

BAILEY

MOTORSPORTS

Bailey Motorsports Team on Podium in Valcourt Quebec

February 12th 2020



(Group Photo at Camso/Yeti Plant)

Last week we took the opportunity to travel to the small town of Shawinigan, Quebec to visit the Camso factory where they build our Yeti Snow MX kits for our Snow bikes. We arrived early Thursday morning at the plant with our race rig and set up in front of the plant, preparing to visit with the entire staff at the facility. Both Yanick and Ryan along with Derek and myself made the trip. We were introduced to the staff while they were on break and then met with them outside and showed them where there great work ends up after they have completed the Yeti kits. They spent quite a bit of time outside in cold and snowy conditions to talk to Yanick, Ryan and Derick about our success on the snow bikes and sleds.

We then got a tour of the plant to see firsthand how the kits are put together, we also got to see how the ATV and side-by-side snow track kits are assembled, very interesting to say the least. We're glad we had the opportunity to meet the team that builds our Championship winning Yeti Snow MX kits. (Stu Hunt)

We then took the 2 Hour drive to Valcourt to get ready to go racing for the weekend.

On Friday a bad winter storm blew in dumping nearly 50 cm of snow over the course of the day and running into the



night. Unfortunately by the time our racers we're ready to hit the track racing had been cancelled due to the lack of visibility. Racing resumed Saturday morning and would continue into late in the day on Sunday.

We had another stellar weekend, five of our athletes stepping onto the podium! All of our racers had some great Motos out on the track. First to step up on the podium was Dakota Karkoulas, she managed a third overall in the junior 14–15 class, quite the accomplishment racing against a ton of talented kids from both Ontario and Quebec. Next to find her way to the podium was Zoe racing in the transition class. On a tight, narrow track she did her best to move up a few positions before the end of the race, this would be her first trip to Valcourt, one I'm sure she won't forget :-).



Later in the afternoon Yanick and Ryan would take to the track on their bikes, each would have a great Motos and looking fast on their Yeti Snow MX kits. The final would run under the lights that night. It was great to see both of our riders upfront, in fact after the start, they were running 1-2 going into the first two corners! Our Husqvarna powered bike tune by Derek at Flybyu were really hooking up awesome all weekend. Yanick would take the lead and never lose it taking the win in style, jumping the huge finish line table top as the fireworks lit up the sky. Ryan had his hands full all race long racing with fellow competitors Taylor Ciampichini and Mitch Cooke. Ryan rode hard all race and crossed the line in third at the finish.

It wouldn't be until Sunday when Brooklyn Karkoulas and Hailey Belanger had an opportunity to get back out on the track and race in the pro woman's class. This would also be Hailey's first time to Valcourt and to compete in the pro woman's class was huge! She put in some great motos and during the final was doing a lot of the big doubles much to the shock of her mother and grandfather, team Mechanic Glen Goodale. Unfortunately in one of the big doubles Hailey caught a ski on a hay bale marker and ended up off the sled, she remounted and finish the race. What a learning experience that must've been for our young rider.



Brooklyn was no stranger to Valcourt having been there multiple times over the past few years. She would run up against some strong competition from Quebec racers one of them being Megan Brodeur a multi time pro woman champion. Brooklyn held her own and had some great rides. She would finish the final in third place to claim our fifth podium position on the weekend!



729

RYAN HUNT

Valcourt was another weekend full of crazy weather and huge jumps! Coming out of the weekend I did not get the results I was looking for in the pro class. But on the Snowbike I was able to feel comfortable on the track and pull off a 3rd in the final and stepping on the podium!

The track was crazy like usual but when I was able to feel comfortable on the sled it was definitely a fun track and even though my overall weekend on the sled wasn't what I planned I still had some good rides in my motos and looking to move on and try again to step on the podium in Barrie this weekend!





53

YANICK BOUCHER

The Grand Prix Skidoo de Valcourt is always a race I look forward to! The whole event is awesome from the oval racing to great snow cross track with tons of soft snow and big jumps.

This year before the event we got the chance to go visit the Camso assembly plant in Shawinigan where our Yeti Snow MX kits get assembled. Such a cool thing to meet all of the employees and check out what they do to make it all possible for us to go racing on these great products! We then headed to the track for practice Thursday afternoon to get the track dialled in.

Unfortunately the Friday races got canceled due to a really bad snow storm, it was a bummer but we made the most of it and went out in the field just beside the track on our snow bikes to have some fun. Saturday was an awesome day I was able to get the win in both my qualifiers and the final! I had some much fun ripping on the Valcourt track I wish our races would've been longer, haha. It was great to have all my friends and family here this weekend. Thankful for everyone that supports this great team that make great weekends like these possible! Thank you.

Yanick Boucher



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500 BROOKLYN KARKOULAS

From KSR Race Report

Sunday saw the team up with the sun for an early morning start to the final day of competition. This time it was the team's Pro/Am Women racer Brooklyn's turn to take the track on her 2020 Ski-Doo RS. A solid first moto saw the rider cross in fourth position, a good start to the day. The second moto, Brooklyn took to the track with goals to try different lines and increase speed in approaching the taunting finish line jump in preparation for the final. Unfortunately, in the first corner on the first lap, Brooklyn tangled with another rider and ended up being tossed off the sled. With rapid execution she was able to get back on, start it up and make up lots of time before the checkered flag, coming across in sixth. Later Sunday afternoon, the second last Snowcross race of the program, the Pro Dames lined up for their final. Undeterred from her previous moto unseating, Brooklyn hit the green and dug deep having one of her best rides to date. From the very first corner, mom stated she could feel Brooklyn's determination right from the viewing platform. Brooklyn approached the jumps and rhythm sections with full commitment maneuvering her sled like an expert. After a solid ride and a few tense moments when approaching lap traffic in the final lap of the race Brooklyn earned her place on the podium in the third position. Coming off the track, Brooklyn's smile and enthusiasm could be seen beneath her helmet many feet away. Physically exhausted from pushing the limits, Brooklyn was mentally ecstatic.





501

DAKOTA KARKOULAS

From KSR Race Report

The same day on the main track Dakota (age 13) rode like a boss against an entire field of boys in the junior 14-15 class. The skill of these young riders never ceases to amaze us, and Dakota's ability to rise to the competition is impressive. Saturday afternoon Dakota lined up to go green and pushed her limits the entire race, smoothly hitting doubles and speeding through the rhythm section right up until her favourite part of the course - the massive finish line jump. Each lap saw the young rider

hitting it faster and farther, a difficult view for her Mom to handle. After all the effort put forth, Dakota was thrilled to take a spot on the podium achieving a third place finish. Although ecstatic with her finish, Dakota returned to the trailer melancholy as that race marked the end of her GPS de-Valcourt experience for the year and she was not ready to be done. Claiming the track was her all-time favorite, she snuck out early Sunday morning during the practice session just to experience it one last time. Her enthusiasm for competition at the GPS de Valcourt was a stark reminder for her parents of what all the hard work and preparation is for.



574

HAILEY BELANGER

Well the race weekend is over! I didn't get to race the Dame classes Friday because they canceled all racing for the day just before my first moto! But I was able to line up in the Dames class Sunday! In my second moto I was pretty proud that I never actually got lapped by Meghan Brodeur! But unfortunately in my final I misjudged the one section and crashed! Just being in Valcourt was a real eye opener I can't wait to go back again next year!





502

ZOE KARKOULAS

From KSR Race Report

Saturday saw the two youngest racers of the team divided between the transition track and the main track. Zoe and her Mom headed off together to tackle the dedicated track to 120cc and Transition riders. This particular track geared to 120 racers was a race off the line track for the young racer with extremely limited passing options. Zoe struggled in her races with too much throttle, being used to larger technical tracks, causing her to overshoot the first nearly 180 corner. Somehow in her final she was able to calculate two successful passes on a very narrow, nearly single lane track to come away with a second place finish. A podium celebration, impressive plaque and a celebratory "Beavertail" ended off the day for the young racer.



All in all another great weekend for our team proud of the accomplishments we made and for the work done by our crews, Glen Goodale, Derek Uttley, Troy Karkoulas and Ryan Walker. Thanks to all our partners that support our effort. For more on them and their products, please click the links on our web page.

Our next event is this weekend February 15/16 at the Georgian Downs race track in Innisfil, Ont. This is a great facility with heated indoor grandstands, restaurants, casino tables and more. Make sure you don't miss this one!

See you at the races.

For more on the team and all our great Partners go to www.baileymotorsports.ca

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