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Another 250 Pro second overall for Shawn Maffenbeier



Shawn Maffenbeier put team Monster Energy Alpinestars Piller's Kawasaki on the podium for the second straight weekend in Popkum, BC, where Round 2 of the MRC Triple Crown Series' MX Tour was staged on Saturday, June 2. Maffenbeier put in two blazing motos aboard his potent Kawasaki KX250F to hammer down 3-1 finishes, which gave him a repeat second overall in the 250 Pro class.



In the 450 Pro class, Tyler Medaglia and Mike Alessi also rode the wheels off their Team Green machines, but their results did not quite reflect the effort they put into trying to secure overall podium finishes. Both riders did grab one podium finish, however ... both with a third place at the checkered flag!

Alessi once again demonstrated why he earned the career-long nickname "Mr. Holeshoot" by guiding his KX450F missile into turn one of both motos in first place. Although the Hilliard, Florida native was unable to hold onto the lead, he pulled the express train around the spectacular and highly technical Popkum Motor Park track for more than half of moto 1 and three laps of moto 2.



Alessi soldiered on to still secure a well-earned third place podium finish in moto 1 and sixth in moto 2, which had been subjected to a restart, after a red flag incident. Alessi had to take satisfaction with a sixth place, going into turn 1, in the restart. He rode his own race in that position the entire moto. When all was said and done the veteran sealed the top five with a noteworthy fifth overall on the day. Alessi currently sits one position behind his teammate Medaglia on the scoreboard in fifth.

Medaglia, meanwhile, also nailed a great start in the first moto, rounding turn one in fourth place. He ran there for most of the moto, but by the time the checkered flag indicated the end of the race he found himself crossing the finish line in seventh place. Moto 2 had seen the Brookfield, Nova Scotia resident dealing with a start outside the top 25. By lap 3, when an injured rider lying on the track brought out the red flag, he had charged into 22nd place. The restart was much more favourable for Medaglia. He blasted into the first turn in third place and stayed there the entire moto, defending that position tooth-and-nail till the finish line. Coupled with his first moto seventh place, Medaglia recorded a respectable sixth overall and enough points to see him hold down fourth on the scoreboard.



In 250 action, Maffenbeier greatly improved on the starts he had achieved at the opening round of the tour in Calgary, to garner third place going into turn 1 both times out. In both motos, the racing was hot and furious, especially among the frontrunners, who weren't giving an inch. Despite pushing the envelope in moto 1 in an attempt to get by Josh Osby so he could set his sights on first place Jess Pettis, the Swift Current, SK native could not conjure up a pass on the ultra fast Popkum track. When the checkered flag was waved, Maffenbeier had to take satisfaction with the position he started in.

Not to be denied Maffenbeier got his revenge in moto 2, quickly parlaying his third place start into the lead on lap five of the 15-lap race. With Pettis breathing down his neck, and Osby not far back in third, the defending 250 Champion rode as if there would be no tomorrow, to take the win and secure second overall. Maffenbeier currently trails overall Round 1 and 2 winner, Pettis, by just eight points as the MX Tour heads further north in BC for Round 3 of the title hunt.

The Rockstar Energy Triple Crown Series continues with Round 3 of the MX Tour at Blackwater MX in Prince George, BC on Saturday, June 9th.

MX Tour Results – Round 2 – Popkum, BC

450 Pro

- 1. Colton Facciotti (Hon) 2-1
- 2. Matt Goerke (Yam) 1-5
- 3. Jake Nicholls (Hon) 6-2
- 4. Cole Thompson (KTM) 4-4
- 5. Mike Alessi (Kaw) 3-6
- 6. Tyler Medaglia (Kaw) 7-3
- 7. Dillan Epstein (Yam) 9-7
- 8. Kaven Benoit (KTM) 5-12
- 9. Cheyenne Harmon (Yam) 10-11
- 10. Keylan Meston (Husq) 14-8



250 Pro

- 1. Jess Pettis (Hon) 1-2
- 2. Shawn Maffienbeier (Kaw) 3-1
- 3. Josh Osby (KTM) 2-3
- 4. Joey Crown (KTM) 5-4
- 5. Marco Cannella (Yam) 6-5
- 6. Tanner Ward (KTM) 7-6
- 7. Casey Keast (Yam) 8-7
- 8. Jason Benny (Kaw) 9-8
- 9. Jared Petruska (Hon) 11-9
- 10. Teren Gerber (Kaw) 13-10



Points standings after 2 of 9 rounds

450 Pro

- 1. Colton Facciotti (Hon) 117 pts
- 2. Matt Goerke (Yam) 96
- 3. Cole Thompson (KTM) 90
- 4. Tyler Medaglia (Kaw) 88 (-29)
- 5. Mike Alessi (Kaw) 84 (-33)
- 6. Kaven Benoit (KTM) 74
- 7. Keylan Meston (Husq) 73
- 8. Dillan Epstein (Yam) 63
- 9. Kyle Keast (Husq) 59
- 10. Graham Scott (Hon) 59

250 Pro

- 1. Jess Pettis (Yam) 117 pts
- 2. Shawn Maffienbeier (Kaw) 109 (-8)

3. Josh Osby (KTM)	100
4. Joey Crown (KTM)	92
5. Marco Cannella (Yam)	80
6. Casey Keast (Yam)	75
7. Tanner Ward (KTM)	74
8. Jared Petruska (Hon)	72
9. Teren Gerber (Kaw)	57
10. Rylan Bly (Husq)	51

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