



DAN BEAVER'S FANTASY RACING NEWS

VOL. 2; ISSUE 4

AUTO CLUB 400
AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY

Dan Beaver's Fantasy Racing News

Volume 2, Issue 5

OVERVIEW

The West Coast swing comes to and end this week in California and the drivers who ran well in Nevada and Arizona are likely to keep their momentum.

Fantasy players need all the help they can get this weekend because this race stands alone. Auto Club Speedway

Now, separated by vast distances in time and space, the Auto Club 400 is run early in the season and neither the track nor the region will be visited for another year.

The last three races of the season have been important because the similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks and short, flat tracks dominate the schedule. Auto Club is longer in length

power, aerodynamics, and mechanical grip.

This category, which includes Atlanta, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Texas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, Kansas Speedway, Chicagoland Speedway, Kentucky Speedway, and Michigan International Speedway, tends to be a little too big to be useful without taking a closer look at subsets.



ROBERT LABERGE / GETTY IMAGES NASCARMEDIA.COM

hosted two races per year for some while, but in 2010 flagging attendance precipitated a change in the schedule. This will be the ninth season that the track has had a single race and even the veteran drivers are forgetting what it meant to have a thick notebook.

than Atlanta Motor Speedway and Las Vegas Motor Speedway, but it fits into the larger category of similarly-configured, 1.5- and two-mile tracks.

These courses require many of the same characteristics in terms of setups, horse-

One way to parse the data is to look at the most recent results. The Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 and Kobalt 400 were held on more steeply-banked tracks and measure a half-mile less in length, but their close proximity to the Auto Club 400 is useful because it shows recent momen-

tum. It is notable that many of the drivers had similar results on those two courses.

BRANDS OF COOKIES

Another helpful exercise is to look at tracks that are more closely comparable.

Michigan and Auto Club are among the closest comparatives on the schedule of any two tracks and drivers who run well on one tend to run well on the other. Sometimes this is because of the dominance of certain teams like Roush-Fenway Racing and Hendrick Motorsports. On other occasions, it is because a certain driver has an affinity for the course like Paul Menard.

Both two-mile tracks are minimally-banked.

Other than Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Pocono Raceway—which are truly flat and belong in a separate category—Auto Club has the least banking among the unrestricted, intermediate speedways. Coming in at 14 degrees, it is equal to the similarly-shaped Richmond International Raceway.

Michigan is slightly steeper at 18 degrees and fantasy owners will find at least two of the 1.5-milers in that same range. When the four corners are averaged out, Kentucky lands at 15.5 degrees. Chicagoland is

Driver	Wins
Jimmie Johnson	6
Kyle Busch	3
Matt Kenseth	3
Kurt Busch	1
Kevin Harvick	1
Kasey Kahne	1
Brad Keselowski	1

18 degrees. Kansas is close with 20 degrees of banking, so fantasy players will want to be aware of which drivers excel on those tracks.

TOP-12 DRIVERS

1. Chase Elliott

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 1 (1.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 6.00
Yahoo! Points: 90.00
NASCAR.com Points: 40.00
Draft Kings Points: 42.75
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 9.00

This is the early-season race Elliott fans have been waiting for. His record on two-mile tracks last year was the best among the entire field. In only his fifth start of the season, he came close to finishing in the top-five with a sixth at Auto Club and then scored back-to-back runner-up results at Michigan.

Before he wins, Elliott is going to have to make better decisions on restarts.

Some of his misfortune is out of his control, like getting relegated to the wrong line at Phoenix. Auto Club is a little more forgiving, however, and

Driver	Top-5s
Jimmie Johnson	13
Matt Kenseth	9
Kyle Busch	8
Kurt Busch	7
Kevin Harvick	6
Dale Earnhardt Jr	5
Ryan Newman	5
Kasey Kahne	4
Joey Logano	3
Jamie McMurray	3
Clint Bowyer	2
Denny Hamlin	2
Brad Keselowski	1
Kyle Larson	1
Paul Menard	1
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1

drivers who have set their car to work both high and low can get the proper run and sweep into the lead.

If Elliott's confidence is intact after so many near misses, he will dominate this race and earn maximum points in every significant game.

2. Brad Keselowski

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/8
Top-fives: 1 (.125)
Top-10s: 2 (.250)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 12.00
Yahoo! Points: 76.33
NASCAR.com Points: 38.67
Draft Kings Points: 36.42
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 14.50

In 2015, Keselowski demonstrated the difficulty of handicapping a NASCAR race. In his six previous Auto Club starts, he failed to crack the top 15 a single time and had an average of 23.3. He finished 26th in the 2016 Auto Club 400 after starting on the outside pole and even with a resurgent look to Penske Racing, he was not one of the favorites on this track. He won in overtime. Last year, his result was a little more realistic. Kez finished ninth after

Driver	Top-10s
Jimmie Johnson	16
Matt Kenseth	15
Kurt Busch	12
Kyle Busch	12
Kevin Harvick	11
Kasey Kahne	10
Ryan Newman	9
Clint Bowyer	7
Dale Earnhardt Jr	7
Jamie McMurray	7
Denny Hamlin	5
Joey Logano	4
Martin Truex Jr	4
Paul Menard	3
AJ Allmendinger	2
Brad Keselowski	2
Chase Elliott	1
Kyle Larson	1
David Ragan	1
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1

starting 15th.

After failing weights and measures in post-race qualification last week, he is going to be motivated run well.

3. Kevin Harvick

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/23
Top-fives: 6 (.261)
Top-10s: 11 (.478)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 13.33
Yahoo! Points: 79.00
NASCAR.com Points: 65.33
Draft Kings Points: 51.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 13.67

Harvick finished 13th in the 2013 edition of this race. That was the first time in six races that he failed to earn a top-10 and the majority of the events leading up to it ended with top-fives.

In that span of events, he scored his first and so far only Auto Club victory in 2011. While he has not repeated, he came as close as possible in the last two seasons with a

second to Keselowski in 2015 and to Jimmie Johnson last year.

Harvick is not as dominant on this track as he has been at Phoenix International Raceway and that means he is more likely to fly under the radar screen. In turn, that increases his fantasy value.

4. Joey Logano

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$28.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/10
Top-fives: 3 (.300)
Top-10s: 4 (.400)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 16.97
Yahoo! Points: 62.00
NASCAR.com Points: 21.17
Draft Kings Points: 21.92
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 8.67

Logano swept the top 10 on two-mile tracks in 2013. That year, he finished third at Auto Club, ninth in the spring Michigan race, and won in the fall. He had a rear gear problem in 2014 and lost 11 laps before finishing 39th. Since then, he has been perfect once more in regard to top-10s, including one more victory at Michigan last year. He has not yet won at Auto Club, but this is the type of track that suits him best.

5. Kyle Larson

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
Top-fives: 1 (.333)
Top-10s: 1 (.333)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 22.33
Yahoo! Points: 47.33
NASCAR.com Points: 14.67
Draft Kings Points: 15.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 3.83

Larson has not fared very well at Auto Club in the past two years. He finished 26th in

Driver Rating: Auto Club			
Rank	Driver	Best	Avg.
1	Jimmie Johnson	150.0	119.7
2	Kyle Busch	148.0	109.0
3	Chase Elliott	105.1	105.1
4	Matt Kenseth	141.5	105.0
5	Kevin Harvick	144.0	99.4
6	Denny Hamlin	117.9	92.3
7	Kurt Busch	135.4	90.0
8	Kasey Kahne	144.1	88.6
9	Clint Bowyer	124.4	88.3
10	Joey Logano	127.0	84.0
11	Ryan Newman	107.9	82.1
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	119.1	79.4
13	Brad Keselowski	114.6	79.2
14	Martin Truex Jr.	108.6	78.4
15	Austin Dillon	86.3	77.1
16	Jamie McMurray	104.4	71.9
17	AJ Allmendinger	95.9	70.6
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	88.7	68.9
19	Ryan Blaney	67.7	67.7
20	Kyle Larson	89.4	67.3
21	David Ragan	86.2	67.0
22	Paul Menard	100.6	65.6
23	Elliott Sadler	86.7	59.9
24	Danica Patrick	71.1	57.8
25	Aric Almirola	81.0	54.9
26	Trevor Bayne	63.0	54.5
27	Chris Buescher	59.4	54.2
28	Reed Sorenson	80.9	52.2
29	Michael Waltrip	82.6	51.2
30	Cole Whitt	54.9	48.6
31	Landon Cassill	57.0	44.4
32	Alex Bowman	46.9	43.5
33	Michael McDowell	40.2	34.8
34	Matt DiBenedetto	43.9	33.9
35	Timmy Hill	28.9	28.9
36	Jeffrey Earnhardt	28.3	28.3
37	Brendan Gaughan	27.8	27.1

2015 and crashed before the one-quarter mark in 2016 with a 39th. He finished runner-up in his first attempt there in 2014, however, when he and Kyle Busch battled to the checkers.

Larson was one of the top contenders at Michigan last year. He finished third in June and won the August race. That remains his only victory to date, but no one thinks it will be his last. He and Elliott have challenged one another at the front of the pack in every race this year and that is going to happen once more.

6. Jimmie Johnson

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$26.50



Original columns, commentary, photos, race coverage and fantasy NASCAR analysis by our staff of female writers and photographers.

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Wins at Track/Attempts: 6/22
 Top-fives: 13 (.591)
 Top-10s: 16 (.727)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 11.33
 Yahoo! Points: 80.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 66.83
 Draft Kings Points: 57.08
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 18.67

Johnson has been dominant on a number of tracks. It has become almost commonplace to see his name at the top of the leaderboard in terms of wins, especially on unrestricted, intermediate speedways. Johnson won in his first attempt on this track in 2002. He has top-fives in more than 50 percent

NASCAR.com Points: -15.00
 Draft Kings Points: -12.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 14.00

Last year, Blaney was moving up through the field with 10 laps remaining when he slapped the wall hard on lap 195; he was running 13th at the time.

That close to the end, he was not able to make repairs and retired in 35th. He also sustained some damage at Michigan in June, but it was light enough that he remained on the lead lap and finished 17th.

8. Kyle Busch

Yahoo! Group: A
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 3/18
 Top-fives: 8 (.444)
 Top-10s: 12 (.667)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 13.00
 Yahoo! Points: 71.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 32.25
 Draft Kings Points: 33.13
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 14.50

Before missing the 2015 Auto Club 400 due to injury, Busch was as close to perfect as possible on this track for quite some while. He finished third in 2011, was second in 2012, and then won back-to-back events in 2013/2014. He lost some of his mojo after the enforced vacation, however. Last year, he sustained crash damage, but managed to stay on the lead lap. In June, he lost an engine on lap 52 and finished 40th. Last August, he was 19th, but one lap off the pace.

Busch should rebound just fine this week, but he has struggled in nearly every race on a two-mile track since winning the 2014 Auto Club 400.

That should make fantasy players want to hedge their bets slightly.

9. Denny Hamlin

Yahoo! Group: A
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.50
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
 Top-fives: 2 (.125)
 Top-10s: 5 (.313)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 15.50
 Yahoo! Points: 72.50
 NASCAR.com Points: 35.50
 Draft Kings Points: 29.75
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 14.50

Hamlin has two top-fives, two more top-10s, and an 11th in



of his starts since then, but he struggled just a bit from 2012 through 2015—or at least he struggled by his own standards—with results that barely made or missed the top 10. Last year, he was back in winning form and earned his sixth trophy from his home state track.

7. Ryan Blaney

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.75
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 35.00
 Yahoo! Points: 22.00

Blaney finally had an uneventful effort in August. After starting seventh in the Pure Michigan 400, he finished fourth.

With the current momentum from four solid runs in 2017, he should easily challenge for a top-10 this week.

He is far from a certainty because of his lack of experience and the same propensity for making mistakes that all Young Guns have, but he will post strong numbers throughout the Auto Club 400.

DAILY FANTASY MOCK DRAFT

by Victoria Beaver

If anyone is playing along with Dan and me in his Draft Kings games, you might have noticed that I beat him for the second week in a row, this time in both of his Newsletter League contests. It's nice to know that the #BeavJinx isn't hereditary, or at least it skips a generation. Last week, I had to stray a little from format and drop one of my "Splurge" drivers in order to stay below the salary cap, but for the most part who I pick to write about here is who I'll bet on when Sunday rolls around.

If you need some help rounding out your picks for this week, or want to get a leg up on beating Dan, keep reading.

Splurge

Kyle Busch

Fantasy Power Average: 3.97

Busch has won twice at Auto Club in the last four races, grabbing the checkered flag back-to-back in 2013 and 2014. Before these wins, the only time win

he grabbed a trophy from the track was back in 2005. Busch has 11 top-10s at the track and was on a four-race, top-five streak before having a tire failure last year. He was running in second at the time, but ended up with a finish of 25th, which was his second worst finish at the track. Due to the unlucky circumstances of that race, his average place-differential over the last five races is only +0.4, if you were to just look at the four before that, while he was on his streak, his place differential is +5.25. Busch led laps in three of the last four Auto Club races, only missing his chance to lead last year while battling car problems all race.

Jimmie Johnson

Fantasy Power Average: 7.88

Johnson has had a slow start to the season, but this Sunday he has the chance to return to his home track. He won this race last year after starting in 19th. This was one of only two races he won last year before the Chase. (While in the chase Johnson rocketed himself to three additional wins in order to clinch the championship.) The driver of the 48 has won at Auto Club six times in his career, has 13 top-fives, and 15 top-10s. Over the last four years, he's advanced from his qualifying position an average of

his last seven starts on two-mile tracks. One of these was a third in last year's Auto Club 400.

That is a strong enough record to get him into the top 10, but like his teammate Busch he has also had his fair share of problems. Hamlin sustained crash damage in June 2014 at Michigan to finish 29th. He was 28th the next year at Auto Club and crashed out of last year's FireKeepers Casino 400.

Hamlin and Joe Gibbs Racing probably have the majority of their early season troubles out of the way, but there is just enough doubt to make one cautious.

10. Martin Truex Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 4 (.250)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 21.00
Yahoo! Points: 56.67
NASCAR.com Points: 20.83
Draft Kings Points: 19.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 18.17

There is an exception for every rule.

The two-mile tracks can often be profiled alongside the similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks, but there is enough difference that one wants to look more closely at the numbers. In 2015, Truex was strong on both course types

and he swept the top 10 at Auto Club and Michigan. Last year, he failed to record a single top-10 on either course.

Truex did not run badly in 2016, however. He posted enough laps in each two-mile race to rank in the top 10, but misfortune struck him each time.

11. Erik Jones

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$19.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 19.00

+4.25 spots, moving forward in all but one race. Johnson has also led laps in two of the last four races, leading the most back in his 2014 start.

Mid-Range

Paul Menard

Fantasy Power Average: 17.83

Menard has finished mid-pack in each race since his top-five at Daytona, but he has a better average at Auto Club than he does on any track earlier this year. In the last four races, he has four top-15s, three top-10s, and one top-five finish. In three of these races he has moved forward from his qualifying positions. In 2014, he moved 21 places from 30th to ninth. A couple of these big moves have elevated his four-race, place-differential average to +11.25.

Ryan Newman

Fantasy Power Average: 12.00

Newman has some decent runs at Auto Club over the last few years. In his last four starts, he has two top-10s and one top-five. He's improved from his qualifying spot twice and fell below it twice; oddly by the same amount. Newman also led three laps back in the 2014 race before ultimately finishing 20th.

Steal

Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Fantasy Power Average: 22.76

Stenhouse is coming off of a top-five last week at Phoenix, which is by far his best finish of the season. Stenhouse has only four starts at Auto Club so looking at his last four is looking at his career average as well. He has two top-15s and one top-five in his last two starts, in three of his four starts he has advanced from his qualifying position. His place-differential average is +6.

David Ragan

Fantasy Power Average: 26.28

Don't expect much more out of Ragan than a mid 20's finish, even though he's finished as high as seventh. His average looms around 20th. In his last four starts, he has moved forward in three races, only falling back in 2015 when he qualified in fourth relief of Kyle Busch. His average place-differential is +7.75, due largely to the fact that in the last four races since he has qualified in the back of the pack. Ragan also led a single lap in both the 2013 and 2014 running of the Auto Club 400.

Last week, Jones scored his first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series top-10. This came on the heels of back-to-back top-15s on similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks. Both of those facts factor into this week's handicap. Because of its length and configuration, Auto Club fits more easily with the unrestricted, intermediate speedways. It is flat, however, and last week's result in the Camping World 500k prove Jones' worth on minimally-banked courses. His top-15s at Atlanta and Vegas suggest he is equally strong on the longer, doglegged courses.

12. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$14.00

Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4
Top-fives: 1 (.250)
Top-10s: 1 (.250)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 18.00
Yahoo! Points: 56.00
NASCAR.com Points: 30.33
Draft Kings Points: 31.33
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 22.33

In their heyday, Roush-Fenway Racing was the organization to beat on two-mile tracks. That was only fitting since their owner held the deed to Michigan and built the then-named California Speedway from the blueprints of the older course. It would seem only fitting that they return to prominence on this track.

Stenhouse kind of stole some of this week's thunder with

his solid run last week at Phoenix, but his odds of getting a top-10 are greater on this course. If he is able to do that, Stenhouse will earn back-to-back top-10s for only the second time in his career and the first since his rookie season of 2013.

SLEEPERS

13. Clint Bowyer

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$16.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: 2 (.125)
Top-10s: 7 (.438)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 21.33
Yahoo! Points: 52.67
NASCAR.com Points: 16.33
Draft Kings Points: 17.17
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 18.83

Bowyer failed to record a second consecutive top-10 last week at Phoenix. He was in contention for one, but landed 13th in those final, frenetic laps.

What that did give him, however, was a third consecutive top-15 this season. In some ways, that might be even more important. Neither Bowyer after last year's sojourn with HScott Motorsports nor the team with a waning Tony Stewart is accustomed to running in the lead pack all afternoon.

Bowyer knows how to drive. Mike Bugarewicz knows how to set up a car. And as soon as they learn how to call a complete race, they will start to log consistent results in the

Top-fives and Top-10s					
By Car Owner, Last Three Years					
Owner	Attempts	Top-5s		Top-10s	
Tony Stewart	12	5	42%	5	42%
Roger Penske	6	2	33%	4	67%
Joe Gibbs	11	3	27%	4	36%
Richard Childress	10	2	20%	3	30%
Chip Ganassi	6	1	17%	3	50%
Jack Roush	9	1	11%	2	22%
Rick Hendrick	12	1	8%	5	42%
Tad Geschickter	3			2	67%
Barney Visser	3			1	33%
Michael Waltrip	4			1	25%
Front Row Motorsports	8				
BK Racing	7				
Petty Enterprises	6				
Harry Scott	5				
Tommy Baldwin	4				
Frank Stoddard	3				
Germain Bros	3				
Jay Robinson	3				
Michael Hillman	2				
Mike Curb	2				
Swan Racing	2				
Bob Leavine	1				
Curtis Key	1				
Joe Falk	1				
Johnathan Cohen	1				
Robby Benton	1				
Wood Bros	1				

Driver Rating: Auto Club			
Rank	Driver	Best	Avg.
1	Jimmie Johnson	150.0	119.7
2	Kyle Busch	148.0	109.0
3	Chase Elliott	105.1	105.1
4	Matt Kenseth	141.5	105.0
5	Kevin Harvick	144.0	99.4
6	Denny Hamlin	117.9	92.3
7	Kurt Busch	135.4	90.0
8	Kasey Kahne	144.1	88.6
9	Clint Bowyer	124.4	88.3
10	Joey Logano	127.0	84.0
11	Ryan Newman	107.9	82.1
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	119.1	79.4
13	Brad Keselowski	114.6	79.2
14	Martin Truex Jr.	108.6	78.4
15	Austin Dillon	86.3	77.1
16	Jamie McMurray	104.4	71.9
17	AJ Allmendinger	95.9	70.6
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	88.7	68.9
19	Ryan Blaney	67.7	67.7
20	Kyle Larson	89.4	67.3
21	David Ragan	86.2	67.0
22	Paul Menard	100.6	65.6
23	Elliott Sadler	86.7	59.9
24	Danica Patrick	71.1	57.8
25	Aric Almirola	81.0	54.9
26	Trevor Bayne	63.0	54.5
27	Chris Buescher	59.4	54.2
28	Reed Sorenson	80.9	52.2
29	Michael Waltrip	82.6	51.2
30	Cole Whitt	54.9	48.6
31	Landon Cassill	57.0	44.4
32	Alex Bowman	46.9	43.5
33	Michael McDowell	40.2	34.8
34	Matt DiBenedetto	43.9	33.9
35	Timmy Hill	28.9	28.9
36	Jeffrey Earnhardt	28.3	28.3
37	Brendan Gaughan	27.8	27.1

front quarter of the field and even threaten for top-fives.

16. Paul Menard

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$15.50
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/14
 Top-fives: 1 (.071)
 Top-10s: 3 (.214)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 9.33
 Yahoo! Points: 73.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 42.33
 Draft Kings Points: 43.33
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 15.67

From 2012 through 2015 Menard recorded six consecutive top-10s; four of these were fourth-place finishes. In the three races that preceded that streak and in the two that came afterward, he swept the top-15. That streak carried him into last spring's Auto Club 400. He was not quite as strong at Michigan in the summer and fall, but he did not miss the top 15 by much. With a little luck, Menard will perform better than the pair of 18ths he scored on the sis-

ter two-miler last year.

17. Daniel Suarez

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: NA
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 19.25

Last week, fantasy owners got a taste of what was predicted to be a season-long battle. Suarez shook everyone's faith at the start of the season, because he barely contended for results in the middle of the pack. His on-track demeanor suggested that he lacked confidence. One strong run does not erase all of that, but it is possible to build on his Camping World 500k top-10. Joe Gibbs Racing is strong on the two-mile tracks. This is a course on which drivers can search for a groove that suits

them. Those two factors combine to make Suarez an acceptable risk.

18. Jamie McMurray

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/21
Top-fives: 3 (.143)
Top-10s: 7 (.333)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 12.33
Yahoo! Points: 67.33
NASCAR.com Points: 39.00
Draft Kings Points: 40.00
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.83

Chip Ganassi Racing continues to be a pleasant surprise. Last week both drivers had a legitimate shot at earning a top-10.

McMurray did not have the same overall strength as his teammate Larson and the difference likely occurred in the pits. Without superior track position entering or exiting the pits, the No. 1 landed in heavy traffic and McMurray landed 15th in the lineup.

McMurray should be fare much better this week. While he struggled to find consistency on every track type, he was perfect on the two-milers in regard to top-10s. In 2014 and 2015, he had an almost perfect record of top-15s with a worst result of 21st.

22. Trevor Bayne

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 24.50
Yahoo! Points: 43.00
NASCAR.com Points: 15.50
Draft Kings Points: 17.00
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 17.00

3 Year Avg. Finish on Two-milers			
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts
1	Chase Elliott	3.33	3
2	Brad Keselowski	7.67	9
3	Kevin Harvick	9.44	9
4	Joey Logano	9.44	9
5	Paul Menard	10.22	9
6	Jamie McMurray	11.44	9
7	Dale Earnhardt Jr	11.50	8
8	Ryan Newman	13.22	9
9	Kurt Busch	13.67	9
10	Jimmie Johnson	13.78	9
11	Matt Kenseth	15.33	9
12	Denny Hamlin	15.63	9
13	Austin Dillon	16.78	9
14	Kyle Larson	16.89	9
15	Kasey Kahne	18.22	9
16	Ty Dillon	19.00	2
17	Martin Truex Jr	19.33	9
18	Ryan Blaney	20.80	6
19	AJ Allmendinger	21.00	9
20	Danica Patrick	21.22	9
21	Clint Bowyer	21.56	9
22	Trevor Bayne	22.38	8
23	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	22.56	9
24	Aric Almirola	23.67	9
25	David Ragan	25.89	9
26	Cole Whitt	26.78	9
27	Chris Buescher	27.00	4
28	Kyle Busch	27.38	8
29	Landon Cassill	29.00	9
30	Michael McDowell	31.00	2
31	Reed Sorenson	33.71	7
32	Matt DiBenedetto	34.00	6
33	Jeffrey Earnhardt	36.00	3

Bayne has the same potential as Stenhouse, but the combined numbers of his last six races and last three years at Auto Club tip the scales in favor of the No. 17.

Fantasy owners do not want to take both drivers unless they are only mid-cap values who post consistent numbers in prelims this week.

Bayne has been consistent on the two mile tracks. He sustained crash damage in his first attempt with Roush in 2015 to finish 29th.

Since then, his worst effort netted a 24th. One should not be surprised if he finishes in the teens, but they should be prepared to accept a result in the low-20s as well.

BUSTS

20. Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/24
Top-fives: 5 (.208)
Top-10s: 7 (.292)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 9.67
Yahoo! Points: 72.67
NASCAR.com Points: 44.67
Draft Kings Points: 45.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 24.25

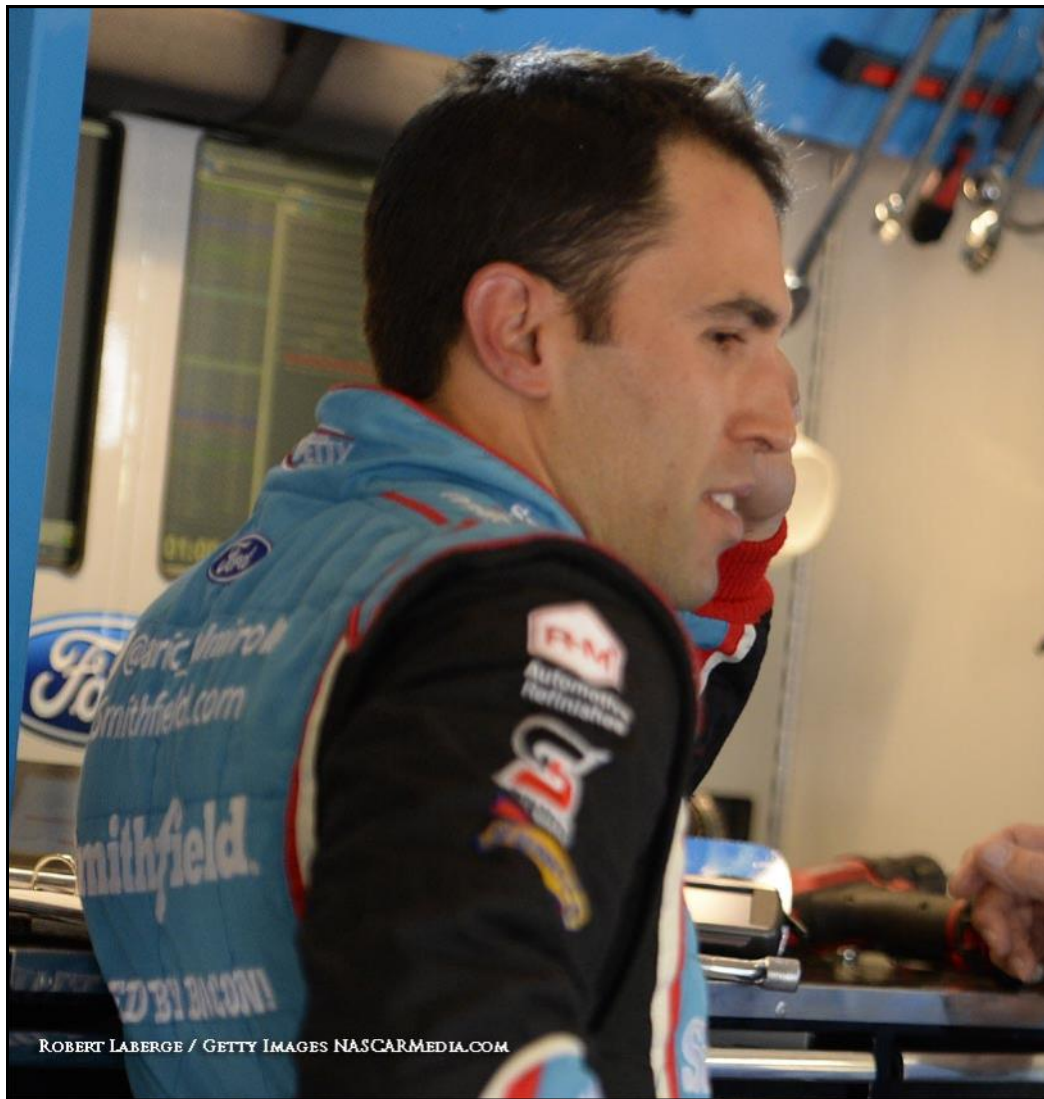
With a top-10 percentage of .292, this has not been one of Earnhardt's better tracks during his career. His average finish there is 18.6, which makes this the sixth-worst track on which he has contended at the Cup level. Those numbers are beginning to change.

His last six attempts on this course all ended in top-12 finishes including a third and second in back-to-back races in 2012/2013. That would give fantasy players a glimmer of hope if not for his recent spate of poor runs to start 2017.

21. Matt Kenseth

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 3/24
Top-fives: 9 (.375)
Top-10s: 15 (.625)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 18.00
Yahoo! Points: 70.33
NASCAR.com Points: 30.17
Draft Kings Points: 25.83
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 19.50

Kenseth is listed as a driver to avoid this week largely because of his bad luck. He crashed and failed to finish at both Daytona International Speedway and Phoenix. He scored back-to-back top-10s at Atlanta and Vegas, but even



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those races did not go off without some trouble. Kenseth is more than capable of finishing in the single digits again this week, but among the JGR contingent, he is the odd man out

for the moment.

24. Kasey Kahne

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$22.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/20
Top-fives: 4 (.200)

Top-10s: 10 (.500)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 28.67
Yahoo! Points: 34.67
NASCAR.com Points: 5.67
Draft Kings Points: 6.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 15.50

It is difficult to completely hold his 20th-place finish in the Camping World 500k against Kahne. Several drivers got shuffled out of good finishes when Logano's accident brought out the final caution.

The unsettling fact is that Kahne is heading in the wrong direction. He finished fourth at Atlanta, 12th at Vegas, and now 20th at Phoenix. Meanwhile, teammate Johnson is beginning to run better and there is only so much room at the top.

Kahne could struggle with confidence issues if he does not rebound into the top 15 quickly.

25. Aric Almirola

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$12.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/9
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 25.00

Points' Leaders						
Rank	Driver	Points	Race Wins	Stage Wins	Playoff Points	Points' stand-
1	Martin Truex Jr.	153	1	2	7	4
2	Brad Keselowski	178	1		5	2
3	Kurt Busch	105	1		5	9
4	Ryan Newman	101	1		5	11
5	Joey Logano	135	-	1	1	5
6	Kevin Harvick	123		3	3	7
7	Chase Elliott	171		1	1	3
8	Kyle Busch	97		1	1	13
9	Kyle Larson	184				1
10	Ryan Blaney	127				6
11	Jamie McMurray	119				8
12	Kasey Kahne	105				10
13	Trevor Bayne	100				12
14	Denny Hamlin	97				14
15	Clint Bowyer	97				15
16	Jimmie Johnson	93				16

Track Sweeps (Drivers Sweeping Top-5, -10, and -15s in a season)

Track	top-5s	10s	15s
2016 Michigan	4	7	10
2016 Texas	3	7	11
2016 Road Courses	3	5	9
2016 Phoenix	2	6	7
2016 Kansas	2	5	10
2016 Richmond	1	7	10
2016 Dover	2	5	8
2016 Martinsville	2	4	9
2016 New Hampshire	2	3	8
2016 Charlotte	1	5	7
2016 Pocono	1	4	9
2016 Daytona	1	4	6
2016 Bristol	0	3	6
2016 Talladega	0	2	6

Previous Seasons

2015 Road Courses	4	7	11
2015 Texas	3	8	9
2012 New Hampshire	3	7	13
2015 Daytona	4	5	7
2014 Dover	3	6	11
2013 Martinsville	3	6	10
2014 Michigan	2	8	10
2011 Pocono	3	6	9
2012 Charlotte	3	5	10
2011 Texas	3	5	10
2013 Pocono	2	7	10
2014 Phoenix	3	5	9
2010 Pocono	3	5	8
2010 Phoenix	2	6	11
2012 Phoenix	2	6	9
2011 Richmond	2	6	9
2013 Dover	2	6	8
2012 Talladega	2	6	7
2011 Kansas	2	5	11
2011 Dover	1	7	11
2015 Dover	2	5	10
2015 Michigan	2	5	9
2012 Texas	2	5	9
2015 Kansas	2	5	8
2014 Charlotte	2	5	8
2013 Road Courses	2	5	8
2010 Richmond	1	6	13
2011 Road Courses	1	6	12
2013 New Hampshire	1	6	11
2012 Kansas	2	4	10
2013 Michigan	1	6	10
2014 Richmond	2	4	9
2014 Martinsville	2	4	9
2012 Michigan	2	4	9
2015 Charlotte	1	6	9
2011 Martinsville	2	3	6
2015 Martinsville	1	5	6
2010 Martinsville	1	4	7
2012 Martinsville	0	3	8

Yahoo! Points: 42.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 16.00
 Draft Kings Points: 17.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 20.67

Almirola has hovered around the top 15 often enough this year to garner some attention.

He drew "4" in the Florida lottery, was 14th in Vegas, and 17th last week at Phoenix. He finished four laps off the pace in 27th at Atlanta. He has not spent very much time in the top 10 this year, however, and that puts him on a razor's edge in regard to finishing on the lead lap.

He has some decent numbers on the two-mile tracks with an 11th at Auto Club and a 14th at Michigan in 2015. Last year, however, he failed to crack the top 20 a single time. His results landed in the mid-20s in both events on the sister track and that is where he is expected to finish this week.

26. AJ Allmendinger

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$16.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 2 (.154)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 16.67
 Yahoo! Points: 58.67
 NASCAR.com Points: 26.83
 Draft Kings Points: 27.83
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 17.33

Allmendinger's Fantasy Power Rankings is also negatively affected by his inability to spend time in the top 10. The reason that is important is because one never knows when a long green segment flag will happen. If a driver cannot stay in contact with the leaders and if they fall off the pace, current rules make it very easy to get back on the lead lap. But... If that happens late in the going, they are not going to get a good result.

If he practices well, fantasy owners might want to ignore this advice. Allmendinger has

Laps in Top-10 at Auto Club (L 3Yrs)				
Rank	Driver	Laps	%	Possible Laps
1	Kyle Busch	364	88.6%	411
2	Jimmie Johnson	548	88.4%	620
3	Matt Kenseth	526	84.8%	620
4	Kevin Harvick	496	80.0%	620
5	Chase Elliott	159	77.6%	205
6	Joey Logano	417	67.3%	620
7	Denny Hamlin	278	67.1%	414
8	Brad Keselowski	412	66.5%	620
9	Kurt Busch	362	58.4%	620
10	Martin Truex Jr	267	43.1%	620
11	Dale Earnhardt Jr	246	39.7%	620
12	Ryan Newman	229	36.9%	620
13	Paul Menard	208	33.5%	620
14	Kyle Larson	138	22.3%	620
15	Clint Bowyer	132	21.3%	620
16	AJ Allmendinger	131	21.1%	620
17	Jamie McMurray	130	21.0%	620
18	Austin Dillon	120	19.4%	620
19	Ryan Blaney	30	14.6%	205
20	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	63	10.2%	620
21	Kasey Kahne	46	7.4%	620
22	Aric Almirola	31	5.0%	620
23	David Ragan	24	3.9%	620
24	Trevor Bayne	10	2.4%	414
25	Landon Cassill	10	1.6%	620
26	Michael McDowell	1	0.5%	205
27	Reed Sorenson	1	0.5%	206
28	Chris Buescher	2	0.5%	414
29	Danica Patrick	-	0.0%	620
30	Cole Whitt	-	0.0%	620
31	Matt DiBenedetto	-	0.0%	414
32	Jeffrey Earnhardt	-	0.0%	205

earned top-20s in half of his attempts on the two-mile tracks while competing in the No. 47.

He has finished outside the top 25 in 30 percent of his starts. In some games, that could make him an acceptable dark horse.

Other Drivers

14. Ryan Newman

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/22
Top-fives: 5 (.227)
Top-10s: 9 (.409)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 13.00
Yahoo! Points: 69.67
NASCAR.com Points: 27.33
Draft Kings Points: 28.08
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 18.50

15. Kurt Busch

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$22.75

Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/23
Top-fives: 7 (.304)
Top-10s: 12 (.522)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 12.00
Yahoo! Points: 81.33
NASCAR.com Points: 53.83
Draft Kings Points: 49.25
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 13.50

19. Ty Dillon

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$12.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 23.00

23. Austin Dillon

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years

Current Track: 17.00
Yahoo! Points: 61.33
NASCAR.com Points: 23.00
Draft Kings Points: 20.00
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 24.17

27. Chris Buescher

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$9.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 26.50
Yahoo! Points: 39.00
NASCAR.com Points: 19.75
Draft Kings Points: 21.25
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 27.50

28. David Ragan

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$6.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/14
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 1 (.071)

Avg Running Position: Season to Date			
Rank	Driver	Starts	Avg.
1	Chase Elliott	4	5.48
2	Kyle Larson	4	5.49
3	Brad Keselowski	4	6.05
4	Joey Logano	4	10.17
5	Martin Truex Jr.	4	11.21
6	Jamie McMurray	4	11.27
7	Ryan Newman	4	12.28
8	Ryan Blaney	4	12.37
9	Kevin Harvick	4	13.02
10	Kyle Busch	4	13.57
11	Jimmie Johnson	4	13.62
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	4	14.85
13	Kasey Kahne	4	15.07
14	Kurt Busch	4	16.20
15	Clint Bowyer	4	16.23
16	Austin Dillon	4	16.30
17	Erik Jones	4	16.33
18	Denny Hamlin	4	17.21
19	Trevor Bayne	4	17.34
20	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	4	19.38
21	Paul Menard	4	20.17
22	Ty Dillon	4	21.64
23	Matt Kenseth	4	21.65
24	Aric Almirola	4	22.76
25	Danica Patrick	4	22.93
26	AJ Allmendinger	4	23.10
27	Michael McDowell	4	23.52
28	Daniel Suarez	4	25.14
29	Chris Buescher	4	25.79
30	Landon Cassill	4	26.58
31	Cole Whitt	4	26.95
32	David Ragan	4	28.02
33	Matt DiBenedetto	4	28.22
34	Reed Sorenson	3	32.20
35	Jeffrey Earnhardt	4	33.86
36	Gray Gaulding	3	34.37
37	Corey Lajoie	4	35.36
38	Derrike Cope	3	36.33



Track Type: Superspeedway
 Track Size: 2 Miles
 Banking/Turns: 14 degrees
 Banking/Frontstretch: 11 degrees
 Banking/Backstretch: 3 degrees
 Race Length: 200 Laps / 400 Miles
 Stage 1 & 2: 50 Laps (each)
 Final Stage: 100 Laps

3 Things to Know

3

Active Cup Series drivers who have posted multiple wins (Jimmie Johnson - 6, Kyle Busch & Matt Kenseth - 3 each)

15

Number of different Cup Series drivers to win at Auto Club Speedway

10

Hendrick Motorsports wins at Auto Club Speedway

- Carol D'Agostino, Skirtsandscuffs.com

Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 22.33
 Yahoo! Points: 51.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 25.50
 Draft Kings Points: 26.42
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 28.67

29. Danica Patrick

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$12.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4
 Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 23.67
 Yahoo! Points: 44.67
 NASCAR.com Points: 22.33
 Draft Kings Points: 23.33
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 26.00

30. Matt DiBenedetto

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$7.50
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 34.50
 Yahoo! Points: 23.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 12.75
 Draft Kings Points: 14.25
 Avg. Last 6 races ^

Cup results: 24.00

31. Landon Cassill

Yahoo! Group: C

NASCAR.com Cap: \$8.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)



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Avg. Start at Auto Club			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Start	Attempts
1	Kevin Harvick	2.67	3
2	Denny Hamlin	7.33	3
3	Matt Kenseth	8.00	3
4	Brad Keselowski	8.33	3
5	Joey Logano	9.67	3
6	Ryan Newman	9.67	3
7	Kyle Busch	10.00	2
8	Jimmie Johnson	12.00	3
9	Martin Truex Jr	13.67	3
10	Austin Dillon	14.00	3
11	Kurt Busch	14.67	3
12	Clint Bowyer	14.67	3
13	AJ Allmendinger	15.67	3
14	Kyle Larson	16.00	3
15	Paul Menard	18.00	3
16	Kasey Kahne	19.00	3
17	Dale Earnhardt Jr	19.67	3
18	Jamie McMurray	20.33	3
19	Trevor Bayne	21.50	2
20	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	22.33	3
21	Aric Almirola	23.00	3
22	Chris Buescher	24.50	2
23	David Ragan	26.67	3
24	Danica Patrick	26.67	3
25	Cole Whitt	34.00	3
26	Reed Sorenson	36.00	2
27	Matt DiBenedetto	37.50	2
28	Landon Cassill	39.00	3

Last 3 Years
Current Track: 22.00
Yahoo! Points: 51.33
NASCAR.com Points: 39.00
Draft Kings Points: 39.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 22.33

32. Michael McDowell

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$10.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 31.00
Yahoo! Points: 30.00
NASCAR.com Points: 9.00
Draft Kings Points: 12.00
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 21.67

33. Reed Sorenson

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/12
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 33.00
Yahoo! Points: 60.00
NASCAR.com Points: 38.50
Draft Kings Points: 38.25
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 33.50

34. Cole Whitt

Yahoo! Group: C

NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 22.67
Yahoo! Points: 46.67
NASCAR.com Points: 31.67
Draft Kings Points: 32.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 25.00

35. Gray Gaulding

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 36.80

36. Jeffrey Earnhardt

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 34.00
Yahoo! Points: 24.00
NASCAR.com Points: 12.50
Draft Kings Points: 15.50
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 32.33

3 Yr. Avg. Draft Kings Points at Auto Club			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Points	Attempts
1	Jimmie Johnson	57.08	3
2	Kevin Harvick	51.67	3
3	Kurt Busch	49.25	3
4	Dale Earnhardt Jr	45.67	3
5	Paul Menard	43.33	3
6	Chase Elliott	42.75	1
7	Jamie McMurray	40.00	3
8	Landon Cassill	39.67	3
9	Reed Sorenson	38.25	1
10	Brad Keselowski	36.42	3
11	Kyle Busch	33.13	2
12	Cole Whitt	32.67	3
13	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	31.33	3
14	Denny Hamlin	29.75	2
15	Ryan Newman	28.08	3
16	AJ Allmendinger	27.83	3
17	David Ragan	26.42	3
18	Matt Kenseth	25.83	3
19	Danica Patrick	23.33	3
20	Joey Logano	21.92	3
21	Chris Buescher	21.25	2
22	Austin Dillon	20.00	3
23	Martin Truex Jr	19.67	3
24	Clint Bowyer	17.17	3
25	Aric Almirola	17.00	3
26	Trevor Bayne	17.00	2
27	Kyle Larson	15.67	3
28	Jeffrey Earnhardt	15.50	1
29	Matt DiBenedetto	14.25	2
30	Michael McDowell	12.00	1
31	Kasey Kahne	6.67	3
32	Ryan Blaney	-12.00	1

Season to Date Grid										
Driver	Starts	Wins	Top-5s	Top-10s	Avg Fin	Start	Laps	Poles	DNFs	DNQs
Kyle Larson	4		3	3	4.50	8.25	1,106			
Michael Waltrip	1			1	8.00	30.00	200			
Martin Truex Jr	4	1	1	2	8.25	15.50	1,106			
Chase Elliott	4		2	2	8.50	7.75	1,106	1		
Brad Keselowski	4	1	3	3	9.50	4.75	1,049	1	1	
Kasey Kahne	4		1	2	10.75	18.00	1,106			
Brendan Gaughan	1				11.00	39.00	200			
Joey Logano	4		1	3	11.75	7.00	1,099	1	1	
Ryan Blaney	4		1	2	12.50	13.75	1,105			
Trevor Bayne	4			1	13.50	17.50	1,106			
Jamie McMurray	4			2	15.25	6.25	1,047		1	
Aric Almirola	4		1	1	15.50	25.25	1,102			
Kurt Busch	4	1	1	2	15.75	12.25	1,102			
Clint Bowyer	4			1	16.50	14.25	1,034		1	
Paul Menard	4		1	1	17.50	20.50	1,103			
Denny Hamlin	4			2	17.75	12.00	962		1	
Jimmie Johnson	4			1	18.25	18.00	1,032		1	
Ryan Newman	4	1	1	1	18.50	14.75	1,088			
Kevin Harvick	4			2	18.75	12.00	904		1	
Erik Jones	4			1	19.00	18.25	1,009		1	
Daniel Suarez	4			1	19.25	19.50	1,045		1	
AJ Allmendinger	4		1	1	19.75	25.25	1,102			
Kyle Busch	4		1	1	19.75	10.50	1,009		1	
Elliott Sadler	1				20.00	40.00	199			
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	4		1	1	20.25	21.75	1,033		1	
Ty Dillon	4				20.50	20.75	1,046		1	
Michael McDowell	4				21.50	27.25	1,101			
Matt Kenseth	4		1	2	22.25	10.25	885		2	
Matt DiBenedetto	4			1	23.00	27.00	1,099			
Joey Gase	1				23.00	29.00	196			
Landon Cassill	4				23.25	27.50	1,099			
Austin Dillon	4				23.50	17.00	1,098			
Dale Earnhardt Jr	4				24.25	8.75	1,007		1	
Cole Whitt	4				25.00	29.75	1,043		1	
Danica Patrick	4				27.00	22.50	1,013		2	
Chris Buescher	4				27.25	30.75	1,030		1	
David Ragan	4				28.00	30.00	979		1	
Reed Sorenson	3				30.67	35.00	894			1
Jeffrey Earnhardt	4				32.50	35.25	732		2	
Corey LaJoie	4				33.75	32.00	637		2	
Timmy Hill	2				34.50	39.00	442		1	1
Derrike Cope	3				34.67	37.67	859			
Gray Gaulding	3				35.67	33.67	714		2	
DJ Kennington	1				36.00	28.00	127		1	
Cody Ware	1				39.00	39.00	74		1	

37. Derrike Cope

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7
 Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: NA
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 34.67

38. Corey LaJoie

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)

Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: NA
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 33.78

39. Timmy Hill

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: NA

Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 36.67

^ The last six races average is from the last six races of this season; the driver may not have run in all of those events. This statistic and the average finish for the last three years include failures to qualify (DNQ) as if they were actually finishes; i.e. the first non-qualifier is credited with a 44th-place finish. This is true for the statistics at all levels of the game, but is more

Last Six Races (Sorted by Avg. Finish)								
Driver	Starts	Wins	Top-5s	Top-10s	DNFs	Avg. Fin	Avg. Start	Top 10 laps
Kyle Larson	6		5	5		3.83	9.83	1,286
Michael Waltrip	1			1		8.00	30.00	17
Joey Logano	6	1	3	5	1	8.67	7.50	1,180
Chase Elliott	6		2	3		9.00	6.50	1,524
Alex Bowman	2			1		11.00	10.00	324
Brendan Gaughan	1					11.00	39.00	11
Jamie McMurray	6		1	3	1	12.83	8.17	716
Kurt Busch	6	1	2	3		13.50	12.83	531
Kevin Harvick	6		2	4	1	13.67	9.17	1,225
Ryan Blaney	6		1	3		14.00	11.83	660
Brad Keselowski	6	1	3	3	2	14.50	5.83	1,429
Kyle Busch	6		2	3	1	14.50	11.67	999
Denny Hamlin	6			4	1	14.50	9.50	736
Kasey Kahne	6		1	2	1	15.50	19.00	435
Paul Menard	6		1	2		15.67	21.67	107
Greg Biffle	2					16.50	22.50	73
Trevor Bayne	6			1		17.00	18.83	81
AJ Allmendinger	6		1	2		17.33	21.83	88
Casey Mears	2					18.00	22.50	-
Martin Truex Jr	6	1	1	2	2	18.17	18.00	719
Ryan Newman	6	1	1	1	1	18.50	12.83	622
Tony Stewart	2					18.50	18.00	16
Jimmie Johnson	6	1	1	2	1	18.67	17.17	868
Clint Bowyer	6			1	1	18.83	20.67	183
Erik Jones	4			1	1	19.00	18.25	581
Daniel Suarez	4			1	1	19.25	19.50	4
Matt Kenseth	6		1	3	2	19.50	9.67	723
Elliott Sadler	1					20.00	40.00	29
Aric Almirola	6		1	1		20.67	25.50	55
Michael McDowell	6			1		21.67	26.83	82
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	6		1	1	2	22.33	21.00	246
Landon Cassill	6					22.33	28.33	4
Brian Scott	2					22.50	27.50	3
Ty Dillon	5				2	23.00	23.40	35
Joey Gase	1					23.00	29.00	1
Matt DiBenedetto	6			1		24.00	28.50	11
Austin Dillon	6					24.17	15.33	481
Dale Earnhardt Jr	4				1	24.25	8.75	307
Cole Whitt	4				1	25.00	29.75	44
Danica Patrick	6				2	26.00	22.67	37
Carl Edwards	2				1	26.50	10.50	302
Michael Annett	2					27.00	38.00	-
Chris Buescher	6				1	27.50	30.00	52
David Ragan	6				1	28.67	31.17	133
Jeffrey Earnhardt	6				2	32.33	35.67	4
Regan Smith	2				1	32.50	32.00	-
Reed Sorenson	6				1	33.50	36.00	3
Corey LaJoie	4				2	33.75	32.00	-
Derrike Cope	3					34.67	37.67	-
DJ Kennington	2				1	35.50	33.50	-
Timmy Hill	3				2	36.67	39.00	-
Gray Gaulding	5				3	36.80	34.50	3
Cody Ware	1				1	39.00	39.00	-
Dylan Lupton	1					39.00	39.00	-

Joey Logano: 2 (3)
 Kurt Busch: 1 (2)
 M Truex Jr.: 1 (2)
 Matt Kenseth: 1 (2)
 Chase Elliott: 1 (2)
 Kasey Kahne: 1 (2)
 Denny Hamlin: 1 (2)
 J McMurray: 1 (2)
 Ryan Blaney: 0 (2)
 Kevin Harvick: 0 (2)
 Ryan Newman: 0 (1)
 AJ Allmendinger: 0 (1)
 Kyle Busch: 0 (1)
 Aric Almirola: 0 (1)
 Stenhouse Jr.: 0 (1)
 Paul Menard: 0 (1)
 Daniel Suarez: 0 (1)
 Erik Jones: 0 (1)
 M Waltrip: 0 (1)
 M DiBenedetto: 0 (1)
 J Johnson: 0 (1)
 Clint Bowyer: 0 (1)
 Trevor Bayne: 0 (1)
 D Earnhardt Jr.: 0 (0)
 Ty Dillon: 0 (0)
 M McDowell: 0 (0)
 Landon Cassill: 0 (0)
 Danica Patrick: 0 (0)
 Cole Whitt: 0 (0)
 Austin Dillon: 0 (0)
 David Ragan: 0 (0)
 Chris Buescher: 0 (0)
 Corey LaJoie: 0 (0)
 J Earnhardt: 0 (0)
 Reed Sorenson: 0 (0)
 Derrike Cope: 0 (0)
 Gray Gaulding: 0 (0)
 Timmy Hill: 0 (0)
 Cody Ware: 0 (0)
 DJ Kennington: 0 (0)

DRIVER PERFORMANCE

Here are the top performances by driver so far this season. The full list can be found each week by clicking on the

"Driver Performance" link in the "Research" section of your team roster:

Yahoo! Group A:

(1) Joey Logano: Daytona 1

like to skew the numbers in Group C where DNQs are a more frequent way of life.

Number of Top-10s Backed up With Another

This is the number of times in

2017 that a driver backed up one top-10 with another finish of 10th or better, (total number of top-10s for the season in parenthesis):

Brad Keselowski: 2 (3)

Kyle Larson: 2 (3)

Consecutive Races: Running at End / on Lead Lap (LL)			
Rank	Driver	Running	LL
1	Kyle Larson	28	6
2	Joey Logano	21	9
3	Ryan Blaney	19	1
	Michael McDowell	19	1
5	Landon Cassill	15	0
6	Kurt Busch	14	0
7	David Ragan	13	0
8	Matt DiBenedetto	12	0
9	Trevor Bayne	11	3
10	Chase Elliott	9	6
11	Michael Waltrip	9	4
12	Paul Menard	9	1
13	AJ Allmendinger	9	0
14	Aric Almirola	8	1
15	Joey Gase	7	0
	Cole Whitt	7	0
17	Elliott Sadler	5	0
	Austin Dillon	5	0
19	Kasey Kahne	3	3
	Martin Truex Jr.	3	3
21	Ryan Newman	3	1
22	Brendan Gaughan	2	2
	Clint Bowyer	2	2
	Kyle Busch	2	2
	Ty Dillon	2	2
	Erik Jones	2	2
	Matt Kenseth	2	2
	Brad Keselowski	2	2
	Jamie McMurray	2	2
30	Derrike Cope	2	1
	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2	1
	Jimmie Johnson	2	1
33	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	2	0
	Chris Buescher	2	0
	Jeffrey Earnhardt	2	0
	Reed Sorenson	2	0
	Daniel Suarez	2	0
38	Denny Hamlin	1	1
39	Gray Gaulding	1	0
40	Kevin Harvick	0	0
	Corey LaJoie	0	0
	Danica Patrick	0	0
	Timmy Hill	0	0
	DJ Kennington	0	0
	Cody Ware	0	0

(week 1)

(1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2)

(1) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3)

(1) Kyle Busch: Auto Club (week 4)

Yahoo! Group B:

Top two each week.

(3) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 4)

(1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)

(1) Chase Elliott: Las Vegas (week 3)

(1) Ryan Newman: Auto Club (week 4)

Yahoo! Group C:

(1) Michael Waltrip:

Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Erik Jones: Atlanta (week 2)

(1) Michael McDowell: Las Vegas (week 3)

(1) Daniel Suarez: Auto Club (week 4)

NASCAR.com Fantasy Live

Top five game finishes

(3) Brad Keselowski: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4)

(3) Chase Elliott: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4)

(3) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4)

(1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1

3 Yr. Avg. Yahoo! Points at Auto Club			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Points	Attempts
1	Chase Elliott	90.00	1
2	Kurt Busch	81.33	3
3	Jimmie Johnson	80.33	3
4	Kevin Harvick	79.00	3
5	Brad Keselowski	76.33	3
6	Paul Menard	73.00	2
7	Dale Earnhardt Jr	72.67	3
8	Denny Hamlin	72.50	2
9	Kyle Busch	71.00	2
10	Matt Kenseth	70.33	3
11	Ryan Newman	69.67	3
12	Jamie McMurray	67.33	3
13	Joey Logano	62.00	3
14	Austin Dillon	61.33	3
15	Reed Sorenson	60.00	1
16	AJ Allmendinger	58.67	3
17	Martin Truex Jr	56.67	3
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	56.00	3
19	Clint Bowyer	52.67	3
20	Landon Cassill	51.33	3
21	David Ragan	51.00	3
22	Kyle Larson	47.33	3
23	Cole Whitt	46.67	3
24	Danica Patrick	44.67	3
25	Trevor Bayne	43.00	2
26	Aric Almirola	42.00	3
27	Chris Buescher	39.00	2
28	Kasey Kahne	34.67	3
29	Michael McDowell	30.00	1
30	Jeffrey Earnhardt	24.00	1
31	Matt DiBenedetto	23.00	2
32	Ryan Blaney	22.00	1

(week 1)

(1) AJ Allmendinger: Daytona
1 (week 1)

(1) Paul Menard: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Joey Logano: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Ve-
gas (week 3)

(1) Jimmie Johnson: Las Ve-
gas (week 3)

(1) Kyle Busch: Phoenix 1
(week 4)

(1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix 1
(week 4)

Draft Kings

Top five game finishes

(3) Chase Elliott: Atlanta
(week 2), Las Vegas (week 3),
Phoenix 1 (week 4)

(2) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta
(week 2), Phoenix 1 (week 4 –
tied with Suarez for fifth)

(2) Brad Keselowski: Atlanta
(week 2), Las Vegas (week 3)

(1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) AJ Allmendinger: Daytona
1 (week 1)

(1) Paul Menard: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Michael Waltrip: Daytona
1 (week 1)

(1) Brendan Gaughan: Dayto-
na 1 (week 1)

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Matt Kenseth: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Ve-
gas (week 3)

(1) Jimmie Johnson: Las Ve-
gas (week 3)

(1) Joey Logano: Las Vegas
(week 3)

(1) Kyle Busch: Phoenix 1
(week 4)

(1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix 1
(week 4)

(1) Ricky Stenhouse Jr.: Phoe-

Total Top-5s: Season	
Driver	Top-5s
Brad Keselowski	3
Kyle Larson	3
Chase Elliott	2
Ryan Blaney	1
Ryan Newman	1
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1
Paul Menard	1
Matt Kenseth	1
Martin Truex Jr	1
Kurt Busch	1
Kasey Kahne	1
Joey Logano	1
Aric Almirola	1
Kyle Busch	1
AJ Allmendinger	1

nix 1 (week 4)

(1) Daniel Suarez: Phoenix 1
(week 4 – tied with Harvick
for fifth)

TWITTER LEAGUE

It's not too late to join the Dan Beaver Twitter League. Players can join or leave groups throughout the season and your team can accumulate points in up to three leagues.

This is one of the most competitive leagues in the game since most or all of the players get their excellent information from the pages of these pre-views. Simply log onto Yahoo! Sports and navigate to the fantasy racing page (<http://racing.fantasysports.yahoo.com/auto>). Click on the "create or join a group" button and follow the instructions.

Dan Beaver's Twitter League
Group ID#: 38
Password: FantasyRace

ANY LAST MINUTE QUESTIONS?

Follow Dan Beaver on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/FantasyRace>
and chat during the week-

Driver Rating: Season to Date			
Rank	Driver	Standings	Rating
1	Brad Keselowski	2	116.0
2	Kyle Larson	1	112.6
3	Chase Elliott	3	110.1
4	Martin Truex Jr.	4	103.6
5	Kevin Harvick	7	99.1
6	Joey Logano	5	98.2
7	Kyle Busch	13	90.9
8	Ryan Blaney	6	89.3
9	Jamie McMurray	8	87.7
10	Jimmie Johnson	16	86.4
11	Kurt Busch	9	83.3
12	Ryan Newman	11	83.3
13	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	23	82.7
14	Erik Jones	18	81.3
15	Kasey Kahne	10	78.6
16	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	22	75.3
17	Denny Hamlin	14	74.1
18	Clint Bowyer	15	73.0
19	Austin Dillon	25	70.6
20	Trevor Bayne	12	70.5
21	Matt Kenseth	20	69.9
22	Paul Menard	19	67.1
23	Aric Almirola	17	62.6
24	Ty Dillon	24	62.6
25	AJ Allmendinger	31	60.2
26	Danica Patrick	29	57.0
27	Michael McDowell	26	55.7
28	Daniel Suarez	21	55.5
29	Chris Buescher	32	53.6
30	David Ragan	33	51.6
31	Landon Cassill	28	46.6
32	Matt DiBenedetto	27	46.5
33	Cole Whitt	30	45.3
34	Reed Sorenson	36	36.7
35	Gray Gaulding	39	33.0
36	Corey Lajoie	37	29.6
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	35	29.4
38	Derrike Cope	38	28.0

end.

That is also a great place to comment on what you read in the preview and let us know what stats you would like to see in future articles.

Combined Fantasy Points, Last 60 Days								
Driver	Avg. Rank	Attempts	All Combined	NASCARcom	Yahoo	Fox	Draft Kings	RaceDayScore
Martin Truex Jr	6.27	16	1,199	295	337	166	250	151
Kyle Larson	5.80	16	1,099	230	363	164	201	141
Chase Elliott	6.60	16	1,084	276	320	147	220	121
Brad Keselowski	8.67	16	1,072	278	332	137	220	105
Joey Logano	7.80	16	934	196	314	131	167	127
Kevin Harvick	14.13	16	903	293	268	109	194	39
Kasey Kahne	10.80	16	895	142	292	166	168	127
Ryan Blaney	12.20	16	871	153	286	149	151	132
Aric Almirola	12.73	16	778	130	254	142	158	94
Trevor Bayne	12.53	16	729	114	260	126	141	88
Jimmie Johnson	14.07	16	675	134	252	104	137	49
Kurt Busch	17.20	16	660	88	262	119	106	85
AJ Allmendinger	18.07	16	659	102	220	121	125	91
Paul Menard	17.33	16	644	95	228	122	123	77
Kyle Busch	19.93	16	629	159	243	94	126	7
Clint Bowyer	14.27	16	627	83	236	115	105	89
Jamie McMurray	15.00	16	622	92	256	106	93	75
Ryan Newman	18.13	16	590	100	245	120	106	19
Michael McDowell	14.73	16	584	89	206	102	116	71
Denny Hamlin	15.53	16	573	72	226	111	90	74
Erik Jones	15.53	16	556	86	216	97	104	54
Ty Dillon	16.27	16	530	72	214	97	100	47
Daniel Suarez	18.07	15	520	74	214	107	102	24
Matt DiBenedetto	17.60	16	518	75	184	94	103	63
Landon Cassill	17.13	16	510	75	182	88	103	62
Cole Whitt	16.47	16	498	70	178	87	97	66
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	20.40	16	497	75	207	100	99	17
Matt Kenseth	17.47	16	444	21	191	88	42	102
Chris Buescher	20.00	16	409	57	160	70	85	37
Dale Earnhardt Jr	19.53	16	390	27	187	70	40	67
Austin Dillon	23.33	16	381	42	190	71	63	15
David Ragan	20.13	16	376	48	144	66	76	43
Danica Patrick	23.20	16	333	32	152	67	53	30
Jeffrey Earnhardt	23.53	17	275	32	108	46	57	32
Reed Sorenson	20.55	14	253	33	102	45	53	20
Corey LaJoie	26.57	15	180	13	98	36	36	(3)
Derrike Cope	24.90	11	155	17	68	28	38	5
Timmy Hill	24.86	10	114	15	46	22	28	3
Gray Gaulding	27.82	12	109	6	62	17	26	(1)