out for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> whilst Hendrico Barwise ended in 11<sup>th</sup>, with Kabelo Jnr having mechanical issues in heat 1 still ended in 12<sup>th</sup> place for the day. Amazing talent in the race as well were our little lady riders going against all odds - these are true MX die hards. Well done Kendra and Chloe, we know there is a lot more to come on your journey.



The MX 85cc was not to disappoint with new blood taking the reins in 2023. Christian Berrington-Smith simply flew the track in heat 2 as if it was made for him taking the Championship lead on tie with Aiden Henley in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This is going to be the race to watch in round 2 and 3 in Cape Town. Jake van Schoor in 3<sup>rd</sup> overall is not shy of the podium and is determined to force his mark in the rankings. Caden Weise enjoys the difficult tracks and eased his way into 4<sup>th</sup> place followed by the home-boy Blade Tilley in 5<sup>th</sup> and hotly chased by Trail Carter in 6<sup>th</sup>. There is definitely more to come out of this exciting class at the rounds to follow.



MX High School is where everything is released. Boys-to-Men have no fear from the second that gate drops until that checker flag yields, nobody acknowledges fear no matter what. Barend du Toit was gliding the track but was met with some bad luck to give Luke Grundy that well deserved Championship leader board. Bryce Petersen was consistent in his ride and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> although tied with Barend who took 3<sup>rd</sup>. Emmanuel Bako is not new to the scene as he took 4<sup>th</sup> place ahead of Blake Young in 5<sup>th</sup> and the new bike of Jordan van Wyk in 6<sup>th</sup>.



MX 3 did not disappoint at all with the stalwart and legendary Neville Bradshaw taking the top slot on the podium. Anthony Raynard held up brilliantly to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> step followed by Royce Griffin in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Charan Moore is back from his amazing

ride at Dakar and joined us in MX 3 finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. Dean Wheeler recently back from injury was hot in favour of 5<sup>th</sup> place with his eyes set on the podium.



MX 2 is where the big boys came out and Cameron Durow, the Red Bull KTM rider, took an awesome lead ahead of the talented Stav Orland from Uganda. Jonathan Mlimi is always in the top slots and clinched a step on the podium in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Mark Carty and Dalton Venter gave it all to finish in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> closing the door on the top 5.



MX 1 was where the hidden artillery came out to play. All seasoned riders, not shy of hard racing and not scared to full throttle the massive machines. Cameron Durow

stamped that authority by taking 1<sup>st</sup> place which was definitely an achievement for him running 1<sup>st</sup> places in all 4 heats of the day. The legendary Neville Bradshaw, all the way from the UK, was not letting this go easily and took 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall. Jesse Wright had an amazing 2<sup>nd</sup> heat and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall followed by Kerim Fitz-Gerald in 4<sup>th</sup> and Dirco van der Westhuizen in 5<sup>th</sup>.



MX ladies declared war as these ladies took on the toughest of tough conditions. Kayla Raaff is no stranger to the top slot on the podium as she embraced that top step of the podium. Jadene de Lima was up for the challenge and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall followed by Leah Heygate in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Puck Klaassen was not letting go at all and finished in 4<sup>th</sup> followed by Cheyenne de Lima in 5<sup>th</sup>. Ivana Venter, Mienke Cawood, Jessica Osner, Dakota Grobbelaar, Elang Chibana and Zoe Botha are super stars from this event as it was indeed survival of the fittest to finish.



An amazing race meeting bringing true talent to the fore by all riders. This round pushed the limits and all riders faced the same ahead of them. Well done to our Championship leaders and the podium winners and of course to all the riders participating.

Shout out to our Senior Support riders and certainly Quentin Foster for taking both wins. It was not easy being the oldest rider on track on the most challenging terrain and still smile.

We thank our Sponsors for being a part of the amazing sport of Motocross keeping the dream alive for our riders.

Thank you to TRP Distributors, Venture Sports, Prepsol, Forever Racing and supported by @redbullza #givesyouwiings and Missing Second Technologies, Bandit Graffix and The Black Sheep.

Thank you to our class sponsors for the day:

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MX 65cc	Out of Africa
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MX 1	Bar Aviation
MX 2	Bar Aviation
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MX Ladies	Pegasus Storage Solutions



Champ of the day most certainly goes to Cameron Durow going 1<sup>st</sup> in 4 heats!!

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Be sure to watch the telegram group by joining at <https://t.me/+4gpJKlkS2Mw4MDc0>

We are gearing up for Round 2 and 3 in Cape Town as the Official MX Nationals takes on Zone 7 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023. It only gets better from here so be sure to be a part of the action.

Images compliments of The-Black-Sheep  
Content compliments of MSA MX Commission

Minding my own business!!



The Hay bag looks fine right there thanks!

