

Results from the Season Finale of 2019 Monster Energy Supercross in Las Vegas

Las Vegas, Nev., (May 5, 2019) A dramatic and emotional night of racing capped off the 2019 Monster Energy AMA Supercross, an FIM World Championship with the crowning of three first-time champions in Las Vegas at the Monster Energy Supercross Finals. The Sam Boyd Stadium sold-out crowd of 39,509 packed the seats to witness Red Bull KTM's Cooper Webb bring home the title with a third place finish in the Main Event, giving him the championship by 18 points over the event winner, Monster Energy Kawasaki's Eli Tomac. The Western Regional and Eastern Regional 250SX Classes faced off for the same set of championship points in the second 250SX East/West Showdown of the year. Going into the night's Main Event only eight points separated the top two Western Regional riders and just nine separated the Eastern Regional riders. Western Regional athlete Monster Energy/Star Racing/Yamaha's Dylan Ferrandis won the Main Event and also his first Monster Energy Supercross title. For the Eastern Region, a fourth place finish was more than enough to give GEICO Honda's Chase Sexton his first Monster Energy Supercross title.

Red Bull KTM's Cooper Webb celebrates his first 450SX Class Championship with the team at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

After winning his first ever 450SX Class Main Event earlier this year at Round Three, then backing it up with six more victories, Cooper Webb needed only to qualify into the Main Event and finish 20th out of 22 riders to ensure his first ever Monster Energy Supercross Championship. Twenty-three points back, and the only rider still with a shot at the title, Eli Tomac, could only win and then hope for a disastrous finish for Webb.

Tomac did his part, holoshooting the race and steadily pulling out a lead that reached over eleven seconds by the end; he was untouchable and other than a few close calls

on the hardpack track had no challenges to his lead. Cooper Webb was second off the start but was passed in the opening corners by his Red Bull KTM teammate Marvin Musquin. Webb settled into third with Rockstar Energy Husqvarna's Zach Osborne on his rear fender for the first few laps. Webb pulled out some breathing room, but five minutes into the 20 minute plus one lap race, Team Honda HRC's Ken Roczen blitzed past Osborne and set his sights on Webb.

Monster Energy Kawasaki's Eli Tomac (3) grabbed the holeshot and never looked back winning his sixth race of the 2019 season. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

At the midpoint of the race Roczen was within a half second of Webb, but Webb kept his composure, as he has all season, and found a little additional speed, as he has also done all season, and within a few laps he put three seconds on Roczen. The riders closed up again at the checkers but Webb held his podium position, and earned his first 450SX Class Monster Energy title, in his third season of racing in the premiere class.

Upon receiving his number one plate on the podium, Webb said, "It's been an incredible journey, I mean, just the changes here. I was a washed up tenth place guy last year and this KTM team believed in me and this group of guys took me in and transformed me and got me back to what I knew I could always be. And I really just can't believe it; this year was not expected at all but, man, I just can't thank those guys enough for giving me this opportunity to get back to this level and to do it this way. It's unreal. It's a dream come true since I was a little kid. Never thought I'd be a 450 champion, that's for sure, but you just gotta dream at something, and this is what we did, and now we did it... It's an incredible feeling."

Tomac won the night, but not the title; he earned second overall in points for 2019. On the podium he said about not



Monster Energy Kawasaki's Eli Tomac (3) grabbed the holeshot and never looked back winning his sixth race of the 2019 season. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

being able to control what happened on the track behind him, "That's all I could do tonight was control my destiny, getting out there, out front early. Just got out front with that holeshot and really rode a clean race that time, better than that Heat Race, more mistake-free. Great way to cap it off. Congrats to Cooper on the championship. It's just, gosh, I gave it my all today so it's a good way to end it."

Musquin earned a third place overall on the season and wrapped it up with a second place in Las Vegas. On the podium he said about his season finish, "I was looking for one more step than last year. Overall it was a decent year, we never gave up. We started off rough, very rough, with not much training in the off season. But like I said, I gave my all and that's all I can do. Little mistakes at the end of the year, and wish I could've fought until the end, but that's racing. But I'm not done, had a good year, the whole team, the people around me, my family, my brother, my parents, Mathilde, my close friends, they support me so much. And it's not over, my career is not over, so I'm looking for next year."

The 450SX Class Podium (from left to right) Marvin Musquin, Eli Tomac and Cooper Webb. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

In the upset win of the night, Dylan Ferrandis grabbed the Western Regional 250SX Championship with a wire to wire win in the Monster Energy Supercross 250SX East/West Showdown, a combination race of both regional classes into one Main Event. With riders from both coasts fighting over the same points payout, big point swings are common. Ferrandis entered the event eight points down on Monster Energy/Pro Circuit Kawasaki's Adam Cianciarulo but left Las Vegas a double winner, turning his third career victory into his first Monster Energy Supercross title.

For most of the race, and with Cianciarulo running in third, the win looked like it would not be enough for Ferrandis to make up the points; but with just over four minutes and one lap remaining Cianciarulo made a mistake and went down in a rhythm section. His bike's front end and handlebar took the brunt of the impact; the front wheel was knocked out of alignment and the bar so badly bent that Cianciarulo could hardly keep his balance over the jumps or rolling through the whoops. He pulled into the mechanics' area, but the bar could not be fixed, and he circled the track dropping quickly back and watching his title hopes disappear.

Monster Energy Star Racing Yamaha's Dylan Ferrandis wins his first Western Regional 250SX Class Championship at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

By finishing fourth in that same race, Chase Sexton secured the Eastern Regional 250SX Championship over Monster Energy/Star Racing/Yamaha's Justin Cooper, who finished in eighth. With the race win, Ferrandis earned the distinction of becoming the 2019 Monster Energy Supercross 250SX East/West Showdown Champion - and giving the West Coast riders bragging rights; the win puts the running tally at 12 total wins for the Western Regional riders versus 11 total wins for the Eastern Regional riders since the Las Vegas Showdown race format began in 1997. It was an especially good race for the Western Regional riders, taking the top three spots in the race this year.

GEICO Honda's Chase Sexton wins his first Eastern Regional 250SX Class Championship at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Photo Credit: Feld Entertainment, Inc.

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