

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

**Event:** Round 8 National Enduro; Moorestown, MI – August 23, 2015

**Bike:** 2015 KTM 250 XC

**Result:** 1<sup>st</sup> +40 “A”

Event Info: This past weekend I attended one of the longest running off road events in America. It was the 90th annual Jack Pine Enduro and this one did not disappoint. The conditions were amazing and the entire event was very well organized, marked, and run. It was an epic race for sure.

It took me a while to get going in the first section of the day and it was apparent that I hadn't "raced" for a few weeks - other than a vintage race a couple of weeks ago. So about the time that I loosened up, the test was over. It worked out okay though, since the section was the sketchiest of the day with plenty of stumps along the trail wanting to put you on the ground. It's probably better that I wasn't up to speed in that section.

The next section was short and pretty rough with long sections of crossing clear cut stuff that had deep dozer tracks. It kept you on your toes and made you want to stay on the beat-in path.

Section three and four were awesome. For sure, the best sections of the season. The trails were very flowy and well cut so there weren't many of those goofy inside trees keeping you from leaning over through the turns. There were lots of good lines if you were paying attention and overall the sections were just FUN!

I don't recall anything about section five but I do know, that when we came out of that section it started to get dark and looked like rain. I decided to go with the film system on my EKS Brand goggles for that section and that proved to be a wise move. Maybe a half mile in, the skies opened up and it rained - HARD. Every chance I had to let go of the bars, I was pulling on my film string to hopefully see. The film lasted me a couple miles and then I was out, but it almost seemed better since the hard rain was washing the lens off. I survived the section without falling or getting stuck so I considered it a success.

We didn't have service before section seven but I don't know that it mattered a lot. I would have taken a fresh pair of goggles and gloves but it rained again in the final section, so I wouldn't have been dry and comfy for very long. The section was the tightest of the day but I still thought it was really fun and I had a pretty solid ride through there.

I ended the day with the win in the class and finished just behind MX legend Jeff Stanton in the overall. I improved as the day went on and I'm hoping to race every weekend until the next round so that I don't spend the opening sections finding my groove.

Thanks again for your support!