

Beat: Sports

## **MotoGP: RINS WINS HIS FIRST MOTOGP RACE IN TEXAS**

### **MotoGP Brilliant Rins in Texas**

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**USPA NEWS** - The Circuit of the Americas witnessed a drama-filled race 20 lap race, but Alex Rins immediately slotted into a Top 5 position and began to work his way up the field. The Spaniard felt confident with his GSX-RR, and with his usual smooth riding style he was able to remain cool while others around him fell foul of mistakes. Alex had already placed himself in a podium position, but was promoted to 2nd with 11 laps to go as Marquez crashed out.

Using excellent race craft, Rins planned a victory charge for the last few laps, before executing a great pass on Rossi to lead. Alex remained calm under pressure from the 9-time champion to earn his first ever MotoGP win.

Today's victory marks Team SUZUKI ECSTAR's first win since Silverstone 2016, and Alex Rins' first win since Le Mans 2016, as well as being his debut MotoGP top step.

A perfectly sunny race day at the Circuit of The Americas (COTA) delivered nothing short of a sensational Grand Prix of The Americas. Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP's Valentino Rossi put his heart and soul into today's race and only just missed out on the victory, taking 2nd position.

Rossi rushed off the line, dashing towards the tight left first corner, just like he planned. He knew that if he wanted to challenge for the win today, he would have to push 100% right from the very start.

With 15 laps to go, The Doctor got a bit of breathing space as Crutchlow crashed out. At the time Márquez was almost 3s ahead of him, but the Italian never gave up. He searched for the perfect balance between keeping the pressure on and managing his tyres, and it paid off. Márquez crashed out with 12 laps to go, giving Yamaha the lead in the race.

The events also spurred on the chasing Álex Rins, but Rossi managed the gap until, with five laps to go, the battle for the victory was on. Rins came through a lap later. The veteran tried to retaliate, using a block pass, but it was unsuccessful and resulted in 0.5s gap. The number 46 rider was making a great attempt to undo the damage, inching closer, but he ran wide with two laps to go, meaning he had to do the work all over again. He wasn't giving up, though. In the last lap Rossi managed to make up a lot of time and was looking threatening behind Rins in the final sector, but ultimately he came just 0.462s short as they crossed the finish line.

Third place goes to an extraordinary Jack Miller. A weekend that can't be forgotten. Jack Miller conquered a sensational podium finishing in third place after having been fighting for a long time for second position.

Pramac Racing celebrates a spectacular Grand Prix of the Americas with the team protagonist on and off the circuit thanks to Automobili Lamborghini – title sponsor of the American round – which allowed riders and staff to drive fantastic Lamborghini Huracan and Urus.

#### Alex Rins

"It's incredible! I'm very happy to win the race here! In warm-up this morning we tried a different set-up and it didn't work in the way we expected, so we reverted to the usual settings for the race and we won, it's super! I'm lost for words! I managed the pressure well, even though I suffered a bit in the last laps. When I crossed the line all the feelings hit me at once. I just want to say a big thank you to all my team, everyone in Japan, and all the people around me!"

#### Valentino Rossi

##### Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP Rider

"I'm very sorry for missing out on the victory, because when I saw Márquez crash I said to myself 'Maybe I can do it', but after that Rins arrived. Sincerely, I pushed to the maximum, the race was very fast, I did one good lap after another, but in the end he was better than I was. I was riding very well, and I wasn't able to overtake him. It's a shame because I haven't won for a long time, but we are strong, and we will try again next time. On a positive note, I tried everything today, I rode a very good race and stayed in front for a long time. Riding on the limit, unfortunately I made some mistakes. Maybe if had done everything perfectly I could have tried to attack on the last lap again. So, mixed feelings: on the one side, I'm sorry about the victory, and on the other side it's a great result after a great weekend. I was strong and I rode a very good last lap, but I didn't want to do anything too crazy because 20 points are very important for the championship, which is still very open. It looks like we are strong this year and that the bike has improved, and these are the most important things, because maybe we can fight at the front many times this season."

Jack Miller

"I am very happy with this result. The feeling with the bike was very good all weekend. I got off to a good start and this allowed me to be in the front group right away. I thank the team because they have done a great job not only this weekend but since the beginning of the season".

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