



MRF MMSC Fmsci Indian National Racing Championship – Round 2

MEDIA RELEASE

Chennai, February 18: Australian Joey Mawson shrugged off a wretched qualifying session to pull off a brilliant win and extend his championship lead over Britain's Harrison Newey by 27 points in the final round of the MRF Challenge which headlined the second round of the MRF MMSC Fmsci Indian National Racing Championship at the MMRT track in Sripeumbudur, near here on Saturday.

While Mawson and Newey stole the day's limelight, there were other impressive performances in the National championship that saw Karthik Tharani (MRF F1600), Prashanth K (Formula LGB 1300) and Narendran (Saloon cars) winning their respective races in contrasting styles.

Newey, starting from pole position, clinched the top spot in the MRF Challenge's first race after an initial struggle. Mawson, who had qualified seventh, won the second outing quite comfortably after overhauling reverse grid pole-sitter Daniel Ticktum (Britain) at the start.

The results saw Mawson taking his championship tally to 250 points while Newey, who was fourth in the second race, has 223 and the other title contender Mick Schumacher (195) was in third position ahead of Sunday's double-header.

Tharani, who was placed second in the championship last season, put in a fine performance for a lights-to-flag victory after surviving some close attention from Anindith Reddy of Hyderabad who finished a second ahead of Raghul Rangasamy, who hails from the nearby temple town of Mahabalipuram.

It was a touch-and-go battle right through in the 10-car grid as Tharani made a good start from pole position and had to fight hard to nurse his spot despite being hounded by Reddy all through the eight-lap race.

The Formula LGB 1300 class had a combined grid of National Championship and the Rookie Cup categories. Prashanth K of Wallace Sports comfortably took the honours in the Championship class while team-mate Rithvik Thomas won in the Rookie Cup.

The 25-car grid of Saloon cars, comprising three categories of Indian Junior Touring Cars, Super Stock and Esteem Cup, proved extremely competitive. Narendran of RAD Racing (Esteem Cup) exchanged track position with Varun Anekar of Race Concepts (Super Stock) before pulling

away to win the race while Anant Pithawalla of Team N1 (Esteem Cup) eased way into second spot. Anekar eventually finished third in the combined classification.

Anekar, however, topped the Super Stock class while Himam KP (DTS Racing) won in the Indian Junior Touring Cars class.

Provisional results:

MRF Challenge (F2000) – Race 1 (15 laps): 1. Harrison Newey (Britain) (23:25.716); 2. Mick Schumacher (Germany) (23:29.961); 3. Ralf Aron (Estonia) (23:34.870). Race 2: 1. Joey Mawson (Australia) (23:21.673); 2. Ralf Aron (Estonia) (23:30.696); 3. Daniel Ticktum (Britain) (23:32.466).

National Championship– MRF F1600 (Race 1, 8 laps): 1. Karthik Tharani (Chennai) (13:40.482); 2. Anindith Reddy (Hyderabad) (13:40.787); 3. Raghul Ramasamy (Mahabalipuram) (13:42.240).

Formula LGB 1300 (Race 1, 6 laps): 1. Prashanth K (Wallace Sports) (12:25.429); 2. Bhushan Thareja (Momentum Motor Sports) (12:32.250); 3. Arya Singh (DTS Racing) (12:37.468). Rookie Cup (6 laps): 1. Rithvik Thomas (Wallace Sports) (12:31.682); 2. Bhushan Thareja (Momentum Motor Sports) (12:32.250); 3. Arya Singh (DTS Racing) (12:37.468).

Saloon Cars (Race 1, 8 laps) – Indian Junior Touring Cars (Race 1, 8 laps): 1. Hisham KP (DTS Racing) (18:04.888); 2. Kamlesh Parmar (Team N1) (18:14.762). Super Stock: 1. Varun Anekar (Race Concepts) (17:01.187); 2. RP Rajarajan (Performance Racing) (17:04.577); 3. Sree Venkata Teja (Performance Racing) (17:25.719). Esteem Cup: 1. Narendran (RAD Racing) (16:53.793); 2. Anant Pithawalla (Team N1) (17:00.975); 3. Sudanand Daniel (Red Rooster Racing) (17:17.153).

About Madras Motor Sports Club

The Madras Motor Sports Club has been the pioneer in developing and promoting motorsport in India since 1953, and we look to further improve in the years to come. It is the club's endeavor to provide more opportunities for competitors and to this end, it has chalked out a progressive program for 2016. From the days of Sholavaram, MMSC built its own racetrack which was inaugurated in 1979 and secured its FIA Grade-2 international certification in 2015, making it the only club which owns such a facility. The club has organised the Porsche Super Cup, Formula Campos, Formula Asia, Asian touring car championships, Formula 3, Tata Prima Truck racing championship, the Asian 2-wheeler racing championships besides a host of other motorsport events over the years. The club also has active participation for its events from vehicle manufacturers who also use the Madras Motor Race Track (MMRT) extensively for testing their products.

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