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YAMAHA NEWS

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YAMAHA Grand Sports Festival Colorful Festival Ceremony



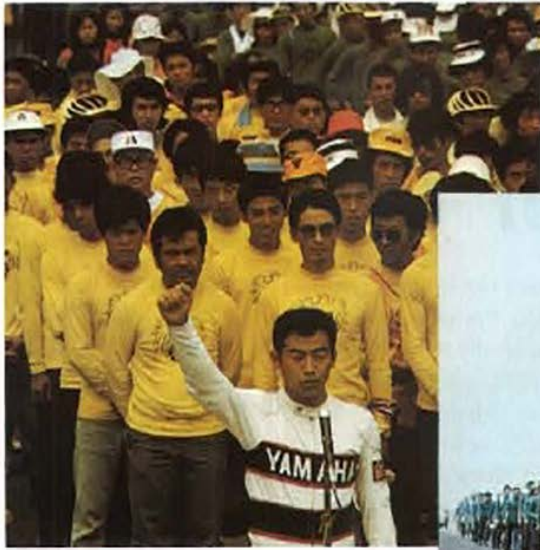
Preliminary heats of sports were run in the daytime, and 'Music in Yamaha' was promoted at night on August. Festive mood reached to its climax when the festival ceremony took place on the morning of August 6 at the Fuji Speedway Circuit, attracting some 50,000 spectators, a record number ever registered since the world championship Japanese road race GP in 1967. Riders by regional block entered the circuit, with a team of baton girls and a brass band of college students which added extra color and grandeur to the atmosphere of festival ceremony.



Fresh Thrill and Excitement

Road Race

Enthusiasts gather together from every part of Japan



Oath by A. Motohashi, representative of riders (above), and riders entering the circuit by regional block (right)



After the grand colorful opening ceremony was over, sports festival opened on the Fuji Speedway Circuit and a permanent motocross course of Fuji. It turned out to be a gigantic pageant developed in hot weather of summer. Road race events counting for Yamaha Grand Sports Festival Cup were participated by 327 contestants, a record number of entries ever registered for a single road race meeting in Japan. The meeting was classified into novice, junior, expert/junior and senior classes. Spectators, some of whom had never watched road races, fully tasted thrill of this speed festival.



Spectators were specially interested in senior classeven which was fought by most of Japanese top class riders including H. Kanaya, A. Motohashi and K. Hiroyuki. Also, attention was drawn to such ex-stars as H. Hasegawa and T. Noguchi who acted as race official or pit personnel. Senior class dead heat among the said three stars all riding fantastically fast Yamahas thrilled and excited spectators to the ultimate. Kanaya, after wheel-to-wheel hectic battle with Motohashi and Hiroyuki, won senior class event, convincingly impressed all of spectators by his world-GP-proven techniques. Other class riders forming larger portion of Japanese racing enthusiasts made their colorful outing on their own Yamaha machines tuned and modified in variety of their liking within the limit of competition rules.



The history of road race in Japan began with the Asama volcano meeting held at the rough ashy circuit at the foot of Mt. Asama approx. 17 years ago. Even in those days Yamaha machines succeeded in establishing a fame for their brilliant victory. Since then Yamaha has all the time followed the way to supreme racing glory, world championships, making much contributions to more

popularization of road race as sound and pleasurable motorcycle sport for the action-loving youth in Japan. As mentioned separately, the Yamaha Grand Sports Festival attracted a record number of participants, most of which were novice riders, thus reflecting the fruits of Yamaha's strenuous efforts.

New Road Race Hero; Hideo Kanaya



Motorcycle enthusiasts estimated at some 50,000 thronging around the Fuji Speedway Circuit gave a cheerful welcome to their new racing hero who took part in the Yamaha Grand Sports Festival on August 6. His name was Hideo Kanaya, 27 years old Korea-born Japanese rider, fresh from his brilliant successes in the world classic events. Participation in the said sports festival was his first racing debut in Japan ever since he came back home. Kanaya thoroughly displayed his GP race-trained skills to take his Yamaha racer home well ahead of other Japanese stars including H. Kawasaki and A. Motohashi, both on Yamaha machines, too. Kanaya, who had been nominated one of the best '71 road race riders in Japan, happened to join the Yamaha racing team which was preparing more powerful attack than ever in bid for '72 road race championships with the newly developed water-cooled twin racers on hand. In fact, Kanaya was lucky enough to have a chance to ride such fabulous machines for the world GP races, but, at the same time, Yamaha made the best choice in signing a contract with a new Japanese rider. Reigning national champion Kanaya proved well competent even in the world GP races contested by all of foreign top class riders.

Booming Enthusiasm

Motocross



Applicable Trail Techniques

Enthusiasm to motocross has been hotting up in Japan in recent years. Competition-converted trail machines of Yamaha have set further spurs to this trend by letting enthusiasts fully enjoy thrill and excitement of this motorcycle sport in more suitable way than ever. Yamaha-original trail land program exerted in line with evergrowing motocross fans has been also very favorably received, as riders can have a chance to acquire correct

and extensive knowledge and techniques for off-the-road riding applicable to motocross competitions under pertinent guidance of Yamaha-approved instructors at trail lands established throughout Japan. In a word, this type of motorcycle sport has been within everybody's reach since Yamaha set out to put greater efforts in popularizing it in Japan.



S. Hideaki with a trophy (above), and winning block team leader awarded championship flag (right)



New Record of Entries, Too

It was a grand sight that riders estimated at approx. 500 from every part of Japan were entering the circuit by regional block, headed by a team of colorful baton girls. Those riders had contested and taken major placings at regional motocross series held during a period from February to July, to take part in the festival event counting for the Yamaha Trail Cup. Riders representing 'Youthful Power of Japan' unfolded each class hectic battle.

5-category 11 class races were run, and spectators' interest concentrated on main event senior 250cc class which was contested by all of Yamaha aces including reigning national champion S. Hideaki and his younger brother Torao. New star K. Seo fresh from his race-errantry to Europe also took part in it. Hideaki expertly rode his Yamaha to victory closely followed by Torao and Seo.

New Type Sport



Kart Race



Kart racing is a relatively new sport in Japan, but fast winning high popularity among young enthusiasts. At the festival 5 class races were run attracting some 100 entries. Equipped with tuned-up engines ranging from 100cc to 250cc in displacement, machines hit the top speed at 150-160 km/h on this high speed circuit. Each class race never failed to much more thrill and excite spectators than anticipation. According to competition rules in Japan, riders older than 12 years can apply for competition licenses, and kart racing is expected to become more popular toward the future.

Full of Fantasy



Popular singers on the stage (above), and youthful excitement (right)

At night on August 5, enthusiasts gathered together at the lakeside of Ashinoko, Hakone some 50 miles west of Tokyo where 'Music in Yamaha' was promoted as part of the festival program. It was a delightful event full of fantasy. Famous bands and singers appeared on the stage to boost the mood of festival to a maximum. Yamaha racing stars such as A. Mochashi, S. Hideaki and Torao happened to make their entrance on the stage to enjoy the eve of festival all together with Yamaha fans.

Music in YAMAHA



Rider Education School

Safe and Pleasurable

Yamaha-original rider education school sessions taking place at the festival also attracted positive public attention. Trail, sports and safe riding sessions were made open to every motorcyclist wishing to learn how to ride a motorcycle in a safe and pleasurable way under the guidance of Yamaha-sanctioned expert instructors. It is congratulatory that Yamaha's rider education school program is winning higher recognition among general public from the standpoint of its contributions to traffic safety.



Trail school session was designed to teach prospective off-the-road motorcyclists how to negotiate every terrain condition in a successful way. Most of applicants had not taken this session before, but looked fully interested in this new type motorcycling, while acquiring knowledge and techniques for off-the-road riding.

Sports school session was also attended by a lot of enthusiasts. This session focussed on techniques for trial which was another new type motorcycle sport in Japan. T. Nishiyama, No.1 trial rider in Japan demonstrated his wonderful skills in going over an automobile. Safe riding school session was intended for helping motorcyclists train their own riding skills backed by correct recognition of traffic safety in a pleasurable way.

N. Otsuki, one of top class riders in Japan acted as an instructor to give lectures and demonstrate model techniques, keeping trainees interested in this session all the time.



**Exhibition
&
Consultation
Corners**

**Serviceable
&
Instrumental**



A lot of motorcycle enthusiasts were drawn to various exhibition and consultation corners which Yamaha arranged in such a way that motorcyclists might have serviceable and instrumental information concerning motorcycles and motorcycling. At the motorcycle exhibition corner the world-GP winning Yamaha production racers were on display together with all new models of Yamaha, and attracted particular attention from racing fans. Young enthusiasts were thronging around a sign corner attended by all of Yamaha road race and motocross aces including H. Kanaya who made his first racing debut on the home ground, fresh from brilliant successes in the '72 world GP race series

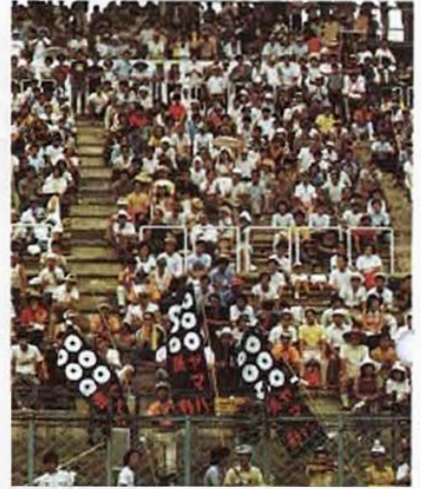


**Tremendous
Success**

The 1st Yamaha Grand Sports Festival which was promoted by combining all efforts of Yamaha together turned out to be the largest-scale event of this kind ever organized in Japan. It proved to be a tremendous success in propagating Yamaha's consistent motto 'Safe and Pleasurable Motorcycling' among such a large number of enthusiasts who gathered together from every region of Japan. In making this festival successful, efforts exerted by Yamaha dealers throughout Japan can not be overlooked. They gave overall support to every aspect of this program, namely, pre-PR or advertisement, accepting applicants for school sessions and competitions, every arrangement for proceeding the festival, etc. Closer link or communication between Yamaha dealing people and users must lead to desirable increase in sales.



YGSF Snapshots



Grand stands feature variety of locality



OR race by retired veterans



A scene of pit