



Race Report: GNCC Round 3 Steele Creek North Carolina

Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: AmPro Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Result: 2nd



A large turnout of racers and spectators packed the pits both days of the third round at Steele Creek, one of the older venues on the GNCC circuit.

When the green flag waved I again grabbed the hole shot. The track was very choppy and had a lot a square edges going up and down many of the steep hills. I could feel my arms tightening up and tried to ride as relaxed as possible but near the end of the first lap was overtaken by Kailub Russell and his KTM team mate Charlie Mullins. I latched onto them for another lap trying to shake the arm pump but could not hold their pace with my arms so tight. I slid back into the pack, ending up buried in about 6th position.

After the fuel stop I began to loosen up and found myself regaining some time on Charlie. Soon catching him and moving by. I then was battling Cory Buttrick and Thad Duvall for a podium position. With two laps to go I slotted into second but Cory was determined not to let me have the position without a fight.

The white flag came out and I started to put some daylight between Cory and myself. I claimed second spot in the XC1 class but there was no denying Kailub the win. He rode a strong and calculated race.

The bike worked great on the demanding track, the new suspension set up that Factory Connection came up with during testing is an improvement on last season's set up. Big thanks to those guys.

1st: Kailub Russell

2nd: Paul Whibley

3rd: Cory Buttrick

Photo by Ken Hill, gnccracing.com

Paul Whibley is supported by:

AmPro Yamaha, Monster Energy, Shoei, Sidi, Smith, G2, CTi, Moto SR, Vortex Ignitions, EC3D, Bush Riders MCC, Darbis, GHQ, Sargent Motorcycles, Yamaha NZ, Rosscos 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:

FMF Kenda Yamalube Asterisk CV4 Cycle Gear E-Batt EBC Brakes Factory Connection Fastway Gaerne 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

