

Rural Retreat June 15-16, 2019

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Trials Master David Lawson's challenge was to match his outstanding 2018 inaugural Rural Retreat event in 2019. Stepping up to the challenge and offering CVOTC's first two-day event was a bold undertaking. Safe to say that David pulled it off with grace and style; he did not disappoint. His able bodied helpers also deserve some credit: Stuart Bishop, Keith Jeziorski and PeeWee (Eric Sheetz). Nine (9) different sections were offered for Saturday and Sunday. You might think it is easy to find 18-sections when working with a 650-acre working farm (thank you Sally!) however locating the sections on a very rideable loop without losing anyone in the woods was an accomplishment. Weather was pretty much perfect for riding, and sleeping for those who camped out Friday and/or Saturday night. Traction was also just about perfect: Some sections had a pucker factor of 10 at first glance but then when you got in and rode them you found ample traction for ascent, traverse and descent on what had been some worrisome hillsides. This really helped boost confidence throughout the weekend and made for some satisfying rides. Rocks of varying sizes, logs, stream beds and just about no mud also helped round out a nice variety of sections. Interesting that sometimes the smallest rocks can surprise and confound riders who find no issue with boulders.

There were twenty-eight riders on Saturday and twenty-nine on Sunday. Some folks rode both days and some one or the other. Riders traveled from five (5) states, some as far away as Florida. Scores were pretty close and there were some tie breakers based on the number of cleans. Often a Trials Master can be heard saying they want winners' scores in the 20's; David hit that mark quite often. Even with scores higher or lower, no one was too concerned about their final score, they were just plain satisfied by some great rides. I've got to quote Adam Bush here because in my opinion he has the CVOTC aim figured out and he is witnessing it in action, "I can honestly say I've experienced more camaraderie and support in two [CVOTC] trials than I did over my 60+ events out west. Each class has great riders, mentors and competitors. I was completely embarrassed with how I rode but the guys were great and it's hard to get ticked off when your surrounded by smiles, support and fellowship." Thank you, Adam. It is a high standard; we try and it's nice to hear we pulled it off this weekend.

In an attempt to expose more local riders to the sport of trials, and due to the two-day format, David was able to allow a trails class on Sunday for knobby tired beasts that utilized Saturday's section. At the end of the day, there were some fellows trying to figure out how they were going to get their hands on a trials bike. Might have some converts, or at least some cross-trainers.

Saturday results:

EXPERT

Jeff Hensley 23

David Webster 27

ADVANCED

Sunday Results:

EXPERT

Dave Webster 20

Jeff Hensley 52

ADVANCED

Steve Billman 15
Time Cone 16
Keith Jeziorski 31
Alan Hensley 50
Joe Palrang 52
Adam Bush 79

SPORTSMAN

Mike Dalmaso 20 (19-cleans)
Stuart Bishop 20 (18-cleans)
John French 22
Mike Mazak 38
Berndie Lundsford 52

VINTAGE SPORTSMAN

Gary Heyer 52

INTERMEDIATE

Rusty Lacy 7
Mark Redbond 10
Tom Tschantz 12
Jason Kinzie 15
Bryan Halsey 18
Bill Boulch 33
David Snapp 64

VINTAGE INTERMEDIATE

Rick Schill 2
Jim Ellis 11
Michael Friesen 14
Scott Porter 24
Kenny Atwood DNF

NOVICE

Brennan Shephard 44
Silke Cuttle 57

Keith Jeziorski 11
Time Cone 14
Joe Palrang 29
Steve Billman 41
Alan Hensley DNF

SPORTSMAN

John French 15
Stuart Bishop 24
Mike Dalmaso 28
Mike Mazak 29
Berndie Lundsford 58
Jason Kinzie 72
Mark Redbond 75

VINTAGE SPORTSMAN

Gary Heyer 45
Rick Schill DNF

INTERMEDIATE

Tom Tschantz 15
Rusty Lacy 20
Brian Merrit 24
Bill Boulch 26
Bryan Halsey 32
Jim Carey 33
Samantha Fisher 39
Dave Snapp 56

VINTAGE INTERMEDIATE

Scott Porter 20 (20-cleans)
Michael Friesen 20 (19-cleans)

EXHIBITION

Bob O'Sullivan