

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **RHODES AND PULLINO WIN MAIDEN KINGS OF THE DESERT CROWN AT 2019 TATTS FINKE DESERT RACE**

Jack Rhodes and David Pullino have completed a breakthrough win to be crowned Kings of the Desert for the first time at the 2019 Tatts Finke Desert Race, which has ended in heartbreak for favourite Toby Price.

The Jimco Aussie Special Nissan 3500cc of Rhodes and Pullino claimed victory with a 6 minute 33 second margin over Josh Howells and Eric Hume in second.

The pair from Adelaide have finished the race on the podium four times previously (3<sup>rd</sup> in 2018 and 2017, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2015 and 2014), and finally took the coveted win today with an overall time of 3 hours and 42 minutes.

"It's unbelievable," Rhodes said.

"We've finally done it. To be the bridesmaid so many times... it's been a great effort to get there on the podium that many times, but this is so much sweeter now. The top step is awesome." added Pullino.

The 2019 Kings of the Desert had a difficult start to their campaign of the 2019 Tatts Finke Desert Race, rolling their car in Prologue which saw them begin the journey to Finke from 14<sup>th</sup> position.

"I can't believe we've come from that far back to win it," said Rhodes.

"I think with everything in the years leading up to this has made it even sweeter.

"It's been a mental journey, but we're here."

Rhodes and Pullino swiped the race lead from Toby Price when a mechanical failure forced the Red Bull racer out of the race between the Mt Squires and Bundooma check points.

Price was gunning for his first ever win of the car category at the Tatts Finke Desert Race, having been crowned King of the Desert in the bike race six-times.

Brent Martin and Andre De Simone rounded out the podium.

Mark and Matthew Burrows were the first father-son duo to cross the finish line in fourth, with Shannon and Ian Rentsch recovering from yesterday's puncture to end the race fifth.

The family affair in the Top 10 continued with Dale Martin - brother of third place Brent Martin - arriving in Alice Springs in sixth position alongside navigator Adrian Rowe.

Craig Martin - father of Brent and Dale - was the last of the family home, with he and Benjamin Dawson taking the chequered flag in ninth.



Dad and son were separated by Danny Brown and George Apted in seventh, and Troy Higgins and Josh Simmons in eighth.

The #401 entry of Brett Taylor, Peter Treis and Chris Hinspeter completed the Top 10.

Complete results from the 2019 Tatts Finke Desert Race car category can be found [here](#).

The 2019 Tatts Finke Desert Race was held in Alice Springs on the Queen's Birthday weekend from 6-10 June 2019.

2019 is the 20th year of Tatts' naming-rights partnership of the Finke Desert Race.

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