



MSA MX NATIONALS ROUND 2 & 3 ZONE 7 - 01 & 02 APRIL 2023



The mother city awaited the action as the bikes rolled in Friday afternoon, the eve of 1st April proved to be no joke. Round 2 and 3 consecutively was set to separate the men from the boys and the daisies from the roses.

Scrutineering started and the line grew as anxious riders and mechanics queued to have their machines checked for compliance. You could hear the distant sound, as they arrived, of bikes being revved out among the trees and as it grew later on Friday the sombre mood turned to the final checks for best performance.

Dawn broke through the silhouette of the neighbouring hills and the call for riders briefing increased the anxiety. The weatherman knew this was no ordinary weekend and gave us the most splendid weather a rider could wish for. The track was prepped like wedding cake precision as the MX 50cc champions lined up in order of the national ranking to take their place in what was crowned the mother of all race weekends.

Practice made its mark as the gauge of your stealth through the extremely well-designed Zone 7 track offering everything from a sand section to hard pack, short and long jumps and a daring sand bowl.

Throughout the 1st day of racing a lot of lessons was learnt among the teams, some mechanical failures, some minor mistakes costing places were all part of how these 4 heats would determine the end goal of this challenging weekend of motocross.

In the MX 50cc class it was most certainly Riley Geldenhuys from East London who dominated the track through all 4 heats. Making the Eastern Cape proud of his stellar performance across 4 heats. Parker Cik had an amazing ride taking two seconds the weekend and then Mason Visser clinched a third in heat 2 on Saturday. Luan Jordaan and Aden Fisher rode their hearts out and Ulrich Sterley was not far off pace. Ben Jacobs from the Free State was in that top 10 mix having an absolute blast. Dorian Botes from KZN had some bad luck in the 1st heat on Sunday however still managed to perform extremely well. Mason Barnes from Border had a fantastic outing with

Coby Kretzmann in close tussle. Joshua-Zion Naude was definitely pushing hard with Bjorn Roets also in the mix. Julian Ferguson, Jarret Basson and Hanro Basson ensured some good competition in the favourite 50cc pack. It was indeed Riley Geldenhuys who takes away the glory from this round with Parker Cik and Luan Jordaan being in the top slots mostly.



The MX 65cc was chilling to watch as these youngsters battled it out lap for lap. Goosebump victory with two first places for Trenton Kretzmann and two 1st places for Evan Frost. Trenton was on fire but not without pressure from the infamous Frost-bite. Cassie van Zyl was not letting go of the top steps and our Kabelo Jnr from Gauteng, Aiden Retief and Kyle Brunette from the Eastern Cape GQ stamped their mark. Awesome to see our little ladies battling it out in the MX 65cc class, so well done to Chloe Odendaal and Kendra Krull - you girls Rock!!

The MX 85cc is where the magic starts coming together and local champ Jack Anderson was not shy to show his authority. Christian-Berrington Smith pushed the edges and took the win in the final heat on Sunday but it was definitely Jack Anderson carrying the smiles and trophies home for his two wins, a second and a third for the weekend. Christian is no stranger to the top steps and took one win and two seconds for the top steps. Caden Weise, Blade Tilley, Aiden Henley and Ashton Martin kicked off some dust to keep the pressure at boiling point. Trent Valsecchi also had an amazing weekend with a 3rd and three 4th places.



The MX High School, commonly known as the kamikazes, did not disappoint the crowd. A full house mix on 1st places with Luke Grundy power clinching one win, two

2nd's and a 3rd. Bryce Peterson snatched 2 x 4th places, a 3rd and a 6th. Blake Young brought his B-Lake powerhouse from Swaziland and grabbed hold of a 5th, two 3rd's and one top step win. Barend du Toit was the star for sure taking two wins, a second and one really bad luck mechanical failure but still finished. Ryan Adler also brought his Husky to war and played around with the top runners extensively. Jordan van Wyk is no stranger to MX and is paving his way in the High School class. Thor Johnson, Lucas Venter, Emmanuel Bako, Alon Orland, Rory Donaldson, Kyle Townsend, Daniel Venter and Matthew Correia fought out the mid pack riders battling for positions. Exceptional performance was definitely shared between Luke Grundy, Barend du Toit, Blake Young and Bryce Peterson.



MX 1 our premier class saw Cameron Durow dominate that top podium step again. Cam is on absolute prime performance as he took three wins the weekend. Dirco van der Westhuizen was not letting go under any circumstance and fought tooth and nail to the end. Dirco snatched that one win on heat 2 on Saturday. Jesse Wright was very consistent throughout the weekend but with Neville Bradshaw and Joshua Mlimi around, he had to have some added energy to hold them off. An amazing performance from Cameron Durow in MX1 as a well deserving winner.



MX 2 was the same for Cameron Durow taking all four wins. Stav Orland and Dalton Venter found chance to create a symphony mixing it up with seconds and thirds. Mark Carty was the crowd pleaser for sure as this was his first podium in 12 years. Mark took the 3rd position in heat 2 on the last day and his dedication and devotion to the sport clearly shines through, as Mark and his plethora of supporters lifted the roof on Sunday with cheer as this amazing talented rider took that step. Dalton

Venter, Jonathan Mlimi and Davin Cocker kept the crowd entertained with their high energy race skills, and lap after lap kept trying something different.



MX 3 is where the stalwarts of MX flex their muscles and Anthony Raynard was sure to keep that pressure pot at max. Ant took all four wins the weekend proving his ability on a bike as phenomenal. The all-time favourite and legend Neville Bradshaw came out to SA to ride for Tintswalo and took four 2nd places. What a champion ride from Nev. One of SA's fastest Royce Griffin is also no stranger to the gates, made his sturdy mark and clinched three 3rd places and sadly one DNF. Sheldon Watkins, Jonathan du Plooy and Levi Doherty completed the pack keeping MX alive.



The MX Ladies class left some jaw dropping moments as Kayla Raaff showed the crowd how its done. Kayla took four wins this weekend but hotly chased by Leah Heygate. Leah certainly pulled out some Bruce Willis skills and refused to let go. Kayla took the lead in absolute style. Puck Klaassen gave her best and has become well accustomed to the podium steps this year. Puck was smiling at her three 3rd places and one second place take home. Cheyenne de Lima is a favourite from KZN and kept the pressure on and managed to take home four 4th places. Zoe Botha and Dakota Grobbelaar were giving it all which is really chilling to see how these girls fair up against counterparts on lap times. Jadene de Lima unfortunately had an incident in Heat 1 on Saturday and we wish her well on recovery.



The manufacturer performance measured across MX High School, MX 1 and MX 2 classes which saw KTM take the manufacturer award for the weekend.

Thank you to the Zone 7 organising committee, Officials, Marshals, helpers, the MX Commission, Motorsport South Africa and FIMA affiliation for this amazing event.

We also acknowledge Woman in Motorcycling (WIM)



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MX 1	Tallie Marine
MX 2	Geoff Kruss
MX 3	Spar Century City
MX Ladies	Bar Aviation
Senior Support	Zone 7

Overall stardom for these two rounds is undoubtably Cameron Durow (MX 1 & MX 2), Riley Geldenhuys (MX 50cc), Anthony Raynard (MX 3) and Kayla Raaff (MX Ladies).

Well done to all riders for their awesome achievements during rounds 2 and 3 of the Official MSA MX National Championship.

Written on behalf of the MSA MX Commission
Images compliments of Brodalka Photography



Round 4 of the Official MSA MX Nationals will be held at Thunder Valley in Pietermaritzburg on the 6th May 2023.

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL MOTOCROSS 2023

RACE CALENDAR

8 ROUNDS

2023

MX DATES

FEB 18	PHAKISA Round 1 - Welkom
APR 01	ZONE 7 Round 2 - Cape Town
APR 02	ZONE 7 Round 3 - Cape Town
MAY 06	THUNDER VALLEY Round 4 - Pietermaritzburg
JUN 24	TEZA Round 5 - Richards Bay
JUL 15	ROVER Round 6 - Port Elizabeth
JUL 16	ROVER Round 7 - Port Elizabeth
NOV 04	CHESTNUT Round 8 - Gauteng