

MOTOBATT



Red Bull KTM Ajo Motorsport rider Pedro Acosta
Moto3 World Champion!





Acosta is the first 'Rookie' to take the Moto3 crown

There were big reasons to celebrate for the MotoBatt supported Red Bull KTM Ajo Team after round 17 of the 2021 MotoGP calendar, with rookie Pedro Acosta setting records after becoming with first rider in history to claim the Moto3 world title in their debut year. And with a 1-2 finish for Gardner and Fernandez in Moto2 (their seventh of the season!), it looks to be an epic end to the year for MotoBatt and the Red Bull KTM Ajo team who have already secured the Moto2 teams championship.

On March 26th of this year, Pedro Acosta made his World Championship debut. Just 7 months later, the Red Bull KTM Ajo rider has won the Moto3 title at the Algarve Grand Prix. With one race remaining until the end of the 2021 campaign, Acosta has put his name in the history books by becoming the first rider to claim the world title in his rookie season in 125cc/Moto3 class.

Acosta came into Grand Prix racing at the beginning of the year and dazzled everyone, getting onto the podium at the inaugural round in Qatar. One week later, the young Spaniard did even better, achieving victory at the Doha Grand Prix, starting from the pit-lane and making up a more than 11-second disadvantage in the race. With subsequent wins in Portugal and Jerez, Acosta became the youngest rider to earn three consecutive victories, and the only competitor to take four podiums in his first four World Championship appearances.

Solid performances and success followed, with Acosta winning the German Grand Prix and the Styrian Grand Prix. After a victory at the Algarve GP, he seals the Moto3 title with 6 victories and 2 podiums, with one race remaining of the season. In his short but successful career, he was also previously champion of the 2020 Red Bull MotoGP Rookies Cup.

The Red Bull KTM Ajo rider will step up to Moto2 with the team in 2022, looking to continue his stunning trajectory.

Red Bull KTM Ajo's Pedro Acosta becomes the first rider in history to claim the world title in the same year as his World Championship debut in 125cc/Moto3.



The MotoBatt sponsored riders leading the Moto2 pack



Moto2

Misano, Italy

Round 16

Red Bull KTM Ajo Moto2 riders concluded a challenging weekend at the Misano World Circuit Marco Simoncelli on Sunday, with the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix race. Remy Gardner finished seventh at the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix, on a difficult day for his teammate, Raul Fernandez, who crashed out late on.

Gardner had to deal with various issues in addition to serving a long lap penalty in the final part of the contest. Raul Fernandez made a fantastic fightback and chased down the leader, but crashed out on Lap 16 when in second place.

Gardner, who started from the fifth row of the grid, pushed to the fullest when the lights went out. Despite small issues that the Australian rider experienced during the race, he made a steady series of passes until he reached the seventh place. On Lap 17, due to an

incident with another rider, the Red Bull KTM Ajo Moto2 talent had to complete a long lap that took him away from the frontrunners. Gardner finished the contest in seventh position, picking up some important points.

The race started well for Fernandez, who had managed to climb from ninth position on the grid to seventh on the opening lap. The Spaniard began to set a very strong pace, shaking off his rivals without much difficulty and, at the start of Lap 6, moved into second place. He did his best to hunt down the leader and succeeded, even going on to pass him. Unfortunately, Fernandez crashed in Turn 8 on Lap 16 when running in second position, thus ending his contest prematurely. Gardner continues to lead the Moto2 World Championship with 280 points. Fernandez is second with 262.



The Portuguese track is like a rollercoaster in sections

Algarve, Portugal

Round 17

Red Bull KTM Ajo Moto2 riders rounded off the Algarve Grand Prix with the team's seventh one-two of the season, as Remy Gardner won the race with Raul Fernandez second. The Australian earned his fifth victory of 2021 with an excellent showing, overcoming discomfort caused by a crash on Friday in Free Practice. Fernandez battled for the win with his teammate in Portugal and finally he was on the podium for the fourth time this season.

The Algarve Grand Prix started well for Remy Gardner who, after the first lap, held his second position. The Australian rider pushed to the maximum to prevent his teammate's breakaway at the front, but he was overtaken by another rider, increasing the gap to the leader. Far from throwing in the towel on lap 9, Gardner got the place back and started reducing a gap of more than one second from first place. At the end of the contest, the Moto2 Red Bull KTM Ajo talent caught and overtook his teammate for the lead and got his fifth

victory of the season.

Fernandez took off from the pole position and claimed the holeshot, subsequently establishing a gap that was over a second by Lap 8. The Spaniard kept his concentration and composure riding alone at the front, until his tyres went off. Fernandez was overtaken by his teammate on the final laps and was unable to prevent Gardner from breaking away. Finally, the Red Bull KTM Ajo rookie achieved the second place and a fourth podium of the year.

After the Algarve Grand Prix, Gardner remains leader of the Moto2 World Championship with 305 points. Fernandez is second with 282. The season finale, where it will be decided which of the Red Bull KTM Ajo riders wins the title, will take place in Valencia from November 12-14th.

Moto2 World Championship Team Standing 2021

1. Red Bull KTM Ajo 587 points
2. Elf Marc VDS Racing Team 339 points
3. Sky Racing Team VR46 290 points
4. Quierocorredor Aspar Team 181 points
5. Idemitsu Honda Team Asia 157 points

Results (Moto2 Race – Portugal)

1. Remy Gardner (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 39:36.275
2. Raul Fernandez (Red Bull KTM Ajo) +3.014
3. Sam Lowes (Kalex) +3.899
4. Aron Canet (Boscoscuro) +7.616
5. Cameron Beaubier (Kalex) +7.621

Moto2 World Championship Standing 2021

1. Remy Gardner (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 305 points
2. Raul Fernandez (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 282 points
3. Marco Bezzecchi (Kalex) 214 points
4. Sam Lowes (Kalex) 181 points
5. Augusto Fernandez (Kalex) 158 points

“ Aki Ajo – Team Manager

Once again we saw a great contest in Moto2. Remy [Gardner] managed to handle his nerves and worked to handle tyre wear very well, despite the fact that at the start of the race he was not as fast as other riders who ran the soft. Despite his crash on Friday and the pain he felt in his ribs, he was able to finish the contest and increase his lead in the overall standings. Raul [Fernandez] had a great Sunday, but it seems that his choice of the soft compound did not work as well at the end of the round. Above all, we have to remember that Raul's season has been wonderful and we have to enjoy the fact that, once again, he is on the podium. ”



Moto3

Misano, Italy

Round 16

Red Bull KTM Ajo Moto3 riders put the finishing touch to the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix with a podium double for their riders, earning them the *2021 Team Championship* title in the process. Jaume Masia battled to the end for the victory, and finally achieved second place. Pedro Acosta had a spectacular contest and rallied late to earn third.

The Emilia Romagna Grand Prix started well for Masia, who took off from the second row of the grid and was sixth by the end of the opening lap. He quickly joined

up with the leading pack and progressively began to climb positions. Amongst the rostrum spots as early as Lap 3, Masia held off the constant attacks from his rivals and, finally, broke away with the leader of the race to fight for the victory. His second place was his third podium of the 2021 season.

Acosta started from the fifth position and dropped into a large group at the end of the first lap. Without losing focus and staying calm, he moved up the order and claimed the lead at the halfway mark of the race. Shortly after, Acosta became immersed in a constant exchange of overtaking moves that caused the pack to break up. In the final stages, the World Championship leader made a push and crossed the line in third. It was his seventh time on the rostrum this season.

Acosta continues to lead the Moto3 World Championship with 234 points. Masia is fourth with 155.





Algarve, Portugal

Round 17

Pedro Acosta enjoyed a dream Sunday in Portugal, with victory at the Algarve Grand Prix proclaiming him *Moto3 World Champion*. The Red Bull KTM Ajo rider took his sixth triumph of the year, making history in the process by becoming the first rookie to win the Moto3/125cc title. The honour adds to Red Bull KTM Ajo's Team title for 2021. Jaume Masia had an exceptional performance, leading the race, but suffered a crash with three laps to go and finished 19th. Acosta started from 14th position on the grid, and got off the line strongly to beat several riders, moving into sixth on Lap 3 after passing eight rivals. Shortly after joining the leading group, he moved to the front of the field, but the intense overtaking moves during the following laps, caused positions to change constantly. With one lap to go, Acosta's main rival for the title crashed and, after taking the chequered flag in first place, he was crowned *Moto3 World Champion*.

The Algarve Grand Prix began well for Masia, who took off from the second row. Despite giving up some positions when the lights went out, he quickly joined the leading group. The Red Bull KTM Ajo rider moved up the order within the group with a very competitive and consistent pace, to get to the podium spots. He would subsequently lead the race midway through, but lost a spot and then, eventually, crashed when in fifth place. Masia remounted to finish 19th.

Acosta is the new Moto3 World Champion with 259 points. Masia occupies fifth place with 155. The Red Bull KTM Ajo duo will return to action next week at the Valencia GP, for the last round of the year from November 12-14th.

Moto3 World Championship Team Standing 2021

1. Red Bull KTM Ajo 414 points
2. Muchoneumatico GASGAS Aspar 284 points
3. Leopard Racing 260 points
4. Petronas Sprinta Racing 211 points
5. Red Bull KTM Tech 3 201 points

Results (Moto3 Race - Portugal)

1. Pedro Acosta (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 38:04.339
2. Andrea Migno (Honda) +0.354
3. Niccolò Antonelli (KTM) +0.880
4. Jeremy Alcoba (Honda) +1.768
19. Jaume Masia (Red Bull KTM Ajo) +13.616

Moto3 World Championship Standing 2021

1. Pedro Acosta (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 259 points
2. Dennis Foggia (Honda) 213 points
3. Sergio Garcia (GasGas) 168 points
4. Romano Fenati (Husqvarna) 156 points
5. Jaume Masia (Red Bull KTM Ajo) 155 points

“ Aki Ajo – Team Manager

The story of Pedro [Acosta] this year has been like a dream come true. Coming into the series, winning as many races as he has won and ending up taking the title in style like he did today in Portugal, is something incredible. It was a crazy, very exciting race. I am happy and proud of him, our sponsors, our great team and everyone around us. I am very grateful. As for Jaume [Masia]: He was having a great race, so it was a shame about his crash. However, we have to keep our heads up and fight to be on the podium in Valencia, to end the season well with Jaume. ”

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