MRF MMSC fmsci

Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 - 5th and final Round

at Madras International Circuit, Chennai - 19 to 22 October 2023



Media Docket

-AP Media Communications



Rajiv Sethu, the National champion in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open.

Lani Zena Fernandez, the National champion in the Girls (Stock 165cc).

Chennai racer wins Pro-Stock 301-400cc title

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAL OCT. 22

CHENNAL GCT, 22

Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Raliv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennal crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on debut as the fifth and finar cound of the MRF MMSC muscl Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 concluded at the Madras International Circuit here on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were: Hyderabad's Vignesh Gond of Race'lsts Motorcycle Club (Novice-Stock 165cc) and Pudiucherry's Leni Zena Pudiucherry's Leni Zena Pudiucherry's Leni Zena Castrol Powert Ultimate (Girls - Stock 165cc) and Pudiucherry's Leni Zena pro-Stock 165cc (Jeni Reconstruction of the Castrol Powert Ultimate of the Castrol Po

championship standings in the Pro-Stock 185cc Open category were not declared pending settlement of a disputed result in Round 4.

Even as Sethu, nursing an injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team. RACR Castrol Power! Ultimate, in the Pro-Stock 311-400cc Open category, it was young Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from Pune from the Petronas TVS Racing stable who scripted a stirring win after starting from PIT. He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his teommate, the 16-year-old Bengalmean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for a third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu



Sarthak Chavan (75), who won the Pro-Stock 301-400cc race, in action.

sa he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the proints table going into the race.

I tater, Sethu finished the season by winning the Pro-Stock 185c0 race, but his winning burst did not style despite starting from Plo, with Sartinsk and Chiranth coming in second and third, respectively. The race was reduced to five laps following a crash (rider okay) leading to a red flag and re-start.

Lani Zena Fernandez also finished the season on a victorious note, winning the Girls (Stock 185c) race.

Bettonas TVS One-Make C hamp ion ship: Chiranth Chiranth vishwanath notched up heading to a red flag and restart.

Lani Zena Fernandez also finished the season on a victorious note, winning the Girls (Stock 185c) race with ease. The race was reduced to three laps from the scheduled five following a stoppage due to pile-up (riders okay) in the very first lap and was re-started. It was her fourth win in nine starts. Novice (Stock 185ce) race, but his winning burst did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the charmpionship in this category.

Petronas TVS One-Make C ha m pi on s hi p: Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath notched up his sixth win today in nine starts today to bag the championship in the Open (RR 310) category. Herdinas TVS Bollon (14:59.566); 3. Herdinas TVS B Motorcycle Time Attack; Sarthak Chavan (Pure) (Chennai, RACR Cheves) (14:59.556); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Pure) (coked the fastest lap in the Time Attack, O9:55.075); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Pure) (coked the fastest lap in the Time Attack, O9:55.075); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Pure) (coked the fastest lap in the Time Attack, O9:55.075); 3. Chrisath Vishwanath (Bengaluru) was second quickest in Petronas TVS Racing)

(09:57.533), Rider champlon: Not declared pending enquiry, Team champlons: Not declared pending enquiry, Team champlons: Not declared pending enquiry. Novice (Stock 165cc, Race-2, 6 laps): 1. Savion Sabu (Bengaluru, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.6.237): 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (Chennai, AS Subbiah Ganesan (Chennai, AS Subbiah (Vadodara, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.6.400): 3. Aadit Shah (Vadodara, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.6.57). Girls (Stock 185cc) 3 laps: 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (Pucucherry, RACR Castrol Power! Ultimate) (06:40.983): 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Chennai, Alpha Racing) (07:00.642). Idemitsu Honda India Seles (Chennai, Alpha Racing) (07:00.642). Idemitsu Honda India Seles (Chennai, Alpha Racing) (07:00.642). Idemitsu Honda India Seles (Chennai) (16:34.972). Idemitsu Honda India Seles (Chennai) (16:14.972). Idemitsu Honda India (Chennai) (16:14.972). Idemitsu Honda India Seles (16:14.

(11:21.399)

Hot contests in the offing

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, OCT. 19

The 2023 season of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship reaches its climax and conclusion at the Madras International Circuit here this weekend (Oct 20-22) with the fifth and final round that will identify a fresh crop of champions across various categories, but not before they overcome strong challenges.

A card of 16 races has

A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories — 301-400cc and 165cc — headlining the three-day event. The card also has competitions in the Novice (Stock 165cc) and Girls (Stock 165cc) categories, besides a support race in the 301-400cc Novice class.

The Petronas TVS One-Make Championship has races in three classes – the 301-400cc Open (RR 310), Girls (RTR 200) and Media (RTR 200), besides two rounds of 'Time Attack' for the TVS electric motorcycles, while the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup will showcase races in the NSF 250R category that contains a clutch of talented young riders.

The titles in three of the



four National championship categories are more or less decided. Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1) in the PS 301-400cc Open, Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) from Hyderabad in the Novice and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1) in Girls categories enjoy unassailable leads in the respective points table. The championship is still wide open in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open class with several riders in

the hunt for the title.

Chennai's Kavin Quintal needs only as few as six points to annex the crown in the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup (NSF 250R). Going into the final round, he leads Rakshith Dave, also from Chennai, by 45 points with a maximum of 50 on offer over the weekend.

In sharp contrast, Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath and Alwin Sundar (Chennai) occupy the top two spots in that order in the Petronas TVS Open category with just seven points separating the two. Another Bengalurean, Nithila Das is virtually assured of the title in the Girls (RTR 200) category with a 33-point advantage and a maximum of 25 to be had.

MMSC President Ajit Thomas said: "It has been a long season with its shares of highs and lows. There are still a few titles up for grabs and as such, there will be no let-up in the intensity of competition."

TERRIFIC TEENS

Chennai's Abdul, Pune's Sarthak grab pole positions

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, OCT. 20

Two teenagers, Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai collegian Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 got underway at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50,854 seconds.

50.854 seconds.
Qualifying for P2 was championship leader, Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) who clocked a best of 01:51.076 despite nursing a healing left shoulder that was dislocated following a crash in the previous round. Completing the front row was Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) with a hot lap of 01:51.823.

Later, 17-year-old Abdul Basim of Gulf Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate, 02:08.253).

In the other premier category, the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, KY Ahamed (01:56.224) of Petronas TVS Racing was the quickest in the practice session,



Abdul Basim en route to his pole position in the Novice 165cc category of the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship on Friday.

followed by team-mates Sarthak Chavan (01:57.069) and Chiranth Vishwanath (01:57.540).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: Championship leader in the NSF 250R category Chennai's Kavin Quintal (01:52.262), who is gunning for his sixth win of the season, topped the timesheets in the official practice session. Another Chennai youngster Rakshith Dave was the second quickest in 01:53.367.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Bengaluru teenager Chiranth Vishwanath, who has four wins from seven starts, expectedly qualified for pole position in the Open (RR 310) category, clocking



Abdul Basim

a best lap of 01:54.621, followed by Coimbatore's Senthilkumar C (01:54.848) and G Balaji (01:56.100) from Chennai.

Mumbai's Sarah Khan, with a hot lap of 02:13.553, qualified for the pole position in the Girls (Apache RTR 200) category, ahead of Chennai's Nadine Faith Balaji (02:14.714) and Pune's Saimah Ajaz Baig (02:16.499).

RESULTS

Qualifying — Top 3 best laps: National Championship — Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: 1. Sathak Chavan (Pune, Petronas TVS Racing) (1min, 50.854sec); 2. Rajiv Sethu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (01:51.076); 3. Rahil Pillarisetty (Hyderabad, KTM Gusto Racing) (01:51.823);

Novice (Stock 165cc): 1. Abdul Basim (Chennai, Gulf Rockers Racing) (02:07.685); 2. Aadit Shah (Vadodara, Axor Sparks Racing) (02:08.260); 3. Manvith Reddy K (Bengaluru, Team RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (02:08.253).

Support Race — 301-400cc Novice: 1. Aldrin Babu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Power Ultimate1) (02:04.717); 2. Rajeswaran K (Chennai, KTM Gusto Racing India) (02:07.101); 3. Dhanush Ram K (Bengaluru, Pvt) (02:07.332).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) (01:54.621); 2. Senthilkumar C (Coimbatore) (01:54.848): 3. G Balii

(Chennai) (01:56:100). Girls (Apache RTR 200): 1. Sarah Khan (Mumbai) (02:13.553); 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Chennai) (02:14.714); 3. Saimah Ajaz Balg (Pune) (02:16.499).







Lani Zena Fernandez, the National champion in the Girls (Stock 165cc).

RAJIV REIGNS

Chennai racer wins Pro-Stock 301-400cc title

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, OCT. 22

Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Rajiv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennai, crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on 400cc Open category on debut as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 concluded at the Madras International Circuit here

on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were: Hyderabad's Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice - Stock 165co) and Stock 165cc) and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate (Girls - Stock 165cc). The championship standings in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open category were not Open category were not declared pending settle-ment of a disputed result

in Round 4.

Even as Sethu, nursing an injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team, RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category, it was young Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from Pune from the Petronas TVS Racing stable who scripted a stirring win after starting from P17. He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his team-mate, the 16-year-old Bengalurean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for a third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu



Sarthak Chavan (75), who won the Pro-Stock 301-400cc race, in action.

as he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the points table going into the race.

Later, Sethu finished the season by winning the Pro-Stock 165cc Open race in style despite starting from P10, with Sarthak and Chiranth coming in second and third, respectively. The race was reduced to five laps following a crash (rider okay) leading to a red flag and

re-start. Lani Zena Fernandez also finished the season on a victorious note, winning the Girls (Stock 165cc) race with ease. The race was reduced to three laps from the scheduled five following a stoppage due to pile-up (riders okay) in the very first lap and was re-started. It was her fourth win in nine

Meanwhile, Bengaluru's Savion Sabu gave a rousing finish to his season by achieving a double in the Novice (Stock 165cc) race, but his winning burst did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the championship in this category.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Bengaluru's Chiranth Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath notched up his sixth win today in nine starts today to bag the championship in the Open (RR 310) category, holding off Romario John and G Balaji.

TVS E Motorcycle Time Attack: Sarthak Chavan (Pune) clocked the fastest lap in the Time Attack, posting a time of 01min, 47.304secs with a top speed of 186 Kmph. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) was second quickest in 01:48.066 (179.8 Kmph) while former Moto3 rider from Japan, Hiroki Ono was third best in 01:49.116 (196.8 Kmph).

RESULTS

RESULTS
National Championship –
Pro-Stock 301-400cc
Open (Race-2): 1.
Sarthak Chavan (Pune,
Petronas TVS Racing)
(14mins, 59.041sec); 2.
Pabil Pillurisetty Pillarisetty (Hyderabad, KTM Gusto Racing) (14:59.566); 3. Rajiv Sethu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate) (14:59.656). Pro-Stock 165cc Open (Race-2, 5 laps): 1. Rajiv Sethu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (09:55.075); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Pune, Petronas TVS Racing) (09:56.286); 3. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru,

Petronas TVS Racing)

(09:57.533). Rider champion: Not declared pending enquiry. Team chaming enquiry. Team cham-pions: Not declared pending enquiry. Novice (Stock 165cc, Race-2, 6 laps): 1. Savion

Sabu (Bengaluru, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.237); 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (Chennai. Motorsports) (12:56.400); 3. Aadit Shah (Vadodara, Axor Racing) Sparks (12:56.667)

Girls (Stock 165cc) 3 laps: 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (Pucucherry, RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (06:40.083); 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Chennai, Alpha Racing) (06:54.558); 3. Adlin Seles (Chennai, Alpha Racing) (07:00.642).

Idemitsu Honda India
Talent Cup - NSF 250R
Open (Race-2): 1. Kavin
Q u i n t a l
Q u i n t a l (Chennai)(15:09.312); 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel (Chennai) (15:14.912); 3. Mohsin P (Mallapuram) (15:14.974). Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310) Race-2 (6 laps): 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) (11:39.641); 2. Romario John (Chennai) (11:40.117); 3. G Balaji (Chennai) (11:40.157).

Media (Apache RTR) Race-1 (5 laps): 1. Joel Kolathoor Raju (Thane) (11:19.208); 2. Alshin K (Pune) Thomas (11:19.312); 3. Ananya Awasthi (Pune) (11:19.646). Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Alshin K Thomas (Pune) (11:15.520); 2. Joel Kolathoor Raju (Thane) Punya (11:15.642); 3. Sharma Prasun (11:21.399).

Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions

CHENNAL Two teenagers. Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai's Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 got under way at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Prostock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50.854 seconds.

Qualifying for P2 was cham-pionship leader, Chennai's Ra-jiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) who clocked a best of 01:51.076 despite nursing a healing left shoulder that was dislocated following a crash in the previous round. Completing the front row was Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) with a hot lap of 01:51.823. Later, 17-year-old Abdul



Chennal teenager Abdul Basim RS, who qualified for pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category

Basim of Gulf Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock

165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, 02:08.253).

In the other premier catego-

Pune's Sarthak Chavan who qualified for pole position in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category

ry, the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, KY Ahamed (01:56.224) of Petronas TVS Racing was the quickest in the practice session, followed by team-mates Sarthak Chavan (01:57.069) and Chiranth Vishwanath (01:57.540)

Big win for Senthil; Rajiv notches eighth win in a row

CHENNAI: Local ace Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) continued his dominant run in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category by roaring to his eighth consecutive win while Coimbatore's Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notched his first in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race, to light up the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, here on Saturday.

The other deserving winner of the day was Bengaluru's 17-year-old Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) who recorded his maiden win of the season in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category.

Sethu effectively sealed the championship in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open class with his win-spree as he extended his lead to 97 points with one more race to be run on Sunday and 25 points on offer. Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) and TVS Petronas Racing's KY Ahamed finished a

came in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open race that saw 22-year-old Senthil Kumar taking victory despite starting from P8 on the grid. He was rumning third towards the fag end of the six-lap race after some big names, including two Pacer Yamaha riders Prabhu Arunagiri and Mathana Kumar, besides Petronas TVS Racing's KY Ahamed and Jagan Kumar, had dropped out of contention due to various reasons.

Chasing two teenagers from the Petronas TVS Racing team, Sarthak and Chiranth Vishwanath, the Coimbatore rider, whose last win in the National championship was in 2018 in the Novice category, suddenly found himself in front as the two youngsters tangled and crashed at the last corner of the last lap. However, both rejoined the race. Chiranth was docked a 10-second penalty for "causing an avoidable collision" and it dropped him to sixth while Sarthak moved up a spot to third behind Senthil Kumar and Bengaluru's Ullas Santrupi Nanda.



MRF MMSC FMSCI INDIAN NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE CHAMPIONSHIP

Rajiv Sethu champion in Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category

CHENNAI: Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Rajiv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennai, crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on debut as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship concluded at the Madras International Circuit here on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were: Hyderabad's Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice - Stock 165cc) and 's Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls - Stock 165cc). The championship standings in the ProStock 165cc Open category were not declared pending settlement of a disputed result in Round 4.

Even as Sethu, nursing an



injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team, RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category, it was young Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from Pune from the Petronas TVS Racing sta-

ble who scripted a stirring win after starting from P17. He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his team-mate, the16-year-old Bengalurean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for a third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu as he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the points table going into the race.

Later, Sethu finished the season by winning the Pro-Stock 165cc Open race in style despite starting from P10, with Sarthak and Chiranth coming in second and third, respectively. The race was reduced to five laps following a crash (rider okay) leading to a red flag and re-start.

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Sport

Rajiv Sethu wins Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category

Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice-Stock 165cc) and Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls-Stock 165cc) also clinch the national titles

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau CHENNAI

hough he was denied a ninth-straight win, the 25-year-old Rajiv Sethu won the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category in the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit (MIC) here on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice-Stock 165cc) and Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate (Girls-Stock 165cc).



On top: Rajiv Sethu after his title triumph. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Pròvisional results (all 8 laps unless mentioned): National Championship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: Race-2: 1. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 14:59.041s; 2. Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) 14:59.566; 3. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 14:59.656.

Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-2

(5 laps): 1. Rajiv 9:55.075; 2. Sarthak 9:56.286; 3. Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) 9:57.533; Rider champion: Not declared pending enquiry; Team champion: Not declared pending enquiry. Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-2 (6 laps): 1. Savion Sabu (Axor

Sparks Racing) 12:56.237; 2.

Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (AS Motorsports) 12:56.400; 3. Aadit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing) 12:56.667.

Girls (Stock 165cc, 3 laps): 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 6:40.083; 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Alpha Racing) 6:54.558; 3. Adlin Seles (Alpha Racing) 7:00.642.

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: NSF 250R Open: Race-2: 1. Kavin Quintal 15:09.312; 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel 15:14.912; 3. P. Mohsin 15:14.974.

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Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Alshin 11:15.520; 2. Joel 11:15.642; 3. Punya Prasun Sharma 11:21.399.

Sarthak to start from front in premier Pro-stock category

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau

CHENNAI

Teenagers Sarthak Chavan took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with the best lap of 1:50.854 seconds in the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC-FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit here on Friday.

The results (qualifying): National Championship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc: Open: 1.



Sarthak.

Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 1:50.854s; 2. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) 1:51.076; 3. Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) 1:51.823.

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Support Race: 301-400cc: Novice: 1. Aldrin Babu (RACR Castrol Power Ultimate1) 2:04.717; 2. K. Rajeswaran (KTM Gusto Racing India) 2:07.101s; 3. K. Dhanush Ram 2:07.332.

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AROUND THE CITY

National motorcycling season finale this weekend

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A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories – 301-400cc and 165cc – headlining the three-day event.

The titles in three of the four National championship categories are more or less decided. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power!) in the PS 301-400cc Open, Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) in the Novice and Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power!) in girls' categories enjoy unassailable leads.

The championship is still wide open in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open class with several riders in the



Triumphant: The Loyola (inter-collegiate table tenni Madras, at the D.G. Vaishna over RKM Vivekananda in t

hunt for the title.

Four in joint lead

Four players — International Master Asylbek Abdyzhapar o Kyrgyztan, WGM Śrija Seshadri L. Srihari and Ashwath — are in joint with four points each a the end of the sixth rot of the 1st Tamil Nadu II norm closed circuit che tournament here on Friday.

Important results (sixth round): S. Harshad 3 drew w Raset Ziatdinov 1.0; Ayan Allahverdiyeva 1.5 lost to Da

Sethu crowned champion

BENGALURU, DHNS

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He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru's Savion Sabu gave a rousing



Rajiv Sethu strikes a pose after claiming the championship in the premier Pro-stock Open category.

finish to his season by achieving a double in the Novice (Stock 165cc) race, but his winning burst did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the championship in this cat-

cgory.
Provisional results (all 8 laps unless mentioned): National Champlon-ship - Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open (Race-2): 1. Sarthak Chavan (Pune, Petronas TVS Racing) (14mins, 59,041sec); 2. Rahil Pillarisetty (Hyderabad, KTM Gusto Racing) (1459,556); 3. Rajiv Sethu (Chennal, RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (1459,656).

Pro-Stock 165cc Open (Race-2, 5 laps): 1. Rajlv Sethu (Chennal, RACR Castroi Power 1 Ultimate) (09:55.075); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Pune, Petronas TVS Racing) (09:56.286); 3. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru, Petronas TVS Racing) (09:57.533). Rider champiort Not declared pending enquiry. Team champions: Not declared pending enquiry.

Novice (Stock 165cc, Race-2, 6 laps): 1. Savion Sabu (Bengaluru, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.237); 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (Chennal, AS Motorsports) (12:56.400); 3. Aadit Shah (Vadodara, Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.667).

Girls (Stock 165cc) 3 laps: 1. Lanl Zena Fernandez (Pucucherry, RACR Castroi Power 1 Ultimate) (06:40.083); 2. Nadine Faith Baiaji (Chennal, Alpha Racing) (06:54.558); 3. Adlin Seles (Chennal, Alpha Racing) (07:00.642).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup-NSF 250R Open (Race-2): 1. Kavin Quintal (Chennal) (15:09.312); 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel (Chennal) (15:14.912); 3. Mohsin P (Mallapuram) (15:14.974).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310) Race-2 (6 laps): 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) (11:39.641); 2. Romario John (Chennal) (11:40.117); 3. G Baiaji (Chennal) (11:40.157).

Media (Apache RTR) Race-1 (5 laps): 1. Joel Kolathoor Raju (Thane) (1:19.208): 2. Alishin K Thomas (Pune) (11:19.312): 3. Ananya Awasthi (Pune) (11:19.646). Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Alishin K Thomas (Pune) (11:15.520): 2. Joel Kolathoor Raju (Thane) (11:15.642): 3. Punya Prasun Sharma (11:21.399).

AROUND THE CITY

National motorcycling season finale this weekend

The 2023 season of the MRF MMSC FMSCI National motorcycle racing championships reaches its climax and conclusion at the Madras International Circuit here this weekend (Oct 20-22) with the fifth and final round.

A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories – 301-400cc and 165cc – headlining the three-day event.

The titles in three of the four National championship categories are more or less decided. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power!) in the PS 301-400cc Open, Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) in the Novice and Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power!) in girls' categories enjoy unassailable leads. The championship is still wide open in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open class with several riders in the

hunt for the title.



On a roll: Rajiv Sethu was unstoppable in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open race.

Rajiv's dominant run continues

Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) continued his dominant run in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category by roaring to his eighth consecutive win at the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI **Indian National** Motorcycle Racing Championship at the **Madras International** Circuit, here on Saturday. Meanwhile, Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notched up his first win in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race.

The results (winners only, all six laps unless mentioned): National Championship, Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open:

Race-1 (4 laps): Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (07mins, 33.050secs). Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-1:

Senthil Kumar C (LGE Racing) (12:03.541).

Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-1: Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.047).

Support Race 301-400cc Novice: Aldrin Babu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (12:41.728).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup - NSF 250R: Race-1: Kavin Quintal (11:17.416). **Petronas TVS One-Make**

Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): Race-1: Chiranth Vishwanath (11:35.230). Girls (Apache RTR 200) (5 laps): Nadine Faith Balaji

(11:16.072).

Savion, Chiranth sparkle

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Local ace Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate) roared to his eighth consecutive win in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category at the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing

Championship here on Saturday Bengaluru's 17-year-old **Savion Sabu** (Axor Sparks

MOTOR SPORT

Racing) who recorded his maiden win of the season in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category. Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath virtually clinched the title in the Open (RR310) category with his fifth win. Coimbatore's Senthil Kumar C and Romario John (Chennai) fin-

ished behind him. Select results (all 6 laps unless mentioned): National Championship - Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open (Race-1, 4 laps): 1 Rajiv Sethu (Chennai) (07mins, 33.050secs); 2 Rahil PIllarisetty (Hyderabad) (07:37.596); 3 KY Ahamed (Chennai) (07:38.116). Pro-Stock 165cc Open (Race-1): 1 Senthil Kumar C (Coimbatore) (12:03.541); 2 Ullas Santrupt Nanda (Ben-

galuru) (12:14.513); 3. Sarthak Chavan (Pune) (12:20.898).

Novice (Stock 165cc, Race-1): 1 Savion Sabu (Bengaluru) (12:56.047); 2. Abdul Basim RS (Chennai) (13:05.881); 3. Manvith Reddy (Bengaluru) (13:06.284).

Support Race – 301-400cc Novice: 3. Rohith Prasad (Mandya) (12:59.059). Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup – NSF 250R (Race-1): 3. Vivek Rohit Kapadia (Belagavi) (11:26.456).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310) Race-1: 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) (11:35.230); 2. Senthilkumar C (Coimbatore) (11:35.969); 3. Romario John (Chennai) (11:43.834).

Sabu completes double

Chennai: Bengaluru's Savion Sabu achieved a splendid double in the Novice (Stock 165cc) race but it did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the championship in this category at the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National

Motorcycle Racing Championship in Chennai on Sunday.

MOTOR SPORT

On Saturday, Savion had taken his first win of the season after a series of podium finishes.

Another city racer, Chiranth Vishwanath, finished first in the Petronas TVS One-Make Championship in the Open (301-400cc, RR 310) category, clocking 11:39.641. In the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, he finished third with a timing of 9:57.533.

Provisional results (all 8 laps unless mentioned):
National Championship - Pro-Stock 301-400cc
Open (Race-2): L Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Rac-

ing, 14:59.041) 2. Rahil PIllarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing, 14:59.566); 3. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Powerl Ultimate, 14:59.656).

Pro-Stock 165cc Open (Race-2, 5 laps):1 Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate, 9:55.075); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing, 9:56.286) 3. Chiranth Vish-

wanath (B'luru, Petronas TVS Racing, 9:57.533). **Rider champion:** Not declared pending enquiry. **Team champions:** Not declared pending enquiry.

Novice (Stock165cc, Race-2, 6 laps): L Savion Sabu (B'luru, Axor Sparks Racing, 12:56.237) 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (AS Motorsports, 12:56.400) 3. Aadit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 12:56.667).

Girls (Stock 165cc, 3 laps): 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, 6:40.083); 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Alpha Racing, 06:54.558); 3. Adlin Seles (Alpha Racing, 07:00.642).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup – NSF 250R Open (Race-2): 1. Kavin Quintal (15:09,312); 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel (15:14.912); 3. Mohsin P (15:14.974).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310) Race-2, laps): 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (B'luru, 11:39.641); 2. Romario John (11:40.117); 3. G Balaji (11:40.157).

Hot contests for championship titles in offing, 16 races for final round of National 2W Racing

Chennai's Kavin Quintal needs only as few as six points to annex the crown in the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup (NSF 250R). Going into the final round, he leads Rakshith Dave, also from Chennai, by 45 points with a maximum of 50 on offer over the weekend.

ByNEA News Service



October 20, 2023

Chennai: The 2023 season of the MRF MMSC-FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship reaches its climax at the Madras International Circuit, at Irungattukottai, about 40 km from here, this weekend (October 20-22) when the fifth and final round will identify a fresh crop of champions across various categories, but not before they overcome strong challenges.

A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories – 301-400cc and 165cc – headlining the three-day event.

The card also has competitions in the Novice (Stock 165cc) and Girls (Stock 165cc) categories, besides a support race in the 301-400cc Novice class.

The Petronas TVS One-Make Championship has races in three classes – the 301-400cc Open (RR 310), Girls (RTR 200) and Media (RTR 200), besides two rounds of 'Time Attack' for the TVS electric motorcycles, while the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup will showcase races in the NSF 250R category that contains a clutch of talented young riders.

The titles in three of the four National championship categories are more or less decided. Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1) in the PS 301-400cc Open, Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) from Hyderabad in the Novice and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1) in Girls categories enjoy unassailable leads in the respective points table. The championship is still wide open in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open class with several riders in the hunt for the title.

Chennai's Kavin Quintal needs only as few as six points to annex the crown in the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup (NSF 250R). Going into the final round, he leads Rakshith Dave, also from Chennai, by 45 points with a maximum of 50 on offer over the weekend.

In sharp contrast, Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath and Alwin Sundar (Chennai) occupy the top two spots in that order in the Petronas TVS Open category with just seven points separating the two. Another Bengalurean, Nithila Das is virtually assured of the title in the Girls (RTR 200) category with a 33-point advantage and a maximum of 25 to be had.

MMSC President Ajit Thomas said: "It has been a long season with its shares of highs and lows. This weekend will see the conclusion of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023. There are still a few titles up for grabs and as such, there will be no let-up in the intensity of competition that has been a feature all through the season. The introduction of electric motorcycles by TVS has been one of the high points and possibly, a pointer to the future. The MMSC is grateful to the title sponsors MRF Tyres, the competitors and the Media for the support extended to the championship."

https://www.uniindia.com/

Chennai: The 2023 season of the MRF MMSC-FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship reaches its climax at the Madras International Circuit, at Irungattukottai, about 40 km from here, this weekend (October 20-22) when the fifth and final round will identify a fresh crop of champions across various categories, but not before they overcome strong challenges.

A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories – 301-400cc and 165cc – headlining the three-day event.

16 races for final round of National Motorcycle Racing championship

October 19, 2023 IANS New Sports 0



Chennai, Oct 19 (IANS) The 2023 season of the Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship reaches its climax and conclusion at the Madras International Circuit here this weekend (Oct 20-22) with the fifth and final round that will identify a fresh crop of champions across various categories, but not before they overcome strong challenges.

A card of 16 races has been framed with the two Pro-Stock Open categories – 301-400cc and 165cc – headlining the three-day event. The card also has competitions in the Novice (Stock 165cc) and Girls (Stock 165cc) categories, besides a support race in the 301-400cc Novice class.

"It has been a long season with its shares of highs and lows. This weekend will see the conclusion of the Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023. There are still a few titles up for grabs and as such, there will be no let-up in the intensity of competition that has been a feature all through the season. The introduction of electric motorcycles by TVS has been one of the high points and possibly, a pointer to the future. The MMSC is grateful to the title sponsors MRF Tyres, the competitors and the Media for the support extended to the championship," said Ajit Thomas, MMSC President.

The Petronas TVS One-Make Championship has races in three classes – the 301-400cc Open (RR 310), Girls (RTR 200) and Media (RTR 200), besides two rounds of 'Time Attack' for the TVS electric motorcycles, while the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup will showcase races in the NSF 250R category that contains a clutch of talented young riders.

The titles in three of the four National championship categories are more or less decided. Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1) in the PS 301-400cc Open, Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) from Hyderabad in the Novice and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1) in Girls categories enjoy unassailable leads in the respective points table. The championship is still wide open in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open class with several riders in the hunt for the title.

Chennai's Kavin Quintal needs only as few as six points to annex the crown in the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup (NSF 250R). Going into the final round, he leads Rakshith Dave, also from Chennai, by 45 points with a maximum of 50 on offer over the weekend.

In sharp contrast, Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath and Alwin Sundar (Chennai) occupy the top two spots in that order in the Petronas TVS Open category with just seven points separating the two. Another Bengalurean, Nithila Das is virtually assured of the title in the Girls (RTR 200) category with a 33-point advantage and a maximum of 25 to be had.

-IANS

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https://www.thestatesman.com/

Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions at National Motorcycle Racing

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50.854 seconds.

Statesman News Service | New Delhi | October 21, 2023 7:59 am



Abdul Basim National Motorcycle Racing Pole Positions

Two teenagers, Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai collegian Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50.854 seconds.

Qualifying for P2 was championship leader, Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) who clocked a best of 01:51.076 despite nursing a healing left shoulder that was dislocated following a crash in the previous round. Completing the front row was Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) with a hot lap of 01:51.823.

Later, 17-year-old Abdul Basim of Gulf Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, 02:08.253).

In the other premier category, the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, KY Ahamed (01:56.224) of Petronas TVS Racing was the quickest in the practice session, followed by teammates Sarthak Chavan (01:57.069) and Chiranth Vishwanath (01:57.540).

Mumbai's Sarah Khan, with a hot lap of 02:13.553, qualified for the pole position in the Girls (Apache RTR 200) category, ahead of Chennai's Nadine Faith Balaji (02:14.714) and Pune's Saimah Ajaz Baig (02:16.499).

https://www.dtnext.in/

Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions in National Motorcycle Racing Championship

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined the Petronas TVS Racing

CHENNAI: Two teenagers, Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai collegian Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

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Later, 17-year-old Abdul Basim of Gulf Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, 02:08.253).

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Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions in National Motorcycle Racing Championship. Image Source: IANS News

https://www.prokerala.com/

Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions in National Motorcycle Racing Championship

Published on Fri, Oct 20 2023 18:39 IST

CHENNAI, OCT 20: Two teenagers, Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai collegian Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the National Motorcycle Racing

Championship 2023 got underway at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined the Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50.854 seconds.

Qualifying for P2 was championship leader, Chennaiâ \in TMs Rajiv Sethu who clocked a best of 01:51.076 despite nursing a healing left shoulder that was dislocated following a crash in the previous round. Completing the front row was Hyderabadâ \in TMs Rahil Pillarisetty with a hot lap of 01:51.823.

Later, 17-year-old Abdul Basim of Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K.

In the other premier category, the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, KY Ahamed (01:56.224) of Petronas TVS Racing was the quickest in the practice session, followed by teammates Sarthak Chavan (01:57.069) and Chiranth Vishwanath (01:57.540).

https://sportstar.thehindu.com/

MOTORSPORTS

Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023: Sarthak Chavan, Abdul Basim grab pole positions in Round 4

Two teenagers, Sarthak Chavan from Pune and Chennai collegian Abdul Basim put in sizzling laps to qualify for pole position in their respective categories as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 got underway at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

The 16-year-old Sarthak, who joined Petronas TVS Racing team this season, took pole position in the premier Pro-stock 301-400cc Open category with a best lap of one minute, 50.854 seconds.

Qualifying for P2 was championship leader, Chennai's Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) who clocked a best of 01:51.076 despite nursing a healing left shoulder that was dislocated following a crash in the previous round. Completing

the front row was Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) with a hot lap of 01:51.823.

Later, 17-year-old Abdul Basim of Gulf Rockers Racing team, the younger brother of KY Ahamed who last month participated in the Moto3 class of Indian MotoGP, put in a lap of 02:07.685 for his maiden pole position in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, ahead of Vadodara's Adit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing, 02:08.260) and Bengaluru's Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, 02:08.253).

In the other premier category, the Pro-Stock 165cc Open, KY Ahamed (01:56.224) of Petronas TVS Racing was the quickest in the practice session, followed by teammates Sarthak Chavan (01:57.069) and Chiranth Vishwanath (01:57.540).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: Championship leader in the NSF 250R category Chennai's Kavin Quintal (01:52.262), who is gunning for his sixth win of the season, topped the timesheets in the official practice session. Another Chennai youngster Rakshith Dave was the second quickest in 01:53.367.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Bengaluru teenager Chiranth Vishwanath, who has four wins from seven starts, expectedly qualified for pole position in the Open (RR 310) category, clocking a best lap of 01:54.621, followed by Coimbatore's Senthilkumar C (01:54.848) and G Balaji (01:56.100) from Chennai.

Mumbai's Sarah Khan, with a hot lap of 02:13.553, qualified for the pole position in the Girls (Apache RTR 200) category, ahead of Chennai's Nadine Faith Balaji (02:14.714) and Pune's Saimah Ajaz Baig (02:16.499).

The results (Qualifying – Top 3 best laps):

National Championship – Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: 1. Sathak Chavan (Pune, Petronas TVS Racing) (1min, 50.854sec); 2. Rajiv Sethu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (01:51.076); 3. Rahil Pillarisetty (Hyderabad, KTM Gusto Racing) (01:51.823);

Novice (Stock 165cc): 1. Abdul Basim (Chennai, Gulf Rockers Racing) (02:07.685); 2. Aadit Shah (Vadodara, Axor Sparks Racing) (02:08.260); 3. Manvith Reddy K (Bengaluru, Team RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (02:08.253).

Support Race – 301-400cc Novice: 1. Aldrin Babu (Chennai, RACR Castrol Power Ultimate1) (02:04.717); 2. Rajeswaran K (Chennai, KTM Gusto Racing India) (02:07.101); 3. Dhanush Ram K (Bengaluru, Pvt) (02:07.332).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Bengaluru) (01:54.621); 2. Senthilkumar C (Coimbatore) (01:54.848); 3. G Balji (Chennai) (01:56.100).

Girls (Apache RTR 200): 1. Sarah Khan (Mumbai) (02:13.553); 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Chennai) (02:14.714); 3. Saimah Ajaz Baig (Pune) (02:16.499).

-Team Sportstar

www.TheHindu.com

MOTORCYCLING | Rajiv's dominant run continues with eighth consecutive win

Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship | Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notches up his first win in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race

October 21, 2023 07:22 pm | Updated 07:22 pm IST - Chennai

SPORTS BUREAU

Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) continued his dominant run in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category by roaring to his eighth consecutive win at the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, here on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notched up his first win in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race. The other winner of the day was 17-year-old Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) who recorded his maiden win of the season in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category.

The results (all six laps unless mentioned): National Championship, Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: Race-1 (4 laps): 1. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (07mins, 33.050secs); 2.

Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) (07:37.596); 3. K.Y. Ahamed (Petronas TVS Racing) (07:38.116).



Rajiv Sethu, on way to winning the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open race (Oct 21). | Photo Credit: Special Arrangement

Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-1: 1. Senthil Kumar C (LGE Racing) (12:03.541); 2. Ullas Santrupt Nanda (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (12:14.513); 3. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) (12:20.898).

Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-1: 1. Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) (12:56.047); 2. R.S. Abdul Basim (Gulf Rockers Racing) (13:05.881); 3. Manvith Reddy (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) (13:06.284).

Support Race 301-400cc Novice: 1. Aldrin Babu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (12:41.728); 2. K. Rajeswaran (KTM Gusto Racing) (12:42.084); 3. Rohith Prasad (PRN Motorsports) (12:59.059).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup – NSF 250R: Race-1: 1. Kavin Quintal (11:17.416); 2. Rakshath S. Dave (11:23.929); 3. Vivek Rohit Kapadia (11:26.456).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): Race-1: 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (11:35.230); 2. C. Senthilkumar (11:35.969); 3. Romario John (11:43.834).

Girls (Apache RTR 200) (5 laps): 1. Nadine Faith Balaji (11:16.072); 2. Saimah Ajaz Baig (11:17.910); 3. V. Aisvariya (**Coimbatore**) (11:24.974).

MOTORSPORT

Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 - Round 4: Rajiv Sethu wins eighth straight race



Rajiv Sethu on his way to victory in Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open race. | Photo Credit: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Local ace Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) continued his dominant run in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category by roaring to his eighth consecutive win while Coimbatore's Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) notched his first win in five years with a surprise victory in a dramatic Pro-Stock 165cc Open class race, to light up the fifth and final round

of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 at the Madras International Circuit, in Chennai on Saturday.

Bengaluru's 17-year-old Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) recorded his maiden win of the season in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category.

Sethu effectively sealed the championship in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open class with his win-spree as he extended his lead to 97 points with one more race to be run on Sunday and 25 points on offer. Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) and TVS Petronas Racing's KY Ahamed finished a distant second and third, respectively, after being outpaced in the four-lapper, reduced from scheduled six following a red flag stoppage.

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: Chennai's Kavin Quintal scored his sixth win in eight races to assure himself of the title in the NSF 250 Open category going into Sunday's final race of the season. Another Chennai youngster, Rakshith Dave finished second ahead of Belagavi's Vivek Rohit Kapadia in the six-lap race.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath virtually clinched the title in the Open (RR310) category with his fifth win. Chiranth held off a strong challenge from Coimbatore's Senthil Kumar C while Romario John (Chennai) was placed third.

Chennai girl Nadine Faith Balaji took the honours in the Girls (RTR 200) race for her first win that moved her to second spot behind Bengaluru's Nithila Das on the championship table. Nithila, with three wins, emerged champion despite not participating in the final round. Coimbatore's Aisvariya V finished third behind Pune's Saimah Baig in today's race.

-Team Sportstar

MOTORSPORTS | Rajiv Sethu crowned champion in premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category

MOTORCYCLING | Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice-Stock 165cc) and Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls-Stock 165cc) also clinch the national titles

October 22, 2023 07:41 pm | Updated 07:41 pm IST - CHENNAI

SPORTS BUREAU



Rajiv Sethu became the National champion in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category at the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National motorcycle racing championship at the Madras International Circuit (MIC) on Sunday, October 22, 2023. | Photo Credit: Special Arrangement

Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, the 25-year-old Rajiv Sethu won the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category in the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit (MIC) here on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice-Stock 165cc) and Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls-Stock 165cc).

The championship standings in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open category were not declared pending settlement of a disputed result in the fourth round.

Even as Sethu, nursing an injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, it was young Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from the Petronas TVS Racing stable, who scripted a stirring win after starting from P17. He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Provisional results (all 8 laps unless mentioned): National Championship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: Race-2: 1. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 14:59.041s; 2. Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) 14:59.566; 3. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 14:59.656.

Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Rajiv 9:55.075; 2. Sarthak 9:56.286; 3. Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) 9:57.533; **Rider champion:** Not declared pending enquiry; **Team champion:** Not declared pending enquiry.

Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-2 (6 laps): 1. Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) 12:56.237; 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (AS Motorsports) 12:56.400; 3. Aadit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing) 12:56.667.

Girls (Stock 165cc, 3 laps): 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 6:40.083; 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Alpha Racing) 6:54.558; 3. Adlin Seles (Alpha Racing) 7:00.642.

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: NSF 250R Open: Race-2: 1. Kavin Quintal 15:09.312; 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel 15:14.912; 3. P. Mohsin 15:14.974.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (301-400cc, RR 310): Race-2 (6 laps): 1. Chiranth 11:39.641; 2. Romario John 11:40.117; 3. G. Balaji 11:40.157.

Media (**Apache RTR**): **Race-1** (**5 laps**): 1. Joel Kolathoor Raju 11:19.208; 2. Alshin K. Thomas 11:19.312; 3. Ananya Awasthi 11:19.646.

Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Alshin 11:15.520; 2. Joel 11:15.642; 3. Punya Prasun Sharma 11:21.399.



Rajiv Sethu crowned 2023 INMRC champion

Quintal takes home Honda India Talent Cup title; Vishwanath wins TVS One-Make Championship

Published On Oct 26, 2023 11:56:00 AM

We finally have the champions for the 2023 Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship (INMRC), with the fifth and final round held at the Madras International Circuit. RACR's Rajiv Sethu clinched the crown in the headlining Pro-Stock 301-400cc category, despite nursing a shoulder injury. Lani Zena Fernandez took the Girls' title, while Kavin Quintal won this year's Honda India Talent Cup in dominant fashion.

Pro-Stock 301-400cc

Sethu already held an unassailable lead of 85 points heading into the finale. Although he was still nursing an injured left shoulder, which he dislocated following a crash in the <u>previous round</u>, he ended up winning Race 1. The race itself was shortened from six to four laps following a red flag stoppage.

Though Sarthak Chavan (starting from P17) denied Sethu a ninth straight win in Race 2, a third place result was enough for him to win the title.

Results:

Race 1

- 1. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) 7mins 33.050secs
- 2. Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) 7mins 37.596secs
- 3. KY Ahamed (Petronas TVS Racing) 7mins 38.116 secs

Race 2

- 1. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 14mins 59.041secs
- 2. Rahil PIllarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) 14mins 59.566secs
- 3. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 14mins 59.656secs

Pro-Stock 165cc Open

Sethu wrapped up the season with victory in the Pro-Stock 165cc category as well, after starting down in P10. Senthil Kumar won Race 1, making his way up from P8 on the grid after several big names like Mathana Kumar, KY Ahamed and Jagan Kumar dropped out of contention.

However, the championship standings in the category have still not been declared, pending a disputed result in the previous round.



Results:

Race 1

- 1. Senthil Kumar (LGE Racing) 12mins 03.541secs
- 2. Ullas Santrupt Nanda (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 12mins 14.513secs
- 3. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 12mins 20.898secs

Race 2

- 1. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) 9mins 55.075secs
- 2. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 9mins 56.286secs
- 3. Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) 9mins 57.533secs

Novice Stock 165cc

It was a strong round for Savion Sabu, who didn't just score his first win in the category, but also took a clean sweep at the finale. But this didn't stop Vignesh Goud from taking home the title.

Results:

Race 1

- 1. Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) 12mins 56.047secs
- 2. Abdul Basim RS (Gulf Rockers Racing 13mins 05.881secs
- 3. Manvith Reddy (RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate) 13mins 06.284secs

Race 2

- 1. Savion Sabu (Axor Sparks Racing) 12mins 56.237secs
- 2. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan (AS Motorsports) 12mins 56.400secs
- 3. Aadit Shah (Axor Sparks Racing) 12mins 56.667secs

Girls Stock 165cc

Lani Zena Fernandez won the shortened Girls Stock 165cc race with ease to clinch the title. This was her fourth race win in nine starts.

Results:

Race 1

- 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) 6mins 40.083secs
- 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (Alpha Racing) 6mins 54.558secs
- 3. Adlin Seles (Alpha Racing) 7mins 00.642secs

TVS One-Make Championship

It was a close battle in the Open (Apache RR 310) category, with just seven points separating Chiranth Vishwanath and Alwin Sundar heading into the finale. Vishwanath emerged victorious in this battle, scoring two back-to-back wins to secure the title.

Nithila Das did not participate in the final round, but her three wins this season were enough for her to still be crowned champion. Nadine Faith Balaji, meanwhile, claimed her first race win.

Results:

Open (Apache RR 310) Race 1

- 1. Chiranth Vishwanath 11mins 35,230secs
- 2. Senthilkumar C 11mins 35.969secs
- 3. Romario John 11mins 43.834secs

Open (Apache RR 310) Race 2

- 1. Chiranth Vishwanath 11mins 39.641secs
- 2. Romario John 11mins 40.117secs
- 3. G Balaji 11mins 40.157secs

Girls (Apache RTR 300)

- 1. Nadine Faith Balaji 11mins 16.072secs
- 2. Saimah Ajaz Baig 11mins 17.910secs
- 3. Aisvariya V 11mins 24.974secs

Honda India Talent Cup

Kavin Quintal capped off a dominant season with a clean sweep in the finale as well. The 18-year-old won was crowned champion, having won seven races from nine starts.

Results:

NSF 250R Race 1

- 1. Kavin Quintal 11mins 17.416secs
- 2. Rakshath S Dave 11mins 23.929secs
- 3. Vivek Rohit Kapadia 11mins 26.456secs

NSF 250R Race 2

- 1. Kavin Quintal 15mins 09.312secs
- 2. Johann Reeves Emmanuel 15mins 14.912secs
- 3. Mohsin P 15mins 14.974secs.

https://www.autotrack.ind.in/



Auto Track

Oct 25

5 min read

Rajiv Sethu champion in Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category



Girls title for Lani Zena Fernandez Vignesh Goud tops in Novice class

Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Rajiv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennai, crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on debut

as the fifth and final round of the MRF MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 concluded at the Madras International Circuit.

Also clinching the National titles were: Hyderabad's Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice - Stock 165cc) and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls - Stock 165cc). The championship standings in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open category were not declared pending settlement of a disputed result in Round 4.

Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open class:

Sethu from RACR Castrol Power 1 Ultimate effectively sealed the championship in the very first race with his win-spree as he extended his lead to 97 points with one more race to be run on the final day and 25 points on offer. Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty from KTM Gusto Racing and TVS Petronas Racing's KY Ahamed finished a distant second and third, respectively, after being outpaced in the four-lapper, reduced from scheduled six following a red flag stoppage. Meanwhile, pole-sitter Sarthak Chavan from Petronas TVS Racing retired due to engine issues on the out lap and did not take the start.

Even as Sethu, nursing an injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team, RACR Castrol Power1, it was the young Pune rider Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from the Petronas TVS Racing stable scripted a stirring win after starting from P17. He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his team-mate, the 16-year-old Bengalurean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for a third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu as he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the points table going into the race.

Pro-Stock 165cc Open:

The day's big surprise result came in race1 that saw 22-year-old Senthil Kumar taking victory despite starting from P8 on the grid. He was running third towards the fag end of the six-lap race after some big names, including two Pacer Yamaha riders Prabhu Arunagiri and Mathana Kumar, besides Petronas TVS Racing's KY Ahamed and Jagan Kumar, had dropped out of contention due to various reasons.

Chasing two teenagers from the Petronas TVS Racing team, Sarthak and Chiranth Vishwanath, the Coimbatore rider, whose last win in the National championship was in 2018 in the Novice category, suddenly found himself in front as the two youngsters tangled and crashed at the last corner of the last lap. However, both rejoined the race. Chiranth was docked a 10-second penalty for "causing an avoidable collision" and it dropped him to sixth while Sarthak moved up a spot to third behind Senthil Kumar and Bengaluru's Ullas Santrupt Nanda.

Sethu finished the season by winning the race2 in style despite starting from P10, with Sarthak and Chiranth coming in second and third, respectively. The race was reduced to five laps following a crash leading to a red flag and re-start. Both the rider and team championship was not declared due to pending enquiry.

Novice (Stock 165cc) category:

Savion Sabu finally took his first win of the season after a series of podium finishes, in the highly-competitive race that had a grid of 23 riders.

Starting from P5 on the grid, Savion cut through the front-runners by the end of Lap-1, building up a sizable lead that kept increasing as the race progressed. The Bengalurean eventually won by the proverbial country mile ahead of fast-finishing Chennai teenager Abdul Basim from Gulf Rockers Racing who made considerable ground after a poor start from pole position. Another Bengalurean, Manvith Reddy from RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate completed the podium.

"Today, I was determined to win the race after having finished second or third in the previous outings. I pushed hard initially and did not look back. I wasn't sure how far behind the rest of the riders were until I turned back after crossing the finish line," said the teenager.

Meanwhile, in race2 Bengaluru's Savion Sabu gave a rousing finish to his season by achieving a double, but his winning burst did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the championship in this category. Kaushik Subbiah Ganesan from AS Motorsports finished second and Vadodara rider Aadit Shah from Axor Sparks Racing finished third.



Lani Zena Fernandez also finished the season on a victorious note, winning the Girls (Stock 165cc) race with ease. The race was reduced to three laps from the scheduled

five following a stoppage due to pile-up in the very first lap and was re-started. It was her fourth win in nine starts. Nadine Faith Balaji from Alpha Racing and her teammate Adlin Seles both finished a distinct second and third respectively.

Support Race – 301-400cc Novice:

Aldrin Babu from Thrissur representing RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimatewas the winner followed by Rajeswaran K from Chennai representing KTM Gusto Racing, Rohith Prasad from Mandya representing PRN Motorsports finished third.

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup:

Chennai's Kavin Quintal scored his sixth win in eight races to assure himself of the title in the **NSF 250 Open category** going into Sunday's final race of the season. Another Chennai youngster, Rakshith Dave finished second ahead of Belagavi's Vivek Rohit Kapadia in the six-lap race.

In Race-2 it was Kavin Quintal on top followed by Johann Reeves Emmanuel also from Chennai in second and Mohsin P from Mallapuram finished third.

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship:

Open (301-400cc, RR 310):

Race1:Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath virtually clinched the title in the Open (RR310) category with his fifth win. Chiranth held off a strong challenge from Coimbatore's Senthil Kumar C while Romario John from Chennai was placed third.

In race2 Bengaluru's Chiranth Vishwanath notched up his sixth win in nine starts holding off Romario John finishing second and G Balaji in third.

TVS E Motorcycle Time Attack:

Sarthak Chavan from Pune clocked the fastest lap in the Time Attack, posting a time of 01min, 47.304secs with a top speed of 186 Kmph. Chiranth Vishwanath from Bengaluru was second quickest in 01:48.066 doing a speed of 179.8 Kmph, while former Moto3 rider from Japan, Hiroki Ono was third best in 01:49.116 (196.8 Kmph). Chennai girl Nadine Faith Balaji took the honours in the Girls Apache RTR 200 race for her first win that moved her to second spot behind Bengaluru's Nithila Das on the championship table. Nithila, with three wins, emerged champion despite not participating in the final round. Coimbatore's Aisvariya V finished third behind Pune's Saimah Baig in today's race.

Media (Apache RTR):

Race-1 top three finished in the same second as Joel Kolathoor Raju from Thane was the winner followed by Alshin K Thomas from Pune in second as Ananya Awasthi also from Pune finished third. In Race-2 Alshin K Thomas was the winner in a photo finish with the second finisher Joel Kolathoor Raju, Punya Prasun Sharma finished third.

National Motorcycle Racing: Rajiv Sethu bags crown in Pro-Stock, Lani Zena Fernandez wins girls title

POSTED BY: GOPI OCTOBER 22, 2023



Chennai, Oct 22 (SocialNews.XYZ) Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Rajiv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennai, crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on debut as the fifth and final round of the MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 concluded at the Madras International Circuit here on Sunday.

Also clinching the National titles were: Hyderabad's Vignesh Goud of Race'ists Motorcycle Club (Novice - Stock 165cc) and Puducherry's Lani Zena Fernandez of RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate (Girls - Stock 165cc).

The championship standings in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open category were not declared pending the settlement of a disputed result in Round 4.

Even as Sethu, nursing an injured left shoulder, delivered a third-straight rider championship to his team, RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate, in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category, it was young Sarthak Chavan, the 16-year-old from Pune from the TVS Racing stable who scripted a stirring win after starting from P17.

He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his teammate, the 16-year-old Bengalurean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu as he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the points table going into the race.

Later, Sethu finished the season by winning the Pro-Stock 165cc Open race in style despite starting from P10, with Sarthak and Chiranth coming in second and third, respectively. The race was reduced to five laps following a crash (rider okay) leading to a red flag and re-start.

Lani Zena Fernandez also finished the season on a victorious note, winning the Girls (Stock 165cc) race with ease. The race was reduced to three laps from the scheduled five following a stoppage due to pile-up (riders okay) in the very first lap and was restarted. It was her fourth win in nine starts.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru's Savion Sabu gave a rousing finish to his season by achieving a double in the Novice (Stock 165cc) race, but his winning burst did not stop Vignesh Goud from clinching the championship in this category.

Source: IANS

https://www.prokerala.com/

National Motorcycle Racing: Rajiv Sethu bags crown in Pro-Stock, Lani Zena Fernandez wins girls title

Published on Sun, Oct 22 2023 20:45 IST

CHENNAI, OCT 22: Though he was denied a ninth-straight win, Rajiv Sethu, the 25-year-old from Chennai, crowned himself champion in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category on debut as the fifth and final round of the MMSC fmsci Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2023 concluded at the Madras International Circuit here on Sunday.

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He passed a flagging Sethu on the last lap for the biggest victory of his blossoming National championship career.

Finishing second behind Sarthak was his teammate, the 16-year-old Bengalurean Chiranth Vishwanath, after a good move on Sethu who settled for third place. The P3 did not matter for Sethu as he had already taken an unbeatable lead in the points table going into the race.

eom/david/10dec23