



ASIAN MOTO TEAMS TO USA FIM MX OF NATIONS

Asian motocross will be getting a big shot in the arm next month with the confirmed attendance of powerhouse motocross teams from the PHILIPPINES and JAPAN in the 2018 Monster Energy FIM Motocross of Nations slated October 5-7, 2018 at the Redbud MX Circuit in Buchanan, Michigan USA.

The annual meet which is touted the Olympics of motocross brings together the crème de la crème of the popular two-wheel off-road extreme sport. Thirty-one nations are seeing action this year promising down-the-wire racing battles in the MXGP, MX2 and Open classes. The team that will rack up the highest aggregate score across the three categories will bring home the coveted 2018 Motocross of Nations trophy and the bragging rights that go with it.

NAMSSA MX Team Philippines will be anchored by reigning Philippine MX Champion and former FIM Asia Junior champion Kenneth San Andres (MXGP) and ably supported by 2-time FIM Asia Junior Champion Moymoy Flores (MX2) and Chicago AMA Fil-Am rider Carlo Rodriguez. The team will be co-managed and assisted by Tim Bennett of TCD Racing from Clarkston, Michigan and Mel McCormick of JMC Motorsports in Pasco, Washington and supported by Devol Racing, Pro-Wheel Racing Components racing parts for the bikes and Chicago Dirt Riders.

Transworld Motocross veteran and supercross campaigner Brandon Sharer (MXGP), seasoned AMA rider Cody Williams (MX2) and 2017 FIM Asia MX Champion Sean Lipanovich (Open) was to make up AMA-GMAC MX Team Guam with FIM Asia Vice President Stanley Yasuhiro as manager, unfortunately Sean Lipanovich broke his wrist last week and thus Team Guam shall not be able to race at the said event.

MFJ MX Team Japan is composed of seasoned AMA veterans Taiki Koga (MXGP) and Haruki Yakoyama (MX2) and 2014 Japanese 250 cc champion and current FIM World MXGP campaigner Toshiki Tomita (Open). The team will be managed by Takateru Atsuta.

The event will be a feast for motocross aficionados with the participation of the top 3 riders in the 2018 MXGP namely Netherlands' Jeffrey Herlings, Italy's Antonio Cairoli and Belgium's Clement DeSalle. Defending champion France appears determined to retain the MXoN title with Romain Febvre (Open) and Gautier Paulin (MXGP), respectively 5th and 6th places in the same roster, joining arms for the patriotic cause.

For TEAM AMA USA line up is Monster Energy Kawasaki's Eli Tomac, Monster Energy/Yamaha Factory Racing's Justin Barcia, and Monster Energy/Yamalube/Star/Yamaha's Aaron Plessinger are the three riders that will lead the host country into action at Michigan's famed RedBud MX track who will once again be led by United States Team Manager and global motocross icon Roger DeCoster. The United States, which has won the Chamberlain Trophy a record 21 times, has emerged triumphant in each of the three previous MXoN events on home soil.

FIM Asia President Stephan "Macky" Carapiet is attending the races for future Asia MXGP races discussions and to throw their support for the Asian entries and observe the handling of the event. Joining them are NAMSSA motocross coaches Jun San Andres and Reggie Flores. The 2018 NAMSSA MX Team Philippines to the MXoN is also being supported by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC).

For more information about the MXoN and other FIM Asia and NAMSSA events and activities, please visit the 2018 FIM Asia Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/fimasia2018/> or email namssa01@hotmail.com.