



MARTY GAUNT: Owner, Gaunt Brothers Racing

Birthdate: Sept. 3, 1965
Birthplace: London, England
Hometown: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Residence: Cornelius, North Carolina
Spouse: Cindy
Children: Shannon, Parker

Marty Gaunt built his motorsports career from the ground up, with the Toronto-native rising from local street-stock racer at bullrings in southeastern Canada to that of team owner in the elite NASCAR Cup Series.

Gaunt founded Gaunt Brothers Racing (GBR) in 2010, with his eponymous team starting out in the Canada-based NASCAR Pinty's Series and the U.S.-based NASCAR K&N Pro Series. Its first driver, Jason Bowles, scored GBR's maiden victory in the 2011 Toyota All-Star Showdown at Irwindale (Calif.) Speedway, with the precursor to that win being the pole position in track-record time at the 2011 Streets of Toronto 100.

After seven years competing in NASCAR's development divisions, Gaunt stepped up to the NASCAR Cup Series in 2017, entering the Daytona 500 with driver D.J. Kennington. Running a part-time Cup Series schedule in 2018 and 2019, with GBR making a total of 37 starts with a handful of drivers, prepared GBR for its biggest move yet – a full-time assault on the NASCAR Cup Series in 2020 with driver Daniel Suárez.

The scope of this endeavor is large, but thanks to a diverse motorsports lineage, Gaunt is well suited to the task.

Gaunt is a hands-on team owner, a trait that goes back to his 10-year tenure as a service manager at Canadian Tire. That early career role allowed him to touch motorsports, which led to opportunities in the ARCA Racing Series and NASCAR Xfinity Series that prompted Gaunt to move to North Carolina in 1996, where he has become a NASCAR mainstay.

Gaunt's work ethic caught the eye of Michael Kranefuss, the former head of Ford Motor Company's Special Vehicle Operations. After a 15-year career at Ford, Kranefuss went NASCAR racing, forming Kranefuss-Haas Racing in 1994 with motorsports magnate Carl Haas. Kranefuss hired Gaunt in 1997 to be the team's general manager, whereupon he oversaw massive change as Kranefuss-Haas became Penske-Kranefuss Racing in 1998, going from a single-car team to a multi-car team and, ultimately, becoming Penske Racing in 2000.

Gaunt took on a diverse role in 2001-2002, spotting for Kyle Petty in the NASCAR Cup Series while also working with the Petty family on the construction of Victory Junction Gang Camp, a children's camp in Randleman, North Carolina, founded by Kyle and Pattie Petty in honor of their late son, Adam.

Race team management lured Gaunt back to NASCAR fulltime in 2003. He joined Robby Gordon Motorsports and stayed there through 2004 as Gordon competed in the Xfinity Series a driver/owner.

The experience pushed Gaunt into team ownership in late 2004, forming Clean Line Motorsports in the NASCAR Truck Series with driver Brandon Whitt. Clean Line Motorsports became Red Horse Racing in 2005 and, as that team grew, Gaunt was lured to help start Red Bull's nascent NASCAR team in 2006. He stayed there through 2007 as the team's vice president and general manager. From Clean Line to Red Horse to Red Bull, Gaunt's association with Toyota began, with the Truck Series teams fielding Tundras while Red Bull campaigned Camrys.

Team ownership, however, continued to beckon Gaunt. He joined Bill Davis Racing in 2008, again serving as general manager, and when Davis decided to sell the NASCAR team at the end of the season, Gaunt seized the opportunity to not only become a team owner again, but an engine manufacturer by also purchasing Triad Racing Technologies. This is where Gaunt's Toyota ties strengthened.

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Triad Racing Technologies grew to become the exclusive distributor of Toyota parts in NASCAR. Triad leased engines to teams across all three NASCAR national touring series – Cup, Xfinity and Truck – as well as the Lucas Oil Off-Road Racing Series, the USAC Silver Crown Series, a handful of dirt modified series, and other customer programs in the off-road community. Triad made its mark under Gaunt’s watch, powering 10 manufacturer championships, five drivers’ titles, 112 race wins and 91 pole positions.

Gaunt focused on Triad Racing Technologies in 2009 and, once established, waded back into the waters of team ownership in 2010 with the formation of GBR.

From those humble beginnings in the NASCAR Pinty’s Series and K&N Pro Series, GBR is now ready to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the powerhouse teams of the NASCAR Cup Series. The 28-year-old Suárez brings both youth and experience to GBR, with the 2020 season marking his fourth year in Cup. Suárez is paired with crew chief Dave Winston, who joined GBR from Richard Childress Racing where he was vehicle performance group engineer and also the race engineer for driver Daniel Hemric.

When Suárez, the 2016 Xfinity Series champion, became available at the end of the 2019 season, Gaunt quickly recruited him. And after having worked with Winston during their time at Red Bull, Gaunt saw the analytical Winston as the ideal fit for Suárez. Despite all the newness, the stalwart in the entire operation remains Toyota, with GBR’s No. 96 Camrys now a fulltime member of the NASCAR Cup Series.

Gaunt and his wife Cindy reside in Cornelius, North Carolina. They have two children, Shannon and Parker.

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