

Dan Beaver's Fantasy Racing News

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OVERVIEW

For many fans, the season starts on Sunday.

The similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks have featured some great racing. The one-mile Phoenix International Raceway had quite a few surprises, but for viewers who grew up going to bullrings across America, nothing beats

them race around this halfmile bullring evokes memories of strictly stock cars from the past.

This race has an even greater "throwback" feel.

NASCAR's relatively new rules of locking in the franchise teams to leave only a few spots available for open entries has virtually eliminated the start-and-park operathe entry list.

In the not-so-distant past, NASCAR had different field maximums for various track types. Short tracks maxed out at 36 cars and that gave the drivers more room to navigate on these tight confines. With two fewer cars than fantasy players have seen in the past, the competition will improve—especially if one or two retire with damage or mechanical



a short track.

Martinsville Speedway is a venerable old course. In one form or another, it dates back to the birth of the sport, and while most of the drivers of today are separated by a vast space of time and distance from those roots, watching

tions. The prize money is divvied out differently than in the past, so the field is shrinking. Forty cars mark a full field. The Daytona 500 is only event this year that filled up. Atlanta Motor Speedway and the Western Swing hosted only 39 cars each. This week, Martinsville has 38 cars on

difficulty.

COMPARABLE, YET DIFFERENT

There are other short tracks on the circuit, but they have modernized to a degree that Martinsville has not. Bristol Motor Speedway's large screen TV in the infield and the shiny, seemingly always new pavement of Richmond International Raceway give those tracks a completely different personality than this bullring.

The three tracks on the current NASCAR schedule that measure less than a mile in length all share something in common, however. Drivers are in constant traffic. They have to constantly balance enough aggression to keep from losing a lap with the patience that keeps them out of trouble.

The television advertisements leading up to the STP 500 are fairly accurate when they suggest drivers speak to one another in code.

One tap on the back bumper means "I've run you down and caught you. You need to move over." Two taps means "I'm not going to tell you again," and the third tap is often hard enough to either knock the lead car out of the groove or wreck it.

The tightness of competition is enhanced at Martinsville more than on any other course. The corners are minimally banked. Drivers do not have any cushion on which to lean, so the fastest way is around the bottom, lightly scraping the curb.

And it is not just that it is faster. Literally, that is the only groove available because going around the outside—even of markedly slower cars—adds a lot of distance

Driver	Wins
Jimmie Johnson	9
Denny Hamlin	5
Kurt Busch	2
Kyle Busch	1
Dale Earnhardt Jr	1
Kevin Harvick	1
Ryan Newman	1

and scrubs off a ton of speed.

The corners are tight. Drivers might be able to get some momentum high at Bristol. Richmond often has several grooves available like the two-mile tracks of Auto Club Speedway—that was just visited—and Michigan International Speedway. But at Martinsville, drivers have to slow so abruptly at the entrance to the corners that it is impossible to completely separate their car from that of a more aggressive driver.

In that way, Martinsville has as many similarities to Phoenix and New Hampshire Motor Speedway as it does to the short tracks. Favorites will come from the same marquee teams that dominate all track types so long as they have recent skill on shorts and flats. Dark horses can be identified by racers who excel on one, but not the other.

As always, the tie breaker goes to a driver's record on this week's venue—and ultimately to how they perform in prelims. Martinsville is a rhythm track and that starts the minute a car rolls off the hauler.

Driver	Top-5s
Jimmie Johnson	19
Dale Earnhardt Jr	13
Denny Hamlin	12
Kyle Busch	11 8
Ryan Newman	8
Matt Kenseth	6
Clint Bowyer	4
Brad Keselowski	4
Joey Logano	4
Kurt Busch	3
Kevin Harvick	3
Kasey Kahne	3
AJ Allmendinger	2
Jamie McMurray	2
Martin Truex Jr	2
Aric Almirola	1
Austin Dillon	1
Kyle Larson	3 3 3 2 2 2 2 1 1 1
David Ragan	1

TOP-12 DRIVERS

1. Jimmie Johnson

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$26.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 9/30
Top-fives: 19 (.633)
Top-10s: 24 (.800)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 15.17
Yahoo! Points: 67.33
NASCAR.com Points: 81.30
Draft Kings Points: 36.33

Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 15.83

At first glance, it will probably appear that making Johnson a favorite at Martinsville is part of the throwback theme.

Even when he has finished well this season, he has not appeared to have much strength during the middle portion of races and ill-timed cautions could derail his effort at any time. This is Martinsville though. Johnson and Hendrick Motorsports have been so strong on this track throughout their history that the No. 48 could probably challenge for a win with a blind-folded monkey behind the wheel. Equally important, Johnson is flying under the

Driver	Top-10s
Jimmie Johnson	24
Dale Earnhardt Jr	18
Denny Hamlin	17
Jamie McMurray	15
Kevin Harvick	14
Ryan Newman	14
Matt Kenseth	13
Clint Bowyer	13 12
Kyle Busch	12
Brad Keselowski	
Martin Truex Jr	8 7
Joey Logano	6
AJ Allmendinger	5
Kurt Busch	5
Kasey Kahne	5
Aric Almirola	3
David Ragan	3
Derrike Cope	2
Paul Menard	2
Austin Dillon	6 5 5 5 3 3 2 2 2 1 1
Kyle Larson	1
Danica Patrick	1

radar because of this year's struggles and that improves his value.

2. Kyle Busch

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$26.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/23
Top-fives: 11 (.478)
Top-10s: 12 (.522)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 7.20
Yahoo! Points: 87.60
NASCAR.com Points: 99.25
Draft Kings Points: 68.35
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 15.50

Is it the chicken or the egg?

Is the Young Gun success this year attributable to their strength or the fact that several of the top performers have either struggled outright or been erratic? Busch had sub-15th-place results in his first three starts this season. His last two ended in top-10s, but others with his level of experience have seesawed down in those events.

Busch has been a top competitor at Martinsville. Last year



he won the STP 500 and finished fifth in the fall. That came on the heels of another top-five last fall to give him three consecutive. There is still some niggling doubt about his ability to stay out of trouble, but he is an easy choice if that is removed from the formula.

3. Brad Keselowski

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/14
Top-fives: 4 (.286)
Top-10s: 8 (.571)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 18.33
Yahoo! Points: 58.67
NASCAR.com Points: 60.60
Draft Kings Points: 43.38
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.50

Keselowski was the only driver other than Busch to sweep the top five last year. He was fifth in the spring and second in the fall. Crash damage in fall 2015 has kept him from earning four consecutive top-fives, but he makes up for that with his recent record.

In 2017, Keselowski has been one of the few veterans who can compete with the Young Guns. He passed Kyle Larson for the lead on the final lap at Atlanta Motor Speedway and then rattled off three top-fives in the past three races. Like several of the veterans, he has been unable to stay in the top 10 throughout the entirety of most races and that has led to the perception that he is struggling. It also means players have an opportunity to differentiate their roster.

4. Kyle Larson

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.75

	Driver Rating: M	artinsvil	lle
Rank	Driver		Avg.
1	Jimmie Johnson	149.1	117.7
2	Denny Hamlin	141.1	108.2
3	Kyle Busch	148.2	
4	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	133.1	98.7
5	Kevin Harvick	129.0	
6	Brad Keselowski	114.9	90.8
7	Joey Logano	121.9	
8	Matt Kenseth	134.6	88.9
9	Clint Bowyer	127.9	
10	Ryan Newman	109.6	86.3
11	Jamie McMurray	114.4	
12	Kurt Busch	115.8	80.0
13	Kasey Kahne	112.8	77.2
14	AJ Allmendinger	106.8	76.8
15	Martin Truex Jr.	119.1	74.2
16	Kyle Larson	109.0	73.0
17	Ty Dillon	90.3	70.5
18	Aric Almirola	93.8	66.3
19	Ryan Blaney	67.4	
20	David Ragan	100.0	
21	Paul Menard	96.6	
22	Elliott Sadler	108.4	
23	Danica Patrick	86.9	63.8
24	Chase Elliott	82.1	63.4
25	Trevor Bayne	63.5	50.0
26	Michael Waltrip	69.4	47.3
27	Cole Whitt	58.8	46.9
28	Reed Sorenson	88.4	46.7
29	Landon Cassill	57.4	
30	Alex Bowman	52.5	
31	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	62.7	
32	Chris Buescher	47.6	42.4
33	Michael McDowell	58.0	39.5
34	Matt DiBenedetto	43.1	38.6
35	Derrike Cope	34.2	30.3
36	Joey Gase	28.9	28.9
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	28.5	
38	Gray Gaulding	27.8	27.8
39	Timmy Hill	27.9	27.4

Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7 Top-fives: 1 (.143) Top-10s: 1 (.142) Last 3 Years Current Track: 18.60 Yahoo! Points: 56.80 NASCAR.com Points: 31.75 Draft Kings Points: 26.40 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 3.50

Rhythm tracks can take a while to learn. Larson finished 25th or worse in his first three attempts on this track. It appeared he would have a strong run in spring 2015 after qualifying seventh, but he had a fainting spell the morning of the race and was replaced by Regan Smith. He qualified well again that spring, but failed to get a top-15. Things

finally clicked last spring and Larson earned what is probably going to be the first of many top-fives. He finished third in the 2016 STP 500.

Coupled with his extremely strong runs in the first five races this season, Larson should be able to radically outperform his track average and finish with the leaders. There is still enough doubt about his potential that he is not a favorite to win, but momentum will carry him for a while.

5. Joey Logano

consecutive top-five would have proven how well streaks persist on rhythm tracks. Logano was not as strong last year, but he was consistent with an 11th in the spring and a ninth in the fall.

Logano has been as strong as anyone in the field this season. With the exception of an accident at Phoenix, he has top-10s dating to last fall's Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas Speedway. That makes him 10 for 11 in recent events and he should be able to add one more.

is going to feel a little uncomfortable in the car—unless that legendary switch happens to flip for him.

Elliott is handicapped near the top five this week on the strength of Hendrick Motorsports' Martinsville record. This team is solid enough and Elliott is a good enough driver that even when he is not 100 percent, he should be capable of earning top-10s. In games that limit allocations, like the Yahoo! contest, save him for another date, but if you locked him in for lower modest salary cap than he currently de-

mands, hang onto him with both hands.

7. Kevin Harvick

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/31
Top-fives: 3 (.096)
Top-10s: 14 (.452)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 15.50
Yahoo! Points: 69.33
NASCAR.com Points: 85.70
Draft Kings Points: 62.46
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 15.17

Harvick is one of the best closers in the business. That ability has served him well this year because he has been forced to come from the back of

the pack late in the going after either making a mistake or suffering some kind of misfortune.

As soon as he is able to put these things behind him, Harvick is going to dominate races again. Martinsville would not seem to be one of the tracks on which a transformation to top-five contender is going to happen because in 31 starts, he has only finished that well about 10 percent of the time. He has been much more competitive in



Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$28.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: 4 (.250)
Top-10s: 6 (.375)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 11.50
Yahoo! Points: 87.83
NASCAR.com Points: 72.60
Draft Kings Points: 55.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 9.33

Before getting intentionally wrecked by Matt Kenseth in fall 2015, Logano had three consecutive top-fives at Martinsville. He was going to win that race before the dastardly deed was done and his fourth

6. Chase Elliott

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 23.33 Yahoo! Points: 45.33 NASCAR.com Points: 12.33 Draft Kings Points: 14.33 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 9.17

We really don't expect Elliott to challenge for a win for several weeks until the short track season is over. With the exception of next week's venue at Texas Motor Speedway, he

DAILY FANTASY MOCK DRAFT

by Victoria Beaver

Last week, I did not fare well in DFS, I came in dead last in the Dan Beaver's Draft Kings contest. No worries, it's just a good reminder not to be prideful. This week my picks are in some way more risky and some ways less. Splurge spots go to great A-drivers that need a win. In mid-range I'll jump on the Larson bandwagon based more on this year's performances and not historical stats at Martinsville. My steal spots are going to rookies that have not performed at Martinsville, but are consistently great this season.

Splurge

Kyle Busch

Fantasy Power Rankings: 8.97
Busch won Martinsville last spring and led 352
laps. This was his first win at the track. His best
finish prior was second in the fall of 2012.
Busch has advanced from his starting position
in his last three starts at Martinsville, for an
average of three positions. His three races prior
to these he fell back for an average of 9.34 positions. Busch only has two top-10s so far this sea-

son, so his average finish of 8.97 at Martinsville

is hopefully a chance for him to catch up with some of the other A-drivers and unexpected surprises in the top 10.

Jimmie Johnson
Fantasy Power Rankings: 8.01
Johnson won Martinsville back in October.
This was his ninth win at the track but his first since April 7. He led 92 laps in this race, the first time he done so in five Martinsville starts. Before that he had laps led in seven straight races on the track. Johnson has advanced from his starting position for the last three races for an average of 8.67 positions. He did not fare as well in the two races prior, being swept up in accidents in both fall of 2014 and spring of 2015.
Johnson only has one top-10 so far this season, but the six-time champion can't perform that badly forever.

Mid-Range:

Kyle Larson

Fantasy Power Rankings: 22.26 Larson only has one good finish at Martinsville so far. He came in third last spring, but he's also coming off of an amazing stretch of three second-place finishes and a win last week at Auto Club. Martinsville and Phoenix are similarly

terms of top-10s, however, with a sweep of those positions in 2015. Last year's pair of sub-15ths told a different story, so fantasy players want to have a backup plan in place.

8. Martin Truex Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/22
Top-fives: 2 (.091) / Top-10s: 7 (.318)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 16.00
Yahoo! Points: 68.00
NASCAR.com Points: 55.00
Draft Kings Points: 37.71
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.17

Truex's victory in the Kobalt 400 punched his ticket to the playoffs three weeks ago. He passed Larson late in the event and it appeared he would get another chance at Auto Club before a gamble on pit strategy ultimately cost track position. Therein lays the problem: With a win in the bank, he can be aggressive and that just as often costa spots as it gain them. With top-fives in less than 10 percent of his starts, Truex has not been great at Martinsville but three of his seven career top-10s came in the past two vears.

9. Jamie McMurray

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/28
Top-fives: 2 (.071)
Top-10s: 15 (.536)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 16.83
Yahoo! Points: 61.83
NASCAR.com Points: 24.80
Draft Kings Points: 31.08
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.00

Teammate Larson can steal all of the headlines he wants; fantasy owners with McMurray in their lineup will continue to rack up points. Martinsville is a nice microcosm. The

configured tracks, so his second there two weeks ago gives fantasy players further hope for this week. Adding on, his sweep last weekend at Auto Club primes him for a good chance this weekend. Larson led laps in his last start at Martinsville. He missed the spring race in 2015 after suffering from a fainting spell, so he only has six starts on the track, and only two in the spring race.

Denny Hamlin Fantasy Power Rankings: 8.54 Hamlin has four wins at Martinsville, three of them came in his first three starts at the track in 2009 and 2010. His most recent win came in the 2015 spring race. Since that win, he has finished third twice and 39th once. This poor finish came after a crash midway through the race. This was the only time Hamlin was not running at the end of the race, completing all laps in 12 out of 14 starts. Hamlin has moved forward from his qualifying position in three of the last four races, but his crash last spring pulls his place differential down from +8.67 to -1.25.

Steals:

Daniel Suarez

Fantasy Power Rankings: NA
Both steal spots this week go to the rookies, so
there's no historical data for how they'll race at
Martinsville. These choices have more to do
with their 2017 finishes and the stamina that
they're creating. After a shaky start with midpack finishes at the first three races, Suarez has
finished seventh in back-to-back races at Phoenix and Auto Club. These two finishes are also
the first times that he has advanced from his
starting positions. These top-10s can give the
rookie the confidence he needs for better and
better runs. Phoenix and Martinsville are similar tracks both being short and flat.

Eric Jones

Fantasy Power Rankings: NA
Jones has four top-15s and one top-10 so far this
season. The rookie has yet to compete at Martinsville but finished eighth at Phoenix two
weeks ago, Martinsville and Phoenix are similarly configured tracks. Jones has yet to lead
any laps this season, but depending on how far
forward he can qualify, he could change that.

driver of the No. 1 has top fives in less than 10 percent of his starts, but he is significantly above the .500 mark in regard to top-10s. This season has followed that pattern. In five starts, he has earned three top-10s and another top-15—but he has not cracked the top five. He is the tortoise to Larson's hare, but so long as he grabs top-10s that is what matters.

10. Denny Hamlin

Yahoo! Group: A NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 5/22 Top-fives: 12 (.545) Top-10s: 17 (.772) Last 3 Years Current Track: 12.17 Yahoo! Points: 75.17 NASCAR.com Points: 55.00 Draft Kings Points: 51.93 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 15.67

Gone are the days when a player could put Hamlin on their roster on a short, flat track without another thought. In fact, those days are gone for most drivers on most track types as NASCAR strives for parity. Hamlin is a flat track master, but his long streaks of top-10s are increasingly being interrupted by other equally strong drivers. With the competition tightening, the smallest of mistakes can have huge ramifications and instead of dropping to the high side of the top 10, a driver can slip into the 20s.

Hamlin's historic record cannot be ignored, however, and a top-10 percentage of .772 suggests he is much more likely to earn major points than to struggle.

11. Clint Bowyer

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/22
Top-fives: # (.000)
Top-10s: # (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 20.83
Yahoo! Points: 53.67
NASCAR.com Points: 30.40
Draft Kings Points: 34.63
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 15.33

Bowyer had a horrible time last year. There were a handful of tracks on which his career experience carried the day, but Martinsville was not among them. He finished 25th and 28th in the two events. That came on the heels of a crash-induced 43rd in fall 2015.

Before that: Wow.

Bowyer had six consecutive top-10s and a 13th in his previous seven races. From fall of his rookie season until his 2015 accident, he completed all of the laps in 17 of 18 events. The only time he failed to go the distance was

Driver Rating: Season to Date			
	Driver	Standings	Rating
1	Kyle Larson	1	119.0
2	Chase Elliott	2	110.6
3	Brad Keselowski	4	110.0
4	Martin Truex Jr.	3	109.1
5	Joey Logano	5	98.9
6	Kyle Busch	10	93.3
7	Kevin Harvick	9	91.5
8	Jamie McMurray	6	91.3
9	Ryan Blaney	7	89.9
10	Erik Jones	15	85.1
11	Jimmie Johnson	17	82.3
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	21	81.9
13	Clint Bowyer	8	
14	Ryan Newman	11	
15	Kasey Kahne	13	
16	Denny Hamlin	12	
17	Kurt Busch	14	
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	24	
19	Austin Dillon	20	
20	Trevor Bayne	16	
21	Matt Kenseth	25	
22	Paul Menard	22	
23	Ty Dillon	23	
24	Aric Almirola	18	
25	AJ Allmendinger	30	
26	Daniel Suarez	19	59.9
27	Danica Patrick	29	
28	Chris Buescher	32	
29	Michael McDowell	26	
30	David Ragan	33	
31	Landon Cassill	27	
32	Matt DiBenedetto	28	
33	Cole Whitt	31	43.4
34	Reed Sorenson	37	35.3
35	Gray Gaulding	39	
36	Corey Lajoie	35	
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	36	
38	Derrike Cope	38	27.0

Top-fives and Top-10s					
By C	ar Owner,	Last Thr	ee Years		
Owner	Attempts	To	p-5s	Top-1	0s
Roger Penske	12	6	50%	7	58%
Joe Gibbs	22	9	41%	13	59%
Rick Hendrick	25	7	28%	11	44%
Tad Geschickter	6	1	17%	3	50%
Chip Ganassi	12	2	17%	4	33%
Richard Childress	18	2	11%	6	33%
Tony Stewart	24	2	8%	8	33%
Petty Enterprises	12	1	8%	2	17%
Barney Visser	6			3	50%
Michael Waltrip	8			2	25%
Front Row Motorsports	15			1	7%
Jack Roush	18				
BK Racing	17				
Harry Scott	10				
Tommy Baldwin	8				
Jay Robinson	7				
Frank Stoddard	6				
Germain Bros	6				
Joe Falk	4				
Michael Hillman	4				
Mike Curb	4				
Bob Leavine	3				
Curtis Key	3				
Swan Racing	2				
Wood Bros	2				
Johnathan Cohen	1				

in 2010 and that was because of crash damage. If he stays out of trouble, he will be a top contender this week.

12. Ryan Blaney Yahoo! Group: B

NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.00 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 19.00 Yahoo! Points: 54.00 NASCAR.com Points: 16.75 Draft Kings Points: 19.75 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 14.17

One doesn't get any more consistent than this: Blaney finished 19th in both Martinsville races last year. He did not make any pre-rookie attempts on this course, so that is the totality of his experience. It would be easy to ignore Blaney or alternately to make him a sleeper. The Young Guns are making a lot of noise, however, and the Wood Bros. pilot has

been flying right alongside Elliott and Larson in half of this year's races.

He is seventh in the points' standings based on consistency and speed and that has put him in a great frame of mind. Martinsville is a track that rewards emotional balance and momentum.

SI FFPFRS

13. Erik Jones

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$19.75
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: NA

In some ways, Jones' 12thplace finish last week at Auto Club was more important than a top-10. Fantasy owners already knew that he had

strength because spent most of the afternoon in the top 10. He might have scored a top-five. His pit crew made a mistake on the final spot and let a tire roll out of his box. That gave Jones an opportunity to showcase his ability to restart and also how he could respond to adversity. Jones will continue to be one of the best values in the game for quite some while.

14. Daniel Suarez

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.50 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: 16.80

After a rocky start, it

seems that Suarez is beginning to find his footing in his rookie 37 season. His first three races all came to an end with him in 20th or worse, but he's answered those midpack debuts with two consecutive seventh-place finishes.

The first of those top-10 finishes came at Phoenix: a similarly configured track to Martinsville. If Suarez can keep his confidence up, his finishing positions should match.

17. Kasey Kahne

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$23.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/26
Top-fives: 3 (.115)
Top-10s: 5 (.192)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 19.17
Yahoo! Points: 56.17
NASCAR.com Points: 35.80
Draft Kings Points: 28.04
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 16.67

3 Yea	r Avg. Finish on	Short-fl	at Tracks
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts
1	Kyle Busch	8.19	21
2	Kevin Harvick	8.83	24
3	Joey Logano	9.63	24
4	Brad Keselowski	10.96	24
5	Dale Earnhardt Jr	12.05	19
6	Denny Hamlin	12.17	24
7	Matt Kenseth	12.65	23
8	Kyle Larson	13.13	24 24
9	Jamie McMurray	13.17	24
10	Erik Jones	13.50	2
11	Ryan Newman	13.54	24
12	Kurt Busch	14.50	24
13	Martin Truex Jr	14.58	24
14	Jimmie Johnson	15.21	24 24
15	Kasey Kahne	15.92	24
16	Chase Elliott	17.55	11
17	Aric Almirola	17.63	24
18	AJ Allmendinger	17.63	24
19	Ryan Blaney	19.20	10
20	Austin Dillon	19.33	24
21	Ty Dillon	19.33	3
22	Paul Menard	19.83	24
23	Clint Bowyer	21.92	24
24	Danica Patrick	23.21	24
25	Trevor Bayne	24.59	17
26	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	25.17	24
27	David Ragan	26.17	24 24
28	Landon Cassill	27.71	24
29	Michael McDowell	28.67	13
30	Chris Buescher	29.00	10
31	Matt DiBenedetto	30.76	17
32	Cole Whitt	31.40	21
33	Reed Sorenson	34.67	18
34	Jeffrey Earnhardt	35.25	
35	Gray Gaulding	37.33	8 3 9 2
36	Timmy Hill	38.67	9
37	Corey LaJoie	39.50	2

Kahne started the season strong, with three top-15s in a row before falling back to 20th twice—at Phoenix and Auto Club. His average at Martinsville is 15.34, with 16.7% top-10s and 33.3% top-15's. In the last four attempts at the track he has one top-10 and three top-15s for an average of 13.25.

If Kahne can bounce back from his back-to-back 20th-place finishes and mirror his performance at the beginning of the season he can compete with the top-15 drivers this week.

21. AJ Allmendinger

Yahoo! Group: B

NASCAR.com Cap: \$15.75 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/17 Top-fives: 2 (.118) Top-10s: 5 (.294) Last 3 Years Current Track: 14.33 Yahoo! Points: 69.00 NASCAR.com Points: 27.80 Draft Kings Points: 30.79 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 17.33

Allmendinger's average position over the last four races is a decent 16.5. This would be a lot better without his 43rd-place finish caused by an oil leak in spring 2015. Looking at just the last three races he has an average of 7.67. His best finish came a ago when he vear moved into secondplace in the last five laps of the race. He came in second once before in 2012.

Last week he finished in 17th-place, his second-best result of the season outside of Daytona. So far this season, his average finish is 19.2. Hopefully his

steady performance at Martinsville will help raise this number.

24. Paul Menard

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$15.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/20 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 2 (.100) Last 3 Years Current Track: 15.83 Yahoo! Points: 62.17 NASCAR.com Points: 29.90 Draft Kings Points: 30.67 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 18.67

After a strong running at Daytona, Menard has not fared well, His next best finish came at Las Vegas when he came in 19th. He has two top-10 performances at Martinsville



with the most recent happening last spring when he finished 8th. Although chances are he won't be a big finisher, Menard is consist pick to round out a fantasy team.

Busts

15. Matt Kenseth Yahoo! Group: A NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.25 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/34 Top-fives: 6 (.176) / Top-10s: 13 (.382) Last 3 Years Current Track: 12.17 Yahoo! Points: 78.17 NASCAR.com Points: 70.80 Draft Kings Points: 55.17 Avg. Last 6 races ^

Cup results: 22.00

Kenseth's bad luck continued with a 36th-place finish at Auto Club. In five starts this season he has two top-10s and three finishes of 36th and back. Martinsville is historically a good track for him but his finishes at the track are overwhelmed by his recent performances.

Matt Kenseth has the third highest average finish at the track with 8.64. This average is inflated by better attempts during 2013 and 2014. His average over the last two years falls to 15.25, which is more in line with his 2017 finishes.

18. Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.25 Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/33

Top-fives: 13 (.394) / Top-10s: 18 (.545)

Last $3~\mathrm{Years}$

Current Track: 11.60 Yahoo! Points: 72.80 NASCAR.com Points: 47.25 Draft Kings Points: 59.90

		Po	ints' Leader	·s		
Rank	Driver	Points	Race Wins	Stage Wins	Playoff Points	Points' stand- ings
1	Martin Truex Jr.	205	1	3	8	3
2	Kyle Larson	243	1	1	6	1
3	Brad Keselowski	179	1		5	4
4	Ryan Newman	123	1		5	10
5	Kurt Busch	118	1		5	14
6	Kevin Harvick	137		3	3	9
7	Chase Elliott	214		1	1	2
8	Joey Logano	174		1	1	5
9	Kyle Busch	136		1	1	10
10	Ryan Blaney	157				6
11	Jamie McMurray	162				6
12	Clint Bowyer	157				8
13	Denny Hamlin	123				11
14	Kasey Kahne	122				13
15	Erik Jones	116				15
16	Trevor Bayne	114				16

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

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

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	9 9 8 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

Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 22.60

Earnhardt has yet to grab a top-10 or even a top-15 race

this season. Martinsville does not look like the chance for him to better that record. He has a top 10 average of 64.7% over the last 18 starts at there, and only one win in 33 attempts.

He missed last fall's event since he was out with a concussion for the final 18 races of the season. In his six prior attempts he has an average finish position of 11th, ranging from first to 36th.

19. Ryan Newman

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$18.00 Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/30 Top-fives: 8 (.267) Top-10s: 14 (.467) Last 3 Years Current Track: 13.83 Yahoo! Points: 66.83 NASCAR.com Points: 22.20 Draft Kings Points: 27.42 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 19.00

Newman's average finish at Martinsville is 17.51. He has three top-10s in his last six starts. He won two weeks ago at Phoenix but after that his best finish is 15th. This season, even with the win he has an average of finish of 17.8, due to poor performances at Daytona and Atlanta.

Newman only has two top-10s in his last 18 starts on short flat tracks, but due to his stronger performances at Phoenix his average is slightly higher than Martinsville alone at 16.17.

26. Trevor Bayne

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/5 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 24.75 Yahoo! Points: 42.50

NASCAR.com Points: 26.00 Draft Kings Points: 27.50 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 16.17

Bayne has been moving in the

Laps in Top-10 at Martinsville (L 3Yrs)				
Rank	Driver	Laps	%	Possible Laps
1	Joey Logano	2,311	77.0%	3,000
2	Kyle Busch	1,890	75.6%	2,500
3	Matt Kenseth	2,125	70.8%	3,000
4	Denny Hamlin	1,825	60.8%	3,000
5	Kevin Harvick	1,822	60.7%	3,000
6	Kurt Busch	1,696	56.5%	3,000
7	Jamie McMurray	1,666	55.5%	3,000
8	Brad Keselowski	1,652	55.1%	3,000
9	Jimmie Johnson	1,633	54.4%	3,000
10	AJ Allmendinger	1,524	50.8%	3,000
11	Martin Truex Jr	1,352	45.1%	3,000
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr	1,058	42.3%	2,500
13	Kyle Larson	753	30.1%	2,500
14	Ryan Newman	897	29.9%	3,000
15	Clint Bowyer	795	26.5%	3,000
16	Kasey Kahne	535	17.8%	3,000
17	Paul Menard	407	13.6%	3,000
18	David Ragan	321	10.7%	3,000
19	Aric Almirola	318	10.6%	3,000
20	Austin Dillon	300	10.0%	3,000
21	Danica Patrick	191	6.4%	3,000
22	Chase Elliott	59	3.9%	1,500
23	Ryan Blaney	26	2.6%	1,000
24	Trevor Bayne	19	1.0%	2,000
25	Landon Cassill	17	0.6%	3,000
26	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	16	0.5%	3,000
27	Chris Buescher	8	0.5%	1,500
28	Cole Whitt	10	0.4%	2,500
29	Jeffrey Earnhardt	2	0.4%	500
30	Reed Sorenson	1	0.1%	2,000
31	Matt DiBenedetto	0	0.0%	2,000
32	Michael McDowell	0	0.0%	1,500
33	Timmy Hill	0	0.0%	1,000
34	Gray Gaulding	0	0.0%	500

wrong directions with finishes this season. He was 10th at Daytona and has ended the race further back in each consecutive start with the worst—so far—coming last week at Auto Club. He finished 23rd. Bayne's best finish at Martinsville is only 18th, with an average of 24.75 in his four starts.

His career power average on similar tracks is 29.58 with only one finish in the top 15. In 17 starts on short flat tracks, he has gained a top-20 finish 29.41% of the time.

28. Danica Patrick

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$11.75 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/8 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 1 (.125) Last 3 Years Current Track: 25.50 Yahoo! Points: 41.00 NASCAR.com Points: 15.40 Draft Kings Points: 16.60 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 25.50

Patrick has only one top-10 finish at Martinsville has only finished on the lead lap three times out of eight starts. Her career average finish is 22.75 at the track. Patrick has yet to make any waves in 2017, and has finished outside of the top 15 in every event so far this season. Martinsville does not seem to be the place to reverse this run of bad performances.

Her one top-10 on the track came back in the spring of 2015 and is her only top-10 on similarly configured short flat tracks. She only finished in the top 15 16.7% of time on these tracks.

Other Drivers

16. Ty Dillon

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$13.00 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: 22.17

Avg	Running Position:	Season to Date	
Rank	Driver	Starts	Avg.
1	Chase Elliott	5	5.40
2	Kyle Larson	5	4.74
3	Brad Keselowski	5	7.93
4	Joey Logano	5	10.02
5	Martin Truex Jr.	5	9.46
6	Jamie McMurray	5	10.24
7	Ryan Newman	5	14.17
8	Ryan Blaney	5	12.20
9	Kevin Harvick	5	15.54
10	Kyle Busch	5	12.10
11	Jimmie Johnson	5	15.27
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	5	14.95
13	Kasey Kahne	5	14.60
14	Kurt Busch	5	18.00
15	Clint Bowyer	5	14.12
16	Austin Dillon	5 5	15.93
17	Erik Jones		14.51
18	Denny Hamlin	5	15.41
19	Trevor Bayne	5	16.68
20	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	5	18.25
21	Paul Menard	5	21.43
22	Ty Dillon	5	20.45
23	Matt Kenseth	5	20.40
24	Aric Almirola	5	22.38
25	Danica Patrick	5	23.65
26	AJ Allmendinger	5	22.70
27	Michael McDowell	5	25.10
28	Daniel Suarez	5	23.56
29	Chris Buescher	5	25.83
30	Landon Cassill	5	26.95
31	Cole Whitt	5	28.08
32	David Ragan	5	28.95
33	Matt DiBenedetto	5	28.58
34	Reed Sorenson	4	32.87
35	Jeffrey Earnhardt	5	34.36
36	Gray Gaulding	4	34.32
37	Corey Lajoie	5	34.41
38	Derrike Cope	4	36.83



Track Type: Short Track
Track Size: 0.526 Mile
Banking/Turns: 12 degrees
Banking/Straightaways: 0 degrees
Race Length: 500 Laps / 263 Miles
Stage 1 & 2: 130 Laps (each)
Final Stage: 240 Laps

3 Things to Know



Drivers with two or more consecutive Coors Light poles (Joey Logano has won the last three poles.)



Active drivers to win five or more times (Jimmie Johnson - nine & Denny Hamlin - five)



Most wins among active drivers (Jimmie Johnson)

- Carol D'Agostino, Skirtsandscuffs.com

20. Kurt Busch

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$22.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/33
Top-fives: 3 (.091)
Top-10s: 5 (.152)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 20.00
Yahoo! Points: 58.67
NASCAR.com Points: 41.80
Draft Kings Points: 31.46
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 16.67

22. Aric Almirola

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$12.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: # (.000)
Top-10s: # (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 18.67
Yahoo! Points: 54.67
NASCAR.com Points: 24.10
Draft Kings Points: 26.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 20.17

23. Austin Dillon

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/6 Top-fives: 1 (.167) Top-10s: 1 (.167) Last 3 Years Current Track: 17.83 Yahoo! Points: 58.00 NASCAR.com Points: 36.10



Avg. Start at Martinsville				
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts	
1	Joey Logano	1.67	6	
2	Kyle Busch	6.20	5	
3	Denny Hamlin	8.00	6	
4	Ryan Newman	8.67	6	
5 6	AJ Allmendinger	8.83	6	
6	Matt Kenseth	10.17	6	
7	Jamie McMurray	10.33	6 6	
8	Jimmie Johnson	10.67	6	
9	Brad Keselowski	12.17	6	
10	Martin Truex Jr	13.17	6	
11	Ryan Blaney	13.50	2 3 6	
12	Chase Elliott	14.00	3	
13	Kyle Larson	14.67	6	
14	Paul Menard	16.00	6	
15	Kasey Kahne	18.00	6	
16	Aric Almirola	18.17	6	
17	Kurt Busch	19.83	6	
18	Kevin Harvick	19.83	6	
19	Danica Patrick	20.67	6 5 6	
20	Dale Earnhardt Jr	21.20	5	
21	Clint Bowyer	21.50	6	
22	David Ragan	22.50	6	
23	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	25.33	6	
24	Austin Dillon	27.67	6 3	
25	Michael McDowell	29.67	3	
26	Landon Cassill	31.83	6	
27	Trevor Bayne	32.75	4	
28	Chris Buescher	33.33	3	
29	Cole Whitt	34.00	3 5 4 4 2	
30	Matt DiBenedetto	35.25	4	
31	Reed Sorenson	36.75	4	
32	Timmy Hill	41.50	2	

Draft Kings Points: 37.33 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 19.50

25. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$14.00 Wins at Track/Attempts:

Top-fives: # (.000) / Top-10s: # (.000)

Last 3 Years

Current Track: 34.33 Yahoo! Points: 23.33 NASCAR.com Points: -5.70 Draft Kings Points: 1.58 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 22.17

27. Matt DiBenedetto

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$7.50 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4 Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)

Last 3 Years Current Track: 30.50 Yahoo! Points: 31.00

NASCAR.com Points: 18.50 Draft Kings Points: 20.00 Avg. Last 6 races ^

Cup results: 24.67

29. L Cassill Yahoo! Group: C

Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 26.33 Yahoo! Points: 39.33 NASCAR.com Points: 19.00 Draft Kings Points: 21.00 Avg. Last 6 races ^

32. Buescher

Cup results: 21.50

Yahoo! Group: B NASCAR.com Cap: \$9.00 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 28.00 Yahoo! Points: 36.00 NASCAR.com Points: 1967 Draft Kings Points: 21.67 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 26.33

33. Sorenson

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00 Wins at

Track/Attempts: 0/16

NASCAR.com Cap: \$8.00 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 23.83 Yahoo! Points: 44.33 NASCAR.com Points: 29.50 Draft Kings Points: 31.25 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 23.50

30. D Ragan

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$6.75 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/21 Top-fives: 1 (.047) Top-10s: 3 (.143) Last 3 Years Current Track: 21.00 Yahoo! Points: 50.00 NASCAR.com Points: 20.50 Draft Kings Points: 26.92 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 28.67

31. McDowell

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$10.50 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 36.00 Yahoo! Points: 20.00 NASCAR.com Points: 8.67 Draft Kings Points: 9.25 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 33.17

34. Gray Gaulding

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.25 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 39.00 Yahoo! Points: NA NASCAR.com Points: -0.50 Draft Kings Points: 2.50 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 36.80

35. 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

3 Yr. Avg. Draft Kings Points at Martinsville					
Rank	Driver	Avg. Points	Attempts		
1	Kyle Busch	68.35	5		
	Kevin Harvick	62.46	6		
3	Dale Earnhardt Jr	59.90	5		
4	Joey Logano	55.67	6		
5	Matt Kenseth	55.17	6		
6	Denny Hamlin	51.93	6		
7	Brad Keselowski	43.38	6		
	Martin Truex Jr	37.71	6		
9	Austin Dillon	37.33	6		
10	Jimmie Johnson	36.33	6		
11	Clint Bowyer	34.63	6		
12	Kurt Busch	31.46	6		
13	Landon Cassill	31.25	6		
14	Jamie McMurray	31.08	6		
15	AJ Allmendinger	30.79	6		
16	Paul Menard	30.67	6		
17	Cole Whitt	30.40	6		
18	Kasey Kahne	28.04	6		
19	Trevor Bayne	27.50	4		
20	Ryan Newman	27.42	6		
21	David Ragan	26.92	6		
22	Aric Almirola	26.67	6		
23	Kyle Larson	26.40	5 3 3		
	Chris Buescher	21.67	3		
25	Michael McDowell	21.00			
26	Matt DiBenedetto	20.00	4		
27	Ryan Blaney	19.75	2		
28	Danica Patrick	16.60	5		
29	Jeffrey Earnhardt	16.00	1		
30	Chase Elliott	14.33	3		
	Reed Sorenson	9.25	4		
	Timmy Hill	7.50	2		
	Gray Gaulding	2.50	1 6		
	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1.58	6		

Season to Date Grid										
Driver	Starts	Wins	Top-5s	Top-10s	Avg Fin	Start	Laps	Poles	DNFs	DNQs
Kyle Larson	5	1	4	4	3.80	6.80	1,308	1		
Martin Truex Jr	5	1	2	3	7.40	13.20	1,308			
Brad Keselowski	5	1	4	4	8.00	4.40	1,251	1	1	
Michael Waltrip	1			1	8.00	30.00	200			
Chase Elliott	5		2	3	8.80	8.80	1,308	1		
Joey Logano	5		2	4	10.40	12.60	1,301	1	1	
Brendan Gaughan	1				11.00	39.00	200			
Ryan Blaney	5		1	3	11.80	14.80	1,307			
Kasey Kahne	5		1	2	12.60	16.80	1,308			
Jamie McMurray	5			3	13.40	6.60	1,249		1	
Clint Bowyer	5		1	2	13.80	14.80	1,236		1	
Trevor Bayne	5			1	15.40	21.20	1,308			
Aric Almirola	5		1	1	16.20	26.40	1,304			
Daniel Suarez	5			2	16.80	17.60	1,247		1	
Denny Hamlin	5			2	17.00	10.00	1,164		1	
Kurt Busch	5	1	1	2	17.40	12.80	1,303			
Kyle Busch	5		1	2	17.40	10.20	1,211		1	
, Kevin Harvick	5			2	17.60	11.00	1,106		1	
Erik Jones	5			1	17.60	17.40	1,211		1	
Ryan Newman	5	1	1	1	17.80	12.80	1,290			
Jimmie Johnson	5			1	18.80	21.80	1,234		1	
AJ Allmendinger	5		1	1	19.20	25.00	1,304			
Paul Menard	5		1	1	19.60	21.00	1,303			
Ty Dillon	5				20.00	20.80	1,248		1	
Élliott Sadler	1				20.00	40.00	199			
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	5		1	1	20.60	20.60	1,235		1	
Austin Dillon	5				21.00	15.80	1,300			
Dale Earnhardt Jr	5				22.60	10.60	1,209		1	
Joey Gase	1				23.00	29.00	196			
Michael McDowell	5				23.80	26.80	1,299			
Landon Cassill	5				24.00	27.20	1,299			
Matt DiBenedetto	5			1	24.20	29.20	1,299			
Matt Kenseth	5		1	2	25.00	9.40	1,069		3	3
Cole Whitt	5				26,40	29,40	1,242		1	
Chris Buescher	5				26.80	28.60	1,231		1	
Danica Patrick	5				26.80	22.40	1,213		2	,
David Ragan	5				28.60	29.40	1,178		1	
Reed Sorenson	4				31.50	33.50	1,091			1
Corey LaJoie	5				33.00	31.60	837		2	<u>- </u>
Jeffrey Earnhardt	5				33.80	34.60	831			
Timmy Hill	3				34.67	37.33	635		1	
Derrike Cope	4				35.50	36.50	976		-	
Gray Gaulding	4				36.00	35.00	887		3	;
DJ Kennington	1				36.00	28.00	127		1	
Cody Ware	1				39.00	39.00	74		1	

Current Track: 33.00 Yahoo! Points: 26.00 NASCAR.com Points: 13.00 Draft Kings Points: 16.00 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 33.33

36. Cole Whitt

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/6
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 23.80
Yahoo! Points: 44.40
NASCAR.com Points: 26.25
Draft Kings Points: 30.40
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 26.40

37. Corey LaJoie

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75
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: 33.00

38. Timmy Hill

Yahoo! Group: C NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2 Top-fives: 0 (.000) Top-10s: 0 (.000) Last 3 Years Current Track: 39.00 Yahoo! Points: 14.00 NASCAR.com Points: 14.00 Draft Kings Points: 7.50 Avg. Last 6 races ^ Cup results: 36.25

^ 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

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	1	5	5		3.50	9.67	1,235
Michael Waltrip	1			1		8.00	30.00	17
Chase Elliott	6		2	3		9.17	8.17	1,213
Joey Logano	6		3	5	1	9.33	12.67	856
Brendan Gaughan	1					11.00	39.00	11
Jamie McMurray	6		1	4	1	12.00	8.00	600
Martin Truex Jr	6	1	2	3	1	12.17	12.00	699
Brad Keselowski	6	1	4	4	2	12.50	4.00	1,220
Ryan Blaney	6		1	3		14.17	13.67	599
Brian Scott	1					15.00	22.00	3
Kevin Harvick	6		1	3	1	15.17	9.33	976
Clint Bowyer	6		1	2	1	15.33	17.83	183
Kyle Busch	6		1	3	1	15.50	10.00	872
Denny Hamlin	6			3	1	15.67	9.00	436
Jimmie Johnson	6	1	1	2	1	15.83	20.50	755
Alex Bowman	1					16.00	19.00	-
Trevor Bayne	6			1		16.17	21.00	81
Kurt Busch	6	1	1	2		16.67	13.33	317
Kasey Kahne	6		1	2	1	16.67	18.83	198
Daniel Suarez	5			2	1	16.80	17.60	4
Greg Biffle	1					17.00	21.00	3
AJ Allmendinger	6		1	2		17.33	22.83	43
Erik Jones	5			1	1	17.60	17.40	581
Casey Mears	1					18.00	23.00	-
Paul Menard	6		1	1		18.67	22.17	106
Ryan Newman	6	1	1	1	1	19.00	11.17	612
Austin Dillon	6					19.50	16.00	399
Elliott Sadler	1					20.00	40.00	29
Aric Almirola	6		1	1		20.17	26.17	55
Michael McDowell	6			1		21.50	26.67	82
Matt Kenseth	6		1	3	3	22.00	9.00	411
Tony Stewart	1					22.00	11.00	-
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	6		1	1	2	22.17	20.17	246
Ty Dillon	6				2	22.17	23.00	35
Dale Earnhardt Jr	5				1	22.60	10.60	307
Joey Gase	1					23.00	29.00	1
Landon Cassill	6					23.50	28.00	4
Matt DiBenedetto	6			1		24.67	29.50	11
Danica Patrick	6				2	25.50	23.67	37
Chris Buescher	6				1	26.33	28.33	52
Cole Whitt	5				1	26.40		
Michael Annett	1					28.00	40.00	
David Ragan	6				1	28.67	30.50	
Corey LaJoie	5				2	33.00	31.60	
Reed Sorenson	6				1	33.17	34.20	
Jeffrey Earnhardt	6				3	33.33	35.17	4
Carl Edwards	1				1	34.00	10.00	
Derrike Cope	4					35.50	36.50	
DJ Kennington	1				1	36.00	28.00	
Timmy Hill	4				2	36.25	37.33	
Gray Gaulding	5				3	36.80	35.00	
Regan Smith	1				1	38.00	35.00	
Dylan Lupton	1					39.00	39.00	
Cody Ware	1				1	39.00	39.00	-

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 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):

Kyle Larson: 3 (4) B Keselowski: 3 (3) Joey Logano: 2 (4) M Truex Jr.: 1 (3) Chase Elliott: 1 (3) J McMurray: 1 (3) Kurt Busch: 1 (2) Matt Kenseth: 1 (2) Kyle Busch: 1 (2) Kasey Kahne: 1 (2) Denny Hamlin: 1 (2) Daniel Suarez: 1 (2) Ryan Blaney: 0 (3) Clint Bowyer: 0 (2) Kevin Harvick: 0 (2) Ryan Newman: 0 (1) Allmendinger: 0 (1) Aric Almirola: 0 (1) Stenhouse Jr.: 0 (1) Paul Menard: 0 (1) Erik Jones: 0 (1) M Waltrip: 0 (1) M DiBenedetto: 0 (1) J Johnson: 0 (1) Trevor Bayne: 0 (1) Austin Dillon: 0 (0) Ty Dillon: 0 (0) M McDowell: 0 (0) Landon Cassill: 0 (0) Danica Patrick: 0 (0) Cole Whitt: 0 (0) David Ragan: 0 (0) Chris Buescher: 0 (0) Corey LaJoie: 0 (0) J Earnhardt: 0 (0) Reed Sorenson: 0 (0) Earnhardt Jr.: 0 (0) Timmy Hill: 0 (0) Derrike Cope: 0 (0) Gray Gaulding: 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

Consecutive Races: Running at End / on (LL)						
Rank	Driver	Running	LL			
1	Kyle Larson	30	8			
2	Ryan Blaney	21	3			
3	Michael McDowell	21				
4	Landon Cassill	17	0			
5	Kurt Busch	16	0			
6	Matt DiBenedetto	14	0			
7	Trevor Bayne	13	5			
	Joey Gase	13	5			
9	Chase Elliott	11	8			
10	AJ Allmendinger	11	2			
11	Paul Menard	11	0			
12	Aric Almirola	10	3			
13	Michael Waltrip	9	4			
14	Austin Dillon	7	2			
15	Kasey Kahne	5	5			
	Martin Truex Jr.	5	5			
17	Ryan Newman	5	0 5 8 2 0 3 4 2 5 5			
18	Élliott Sadler	5	0			
19	Clint Bowyer	4	4			
	Ty Dillon	4	4			
	Erik Jones	4	4			
	Brad Keselowski	4	4			
	Jamie McMurray	4	4 4 3 3 3 3 2 0 0 0			
24	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	4	3			
	Jimmie Johnson	4	3			
	Daniel Suarez	4	3			
27	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	4	2			
28	Kyle Busch	4	0			
	Chris Buescher	4	0			
	Derrike Cope	4	0			
	Reed Sorenson	4	0			
32	Denny Hamlin	3	3			
33	Brendan Gaughan	2	0 3 2 2 2 2 0 1 1			
	Kevin Harvick	2	2			
	Timmy Hill	2	2			
36	Danica Patrick	2	0			
37	Joey Logano	1	1			
38	Corey LaJoie	1	0			
	David Ragan	1	0			
	Cole Whitt	1	0 0 0 0			
41	Jeffrey Earnhardt	0	0			
	Gray Gauliding	0	0			
	DJ Kennington	0	0			
	Matt Kenseth	0	0			
	Cody Ware	0	0			

Daytona 1 (week 1)

- (1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Chase Elliott: Las Vegas (week 3)
- (1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix (week 4)
- (1) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club (week 5)

Yahoo! Group C:

- (1) Michael Waltrip: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Erik Jones: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Michael McDowell: Las Vegas (week 3)

3 Yr. Avg. Yahoo! Points at Martinsville

J 11. A	vg. Talloo: Poli	its at ma	ii tiiisviiie
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts
1	Joey Logano	87.83	6
	Kyle Busch	87.60	5
	Matt Kenseth	78.17	6
4	Denny Hamlin	75.17	6
5	Dale Earnhardt Jr	72.80	5
6	Kevin Harvick	69.33	6
7	AJ Allmendinger	69.00	6
8	Martin Truex Jr	68.00	6
9	Jimmie Johnson	67.33	6
10	Ryan Newman	66.83	6
11	Paul Menard	62.17	6
12	Jamie McMurray	61.83	6
13	Kurt Busch	58.67	6
14	Brad Keselowski	58.67	6
	Austin Dillon	58.00	6
16	Kyle Larson	56.80	5 6
17	Kasey Kahne	56.17	6
18	Aric Almirola	54.67	6
19	Ryan Blaney	54.00	2
20	Clint Bowyer	53.67	6
21	David Ragan	50.00	6
22	Chase Elliott	45.33	3
	Cole Whitt	44.40	3 5 6
24	Landon Cassill	44.33	
25	Trevor Bayne	42.50	4
26	Danica Patrick	41.00	6 3 3
27	Michael McDowell	39.33	3
28	Chris Buescher	36.00	3
	Matt DiBenedetto	31.00	4
	Jeffrey Earnhardt	26.00	1
	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	23.33	6
32	Reed Sorenson	20.00	4
33	Timmy Hill	14.00	2

team roster:

Yahoo! Group A:

- (1) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2)
- (2) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 5)
- (1) Kyle Busch: Phoenix (wk 4)

Yahoo! Group B:

Top two each week.

- (4) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)
- (1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Ryan Blaney:

(2) Daniel Suarez: Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)

NASCAR.com Fantasy Live

Top five game finishes

- (4) Chase Elliott: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)
- (4) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)
- (3) Brad Keselowski: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4)
- (2) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1), Auto Club (week 5)

Driver Rating: Season to Date						
Rank	Driver	Standings	Rating			
1	Kyle Larson	1	119.0			
2	Chase Elliott	2	110.6			
3	Brad Keselowski	4				
4	Martin Truex Jr.	3				
5	Joey Logano	5	98.9			
6	Kyle Busch	10	93.3			
7	Kevin Harvick	9	91.5			
8	Jamie McMurray	6	91.3			
9	Ryan Blaney	7	89.9			
10	Erik Jones	15	85.1			
11	Jimmie Johnson	17	82.3			
12	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	21	81.9			
13	Clint Bowyer	8	81.1			
14	Ryan Newman	11	79.3			
15	Kasey Kahne	13	78.7			
16	Denny Hamlin	12	77.8			
17	Kurt Busch	14	77.3			
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	24	75.7			
19	Austin Dillon	20	73.0			
20	Trevor Bayne	16	71.6			
21	Matt Kenseth	25	69.0			
22	Paul Menard	22	64.3			
23	Ty Dillon	23	64.2			
24	Aric Almirola	18	63.4			
25	AJ Allmendinger	30	60.8			
26	Daniel Suarez	19	59.9			
27	Danica Patrick	29				
28	Chris Buescher	32	53.8			
29	Michael McDowell	26	53.5			
30	David Ragan	33	48.6			
31	Landon Cassill	27	46.2			
32	Matt DiBenedetto	28				
33	Cole Whitt	31	43.4			
34	Reed Sorenson	37	35.3			
35	Gray Gaulding	39				
36	Corey Lajoie	35	31.5			
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	36				
38	Derrike Cope	38				

- (2) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 5)
- (1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) AJ Allmendinger: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Paul Menard: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Jimmie Johnson: Las Vegas (week 3)
 - (1) Kyle Busch: Phoenix 1 (week 4)
 - (1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix 1 (week 4)
 - (1) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club (week 5)

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 4tied 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: Dayto-

Total Top-5s: Season					
Driver	Top-5s				
Brad Keselowski	4				
Kyle Larson	4				
Chase Elliott	2				
Martin Truex Jr	2				
Joey Logano	2 2 2 1				
Kyle Busch	1				
Aric Almirola	1				
Clint Bowyer	1				
AJ Allmendinger	1				
Kurt Busch	1				
Ryan Newman	1				
Matt Kenseth	1				
Paul Menard	1				
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1				
Ryan Blaney	1				
Kasey Kahne	1				

na 1 (week 1)

- (1) Michael Waltrip: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Brendan Gaughan: Daytona 1 (week 1)
- (1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Matt Kenseth: Atlanta (week 2)
- (1) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3)
- (1) Jimmie Johnson: Las Vegas (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.: Phoenix 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 previews. 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/FantasyRa ce and chat during the weekend.

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.