



Race Report: Bush Riders XC Rnd 1 The Pepperwoods

Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: AmPro Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Result: 1st



Round 1 of the Bush Riders XC series was held in near perfect conditions on the northern end of the Tararua range. I say near perfect because the track winds its way through pepperwoods which carpet the ridges under the wind turbines, and they were put there for a reason. But this day was as calm as you could expect up there.

The start was on slick green grass and I spun a little of the line after the shotgun blast rang out. Both Daniel Christie and Chris Smyth beat me to turn one but ran wide, I was able to sneak up the inside and take the Waitawhiti Perendales hole shot award. The track was a little dusty for the first couple of km as we climbed up. Once on top and in the pepperwoods the dirt was perfect. There were some really nice sections that weaved through the trees before we emerged at a gateway and began our decent down to the pits. A few spots of rotten rock caused problems for a few guys with flat tires. Although I was confident my Tireballs would hold up to the sharp edged rock.

I had a safe lead after a lap, mostly due the dust in the early section allowing me to open up a gap straight away and hide from the chasing pack of hungry young riders.

Katherine has gone back to work while we are home so I was on my own in the pits. That was until Grant Christie offered his help and did a fine job of topping up the tank. The race was fun and the two hour event passed quickly. Young up and coming rider Charles Alabaster put his new Husqvarna into second place with Brad Stoddart taking third.

1st: Paul Whibley

2nd: Charles Alabaster

3rd: Brad Stoddart

Paul Whibley is supported by:

AmPro Yamaha, Monster Energy, Shoei, Sidi, Smith, G2, Asterisk, Moto SR, Vortex Ignitions, EC3D, Bush Riders MCC, Darbis, Spectro, DID, JT, GHQ, Sargent Motorcycles, Yamaha NZ, Rosscos Start up Services, Works Connection, Pro Taper, Race Pace Services, Unabiker, Leatt Brace, Tire Balls, bikesportnz.com, Stuk, KettleClamp, Alliance Offroad

The AmPro Yamaha Team is supported by:

FMF Kenda Yamalube Asterisk CV4 Cycle Gear E-Batt EBC Brakes Factory Connection Fastway GYTR IMS Leatt Brace Motion Pro MSR Pro-Clean Rekluse Shoei Slavens TM Designworks Cycra Twin Air Wiseco ZipTy Racing AllBalls Racing Pro Taper Stuk

