



followed by Kyle Lueders and Steve Foster. Sadly I was out of those spots, but maybe on Sunday I would move up.

The top three spots in Vet were Chris Martin, Gilles Bussiere and Scott Rocher. In Super Vet, Kevin Allen, Tom Irwin and Lance Matthews took the top three spots at the end of the day. Joel Lepley, Rick Day and Ted Dirstein were the powerhouses in the Masters 58 class, with Lepley and Day only 10 seconds apart.

In the stacked Novice class, Mike McCaw dominated the first day and took a lead of almost 10 minutes into the second day. He was followed by David Beach and Ben Roth. This year five women braved the terrain and Jessica Cannell showed them how it was done by taking an 11-minute lead into the second day over Mellissa and Kathleen Head. The two smallest classes were the Beginner and Vintage, with John Penton being the lone representative in Vintage on the bike that bears his name. Kevin Smith and Greg Vosper were the only two to finish in the Novice class.

Sunday saw a slight shift in the standings and Beale won his fourth Corduroy Enduro, beating out Lachapelle by almost two minutes, while Bowes rounded out the top three. Only two riders (Jack Penton and Blair Sharpless) have won the Cord more than Beale.

In Expert, Belanger maintained his lead and took the win followed by Desharnais and Holoftis with a 13-minute gap between first and third. Desharnais easily took home the win in Vet Expert with a 34-minute lead over Ebacher in second. Ebacher and Libersan were much closer together, separated by only 24 seconds.

The Intermediate class saw a much tighter race between the top three. Armstrong took home his second Intermediate class victory in a row and beat out Lueders and Alex Conti. In Vet, Martin took the win, followed by Bussiere. Rocher suffered a DNF on Sunday, handing third place to Chris Zanelli.

Super Vet was a similar story, with Allen taking the win and Irwin nailing down second; Kelly Goreski moved up a spot and took third. Lepley and Day were the two riders to finish the Masters 58 class. The novice class remained much the same with McCaw in first, Beach in second and Zach Tustin moving up to third.

The Women's and beginner classes finished the same way they did on Saturday, with only Cannell finishing both days.

In my opinion this year's Cord was a great event and the amazing crew of volunteers did a fantastic job. The trails were great and the event ran well and saw a great rider turnout. From what I can tell there was roughly 140 people that entered – believe me, I was on row 49. So kudos to everyone who was involved in the 57th running of the Corduroy Enduro and to Pat Beale on winning his fourth. I can't wait to do it all again next year.





The Cord is an event that is steeped in tradition and has a history that goes back to the 1950s. To most people it would be a mystery why the competitors in the Cord continue to put themselves through the torture that is this two-day event. All those who enter may ask themselves the same question, but they know the answer. This is a special event and the feeling of accomplishment that you get in just finishing is something that you will never forget.

Two-thousand ten marked the 57th running of the Cord and it also marked my second time entering. So far I have not been beaten, but I am sure that streak will end soon. I have mentioned a deep-rooted attachment in the past, thanks to the race going right through my cottage when I was a kid.

I still remember walking out into the woods and watching these madmen crashing through the woods on those amazing motorcycles. I think a part of me always knew that I wanted to be one of those madmen.

Now don't be mistaken, I am no pro – they are the real madmen – but I am still living the dream. The rollercoaster of emotions that can accompany a trip through the Cord course can certainly run the gamut; you can go from exhilarated

to heartbroken in a matter of moments. But you still keep coming back for more.

In my opinion, the weather this year had been far more cooperative and only dumped rain on the course on Saturday night, as opposed to a healthy dose on Saturday and Sunday last year. That is not to say that there wasn't water on the course – it is the Cord after all – but some of the particularly bad sections were a bit more rider-friendly.

Each year the organizing group makes an effort to add new trails to the course in order to remove some of the road transfer sections, and this year was no exception. When undertaking an event like this, some of the biggest challenges can be finding ways to link all these great sections of trails together. From what I recall from last year, there was not as much road riding and that was greatly appreciated.

Day one of the Cord was greeted by beautiful sunshine and ideal temperatures. It was a more pleasant ride to the first section of trail than 2009, which was quite a cold, wet weekend. The trails were in good shape considering it had rained heavily in the week leading up to the race and fortunately things had

been dry this year, which allowed the ground to handle it. But don't read this to mean it was dry; this is the Cord.

As always, the trails were great fun and presented the riders with a challenge. Caution must always be taken when coming up to a rutted mud hole but this is especially true in Cord country. These holes can have bottomless ruts that can trap you and eat up your minutes in a test, trust me.

Aside from all that, the day was full of competitive racing and saw a close battle atop the leader board in the pro class. Day one saw the wily veteran, Allan Lachapelle, in the lead over Pat Beaulieu by one minute, followed by Scott Bowes.

In the Expert class, Hugo Gravec Belanger took a solid five-minute lead going into the second day of racing ahead of Rome Haloftis and Hubert Desharnais. In Vet Expert, Gilles Desharnais was less than a minute ahead of second-placed Denis Libersan heading into Saturday, with Craig Kennedy sitting in third.

The amateur classes were equally as competitive and the Intermediate class saw last year's winner, Barry Armstrong, move into the top spot at the end of the day. Armstrong was