

Beat: Sports

## Motogp Marquez also wins the last Round of Valencia

### Marquez Wind of Valencia

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#### **Roberto Magni By Foto ReD Photographic Agency** - Marquez win of Valencia Circuit Ricardo Tormo

For the third year in succession the Repsol Honda Team celebrate the end of a MotoGP season with the Triple Crown after winning the Riders, Teams and Constructors Championships. The accomplishment completes an incredible year full of records and achievements as Honda celebrates their 60th anniversary of racing.

Marquez made quick work of the riders ahead of him as the lights went out on the final race of 2019, moving into second place on the third lap. With just Fabio Quartararo ahead of him, Marquez methodically cut the gap from almost a second to just two tenths in five laps. Striking at Turn 11, Marquez only needed one chance to move to the front and quickly amassed an insurmountable lead.

A 12th victory signs off Marquez's 2019 season in perfect style and matches the number of wins he achieved in his dominating 2014 season. Earning 420 points across the 19 races of 2019, Marquez becomes the first rider in history to score more than 400 points in a single season. With his 95th premier class podium, he draws level with Mick Doohan as the second most prolific Honda podium finisher in the premier class.

After 297 Grand Prix starts, Jorge Lorenzo's marked the end of his legendary MotoGP World Championship career with his best finish since returning from injury. The five-time World Champion bid a fond farewell to Grand Prix racing with a 13th place finish in front of an adoring Spanish crowd. With 68 wins, 152 podiums and 69 poles, Lorenzo bows out with some of the most impressive stats to his name in Grand Prix history.

This is the Repsol Honda Team's ninth Triple Crown since the MotoGP class began in 2002, cementing them the most dominant team and constructor in the premier class. For the first time in the four-stroke era, the team has managed to take three Triple Crowns in a row.

Riders will be back out on track on Tuesday, November 19 at the Circuit Ricardo Tormo for the first test of 2020 before moving to Jerez a few days later.

Fabio Quartararo has finished the 2019 MotoGP World Championship in seventh heaven by taking yet another podium position at the season-ending Gran Premio de la Comunitat Valenciana through finishing second. However, it was a less fortunate end to the season for fellow PETRONAS Yamaha Sepang Racing Team rider Franco Morbidelli, who crashed out of the race at the Circuit Ricardo Tormo from sixth place.

Quartararo was able to convert pole position into the lead in the early laps of the race, breaking away from the chasing pack to stretch the gap out to nearly a second after only two laps. Hunted down by Marc Marquez as the race progressed, the World Champion was eventually able to squeeze past Quartararo for the lead, with the PETRONAS Yamaha SRT rider slotting in behind him to the chequered flag and podium number seven of his rookie season.

Morbidelli also had a strong series of opening laps, closing down the battle for the podium from fifth on the grid before dropping back a little and finding himself in a lonely sixth place. Making a small mistake on lap 19 of 27, he unfortunately ended his season with a DNF - but thankfully escaped uninjured from the crash.

Today's results mean that Quartararo adds Independent Riders' Champion to his list of accolades from his rookie season, as well as Rookie of the Year and helping PETRONAS Yamaha SRT clinch the Independent Teams' Championship. He finishes the 2019 MotoGP World Championship in fifth overall, with Morbidelli also inside the top ten in tenth and the team taking fourth in the Teams' World Championship to round out a stunning debut season.

Miller launched his Pramac Racing machine into the holeshot, with Marquez getting a sluggish getaway from the middle of the front row to drop down to P6, having run slightly wide at Turn 1. Polesitter Quartararo then grabbed the lead from Miller as the Australian ran wide at Turn 2, with the Frenchman quickly creating a small gap to his rivals. Heading into Turn 1 on Lap 2, Marquez was into P3 past the fast-starting duo of Alex Rins (Team Suzuki Ecstar) and Andrea Dovizioso (Ducati Team), however, and it wouldn't take the

2019 Champion long to pick off Miller as he locked his radar onto Quartararo.

Marc Marquez

1st

"A perfect end to a perfect season with the victory! I put a little extra pressure on myself with the gold helmet, so I needed to be extra smart! We did exactly what we wanted to do and won the Team Championship, taking the Triple Crown in this amazing season. Always the Riders Championship is the first objective, but I was happy to help win the Team Championship, not just for them but also for Jorge who has been a great champion, a hard rival and a great teammate. It will be difficult to improve on this year because we rode in a perfect way."

Fabio Quartararo

PETRONAS Yamaha Sepang Racing Team

"I knew yesterday that Marc was going to be really strong, but if we couldn't win then I would have been happy with second - and being the first Yamaha is a nice bonus too. We weren't so far from the victory, so I can be very proud of the result. It's an amazing end to the season. In 2018, a lot of people told me that I didn't deserve a seat in MotoGP and that I wasn't ready for it - but I think now with seven podiums and six pole positions I can show them they were wrong! I'm so happy with the entire year and it's something the whole team should be proud of."

GP of Valencia - Race Classification:

1. Marc MARQUEZ Repsol Honda Team 41'21.469
2. Fabio QUARTARARO Petronas Yamaha SRT +1.026
3. Jack MILLER Pramac Racing +2.409
4. Andrea DOVIZIOSO Ducati Team +3.326
5. Alex RINS Team SUZUKI ECSTAR +3.508
6. Maverick VIÁ'ALES Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP +8.829
7. Joan MIR Team SUZUKI ECSTAR +10.622
8. Valentino ROSSI Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP +22.992
9. Aleix ESPARGARO Aprilia Racing Team Gresini +32.704
10. Pol ESPARGARO Red Bull KTM Factory Racing +32.973
11. Tito RABAT Reale Avintia Racing +42.795
12. Mika KALLIO Red Bull KTM Factory Racing +45.732
13. Jorge LORENZO Repsol Honda Team +51.044
14. Karel ABRAHAM Reale Avintia Racing +1'04.871
15. Hafizh SYAHRIN Red Bull KTM Tech 3 +1'16.487

Not Classified

- 29 Andrea IANNONE Aprilia Racing Team Gresini
- 21 Franco MORBIDELLI Petronas Yamaha SRT
- 9 Danilo PETRUCCI Ducati Team
- 5 Johann ZARCO LCR Honda IDEMITSU
- 27 Iker LECUONA Red Bull KTM Tech 3
- 35 Cal CRUTCHLOW LCR Honda CASTROL
- 51 Michele PIRRO Ducati Team

MotoGP World Championship Standings:

- 1 Marc MARQUEZ Honda 420
- 2 Andrea DOVIZIOSO Ducati 269
- 3 Maverick VIÁ'ALES Yamaha 211
- 4 Alex RINS Suzuki 205
- 5 Fabio QUARTARARO Yamaha 192
- 6 Danilo PETRUCCI Ducati ITA 176

7 Valentino ROSSI Yamaha 174  
8 Jack MILLER Ducati 165  
9 Cal CRUTCHLOW Honda 133  
10 Franco MORBIDELLI Yamaha 115  
11 Pol ESPARGARO KTM 100  
12 Joan MIR Suzuki 92  
13 Takaaki NAKAGAMI Honda 74  
14 Aleix ESPARGARO Aprilia 63  
15 Francesco BAGNAIA Ducati 54  
16 Andrea IANNONE Aprilia 43  
17 Miguel OLIVEIRA KTM 33  
18 Johann ZARCO Honda 30  
19 Jorge LORENZO Honda 28  
20 Tito RABAT Ducati 23  
21 Stefan BRADL Honda 16  
22 Michele PIRRO Ducati 9  
23 Hafizh SYAHRIN KTM 9  
24 Karel ABRAHAM Ducati 9  
25 Sylvain GUINTOLI Suzuki 7  
26 Mika KALLIO KTM 7  
27 Bradley SMITH Aprilia  
28 Iker LECUONA

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United Press Association, Inc.  
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168  
Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA  
(702) 943.0321 Local  
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile  
[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)  
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