

# 96

**GBR**  
GAUNT BROTHERS RACING



## DANIEL SUÁREZ

### Today. Tomorrow. Toyota Camry Team Report

Round 8 of 36 – Alsco Uniforms 500k – Charlotte

**Car No.:** 96 – Today. Tomorrow. Toyota Camry – Stars & Stripes Edition

**PR Contact:** Laz Denes, True Speed Communication (704) 875-3388 ext. 806 or Laz.Denes@TrueSpeedCommunication.com)

#### Primary Team Members:

Driver: Daniel Suárez  
Hometown: Monterrey, Mexico

Technical Director: Nick Ollila  
Hometown: Warren, Michigan

Engine Builder: Toyota Racing Development  
Headquarters: Costa Mesa, California

Spotter: Steve Barkdoll  
Hometown: Garrison, Iowa

Crew Chief: Dave Winston  
Hometown: Miami, Florida

Car Chief: Mark Hillman  
Hometown: Lockport, New York

Engine Specialist: Kirk Butterfield  
Hometown: Carrollton, Ohio

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

Gas Man: Cory White  
Hometown: Vinson, Iowa

Jackman: Joel Bouagnon  
Hometown: St. Charles, Illinois

Windshield: Mark Hillman  
Hometown: Lockport, New York

**Front Tire Changer: Mike Mead**  
**Hometown: Sherrills Ford, North Carolina**

Rear Tire Changer: Brandon Traino  
Hometown: Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Tire Carrier: Mason Harris  
Hometown: Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

#### Alsco Uniforms 500k Notes of Interest:

- After piloting the **No. 19 NASCAR Cup Series Toyota** for **Joe Gibbs Racing** in 2017 and 2018, then the **No. 41 Cup Series** entry for **Stewart-Haas Racing** in 2019, Suárez joined the single-car **No. 96 Toyota Camry** effort for **Gaunt Brothers Racing (GBR)** for the full 2020 season.
- **Suárez will be attempting to make his 115<sup>th</sup> career NASCAR Cup Series start** in Wednesday night's **Alsco Uniforms 500k at Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway** oval. He has career totals of eight top-five finishes, 32 top-10s and 241 laps led, with an average start of 16.1 and an average finish of 17.5. He also has qualified on the pole twice.
- In five previous Cup Series outings on the 1.5-mile Charlotte oval, Suárez has a best start of sixth in last year's Coca-Cola 600 in his Stewart-Haas Racing entry, and a best finish of sixth in the fall 2017 race in his Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota. His average Charlotte oval start is 17.4 and average finish is 15.6.
- Suárez has a pair of top-fives and another pair of top-10 finishes in five career **NASCAR Xfinity Series** starts at Charlotte. He qualified on the pole and led 111 laps before finishing eighth in the fall 2017 race in his Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, and has a best finish of third in the fall 2016 race en route to that year's Xfinity Series championship.
- In his lone career **NASCAR Gander Outdoors & RV Truck Series** race at Charlotte, Suárez started seventh, led six laps and finished 23<sup>rd</sup> in his **Kyle Busch Motorsports Toyota Tundra** in the spring 2016 race.
- Crew chief **Dave Winston**, a native of Miami, Florida, and a veteran of 66 Cup Series races atop the pit box, has called the shots at four previous races at Charlotte. Prior to Sunday's night's Xth-place finish in the Coca-Cola 600, he collaborated with driver **Alex Bowman** in the **No. 23 BK Racing Toyota** in the spring 2014 race, starting 29<sup>th</sup> and finishing 33<sup>rd</sup>. The duo came back for the fall 2014 race and started 33<sup>rd</sup> and finished 30<sup>th</sup>. His driver **Michael McDowell** started 32<sup>nd</sup> and finished 34<sup>th</sup> in the spring 2016 race driving the **No. 95 Leavine Family Racing** entry.

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- On May 11, GBR announced the addition of longtime motorsports veteran **Nick Ollila** as technical director. The native of Warren, Michigan, will oversee the team’s engineering department and returns to the United States after a three-year stint serving in the same capacity with **Kelly Racing** in the **Virgin Australian Supercars Championship**. Ollila and team owner **Marty Gaunt** first worked together in 1997 when the two were at **Kranefuss-Haas Racing**. Their NASCAR paths crossed again 10 years later when both worked at **Red Bull Racing** – Gaunt as general manager and Ollila as chief aerodynamicist. NASCAR is where Ollila has spent the bulk of his career, which includes being the drivetrain specialist at **Rod Osterlund Racing** in 1980 when **Dale Earnhardt** won the first of his seven Cup Series championships. Ollila’s racing career began at **Team Penske** in 1972 as a mechanic. He prepared cars for each of the series in which the organization competed, a lineup that included **IndyCar**, NASCAR, **Can-Am**, **Formula 5000**, sports cars and **Formula One**. NASCAR became Ollila’s focus in late 1976. He joined **DiGard Racing** as the team’s drivetrain specialist, working with NASCAR Hall of Famer **Darrell Waltrip** until the end of the 1978 season, whereupon he went to work for Osterlund. IndyCar and Penske beckoned in 1982, and Ollila returned as the team’s engine builder, enjoying four championships (1982, 1983, 1985 and 1988) and four **Indianapolis 500** victories (1984, 1985, 1987 and 1988). That Penske connection led Ollila back to NASCAR in 1990, when he became the lead engineer for Hall of Fame driver **Rusty Wallace**. It was the beginning of a 20-year stint in NASCAR.
- Wednesday night marks the fourth Cup Series start on the Charlotte oval for the No. 96 Gaunt Brothers Toyota. Prior to Sunday’s 29<sup>th</sup>-place finish in the Coca-Cola 600, driver **Parker Kligerman** drove to 27<sup>th</sup>-place finish from the 32<sup>nd</sup> starting position there in the 2018 **Coca-Cola 600**, and to a 26<sup>th</sup>-place finish from the 34<sup>th</sup> starting position in last year’s **Coca-Cola 600**.
- **Coca-Cola** and **CommScope** continue their respective partnerships with Suárez at Gaunt Brothers Racing. The iconic Coca-Cola brand has been with Suárez since 2015 when he won the Xfinity Series rookie-of-the-year title. [CommScope](#), a leader in communication network technology, has been with Suárez through its [ARRIS](#) and [Ruckus Networks](#) brands since 2014, when he first competed in the Xfinity Series.

#### Daniel Suárez’s Charlotte NASCAR Cup Series Performance Profile:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2020	5/24	Coca-Cola 600	37	29	Running, 399/405	0	N/A
2019	9/29	Bank of America Roval 400	13	34	Running, 108/109	0	N/A
	5/26	Coca-Cola 600	6	18	Running, 399/400	0	N/A
2018	9/30	Bank of America Roval 400	17	21	Running, 109/109	0	N/A
	5/27	Coca-Cola 600	10	15	Running, 399/400	0	N/A
2017	10/8	×Bank of America 500	24	24	Running, 337/337	0	N/A
	5/28	Coca-Cola 600	20	11	Running, 400/400	0	N/A

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