



**Rider:** Paul Whibley  
**Team:** Freedom Moto Yamaha  
**Bike:** Yamaha YZ450 F  
**Event:** Central Cross Country Series Rnd 4  
**Result:** 1st

### Race Report

Pouring rain Saturday night had a nervous field rolling in through the gate but there really was nothing to worry about. The rain soaked in and by the time the senior race kicked off there were spots of dust showing.

I got an ok start and came out of the start paddock in third. As much as it had dried there was still some slick grass and clay sections that deserved respect on lap one. Mid lap I moved into the lead and just tried to ride smooth. This plan was working with a small lead established before coming into scoring.

Over the next couple laps the track continued to dry and I clicked up a gear etching out a growing gap over the chasing riders. I couldn't see anyone behind me but I knew they wouldn't be far behind.

After time spent in the pits for the fuel stop I caught a glimpse of the chasing pack. This gave me a boost to continue to hold the pace and know I had a bit of a buffer.

The track continued to dry and a fair bit of chop emerged on some of the hills. The second half of the race went smoothly with the YZ 450 eating the big hills with ease and dealing to the choppy conditions.

Charles Alabaster eventually settled into second with Daniel Christie rounding out the podium.

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Paul Whibley
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Charles Alabaster
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Daniel Christie

#### Paul Whibley is supported by:

Sidi, Smith, G2, Asterisk, MotoSR, Vortex Ignitions, EC3D, Bush Riders MCC, Darbis, GHQ, Freedom Moto, Yamaha NZ, Rosscos Start Up Services, Works Connection, Pro Taper, Race Pace Services, Unabiker, Leatt Brace, Tire Balls, bikesportnz.com, CarbSport, KettleClamp, Alliance Offroad, Ride Eng MotoSeat FMF Kenda Yamalube CV4 GYTR IMS MSR Rekluse Clutches, Twin Air Wiseco Ride Eng Workshop graphics

