



## CHEQUERED FLAG REPORT



### 2013 FIM ASIA MOTOCROSS/SUPERCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP (AMSC)

**Round 1,**

**Puerto Princesa, Philippines**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March**



Back to the beginning and it was again the Philippines who hosted the opening Round of the 2013 FIM Asia Motocross/Supercross at the Sta. Monica Motocross track at Puerto Princesa Palawan.

Riders and results were a case of De Je Vue with the same top runners again achieving the same results. Mark Reggie Flores won the Junior 85s, Vilmor Molera took out the Veterans, while Arnon Theplib dominated the 125/MX2 class.

Sri Lanca's Jacques Gunawardena who made his AMSC debut at the final 2012 Round again entered the Junior 85 class, while Guam's Stan Yasuhiro returned to defend his 2012 Veteran title. Certainly the attendance of these two Riders was critical to enable the Junior and Veteran Categories to rank as Championship status under the minimum 2 Asian Countries Regulation, however the 125/MX2 class was well supported with no less than six Countries including host Nation, The Philippines. New Riders included Guam's James Cepeda and Mongolia's Temuulen Tsolmon, both 15yo, as well as New Zealander Tim Wendon riding with a Guam license and another Mongolian Enkhdalai Davaadorj who had reluctantly switched to the 125/MX2 class when his age restricted him from the minimum 40yo Veteran class.

The AMSC three day program specifies Bike set up, Technical, Rider's Briefing and practice on Day 1- Friday, followed by further practice and Qualifying on Day 2 -Saturday, with Official Opening Ceremony and 2 Motos for each of the 3 classes on Day 3 – Sunday.

Come Friday morning, despite the usual hot weather, Clerk of Course Arthur Valdez had really soaked the track and to his credit, the Sta. Monica track was in ace condition.

At this Round, the Organisers utilised the AMSC option of a Qualifying Race on Saturday, which was 10min +2 laps for each of the 3 classes. By now dust was looming as a problem and although contingency plans were in hand to ease the situation, miraculously, rain commenced and Qualifying Victors emerged as, Mark Flores – Junior 85. Vilmor Molera – Veterans. Jugkrit Suksripaisan – 125/MX2.



Hilite of the Opening Ceremony was the 2012 Awards Presentation with Philippines receiving the Asian Cup Replicas for both 85 and Veterans, while Thailand received the 125/MX2 Replica. Individualised Asian Rider Medallions went to Mark Flores, Philippines - Junior 85. Stanley Yasuhiro, Guam – Veterans, while Arnon Theplib, Thailand, was the 125/MX2 recipient. Manufacture Awards were dominated by Honda with the Red Marque taking out all three classes. Best Event for 2012 was down to the wire between the only two qualifying Rounds being Rd1- Puerto Princesa and Rd 2 – Mongolia. As this is a Rider scored award, Stan Yasuhiro gave a glowing report of both events before announcing the winner – Puerto Princesa, and it is fitting that the award was accepted by the team who contributed to their Rd 1 success, being Mayor Hagedorn's committee, Stephan Carapiet, Reggie Hernandez, Arthur Valdez, Rommel Panganiban and their entire band of dedicated assistants.

Sunday dawned hot & dry, but water back up replaced the rain and good conditions prevailed.

Moto 1. Junior 85 12y – u15y 15min +2 laps  
Five Riders comprising two 14yo and three 13yo made a great start but a first corner altercation involving Jacques - KTM and Mark Flores – Honda, left Gabriel Macasa –Honda, way out front with Earl Ornopia-Honda and Michael Tipolo-Honda in tow. By lap 4, both Jacques and Mark had passed Michael competing in his first AMSC Event. Lap 7 placings were Gabriel, Jacques and Mark with Earl and Michael in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The crowd was on their feet and really vocal as these young kids produced action packed close racing. Mark took over 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the 9<sup>th</sup> lap with Michael being lapped on lap 10 while Earl had an audible misfire. Top three places -



**1<sup>st</sup> Gabriel Macasa -Philippines. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Flores -Philippines. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jacques Gunawardena -Sri Lanka**



Moto 1. 40yo + Veterans 10 min + 1 lap

10 of the 12 entered elder Statesmen lined up for their first Moto with Dominic Tan and Bernie Esteban classified as Non Starters. Top 3 on the opening lap were Vilmor Molera-Honda, Stan Yasuhiro-Honda and Siegfred Ornopia-Yamaha, then from Lap 2 to Lap 7 the order maintained as - Vilmor, Siegfred, Stanley, Marciano San Andres-Kawasaki, Allan Mollenido-Honda, Guillermo Gonzales-Kawasaki, Eduardo Abonita-Honda with Ome Aquino-KTM lapped on lap 5 and Darnel Francisco-KTM on lap 6. On the very last lap 8, Guillermo passed Allan and top 3 produced as 1<sup>st</sup> Vilmor Molera – Philippines. 2<sup>nd</sup> Siegfred Ornopia – Philippines. 3<sup>rd</sup> Stan Yasuhiro – Guam

Moto 1. Senior 125/MX2 20min +2 laps

Two non-starters in the Senior category. Tim Wendon – who aggravated an old shoulder injury during qualifying and Enkhdalai Davaadorj finding MX quite different to his more familiar Enduro. Right from gate drop the expected top 3 of Jugkrit-Honda, Arnon (Turbo)-Honda, and Tomoya-Yamaha, set a blistering pace and led the 16 Rider field to lap ex Junior 85cc Temuulen-Kawasaki on lap 3. Turbo in his usual smooth style seemed content to leave his 16yo compatriot as the trailblazer until he pounced on lap 12 to claim his customary lead role. Lapped Riders were constant as the field spread out over the longer 17-lap race however all managed to finish within the mandatory 75% factor. Top 3 completed 17 laps, 6 Riders led by Kenneth San Andres-Kawasaki and including legendary 47yo Jovie Saulog-Honda completed 16 laps, 3 Riders led by Reigin Leongson-Honda completed 15 laps, 3 Riders led by Jacob Einloth-Honda on 14 laps and Temuulen-Kawasaki just scraping in on 13 laps. Top 3 places as follows –  
1<sup>st</sup> Arnon Theplib-Thailand 2<sup>nd</sup> Jugkrit Suksripaisan-Thailand 3<sup>rd</sup> Tomoya Suzuki-Japan

Moto 2 Junior 85 15min +2 Conditions now hot, dry & slight wind.

Mandatory Sighting lap, then the 5 youngsters faced Deputy CoC Rommel Panganiban for 15secs / 5 sec board, gate drop, then away up the start straight ready for the RH turn – but Jacques #3 is down as the other 4 do the 2 jumps then down into the fast left hander and whatever else Sta. Monica throws at them. Jacques is on a mission as he fights to catch the field and by lap 3 he has passed Michael #5 as Mark #1 pulls away from Gabriel #2 and Earl #4. Race order remains the same until lap 7 when Jacques slips past Earl for the 3<sup>rd</sup> spot. Mark has an 8sec lead on Gabriel and there is a further 10 odd secs to Jacques and that's how tomorrow's stars finish their final Moto of Rd 1 of the 2013 AMSC.

1<sup>st</sup> M. R. Flores 14yo

2<sup>nd</sup> G. S. Macaso 14yo

3<sup>rd</sup> J. Gunawardena 13yo

Moto 2 Veterans 10 min + 1 lap

Rider line up down to 9 with Edwardo Abonita #9, Dominic Tan #4 and Bernie Esteban #12 listed as non-starters. Stan Yasuhiro #1 had his moment of glory by leading the field for the first two laps until Vilmor #11 reeled him in, however the Guam Dental Surgeon hung in there with second place for the balance of the entire race. Allan Mollenido #13 retired on the 5<sup>th</sup> lap while Ome Aquino #8 was lapped on lap 4 and Frank Cu #5 succumbed to the same fate on lap 5. Results for the diminished Moto 2 field



**1<sup>st</sup> Vilmor Molera 40yo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stanley Yasuhiro 55yo, Siegfred Ornopia 41yo,**

Moto 2 Senior 125/MX2 20min +2laps

The same 16 Riders assembled in the waiting zone on time, all hungry to add to their points score in the 2013 AMSC. With final watering completed, the track was in ideal condition as the gates dropped and they streaked up the start straight with the more experienced field negotiating the first corner without mishap. Turbo #1 was on fire in first place, no doubt aiming to emulate his 2012 performance when he won every Moto for the entire Championship. Tomoya #2 in similar form tagged him from start to finish and on lap one it was the perennial Jovie Saulog #5 in third place before giving way to the friendly young Kenneth San Andres #4 on lap 2. Meantime Jugkrit #3 hemmed in at the start, was coming past Riders and by lap 4 was locked into 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This was great racing and further back there was separate battles after Hiroshi Kawamura #9 and Reigin Lengson #17 came together and retired on lap 5. Jon Adlewan #10, Jubenile Abellar #11, James Cepeda #13, Ralph Ramento #12 and Jovanni Abellar #14 appeared locked on rails as they maintained those positions lap after lap until one by one they succumbed to the Turbo dreadnaught. Top 3 Chequered Flag positions for this race appeared as –



**1<sup>st</sup> Arnon Theplib**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tomoya Suzuki**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jugkrit Suksripaisan**

## Round 1, top 5 positions for 2013 Asian Motocros/Supercross Championship

### Junior 85

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mark R. Flores	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	47 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gabriel S. Macaso	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	47 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jacques Gunawardena	Sri Lanka	FMSSL	KTM	40 pts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Earl J. B. Ornopia	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	36 pts
5 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Tipola	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	32 pts

### Veterans

1 <sup>st</sup>	Vilmor Morela	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	50 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stanley Yasuhiro	Guam	GMAC	Honda	42 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Siegfred Ornopia	Philippines	NAMSSA	Yamaha	42 pts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Marciano San Andres	Philippines	NAMSSA	Kawasaki	36 pts
5 <sup>th</sup>	Guillermo Gonzales	Philippines	NAMSSA	Kawasaki	32 pts

### Senior 125/MX2

1 <sup>st</sup>	Arnon Theplib	Thailand	FMSCT	Honda	50 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tomoya Suzuki	Japan	MFJ	Yamaha	42 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jugkrit Suksripaisan	Thailand	FMSCT	Honda	42 pts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Kenneth San Andres	Philippines	NAMSSA	Kawasaki	36 pts
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jovie Saulog	Philippines	NAMSSA	Honda	32 pts

Despite some necessary cutbacks due to budgetary constraints, the ever-popular Puerto Princesa was again a successful and popular event with stand out performances by Vilmor Morela who dominated by winning his Qualifying race as well as both Veteran Motos and Arnon Theplib who continued his 2012 style with first place in both 125/MX2 Motos.

For complete results and details of Rd 2, Malaysia & Rd 4 Mongolia, refer to [asiamx.org](http://asiamx.org)



## **Puerto Princesa Scrapbook**



**Philippine Legend Jovie Saulog**

**Sri Lanca Jacques Gunawardena**



**& proud Dad Dwayne**



**Mongolia's Temuulen Tsolmon**



**Guam's James Cepeda Jr**