

Bunn October 10, 2021

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The CVOTC regular season finale at Whale Rock once again began with a grey morning mist, perfect weather for observed trials. The weather reminded me of what they say in Scotland, “If you don’t like the Scottish weather, wait 30-minutes, and it is likely to change.” Before the end of the event, we saw mist give way to calm grey sky, then a hint of blue, then a bit of rain and then more blue. Dressing in layers was a key to staying comfortable and dry throughout the day. The “Ryan Young Pavilion” provided a safe haven from the weather and perfect display for the trophies / works of art created by Leslie Matheson. It is the perfect place to gather and tell tall tales of trials riding technique; thank you Jim Ellis.

The Trialsmaster, Dave Webster, once again challenged us with his section designs using a combination of some well-established areas, some brand new and some revitalizations of sections from the past like Bicycle Rock, Wagon Wheel and Bathtub Rock. Don’t ever forget that just behind David is Jim Ellis making sure the sections are both inviting and challenging at the same time. Numbering the Gate Cards was also very helpful when walking the sections for the first time; I believe I saw a Gate number 8 in one section on the S line.

Twenty-six (26) riders rode three loops of nine sections. David stepped up the difficulty supported by Mother Nature ensuring logs and exposed roots were good and slippery. A section from the past called Wagon Wheel should have had a “Slippery When Wet” sign added. What seemed like an easy slightly uphill turning line around a large tree with exposed roots resembling a wagon’s wheel was followed by a medium sized, barkless log that caught most riders by surprise at least once.

I cannot remember seeing this big a spread of scores in a CVOTC event ever (disclaimer: My wife says there’s a lot I don’t remember now a days). Difficulty level is reflected in the scores which did not include any single digit results on this day and we haven’t seen triple digit scores in a while.

Victor and Jeff Larson joined us from the Florida Trials Association for the second time this year. Mark Lightning Wepler made the trip from Trials Inc. in Ohio. I guess the word is out, CVOTC is a great club to ride with! We continue to challenge ourselves, support our riding buddies, have fun and finish the day no worse for the wear, mostly.

Results:

EXPERT

Chris Buzzelli 44

ADVANCED

Mark Barnette 19

Joe Palrang 23

Martin Sturla 40

Kevin Bobal 43
Mike Mazak 101

SPORTSMAN

Rick Schill 18
Josh Hendricks 22
Gary Heyer 27 (15-cleans)
Evan Gorczynski 27 (12-cleans)
Cody Johnston 29
Ellis Daw 39
John Hendricks 55
Mark Redbond 73
Berndie Lunsford 76
Mark Wepler DNF

VINTAGE SPORTSMAN

Alan Hensley 68

INTERMEDIATE

Leslie Matheson 42
Bryce Lunsford 43
Jim Carey 74
Kevin Hobbs 83
Daniel Hughes 90

VINTAGE INTERMEDIATE

Christian Alva 37
Victor Larson 100
Jeff Larson 103

NOVICE

Matt Simpson 11