

96

GBR
GAUNT BROTHERS RACING



DANIEL SUÁREZ

It's Good To Be Genuine Parts & Service Toyota Team Report Race 20 of 36 – Foxwoods Resort Casino 301 – New Hampshire

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

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

New Hampshire 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 has made 126 career 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 18.0 and an average finish of 18.3. He also has qualified on the pole twice.
- In his last Cup Series appearance, Thursday night's **Super Start Batteries 400 at Kansas Speedway** in Kansas City, Suárez started from his customary qualifying draw position of 37th and finished 18th to equal his and the team's best finish of the season. It was the third top-20 and sixth top-25 through 19 races for the No. 96 GBR Toyota.
- **Suárez will be making his fifth Cup Series start at New Hampshire Motor Speedway** in Loudon during Sunday's **Foxwoods Resort Casino 301**. He drove his Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota to a pair of top-10 finishes in his first two appearances there in 2017 – sixth in the July race and eighth in the September race. His **best New Hampshire start is ninth**, in the 2018 race with the Gibbs team.
- In his two **NASCAR Xfinity Series** outings at New Hampshire, Suárez drove his Gibbs Toyota to top-five finishes in both, starting third and finishing fifth during his 2015 Rookie of the Year season, then starting and finishing fourth during his 2016 series championship season.
- Suárez made five appearances at New Hampshire in the **NASCAR K&N Pro Series East** championship from 2011 to 2014, all in Toyota equipment, with three top-10 starts and finishes. His best outing was in 2013, when he **qualified third and finished second** in his **No. 6 Rev Racing Toyota** by a margin of .743 of a second to polesitter **Cole Custer**.
- 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 79 Cup Series races atop the pit box, called the shots at four previous races at New Hampshire. His driver **Alex Bowman** finished 31st and 28th in the **No. 23 BK Racing Toyota** at the July and September 2014 races, respectively. And his driver **Michael McDowell** drove the **No. 95 Leavine Family Racing** entry to finishes of 39th in the July and September 2016 races, respectively.
- The No. 96 Gaunt Brothers Toyota has 56 Cup Series starts since joining the series in 2018. Sunday marks the team's first appearance on the mile oval at New Hampshire.
- 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 New Hampshire Performance Profile:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2019	7/21	Foxwoods Resort Casino 301	13	19	Running, 300/301	0	N/A
2018	7/22	Foxwoods Resort Casino 301	9	22	Running, 300/301	0	N/A
2017	9/24	ISM Connect 300	25	8	Running, 300/300	0	N/A
	7/16	Overton's 301	14	6	Running, 301/301	0	N/A

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