

USGPRU

United States Grand Prix Racers Union



THROW A BLANKET OVER THEM!

Photo by: Etech Photos Riders: Miles Thornton (72), Hayden Gillim (69), Jake Lewis (85)

The new Moriwaki MD250H race bikes, with their identical HONDA CRF250X engines, are providing some ultra-close racing start to finish. At the latest round, held at Summit Point Raceway, the top 3 riders, Jake Lewis, Hayden Gillim, and Miles Thornton, took turns leading the race, sometimes swapping the lead several times just down the front straight! It was anyone's guess as to who would win, but ultimately Jake Lewis shuffled to the front, narrowly ahead of Hayden and Miles. **The margin of victory was a scant .122 seconds!** As more of these bikes make it to the racetracks, you can expect even bigger battles for the \$10,000 purse.

The Rising Sun Cycles 125GP class saw the familiar face of **PJ Jacobsen, stepping away from the pack and controlling the race from flag to flag.** The biggest change from last year was that he has traded in his Honda for a more powerful Aprilia GP bike. Thus, making him an even more formidable force for the rest of the 44-bike pack to chase. Nobu Iso got an uncharacteristically poor start, and had to work his way through the crowd from 13th position, ultimately making his way up to a second place finish. He is riding a newer model Aprilia this season, and it doesn't launch like the old one. According to Nobu, "I still need a bit more time to figure it out." The battle for third was between Rockwall Honda rider, Chase Vivion, and Fay Myers rider, Hayden Gillim. Hayden squeezed past Chase to claim the third position on the box.

In the Moto Liberty 250GP class, PJ Jacobsen made another great start, this time piloting his new Honda RS250. **While it looked like he was going to make a repeat of the 125 race, fellow young gun, Corey Rech had other ideas.** He charged hard through the 32-bike field and started to reel in PJ. By

lap 3, he had caught up with PJ, and even passed him for the lead, only to throw it away in the twisty back section of the course. PJ went on, unchallenged, to win the race. Second place went to the Jennings race winner, Adam Roberts, making the two riders tied for the regional points lead. Local favorite, Chris Pyles out ran the feisty Canadian, Eddy Brunet, to claim a solid third place.

In addition to the great racing action, the USGPRU and CCS racers were given the opportunity to learn how to improve their media and communication skills. The USGPRU's Apex Academy arranged for well-known announcer, Griff Allen, to spend a few hours instructing students on verbal and non-verbal communication techniques and how to avoid common pitfalls. Instruction on communication theory was combined with practical exercises to highlight the importance of good communication to the professional athlete. It also gave the students a chance to practice the lessons in realistic situations. This was all part of the continuing effort of the Apex Academy to not only improve each racer's technical skills, but to also focus on several often overlooked aspects of their professional development.

Future Apex Academy events include on-track instruction with Jamie James and Rich Oliver. Additionally, we're setting up a few special instruction sessions on **contract negotiations and fitness and physical conditioning.** For more information, please visit the USGPRU website.

The summer months are upon us, and with that come an action-packed schedule of USGPRU races. There are still lots of points up for grabs as well as a healthy payday on the podium. Come on out and see the stars of tomorrow at a track near you.

2008 Schedule

West Coast

Mar 8-9: Firebird East
Apr 5-6: Streets of Willow (125 only)
Apr 19-20: Firebird East*
Jun 14-15: Portland Int'l*
Jul 26-27: Miller (east course)*
Aug 22-24: Reno-Fernley**
Sept 19-21: Willow Springs (250 only)

East Coast

Apr 5-6: JenningsGP
May 24-26: Summit Point*
June 20-22: Virginia Int'l (VIR)*
Jul 5-6: Road America**
Jul 25-27: Shannonville
Aug 9-10: Barber Motorsports*

National Final

Oct 4-5: Miller (full course)*

* MD250H race weekends

** Double MD250H races

2008 Sponsors

RoadracingWorld.com
Rising Sun Cycle
Motion Pro Tools
Moto Liberty
Rev'it Leathers
Regina Chains
Powerstands
Hjelm Motorsports
Repsol Lubricants
Ian Emberton
ChickenHawk Racing
Starlane by Yoyodyne
The Mystery School
EBC
GPTech

Visit

www.USGPRU.net
for more information