



Road To Mosgiel

Hey everyone, I hope your Easter weekend was great and you enjoyed the 4 day weekend!

My Easter weekend was spend down in the South Island at Round 4 and 5 of the New Zealand Enduro Champs, firstly in Christchurch on Saturday, then in Mosgiel on Monday.

Saturday's enduro was a bit of a non-event for me. I had some bike issues early on when I tried out a new engine map that just didn't work at all, but generally I just didn't ride very well. I'm the first to admit that I'm not very good when it comes to farm land type racing, but as Enduro is about who is the best over all different kinds of terrain, it's something I need to really work on to become a better all-round rider. I finished the day in 3rd in class and 7th overall.

Monday's race in Mosgiel was a stark contrast to Christchurch and with the majority of the event run through pine forest, so I felt a lot more at home. The 450 was running perfect after going back to my regular engine map and I felt like I had a win in me for the first time all season. I won three of the six terrain tests that day and was never out of the top 5 and never more than a few seconds off winning it. I honestly believed I had the day won outright when I left the track at about 5pm. I had seen some preliminary results and it seemed to me I had my first outright win for the year in the bag. I was pretty stoked.

But if it's not one thing, it's another is this year's enduro series and when the results had been posted online, I had been relegated to second place by a mere 5 seconds. It turns out that about 5 riders missed some arrows and did not race through terrain test 3 somehow? The penalty for missing a timed check is 4000 points, effectively putting you in last place. Someone had made a song and dance about it and managed to get that test thrown out of the day's results. The same issue happened with test 5, a hand full of riders thought they were going the wrong way and stopped to have a chat about it. Turns out there were on the right track, but again, made a big deal about what I, and the rest of the field though was an easy track to follow, and that test was also thrown out of the events results. I test 5 was one of the tests I won and it was by more than 5 seconds so needless to say I am a bit annoyed by what has gone on with the Mosgiel Enduro. The tracks and tests and everything else about that event was very good and thanks to the club for putting on a great Enduro.

I'm in the process of following up the results that I believe don't reflect how the day actually went. But however that turns out, I know that I won the days racing and that I have the speed to win overall when I can put it all together. Thanks again everyone for their continued support, it means a lot. Chris

