



Mid-South Cross Country

CYCLE NEWS CONTRIBUTION

Round 5: Hazzard Hill



# Ashburn Levels Hill

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Usually, this time of year finds a slight decline for any winter series, but the



Mid-South Cross Country series finds no shame in their turnouts. MSXC's 30<sup>th</sup> Season line up must have planned something right because this Pirelli / Answer / Maxxis packed events are on the incline, and it is no wonder.

Nestled among a simple, log home built in the 1800's, Jordan Ashburn rocked the house and landed as the leader in points at Hazzard Hill in Vanleer, Tennessee.

This Monster Energy / Kawasaki / Johnny Signs / Pro Circuit backed winner was more than happy to take the pro purse and contingency. After a few minor delays from his dead last start, it didn't take him long to rejuvenate. Several kicks, he maneuvered like an adrenalin rush and got around the AA pack within the first three miles. From there, he power housed the fastest lap and simply gained momentum ending with the checkered flag and five minutes to spare.



"I crashed one time on the last lap," said Ashburn. "The bottom section was slick but other than that, I had an event free ride and was in all the right spots at all the right times."

Andrews / Kawasaki supported Brett Zofchak [322] also retrieved a great finish. He had a little more trial but very few errors. He was third off of the start



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following Dustin Gibson, Jordan Johns, and Tristin Referrin[4]. After a half of a lap riding adventure with Ashburn, he struggled in third place trying to get around Referrin. One more lap and his troubles were over as he took second.

He said, "It was fun. Jordan was riding really well. He is out of my league, but I am happy with my finish. I rode with Dustin for a while and then got around number 4 [Referrin] and picked it up for the finish."



Redferrin, Shane Obanion, and Chris Douglas were next in line. Referrin made the podium for AA while Obanion and Douglas were the winners of Heavy and Light A classes. Obanion got the hole shot and then slid off in the woods when he hit ice. He dropped back to third or fourth and shortly thereafter it was their turn to do the same thing. He was back in the lead but not clear. His next dilemma, he ran out of gas and then got soaked with it.

"My legs feel as if they are on fire," said Obanion [Pictured Left]. "I'm not sure what caused my gas to leak out from on top of my tank, but I sure am glad this race is finished. It was really slick out there."



Douglas was the lone rider in Light A class because rider number two, P. A. Allen, couldn't figure out who he was.

Allen said, "Everyone kept telling me that I was number one, but then every time I would get to the Score Machine, it would shout number two. I didn't know who to look for because that guy was new, so I just rode my own race and had fun doing it."

MSXC Overall: 1. Jordan Ashburn (Kaw); 2. Brett Zofchak (Kaw); 3. Tristin Redferrin (KTM); 4. Shane Obanion (KTM); 5. Christopher Douglas (Kaw); 6. Loupie Lambruno (Kaw); 7. Darin Downs (KTM); 8. P. A. Allen (KTM); 9. Tanner Byarly (KTM); 10: Tyson Ezell (KTM).

Next Stop: Maplesville, Alabama