

Ressort: Sport

## MotoGP Andrea Dovizioso scored a splendid victory in the Grand Prix of Qatar

### Andrea Dovizioso the best of Qatar

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**GDN** - Andrea Dovizioso scored a splendid victory in the Grand Prix of Qatar, the opening round of the 2018 MotoGP World Championship Losail International Circuit.

After a brief summary of the race we interviewed the riders Andrea Dovizioso # 04 Marc Marquez # 93 and Valentino Rossi # 46

The Ducati Team's Italian rider, who started from row 2, was unable to get a good start when the lights went out and he crossed the line at the end of the opening lap in seventh place. Dovizioso then moved up into the leading group, battling with Marquez, Rossi and Zarco and then took over at the front on lap 18, followed closely by the Spanish rider who tried an attack at the final curve. Andrea once again was able to get through on the inside and taking advantage of the acceleration of his Desmosedici GP18, he crossed the line 0.027s ahead of his Honda rival.

Andrea Dovizioso #04 Team Ducati Factory Racing- 1st

"I'm really happy with this win because we have confirmed the improvements made over the winter and I was able to manage the race well, even though I made a really bad start. On the first lap I had to come off the gas, otherwise I would have crashed into Rins I think, but then I began to make up places, trying not to ruin the tyres.. Towards the end, after passing Zarco, I tried to pull out a gap on Marquez and Rossi but I didn't have any more grip and was unable to increase my lead. At the last curve I had to be very careful because I knew that Marquez would try and pass me, and that's how it went. He closed the door on me even more than in Austria and Japan, but I passed him on the inside of the kerb and then took advantage of the power of my Desmosedici to stay ahead. Once again it was a great satisfaction!"

Marc Marquez #93 Team Repsol Honda HRC -2st

"What a race! I'm really happy with our second place finish because this is one of the tracks on the calendar where we struggle most. After the pre-season test we knew what we could expect. With the hard front tyre I was struggling a bit in the left corners but with the medium I wouldn't have finished the race. I tried to pass Dovi in the last corner but he beat me. Honestly, I was expecting that, but I had to try the move anyway, to see if there was any way we could make it happen. In the end, Dovi had something more than me and he deserves this win. Even if he was a bit behind at the start, I was waiting for him-I was waiting for the red! I knew his tactic was to push at the end and when he passed Zarco I said to myself, "let's go!" I followed him and almost went wide, but it was a great race and a great show. The thing I'm most happy about is that, this time, we were able to stay with him on the straight and this is very good."

Valentino Rossi #46 Team Movistar Yamaha-3st

"It was a great fight and a great race. Sincerely, last year it was a bigger surprise to me - it was less expected then to arrive on the podium. With the bike from this year I feel good. This time I was more competitive and I knew I could do a good race, but you never know if it's enough for the podium because we were with ten strong riders. I tried to push from the beginning, because I started from the third row and on the first lap I was able to overtake some guys. The other key point were the final laps, when like last year the strongest on the track were Dovizioso and Marquez. I knew they had enough to change the rhythm, but I'm very happy that I could go with them today and arrive at the finish line close to them, at the end. Unfortunately, it was not enough for the victory, but the podium is a great way to start."

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