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KTM Red Bull Royal Distributing Fox Racing Team faces Calgary's challenges to stay second in MX1 point's race



Tyler Medaglia sits second in the MX1 standings.

The Red Bull KTM Royal Distributing Fox Racing team headed to Round 3 of the Canadian Motocross Nationals in Calgary with high spirits and the shared goal of staying in the point's race after losing teammate Colton Facciotti to injury in Kamloops. Despite some bad luck and a particularly unwelcome DNF for Benoit, the team left Calgary with Tyler Medaglia still second in the MX1 standings and Kaven Benoit 4th in MX2 points.

After his massive holeshots in Kamloops, Tyler Medaglia was hoping to be battling for the lead. Despite getting off the gate good in both motos, Medaglia's struggles with crashes and a few badly-timed mistakes left him with for 5-6 motos for 6th overall. But Medaglia wasn't the only MX1 player to have an off weekend. His second moto determination and resolve saw him come from 31st to 6th to earn valuable points and hang on to second in the MX1 standings with 109 points to Brett Metcalfe's 144.

"First moto I had a good start," recounts Medaglia. "I was third off the bat, Teddy got around me when I was trying to make a pass on Ross Johnson and then Jeremy came in and hit me off the track. When I was getting back after that, I went down on an uphill double—hard enough to knock the wind out of me and take the wind out of my sails completely. It took me a few laps to get my breathing going. It just wasn't a good race."

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After his first moto struggles, Medaglia was keen to battle with the leaders but his great start wouldn't last long. "I had another really good start," said Medaglia. "Even in the hot lap, I noticed that the bike was way better so I felt good going into that moto. The first moto I waited too long to pass so this time I wanted to get up there quickly. I tried to make an aggressive move on the inside of a corner but they had watered it and I slid out. By the time I got back up, everyone was gone and I was dead last. I was definitely happy with how I rode in that moto versus the first one. It's unfortunate I fell on the first lap because I think I would have been battling with the top guys. I salvaged as many points as I could and there's always next weekend. Edmonton has a dirt start and the 450s are going first. The track will be in better condition and I am definitely looking forward to it."



Kaven Benoit will be putting it all on the line in Edmonton.

After running with series leader Austin Politelli at Rounds 1 and 2 of the series, Kaven Benoit was definitely looking for a win in Calgary. Despite a good start to the day in both practice and qualifiers, Benoit's day was derailed by a scary crash early in the first moto. "My crash in the first moto was in the woodchip section, in the rollers, I hit a soft spot and lost control and high-sided before the downhill. It was a pretty gnarly crash and I am really lucky I didn't get hurt," explains Benoit. While Benoit wasn't hurt, his KTM had suffered just enough damage to keep him from finishing the moto. "After launching his bike down the hill, the radiator was bent and there was a small crack where the hose and the rad connect," explained KTM's National Race Marketing Manager, Andy White. "Fluid was spewing out and there was no way he could continue. I was pretty shocked that the bike didn't need more repairs after that cartwheel crash. We thought for sure bars, subframe, exhaust would be done ... but there was nothing else. I would have traded a subframe for a radiator so he could have finished the moto though," laughed White.

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Benoit regrouped for the second moto, turning a dismal outside gate pick into a top five start. “I was top five and I was up into third on the first lap,” explains Benoit. “They had watered the track and it was slippery and I slid out in a corner and crashed. That put me outside the top 10 and I made my way up from there to finish third.”

With a DNF setting him back to fourth place in the standings, Benoit knows what he has to do. “I have to give it everything I have for the rest of the series,” says Benoit. “I am a lot of points back but it’s motocross and anything can happen. From now on, I can’t afford to get another DNF and I need to get in some good motos. The series is still long and there is still a lot that can happen. I am just going to stay positive and try my best.”

Meanwhile out in Nova Scotia, photos have been circulating of Dusty Klatt’s shiny #3 in action. The BC native is staying with Mitch Cooke and training and riding with Tyler Medaglia. “Things are going awesome out here,” said Klatt. “I’ve been on the bike quite a bit, and I’ve been out cycling with Tyler and in the gym too. The knee was more of a mental game to start out, it’s not 100 percent yet but I’m just trying to be smart and be careful with it. My last ride—on the weekend—I felt really good. I am just building my endurance back right now. The bike looks awesome and the #3 is growing on me a bit (*laughs*). The plan is still to be back at Gopher Dunes.”

As for Facciotti, White was happy to announce that Colton is back home in Ontario. “He’s back home recovering and getting lots of TLC from his wife,” said White. “He wished the team all the best and he hopes he’ll be good enough to attend some of the east coast races to sign posters and meet and greet people.”

To follow the KTM Canada Motocross team and their results, visit

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