

# RACING THIS WEEK

## TRUCKS SEASON RECAP

**2025 Craftsman Truck Series Champion:**  
Corey Heim

**2025 Regular Season Champion:** Corey Heim

**Full-time winners:** 8

- Corey Heim, 12
- Layne Riggs, 3
- Chandler Smith, 2
- Tyler Ankrum, Rajah Caruth, Daniel Hemric, Giovanni Ruggiero, and Stewart Friesen, 1

**Wins by team:**

- Tricon Garage, 13
- Front Row Motorsports, 5
- Spire Motorsports, 4
- McAnally-Hilgemann Racing, 2
- Halmar Friesen Racing, 1

**How 2025 ended:** A 2025 campaign defined by utter dominance concluded electrically for Corey Heim and the No. 11 Tricon Garage team during the Championship at Phoenix Raceway. In what has a claim to be the clutchest NASCAR Overtime restart ever, the Marietta, Georgia, native vaulted from 10th to second in one fell swoop, erasing a pit-road deficit that resulted from a four-tire call. Out-maneuvering 2024 champion Ty Majeski followed, and just like that, Heim cashed in with win No. 12 and his first title triumph. Championship near-misses in years prior (Heim finished third and runner-up in the title standings in 2023 and 2024, respectively) were avenged, and history was achieved; Heim's 12 wins are the most ever in a single season, and, at 23 years old, now coincidentally has 23 Truck Series wins to his ledger, already the sixth-most all-time. Poetry tends to rhyme, and, well, it was Heim's time.

**Best race:** After matching Greg Biffle for the most wins in a single season via his ninth victory of 2025 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in September, the next logical step was for Heim to surpass that mark. He did so the very next race. After a first-lap wreck brought calamity, Heim stayed level, rallied and wheeled his heavily-taped No. 11 machine to Victory Lane at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Roval after staying out during a critical overtime restart. History was now his, and, as we'd see the rest of the way, even more history was to be etched into the Truck Series annals for good.

**Other season highlights:** While Heim was 2025's focal point, he wasn't the only season highlight. Despite not making the Championship 4, Layne Riggs' sophomore campaign was a sound one, tallying career highs in wins (three), top fives (13) and top-10 finishes (16). 19-year-old rookie Gio Ruggiero scooped up his first career national series win following an overtime finish at Talladega Superspeedway. In its national series return for the first time since 2013, Rockingham Speedway saw Tyler Ankrum snap a 130-race winless streak, the longest drought broken in Truck Series history. Then there was Lime Rock Park, with the Connecticut road course hosting its first national series race. 2025 definitely lived up to the billing.

**Stat to know:** Heim has led in 26 consecutive races dating back to 2024, the longest streak all time. Heim led 1,625 circuits in 2025, lapping the field (no pun intended), with the next closest competitor being 1,128 legs behind the mark (Layne Riggs, 497). With this dominance, Heim already ranks sixth all-time in Truck Series laps led (2,989).

## 2026 SCHEDULE NOTES

# Craftsman Truck and O'Reilly Auto Parts Series

The NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series had gone 31 seasons without holding a street-circuit race. In its 32nd, the tailgate tour will have two.

When NASCAR officials released the full 2026 schedules for both the Truck Series and the O'Reilly Auto Parts Series, it was revealed that the trucks will race for the first time as part of the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg (Fla.) weekend next year on Feb. 28. Both series will also participate as part of a tripleheader of national-series events in their debut in San Diego's Naval Base Coronado alongside the Cup Series, June 19-21.

The Craftsman Truck Series will share the bill in its St. Petersburg visit with the NTT IndyCar Series, which has opened its season on the 1.8-mile street course the last four years. The companion Truck Series race should provide an extra level of exposure to a new motorsports crowd, all while making that series' schedule more closely resemble its NASCAR national-series counterparts.

"Obviously, with the street races that we have now at the Cup Series, racing in San Diego, racing at the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, we want to make sure that our development series are racing at track types that allow them to advance and be prepared for the Cup level," said Jusan Hamilton, NASCAR managing director, competition operations. "So, making sure we have a street race at the Truck Series level was something that we evaluated. Obviously, they have the first two street races they'll have in their 30-year history, kicking off with the St. Pete Grand Prix, so it allows us to evaluate that market. Tampa/St. Pete is another huge media market.

"It's also conducive for the Craftsman Truck Series teams to keep them on the East Coast for the early part of their season. It's not a long trip for them to get down to Tampa, and it allows us to gain experience with another street course as we continue to develop and advance on our end with the new street course that we're working on at Naval Base Coronado in San Diego."

Both series will return to Rockingham Speedway after a successful revival of racing at the historic mile track this year. The doubleheader will be April 3-4 of Easter weekend, which will be the first of two idle weekends for the NASCAR Cup Series.

NASCAR racing returned to Rockingham in April for the first time in 12 years, and Saturday's Xfinity Series race in the North Carolina sandhills was a sellout.

"I think everyone saw the fan response to racing on Easter weekend at Rockingham," Hamilton said. "It really allowed us to highlight both the drivers and teams in the O'Reilly Auto Parts Series, as well as the Craftsman Truck Series on a separate weekend without Cup racing, also giving the teams and industry Sunday off to celebrate Easter with their families. So,

saw a great fan response last year, saw some really great racing, and the return to Rockingham is going to keep building that tradition with those two series on an off weekend for Cup."

Another return trip is scheduled for the Truck Series at Lime Rock Park, the picturesque Connecticut road course that hosted the circuit for the first time in June. Fan turnout was robust for the debut at the longtime sports-car venue, and the second edition will be one of four "stand-alone" events next year for the Trucks, separate from the Cup Series schedule.

"Going through those venues, it always allows us to explore new areas, to reach areas of the country that we're maybe not reaching as much with the Cup Series," Hamilton said. "So we saw a great turnout at Lime Rock Park last year. That passionate New England fan base up there really came out strong for that one. Again, that's another one that, given that positive response, we'd like to keep building on that tradition of taking the Craftsman Truck Series to Lime Rock. We'll continue to evaluate racing in different areas and using our support series as a method to do that. That's always something that's that we're going to look at as we build the schedule."

### Other notable shifts to the 2026 O'Reilly and Craftsman Truck Series schedules:

- Both series will end their seasons in early November at Homestead-Miami Speedway, which returns as the host track for NASCAR Championship Weekend for the first time since 2019. Phoenix Raceway, the season-finale host from 2020-25, will move to the Round of 8 opener for all three national series.
- The O'Reilly Auto Parts Series will end its regular season at World Wide Technology Raceway near St. Louis for the second consecutive year, with the seven-race playoffs set to begin again at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sept. 18. Las Vegas Motor Speedway replaces Kansas Speedway as the middle race in the Round of 12.
- The Craftsman Truck Series will have a new site for the regular-season finale at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Aug. 22. The new-look playoffs will begin on Sept. 17 at Bristol Motor Speedway, and Kansas will join the Truck Series postseason rotation on Sept. 26. Portland International Raceway will drop from the calendar next season after a four-year run on the O'Reilly Auto Parts Series schedule.
- Two tracks will hold tripleheader weekends with significantly earlier dates in 2026. Watkins Glen International shifts from early August to May 8-10, and Dover Motor Speedway — which will become the newest host of the Cup Series' All-Star Race next year — moves to May 15-17. The Truck Series will be making its first Dover appearance since 2020 next season.



San Diego Naval Base Coronado street course map

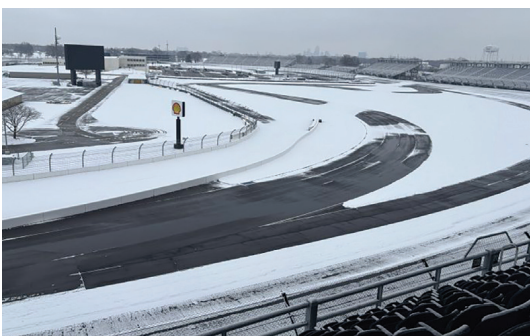
### MANUFACTURER NOTE: Rick Ware

Racing will field Chevrolets in 2026 as part of a partnership with the manufacturer and a newly formed technical alliance with Richard Childress Racing. Cody Ware will return as driver of RWR's No. 51 car (Ford for the past four years). It will utilize engines prepared by ECR Engines.



## NASCAR SNOW PATROL

Winter season is here, and that means some of NASCAR's venues are bound to have snowy weather. Here's a look at some cold courses.



Indianapolis Motor Speedway



Chicagoland Speedway



Richmond Raceway



Watkins Glen International

### 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 Enfinger #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

## TRUCKS RECAP QUOTABLE

"It's such a team effort at the end of the day. Like, those guys have consistently set me up with winning equipment, and Scott (Zipadelli, No. 11 crew chief), being the captain of the team, he's been the guy to keep that whole crew together since 2023. We've had literally every single person other than pit crew together on that 11 crew from the middle of 2023, so it's obviously guys that want to work for him. It's really a big family, honestly. It feels like a family, and I want it to be remembered that way."

— **Champ Corey Heim on No. 11 team's accomplishments**



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