KEN ROCZEN FINISHES THIRD OVERALL AT SECOND SMX PLAYOFF

September 21, 2026 • By Chase Lennemann

CARSON, Calif. — Ken Roczen continued his strong start to the SuperMotocross World Championship Playoffs with a third-place overall finish this past Saturday night in Carson, California.

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Roczen put together a 1-4 moto score aboard his No. 94 Progressive Insurance/Cycle Gear ECSTAR Suzuki to secure third overall. After finishing second overall at the opening playoff round in

Columbus, Roczen once again found himself on the podium while also capturing a moto victory in Carson.

Roczen came out firing in the opening moto, battling at the front of the field before taking the win. In Moto 2, he continued to fight near the front and ultimately crossed the line fourth, giving him enough for the final spot on the overall podium.

“I’m honestly really happy with my racing today,” said Roczen . “We were actually able to do some really awesome racing in that first one. Got the moto win after some good battles. Even in the second one I was fighting pretty hard, but I just ran out of gas a little bit.

“This was really our first blowout, as in a really intense race. Last week in the mud didn’t really count in that way. It was difficult in its own way. I’m happy. It’s tough coming back after a few months. I feel like my intensity is pretty good in the first one. It’s just not quite enough to bring it home for two motos, but I think I will get there pretty quickly.

“You can’t just buy this intensity. You have to be out there racing and get better in that environment, and that’s what we are doing. I can’t fast-forward time, but I sure will work on myself and show up better every weekend.”

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ANDERSON ATTEMPTS RETURN IN CARSON

Jason Anderson made an effort to return to racing after suffering a hand injury in the second moto of the opening SMX playoff round. Anderson climbed back aboard his No. 21 Twisted Tea Suzuki presented by Progressive Insurance in Carson and participated in qualifying, but after testing the injured hand at race pace, the decision was made to sit out the remainder of the

event and focus on returning for the championship finale.

“Obviously last weekend I had a little bit of a crash in the second race,” said Anderson . “I tried to do therapy all week to get ready, and I could kind of ride after. I feel like I’m going to put myself in a couple situations that I don’t want to get hurt in with my hand, especially since it’s my throttle hand. I can’t really use my front brake right now. So, made the decision

to sit out and wait until next weekend.”

NICHOLS MAKES THE MOST OF LATE OPPORTUNITY

Colt Nichols faced an uphill battle after going down while in a qualifying position during the unseeded race. The result left Nichols on the outside looking in for the main events, but the

No. 45 Twisted Tea Suzuki presented by Progressive Insurance rider stayed prepared in case another opportunity presented itself.

That opportunity came just before the second moto when two qualified riders did not line up, moving Nichols into the field as the second alternate. With little notice, Nichols headed to the starting gate and made the most of the opportunity, putting together a strong ride to finish

15th.

“Two guys didn’t race the second moto, so that allowed me as the second alternate to go race,” said Nichols . “So, very last-minute decision down at the gate and they pulled me in, and I was ready and wanted to go race. Overall, I feel like I made the most of it. It was awesome to go race and I felt like I put in a good effort.”

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Team Principal Dustin Pipes was pleased to leave Southern California with another podium and moto victory as the team turns its attention toward the final round of the SuperMotocross season.

“Good weekend in Los Angeles with another podium finish and race win for Ken Roczen ,” said Pipes . “We have an outside shot at the SuperMotocross Championship, and we are going to come into next weekend as prepared as possible to come away with a win.

“Jason unfortunately tried to come back a little early, so we collectively decided to sit him after the first qualifier. Hopefully he can give it a go next weekend. Colt was able to race his way to 15th place in that second race. I felt like he rode really well.”

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CHAMPIONSHIP FINALE UP NEXT

The SuperMotocross World Championship will come to its conclusion next weekend with the championship finale at Thunder Ridge Nature Arena in Ridgedale, Missouri.

Fans can catch the action live on Peacock , beginning with Race Day Live coverage, followed by the final motos of the 2026 SuperMotocross season.

For a closer look behind the scenes with Pipes Motorsports Group and the Twisted Tea Suzuki presented by Progressive Insurance team, follow the team on Instagram and Facebook .

2026 Carson Photo Gallery

ABOUT PIPES MOTORSPORTS GROUP

About the Team: The team competes at the highest level of professional motocross and supercross, showcasing determination, development and a commitment to strong performances throughout the season.

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