
NREC Hare and Hounds Challenge, Round 1, Masham

The North Riding Enduro club opened their challenge series in Roomer Wood near Masham. This was the first time the club has used this spectacular piece of land.

Track Marshall Peter Weatherill and his team designed a technical flowing 5 mile lap which consisted of forestry going with many challenging hill climbs and descents, the technical nature of the going gave riders little or no time for rest and demanded rider concentration for the full 3 hour duration.

Riders were started off in groups of 10 at 60 second intervals from 10:30am onwards, this spread riders around the course from the outset and allowed the track to run free with no hold-ups.

Championship rider Dave Nellis was the first rider to score the first lap followed by Vince Harker on his 250 Husqvarna, Vince retook the lead and was pursued by Danny Field and Nellis until Field retired on lap 6 with problems.

Harker was the overall winner on 11 laps with a lead of nearly 3 minutes on Nellis. With riders separated from the start by 60 second gaps it was unclear to them and spectators who was the fastest round the track, in the middle of the field of riders it was Eurotek rider

Mark Jackson in the MX class who was setting the fastest lap times towards the end of the race to become MX class winner on 11 laps followed by local rider Howard Rodney on 10 laps and Andrew Hornshaw in third place on 9 laps.

The Expert E1 class was won by Richard Dakin who crossed the finish line only 19 seconds over second place Paul Willis. Expert E2 winner was Tim Pattison on 11 laps who was followed by James Clift who narrowly missed out on a 11th lap.

The Clubmen E1 class was won by Liam Ward who managed to cross the finish line only 5 seconds in front second place rider Daniel Haswell. Clubman E2 winner Simon Cartwright completed 10 laps and was also overall Clubman winner, Colin Chapman was second on 9 laps he was denied a 10th lap by 19 seconds. Clubman E3 winner was Adam Stones on 9 laps. The over 40 class was won by Graham Charlton on a Gas Gas 250 he completed 9 laps, Dave Salkeld was second.

All trophy winners were treated to a well deserved bottle of beer which was donated by local event sponsor Paul Theakston from the Black Sheep Brewery

NTB Racing, D3 Racing and Bikesport sponsor the North Riding Enduro Club Hare and Hounds Challenge series. The North Riding Enduro club would like to thank all riders for supporting this event and hope to see them all at round 2 Thorpe on 1st June; entry form is on the calendar page. Many Thanks to all supporters and helpers from the enduro club who organised a great days riding and special thanks to the landowners who allowed this event to take place.

Got anything to say about the event? See the NEEC forum.

Report by Jim Wright

Pic is of overall winner Vince Harker

