

Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship

Round 2: I43 OffRoad



Gibson Gets R Done

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Hurricane Mills, TN, Oct 16

Dustin Gibson hit the spotlight at the second round of the Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship. He showed off his number **one** plate and impressed everyone with his first place finish. Although it was a dusty dilemma for many at the Pirelli /

American Patriot Getaways / Moose / Maxxis backed series, he withstood them all at the I43 OffRoad event in Hurricane Mills, Tennessee.

He said, “Off the start, it was real dusty, so those guys pulled away from me. I kept making mistakes and toward the end I caught up to them and thought, *sweet!*”

Off the start, Team Green Kawasaki’s **P.A. Allen** got the holeshot with Gibson, **Charles Mullins**, and **Mike Sampson** following. Allen led for most of the first lap, and then Mullins took over and finished the rest of the thirteen miles in thirty-six minutes. **Travis Green**, racing in 250 A, was not too far behind, and he rolled into the score tent in second place by adjusted time while Mike Sampson checked out of the race. This rate of speed continued for the next lap with Mullins and Green clearing the trail as first and second place in overall.

The third lap was grueling for the majority of racers. The dust was ankle deep and caused problems. Gibson quickly inherited a second place position when Mullins’s bike suffocated. Green was in the lead with Allen right behind him. Then luck shined on Gibson once again, and he inherited the win when Green was forced onto the sidelines, waiting for someone to tow him out while Allen suffered from a clogged filter. The dust was simply too much for many, but Gibson got R done with support from Sarge’s Cycles, KTM Hard Parts, ATEK, Maxxis, and Pro Action of Kentucky.

“The last two laps,” said Gibson, “I just pulled as hard as I could because I knew Travis was winning by time. I eventually pulled away enough that I didn’t have to worry about anything.”

Meanwhile Smith / Dunlop / Shift / Pro Circuit / Power Sport Graphics supported Allen was plugging away, and he finished the race in second place. He and Gibson were the only AA riders who made four laps.

Allen said, “I crashed and lost my goggles and raced the second lap without them. It was real dusty, so I lost a lot of time there. I charged as hard as I could and caught Travis on

the last lap, but my filter was clogged, so I chugged and lugged my bike up those last few hills.”

Down South Motorsports backed **Jason Wofford** was the winner of 4 Stroke A class. He put the pressure on several riders in different classes and finished out the podium in third place. The next rider to finish was **Gary Hendricks** and fifth place in overall went to **Morgan Green**.

Although it was tough, many of the racers rode an impressive race. **Geoffery Vermilyea** finished in 7th place in overall while Obermeyer sponsored **Travis Schaffer** finished in eighth place in overall. In spite of Travis Green’s bad luck, he held onto ninth place in overall because he was the fastest rider to make three laps.

Interestingly enough, had both Gibson and Green been a minute and a half slower; then the race would have had a different winner. Since Green came in a minute and thirty-three seconds shy of the hour and fifty-five minute rule, Scott Horton, aka Score Machine man, was forced to send the A riders for another go round. Out of the seventy-one racers in the A class, only eight made it back for the checkered flag at the fourth lap. **Jake Young** was among one of those riders. He finished in sixth place in overall and took home second place in the 250 A class.

Some well deserved B riders impressed everyone with their overall positions. Among them were **Cody Miller**, **Tristan Redferrin**, and **Thomas Derryberry**. Up front was Cody Miller. Racing a Kawasaki, he charged his way into eighteenth place in overall after winning the 4 Stroke B class. Redferrin moved into the twenty-third place in overall while Derryberry got twenty-fourth place in overall.

Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship Youth Series
Round 2: I43 Off Road

Thurman Takes I43 Off Road



BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Hurricane Mills, TN, Oct 16

The second round of the Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship got off to a dusty start as the Youth event introduced a dusty trail for the races held in the morning race. The race was at I43 Off Road Park in Hurricane Mills, Tennessee. **Samuel Thurman [1]** took the Pee Wee 4-6 win at round two of the Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship. The Dust Bowl proved no match for Thurman, who barreled his way into a near one minute victory over second place. The six year old Pegram, Tennessee, native took the holeshot and did his best to keep his Cobra 50cc in front of the dust to come away with the win.

He said, "I'm proud of myself for getting first, and I'm glad my father helps me out."

Zach Kirchoff and **Kenneth Wolfe** finished out the podium, riding KTMs and making seven laps in the Pee Wee 4-6 age bracket while **Justin Lenard** and **Nathan Jones** took home the second and third place plaques in the Pee Wee's 7-8. They had a lot of fun and enjoyed the course even though it was very dusty.

KTM mounted **Cole Kirchoff** was the winner of the Pee Wee 7-8 group. Off the start, he got the holeshot and was overtaken but quickly recovered to take the win by approximately thirty seconds.

"This race was really fun and wide open," said Kirchoff, "but the dust was bad."

When it comes to Junior A class, **Jordan Ashburn** is definitely a name to be remembered. After a successful past year, he was back and at it again as this year's Mid-State Motorsports' Kawasaki rider. Out of the fifteen racers in his class, he got the holeshot and never looked back. He checked out early and finished the race nearly three and a half minutes ahead of the second place rider, Tyler Carter. His summer time persistence at Summer Camp has paid off because he has two victories for two races thus far.

"I like the new part of the track," said Ashburn. "It had rutted out sections, downed trees, ditches, and rocks. My favorite part was the opens woods."

Up front, the Junior A and B classes were the first to break in a portion of the adult trail. They enjoyed this event because it was a challenge.

The Junior B class also had a fair share of difficulties eating Junior A's dust, but **Jeremiah Bowman, Michael Huddleston, and Andrew Hilinski** stayed the course. They had a tight battle going throughout much of their race as they freight train into the score tent only seconds apart. It was a close race, and they swapped the lead several times, finishing it within ten second from one another.

The Mini class kicked up more dust than any of them. Off the start, twenty-three racers barreled for the holeshot, and every one of them finished. While most of them made four laps, some made three while the rest completed two laps or less. **Steven Middlebrook** won it, followed by **Brett Iott, Austin Lee, Cody Leechman, and Logan P'Pool**.