



Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Event: NZXC Rnd 1/ Dirt Guide Rnd 1

Result: 1st

Race Report

The first round of the NZXC series went off. I wasn't planning to ride this event since I have been organising the series but with Sean and Adel Clarke doing a fantastic job of the track and sign in and John Rushworth taking care of the scoring. With everything under control and since I won't have the opportunity to ride many of the NZXC rounds, I was encouraged to ride this one.

A huge turnout of 86 Junior riders tackled the Tar Hill track before the Senior race. The large number of riders forced a move of the start line from the road to a nearby skid site. A shotgun blast signalled the start and the 130 odd Seniors hit the track. I got a great start and led the way around the first turn, across the road and into the pines. The trail was in good shape after recent rain. A few slick spots but the soil was prime. The bike was working well with my MotoSR suspension soaking it all up. I was pretty steady over the first lap but by the end of the 19km lap I had a nice lead. On the second lap the track got really good. Nice ruts and berms were forming and the trail had a good flow. Mid race one hill had some deep ruts forming in it so the track was rerouted to make sure it remained ride-able for everyone.

A quick splash of gas, Thanks to Carrol for manning(?) the IMS dump can. I was back into the race before second place came into sight. I kept it this way for the rest of the race.

One of the most fun races I've done in a while.

1st: Paul Whibley

2nd: Liam Draper

3rd: Jake Whitaker

Thanks to Andy McGechan for the pic.

Paul Whibley is supported by:

Sidi, Smith, G2, Asterisk, MotoSR, Vortex Ignitions, EC3D, Bush Riders MCC, Darbis, GHQ, Freedom Moto, Yamaha NZ, Rossco's 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 Recluse Twin Air Wiseco Ride Eng Workshop graphics

