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## Shawn Maffenbeier holds on to 250 points lead at McNabb Valley MX



In some of the most intense racing of the season to date, Shawn Maffenbeier battled his way into a 250 Pro second overall finish at Round 4 of the MRC Triple Crown Series MX Tour, which was held on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> in Minnedosa, MB. Maffenbeier's tour de force performance ensured he stayed at the top of the MX Tour Series points standings while strengthening his hold on the overall Triple Crown scoreboard. The Swift Current, SK native cleared the task aboard his potent Kawasaki KX250F with 3-1 motos on the newly constructed McNabb Valley MX racetrack, which features plenty of elevation changes, using the valley as a landing for breathtaking jumps, off cambers, rollers and berms.

While Maffenbeier had himself a more than good day, his Monster Energy Alpinestars Piller's Kawasaki teammates Tyler Medaglia and Mike Alessi had a little more adversity to contend with in the 450 Pro class. Medaglia especially can look back on a day that started off on a positive note in Moto 1 only to go down hill in Moto 2. His final tally for the day was 2-15 moto results, which delivered him seventh overall. Although not shabby by any means, it did cost the Brookfield, NS resident enough points to move him from third in the current standings to fifth. Alessi, meanwhile, recorded steady 6-5 motos, giving him fifth overall on the day. The points he collected sufficed to keep him anchored in sixth place on the title hunt scoreboard.





In 250 Pro action, the first moto start saw Maffenbeier arrive in turn 1 around fifth place accompanied by the usual suspects, which included Dylan Wright, Joey Crown, Jess Pettis, Josh Osby and Tanner Ward. Holeshooter Wyatt Waddell ended up playing no role in the top-10, after his brief run up front. It took Maffenbeier some serious throttle twisting to claw his way into third place, a position he would hold down from the halfway mark of the moto until the checkered flag. He completed the podium behind second place Wright and winner

Pettis. The start of the second moto proved to be much more advantageous for Maffenbeier, claiming the holeshot this time out. And the way he started is the way he would finish, taking first place to the finish line some thirty gruelling minutes later. Maffenbeier was kept honest for most of the moto by Wright, who stalked him relentlessly until his bike let go with just two laps remaining.



As in the 250 Pro class, racing was intense and unforgiving in both 450 Pro motos. For Tyler Medaglia, Moto 1 further confirmed his status as belonging to Canada's elite motocrossers. Although Kaven Benoit dove into the first turn ahead of the throng, an on fire Medaglia edged him out by a hairsbreadth for the holeshot. With momentum on his side, Benoit took over the lead before the end of the first lap. As the moto progressed Medaglia lost some ground on Benoit while having his hands full, keeping a determined Cole Thompson at bay. In the closing laps Thompson, going for broke, came knocking on Medaglia's rear fender. Not about to lose a position he had in hand for 15 laps, Medaglia poured on the gas and piloted his KX450F across the finish line some two seconds ahead of Thompson.

The second moto start was less auspicious for Medaglia, who exited the first turn around seventh place. While still on the first lap he started to backpaddle to a distant 23<sup>rd</sup> place by lap four. The victim of an electrical gremlin, Medaglia faced an impossible task to reconnect with the frontrunners. Showing true grit, however, he managed to nurse his bike around the track for the entire 17 laps, to cross the finish line in 15<sup>th</sup> place. It was a bitter pill to swallow for the former 250 Pro Champion.





Alessi, meanwhile, tackled the first moto from an eighth place start to go on and battle the rest of the top-10 contenders, none of them giving an inch, for position. On lap six Hilliard, Florida's Alessi was able to claw his way into sixth place and run his own race from that point on. Although he was unable to slip into the top-five, Alessi defended his hold on sixth place from a motivated Dillan Epstein right to the checkered flag.

While his teammate Medaglia had the hand of fate on him in the second moto, Alessi once again lived up to his moniker, "Mr. Holeshot". A lightening start saw Alessi take the express train in tow for the holeshot to then lead for more than half the moto. The pressure on Alessi from the rest of the top-five runners was immense, however, with only about five seconds separating the group at the halfway point. On lap 10 first moto winner Benoit made his move to relegate Alessi into second place, to then go on and make it a clean sweep day. By the end of the race Alessi would have to concede three more positions. He crossed the finish line in a still respectable fifth place and with it some valuable championship points.



"Concluding the Western rounds of the series, I am proud to say we capitalized on every podium opportunity available, whether it was a holeshot or top three finish. Heading into the Eastern leg of the series, we are in a good position to fight for a championship in both 250 and 450 classes," team manager Adam "Stu" Robinson noted.

The MRC Triple Crown Series continues after a three-week break on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at Sand Del Lee, with Round 5 of the MX Tour. Stay tuned!

## MX Tour Results 450 Pro – Round 4

1. Kaven Benoit (KTM)	1-1
2. Cole Thompson (KTM)	3-2
3. Matt Goerke (Yam)	4-3
4. Colton Facciotti (Hon)	5-4
<b>5. Mike Alessi (Kaw)</b>	<b>6-5</b>
6. Dillan Epstein (Yam)	7-6
<b>7. Tyler Medaglia (Kaw)</b>	<b>2-15</b>
8. Cade Clason (Hon)	8-7
9. Mike Brown (Husq)	10-8
10. Keylan Meston (Husq)	9-9



## MX Tour Results 250 Pro – Round 4

1. Jess Pettis (Hon)	1-2
<b>2. Shawn Maffienbeier (Kaw)</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3. Joey Crown (KTM)	5-3
4. Marco Cannella (Yam)	4-4
5. Tanner Ward (KTM)	6-6
6. Jared Petruska (Hon)	7-8
7. Teren Gerber (Kaw)	9-11
8. Anthony Spadaccini (Hon)	11-10
9. Quinton Robin (Husq)	10-12
10. Jason Benny (Kaw)	8-14



## MX Tour Points Standings after 4 of 9 Rounds

### 450 Pro

1. Matt Goerke (Yam)	199 pts
2. Colton Facciotti (Hon)	199
3. Kaven Benoit (KTM)	191
4. Cole Thompson (KTM)	188
<b>5. Tyler Medaglia (Kaw)</b>	<b>178 (-21)</b>
<b>6. Mike Alessi (Kaw)</b>	<b>165 (-34)</b>
7. Dillan Epstein (Yam)	144
8. Keylan Meston (Husq)	140
9. Kyle Keast (Husq)	122
10. Cade Clason (Hon)	110

### 250 Pro

<b>1. Shawn Maffienbeier (Kaw)</b>	<b>206pts</b>
2. Jess Pettis (Yam)	201
3. Joey Crown (KTM)	186



4. Josh Osby (KTM) 171
5. Marco Cannella (yam) 169
6. Tanner Ward (KTM) 148
7. Dylan Wright (Hon) 131
8. Jared Petruska (Hon) 127
9. Teren Gerber (Kaw) 121
10. Casey Keast (Yam) 114

### Triple Crown Series Points Standings after 10 Rounds

#### 450 Pro

Rider	#	Bike	Clash	Points
Cole Thompson	16	KTM	18	383
Colton Facciotti	45	Honda	15	360
Matt Goerke	2	Yamaha	9	348
Tyler Medaglia	5	Kawasaki		310
Dillan Epstein	7	Yamaha		263
Keylan Meston	10	Husky		250
Cade Clason	9	Honda	4	193
Kaven Benoit	26	KTM		191
Kyle Keast	72	Husky		179
Mike Alessi	800	Kawasaki		165

#### 250 Pro

Rider	#	Bike	Clash	Points
Shaun Maffenbeier	3	Kawasaki	10	385
Jess Pettis	15	Yamaha	4	309
Marco Cannella	66	Yamaha		261
Tanner Ward	27	KTM		253
Dylan Wright	12	Honda	3	189
Joey Crown	335	KTM		186
Josh Osby	18	KTM		171
Wyatt Waddell	157	Husky		171
Jason Benny	17	Kawasaki		142
Ryan Lockhart	101	Kawasaki	2	135

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