

THE TRADEMORE GROUP



As the national cross-country motorcycle series heads into its second round at Rabe's Farm in Fochville, the spotlight is on organizers to see what they have put together after a grueling first round in Rocky bay.

Davin Cocker(Factory Husqvarna ZA), not only clinched the top spot in the Open class but also emerged as the overall winner, showcasing his ability to set the pace in kzn where Jhb residents very rarely dominate. His performance sets a high bar for his closest challengers, Brett Swanepoel(Trademore Sherco) and Scott Heygate(Factory KTM SA), who finished second and third respectively and are now eager to bridge the gap. Although it is expected that Brett Swanepoel will not test the gears of his Sherco at this round, that brings multiple Offroad champions Michael Pentecost(UB Leisure Honda) back into the frame after some trouble in round 1.

Cocker, Pentecost and Heygate are all familiar with the top end in the mielies and adding Bradley Cox(Factory KTM SA) into the mix after a crash ended his race early in round 1, makes round 2 very exciting.

The OR3 class saw Luke Walker (Factory Husqvarna ZA) taking the lead and finishing in a very impressive 3rd overall at Rocky bay. The question is can the new leader hold his own down in the fast

Jhb terrain, with Ryan Pelser (KTM) and James Moore(Factory Gas Gas) closely behind. Matthew Wilson (Factory KTM SA) who is current king of the 250s had a steady start after injury in Round 1 in kzn where he, like many other Jhb based riders, battle against the locals. A commendable 4th place with favorable terrain on the horizon puts him in a good position to hunt Walker at round 2.

In the Seniors class, attention is on Kerim Fitz-Gerald(Factory KTM SA), the current champion who is returning to form after his Dakar crash. Fitz-Gerald's resilience and skill have always set him apart, and as he regains his fitness, competitors and fans alike are expecting him to climb the ranks swiftly. He'll be facing stiff competition from Louwrens Mahoney(UB Leisure Honda) the Round 1 leader and also boasts one of the best cvs in this trade, is fit and in very good form, as well as Marco Cocci and Mannie Bezuidenhout, who showcased their prowess by securing the second and third positions in Rocky Bay.

These riders are determined to maintain their momentum as they navigate the challenging Fochville terrain. In the Ladies class, Leah Heygate(KTM) stood out as the top contender, followed by Chay Blackman and Terri Hodge. Their performances have already set a high standard for the upcoming round, promising an intense and competitive race. As the series progresses to Fochville, the track's unique features, including grassy turns and mielie field straights, are expected to test the riders' skills and strategy. The competitors are not just racing against each other but also against the demanding track, making Round 2 a pivotal moment in the series. With their eyes on the prize, the riders are set to deliver an electrifying performance, making this a must-watch event for all motorsport enthusiasts.

The logo features the letters 'FIM' in a large, bold, italicized sans-serif font. The 'F' is composed of three horizontal bars of varying lengths, with the top bar being the longest and the bottom bar being the shortest. Below 'FIM', the word 'AFRICA' is written in a smaller, bold, italicized sans-serif font.

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