

# 96

**GBR**  
GAUNT BROTHERS RACING



## DANIEL SUÁREZ

### It's Good To Be Genuine Parts & Service Toyota Team Report Non-Points Event – NASCAR All-Star Race – Bristol

**Car No.:** 96 –It's Good To Be Genuine Parts & Service Toyota Camry

**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

#### All-Star 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 making his fourth career start** in the **NASCAR All-Star Open** Wednesday night at **Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway**. He advanced to the **NASCAR All-Star Race** in his first two outings in his Gibbs Toyota, when the race was held at **Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway**. He **won the Open in 2017**, leading nine laps along the way, then was eliminated in the All-Star Race after the second segment. In 2018, he advanced to the All-Star Race by **winning Stage 2 of the Open**, then finished **runner-up in the featured event** by a .325-of-a-second margin to **Kevin Harvick**. Last year, he started fourth in the Open and finished 12<sup>th</sup>, leading one lap.
- **Suárez has made 124 career points-paying NASCAR Cup Series starts**. He has career totals of eight top-five finishes, 32 top-10s and 242 laps led, with an average start of 17.6 and an average finish of 18.2. He also has qualified on the pole twice.
- At Sunday's **Quaker State 400** at **Kentucky Speedway** in Sparta, Suárez started from his customary qualifying draw position of 37<sup>th</sup> and finished 26<sup>th</sup>, narrowly missing his fifth top-25 of the season. It was the third lead-lap finish of the season for his one-car team.
- In his seventh career points-paying Cup Series start at Bristol on May 31, Suárez posted an 18<sup>th</sup>-place finish, his best so far in the No. 96 Toyota for GBR. His best career finish on the .533-mile, high-banked concrete oval was eighth in both of 2019 starts there in his Stewart-Haas entry, and a best starts of 12<sup>th</sup> in the August 2017 and April 2018 races in his Gibbs Toyota. He led five laps in the April 2018 race, in which he finished 11<sup>th</sup>. Suárez's average Bristol start is 20.4 and average finish is 13.7.
- Suárez has a pair of runner-up finishes and three other top-six results in six career **NASCAR Xfinity Series** starts at Bristol. He finished second to **Joey Logano** in the April 2015 race and second to **Kyle Busch** in the August 2017 race. His best Xfinity Series start at Bristol is third in August 2016, the year he won the Xfinity Series championship. His average Bristol start in the series is 7.7 and his average finish is 8.0.

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- In most recent **NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series** race at Bristol in August 2016, Suárez started second and led 77 laps before an accident ended his day 16 laps from the finish. In his only other Truck Series start there in August 2015, he qualified 16<sup>th</sup> and finished 30<sup>th</sup>. Both Truck Series outings were with Joe Gibbs Racing.
- Suárez competed from 2009 through 2014 in the **NASCAR Peak Mexico Series**. In 76 starts, he earned 10 victories, 26 top-five finishes, 39 top-10s and qualified on the pole 13 times. He had an average start of 8.7, an average finish of 12.4, led 1,216 laps, and had best finishes of second and third in the season standings in 2013 and 2012, respectively.
- Crew chief **Dave Winston**, a native of Miami, Florida and a veteran of 77 Cup Series races atop the pit box, called the shots at one previous All-Star Open, when he and driver **Alex Bowman** started and finished 13<sup>th</sup> in the **No. 23 BK Racing Toyota** at Charlotte in 2014. He's called four previous Cup Series points-paying races at Bristol prior to this year's 18<sup>th</sup>-place run with Suárez on May 31. He collaborated with Bowman in the BK Racing Toyota in the April and August 2014 races, both of which ended up with 33<sup>rd</sup>-place finishes. His driver **Michael McDowell** finished 29<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in the April and August 2016 races, respectively, for the **No. 95 Leavine Family Racing** entry.
- The No. 96 Gaunt Brothers Toyota has 55 points-paying Cup Series starts since joining the series in 2018, and three at Bristol. Prior to the 18<sup>th</sup>-place finish May 31 with Suárez, both previous starts were in 2018, with driver **D.J. Kennington** starting 35<sup>th</sup> and finishing 27<sup>th</sup> in the April race, and **Jesse Little** starting 33<sup>rd</sup> and finishing 35<sup>th</sup> in the August race.
- 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.
- **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 NASCAR All-Star Performance Profile – All races at Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2019	5/18	Monster Energy Open	4	12	Running, 62/62	1	N/A
2018	5/19	Monster Energy Open	7	20	Running, 40/50	18	N/A
	5/19	Monster Energy All-Star Race	19	2	Running, 93/93	0	N/A
2017	5/20	Monster Energy Open	6	1	Running, 50/50	9	N/A
		Monster Energy All-Star Race	19	15	Running, 60/70	0	N/A

#### Daniel Suárez's Bristol Performance Profile:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2020	5/31	Supermarket Heroes 500	37	18	Running, 500/500	0	N/A
2019	8/17	Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race	18	8	Running, 499/500	0	N/A
	4/7	Food City 500	20	8	Running, 500/500	0	N/A
2018	8/18	Bass Pro Shops 500	21	18	Running, 499/500	0	N/A
	4/16	Food City 500	12	11	Running, 500/500	5	N/A
2017	8/19	Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race	12	15	Running, 500/500	0	N/A
	4/24	†Food City 500	23	18	Running, 498/500	0	N/A

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