



# 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

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

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)

# Hight down but not out

## AAA Ford team needs big-time bounce after BIR DNQ

Flush with momentum after two semifinal finishes on the Western Swing, Robert Hight and the Auto Club Ford team appeared to have figured out what had ailed them through most of this season.

Not so, apparently.

The Auto Club team failed to make the show in Brainerd and backslid in the standings on a day when they desperately needed to make a move.

Still, it could have been worse — much worse — but early exits by ninth-place Mike Neff and 10th-place Cruz Pedregon minimized the damage.

With now just two races left in the regular season, the Countdown to 10 in FC amounts to four drivers for two spots: Neff 778; C. Pedregon 768; Matt Hagan 738 (-30) and Hight 708 (-60).



**The Staging Lane**

**What's next:** Toyo Tires NHRA Nationals  
**When:** Aug. 21-23, 2009  
**Where:** Maple Grove R'way  
**ON TV (ESPN2HD, ET):** Qualifying highlights, Sat. (late night) at 1-3 a.m. (repeat Sunday at 10-11:30 a.m.); Raceday (pre-race show), Sunday at 11:30 a.m.; Race, Sunday at 10 p.m.  
**Notable:** 23 of 40 playoff berths are clinched ... 8 of 10 drivers in TF have clinched, most of any class ... Only 4 of 10 FC drivers have clinched, the fewest of any class.

The gray box in the standings identifies the drivers on the bubble with two races left before the field is set — this weekend's Toyo Tires NHRA Nationals and

the Sept. 2-7 Mac Tools U.S. Nationals.

While Hight could only watch on Sunday, several drivers were busy making moves.

Hector Arana and the Lucas Oil Buell team moved up from sixth to fourth place with a bike that looks like it can legitimately challenge the Harleys for class supremacy.

And in Top Fuel, Morgan Lucas and the Geico Powersports team moved around Spencer Massey with his win and he pulled within striking distance of Cory McClenathan and Brandon Bernstein to challenge for a top 4 position entering the Countdown to 1, NHRA's six-race playoff that begins Sept. 17-20 at zMax Dragway in Charlotte.

## 2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES STANDINGS (16 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 (10/17 races)	
Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Rider (Ws)	Pts
1. Ant. Brown (5).....	1357-x	1. T. Pedregon (3)...	1215-x	1. J. Coughlin (5).....	1325-x	1. E. Krawiec (3).....	911-x
2. T. Schumacher (3)...	1140-x	2. Ron Capps (5).....	1187-x	2. Jason Line (4).....	1298-x	2. Andrew Hines (2)....	803-x
3. Larry Dixon (4).....	1132-x	3. A. Force Hood (1)...	1090-x	3. M.Edwards (3).....	1291-x	3. Matt Smith.....	668-x
4. Br. Bernstein.....	998-x	4. J. Beckman (2).....	960-x	4. G. Anderson (1)...	1165-x	4. Hector Arana (2)....	644-x
5. C. McClenathan.....	985-x	5. Tim Wilkerson (2)....	950	5. A. Johnson (2).....	1066-x	5. Craig Treble (2)....	641-x
6. M. Lucas (2).....	944-x	6. Bob Tasca (1).....	894	6. Greg Stanfield.....	828	6. Doug Home.....	632-x
7. Sp. Massey (1).....	886-x	7. Del Worsham (2)....	877	7. Ron Krisher (1).....	793	7. Matt Guidera (1)....	531
8. Sh. Langdon.....	859-x	8. John Force.....	846	8. Kurt Johnson.....	752	8. Shawn Gann.....	442
9. Doug Kalitta (1)....	732	9. Mike Neff.....	778	9. Rickie Jones.....	711	9. Steve Johnson.....	425
10. Clay Millican.....	651	10. Cruz Pedregon.....	768	10. Warren Johnson.....	659	10. Karen Stoffer.....	423
11. Joe Hartley.....	-24	11. Matt Hagan.....	-30	11. Johnny Gray.....	-46	11. Michael Phillips.....	-20
12. Terry Haddock.....	-276	12. Robert Hight.....	-60	12. Larry Morgan.....	-113	12. Junior Pippin.....	-68
13. Troy Buff.....	-309	13. Jeff Arend.....	-266	13. Rodger Brogdon....	-246	13. Mike Berry.....	-156
14. Steve Chrisman.....	-374	14. Jerry Toliver.....	-268	14. V. Gaines.....	-286	14. Angie McBride.....	-192
15. Mike Strasburg.....	-456	15. Jim Head.....	-351	15. J. Humphreys.....	-360	15. Bailey Whitaker.....	-198