



Race Report: Mid East Hare Scramble Series, Hickory, NC

Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: AmPro Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Result: 1st



A short five mile track and a large turnout of riders at the latest Mid East Hare scramble event provided challenging conditions. The track itself looked in pretty good shape with a few spots of moisture showing in the woods and the only dust was out in the couple of fast grass straights.

I drew nearly the last pick of the line with I think only Matthew Nix having a worse pick. I chose the very inside on the extremely short start straight, hoping that if I could get to the turn first I would be good, otherwise I would get blocked in and end up out the back. The game plan worked and I took the hole shot and led the way. Jesse Robinson got a good start also and soon was putting some pressure on. I handed him the lead late in the lap when I went to deep into the woods from one of the fast grassy straights and completely missed the inside line that had opened up from the youth race. Jesse I'm sure was mentally rubbing his hands together. Anyway he led the way to scoring and then into lapped riders. We continued to push hard but it was becoming increasingly more difficult as we began running into heavy traffic. I managed to retake the lead only to gift it back when I tangled with a mix of trees and bikes. I moved back into the lead once again after Jesse and I split a lapped rider down one of the faster straights. This time I made it stick and as we pushed through the thickest traffic into some clean air I was able to start to open a gap. As the race wore on and I guess as the riders got more spread out I was able to increase my lead to a safe margin. Jesse ended up with a battle on his hands for second when Mathew Nix on his YZ 250 took the position. Jesse fort back to reclaim the position on the last lap. Fellow Kiwi, Adrian Smith in his first race in the States had brake problems but really enjoyed the racing and is looking forward to future events.

1st: Paul Whibley

2nd: Jesse Robinson

3rd: Matthew Nix

pic thanks to Katherine Whibley

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, KettleClamp

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

