



Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Event: GNCC Rnd 1 Matata

Result: 1st

Race Report

Sorry for the delay in getting this out but straight after the race I had to get my appendix out so have been laid up for a few days. This is a quick recap of how the race went.

A good start had me lead the way around the first lap but as we closed in on scoring Mitch Rees caught and passed me with some youthful excitement. He had started on the second row and used some local knowledge to close in quickly over the first lap. I jumped back past him as we started the second lap. I was able to open a small gap but I was unsure how far he started behind me and how much I needed to put between us to stay ahead on adjusted time. Mitch rode a smart race and kept me in sight, possibly all he needed to do to take the win. He took the lead again as we left the pits after 3 laps. I kept him in sight but needed to be in front to give myself a shot at the win. Mid way through the next lap he got stuck in a bog and I powered to the front. I tried to keep pushing and over the last few laps couldn't see Mitch but again was not sure how much time I needed to take the win.

As it turned out Mitch had crashed out late in the race and I ended up winning by a safe margin.

- 1st: Paul Whibley
- 2nd: Simon Landsdaal
- 3rd: Scott Birch

Thanks to Andy at bikesportnz.com for the pic.

Paul Whibley is supported by:

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