



Race Report – Super Series 31st August (Zwartkops)

This past weekend the team made a return to Gauteng to take part in the next round of the Super Series Championship which was held at Zwartkops Pretoria, a familiar track to all the riders.

After the last race at Phakisa the team were looking forward to Zwartkops with high hopes considering the previous race held here when Dean Vos secured his first podium.

What a turbulent race weekend it turned out to be. The weather was totally different - Friday was hot and windy, whilst Saturday was freezing cold and blustery. It was also a weekend in which the team had two big crashes with both Rob and Janine wiping out their bikes. Rob was very unfortunate as he crashed in another competitor's oil spillage on Friday, and Janine crashed in turn 1 on Saturday in Race 1. However, both riders came through and managed to finish the day on their reliable spare Yamaha's. A big thank you to the technical team for getting the spare Yamaha's set up for the riders to complete the day. Both Dean and Dylan had a mixed weekend of racing, but still did the team proud. All the riders have put this race behind them and look forward to the last two races which will be held at Killarney – Cape Town, and Kyalami - Johannesburg.

Once again a huge thanks to Ricky and his technical staff that put in an enormous effort to make sure the bikes are always in tip top shape and do the brand justice.

A special welcome to our new partners – Action Motor Group Krugersdorp Ford who have recently come on as logistic partners. We look forward to a long and rewarding partnership.

Ricky Morais – Technical Director:

From a technical standpoint, this weekend's racing was a mixed bag. In terms of technical advancement, we made great strides with the R1 but seemed to miss the target with Dean's bike in terms of chassis set up.

Having said that, Dean managed to do his best time ever at this circuit but missed out on the victory that we expected.

Two crashes and some bikes for repair is what we ended up with but luckily both Rob and Janine managed to escape with no injuries.

Looking forward to Cape Town

Cheers
Ric

Rob Portman – R1:

Ricky and the ETR team had worked non-stop to get my Yamaha R1 race bike setup perfectly for Zwartkops and after my first session on Friday I could not hide my delight in the job they had done.

For the first time this season I had felt like I was able to go fast and was even thinking of challenging for the win. My times straight out the block were competitive. Ricky had got the setup spot on and the bike was working so well and I was able to put it where I wanted going into turns and get on the gas hard out of them. But, my bad luck would strike again. I crashed in turn 7 hard and totalled my number one race bike. One of the other riders bike was leaking oil and instead of pulling off he decided to do an entire lap throwing oil all over the track. I was the unlucky one to go down in the oil. The team managed to get the spare bike ready for me but the damage caused to my race suspension meant I would have to ride of stock standard suspension.

This would bring a halt to my podium challenge on race day so I had to settle for a 5th place in race one and a 4th in race two. More championship points and a good 4th overall so there was a bit of light and the end of the tunnel for me.

A big thanks to all the guys from EmTek racing, Marthinus, Brother, Yamaha, Full throttle and Action Motor Group Krugersdorp for supporting me even through the tough times.



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Dylan White – R1:

Zwartkops was a disappointing weekend for myself to say the least, not having to worry about qualifying as we started on championship points, I was 5th on the grid but Race1 was red flagged twice and actually gave myself and Yamaha our first podium on the R1 in 3rd in the end, but due to controversial circumstances on a clear jump start from Clinton Seller and some dodgy decisions, we got bumped to 4th.

Unfortunately for race 2 I had a problem with the electronics and brought my hopes for our first top 3 overall result to an end!

I just got to give a shout out to the whole team. We will be back to get that podium at the next race! Thanks to the sponsors: my dad, Yamaha, Emtek Racing, Brother SA and Enbridge Torque-Sure.



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Dean Vos – R6:

Friday Practice sessions were all about finding the right setup. Zwartkops is a very short circuit and having the right setup is the key to a successful race weekend. Ricky and I were able to solve about 80% of the suspension problems I was facing. The Zwartkops race circuit requires extremely late and hard breaking, because of this my front forks kept bottoming out even after the adjustments we made.

Qualifying was canned due to uncontrollable weather conditions; this meant that the grid would be determined by Championship point's standings - which meant I would start in P3 for Race 1.

I had a really good start in Race 1 and was 2nd into the first corner; unfortunately my luck ended as I was pushed wide through turn three and lost three positions. I knew I wouldn't catch up with the front group (who had already pulled a huge gap) because of the very few opportunities for passing maneuverers. Brent and I were in a huge battle for 5th place, neither of us were willing to give up the position so we were bumping and bashing throughout the last few laps. I admitted defeat after making a big mistake at the Table top. Although I managed to beat my personal best times I was really disappointed with my result which was 6th.

I didn't get the start I needed in the 2nd heat. Once again I was in a battle for 5th position; the surface of the track had oil on the race line from the car race that was held before us. This made passing even more difficult and I didn't want to risk crashing and losing valuable points. This time I won the battle for 5th position, just ahead of Isaacs.

Overall I am really disappointed with my results from the weekend I am not going to make excuses but I will work even harder to prepare myself for the next race which will take place in Cape Town. I would just like to thank my Team for all their hard work throughout the weekend. To my Personal sponsor – Tony from Naton thank you so much for everything and for all your support, it was a pleasure to have you join me on the grid. Thank you to all the Team sponsors – A big shout out goes to Brother SA, Enbridge Torque-Sure, Yamaha SA and ETR!

See you @ the next one.

- 49Vos



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Janine Mitchell – R6:

This national was most probably the coldest national we have experienced in a couple of years. The weather was really not on our side this weekend with Friday practice being extremely windy and Saturday being a terribly cold, windy day. We did not have an official qualifying this weekend as the cold weather brought some concern with safety so instead we started on Championship points.

My first race really did not go according to plan; something happened in turn 1 which caused me to crash. There is still a bit of speculation as to why I crashed but I am just thankful that my angel protected me and I was able to walk away. As I stood up though and looked for my bike, she was not so lucky and had a tiny trip over the barrier.

While we were waiting for Race 2 my awesome team got into gear and made sure the Spare R6 was ready for me to compete in Race 2. I have to say a Big Thank you to Ricky Morais and the technical team for getting my Yammy ready and the whole team for being such a great help. Race 2 went well, I finished and that was the most important thing. I really got spoilt by the all the other riders as after the race the whole group was waiting for me at turn 2 to give me a veil to congratulate me, because the next time you read my article I will no longer be miss Mitchell but Mrs.Davies.

Thank you so much to Team Emtex, Yamaha SA, Brother SA and Enbridge Torque-Sure for such a great weekend and to my almost husband, next race I'll be a Davies.

Till next time☺ LM#79



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

A Huge thanks to all the support from our generous partners that make it possible for us to partake in the sport we love:

