

## ***STEVE LEIVAN ~ 2014 Race Report***

**Event:** Round 4 National Enduro; Park Hills, MO; May 18

**Bike:** 2014 KTM 250 XC

**Result:** 2nd +40 "A"

**Event Info:** With news coming during the week of the race that there would basically be "no more" walking or bicycling the courses at NEPG events, I wasn't in much of a hurry to arrive at my "home state" National. So it was nice to stay at home Friday night and then casually cruise up to the track on Saturday afternoon.

I chose row 42 this time so that I could be near some of my riding buddies and what that meant, was I was the fastest guy on that row and I had no one to key off of, You would think I would learn.....

Test one started at the actual start of the event and since every NEPG round that I can recall starts with a live engine, I started my bike at the 5 second warning and immediately got screamed at by some bozo course worker that has probably not been to an enduro since '76. I shut my bike off about the same time that my minute was to take off - then I had to re-start it - I took off and wondered if I was going to get DQ'ed since I couldn't tell if I took off early or late or what. Great start to the day. BTW - the row in front of me started with live engines!

I quickly realized that I don't enduro enough and I struggled with having to read the trail instead of keying off of someone. The course was slick and fast and after a couple big moments, I lost much of my confidence. I tightened up and fought my way through the test but it wasn't pretty.

It didn't get much better the rest of the day. Each test seemed like a fight and it was a fight I was losing. I wasn't comfortable pushing it unless the track was rutty and there wasn't a lot of that. About halfway through test three, I was over it and just wanted to get through the day.

Somehow I was able to suffer through it and still get 2nd in the class but my overall sucked (44th) and I am working on how to make things better the next time.

***THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!***

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