

RedBud National Race Report - Team MicroBilt PRBC Buchanan, MI



KENNESAW, GA, July 3rd, 2017 / The RedBud National has served as the centerpiece of the Pro Motocross Series for the past 44 years – the perfect midpoint of the season, typically taking place around the Fourth of July holiday. It's also fairly centrally located, making it the perfect destination location for a motocross Summer Vacation. RedBud is also known for having the most enthusiastic and passionate fans on the circuit, a breed of their own really. This year, round 6 of the Lucas Oil Pro Motocross Championship was jam packed with plenty of great racing action and fans that lived up to their reputation – a great start to the holiday weekend..

MicroBilt PRBC Yoshimura Suzuki Racing partnered with our graphics sponsor, DeCal Works, to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday with custom red, white, and blue graphics that featured plenty of flags and stars and stripes that adorned Ronnie Stewart's RM-Z450. Under the direction of team manager, Brooke Stewart, the team participated in an Independence Day photo shoot under the iconic RedBud flag – the perfect backdrop to showcase the custom graphics. With the bike looking great, MicroBilt PRBC Yoshimura Suzuki Racing was ready to drop the gate on the midpoint of the 2017 Lucas Oil Pro Motocross Championship.

Rider Ronnie Stewart has consistently managed incredible starts this entire season, getting a great jump off the gate for every moto. During Round 6 at RedBud was no exception for the #606, who, again, put his RM-Z450 near the front of the pack once the gate dropped. Unfortunately, in Moto 1, Stewart was involved in a first turn pileup that seemed to take out nearly half of the field, including Cooper Webb, Broc Tickle, Dakota Alix, Jason Anderson, Weston Peick, and others.

As Ronnie peeled his bike from the carnage, ready to remount and try and make up the ground lost, his bike was completely stuck in first gear. Mechanic, Zach Eller, and a member of the JGR team helped to move Ronnie's bike off to the side of the racetrack in an attempt to get the bike restarted and Ronnie back in the game. Unfortunately, his shifter got bent in the pileup, leaving his steed stuck in first gear. Thankfully Ronnie was not hurt in the first turn wreck, but he would be out for the rest of the Moto. Eller and Stewart would return to the rig, regroup, and work to be ready for redemption during Moto 2.

When you end up on the ground in a pile of bike carnage before the holeshot marker in the first moto of the day, it can be difficult for any rider to regroup and refocus in time to be ready for the second gate drop. It can shake your confidence and throw off your focus for the task at hand.

But after a few repairs by mechanic, Zach Eller, Ronnie Stewart was ready to return to the line for Moto 2. Stewart made it safely through the first turn and was scored in 26th after the first lap of the second moto. He would ride a solid second moto, making a few passes into 22nd place, where he finished. It obviously never ideal to be out the entire first moto and be scored in 40th position, missing out on the potential points on the line. However, in true Ronnie Stewart spirit, the #606 put on a hard charge in the second moto, not giving up until the checkers flew. His 40-22 score on the day would place him in 32nd place overall on the day.

MicroBilt Yoshimura Suzuki racing may have been dealt a challenging hand the past few rounds, but we look forward to overcoming the hurdles and come out swinging next weekend in Southwick. The team would also like to take a moment to acknowledge the brave servicemen and women who continue to fight for our freedoms that we so gratefully get to enjoy today. Have a safe and happy Independence Day holiday and we'll see you next week for Round 7 of the Lucas Oil Pro Motocross Championship in Southwick, Massachusetts.

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Media Contact:

Sean Albert

SVP & Chief Marketing Officer

770-218-4400 ext 4884

Sean_albert@microbilt.com

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