

Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship

Round 11 of 12: Hazzard Hill



Gibson Gains

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Vanleer, TN, April 30

Dustin Gibson has been making it tough for the competition lately. When it comes to the best, he has earned the right to say he's number one. Now for his second year in a row, he has proven his skill at winning the Mid-South Cross Country Racing Series. Like times before, Hazzard Hill was no different. He maneuvered his Sarge's Cycles / Mark

Bader from MSR / KTM / Maxxis / SAPCO Fasteners sponsored ride into first place.

He said, "I really wanted to get that fastest lap time because I can use the money to pay off some of my bills. This track was nice. I usually struggle with it, but I really enjoyed it this time. This was one of the better Hazzard Hills."

Off the start, his struggle began with a dead last start, but he immediately pulled it together with a frontrunner finish for each of the five laps raced. It was no problem for him and quite frankly, he simply made it look too easy.

"I was just out there challenging myself," Gibson added. "My right foot, I don't know how many trees I hit with it. I smashed it so many times that I know it's going to be black. It hurts."

Gibson savored the win by three minutes lead over **Mike Sampson** who claimed the number two position. They raced together for the first two laps; then Gibson pulled away on the third lap and pushed himself to claim one hundred bucks from the fastest lap time. Sampson reeled him in one more time but lappers got in between them.

Sampson had a problem free ride and really enjoyed himself. He said, "My pit crew was awesome! Jerry Fishburn hooked me up all day. I was just out there having a good time. This track was phenomenal. Paul Allen really put a lot of work in it."

Team Green's **Robert Patterson** was the next rider to take the checkered flag. He mostly struggled with the trees, smacking one hard. After recovering, he savored the podium in third place.

Loupie Lambruno and **Nathan Alering** finished out the top five. Kawasaki mounted Lambruno took charge immediately of his 250B class, and then he outmaneuvered every single A class rider. He was unstoppable and finished his race taking fourth place in overall while Alering got fifth place.

In the Beginner class, **Brandon Bishop**, **Chris McClelland**, and **Kody Honeymoon** confiscated the hard win. They pushed hard for their podium and now look forward to moving to another class. McClelland got the holeshot and then wrecked on a root. While he struggled to restart his bike, Bishop took control and finished in first place. McClelland is thinking very carefully about which class he wants to enter.

**Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Youth Championship
Round 11 of 12: Hazzard Hill**

Carter Victorious in Vanleer



BY **R**ICH THURMAN
& **D**EBBIE ALLEN

Vanleer, TN, April 30

T Tyler Carter changed colors and was on top of his game at Hazzard Hill in Vanleer, Tennessee. Racing on the big orange bike has made all the difference. He took his KTM / Hattiesburg Cycle and grabbed the holeshot and never looked back. He topped the A class at the twelfth round of the Mid-South Cross Country Youth Championship.

He said, “The track was rooty, but I got a steady pace going. And, it felt good!”

Sarge’s Cycles **Tanner Byrarly** also had a great ride coming in second place. He put in some solid laps to finish one minute behind Carter. Rounding out the podium in third place was MSR backed **Dustin Milan** and KTM mounted **Devin Walker** who finished fourth with **Adam Creasor** close behind in fifth.

The 85cc, Junior B class had some new blood mixing up the results. Suzuki mounted **Brandon Marley** took a break from motocross to check out the Mid-South action and came away with the win. Bridgestone/FMF/FLY **Dylan Cox** grabbed the holeshot with KTM mounted **Mason Thurman** in second. They swapped the lead a couple of times before Marley took the lead.

Thurman went down hard on his first race with his new KTM. After taking a few seconds to get his momentum back, **Michael Huddleston** and **Jeremiah “Billygoat” Bowman** moved into the second and third place positions. As the race was nearing the end, Huddleston passed Cox for second place while Cox finished in third. Bowman was steady as always for fourth place and Thurman came in fifth.

The Mini class saw KTM/DNS tools rider **Steven Middlebrook** coming away with the win over Brett Iott. This evened up the point’s championship as both riders have 128 points going in to the last round. Whoever wins between these two at the next race will come away with a Mid-South Cross Country Championship to add to their resume! Third place went to Indiana boy **Luke Chilman** who put in a solid race on his KX.

The 7 to 8 year old Peewee Championship was decided with **Cole Kirchoff** carving out a close championship run over **Justin Lenard**. Cole grabbed the holeshot with KTM/FLS/Motorex sponsored **Samuel Thurman** in second. Thurman held strong to Kirchoff's rear wheel with Lenard chasing both of them in third. The three of them put on a great race until Thurman suffered the same fate as his big brother Mason, one big crash near the end of the race. Lenard also had a hard time keeping the wheels down which allowed Kirchoff to win the 7 to 8 year old Peewee title. He finished in second place while Thurman picked up his bike and finished third.

The Peewee 4 to 6 year old class saw "Steady **Ben**" **Jones** came away with the win. **Zack Kirchoff** came in second with **Kenneth Wolf** rounding out the podium on his KTM.
