



# Smithfield



## ARIC ALMIROLA

### Smithfield Racing Team Report

#### Round 4 of 36 – FanShield 500k – Phoenix

**Car No.:** 10 – Smithfield Ford Mustang

**At-Track PR Contact:** Dakota Hunter, True Speed Communication (704-875-3388 ext. 813, Dakota.Hunter@TrueSpeedCommunication.com)

#### **Primary Team Members:**

Driver: Aric Almirola  
Hometown: Tampa, Florida  
Car Chief: Jerry Cook  
Hometown: Toledo, Ohio  
Engine Tuner: Matt Moeller  
Hometown: Monroe, New York

Crew Chief: Mike Bugarewicz  
Hometown: Lehigh, Pennsylvania  
Engine Builder: Roush Yates Racing  
Headquarters: Mooresville, North Carolina  
Spotter: Joel Edmonds  
Hometown: Dobson, North Carolina

#### **Over-The-Wall Crew Members:**

Gas Man: James “Ace” Keener  
Hometown: Fortuna, California  
Tire Carrier: Tyler Bullard  
Hometown: King, North Carolina  
Jackman: Corbin Martin  
Hometown: Winston Salem, North Carolina

Front Tire Changer: Clay Robinson  
Hometown: Simi Valley, Calif.  
Rear Tire Changer: Chris McMullen  
Hometown: Canton, Michigan

#### **Road Crew Members:**

Truck Drivers: Dale Lackey and Christopher Hamilton  
Hometowns: Taylorsville, North Carolina and Muncie, Indiana, respectively  
Engineers: Lee Deese and James Kimbrough  
Hometowns: Rockingham, North Carolina, and Pensacola, Florida, respectively  
Mechanics: Tony Silvestri and Robbie Fairweather  
Hometowns: Sylvania, Ohio, and Westbrookville, New York respectively

Tire Specialist: Russell Simpson  
Hometown: Medford, New York  
Shock Specialist: Wayne Smith  
Hometown: Melbourne, Australia

#### **Phoenix Notes of Interest:**

- Almirola will make his 18<sup>th</sup> Cup Series start at Phoenix this weekend to bring his total of career **Cup Series starts to 320**.
  - The Smithfield driver is looking to capture his second consecutive top-10 finish of the season
- Almirola has earned five top-10 finishes and two top-fives in 17 Cup Series starts at Phoenix.
  - Four of those top-10 finishes have come in his last six visits to Phoenix.
  - His top-five finish of fourth last March ties his best career finish at the desert mile oval.
- **Career:** Almirola has career totals of two wins, two poles, 18 top-five finishes, 62 top-10s and 543 laps led in 319 starts.
- **Last weekend at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, California,** Almirola finished fourth in Stage 1 to earn seven bonus points and finished eighth overall to earn his first top-10 of the season.
- **Last win:** Almirola’s Oct. 14, 2018 win at Talladega was his most recent in the Cup Series.
- **‘Beyond the 10’** – Almirola is back with season two of his YouTube documentary series, where fans can get VIP, behind-the-scenes access by subscribing to his YouTube channel. Episodes showcase never-before-seen footage of Almirola at the racetrack, on family trips, and “A Day in the Life” during the week, as well as all that goes into a NASCAR Cup Series driver’s season. Click [here](#) to subscribe on YouTube and watch the latest episode.

- **Smithfield** rejoined SHR this season and is the primary partner for the majority of the season on the No. 10 Ford Mustang piloted by Almirola. Headquartered since 1936 in Smithfield, Virginia, Smithfield Foods Inc., is an American food company with agricultural roots and a global reach. Its 40,000 U.S. employees are dedicated to producing “Good food. Responsibly®” and have made the company one of the world’s leading vertically integrated protein companies. It has pioneered sustainability standards for more than two decades, including many industry firsts, such as its ambitious commitment to cut carbon impact by 25 percent by 2025. The company believes in the power of protein to end food insecurity and has donated hundreds of millions of food servings to neighbors in need. Smithfield boasts a portfolio of high-quality iconic brands, such as Smithfield®, Eckrich®, and Nathan’s Famous®, among many others. For more information, visit [www.smithfieldfoods.com](http://www.smithfieldfoods.com), and connect on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).
  - **Crew chief** Mike Bugarewicz is in his fifth full-time season at SHR and his first with Almirola. To learn more click [here](#).
- Crew Chief Mike Bugarewicz’s Top-3 Finishes at SHR (2016-Present):**
- **Wins:**
    - Martinsville (Va.) Speedway (Bowyer, March 27, 2018)
    - Michigan Intl. Speedway (Bowyer, June 10, 2018)
    - Sonoma (Calif.) Speedway (Stewart, June 26, 2016)
  - **Second place:**
    - Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth (March 31, 2019)
    - Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway (Oct. 14, 2018)
    - Dover (Del) International Speedway (May 6, 2018)
    - Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway (April 24, 2017)
    - Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway (June 25, 2017)
    - Daytona (Fla.) International Speedway (July 1, 2017)
  - **Third place**
    - Richmond (Va.) Raceway (April 13, 2019)
    - Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway Roval (Sept. 30, 2018)
    - Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway (June 24, 2018)
    - Atlanta Motor Speedway (Feb. 25, 2018)
    - Martinsville (Va.) Speedway (Oct. 29, 2017)
    - Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. (March 26, 2017)

**Aric Almirola’s History at Phoenix Raceway:**

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2019	11/10	Bluegreen Vacations 500k	11	22	Running, 310/312	0	N/A
	3/11	Ticket Guardian 500k	14	4	Running, 312/312	26	N/A
2018	11/11	Can-Am 500k	18	4	Running, 312/312	0	N/A
	3/11	Ticket Guardian 500k	22	7	Running, 312/312	0	N/A
2017	3/19	◇Good Sam 500k	28	17	Running, 314/314	0	N/A
	11/12	Can-Am 500k	22	9	Running, 312/312	0	N/A
2016	3/13	◇Good Sam 500k	14	13	Running, 313/313	0	N/A
	11/13	◇Can-Am 500k	27	22	Running, 322/324	0	N/A
2015	3/15	CampingWorld.com 500k	32	19	Running, 312/312	0	\$116,091
	11/15	*Race for Heroes 500k	17	10	Running, 219/219	0	\$134,126
2014	3/2	The Profit on CNBC 500k	9	15	Running, 312/312	0	\$119,066
	11/9	Phoenix 500k	23	18	Running, 312/312	0	\$117,476
2013	3/3	×Subway Fresh Fit 500k	18	15	Running, 316/316	0	\$117,886
	11/10	AdvoCare 500k	21	19	Running, 312/312	0	\$116,396
2012	3/4	Subway Fresh Fit 500k	18	12	Running, 312/312	0	\$116,211
	11/11	×AdvoCare 500k	5	16	Running, 319/319	0	\$112,346
2010	11/14	Kobalt Tools 500k	9	27	Running, 310/312	0	\$108,590
2007	11/11	Checker Auto Parts 500k	28	26	Running, 311/312	0	\$75,575

\* Race cut short due to weather.

× Race length extended due to green-white-checkered finish.

= Qualifying canceled due to weather, starting position set via practice speed

◇ Race length was extended due to overtime finish

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