



MEDIA INFORMATION

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FOX NASCAR AT TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY QUOTES & PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

“Drivers Only” NASCAR XFINITY SERIES Broadcast Live on FOX Saturday at 3:00 PM ET with Star-Studded Cast

MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES Race Live Sunday on FOX at 2:00 PM ET with Qualifying Live on FOX Saturday at 1:00 PM ET

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- The MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES heads to Talladega Superspeedway this weekend, site of FOX’s second-annual [“Drivers Only” NASCAR XFINITY SERIES broadcast](#), with FOX Sports set to offer more than 18 hours of live action from NASCAR’s biggest track. Included are FOX’s live race coverage of the MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES on Sunday, April 29 (2:00 PM ET), the NASCAR XFINITY SERIES “Drivers Only” race broadcast on Saturday, April 28 (3:00 PM ET) and Cup Series qualifying on Saturday (1:00 PM ET).

After FOX Sports successfully aired its first-ever “Drivers Only” NASCAR XFINITY SERIES race broadcast last June at Pocono Raceway, the first time a nationally televised sporting event had been called entirely by athletes currently competing in that sport, FOX returns this weekend for an encore.

Back for the sequel, live on FOX on Saturday at 3:00 PM ET, are **Kevin Harvick** (play-by-play), **Clint Bowyer** (analyst), **Joey Logano** (analyst), **Ryan Blaney** (pit reporter), **Erik Jones** (pit reporter), **Ricky Stenhouse Jr.** (Hollywood Hotel analyst) and newcomers **Brad Keselowski** (Hollywood Hotel host) and **Darrell “Bubba” Wallace Jr.** (pit road).

Regular FOX Sports announcers Shannon Spake and Michael Waltrip will open FOX’s pre-race coverage at 2:30 PM ET from the Hollywood Hotel, while Keselowski and Stenhouse Jr. make their way from the garage following MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP qualifying (live on FOX) to the Hollywood Hotel.

Mentoring the driver broadcasters throughout the day are regular FOX Sports broadcasters Adam Alexander (Harvick), Michael Waltrip (Bowyer and Logano), Jamie Little (Blaney), Regan Smith (Jones), Vince Welch (Wallace), Shannon Spake (Keselowski) and Larry McReynolds (Stenhouse Jr.).

FOX Sports' coverage this weekend from Talladega also includes the ARCA RACING SERIES race live on Friday, April 27 at 6:00 PM ET on FS1.

Below is programming information for the weekend ahead, as well as quotes from FOX NASCAR analysts **McReynolds**, **Jeff Gordon** and **Michael Waltrip**, "Drivers Only" analyst **Joey Logano** and FOX play-by-play announcer **Mike Joy**.

MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES

- **Date/Time:** Sunday, April 29 (2:00 PM ET)
- **Network:** FOX
- **Announcers:** Mike Joy, Hall of Famer and three-time champion Darrell Waltrip, four-time champ Jeff Gordon and Larry McReynolds
- **Pit reporters:** Jamie Little, Vince Welch and Matt Yocum
- **Pre-race:** 1:30 PM ET on FOX; hosted by Chris Myers with Michael Waltrip, Gordon and Darrell Waltrip
- **NASCAR RACEDAY** (12:30 PM ET on FS1); hosted by John Roberts with analysts Jeff Hammond, Bobby Labonte and Regan Smith; reporting by Kenny Wallace
- **Hosts:** Myers and Michael Waltrip
- **FOX NASCAR production staff:** Barry Landis (race producer); Artie Kempner (race director); Richie Zyontz (coordinating producer); and Jake Jolivet (pre-race producer)

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES ("Drivers Only")

- **Date/Time:** Saturday, April 28 (3:00 PM ET)
- **Network:** FOX
- **Announcers:** Play-by-play announcer **Kevin Harvick**; analysts **Clint Bowyer** and **Joey Logano**;
- **Pit reporters:** **Ryan Blaney**, **Erik Jones** and **Darrell "Bubba" Wallace Jr.**
- **Pre-race:** NASCAR RACEDAY-XFINITY (2:30 PM ET on FOX); hosted by Shannon Spake, Larry McReynolds and Michael Waltrip
- **Hosts:** **Brad Keselowski** and **Ricky Stenhouse Jr.**
- **FOX NASCAR production staff:** Pam Miler (race producer); Jeremy Green (race director); Richie Zyontz (coordinating producer); and Jeremy Menell (pre-race producer)

FOX NASCAR QUOTES

On Kyle Busch's recent winning streak in the MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES:
"What dominance we've seen from Kyle Busch lately and Kevin Harvick earlier in the year. You have to appreciate what Kyle Busch and the No. 18 team have done and where they are. They've accomplished a lot of special things early in the season already. What I'm wondering, though, is which drivers are going to step up next and win. We're going to Talladega this weekend, and Ricky Stenhouse Jr. is really tough at restrictor-plate tracks, but I'm looking at Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski or Joey Logano. Those guys are going to win soon."

--**Michael Waltrip**

On whether Kyle Busch, Martin Truex Jr. and Kevin Harvick are the three to beat for the championship:

"I definitely think so. We saw Martin Truex Jr.'s dominance last year and he won the championship. He has been consistent, led laps and won."

--**Jeff Gordon**

On Saturday's "Drivers Only" NASCAR XFINITY SERIES race broadcast on FOX:

"It's going to be a lot of fun. One of the most fun things is seeing Kevin Harvick nervous. It happened last time (at Pocono) and he calmed down eventually, but I'd never seen that before and kind of enjoyed that part. That and it's a big race track. What I learned at Bristol (in the FOX NASCAR broadcast booth at Bristol) is things happen really quickly and it's hard to get out what you want to say before the next caution happens or something else happens on the track. Talladega is a track that, just like Pocono last year, gives us a little room, especially under caution, to get our thoughts straight and make sure we don't say something stupid."

--Joey Logano, FOX "Drivers Only" analyst and driver of the No. 22 Shell-Pennzoil/Autotrader Ford Fusion

"We feel like we're pretty well-directed by our FOX NASCAR producers, but when these guys take over the 'Drivers Only' broadcast, it's a bit of a free-for-all. There's no telling what's going to happen or what they'll say or see."

--Michael Waltrip

On the performances of the driver broadcasters in last year's "Drivers Only" race at Pocono:

"Each of them did an incredible job last year and made for an awesome race broadcast. My biggest takeaway was witnessing some of the drivers who haven't been FOX Sports driver analysts (for the NASCAR XFINITY Series) before realize just how much work goes into a broadcast. Across the board, from the booth to pit road, they did an amazing job. But those less familiar with the process were a little surprised it wasn't as easy it as it seems on TV."

--Larry McReynolds

On the challenge of calling the NASCAR XFINITY SERIES race at Talladega as opposed to a track more like Pocono:

"Of the 14 NASCAR XFINITY Series races that FOX Sports airs, Talladega will be the most difficult for the drivers to call. This isn't like Pocono or Michigan. There is a lot going on the entire race at Talladega, so it's going to be fun watching them hang on for the ride. However, I truly think they'll do just as good of a job as they did at Pocono. And this is so much fun for us at FOX, as well as the drivers. If we're not having fun, then the viewer likely won't either. And I guess if the drivers aren't having fun calling the race, we won't have much fun being alongside them."

On whether a dark horse could win this weekend's Cup Series race at Talladega:

"This is the track for one-hit wonders. Everyone has a shot."

--Mike Joy

On whether a younger driver could break through for a win at Talladega:

"The last time a driver younger than 30 won a race this season was the Daytona 500. Could lightning strike twice? If so, I'm looking toward Chase Elliott."

--Mike Joy

On Ford's recent success at restrictor-plate tracks:

"It is hard to narrow down the reason for Ford's strong showing on the plate tracks lately, but I wouldn't be surprised to see it continue this weekend. It's a combination of several factors: Ford drivers who really know how to draft; the Ford body being more suited for low drag than Chevrolet and Toyota; and the impressive horsepower Roush Yates puts out at plate tracks."

FOX NASCAR AT TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

(All times live/Eastern unless otherwise indicated & subject to change)

Friday, April 27

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES practice (11:30 AM-12:30 PM) (FS1)

MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES practice (12:30-1:30 PM) (FS1)
NASCAR XFINITY SERIES final practice (1:30-2:30 PM) (FS1)
MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES final practice (2:30-3:30 PM) (FS1)
ARCA RACING SERIES Racing (6:00-8:00 PM) (FS1)

Saturday, April 28

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES qualifying (11:00 AM-12:30 PM) (FS1)
MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES qualifying (1:00-2:30 PM) (FOX)
NASCAR RACEDAY-XFINITY “Drivers Only” (2:30-3:00 PM) (FOX)
NASCAR XFINITY SERIES Racing “Drivers Only” race broadcast (3:00-5:30 PM) (FOX)

Sunday, April 29

NASCAR RACEDAY (12:00-1:30 PM) (FS1)
MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES PRE-RACE (1:30-2:00 PM) (FOX)
MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES Racing (2:00-6:00 PM) (FOX)

About FOX NASCAR:

FOX Sports, broadcasting its 18th consecutive MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR CUP SERIES season, is armed with seven championships' worth of analysis and insight from Hall of Famer and three-time champ Darrell Waltrip alongside four-time champion Jeff Gordon, veteran play-by-play announcer Mike Joy and former crew chief Larry McReynolds with race analysis. Behind the camera, FOX NASCAR has won 18 Sports Emmy Awards since its inaugural year of coverage in 2001, including four for Outstanding Live Sports Series, seven for Live Event Audio/Sound and five for Live Technical Team Remote. For more information on FOX NASCAR, please visit [FOX SPORTS PRESS PASS](#).

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