

Bowyer 40th in Charlotte 600

Early Wreck Ends Race for No. 14 Rush Truck Centers/Mobil Delvac 1 Ford

Date: May 24, 2020

Event: Coca-Cola 600 (Round 7 of 36)

Series: NASCAR Cup Series

Location: Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway (1.5-mile oval)

Format: 400 laps, broken into four stages (100 laps/100 laps/100 laps/100 laps)

Note: Race extended five laps past its scheduled 400-lap distance due to an overtime finish.

Start/Finish: 20th/40th (Running, completed 96 of 405 laps)

Point Standing: 15th with 171 points, 118 out of first

Race Winner: Brad Keselowski of Team Penske (Ford)

Stage 1 Winner: Alex Bowman of Hendrick Motorsports (Chevrolet) **Stage 2 Winner:** Alex Bowman of Hendrick Motorsports (Chevrolet)

Stage 3 Winner: Joey Logano of Team Penske (Ford)

Stage 1 Recap (Laps 1-100):

• Clint Bowyer started 20th and finished 40th.

- The No. 14 Rush Truck Centers/Mobil Delvac 1 Ford Mustang reported a lack of rear grip to begin the race.
- Bowyer restarted the race in 14th after the competition caution at lap 25.
- Bowyer moved to 11th by lap 50 when rain stopped the race for a little more than an hour.
- The Ford driver restarted the race in 12th on lap 57.
- Bowyer's race came to an end on lap 97 when a mechanical issue at the front of the car sent him hard into the turn one wall while racing in 11th.
- Bowyer gingerly climbed from the car before visiting the care center where he was evaluated and released.
- The No. 14 suffered too much damage to continue racing.

Notes:

- Sunday marked Bowyer's first DNF (Did Not Finish) this season and only his second in 27 career NASCAR Cup Series starts on Charlotte's oval
- Brad Keselowski won the Coca-Cola 600 to score his 31st career NASCAR Cup Series victory, his first of the season and his second on the oval at Charlotte. His margin of victory over second-place Jimmie Johnson was .293 of a second.
- This was Ford's 690th all-time NASCAR Cup Series victory.
- This was Ford's 31st NASCAR Cup Series victory at Charlotte's oval, the most among all manufacturers. The last Ford driver to win the Coca-Cola 600 was Mark Martin in 2002. Ford's first Coca-Cola 600 victory came in 1962 via Nelson Stacy.
- There were eight caution periods for a total of 52 laps.
- Only 20 of the 40 drivers in the Coca-Cola 600 finished on the lead lap.
- Harvick remains the championship leader after the Coca-Cola 600 with a 22-point advantage over second-place Joe Logano.

Clint Bowyer, driver of the No. 14 Rush Truck Centers/Mobil Delvac 1 Ford Mustang for Stewart-Haas Racing:

"It knocked the wind out of me there. I mean, we're 100 laps into a 400-lap race and to be out already, you talk about a helpless feeling. The guys worked really hard on the Rush Truck Centers/Mobil Delvac 1 Ford, but it just wasn't meant to be. We'll get ready for next Wednesday and we'll be back at it. I'm going to go somewhere and take this thing (mask) off and find somewhere where I can find a cold beer. I'm out of here."

Next Up:

The next event on the NASCAR Cup Series schedule is the Alsco Uniforms 500k on Wednesday, May 27 at Charlotte Motor Speedway. The race starts at 8 p.m. EDT with live coverage provided by FS1 and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio.