



Race Report – All Bike Day 2 November (Red Star Raceway – Delmas)

The last race of the season scheduled to take place at Kyalami was changed to Red Star Raceway in Delmas and it would take the form of an all bike race day, which is something that has always been discussed but has never materialised. Although the all bike aspect was brilliant, it was just a case that none of the riders expected it, and really had not been at the track at all to practice. Besides Rob who tests a lot of motorcycles for his magazine at Red Star, all three of the other team members were quite nervous. The team were also quite sceptical about the track and tyre wear etc. but the Pirelli tyres held out very well over the weekend and no problems were experienced.

The all bike day turned out to be a fantastic day and a huge success not only for the riders as there was some very close racing throughout the fields in both the Superbike and Supersport classes. The formula also seem to excite the public as it was very well supported by the public. The staff at Red Star must be congratulated for the excellent effort put in to host the day.

The Emtek Yamaha team ended of the season on a high note as Dean Vos achieved 3rd overall in the Supersport category, and Dylan White ended 5th overall in the Superbike category.

Team Emtek Yamaha would like to take this opportunity in thanking all our sponsors and suppliers who have supported us during the 2013 season and look forward to their involvement in the 2014 season.

They would also like to take the opportunity in thanking all four riders including some guest riders during the course of the year for their commitment to the team, Yamaha and all sponsors. It has been a fantastic journey.

It has also been an absolute pleasure to be associated with Emtek Racing under the guidance of Ricky Morais and his staff including the mechanical staff that put in endless hours put in to make the Yamahas a force to be reckoned with again in the Motorcycle Racing fraternity. We look forward to an even better 2014.



Ricky Morais – Technical Director:

Hi all

Let me start off by saying that this last National was an awesome event and perhaps is the way of the future for the Motorcycle Championship.

The team started off with a blown head gasket on Dylan's bike and brake fade on Robs, Janine struggling to get into qualifying times and some new blood in the mix, riding for us was young Keagan Wessels, son of the legendary Jason, competing at his first national race.

Nick Van Bros joined us again as in Cape Town albeit on a semi standard R6 courtesy of Sheldon from AMP.

Martinus, Aston, Brandon and the rest of the technical crew once again proved they are the best around by sorting out all the challenges that came their way including changing an R1 motor in record time allowing Dylan to not even miss a session.

The racing was top notch and all our riders made us proud.

Congrats to Dean for attaining 3rd in the standings and to Dylan for finishing 5th in his debut season on the awesome R1.

After a season he would rather forget, Rob put in some amazing rides and were it not for bad luck could have had a brilliant season.

The season will be remembered by me as surprising, in that Dylan and Rob were able to beat riders on more fancied machinery regularly and toward the end of the year showed real competitiveness.

We now look forward to next year with eager anticipation and can't wait to begin.

Cheers

Ricky

Rob Portman – R1:

Another disappointing weekend for me. We just never had the pace from the first session. The standard front forks really battled with the RSR track which meant I had no real good feeling at the front.

Both races I got great starts, but had to pull out of both races after only a couple of laps due to the bike overheating.

Can't fault the team at all for this season I just had really bad luck.

I really hope to stick with the Yamaha team for next season as I love the brand.

Hopefully I can have some better luck. Big thanks to all the sponsors for the support!!!!



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Dylan White – R1:

Friday

Was a no go for me as I had bike problems, forcing us to change motors, this didn't give me much track time but my team worked tirelessly to get it sorted and for me to get a couple laps in at the end of the day!! Thanks guys!!

Saturday

Not getting a full days practice I still managed to qualify on the second row in 7!

Race 1

I got a good start and managed to go around the outside of a few guys in turn 1, as luck would go into my favour I saw myself racing for my first ever podium again for 3rd, against a Kawasaki and BMW, I had the best ride of life riding out of my skin at 120% to try keep the more powerful and faster bikes behind me for the entire race but the Kawasaki got the better of me and I had to settle for 4th.

Race 2

A bit of the same as race 1 but this time it was for 4th as the top 3 just got away from me, battling the whole race long and hard with same riders as the previous race, I ran into a problem halfway through with consistently braking hard I ended up with brake fade and lost out in another 4th slotting me into 6th!

It has been a big learning year for me as my first year on a 1000cc and one of the toughest for sure but I showed countless times that I have the pace to fight for a top 3 place and definitely 1st place, but I've come far this year and I would not have gotten to where am without the support of my dad and the guiding, hard work and pep talks from Ricky Morais and all the days and nights of hard work from the whole Emtek Racing team Aston, Martinus, Brandon and the Team Manager John, I couldn't thank you guys enough for everything you have done this season!!! And of course our team sponsors without these guys we wouldn't be racing this year Yamaha, Enbridge Torque – Sure, Brother SA, and everyone that I've left out a big thanks to for your support from my side!!

See you in 2014!!! #23



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Dean Vos – R6:

We left the windy city of Cape Town circuit knowing exactly what I needed to do I knew I had a lot of work ahead of me. I was down to 4th in the Championship, only one point behind Nick Kershaw and in order to get third in the championship I would have to beat him at Redstar Raceway.

Before I knew it we were at the track and it was Friday practice. I jumped into my kit for the first session. I left pit lane and took it easy for the first few laps and then started to push. The sprocket ratio wasn't quite right but by the end of FP3 we had it spot on.

Qualifying rushed up on me and I felt ready I went out got heat into the tyres and pushed as hard as I could and made a few mistakes, I ran off track once and ended up only getting one good lap, which put me in a disappointing P6 for Race 1 and P9 for Race 2.

Race one.

I had a rocket of a start and was 4th into turn one and managed to make it through unscathed. On lap two into turn three I felt a big smack and thought I was man down - don't ask me how I managed to save it but luckily I did. I was forced to run off track and by the time I crossed the line I was up to P18. There was no way I was giving up so I rode like there was no tomorrow and made up so many places passing as many riders as I could. On the last lap I caught up to Nick and coming off the back straight I over committed and ended up bumping him which gave me 8th for Race 1 which I was happy with considering what had happened.

Race two

I had another great start from P9 and was 6th into turn one. I then made a move to fifth and a lap later a move to fourth and managed to pull a gap but couldn't close down on the lead group. I pushed all the way to the end and I was so happy when I saw the chequered flag and realised that I achieved my best championship position in nationals despite having missed a complete round.

I have a long list of awesome people to thank for an amazing year!

A huge thank you to Tony, Ricky, Peter ,Alain, Robyn, Martinus, Aston, Brandon, John, Paul, Shez, Adrian Bac, Peter Wilkins and to everyone else that helped me and help make my dreams come true. Thank you to Naton, Enbridge Torque-sure, Emtex Racing, Arata, AMP, Motul, Shoei, Brother SA and everyone that has helped our Team get where we are today. I can honestly say the R 6 is the best bike I have ever ridden and every time I ride it, I admire it more and more!

Have a great festive season everyone and I'll see you all in the 2014 season.

- VOS#49



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

Last National of the Season

Starting my 600cc race career on a Yamaha and possibly ending my 600cc days on a Yamaha.

I started racing 600cc in 2007 on a Yamaha R6 that we had bought from AJ venter and man was that my baby. What an amazing bike she was, and now I am possibly ending my 600cc days on a Yamaha R 6 now. I never thought I would be ending my 600cc career at Redstar Raceway but much to my surprise it was decided to have an all bike race day at Redstar Raceway. I was so worried, we even had a discussion of not competing in the last national, due to other reasons but the track just helped influence the thought of maybe not competing.

Let me put this into perspective for you, the last time I raced Redstar was in the beginning of 2012 and I crashed and broke my ankle. I have only been back to the track twice since this accident in two years. So the fact that I was a little nervous was understandable, the current times these athletes are racing around Redstar are phenomenal. Putting all my fears aside I just prayed and put all my faith in my ability and in God to get me through the weekend.

Friday Practice was ridiculous. I went out for my first session and I did not know where I was, I had watched some videos of the track during the week but it does not do it any justice, the first lap I went around Redstar, I was terribly uncomfortable, my time was exceptionally slow. I felt like a beginner again. But it was only first session and I still had a whole day to improve on my time, which I ended up doing, although I improved my own times, so did the rest of the field and by the last session I actually got a DNQ, first time ever in my life.. My fastest time on Friday was 107% slower than the leader, and that frightened me a bit. After seeing that I knew a better pull my socks up and get onto some race times or after all the stress I went thru before the race might be thrown out the window if I didn't qualify.

After an evening of concentrating on performing the next day we arrived at the track for the first ever All Bike Race day, where they combined the Regionals and Nationals on one day, it was a fantastic day!!!! Getting to watch the youngsters and other classes really made the day more exciting. My focus though was getting a great qualifying and Yeah, I qualified and dropped my time so I was very happy, even though the rest of the field went fast I managed to do my best time so far.

Now for the races, I managed to get a great start finally by the end of the season my starts improved, but I do owe that to the FIM training camp we went to in Spain, we had a session where we could practice our starts and it definitely helped me. Back to the race, I dropped my times even more and just kept on improving, Redstar is definitely a challenging track - that's for sure. In race 2, I changed my mind set a little as I realised that it was possibly my last National race on a 600, nothing is confirmed as yet but in my mind it was, so I gave it my all. I wanted to finish the year off on a good note and I knew I had my angels by my side protecting me, I did I put all my faith in my ability.

Now the classic part about the whole weekend was I managed to drop a total of 10 Seconds throughout the two days and in racing terms that's massive. What was classic about this was I did my quickest time ever on the Last Lap of the Last Race of the day. Normally your times are slower in the last race of the day. Not me, seems like I didn't get that memo.

After all of that it is the end of the 2013 National Championship and what a season it has been. I managed to better every one of my personal best times at each of the tracks in SA, except for one track Zwartkops but it's Ok. 1 out of 7 I think is a good achievement.

To end of my last race report for our National Season I would just like to say a **huge** thank you to **YAMAHA SA** for giving us such amazing bikes to compete with this year. To Ricky Morais and the whole of Emtex Race team for everything they have done for us, all the extra hours they put in for the team, we really appreciate it. To my Mom and Dad for Supporting me and always being by my side and helping me with whatever it takes for me to achieve my dreams, I am truly blessed to have parents like you!! Love you very much. And to my Husband, this has been an incredible year with you. We have gone through so much and I look forward to growing my Race Career with you!! Love you so much.

Till next Season. Be safe and God Bless.

Little Miss #79



Pic – Courtesy Zenon

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