

Getting the Chills from Iceman

By: Scott Hoffner

Iceman: The race that decides my season. It is the race that I think about day in and day out till I get to the start line. It is a race from Kalkaska to Traverse City Michigan. It is Fast, Intense, Competition from all over the U.S. all in one spot at one time. It is one of the largest point A to point B, XC Mountain bike races on the east coast.

On Friday, November 6th, I started to get really bad flu symptoms. Iceman was Saturday the 7th. I tried to get some good sleep once I got to Traverse City and hopefully wake up and feel fine. I woke up early to get ready for Iceman and I had the chills and was feeling much worse than Friday. I took some Ibuprofen to help fight off the chills. I got to the race and got a good warm up in. There were 4,000 racers and the vibe from the race was very intense. The race was hard because of the amount of people starting out all at once. I had three crashes in the first three miles. One of them my hand got caught up in someone's wheel and ripped up my glove. Each time I just brushed it off and kept going. I ended up passing everyone in my class in the first eight miles and rode away by myself for the rest of the race. I ended up beating second place by 1 minute and won Iceman. My time was a 1:45:16. I raced the Expert Class 19-24. Although I know I could race in the Pro Class I felt I would have a better race in Expert. I raced for my team from back at home. I race for Team Giant Michigan. My favorite part of the sport is the independence and how all of my results are based on how well I ride and train. I focus the end of my season on Iceman and it ended up paying off. What an exciting year!

