

The Seth Reese Story

A student at Holland Patent High School, Class of 2021, Seth Reese has been involved the sport of motocross since the age of 3 years old. He was one of the first kids to attend Holland Patent's Pre-K program that started up in 2007 and he was already racing at that age. Now a Senior, Seth just wrapped up his 12th season of AMA District 3 CNYMRA series racing. Few know that motocross is one of (and many say) the most physically and mentally demanding sports there is, and over the years, Seth has always pushed to be the best that he can be, both on the track and off.

What really throws people off when they hear that he races motocross (MX), is the fact that he races an ATV and not a dirt bike. He got his first ATV from "Santa" when he was 2 years old and went to his first MX track a year



later and was introduced to the sport and he instantly fell in love with it. Thornwood MX in Williamstown held an open practice on Thursday nights back then, and he would ride the Pee-Wee track for hours, we did not miss a Thursday. He could only practice at this point, to be eligible to race you have to be 4 years old. His birthday being in October kept him from racing all summer, but the weekend after his 4th birthday, there was a Halloween MX Race at another local track, Twister Valley in Fort Plain, and for his birthday, we took him to attend in his first race, and we have been doing it for the past 12 years now. He finished 3rd place and was so excited to win his first trophy. Today, our house is filled with trophies, plaques, and awards. He first rode a stock 50cc ATV, and then he got a full race mini-quad at the age of 5, won a championship on that in 2011. He won the AMA D3 50cc

Modified class and the New York State championship in that class. 2012 was a tough season in which he broke his arm 2 separate times, but that didn't keep him from going to the MX tracks to be with and cheer on his friends and fellow racers.

MX racing is really such a great family sport. We have raced all over the North East, from Minot, Maine, to Steel City, PA. In an average season we will attend 20 – 25 MX events. For us it is a chance to go camping for the weekend and hanging out with our "moto-family", and really is a way of life. To find a kid that possesses the self-discipline and determination required to compete at a top level in this sport at a young age is rare, but Seth is one of them. I have always advanced him to the next class as early as possible so that he always had tough competition to keep up with.



The last 3 or 4 years it has been tough for Seth to find a class to race in due to his skill, age and ATV that he had. AMA (American Motorcyclist Association) rules state that in order to ride a full sized ATV in the Amateur class, that you had to be 14, and to compete on a full on 450cc race ATV, that you have to be 16. So we just rode the Am (B) class wherever we could the last few years, mainly just for practice time and to get used to the ATV. By the time 2019 was over, he was racing in the Expert (A) class to see where he stood for the next season. The Expert class is the highest level that you can race locally, the next level up is Pro-Am and then Pro in the National ATV-MX series. Fellow racers in the A class welcomed him on the starting gate his first moto, after all, they had watched him grow from a 50cc rider to a teenager racing A on a 450.

2020 was the year, where he was finally able to legitimately race his ATV and be legal to collect points towards a championship. He was 16 years old racing Quad Expert and Quad Collegeboy (16-24 years old) and with the delayed start to the season, was unsure what series to race in, we didn't really have any plans. So we went to races in the D3 and New England ATV-MX series just to be at the track and get some seat time, it wasn't until we were 6-8 races in that we realized that he was in near the top of the points in his classes, and a few weeks later he was leading them both. For a 16-year-old, in the Expert class, to be leading in points was unheard of.

So, I am proud to say that the 2020 season is over, and Seth Reese is the AMA D3 CNYMRA Quad Expert and Quad Collegeboy Champion!! He also won the NYS Championship Race at High Voltage MX in Greig, in the Collegeboy class and place 3rd in the Quad Expert class, and he has been nominated Rookie of the Year in D3. He has had continuing support from all of his sponsors, family and friends over the years and is excited to see what 2021 has in store for him. Looks like he will defend his championships next year and we can't wait.

