

Bunn September 30, 2018

Published on Wednesday, 03 October 2018 02:18

Written by Michael Friesen

From Rick Schill:

The CVOTC tradition continues as we had another stellar event at the Bunn venue aka Observed Trials Paradise. Weather was perfect when compared to the previous few weeks of too hot and humid and too wet (aka Florence): all that wetness left the traction near perfect, which was a good thing for the 26 riders in attendance. Never ever leaving a good thing to languish, Jim Ellis, David Webster and many club members have built on and improved all aspects of the venue.

One of the club's objectives is to promote the sport of Trials to the next generation. Jim has set the mark for all CVOTC events with his six brand new Youth Sections and their obligatory naming: Turn on Slope, Dirt Pile, Level Turn, Indian Mound, Tall Trees and Small Logs. All Youth sections were down in the bowl, a short walk from the parking area. The sections were meticulously cleared of vines and poison ivy, holes were filled in with sand leaving only the intended logs, turns and off-cambers for riders to plan for and look ahead to as they navigated the sections. Three young ladies, Charlotte and Savannah Garner (and their dad Justin) and Aelia Brooks (and her dad Brent) spent the better part of the day in the new beginner friendly area. Jim even engineered the sections such that you exit the section next to the entrance to encourage multiple rides and constant, incremental improvements in riding ability. Each section had three lines with a "red" intermediate and a "blue" more difficult option. One rider was heard declaring she was "going for it" on the blue line. We are already seeing the fruits of Jim's labors in one Youth rider, Noel Mullins, who rode in the Novice class: lessons learned in the Youth sections are entirely transferable to the regular, adult sections. I heard she rode the Intermediate line in Playground with a couple of minders on the teeter-totter. We may have the next Maddie Hoover in the making!

Regular classes rode three loops of ten sections: Lincoln Logs, Roller Coaster, Kevin's Uppercut, Ninja Turtles, Erie Canal, Railroad Depot, Giant Oak, Playground, Jon's Jeep Slope and David's Heart Break Hotel. There were three new areas and some new loop as well. Sections were a combination of man-made and natural obstacles. Riders at the Sportsman level and above were kept busy as the challenges came in rapid succession; just in case nature did not provide enough challenge, railroad ties, logs and rocks were rearranged to make sure riders were working hard to maintain balance and momentum. One section where the previous week's wetness may not have been a good thing was Erie Canal; only one rider from each of the three upper classes (E, A, S) was able to clean, and only one time at that, the combination of wet, silty mud found in the bowels of the Erie Canal. Happy power washing guys! Other sections left the bikes showroom clean; the same cannot be said for the riders though. A few riders went home a little worse for the wear and will need some time to heal and return to ride again in a few weeks when CVOTC heads to Thurmond.

Focus on entomology: You may have seen another aftermath of Florence called Gallinippers. These huge mosquitoes are "aggressive, monstrous pests with stripes on their legs"

as described in local media, and that ain't fake news! They only riders that were not bothered by them were the Vintage guys using a 50:1 premix that essentially fogged the areas we rode in pushing the pests away. Another reason why Vintage riders are having so much fun. The downside of Vintage can be that you might need a back-up bike, or two, to make sure you have one available to ride that day. Jim Ellis was on his third string bike as he rode to victory in the Vintage B class!

Before the event, the interweb was buzzing about the one-of-a-kind, hand-made trophies created by our very own Joe Palrang. Class winners were showing big smiles as they claimed their well-earned artwork/trophies. After the event, the interweb was again buzzing with photos being posted by the trophys' proud new owners.

RESULTS (details on the attached spreadsheet):

Expert

D. WEBSTER 34
D. FAHEY 87

Advanced

K. JEZIORSKI 36
J. PALRANG 36
D. LAWSON 64
K. BOBAL 67
S. BILLMAN dnf

Sportsman

J (osh) HENDRICKS 23
J. FRENCH 30
J. QUELL 37
J. HENDRICKS 49
W. WALTER 58

Vintage A

G. HALES 15

Vintage B (also rode some Sportsman lines to make things interesting)

J. ELLIS 5
G. HEYER 9
R. SCHILL 11
S. PORTER 12

Intermediate

J. WILLIAMSON 4
M. REDBOND 5

J. CAREY 9
K. HOBBS 9
A. JONES 35

Novice

N. MULLINS 5