The Broome-Tioga Race Report

By Jim Sanderson
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Renzland Takes Two

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The third round of the Northeast Classic Motocross Series had the largest turnout of the series so far and was hosted by Hurd Motorsports at the beautiful Broome-Tioga Sports Center in upstate New York. The third round was also a round of the prestigious AMA Racing Pro-Am Motocross Series and surely had an effect on ride turnout for the Pro/Expert classes. 45 Riders signed up for the extremely competitive 450 Pro/Expert division. The last time there was a full gate of Pro's at Broome-Tioga was in 2006 for the final AMA Motocross National held at this world class facility.

Yamaha pilot and rookie Pro/Expert rider, Luke Renzland, topped both the 450 and 250 Pro/Expert division podiums. Renzland carded a pair of perfect 1-1's and had some serious competition to contend with.

Matt Babbitt, Ryan Zaveral, Jay Weller, Mike Voorhees and Ryan Zimmerman led the start of the first 450 Pro/Expert qualifier. Zaveral passed Babbitt on the back side of the National Hill taking the lead. Babbitt was relegated to second. Weller, Voorhees and Zimmerman rounded out the top five. Zaveral and Babbitt engaged in a battle for the lead that wouldn't be decided for good until the last lap. Meanwhile, Zimmerman caught and passed Voorhees to claim fourth. Voorhees was displaced to fifth. Only two bike lengths separated Zaveral and Babbitt at the start of lap three.

Matt Babbitt (237) leads the pack out of the first turn with a huge holeshot and the early lead in the first 450 Pro/Expert qualifier.

The top five remained unchanged until the four and a half lap mark when Zimmerman lost the front end of his Suzuki at the base of the National Hill and went down. Voorhees and Daniel Rucker inherited fourth and fifth. Babbitt finally made the pass on Zaveral on the back side of the National Hill with a half lap to the checkers. Zaveral was relegated to second. Babbitt took the win four seconds ahead of Zaveral. Weller, Charles Bright and David Disciullo completed the top five.

Mitch Dougherty, Josh Emmi, Renzland, Michael Sottile and Michael Fowler led the start of the second 450 Pro/Expert qualifier. Dougherty and Emmi continued to run one and two at the start of lap two. Brian Ricci passed Sottile taking fourth after dicing his way into the top five after a less than stellar start. Sottile was relegated to fifth. Dougherty had a four second lead at the start of lap three but then experienced mechanical difficulties on the following lap and unfortunately, was forced to take a DNF. Emmi inherited the lead with Renzland, Bright, Ricci and Fowler in tow. Renzland reeled Emmi in and made the pass for the lead with less than a lap to go. Renzland took the win. Emmi, Sottile, Bright and Fowler folowed.

Mitch Dougherty (597), Charles Bright (964) and Josh Emmi (961) lead the start of the second 450 ProlExpert qualifier.

Zaveral and Babbitt led the start of the final 450 Pro/Expert moto. Renzland, Justin Murray and Pete Schachtler rounded out the top five. Zaveral had a measly two second lead on Babbitt at the start of lap two but less than a half lap later had only a one and half second lead on Renzland, now in second. Babbitt was displaced to third. Renzland continued to close on Zaveral and made the pass for the lead on lap three. Zaveral was relegated to second. Babbitt, Murray and Zimmerman rounded out the top five. Renzland pulled away and started lap four with a four second advantage that increased to five seconds at the checkers. Zaveral, Babbitt, Zimmerman and Sottile closed out the top five.

Zaveral (22), Justin Murray (51), Michael Sottile (515) and Luke Renzland (43) lead the start of the final 450 Pro/expert moto.

Renzland (1-1) topped the podium. Zaveral's took second and Babbitt third.

Dougherty, Emmi, Andy King, Renzland and Mike Roseto led the start of the opening 250 Pro/Expert moto. Dougherty and Emmi were battling for the point position as they descended the National Hill after a half lap. The top five remained unchanged until lap three. Dougherty continued to lead with Emmi in second but now, Renzland was only a bike length behind Emmi, in third.

Renzland continued to pressure Emmi and made the pass for second on the back side of the Hill. Emmi was displaced to third. Renzland quickly began closing on Dougherty but couldn't reel the Honda pilot in until lap four. Renzland was first to appear at the top of the National Hill after passing Dougherty on the backside. Renzland quickly left Dougherty behind and continued to gap the field and took the win with an 11-second lead. Dougherty, Emmi, Sottile and Babbitt rounded out the top five.

Mitch Dougherty (597), Josh Emmi (hidden), Mike Roseto (355), Andy King (124) and Luke Renzland (43) lead the start of the opening 250 pro/expert moto.

Zaveral, Renzland, Emmi, Dougherty and Voorhees led the start of the final 250 Pro/Expert moto. Zaveral was doing all he could to hold off Renzland at the start of lap two. Renzland got around Zaveral on the back side of the Hill and took the point. Zaveral was relegated to second. Dougherty, Emmi and Voorhees rounded out the top five. Renzland opened up a four second advantage at the start of lap three that increased to 8-seconds on lap four and finally, 11-seconds at the finish. Dougherty, Zaveral, Sottile and Babbitt completed the top five.

Renzland topped the podium with another perfect 1-1 score. Dougherty's consistent 2-2 rides took second and Sottile rounded out the podium with a consistent 4-4 tally.

Photo's from this event can be viewed and purchased at jimsandersonphoto.com