



## **Race Report – National 16<sup>th</sup> March (Killarney)**

The Second National of 2013 was held this past weekend in the mother city of Cape Town at Killarney Race Track. It was the next opportunity for Team Emtex Yamaha to put the machinery to the test, particularly at the coast where the motorcycles are pushed to their limits. Arriving here under sweltering hot conditions to set up on Thursday with temperatures in excess of 35 degrees, we knew the weather was due to change, and yes, it did as Friday was overcast & wet after overnight rain. The team arrived in Cape Town during the course of Friday without Rob Portman who is still side-lined with the injuries sustained at Kyalami. However, an able replacement rider in the form of Allan-Jon Venter who has a wealth of experience was able to race in his place. The rest of the team Dylan White, Dean Vos & Janine Mitchell were looking forward to racing again after Kyalami.

The team decided not to go out for the first session on Friday, and to rather wait for it to clear, which it did, and all the riders managed to complete three practice sessions by the end of the day. So the bikes were ready for race day on Saturday.

Race day arrived and once again it had rained overnight and Qualifying was cancelled and all the riders had to start their 1<sup>st</sup> Race on Championship point standings. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Race grid would be determined where the rider finished the 1<sup>st</sup> Race.

Overall, race day was relatively successful with once again a host of very informative data obtained from the Yamaha's which will prove invaluable going forward into the rest of the season. It also proved to the team that the Yamaha's are more than capable of racing with the front runners. We look forward to the next race which will be at Aldo Scribante circuit in Port Elizabeth on the 6<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Ricky Morais – Technical Director:**

Cape Town National at Killarney came up on us really fast after Kyalami. With the improvements we have made with the awesome R 1 & R 6, we were looking forward to Cape Town.

Rob Portman was not ready so we drafted AJ Venter in to replace him.

With none of the riders having tested at Killarney, we started off on the back foot but made excellent progress to be really competitive come race day.

We also recorded best ever lap times from Janine, Dylan and AJ Venter was instrumental in the setup of the R1's.

A big thanks to Mark, Mike and the team from Motosport for getting steering dampers to us at short notice at the track on Friday.

A big congrats must go to the whole team for a superb job done in Cape Town, looking forward to Port Elizabeth.

### **Dylan White – R1:**

Getting to the track on race day the weather Saturday morning was typical Cape Town first it was wet then dry, then wet, then dry! Even though I was looking forward to qualifying with my Emtek Torque Sure Yamaha R1, the clerk of the course decided the weather was too dodgy for us to go out! So we started on championship points which left me 9th on the grid as I had a DNF at the last round!

I was feeling confident for the race as this is my best track and I've always had my best results there, Race 1 I got a horrible start and got held up a lot by slower riders most of the race and this gave the front group a chance to pull away so I could only pull off a 5th which is not too bad considering we started 9th!

Race 2 saw me starting 5th which I was really excited about, I got a flyer of a start which put me in 3rd going into the 2nd turn by the end of the lap I got into 2nd but knowing that we still not there yet with our top speed I knew that I had to ride at 200% just to stay in touch of a podium position and that's just what I did for most of the race my Emtek Torquesure Yamaha was working perfect and I kept closing in on the guys in front of me through the turns and then losing a bit on straights and then on lap 6 I just tried a bit too hard and unfortunately ended up losing the rear trying to get the drive on the guys in front of me and losing a very possible 3rd position! But the team and I have made very good progress on the Yamaha R1 and we are looking forward to getting to PE where we believe we are in for a Top 3!!!!

Just like to thank my dad Peter from Yamaha, Ricky from Emtek, Pete from Torque sure, Andy and Gilbert, John our team manager, Shoei helmets Motul , Marco from RACE!, and all my supporters without you guys none of this would be possible!!! Ciao catch you at PE



Pic – Courtesy Motorpics

### **Allan-Jon Venter – R1:**

I knew going into the race weekend that I had my work cut out for me, as I had not been around Killarney in 7 years, so not only was I on a new bike, but I also had to take on the challenge of finding my way around all the bumps of the high-speed circuit. Nevertheless, the team worked extremely hard the whole weekend, especially on Friday as we spent the whole of Friday getting comfortable on the bike and learning the track.

Each person played their part in helping me improve up the time sheets.

It was a shame that Qualifying was cancelled, as this being my only race this year, I had to start at the back of the grid for Race 1. In the first heat, I managed to get a good start and work my way up to 7th. For Race 2, I started further up the field, which gave me the opportunity to get involved with the front guys. My start was awesome, running 2nd for the first lap. I had a good scrap with my team mate, with both of us having the pace to finish 3rd, with Dylan unfortunately crashing out.

All in all it was a good weekend, and I felt we showed that the Yamaha is capable of running up at the front. I would love to be back with the team for PE, but Robby Portman will be returning to duty, and I wish him all the best for the rest of the season. A Big thank you the team Emtek Yamaha Racing, and to my sponsors Full Throttle, Leatt, Daytona and Arai.



Pic – Courtesy Motorpics

### **Dean Vos – R6:**

The weekend started off a bit miserably with the weather not co-operating, so we missed the first session due to the wet weather. After that the track dried out and we went out for our first official session where we went out on old tyres, the bike felt good with one or two set up issues which my team worked really hard to work out and after Friday practice we ended up seventh overall out of 18 competitors.

Saturday morning basically started the same with qualifying been cancelled due to the same weather conditions with the track being too wet for dry tyres and too dry for wet tyres so we couldn't test out our final set up change we made Friday afternoon. The officials decided that we would start the first race on championship points which put me fourth in the first race.

I lined up on the starting grid and waited for the flag man to move off the grid and then I watched the lights I saw out of the corner of my eye my fellow competitor moving around on the grid whilst the lights were on. As the lights went off I launched my Yamaha R6 off the line and hole-shotted into the first turn. My competitors slowly got passed me during the race due to my set up not being perfect for me and I ended up fifth at the end of the race.

We made a suspension adjustment for race two and I had another good start from the second row but got boxed in by the other competitors. I then ended up fourth in the race - I felt really good. I was slightly off pace but we managed to get good set up data for our next round in PE in three weeks' time so we will hit the ground running there.

I would like to say a massive thank you to Emtek racing, Yamaha, Naton Holdings, Torque sure, Motul, Shoei, and a massive thank you to these individuals if it went for them I wouldn't be where I am today. Tony, Ricky, Paul, Peter, Robyn.



Pic – Courtesy Motorpics

### Janine Mitchell – R6:

The 2nd National of the year, always a pleasure to go to Cape Town. The Team worked very hard to get the bikes ready for this weekend and it showed on race day how well our Yamaha's can perform.

After a delayed start due to overnight rain, we eventually went out and I managed to get down to my race times that I ended off on last year, which I was ecstatic about, seeing that I had not been here since then and also the first time out on my Yamaha R6 in Cape Town.... Not having had much testing time, at all in Cape Town, you actually not sure what to expect. Unfortunately I ended off the day with terrible times which definitely upset me, but I just put it behind me and got focused for the Day.

Race day arrived, I was focused and determined. My starts were a bit better than Kyalami but still have to work on them. At least this time I kept the bike on Two Wheels..... I finished 13th out of 18 in Race one and beat my quickest time doing a 1:16.9. 2nd race went just as well. Still managing to keep the times at low 17s. So I had a great weekend and a successful one, finishing 14<sup>th</sup> overall.

Thank you so much for Team Emtex Yamaha for all their hard work, my family for all their support and most of all my Fiancé who motivates me to do my best every race!!! Also huge thanks to Bikefin who came on board to sponsor me for the race. Thanks to all our team sponsors who make it possible for us to race.



Pic – Courtesy Motorpics

**Thanks to all the support from our generous contributors that make it possible for us to partake in the sport we love:**

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