



MotoGP Race Report

AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX

MotoGP Round 15 : Phillip Island circuit, 16-18 October

Date : 18/10/2009
Weather : Dry
Temperature : 16 degrees (Air), 31 degrees (Track)
Humidity : 45 per cent
Crowd : Sunday: 50,094 - Race weekend: 105,037

PEDROSA MAKES IT THREE PODIUMS IN A ROW, DOVIZIOSO IN THE TOP SIX

Repsol Honda rider Dani Pedrosa took his third podium finish in successive races today as the spectacular Phillip Island circuit hosted the Australian Grand Prix. The 24-year-old Spaniard rocketed from third place on the grid into an early lead and repelled a first lap assault from Casey Stoner, quickly re-passing the Australian after he'd overtaken into the Honda hairpin. Pedrosa led at the end of lap one, but was powerless to prevent Stoner and then Valentino Rossi from coming past and opening up a gap.

After this, Pedrosa was out on his own, comfortably opening the gap to fourth place and eventually coming home to record his ninth podium finish of the season. His performance was all the more impressive in the light of his high-speed crash in qualifying yesterday which left him uninjured but bruised and in some discomfort. Stoner went on to win today's race and overtook Pedrosa for third place in the world championship, a situation Pedrosa will try to reverse in a week's time in Malaysia.

Andrea Dovizioso battled to a competitive sixth place and was able to match Pedrosa's pace for the closing stages of today's 27-lap race. From tenth position on the grid, the Italian was involved in a seven-way scrap for fifth place in the opening laps, and it was a battle that cost him some time as he worked his way to the head of the group. Once up to sixth place, Dovizioso's target was to close the gap on points rival Colin Edwards ahead of him. Although Dovi proceeded to take chunks out of the five-second gap to the Texan, he ran out of laps and came home 2.5s adrift. The result means the Italian retains fifth in the championship, seven points ahead of Edwards.

The MotoGP paddock now flies immediately to Malaysia for the penultimate race of the season, which takes place next weekend at the popular (and hot) Sepang circuit.



DANI PEDROSA – 3rd – World Championship position: 4th 189 points

"It's good to be on the podium again, especially after the crash in qualifying yesterday, so I'm happy about that. I pushed myself to the maximum in the race and we led for a short while from the start. Actually it's a shame they don't award points for getting the holeshot! Casey and Valentino were going superfast today and I just couldn't keep pace with them once they came past. From then on I just tried to keep my rhythm going and tried not to make any mistakes. It's a little frustrating of course not to be able to fight at the front, but considering the crash yesterday this result was OK and I'd like to say thanks to the team because they worked hard this weekend. The next race is in Malaysia and it's a track that I like, so I'm looking forward to next weekend and I hope we can get another strong result."



ANDREA DOVIZIOSO – 6th – World Championship position: 5th 152 points

"In the second half of the race my feeling on the machine improved and this was probably the highlight of my weekend here. Once I was clear of the battle for sixth I was able to ride at a good pace and realistically I think I could have fought with De Angelis and Edwards in this race. It's just a shame that I lost time starting from tenth and then fighting with Kallio, De Puniet and Elias - which is what I feared might happen. I cannot be happy with the 6th position but I have to consider the whole weekend and the set-up issues we experienced in the practice sessions and also my physical condition which wasn't perfect this weekend. Still, I felt good at the end of the race, so I'm looking forward to Malaysia with confidence."



KAZUHIKO YAMANO - REPSOL HONDA TEAM MANAGER

"Dani is on the podium again and he did a very good job to come back from his crash yesterday and put in such a performance - leading the race from the start. Of course the whole team wants to be fighting for victories and so we will continue to work very hard towards this. Andrea had a tough Australian Grand Prix and so sixth place represents a good performance from him. He was not feeling well for the whole weekend, but fought hard and was very determined in the race. Now we go to Malaysia which is another track we know well from testing and we'll push to the maximum again there."

Race Result - Round 15

1	Casey Stoner	40m 56.651	AUS	DUCATI	Ducati Marlboro Team
2	Valentino Rossi	+1.935	ITA	YAMAHA	Fiat Yamaha Team
3	Dani Pedrosa	+22.618	SPA	HONDA	Repsol Honda Team
4	Alex De Angelis	+32.702	SMR	HONDA	San Carlo Honda Gresini
5	Colin Edwards	+35.885	USA	YAMAHA	Tech 3 Yamaha
6	Andrea Dovizioso	+38.482	ITA	HONDA	Repsol Honda Team
7	Marco Melandri	+44.461	ITA	KAWASAKI	Hayate Racing Team
8	Randy De Puniet	+44.941	FRA	HONDA	LCR Honda MotoGP
9	Mika Kallio	+54.345	FIN	DUCATI	Pramac Racing
10	Toni Elias	+1m 01.205	SPA	HONDA	San Carlo Honda Gresini
11	Chris Vermeulen	+1m 05.417	AUS	SUZUKI	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP
12	Loris Capirossi	+1m 05.950	ITA	SUZUKI	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP
13	Gabor Talmacsi	+1m 17.951	HUN	HONDA	Scot Racing Team MotoGP
14	James Toseland	+1m 17.985	GBR	YAMAHA	Tech 3 Yamaha
15	Nicky Hayden	1 lap	USA	DUCATI	Ducati Marlboro Team

Championship standings

1	Valentino Rossi	270 pts	ITA	YAMAHA	Fiat Yamaha Team
2	Jorge Lorenzo	232 pts	SPA	YAMAHA	Fiat Yamaha Team
3	Casey Stoner	195 pts	AUS	DUCATI	Ducati Marlboro Team
4	Dani Pedrosa	189 pts	SPA	HONDA	Repsol Honda Team
5	Andrea Dovizioso	152 pts	ITA	HONDA	Repsol Honda Team
6	Colin Edwards	145 pts	USA	YAMAHA	Tech 3 Yamaha
7	Alex De Angelis	101 pts	SMR	HONDA	San Carlo Honda Gresini
8	Randy De Puniet	101 pts	FRA	HONDA	LCR Honda MotoGP
9	Loris Capirossi	101 pts	ITA	SUZUKI	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP
10	Marco Melandri	100 pts	ITA	KAWASAKI	Hayate Racing Team
11	Toni Elias	96 pts	SPA	HONDA	San Carlo Honda Gresini
12	Chris Vermeulen	95 pts	AUS	SUZUKI	Rizla Suzuki MotoGP
13	James Toseland	87 pts	GBR	YAMAHA	Tech 3 Yamaha
14	Nicky Hayden	82 pts	USA	DUCATI	Ducati Marlboro Team
15	Mika Kallio	58 pts	FIN	DUCATI	Pramac Racing
16	Niccolò Canepa	38 pts	ITA	DUCATI	Pramac Racing
17	Gabor Talmacsi	17 pts	HUN	HONDA	Scot Racing Team MotoGP
18	Sete Gibernau	12 pts	SPA	DUCATI	Grupo Francisco Hernando
19	Yuki Takahashi	9 pts	JAP	HONDA	Scot Racing Team MotoGP
20	Alex Espargaró	8 pts	SPA	DUCATI	Pramac Racing

Circuit information

First race	1989
GPs held	14
Laps	27
Race distance	120.096km / 74.628miles
Track length	4.448km / 2.764miles
Track width	13m
Longest straight	0.900km / 0.559miles
Corners	12 (5 right, 7 left)
Pole position	Left
Grandstand capacity	Temporary facilities as required
Circuit total capacity	150,000
Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit	
RMB 500GP	
Coves	
Victoris 3922	
Australia	
Tel: +61 3 5952 2710	
Fax: +61 3 5952 3160	



Email: info@phillipislandcircuit.com.au
 Website: www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au

Circuit records

Pole position	1m28.665s (180.598Km/h) Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2008)
Race lap	1m30.059s (177.803Km/h) Nicky Hayden (Honda, 2008)
Race time	40m56.643s (175.990Km/h) Casey Stoner (Ducati, 2008)
MotoGP Wins	5 (Valentino Rossi 2001-05)
2008 Winner	Casey Stoner (Ducati)

Event timetable - times shown are local times (GMT +11 hours)

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