

## ***STEVE LEIVAN ~ 2014 Race Report(s)***

**Event:** Round 3 OMA Nationals - Newark, MO - June 15th

**Result:** 11<sup>th</sup> Overall

My first OMA of the year was held under stellar conditions on a rock-free and rutted course in my home state (although still 6 hours from home). There was a lot of fresh cut trail to deal with and plenty of ravines and hills that made up the course. I got a good drive into turn one with only Whibley and Fahringer in front of me, but then I slid back a few spots early in lap one. Through the fresh stuff, I was able to hang on to the pack but, when we got to the faster sections those guys found another gear.

Some of the guys from row two found a two or three minute shortcut so I got "passed" without ever "getting passed" and that was frustrating, but I continued to ride hard and push till the very end. I fell short of my top 10 goal by just a little bit, ending the day in 11th. The difference was, perhaps that short cut line. All in all, a good day and a fun ride.

**Event:** Round 6 National Enduro - Marquette, MI – June 29

**Result:** 1st 40+ "A"

Having never been to this event, I was excited to go this year. Rain on Sunday morning made for amazing conditions in what was truly a great race. I got off to a good start and felt good in test one, setting the quickest time in the class. Test two was going great until I lost the arrows and had to backtrack. The test got thrown out since plenty of guys did the same thing. The third section was pretty fun and I was near the front again.

I struggled in number four, finding it hard to read the new trail and searching for some flow. Section five was tougher and I had to get off and push up two rock sections as well as push a guy from a row ahead, so I could take a shot. Those incidents hurt my time for sure. The final section was a true ass kicker and I enjoyed the technical stuff and won that test by over a minute.

The last section won the race for me by 24 seconds. I was pumped to get another class win and maintain the lead in the series despite missing two rounds.

**Event:** Round 4 OMA Nationals - Lynnville, IN – July 6

**Result:** 10th Overall

Extremely dusty and grown up trail made up this track. I had nothing good to say after practice but hoped to get a good start and just fight through it. I nearly plowed Fahringer in turn one after

a great jump and got relegated to the back. From there it was a dusty and lonely ride. I went as fast as I could when I could see and when I didn't, I played it safe. It was a bit of a yawner race with no real story to tell other than I certainly needed a clean filter when it was over!

10th is where I finished and that is a slight improvement since the last round.

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