



Heartbreak To Highlight For Aki Pihlaja In Iowa



Aki Pihlaja was just a few laps away from winning his first Pro Lite main event of the season on Friday night when the pesky downhill section on the Sundown Mountain Resort race course reached out and pulled him from his sled. Pihlaja quickly chased his machine to the bottom of the hill and gave pursuit to finish fourth.

Round 14 on Saturday would be a different story. Pihlaja used another great start, powered by a setup the team developed at the previous rounds in Michigan, and ran away with the final, giving the defending champ the win that has been eluding him all season. "On Friday I pushed too hard at the start of the race and my arms pumped up," said Pihlaja. I was having a battle and I made a mistake going down the hill and couldn't hold on. But we did it on Saturday with another good start so it was good to get a win."

Elias Ishoel made his long-awaited debut with the team in Iowa after sitting out the entire season recovering from a training injury last summer. Ishoel made steady progress all weekend finishing in a very respectable sixth place in the Pro final in Saturday.



The team and our Jimmy John's Ski-Doo snowmobiles are in peak form as we move on to the season finale on March 16-18 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Pihlaja will be competing on Saturday and

Sunday, while Ishoel and Ryan Springer will take part in three rounds of Pro class action on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



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