



# COUNTDOWN 2009



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## 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

July 17-19 at Seattle

#### FRAM-AUTOLITE NHRA NATIONALS

July 24-26 at Sonoma, Calif. (PSM)

#### LUCAS OIL NHRA NATIONALS

Aug. 13-16 at Brainerd, Minn. (PSM)

#### TOYO TIRES NHRA NATIONALS

Aug. 20-23 at Reading, Pa. (PSM)

#### MAC TOOLS U.S. NATIONALS

Sept. 2-7 at Indianapolis (PSM)

### COUNTDOWN TO 1 (Playoffs)

#### NHRA CAROLINAS NATIONALS

Sept. 17-20 at Charlotte, N.C. (PSM)

#### O'REILLY SUPER-START NHRA FALL NATIONALS

Sept. 24-27 at Dallas (PSM)

#### O'REILLY NHRA MID-SOUTH NATIONALS

Oct. 2-4 at Memphis, Tenn. (PSM)

#### NHRA VIRGINIA NATIONALS

Oct. 9-11 at Richmond, Va.

#### NHRA LAS VEGAS NATIONALS

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

#### AUTO CLUB NHRA FINALS

Nov. 12-15 at Pomona (PSM)

# Three More Punch Tickets

## With 5 races left, Countdown dance card filling up

Jeg Coughlin became the first driver to clinch his playoff berth in Norwalk and three more drivers joined him in Denver, site of the 30th annual Mopar Mile-High NHRA Nationals.


Mike Edwards punched his ticket when he qualified in the top half of the field — he actually qualified No. 1 for the NHRA-best seventh time this season.

Then on Sunday, Antron Brown and Eddie Krawiec became the first drivers in Top Fuel and Pro Stock Motorcycle, respectively, to clinch playoff berths.

Brown and Krawiec each won for the third time this season and that was enough to cement their positions in the Top 10.

Funny Car is the lone category without a driver who has clinched.

But that's not to say there



**The Staging Lane**

**What's next:** NHRA Northwest Nationals  
**When:** July 17-19, 2009  
**Where:** Pacific Raceways  
**ON TV (ESPN2HD, ET):** Qualifying highlights, Sat. at 7 p.m.; Raceday (pre-race show), Sunday at 11 a.m.; Race, Sunday at 9 p.m.  
**Notable:** Brandon Bernstein has been to three final rounds in the last four years at Pacific Raceways (win in 2005) ... This is the second race-in-the-grueling three-races-in-three-weeks Western Swing.

won't be plenty of attention on Funny Car over the final month and a half of the NHRA Full Throttle Series regular season, the Countdown to 10.

There's a fascinating race for the No. 1 position —

and the 20-point bonus — and the race for 10th place is just as intriguing.

With Robert Hight's run to the semis in Denver, there are now just 71 points separating the drivers from eighth through 12th place. That's five drivers for three playoff berths.

Heading into this weekend's race at Pacific Raceways in Seattle, Larry Dixon and Tony Schumacher in Top Fuel and Jason Line in Pro Stock appear to be cinches to clinch playoff berths and depending on results there could be a couple more.

As for those on the bubble, the next five races will feature a lot of "scoreboard watching," figuring out what your nearest competitor is doing and figuring out a way to do just a little bit better.

## 2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES STANDINGS (13 Races Complete)

**NOTE:** The season consists of an 18-race regular season (Countdown to 10) and a six-race playoff (Countdown to 1); the Top 10 drivers qualify for the playoffs. Drivers with an 'x' next to their point total have clinched a spot in the six-race playoff.

| TOP FUEL                 |        | FUNNY CAR                 |      | PRO STOCK                |        | PSM (8/17 races)          |       |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------|---------------------------|-------|
| Driver (Ws)              | Pts    | Driver (Ws)               | Pts  | Driver (Ws)              | Pts    | Rider (Ws)                | Pts   |
| 1. Ant. Brown (3).....   | 1056-x | 1t. Ron Capps (5).....    | 965  | 1. J. Coughlin (5).....  | 1145-x | 1. E. Krawiec (3).....    | 739-x |
| 2. Larry Dixon (4).....  | 940    | 1t. A. Force Hood (1).... | 965  | 2. M. Edwards (2).....   | 1062-x | 2. Andrew Hines (1)....   | 651   |
| 3. T. Schumacher (3).... | 938    | 3. Tony Pedregon (2)....  | 911  | 3. Jason Line (3).....   | 991    | 3. Matt Smith.....        | 559   |
| 4. Br. Bernstein.....    | 881    | 4. Jack Beckman (2)....   | 804  | 4. Greg Anderson.....    | 915    | 4. Craig Treble (2)....   | 535   |
| 5. C. McClenathan.....   | 779    | 5. Del Worsham (2).....   | 759  | 5. Allen Johnson (2).... | 855    | 5. Doug Home.....         | 506   |
| 6. Sp. Massey (1).....   | 743    | 6. Bob Tasca (1).....     | 732  | 6. Greg Stanfield.....   | 691    | 6. Hector Arana (1)....   | 472   |
| 7. Shawn Langdon.....    | 719    | 7. Tim Wilkerson.....     | 691  | 7. Ron Krisher (1).....  | 630    | 7. Matt Guidera (1)....   | 446   |
| 8. Morgan Lucas (1)....  | 716    | 8. John Force.....        | 665  | 8. Kurt Johnson.....     | 617    | 8. Steve Johnson.....     | 360   |
| 9. Doug Kalitta (1)....  | 634    | 9. Matt Hagan.....        | 633  | 9. Rickie Jones.....     | 556    | 9. Shawn Gann.....        | 356   |
| 10. Clay Millican.....   | 534    | 10. Cruz Pedregon.....    | 630  | 10. Warren Johnson.....  | 543    | 10. Karen Stoffer.....    | 351   |
| 11. Joe Hartley.....     | -42    | 11. Mike Neff.....        | -4   | 11. Johnny Gray.....     | -49    | 11. Michael Phillips..... | -54   |
| 12. Terry Haddock.....   | -254   | 12. Robert Hight.....     | -36  | 12. Larry Morgan.....    | -111   | 12. Junior Pippin.....    | -118  |
| 13. Troy Buff.....       | -294   | 13. Jeff Arend.....       | -222 | 13. Roger Brogdon.....   | -227   | 13. Angie McBride.....    | -120  |
| 14. Steve Chrisman.....  | -319   | 14. Jerry Toliver.....    | -224 | 14. V. Gaines.....       | -263   | 14. Mike Berry.....       | -145  |
| 15. David Baca.....      | -407   | 15. Jim Head.....         | -245 | 15. J. Humphreys.....    | -273   | 15. Wesley Wells.....     | -172  |