



COUNTDOWN 2009



Volume III, Issue 22

Oct. 12, 2009

Full Throttle Series Schedule

COUNTDOWN TO 10 (Regular Season)

KRAGEN O'REILLY NHRA WINTERNATIONALS

Winners: D. Kalitta, Capps, Line

LUCAS OIL SLICK MIST NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Capps, Coughlin

ACDELCO NHRA GATORNATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Tasca, Line, Arana

O'REILLY NHRA SPRING NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Force Hood, Krisher, Treble

SUMMITRACING.COM NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Capps, Coughlin

SUMMIT RACING NHRA SOUTHERN NATIONALS

Winners: Lucas, Beckman, Edwards, Krawiec

O'REILLY NHRA MIDWEST NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Worsham, Coughlin, Krawiec

NHRA THUNDER VALLEY NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Worsham, Edwards

O'REILLY NHRA SUMMER NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Capps, Allen Johnson

UNITED ASSOCIATION ROUTE 66 NATIONALS

Winners: Massey, T. Pedregon, Coughlin, Guidera

UNITED ASSOCIATION SUPERNATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, T. Pedregon, Coughlin, Treble

SUMMIT RACING EQUIPMENT NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Beckman, Line, Hines

MOPAR MILE-HIGH NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Capps, A. Johnson, Krawiec

NHRA NORTHWEST NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Wilkerson, Edwards

FRAM-AUTOLITE NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Wilkerson, Line, Hines

LUCAS OIL NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Lucas, T. Pedregon, Anderson, Arana

TOYO TIRES NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Tasca, Coughlin, Krawiec

MAC TOOLS U.S. NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Force Hood, Coughlin, Arana

COUNTDOWN TO 1 (Playoffs)

NHRA CAROLINAS NATIONALS

Winners: McClenathan, Hight, Edwards, Arana

O'REILLY SUPER-START NHRA FALL NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Hight, Anderson, Arana

O'REILLY NHRA MID-SOUTH NATIONALS

Winners: Lucas, Arend, Line, Phillips

NHRA VIRGINIA NATIONALS

Winners: Bernstein, Worsham, Edwards

NHRA LAS VEGAS NATIONALS

Oct. 29-Nov. 1 at Las Vegas (PSM)

AUTO CLUB NHRA FINALS

Nov. 12-15 at Pomona (PSM)

Nitro Classes Up in Air

As many as 10 drivers still have legitimate title hope

While the championship picture has come into crystal clear focus in Pro Stock and Pro Stock Motorcycle, the crystal ball in the Nitro classes is a hazy, foggy mess.

There are four drivers in Top Fuel and six in Funny Car who can still stake legitimate claims to their respective 2009 NHRA Full Throttle Series championships.

In Top Fuel, where Antron Brown eliminated points leader Tony Schumacher in the quarterfinals at Richmond, the pack tightened considerably.

With eight rounds of racing left, four drivers are within four rounds of the top spot.

In Funny Car, it's even crazier and save for Del Worsham's win it could have been downright insane.



The Staging Lane

What's next: NHRA

Las Vegas Nationals

When: Oct. 29-Nov. 1, 2009

Where: The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway

ON TV (ESPN2HD, ET): Qualifying highlights, Sat.

(late night) at 10 p.m.-midnight; Raceday (pre-race show), Sun. at 11 a.m.;

Race, Sun. at 7 p.m.

Notable: This is the fifth race of the six-race NHRA Playoffs, the Countdown to 1 ... None of the regular season points leaders remain in first place ... Mike Edwards can clinch the PS title if he leaves LV with a 151-point lead.

Robert Hight and the AAA team.

As it stands, there are six drivers within 86 points of first place with the two races left in the six-race Countdown to 1: Las Vegas and Pomona.

In Pro Stock, Mike Edwards ran the table, earning the maximum 150 points, to all but clinch the championship.

The exclamation point came with victories over Jason Line in the semis and Greg Anderson in the final at Richmond.

All Edwards has to do to clinch is add 23 points to his 128-point over Anderson (and maintain at least a 151-point lead over all of the other drivers in the class) and he will secure his first NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series world championship.

Worsham stopped Ron Capps in the semis and Tim Wilkerson in the finals, keeping them from being even closer to points leader

2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES Countdown to 1 (4 of 6 races complete)

NOTE: The Top 10 drivers after the 18-race regular season qualified and had their points reset in 10-point increments (20-point bonus to the reg. season champion). (x)=Final Reg. Season pts position. **RED=Driver eliminated.**



TOP FUEL		FUNNY CAR		PRO STOCK		PSM (3/5 races)	
Driver (Reg Seas.)	Pts	Driver (Reg. Seas.)	Pts	Driver (Reg. Seas.)	Pts	Rider (Reg. Seas.)	Pts
1. Schumacher (3).....	2427	1. Hight (10).....	2362	1. Edwards (3).....	2524	1. Arana (3).....	2420
2. Dixon (2).....	-47	2. Force Hood (3).....	-13	2. Anderson (4).....	-128	2. Krawiec (1).....	-28
3. McClenathan (5).....	-68	3. T. Pedregon (1).....	-48	3. Line (2).....	-151	3. Phillips (7).....	-165
4. Brown (1).....	-81	4. Capps (2).....	-63	4. Coughlin (1).....	-232	4. Smith (4).....	-167
5. Bernstein (4).....	-120	5. Wilkerson (6).....	-82	5. Stanfield (6).....	-248	5. Hines (2).....	-171
6. Lucas (7).....	-158	6. Beckman (5).....	-86	6. A. Johnson (5).....	-280	6. Horne (5).....	-210
7. Langdon (8).....	-173	7. Tasca (4).....	-103	7. Gray (10).....	-291	7. Stoffer (10).....	-261
8. Massey (6).....	-202	8. Worsham (8).....	-135	8. Krisher (7).....	-302	8. Gann (9).....	-263
9. Kalitta (9).....	-209	9. J. Force (7).....	-146	9. K. Johnson (8).....	-340	9. Treble (6).....	-284
10. Millican (10).....	-334	10. Neff (9).....	-159	10. Jones (9).....	-504	10. Guidera (8).....	-400