

Jammer's "Winning" Willow Springs Race Report

WILLOW SPRINGS CA

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Hello everyone, I just got back from ten days in the California sunshine. After the Bakersfield race I stayed out there the whole week with Gene and Gail Cummings, waiting for Willow Springs racing this past weekend. Since this year Willow was earlier than usual, it was easier to just stay out in California.

Saturday was a day race since there are no lights at the track. I was riding Ron Wood's bike. It was my first time on it, but Ron always has first-class equipment so I knew I was good-to-go. Practice went well. I made a few changes to the bike and it was coming around for me. Eddie Mulder and the boys always do an awesome job with track prep. I was in the first Heat, grabbed the start and won it. I was the third fastest time. Sammy Halbert was riding his Harley and Brandon Bergan was riding Ron Wood's BMW, so I knew I had some competition with lots of horsepower.

In the Main Event, I got the start and was leading it for a few laps until Sammy went by me. He started to pull away, but I put my head down and started running it into the corners deeper and deeper, until I caught and passed him. I led it until the half-way point, and then got into some lap traffic. Sammy got me back and then, a lap later, coming off of turn 2, he got sideways. I was coming along-side of him and he went into turn 3 and lost the front and fell. From there on, it was smooth sailing as Sammy and I had built up a big gap with the rest of the group. I won the race and opened up my points lead for the Maxxis Tires Pro Point Fund.

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Sunday's race was double points, and would be the season final. I made a gear change for practice and a couple more things I wanted to try to see if I could make it a little bit better. I felt awesome in practice. I was in the third Heat. I got off the line about third but was leading it off turn 2. I put in a few hard laps and won the Heat with second fastest time.

Sammy was fastest and they took all the Heat race winners to the Dash for Cash. The Dash money was put up by Steve and Cindy Vizzo, the fans, and the Vintage riders. I got a terrible start in the Dash, got past Kayl Kolkman and tried hard to run Sammy down but he pulled out too early for me to catch him. Sammy for sure put it to me in the Dash and had me scared for the Main Event.

The Main Event was the best race of the weekend. Sammy got off the line in the lead. I had to pass Kolkman, to take over 2nd place, and was trying to run down Sammy. I pushed hard, and for a couple of laps I would pull him in, then I would make a mistake, and he would pull out on me. The track started to change and got dry and slippery and

we started to lap some riders. Sammy got held up really big by a lapper and I gained a lot of ground on him there. With three laps to go, I was able to pull him in and, coming off of turn 4, I almost got by, but Sammy went really sideways and killed my drive. I was able to gain a little on him down the straight-away. He was running the high line, going into turn 1. I dropped down low and slid up and took his line away for the lead. I drove off of turn 2 really well and was able to hold Sammy off until the finish.

It was one of my most hard-charging races I have been in for a long time. Sammy rode a great race and had me covered, but the track came to me and the lappers helped me out. It was a good two weekends running Eddie Mulder's races. I ended up taking the Open Pro victory, and winning the Maxxis Tires Points fund (\$5000.00). I want to really thank Maxxis Tire Corp, and Digger for supporting this series. I really appreciate Ron Wood for his help, and for providing the bike, and also want to thank Eddie and Jody Mulder and all their supporters for putting on these events.

Jammin' Jared Mees # 21. www.jaredmees.com

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