

MAPFRE

TEAM
Mahindra
moto3™

08/11/2015. 18 VALENCIA GP - RICARDO TORMO - RACE

Bagnaia and Martín sign off in the points

MAPFRE Team Mahindra riders maintain consistent pace to secure top-fifteen finishes



The Moto3 World Championship went down to the final round today at the Ricardo Tormo circuit, where overwhelming favourite Danny Kent finally clinched the title after 24 nail-biting laps. Miguel Oliveira, the only rival to the Brit, knew that only a win would suffice for him combined with fifteenth place or lower for his rival and the Portuguese kept his side of the bargain with a brilliant ride. Jorge Navarro picked up second place after avoiding a last-corner melee caused by Antonelli, who wiped out

Vázquez and Fenati with an impossible overtake attempt. Kornfeil was the beneficiary as he claimed the final podium position in third place but the day belonged to the new Moto3 World Champion Danny Kent, who crossed the line in ninth place to take the title by six points.

It was a mixed final race of the season for MAPFRE Team Mahindra, with Pecco Bagnaia and Jorge Martín scoring points but Juanfran Guevara forced to retire on the seventh lap through illness. Pecco made up three positions on the opening laps as he pushed to stay with the lead group but he was losing too much ground on the straights and eventually he lost touch, riding to a lonely thirteenth. Martín also made up several positions early in the race and the youngster maintained a solid pace in the second half of the race to finish just behind his team-mate in fourteenth. Guevara has been suffering from flu symptoms since last night and was unfortunately not well enough to finish his final race with the MAPFRE Team Mahindra.

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FRANCESCO BAGNAIA

13th Pecco Bagnaia: "It has been a difficult weekend but yesterday I still felt pretty comfortable on race tyres. Today we say that our bike is slower than the other rider, we were losing a lot of time on the straights and no matter how hard I tried to make it up in the corners I ended up losing touch. I pushed hard on the final laps, I wanted to give it my best and honestly my pace was pretty good, just not good enough to catch the riders in front of me. In the end I finished in the points, in thirteenth place. It has been a tough year with some high points, like our first

podium. I would like to thank Aspar [Jorge] and Gino [Borsoi], and of course all the team for the support they have given me. Next year we will try to do better with a more competitive bike."

14th Jorge Martín: "Today was a difficult race, I didn't get the start I was hoping for and I was struggling to make overtakes in the early laps. Once I got some space on track I tried to impose my pace and I felt comfortable. I reached my limit and I couldn't go faster, but I am happy that I maintained my pace because that is something we haven't managed in other races. Today from the first to the last lap I was constant and my pace hardly varied a second. I am happy with my rookie season in the World Championship, we have 45 points to take home and a lot of experience for next season. I am looking forward to improving as a rider and I hope 2016 is much better."

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JORGE MARTÍN

Juanfran Guevara (DNF): "The objective for this weekend was to at least perform



JUANFRAN GUEVARA

retired.”

to the same level as we managed in preseason here, when we did a great job in the tests. This weekend we really struggled to find a set-up for the bike. We changed it quite a lot for today and I was confident of putting together a fightback but as soon as I got up this morning I didn't feel well. I went to the Clinica for some treatment and I thought I could race but after four laps I was sweating hard and shaking and I didn't have any strength. It wasn't safe for me to continue so I preferred not to take any risks and

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