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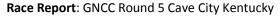












Rider: Paul Whibley Team: AmPro Yamaha Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Result: 3rd



I guess all the hole shots I've been pulling lately would attract some attention sooner or later so it was no surprise to me to have an official standing behind me as the green flag was ready to wave. But again I pulled a sweet hole shot and led the opening lap of the race. This was a new venue and the trail system was fresh apart from the 500 odd quads on Saturday and the couple hundred bikes over the course during the morning races. There were plenty of rocks in the soil and with the weekends traffic they had all been dug out and exposed, even in places that seemed clean during the track walk.

As I began the second lap I was under pressure from Rory Mead. He had chosen to ride a 300 two stroke and in the tight technical sections it seemed to be paying off, as once past me, he opened up a gap quickly. I was not riding all that well, feeling a little uncomfortable in the rocks. On the third lap Charlie Mullins pushed past as well but I was able to match his pace and learn a couple of lines.

After Katherine, Gary and Scotty took care of the fuelling duties, we began to close the gap on Rory. With a couple laps to go we could see Rory in front of us as we weaved through the grass track section near the pits. On the last lap I was still trying to make a pass on Charlie and had a go on a rocky uphill, but my line at the top ran me wide and he held onto his position. It was getting dusty in the open areas and passing was difficult in the tight stuff. As we came out into the last couple of miles I was not close enough to try anything.

Rory held on to take the win, marking his first in the GNCCs. Big congrats from us!!!

1st: Rory Mead

2nd: Charlie Mullins

3rd: Paul Whibley

Paul Whibley is supported by:
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