

Bezzecchi wins Portuguese MotoGP

Starting from pole, the Italian controlled the race for his second win of the season

● Alex Marquez finishes in second place

● Pedro Acosta completes the podium in third

AFP | Portimao

Aprilia rider Marco Bezzecchi produced the perfect ride on a testing Algarve International Circuit to win the Portuguese MotoGP yesterday.

Starting from pole, the 26-year-old Italian controlled the 25-lap race from start to finish ahead of Alex Marquez (Ducati-Gresini) and Pedro Acosta (KTM).

After a frantic opening lap in which Franco Morbidelli slid off the track, Bezzecchi took total control and never allowed Marquez to close.

The Italian finished 2.583 seconds in front of Marquez who recovered from a mistake in qualifying to claim his 12th podium of the season.

For the second day running, Marquez was kept on his toes throughout by 21-year-old Acosta who finished second behind



First placed Aprilia Racing team's Italian MotoGP rider Marco Bezzecchi (C), second placed BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP team's Spanish MotoGP rider Alex Marquez (L) and Red Bull KTM Factory Racing team's Spanish MotoGP rider Pedro Acosta celebrate on the podium

him in Saturday's sprint.

Acosta narrowed the gap in the closing laps and finished just half a second further back.

"I'm very happy, it was a fantastic race for me," said Bezzecchi who on Saturday finished

third in the sprint.

"I was super afraid about Pedro and Alex but motivated to get a win.

"This morning I felt better. Yesterday evening we worked very hard to find that little ex-

tra to catch Pedro and Alex because yesterday they were super-quick."

Bezzecchi's second win of the season, and his fifth overall in MotoGP, meant he can take third place in the championship be-



(From R) Aprilia Racing team's Italian MotoGP rider Marco Bezzecchi, BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP team's Spanish MotoGP rider Alex Marquez and Red Bull KTM Factory Racing team's Spanish MotoGP rider Pedro Acosta compete

hind Marc Marquez, who had already wrapped up his seventh title, and his brother Alex, who is sure of second.

Bezzecchi is three points behind Ducati's Francesco Bagnaia, who only lasted 10 laps.

Marc Marquez was again missing after undergoing surgery on a fracture caused by a crash on the first lap of the Indonesian Grand Prix on October 5 by which stage he had already claimed his first title since 2019.

The longest-ever MotoGP season ends next weekend with the 22nd race in Valencia.



The 22-race 2025 season is the longest in MotoGP history and concludes next weekend in Valencia, where the final championship positions will be decided

Aneesa Al Mahmood: "Representing Bahrain in Dressage is a Dream Come True"



Aneesa Al Mahmood aboard her horse, Handsome Hussain Almaskati TDT | Manama

The countdown is on to the FEI Asian Championships 2025, set for November 24 to December 7 at the Thai Polo and Equestrian Club in Pattaya, Thailand. The event will gather Asia's top riders across Dressage, Para Dressage, Jumping, Eventing and Endurance—and, for the first time, Bahrain will have representation in the Dressage arena through Aneesa Al Mahmood.

Speaking exclusively to The Daily Tribune, Al Mahmood described her selection as "a dream come true" and a moment years in the making. "It's something we've been working towards for a very long time, and to finally see it happen feels

unreal," she said. "To represent Bahrain at this level fills me with pride. I hope it opens doors for more riders from Bahrain and the region to believe it's possible."

Al Mahmood is currently based in the Netherlands, training under acclaimed classical masters Rien and Inge van der Schaft. Their influence, she says, has been transformative. "They've helped me refine the smallest details—balance, feeling and harmony—but also patience and clarity," she explained. Observers note that such grounding in classical technique could prove decisive as she steps into continental competition.

Her passion for the sport dates back to watching the 2008 Olympics as a young girl,

an experience that sparked a lifelong pursuit. "That feeling never left me," she said. "The connection with the horses still gives me the same spark."

At the centre of her preparations is Handsome, the horse she credits as her true partner. "He has such a big heart and always gives me his all," Al Mahmood said, expressing gratitude to Shaikha Noora bint Hamad Al Khalifa and the Alfursan team for their support. "Keeping him happy and confident is the key to going into the arena as one team."

Beyond Pattaya, Al Mahmood hopes to help build stronger foundations for Bahraini dressage. "With the right basics, passion and dedication, Bahraini riders can go far," she said.



ENTER A NEW REALITY

MORE PLAY. SAME PAY. ONLY ON WEEKDAYS.

TOP-UP 10 BHD+VAT	PLAY 15 BHD	TOP-UP 20 BHD+VAT	PLAY 30 BHD
-------------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	-------------------



JUFFAIR MALL (LULU)

20% OFF

ON SELECTED ATTRACTIONS

SUNDAY TO WEDNESDAY 12PM-5PM



SCAN ME