

## ***STEVE LEIVAN ~ 2015 Race Report***

**Event:** Round 2 National Enduro; Pelion, SC; March 1, 2015

**Bike:** KTM 300 XC

**Result:** 1<sup>st</sup> +40 "A"

Event Info: For the second time in 30 days, we headed 950 miles to South Carolina for a round of the National Enduro series. The Sandlapper is one of my favorites, so I always look forward to this one. Conditions looked primed on Saturday, but it started to rain that night and the parking lot had standing water everywhere on Sunday morning, causing some concern.

It was chilly at the start of the race and with a mist still falling, deciding which route to go with goggles and what to wear jacket-wise seemed to be the biggest dilemma. I went with X Brand roll-offs and my Fly pull over rain jacket to start out the day.

The first test was 14 miles long and all sandy trails with plenty of whoops and fast chop. I felt really good right from the start (which is something I struggle with at times) and I was able to hit some good lines and keep a good flow for all 53 minutes (!). I won the test (in my class) by a couple of minutes and was 30th overall.

Test two was just ordinary for me as I struggled to "flow" in the tighter sections, but I didn't have any big mistakes. We were back at camp after test two and I took on a new pair of goggles and since the rain seemed to be over, I switched over to a Fly Windproof jersey and my Ops Convertible vest. I stuck with this set-up the rest of the day.

The rest of the sections were pretty good. I really liked the faster paced whooped out stuff but I was also comfortable in the rooty tight sections. I kept the mistakes to a minimum and even though the test sections were all pretty long (close to 10 miles each), I was able to keep my mind from wandering and I was constantly charging.

Overall, it was a great day and really good trail conditions - and I ended up winning every test section. I'm for sure pumped about that. I'm also pumped that the next few rounds are not quite the drive!

Results: 1. LEIVAN (KTM) 2. Blalock (KTM) 3. McCall (KTM)

Thanks for reading!

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