

RACING THIS WEEK

NEW LOOK: NAPA Auto Parts will have a fresh look for the 2026 Cup Series season, with Chase Elliott slated to wheel the new paint scheme.



CUP SEASON IN REVIEW

Joey Logano, No. 22 Team Penske Ford

Crew chief: Paul Wolfe

Final 2025 ranking: 7th

Key stats: 1 win, 7 top fives, 13 top 10s, 2 poles, 577 laps led



How 2025 ended: After winning two of the three previous NASCAR Cup Series championships (2022 and 2024), Logano had an uncharacteristic off-year in 2025, finishing seventh. However, he came on strong during the 10-race playoffs, with four top fives and two other top-10 finishes, advancing to the third-round semifinals before he was eliminated in the Championship 4 season finale. Even though he finished a respectable seventh, statistically it was his overall worst-performing season with the fewest wins (tie), top fives (tie) and top 10s (tie) since 2012.

Best race: Logano had two best races in 2025. There was his lone win of the season with the playoff qualifying victory in the spring race at Texas Motor Speedway, where he led just seven laps to take the checkered flag. But from a dominating standpoint, his fourth-place finish in the Loudon playoff race was his best overall performance, starting from the pole and leading a season-high 147 laps before trailing off in the closing laps.

Other season highlights: Logano finished the year with a fourth-place finish in the season-ending race at Phoenix Raceway, but it unfortunately was too little, too late, as he had been eliminated from potentially earning the fourth Cup championship of his career a week earlier at Martinsville Speedway. ... Logano ended with a top-10 finish for the ninth time in the past 11 seasons.

Stat to know: Track position was arguably Logano's biggest problem in 2025. He failed to lead even one lap in 19 of the season's 36 points-paying races, including a 15-race stretch from the spring race at Charlotte to the playoff opener at Darlington, where he failed to lead a lap in 11 of those events.

Quotable: Two quotes pretty much summed up how 2025 turned out. After he was eliminated from advancing to the Championship 4 at Martinsville, Logano said, "We didn't deserve it." And when asked about weaknesses and deficiencies of the overall season, particularly inconsistency and failure to execute when he needed to, Logano admitted, "We just weren't good enough."

Looking ahead: When it comes to bouncing back from disappointing seasons, history has been on Logano's side, particularly with winning championships the following season. After finishing 17th and not making the playoffs in 2017, he roared back to win his first Cup crown the following year. Then, after finishing eighth in 2021, he won his second championship in 2022. And when he dipped down to a 12th-place finish in 2023 (when teammate Ryan Blaney earned his first Cup championship), Logano scored his third Cup title in 2024. So if history once again repeats itself, he should be in contention to win his fourth Cup title in 2026.

IN REMEMBRANCE



Racing community and beyond offer tributes

Emotions and tributes from the motorsports community poured in after the news that NASCAR veteran Greg Biffle and his family were among the seven on board in a fatal plane crash Thursday, December 18, in Statesville, North Carolina.

Biffle's influence spanned his successful racing career, which included 56 victories in NASCAR's three national series and his addition to the list of NASCAR's 75 Greatest Drivers. But his impact extended beyond the motorsports world with his lifesaving efforts to bring relief to Western North Carolina after the devastation left by Hurricane Helene in September 2024.

Here is a selection of the tributes and remembrances of Greg Biffle:

I am devastated by the loss of Greg, Cristina, and their children, and my heart is with all who loved them.

They were friends who lived their lives focused on helping others. Greg was a great NASCAR champion who thrilled millions of fans. But he was an extraordinary person as well, and will be remembered for his service to others as much as for his fearlessness on the track.

The Biffles flew hundreds of rescue missions in western North Carolina after Hurricane Helene.

The last time I spoke with Cristina, just a couple of weeks ago, she reached out to ask how she could help with relief efforts in Jamaica. That's who the Biffles were.

Our prayers are with their family, friends, and everyone grieving this unimaginable loss.

— North Carolina Congressman Richard Hudson

Richard Petty and the Petty Family are heartbroken by the tragic loss of Greg Biffle and his family. Greg was not only a fearless competitor, but someone who showed that same fearlessness in his generosity to others. Our deepest condolences to their loved ones.

— Richard Petty

Devastating news. I had such tremendous respect for Greg as a driver, and we shared countless tough battles on the track. Like so many others, I was inspired by his tireless relief work during Hurricane Helene. My heart goes out to the Biffle family and everyone hurting.

— Jeff Gordon

Heartbreaking news out of Statesville. Beyond his success as a NASCAR driver, Greg Biffle lived a life of courage and compassion and stepped up for western North Carolina after Hurricane Helene. My heart goes out to all those who lost a loved one in this tragic crash.

— North Carolina Governor Josh Stein

We are devastated by the loss of our dear friend, his family, and friends that were on the plane with him this morning. Greg was not only a champion driver, he was a great husband, father, son, and friend who did whatever he could to support his community and those associated with NASCAR. He'll forever be part of the Ford family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone touched by this tragedy.

— Ford Racing

Such a tragic and heartbreaking day. Greg and Cristina were truly special friends to us, we loved them as well as Emma and Ryder dearly. Greg's compassion and humanitarian spirit—especially in times of crisis—touched so many lives and inspired everyone who knew him. The memories we shared, both on and off the racetrack, will stay in our hearts forever. They meant so much to us, and they will never be forgotten.

— Kyle Busch

It will forever be the #GregBiffleCrash. What a sad & shocking day. I'm praying for Greg, Cristina and little angels Emma and Ryder. Also for peace and strength to Emma's mom Nicole Lunders. Greg... a star driver and a star in his second act as a humanitarian.

— Mario Andretti

We mourn the loss of Greg Biffle and his family. He was a fierce, respected competitor whose heart and generosity reached far beyond the racetrack. Our condolences to his loved ones, his fans and all who are grieving.

— Hendrick Motorsports

The NASCAR family is devastated at the loss of Greg Biffle, who was one of our 75 greatest drivers and became known for his relentless post-career humanitarian work.

— NASCAR

The motorsports world lost one of its fiercest competitors and kindest souls. Greg Biffle was a champion on the track and a humanitarian off it, whose impact reached far beyond racing.

We also mourn the loss of his wife Cristina and children Emma & Ryder, along with Craig Wadsworth, Dennis Dutton, and his son Jack. My heart is with all their families and loved ones.

— Denny Hamlin

Devastated! My thoughts and prayers go out to the Biffle family and to all those who were lost.

— Kyle Larson

IN TRIBUTE

In tribute to Greg Biffle, 19-time Cup Series winner and member of NASCAR's 75 Greatest Drivers who died in a plane crash on Dec. 18, here's a look back at his first win, the Pepsi 400 at Daytona International Speedway on July 5, 2003. The Sunoco Rookie of the Year candidate led the final 21 circuits to win his first career premier series race just 23 races into his premier series career and at the sport's most famous track.



GETTY

CUP SEASON IN REVIEW

Josh Berry, No. 21 Wood Brothers Racing Ford

Crew chief: Samuel "Miles" Stanley

Final 2025 ranking: 16th

Key stats: 1 win, 3 top fives, 8 top 10s, 207 laps led



How 2025 ended: Berry lost his ride with Stewart-Haas Racing after just one season when the team folded following 2024, but rebounded by signing a multiyear deal with Wood Brothers Racing. He struggled in his first three races of 2025 before finishing fourth in the spring Phoenix race, followed by his first Cup career win the following week at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, earning him a spot in the playoffs. Although he was eliminated after the first three postseason races, Berry's performance rebounded in the final seven contests, including New Hampshire Motor Speedway (runner-up), Martinsville Speedway (10th) and the Phoenix season finale (seventh) to finish the season 16th in points, an 11-spot improvement from the year before with SHR.

Best race: Even though he's earned nearly 100 wins in other smaller classes in his career, mostly late models, the 35-year-old Berry finally broke through for the biggest win of his longtime racing career on March 16 at Las Vegas. After qualifying seventh, he spent most of the race running in the top 10. He passed Daniel Suárez with 16 laps to go and held on to drive into Victory Lane, defeating runner-up Suárez by 1.358 seconds for what many considered an early-season upset.

Other season highlights: Berry came close to earning his second Cup career win in the playoff race at New Hampshire, finishing runner-up, 0.937 seconds behind winner Ryan Blaney. He also has developed an affinity for racing at Phoenix; in five Cup career starts there, he has one top five and three top-10 finishes. Additionally, Berry remains a good qualifier. After nine top-10 starts in 2024, Berry improved to 13 top-10 starts this past season.

Looking ahead: No major changes are expected for Berry and the No. 21 team for 2026. If he can cut down on the number of crashes, plus continue to improve performance, particularly on short- and mid-size tracks, he should be able to make the playoffs again in 2026. Earning another win would help greatly with that effort.

Stat to know: Berry's overall performance in the Cup Series has been hampered significantly due to DNFs. He had 10 DNFs with Stewart-Haas in 2024 and nine in 2025 with the Wood Brothers. Of those 19 combined DNFs, 16 were due to crashes.

2025 CUP SERIES FINALS STANDINGS

Champion 1 + 29 as of November 2

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Larson #5	5034	16 Josh Berry #21	2150
2 Denny Hamlin #11	5031	17 Chris Buescher #17	889
3 Chase Briscoe #19	5019	18 Ryan Preece #60	861
4 William Byron #24	5004	19 Ty Gibbs #54	783
5 Christopher Bell #20	2403	20 Brad Keselowski #6	762
6 Ryan Blaney #12	2373	21 Kyle Busch #8	737
7 Joey Logano #22	2330	22 Michael McDowell #71	734
8 Chase Elliott #9	2310	23 Carson Hocevar #77	702
9 Tyler Reddick #45	2309	24 Erik Jones #43	665
10 Ross Chastain #1	2272	25 J. H. Nemechek #42	664
11 Bubba Wallace #23	2256	26 AJ Allmendinger #16	649
12 S. v. Gisbergen #88	2192	27 Todd Gilliland #34	616
13 Alex Bowman #48	2192	28 Zane Smith #38	615
14 Austin Cindric #2	2156	29 Daniel Suárez #99	611
15 Austin Dillon #3	2152	30 Ricky Stenhouse #47	562

2025 XFINITY FINAL STANDINGS

Champion 1 + 19 as of November 1

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Jesse Love #2	4040	11 Nicholas Sanchez #48	2198
2 Connor Zilisch #88	4034	12 Harrison Burton #25	2163
3 Justin Allgaier #7	4032	13 Christian Eckes #16	784
4 Carson Kvapil #1	4024	14 Jeb Burton #27	719
5 Brandon Jones #20	2240	15 Ryan Sieg #41	691
6 Austin Hill #21	2230	16 Dean Thompson #26	690
7 Taylor Gray #54	2228	17 Aric Almirola #19	652
8 Sammy Smith #8	2222	18 William Sawalich #18	636
9 Sheldon Creed #00	2218	19 Brennan Poole #44	608
10 Sam Mayer #41	2204	20 Daniel Dye #10	604

NEXT RACE: UNITED RENTALS 300, Daytona International, Saturday, Feb. 14, 2026, CW

2025 TRUCKS FINAL STANDINGS

Champion 1 + 19 as of October 1

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Corey Heim #11	4040	11 Gio Ruggiero #17	703
2 Ty Majeski #98	4035	12 Ben Rhodes #99	632
3 Kaden Honeycutt #52	4034	13 Tanner Gray #15	599
4 Tyler Ankrum #18	4023	14 Connor Mosack #81	515
5 Layne Riggs #34	2297	15 Matt Crafton #88	494
6 Rajah Caruth #71	2237	16 A. Perez De Lara #44	472
7 Grant Engfinger #9	2198	17 Matt Mills #42	456
8 Chandler Smith #38	2179	18 Dawson Sutton #26	447
9 Daniel Hemric #19	2177	19 Jack Wood #91	443
10 Jake Garcia #13	2148	20 Stewart Friesen #52	397

NEXT RACE: SEASON OPENER, Daytona International Speedway, Friday, Feb. 13, 2026, FS1

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