



Press Release

Ha'il, Saudi Arabia, January 06, 2023

HERO MOTOSPORTS TEAM RALLY POSTS ANOTHER SOLID RESULT AT THE DAKAR RALLY

ALL RIDERS FINISH IN TOP 20

Hero MotoSports Team Rally, the motorsport team of the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters - **Hero MotoCorp**, completed a long Stage 6 of the Dakar Rally 2023, with all three riders finishing in the top 20 positions.

Franco Caimi led the charge for the team and finished the stage in the 15th position, just 9 minutes behind the stage winner. Sebastian Buhler and Ross Branch followed him closely behind in the Rally GP class standings, in the 16th and 17th positions respectively.



Stage 6 was undoubtedly one of the longest days of Dakar 2023, a staggering 919 km route from Ha'il to Riyadh. Due to flooding from the incessant rains, the route was shifted to reach the bivouac in Riyadh, instead of Al Duwadimi. The day started off as early as 4 am in the freezing cold weather, and the competitors reached Riyadh quite late in the evening, in pouring rain, yet again. Continuing the trend from the last few stages, this stage too was a fast one on the sands.



The three Rally GP Class competitors Franco, Sebastian, and Ross enjoyed the fast stage, despite the long day in the desert. Continuing their consistent performance, the trio of Hero riders feature in the overall top-20 ranks, with Franco in the 15th, Buhler 18th and Ross in the 20th position in the overall Rally GP class standings.

Due to the heavy rains today, the route on Stage 7 tomorrow is deemed impassable, and hence stands cancelled. The competitors will travel by road to the Al Duwadimi bivouac, whereas the service crews will stay behind at the bivouac in Riyadh. Stage 8 will be a mini marathon from Al Duwadimi back to Riyadh, an 818 km challenge in sand and dunes.



Franco Caimi:

"Today was a fun stage. We had lots of sand throughout the stage, like in the last few stages. It has been quite physically demanding, yet I had fun on the bike. I felt well connected with my bike too today. I'm happy to have finished the stage, and now we'll relax a little bit and start all over again tomorrow."

Sebastian Buhler:

"Happy to have finished another stage. It was a very fast stage, mostly in the sand, but also had fast plateaus and some danger zones. I aimed to get a good rhythm, and overall, I think the stage has been positive."

Ross Branch:

"It has been freezing all day, right from 4 am in the morning when we started, till late evening when we reached the bivouac in Riyadh. The stage was really nice and fast, but unfortunately I couldn't get a good flow, and struggled all day. In the last 50 kms I managed to get a turnaround and found a good pace, but it was a little late by then. Anyhow, we're all in one piece, the bike is going really well, and I'm looking forward to tomorrow."

Provisional Rankings – Stage 6 (Rally GP Class)

1.	Luciano Benavides	Husqvarna Factory Racing	03h 14m 19s
2.	Skyler Howes	Husqvarna Factory Racing	+ 0m 56s
3.	Toby Price	Red Bull KTM Factory Racing	+ 2m 20s
15.	Franco Caimi	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 9m 37s
16.	Sebastian Buhler	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 10m 33s
17.	Ross Branch	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 10m 55s

Provisional Overall Rankings – at the end of Stage 6 (Rally GP Class)

1.	Skyler Howes	Husqvarna Factory Racing	26h 31m 52s
2.	Toby Price	Red Bull KTM Factory Racing	+ 3m 31s
3.	Kevin Benavides	Red Bull KTM Factory Racing	+ 7m 01s
15.	Franco Caimi	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 1h 16m 55s
18.	Sebastian Buhler	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 3h 57m 50s
20.	Ross Branch	Hero MotoSports Team Rally	+ 6h 22m 49s

For more information:

www.heromotocorp.com | FB: /HeroMotoCorpIndia | Twitter: @HeroMotoCorp | IG: @HeroMotoCorp

Press Contact:

corporate.communication@heromotocorp.com

Follow the team:

www.heromotosports.com | IG: @Heromotosports | FB: HeroMotoSports | Twitter: @hero_motosports

