

ROUND ONE OF SORC EVENT HELD IN NAMIBIA FEBRUARY 2011

Results

Class B1

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| 1. Kai Hennes | NMSF |
| 2. Jorn Greiter | NMSF |
| 3. Dale Holiday | ZMSA |
| 4. David Kidd | MSA |
| 5. Ian Dykes | MSA |
| 6. Calvin Collington | MSA |

Class B2

- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1. Ross Branch | MSA |
| 2. David Reeve | MSA |
| 3. Bjorn Bierbrauer | NMSF |
| 4. Vincent Crosbie | MSA |
| 5. Marcus Pieterse | ZMSA |
| 6. Neil Gailey | MSA |
| 7. Fletcher Broad | ZMSA |
| 8. Grant Pretorius | MSA |

Class B3

- | | |
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| 1. Fanie Steenkamp | NMSF |
| 2. Lance Higgins | ZMSA |
| 3. Yana De Jesus | NMSF |
| 4. Garry Rowland | NMSF |

A total of 20 riders entered the SORC Round 1 event held in Namibia on 26 February 2011. This was the first of 6 rounds held throughout Southern Africa. Zambia entered with 1 quad rider, Lance Higgins and 5 bike riders. 7 riders from MSA federation also travelled across to Namibia and between them and Zambia took advantage of the UB40 concert that was on in Windhoek the same night. Good company with a super atmosphere was enjoyed by all.

The route itself was extremely demanding and took its toll on both rider and machines with burnt clutches, boiling radiators and general wear and tear all around. However, the riders all asked for a tough technical track, and they got it!! In addition to this, Namibia has had the most phenomenal amount of rain over the past few months which created more drop offs and washaways to contend with.

Fresh from mx and new to off road, Ross Branch literally cruised around the track without even breaking into a sweat to win both overall and B2 class. Ross loves Namibia and it seems that the transition from one facet of motorcycling to another is going to be an easy one. Although local rider Ingo Waldschmidt did not enter the actual SORC class, only the National class, he was also in a class of his own. His fitness from the recent Dakar showed, and going from the heavy 690 to the 300 KTM must have made him think he was on a mountain bike. Kai Hennes, also from Namibia showed the visitors a clean pair of heels when he took the B1 class.

In the quad class, Namibian Fanie Steenkamp took the win and his time included him stopping to pick up a somewhat shaken young female competitor who had rolled her quad. Fanie, ever gallant, decided

rightly, not to leave her out alone in the bush and transported her back to the pit area. Hats off to another local rider, and another lady rider, Yana De Jesus who finished third overall in the quad class behind Zambian Lance Higgins.

Publicity for both the event and the club were raised when the sponsors, Bank Windhoek, became involved for the second year running. Below is an extract from the Namibian newspapers.

Bank Windhoek announced its support to the Namibia Enduro Club for the second consecutive year with a sponsorship of N\$60 000 which will enable the Namibia Enduro Club to host the Namibian Enduro Championship series with eight races scheduled for 2011.

“Bank Windhoek is honoured to be part of this exciting sport. Last year has been a very successful year for the Enduro sport in Namibia. To put Namibia on the map of the international Enduro scene, Bank Windhoek has decided to again support the Bank Windhoek National Enduro Championship,” said Riaan van Rooyen, Head: Corporate Communication and Social Investment at Bank Windhoek during the handing over ceremony.

The first race of the Bank Windhoek Namibian National Enduro Series 2011 was on Saturday, 26 February 2011, at the Tony Rust Race Track outside Windhoek. This event, which was also the first round of the FIM Africa Southern Off Road Challenge (SORC), was co-sponsored by KTM Namibia. Competitors from Zambia, Botswana and South Africa joined the local enduro riders to test their machines against the elements. Satcom provided the transponder system used for timekeeping and route checking.

“We at Bank Windhoek are delighted to be part of the Namibian Enduro Championships once again. Exciting racing events are scheduled for this year and the riders and the public can look forward to some great enduro action,” Van Rooyen concluded.

The chairman of the Namibian Enduro Club, Andreas Brendel said: “It is a great honour for us to have such blue chip companies onboard and we are grateful for their support.

Round two of the SORC Championship will be held in Zambia on 26 March 2011. We look forward to more riders participating in this series.