

**Race Report:** OMA Round 5 Tennessee**Rider:** Paul Whibley**Team:** AmPro Yamaha**Bike:** Yamaha YZ450 F**Result:** 1st

Dry conditions were again the deal for the day at the 5th round of the OMA series. Light rain was forecast but maybe not enough to dampen the dust.

I got off to a good start and ran side by side with Russell Bobbitt going down the long start straight and into turn one. I had the inside line and Russell tried to outbreak me but went way deep into the first turn. I hugged the inside and took the lead. Russell stayed right on my back wheel. That was the only way he could see through the dust in the early sections. Once we raced into the fresh single track there was less dust and he made a few attempts to get by but nothing worked out for him. I think maybe he made a mistake cause by the end of the lap I had some time over him. My AmPro Yamaha teammate Jordan Ashburn was riding the new WR 450, getting some seat time and working on his setup. He came through the pack after an average start and soon was closing in. In the third lap I made a mistake on a hill and had to dog paddle up. Jordan was quick to pounce and slipped by as we crested the rocky climb. A couple miles later he stalled his bike and I shot back to the lead. I put my head down and tried to up the pace. Jordan was riding well and I needed to build a lead and maintain it.

At the pit stop I had about 20 seconds over Jordan and Katherine and Ryan had me in and out before he was in sight.

I kept the pace up and solidified my lead. The rain finally arrived but just made it really slick. The last lap I backed it down a little as it would have been all too easy to throw it away on a few of the fast slick logging roads. Unfortunately for Jordan a fuelling miscalculation left him out of gas on the last lap.

1st: Paul Whibley2nd: Nick Fahringer3rd: Russell Bobbitt

Thanks to Mark Kariya for the photo.

Paul Whibley is supported by:

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

The AmPro Yamaha Team is supported by:

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