SUKSRIPAISAN TOPS KUALA TERENGGANU MOTO CHAMPIONSHIP

(Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia) - AP Honda Thailand's Jugkrit "Ben"Suksripaisan ably filled in the void left by the absence of teammate and erstwhile leader of Asia's premiere motocross championship Arnon "Turbo" Theplib by topping the two Asian 125/MX2 motos during the second leg of the 2013 Asian Motocross Supercross Championship that was held here on Saturday.

The 17-year-old motocross sensation from Ayuthaya, Thailand was never in trouble as he deftly steered himself free from the spirited challenge of Japanese ace Tomoya "Kamikaze" Suzuki in the early goings to finish both motos with plenty to spare. Suzuki and the resurgent Iranian rider Ali Borzoozadeh claimed second and third place overall with identical wind-ups in the both motos.

Overall champion Jugkrit Suksripaisan (3rd from left) and runners-up Ali Borzoozadeh (3rd placer-2nd from L) and Tomoya Suzuki (5th from L) pose with Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin, the current Sultan of Kuala Terengganu (middle), Kuala Terengganu officials and FIM Asia President Stephan Carapiet (rightmost) during the Awards Ceremony of Round 2 of the 2013 FIM Asia Motocross Supercross Championship held in the Sultanate of Kuala Terengganu on Saturday.

The Philippines' Kenneth San Andres and Japanese Hiroshi Kawamura claimed the fourth and fifth overall positions to complete the magic five. With the victory, Suksripaisan is the new championship leader with 92 points. Suzuki remained in second spot with 86 markers. San Andres meanwhile is now third with 72 points. Theplib, despite missing the round remains in fourth with 50 points with Kawamura in fifth with 43.

Thirteen year old Muhammad Daud Kasim from Pahang, Malaysia made his countrymen proud by claiming the overall pennant of the Asian Junior 85cc category with back-to-back victories in the two motos at the expense of the 2012 Asian Junior 85cc champion Mark Reggie Flores of the Philippines and Sri Lanka's Jacques Gunawardena. Fourth and fifth overall went to te Philippines' Gabriel Macaso and Malaysia's Mustaquim Sapri.

Local bet Muhammad Daud Kasim (middle) bagged the Champion trophy of the Asian Junior 85cc category. Others in the photo are (from left) Sri Lanka's Jacques Gunawardena the 3rd place, Stephan Carapiet, FIM Asia President, Wan Zarahhudin, AAM Vice President and the Philippines' Mark Reggie Flores, 2nd place.

The Philippines' Reigin Royce "Jing" Leongson brought home the top plum in the Asian Veterans category with victories in the motos. Defending Asian Veterans champion Stanley Yasuhiro from Guam shrugged off a poor start in the second moto to unleash a furious rally that enabled him to overcome the 100-meter lead of Malaysia's Jafri Bin Abdullah in the opening lap to cop second overall. Third overall went to the Philippines' Marciano "Junjun" San Andres who finished 4th and 2nd in the motos with Abdullah settling for the fourth spot with 3rd and 4th places in the heats.

Jing Leongson of the Philippines (2nd from left) clinched First overall in the Asian Veterans category. Guam's Stanley Yasuhiro took second overall with the Philippines' Junjun San Andres claiming third overall. With them are FIM Asia President Macky Carapiet and officials from the Sultanate of Kuala Terengganu.

The second leg of the 2013 FIM Asia Motocross Supercross Championship was hosted by Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin, the current Sultan of Kuala Terengganu and the Yang di Pertuan Agong (constitutional head of State) of Malaysia from 2006-2011 and his constituents. The event marked the second time for the Sultanate to host a leg of FIM Asia Motocross Supercross Championship. The series debuted in Kuala Terengganu in July 2011.

For more information on the Asian Motocross Supercross Championship and other FIM Asia continental championships in the different disciplines, regularly visit www.fim-asia.com and www.asiamx.org.

Training sessions for Asian Junior 85cc riders and the locals competing in the national classes were held under the Asian Motocross Academy. The instructor was no less than Tomoya Suzuki himself who imparted riding techniques to his audience. Suzuki was ably assisted by Guam's Stanley Yasuhiro, the local Malaysian announcer and FIM Asia President Stephan Carapiet who acted as interpreters.

Part of the young and friendly support staff assembled by the State who effectively attended to the needs and wants of the delegates. Kudos for a job well done!

Kuala Terengganu's Sultan Mizan with FIM Asia President Macky Carapiet as they walk through the paddock area to greet the participating riders and teams in the 2013 FIM Asia Kuala Terengganu Motocross Championship.

Iranian 125 rider Mojtaba Karimzadeh regaled Sultan Mizan, his fellow riders and the weekend crowd with his freestyle motocross show before the awards ceremony.

Kuala Terengganu's Sultan Mizan and FIM Asia President Macky Carapiet took time out to pose for photos with the riders and teams from different nations at the paddock.

Malaysian junior riders Muhammad Daud (right) and Muhammad Zubir Kasim pose with their father Mohammad Kasim of the DZAS MX Team after the awarding rites. The brothers made their countrymen proud with their remarkable performance in the Asian Junior 85 category.