

1963

Corduroy Enduro



Sal Scirpo and his 250cc Harley-Davidson love that mud! Sal is the new 1963 Grand Champion of the Corduroy Enduro, this year 290 miles of prehistoric mud and fern leaves.

TORONTO, Canada — A record entry of 54 riders from two provinces and six states took part in the Canadian Championship Corduroy Enduro September 14 and 15. Top honours went to veteran U.S. east coast riders. The overall winner was Sal Scirpo riding a 250cc Harley-Davidson from Hartford, Connecticut.

The Best Opposite Class was won by Eugene Esposito of Brooklyn, N.Y. on a 500 Triumph. The Lightweight Championship went to Don Lohnes, Bennington, Vermont on a 250 Greeves. The Medium and Heavyweight Championships were won by Ohio riders Norm Smith, 500 Triumph, and Al Garratt, 600 Matchless. Clare Mathies and Walt Wilson of Georgetown, Ontario prevented a U.S. shutout by winning the Sidecar Championship by a narrow margin over Dewey Wertz and Floyd Brandow of Wheeler, Michigan.

As in previous years, the run was laid out on the rocky edge of the Canadian Shield in the Ontario resort district of Haliburton. The total distance covered in the two days was reduced from 370 miles in 1962 to 290. This change was popular with most riders, especially those from distant points since it permitted an early start home Sunday afternoon. Results were published and trophies awarded in an informal ceremony Sunday evening.

Saturday's course consisted of two laps of an 86.8-mile route which started and finished at Gold Rock Lodge, headquarters for the run throughout the weekend. By repositioning checks, the organizers managed to collect just as many points after lunch as before, and several riders, in fact, got lost the second time around.

Saturday evening Norm Smith was leading with 22 points, followed by Esposito, 28; Scirpo, 30; Cutler, 35; Lohnes,

39; Garratt, 40; and Hartman, 42. Unfortunately, Bill Decker of Butler N.J. had to retire at 132.4 miles because of a sprained ankle suffered in a collision with a spectator's car. At this point he was tied for first place with 19 points.

Twenty machines, including two of the four sidecars, failed to finish Saturday's run. Mechanical failure was the common complaint and several riders spent a good part of Sunday extracting their unfaithful machinery from remote regions.

On Sunday morning 34 stalwart rock jumpers set out to tackle the remaining 116.2 miles. All but five made it. Best score on Sunday was Scirpo's 33, followed by Lohnes, 39,



P. Puhakka of Willowdale, Ontario carefully guides his 500 AJS across the bridge at Beaver Pond.

and Esposito, 53. Norm Smith, Saturday's leader, drowned his Triumph and his hopes of winning in a beaver pond Sunday morning. Considering the circumstances, he made a rapid recovery and managed to edge Hartman for the Mediumweight Championship. There was a 40-minute break for lunch at Carnarvon. This came none too soon for sidecar champion Mathies, who spent more than an hour with the local blacksmith welding fractures in the sidecar ironmongery.

The final 60 miles included two stretches of woods and three sustained sessions with a power line right-of-way. Key time for the final check was 2.12; and at 4.38 George English, the last of the 29 finishers, checked in to complete the 1963 Corduroy.

Top Canadian solo riders included Ray Holloway, third Lightweight, 260 points; Bert Irwin, fourth Heavyweight, 206 points; and Bill Sharpless, fourth Mediumweight, 208 points.

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These are the sidecar champs, W. Wilson and C. Mathies of Campbellville, Ontario. Here they are extricating their 600cc Matchless from a mud bog.



The second-place sidecar classmen, M. Wertz and F. Brandow of Wheeler, Michigan, ease their 74-inch Harley-Davidson outfit between two stubborn trees.



J. Hands, ninth-place mediumweight finisher, almost loses his 500 Ariel in the mud.

RESULTS

Grand Champion: Sal Scirpo, Hartford, Conn., 250 H-D, 63 points.

Best Opposite Class: Eugene Esposito, Brooklyn, N.Y., 500 Triumph, 81 points.

Lightweight Class

1. D. Lohnes, Bennington, Vt., 250 Greeves, 78 points.
2. J. Stone, Alma, Mich., 250 HD, 176 points.
3. R. Holloway, Guelph, Ont., 250 BSA, 260 points.
4. N. Bonner, Lockport, N.Y., 250 Greeves, 274 points.

Mediumweight Class

1. N. Smith, Brecksville, Ohio, 500 Triumph, 103 points.
2. L. Hartman, Plymouth, Mich., 500 Matchless, 110 points.
3. P. Goulet, Lansing, Mich., 500 Triumph, 140 points.
4. W. Sharpless, Toronto, Ont., 500 AJS, 208 points.

Heavyweight Class

1. A. Garratt, Cleveland, Ohio, 600 Matchless, 108 points.
2. M. Cutler, Dearborn, Mich., 600 Matchless, 114 points.
3. N. Oelfke, Grand Blanc, Mich., 650 Matchless, 159 points.
4. A. Irwin, Cornwall, Ont., 650 BSA, 206 points.

Sidecar Class

1. C. Mathies/W. Wilson, Campbellville, Ontario, 600 Matchless, 581 points.
2. D. Wertz/F. Brandow, Wheeler, Mich., 74 HD, 610 points.
3. M. Wertz/T. James, Wheeler, Mich., 55 HD, 132.4 miles.
4. G. Davidson/W. Ryan, Toronto, Ontario, 600 Matchless, 102.0 miles.

Best Novice Class Enduro Rider: P. Goulet.

Winning Team: The Wrecking Team: N. Smith, A. Garratt, S. Scirpo.

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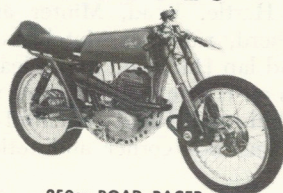
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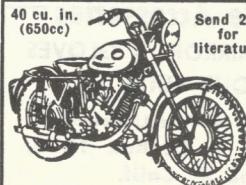
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