



Press Release

HERO MOTOSPORTS TEAM RALLY CONTINUES ITS STEADY RUN AT THE ABU DHABI DESERT CHALLENGE 2023

Hero MotoSports Team Rally, the motorsport team of the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters - **Hero MotoCorp**, has completed the third stage of the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge with its sole rider in the race Ross Branch finishing the stage at the sixth place.

Continuing his consistent performance so far in the rally, Ross delivered a solid run in the third stage of ADDC '23. A crash around 100 kms into the stage resulted in Ross losing some time. However, he picked up pace in the latter half to finish just 3 minutes behind the top spot. With two days left in the race, the Botswanan currently holds the sixth place in the overall standings of the rally.



Stage 3 of the rally took the riders on a 300+ km loop around the bivouac in Qasr Al Sarab, most of which was adorned by long stretches of dunes. The harsh sun and hard to see dangers of the empty quarter posed severe threats to the competitors for a third consecutive day.

Stage 4 will be one of the longest specials of the season with 308 kms of timed sections, and another 150 kms in liaisons. Starting westward as early as 5:30 am in the morning, the stage will take the competitors on one last loop around Qasr Al Sarab, before heading back to Abu Dhabi on Friday.



Ross Branch:

“Stage 3 was a lot of fun. Unfortunately, at around 100 kms I had a small crash and lost some time. But otherwise, the day went well - the bike has been incredible, and I had a great time from start to finish. I just wasn't fast enough today, but we still have 2 more days to go, and I'll keep pushing for more.”



Provisional Rankings – Stage 3 (Rally GP Class)

1.	Toby Price	Red Bull KTM Factory Racing	3h 43m 29s
2.	Pablo Quintanilla	Monster Energy Honda Team	+ 0m 16s
3.	Skyler Howes	Husqvarna Factory Racing	+ 0m 19s
6.	Ross Branch	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 3m 03s

Provisional Overall Standings after Stage 3 (Rally GP Class):

1.	Adrien Van Beveren	Monster Energy Honda Team	10h 55m 02s
2.	Pablo Quintanilla	Monster Energy Honda Team	+ 0m 43s
3.	Toby Price	Red Bull KTM Factory Racing	+ 2m 56s
6.	Ross Branch	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 5m 54s

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