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**NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION  
CONTESTANT HOTLINE**

North Central Division  
Jay Hullinger  
5 West St. Rd. 218  
Bunker Hill, IN 46914



www.nhradiv3.com


**2003  
National  
Event Entry Request  
Form Inside**

**DON'T MISS**  
the Division 3 Awards  
Banquet, January 11, 2003  
ticket information inside

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# 2002 NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION LAND OF THE WINNERS CHAMPIONS BANQUET

**SALUTING THE CHAMPIONS OF THE**



## Saturday, January 11, 2003

### Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites

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**\$40 Banquet Ticket Order Form \$40**  
**January 11, 2003**

I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover \_\_\_\_\_ tickets.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_  Visa  Mastercard  American Express

\*Please make check payable to NHRA North Central Division  
Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites**  
8787 Keystone Crossing  
Indianapolis, IN 46240  
(317) 846-2700

Connected to the Fashion Mall.  
Indy's most prestigious shopping destination.

**\*Special Room Rate \$77**  
**\*Must call by January 4, 2003 for special room rate.**

**Cocktails (cash bar) 6 p.m.**  
**Dinner 7 p.m.**  
Tickets sold in advance. Seating is limited.  
Tables reserved for parties of 10.

**TICKETS \$40.00**  
**DEADLINE TO ORDER IS JANUARY 4, 2003**  
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR  
**NO REFUNDS!**

Please return ticket orders to:  
**NHRA North Central Division**  
5 West State Road 218  
Bunker Hill, IN 46914  
Ph: (765) 689-8727 Fax: (765) 689-7956



# NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION

# CONTESTANT HOTLINE

www.nhra.com

**North Central Division Director**  
**Jay Hullinger**  
Division Office (765) 689-8727  
Fax: (765) 689-7956

**Division Services Coordinator**  
**Ritch Bowers**  
Tech Line (765) 689-8377  
Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. EST

**December 2002**  
**Jan./Feb. 2003**

## NHRA banquet to honor 2002 champions, kick off 2003 racing

The annual NHRA North Central Division Land of the Winners Awards Banquet will return to the beautiful Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites Jan. 11, 2003. We'll honor this past season's champions in our NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series, NHRA Summit Racing Series, NHRA Jeg's Super Quick Series, NHRA Castrol GTX Jr. Drag Racing League, and other special winners.

The Sheraton is located on the northeast side of Indianapolis in the trendy Keystone at the

Crossing area and is connected to The Fashion Mall, the city's most prestigious shopping destination, with more than 120 shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues.

Annual member track management meetings are scheduled Friday and Saturday prior to Saturday evening's Awards Banquet, which will feature entertainment by the Mark & Troy band.

Join us in honoring the champions and other special award winners as chosen by you. See the

Special Awards ballot inside this newsletter to cast your votes.

Make it a great weekend with your fellow racers, crewmembers, family, friends, and fans. Take advantage of special \$77 room rates by contacting the Sheraton Indianapolis, (317) 846-2700, by Jan. 5. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Please use the ticket order form inside this newsletter and join us in closing out 2002 and kicking off our exciting 2003 season.

### 2002 NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series North Central Division Champions

#### Top Alcohol Dragster

Russ Lindert – Champion  
Ken Perry – Runner-up  
Jeff Wilson – Third place

#### Top Alcohol Funny Car

Chuck Cheeseman – Champion  
Marc White – Runner-up  
Jeff Craig – Third place

#### Competition

Steve Ambrose – Champion  
Mike Farrell – Runner-up  
David Billingsley – Third place

#### Super Stock

Jimbo Fields – Champion  
Brad Zaskowski – Runner-up  
J.R. Lambert – Third place

#### Stock

Clint Blezien – Champion  
Larry Hill – Runner-up  
M.J. Quinn – Third place

#### Super Gas

David Connolly – Champion  
Chuck Siegler – Runner-up  
Marlin Snyder – Third place

#### Super Comp

Steve Eckard – Champion  
Brian Folk – Runner-up  
Mitch Smith – Third place

#### Super Street

Dustin Richardson – Champion  
Robert Richardson – Runner-up  
Timothy Gary – Third Place

### 2002 Jeg's Allstars

Larry Hodge – Stock Champion  
Jeff Wilson – TAD Runner-up  
Dustin Richardson – Super Street Runner-up

### 2002 NHRA Summit Racing Series National Champion

Les Belle – Super Pro

### 2002 NHRA Summit Racing Series Division Champions

Super Pro – Bob Biser (National Trail Raceway)  
Pro – Jack Spivey (Edgewater Sports Park)  
Sportsman – Terry McGee (National Trail Raceway)  
Super Pro Bike – Burt Exman (National Trail Raceway)  
High School – Mark Lippert (Edgewater Sports Park)  
Track Managers – Morris Wingler (Coles County Dragway)  
Team Champion – Bunker Hill Dragstrip  
*National DRAGSTER* Team Spirit Award – Bunker Hill Dragstrip

#### VP Racing Fuels Race of Champions presented by CPM Racing Fuels

Super Pro – Randy Wolfe (Bunker Hill Dragstrip)  
Pro – Troy Bogner (Route 66 Raceway)  
Sportsman – Deanna McGree (National Trail Raceway)  
Super Pro Bike – Tom Florey (Route 66 Raceway)

#### Best Appearing Entries

Super Pro – Jeff Gillman (Mid-Michigan Motorplex)  
Pro – Karl Blincoe (Ohio Valley Raceway)  
Sportsman – Nick Cryer (Route 66 Raceway)  
Super Pro Bike – Doug Ogiltsbie (Kil-Kare Dragway)  
Jr. Dragster – John Paul Gutierrez (St. Thomas Dragway)

### 2002 Jeg's Super Quick Series

Bo Boles – Champion  
Tim Branon – Runner-up  
James Freels – Third Place  
Jason Coan – Fourth Place  
Robbie Freels – Fifth Place  
Craig Flora – Sixth Place  
Mike Bagley – Seventh Place  
Brent Crowell – Eighth Place  
Robert Gay – Ninth Place  
Eddie Lykins – Tenth Place

### NHRA Castrol GTX Eastern Conference Finals

15-Year-Old — Mark Roe  
14-Year-Old — Nick Hastings  
13-Year-Old — Joey Shipp  
12-Year-Old — Andrew Head  
8-9-Year-Old — Alexa Rick

### North Central Division Champions

13-17-Year-Old – Justin Hardy (Mid-Michigan Motorplex)  
10-12-Year-Old – Jared Stunkel (Chandler Motorsports Park)  
8-9-Year-Old – Kim Baker (Kil-Kare Dragway)  
Youth Team Champion – Mid-Michigan Motorplex

# Honoring the 2002 North Central Division Member Track Champions

## Beech Bend Raceway Park

Super Pro Adam Cline  
 Pro Leon Robertson  
 Sportsman Leon Robertson  
 1/4 Mile Trophy Gary Bunch  
 Jr. Dragster Adrian Richardson

Sportsman  
 Pro Bike  
 Jr. Dragster  
 High School

Ron Rathgeb Jr.  
 Bob Lohr  
 Matt Woolf  
 Ron Rathgeb Jr.

## Ohio Valley Raceway

Super Pro Terry Hoke  
 Pro Dempsey Morris Jr.  
 Jr. Dragster Derick Troxell  
 Import Quick 8 Power Mod Jim Hood  
 Import Quick 8 All Motor Professor Nate  
 Import Street Eliminator Steve Conyer

## Bluegrass Raceway Park

Super Pro Glen Robinson II  
 Pro Moe Robinson  
 Sportsman Larry Copher  
 Super Pro Bike Bill Bottoms  
 Jr. Dragster Jerry Marcum

## Indianapolis Raceway Park

Super Pro Dan Richardson  
 Pro Brandon Dillman  
 Super Pro Bike Vince Arthurs  
 Sportsman Chris Walters  
 Jr. Dragster Joe Shipp

## Pacemakers Dragway Park

Super Pro Mike Fouts  
 Pro Andy Smith  
 Sportsman Glen Haynes  
 King of the Track Andy Smith

## Bunker Hill Dragstrip

Super Pro Randy Wolfe  
 Pro Steve Graham  
 Sportsman Randy Wolfe  
 Super Pro Bike Dan Dishon  
 Jr. Major Justin Daniels  
 Jr. Minor Nathan Grigsby

## Kil-Kare Dragway

Super Pro Jerry Dunkel  
 Pro Joey Bosier  
 Pro Bike Barry Coffman  
 Sportsman Co-Champions Dennis Young

## Route 66 Raceway

Super Pro Orville Yerington  
 Pro Troy Bogner  
 Sportsman Steve Quickel  
 Pro Bike Tom Florey  
 High School Bruce Tettermer  
 Jr. - Sportsman Nick Mistrata  
 Jr. - Modified Brina Spingaire  
 Quick 16 Harold Lucas

High School  
 Jr. Dragster

## London Motorplex

Super Pro Jared Bargo  
 Pro Scott McQueen  
 Sportsman Derek Deaton  
 Super Pro Bike Mark Bryant  
 Jr. Dragster Brad Lawless

## St. Thomas Dragway

Super Pro Gary Card  
 Pro Greg Roy  
 Sportsman Pete Beitschat  
 Bike/Sled Randy Beggs  
 Jr. Dragster Mark Wainman

## Chandler Motorsports Park

Super Pro Shelly Roy  
 Pro Steve Comer  
 Sportsman Josh Staats  
 Pro Bike Junior Bertram  
 Quick 16 Steve Hohimer

## Mid-Michigan Motorplex

Super Pro Johnny Buckmaster  
 Pro Russ Briggs  
 Sportsman Bill Rineo  
 Pro Street Dave Hekhuis  
 Super Street Mike Tafil  
 Jr. Dragster 12-17-Year-Old Matt Cornell  
 Jr. Dragster 8-11-Year-Old Chance Morrison

## Wabash Valley Dragway

Super Pro Jake Orman  
 Pro Jeff Lathrop  
 Sportsman Bill McCarty  
 High School Chelsea Vice  
 Bike Robert "Pop" Arthurs  
 Jr. Dragster Jordan Eaker

## Coles County Dragway

Super Pro Lee Davis  
 Pro Terry Willard  
 Street Josh Chase  
 Motorcycle Joe Kortte  
 Powder Puff Co-Champions Judy Buckles  
 Nancy Alexander  
 High School Co-Champions Alex Clodfelder  
 Cody Hawn  
 Jr. Dragster Kevin Augustine

## National Trail Raceway

Super Pro Bob Biser  
 Pro Ron Simko  
 Super Pro Bike Ken Oravec  
 Sportsman Deanna McGee  
 Sportsman Bike Tracey Fields  
 Jr. Dragster 8-9-Year-Old Kyle Cockrell  
 Jr. Dragster 10-12-Year-Old David Davis  
 Jr. Dragster 13-17-Year-Old Patrick Riley  
 Super Comp Scotty Rienschild  
 Super Gas Larry Wolford  
 Super Street Bill Webb  
 Super 32 Mark Cook

## Windy Hollow Raceway Park

Super Pro Joe Butterworth  
 Sportsman Chris Williams  
 Real Street Marvin Poole  
 Pro Bike Jeff Parks  
 Jr. Dragster Trophy Kenneth Boucherie  
 Roy Taylor

## Edgewater Sports Park

Super Pro Howard Freeman  
 Pro Curt McClure  
 Sportsman Jeff Seither  
 Motorcycle Homer England  
 Jr. Dragster Keith Kaufhold

## Gateway Int'l Raceway

Super Pro Quarter-Mile Dave Schutte  
 Super Pro Eighth-Mile Joe Kuchta  
 Pro Brandon Ray

## 2002 Special Awards Ballot

Please take a moment to fill in your choices and return by Dec. 31, 2002. (Note: Nominee must have participated in the 2002 North Central Division season.) Special award selections will be announced at the Land of the Winners Awards Banquet.

**Pro/Sportsman Driver of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (TAD, TAFC)

**Sportsman Mechanic of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Comp, S/Stock, Stock, S/Comp, S/Gas, S/Street)

**Sportsman Driver of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Comp, S/Stock, Stock, S/Comp, S/Gas, S/Street)

**North Central Division Dragstrip of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (National event and Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series tracks)

**E.T. Bracket Driver of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (NHRA Summit Racing Series or Jeg's Super Quick Series)

**North Central Division Dragstrip of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (All other Division 3 member tracks)

**Pro/Sportsman Mechanic of the Year** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (TAD, TAFC)

**RETURN BALLOT TO:** NHRA North Central Division, 5 West St. Road 218, Bunker Hill, IN 46914

## Canadian Belle wins NHRA Summit Racing Series Super Pro National Championship



Bob Hesser

North Central Division's Les Belle, of Springfield, Ont., scored the biggest win of his racing career when he captured the NHRA Summit Racing Series Super Pro National Championship at the 38th annual Automobile Club of Southern California NHRA Finals in Pomona, Calif.

Belle, runner-up to Bob Biser, of Columbus, Ohio, at the NHRA Summit Racing Series North Central Division Finals in September was called upon to make the trip west when Biser was unable to go. Belle received \$5,000 for the National Championship win from Summit in addition to his \$3,500 qualifier money.

Burt Exman, the Division 3 Super Pro Motorcycle representative, made it to the semifinal round before bowing out to eventual winner Richard Pedraza from Division 6. Jack Spivey in Pro and Terry McGee in Sportsman both went out in double-breakout first-round losses. Each of the 28 National Championship participants collected \$3,500 as part of the overall \$118,000 National Championship cash purse.



*The North Central Division NHRA Summit Racing Series national finalists gathered at the NHRA Motorsports Museum: from left, Burt Exman (Super Pro Motorcycle), Terry McGee (Sportsman), Jack Spivey (Pro) and Les Belle (Super Pro).*



Eagle Eye Photography

## North Central Division NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series 2003 Schedule

<b>April 25-27</b>	<b>Route 66 Raceway</b>
<b>May 16-18</b>	<b>Indianapolis Raceway Park</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>Mid-Michigan Motorplex</b>
<b>Aug. 1-3</b>	<b>Edgewater Sports Park</b>
<b>Aug. 22-24</b>	<b>Beech Bend Raceway Park</b>
<b>Sept. 19-21</b>	<b>National Trail Raceway</b>

2003 National Open and Jeg's Super Quick Series schedules to be announced

### Special Thanks

The North Central Division staff would like to extend a special thank-you to the many people who helped make the 2002 season safe and successful. Our thanks to series sponsors Lucas Oil, Summit, Castrol GTX, Jeg's, and, of course, POWERade. Special appreciation goes to Pontiac, GMC Truck, T&E Auto Haulers, Suzuki, Racing Communications, and Hurst for their support. We also thank the many contingency sponsors, Drag Racing Association of Women, and Racers For Christ.

Our success wouldn't be possible without our NHRA member tracks, the Division 3 Certification Team members, and the racers who make us truly the "Land of the Winners." Happy holidays!

— Jay, Ritch, and Joan

## Bo Boles claims second Jeg's Super Quick title

Bo Boles had one of those racing seasons of which a racer dreams. He scored four event victories on his way to collecting his second NHRA Jeg's Super Quick Series division championship title. The Slaughters, Ky., racer last won the championship in 1998 and joins Randy Estridge ('89 and '90), Tim Branon ('94 and '01), and Tommy Radloff ('96 and '97) as two-time series champions. Boles' 150-point victory margin was the largest in the 14-year history of the series.

Boles and the other top 10 drivers in the year-end points standings will be honored at the annual North Central Division Awards Banquet, Jan. 11 in Indianapolis. Each of the top 10 will receive special Jeg's Super Quick Series jackets, and the top three finishers will share \$3,500 in bonus cash from Jeg's.

## 2002 NHRA Jeg's Super Quick Series Final Standings – Top 25

1. Bo Boles	Slaughters, Ky. . . . .	547
2. Tim Branon	Madisonville, Ky. . . . .	397
3. James Freels	Sacramento, Ky. . . . .	385
4. Jason Coan	Greentown, Ind. . . . .	332
5. Robbie Freels	Island, Ky. . . . .	331
6. Craig Flora	Lynchburg, Ohio . . . . .	331
7. Mike Bagley	Indianapolis, Ind. . . . .	331
8. Brent Crowell	Evansville, Ind. . . . .	330
9. Robert Gay	Springboro, Ohio . . . . .	320
10. Eddie Lykins	New Carlisle, Ohio . . . . .	298
11. Rick Corn	Benton, Ill. . . . .	290
12. Craig Sullivan	Avon, Ind. . . . .	276
Tom Stultz	Terre Haute, Ind. . . . .	276
Victor Krack	Evansville, Ind. . . . .	276
Jerry Powell II	Noblesville, Ind. . . . .	276
16. Paul Mann	Jasper, Ind. . . . .	265
Richard Edwards	Terre Haute, Ind. . . . .	265
Brent Collins	Monticello, Ill. . . . .	265
19. Rex Jacquay	Decatur, Ind. . . . .	256
20. Terry Hoke	Lawrenceville, Ill. . . . .	254
Bob Sargent	Indianapolis, Ind. . . . .	254
22. Lester Adkins	Corydon, Ky. . . . .	246
Lynn Smalley	East Alton, Ill. . . . .	246
24. David Yeargain	East Peoria, Ill. . . . .	243
25. Charlie Johnson	Bismarck, Ill. . . . .	221

(See nhradiv3.com for complete listing)

Robert Gay, in the Klamo Racing dragster, outperformed 2002's top Super Quick qualifiers at the Jeg's Shootout held in conjunction with the Sportsman Fall Classic National Open at Indianapolis Raceway Park. Modeled after NHRA's Budweiser Shootout at Indianapolis and Pomona for Funny Car and Top Fuel drivers, respectively, the Jeg's Shootout features the season's top eight qualifiers based on points in a special race-within-a-race format.



*First-round berths were reserved for the top eight qualifiers this season: Tom Stultz, Robert Gay, Tim Branon, Mike Bagley, Brent Collins, Bob Sargent, Eddie Lykins, and James Freels.*





# 2003 National Event Entry Request Form

Please check the events you wish to attend below.

## ENTRY DEADLINE

Event	Date	Requested	Category	Sent
<b>K&amp;N Filters Winternationals</b> Pomona, California	<b>February 6-9</b> TAD, TAFC	JANUARY 6		
<b>Checker Schuck's Kragen Nationals</b> Phoenix, Arizona	<b>February 20-23</b> PSB, SS Class, STK Class, SST	JANUARY 20		
<b>Mac Tools NHRA Gatornationals</b> Gainesville, Florida	<b>March 13-16</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, SS Class, STK Class	FEBRUARY 10		
<b>NHRA SummitRacing.com Nationals</b> Las Vegas, Nevada	<b>April 3-6</b> TAD, TAFC, STK Class	MARCH 3		
<b>O'Reilly Spring Nationals</b> Baytown, Texas	<b>April 10-13</b> TAD, TAFC, SS Class, STK Class, SST	MARCH 10		
<b>Mac Tools Thunder Valley NHRA Nationals</b> Bristol, Tennessee	<b>April 25-27</b> SS Class, STK Class, SST	MARCH 24		
<b>Summit Racing Equipment Southern Nationals</b> Commerce, Georgia	<b>May 1-4</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, SST	MARCH 31		
<b>NHRA Matco Tools SuperNationals</b> Englishtown, New Jersey	<b>May 15-18</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, SS Class, SST	APRIL 14		
<b>O'Reilly Summer Nationals</b> Topeka, Kansas	<b>May 22-25</b> TAD, TAFC, STK Class, SST	APRIL 21		
<b>Chicagoland NHRA Nationals</b> Chicago, Illinois	<b>May 29-June 1</b> PSB, SS Class	APRIL 28		
<b>Pontiac Excitement NHRA Nationals</b> Columbus, Ohio	<b>June 12-15</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, STK Class, SST	MAY 12		
<b>Sears Craftsman NHRA Nationals</b> Madison, Illinois	<b>June 27-29</b> PSB	MAY 27		
<b>Mopar Mile-High NHRA Nationals</b> Denver, Colorado	<b>July 18-20</b> PSB, SS Class, STK Class, SST	JUNE 16		
<b>Lucas Oil NHRA Northwest Nationals</b> Seattle, Washington	<b>July 25-27</b> TAD, TAFC, SST	JUNE 23		
<b>Fram-Autolite NHRA Nationals</b> Sonoma, California	<b>August 1-3</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC	JUNE 30		
<b>Rugged Liner NHRA Nationals</b> Brainerd, Minnesota	<b>August 14-17</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, SS Class, STK Class	JULY 14		
<b>Mac Tools U.S. Nationals</b> Indianapolis, Indiana	<b>August 27-September 1</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, SS Class, STK Class	JULY 28		
<b>Lucas Oil NHRA Nationals</b> Reading, Pennsylvania	<b>September 11-14</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC, STK Class	AUGUST 11		
<b>O'Reilly Midsouth Nationals</b> Millington, Tennessee	<b>September 18-21</b> PSB, SS Class	AUGUST 18		
<b>Route 66 NHRA Nationals</b> Chicago, Illinois	<b>September 25-28</b> TAD, TAFC, SST	AUGUST 25		
<b>O'Reilly Fall Nationals</b> Dallas, Texas	<b>October 9-12</b> TAD, TAFC, SS Class, STK Class, SST	SEPTEMBER 8		
<b>ACDelco Las Vegas Nationals</b> Las Vegas, Nevada	<b>October 23-26</b> PSB, SS Class, SST	SEPTEMBER 22		
<b>Automobile Club of Southern California NHRA Finals</b> Pomona, California	<b>November 6-9</b> PSB, TAD, TAFC	OCTOBER 6		

Complete all blanks or form will be returned.

### IMPORTANT

No entries will be sent to anyone who has not attended at least one LODRS Divisional Event or Divisional Special Series.



NHRA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if competitor is a minor.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if new address.

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

If you need multiple entries (max. two) you must request an entry in every category you want to compete in. Please check here and list other categories & numbers.

Please list all categories/numbers you have used in competition so we may check your credits.

List all NHRA LODRS divisional events (points races) that you ran in 2002. Category & Number

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Divisional / National Open Special Series (Must have category and number) Category & Number

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE ALLOW 2-3 WEEKS PROCESSING TIME

Please do not request entry forms for events that you do not intend to run!  
Schedule/sponsors subject to change.

**NATIONAL EVENT ENTRY DEADLINE IS GENERALLY ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE EVENT DATE**

Please mail completed form to:  
NHRA Division 3  
5 West State Road 218  
Bunker Hill, IN 46914

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

GRADE: 2000 \_\_\_\_\_ 2001 \_\_\_\_\_ 2002 \_\_\_\_\_ 2003 \_\_\_\_\_

## **NHRA NATIONAL EVENT ENTRY GRADING INFORMATION**

Due to the growing numbers of contestants, constraints on pit space, and scheduling time, a certain criteria must be met before a contestant may enter an NHRA National Event. The NHRA grading system determines who gains entry to the National Events and subsequently, rewards National Event aspirants who support Divisional activity.

A driver receives one (1) grading point for attending a Divisional NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series event or National Open event. The grading points earned in either the previous year or the current year (whichever is greater) stand as the driver's "grade".

### **2003 MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENT FOR OBTAINING NATIONAL EVENT ENTRY FORM**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TAD</b>	<b>TAFC</b>	<b>COMP</b>	<b>SS</b>	<b>STK</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>SG</b>	<b>SST</b>
K&N Filters Winternationals – Pomona	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	-
Checker Schuck's Kragen Nationals – Phoenix	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	1*
Mac Tools NHRA Gatornationals – Gainesville	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	-
NHRA Summit Racing.com Nationals – Las Vegas	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	-
O'Reilly Spring Nationals – Houston	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1*
Mac Tools Thunder Valley NHRA Nationals – Bristol	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	1*
Summit Racing NHRA Southern Nationals – Atlanta	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	1*
Matco Tools SuperNationals – Englishtown	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	2*
O'Reilly Summer Nationals – Topeka	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1*
Chicagoland NHRA Nationals – Chicago	-	-	2	3	3	3	3	-
Pontiac Excitement NHRA Nationals – Columbus	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2*
Sears Craftsman NHRA Nationals – St Louis	-	-	2	3	3	3	3	-
Mile-High NHRA Nationals – Denver	-	-	1	2	2	3	3	1*
Lucas Oil NHRA Northwest Nationals – Seattle	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	2*
Fram Autolite NHRA Nationals – Sonoma	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	-
Rugged Liner NHRA Nationals – Brainerd	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	-
Mac Tools U.S. Nationals – Indianapolis	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	-
Lucas Oil NHRA Nationals – Reading	2	2	3	4	4	5	5	-
O'Reilly Midsouth Nationals – Memphis	-	-	2	2	2	2	2	-
Route 66 NHRA Nationals & Jeg's Allstars- Chicago	2	2	3	4	4	5	5	2*
O'Reilly Fall Nationals – Dallas	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	1*
ACDelco NHRA Nationals – Las Vegas	-	-	3	4	4	5	5	2*
Auto Club NHRA Finals – Pomona	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	-

**NOTE: Meeting these requirements does not guarantee event entry acceptance.**

\* Grading points must be earned in Super Street.

**Provisional entries:** 1) A contestant with a valid NHRA Gold, Silver, or Bronze card will be guaranteed entry to any National Event. 2) The defending event champion will be guaranteed entry to the event he/she won. For example, last years Super Gas winner at the Finals would be guaranteed entry into this years Finals (entry would not be guaranteed to any other event however). 3) A former national champion (Pro or Sportsman) will be guaranteed entry to any National Event. 4) A Professional driver earning Top 20 status in the current or previous season will be guaranteed a Sportsman entry to any National Event. 5) Owner credits may be awarded in cases involving a driver change from one season to the next (contestant must receive approval from their Division Director). 6) A contestant within the top 20, and still in contention for a possible Top 10 year-end position, will be guaranteed entry to any of the final four National Events of the racing season (Chicago 2, Dallas, Las Vegas 2, and Pomona 2). These policies do not excuse the contestant from any late fees, gate entry fees, or insurance surcharges. For example, if a Gold card holder shows up at the gate for an event, the \$75 late fee, plus the \$75 gate fee, plus the \$40 insurance fee will still be applicable.

To accommodate certain hardship cases or a past racers return to active competition, an averaging system has been developed. The average grade is calculated as follows: the racer's 3 previous years grading points are added together and divided by 3. For example, in 2002 a racer ran 1 division event, in '01 - 0 events, and in '00 - 5 division events equaling  $1 + 0 + 5 = 6$ , divided by 3, equals a grade of 2A (the "A" indicating the averaging calculation).

To accommodate foreign contestants, grading points will be issued for participation in selected foreign events. Those events are the FIA European Championship, Australian Drag Racing Championship, Nordic Super Cup Championships, and Japan Drag Racing Association Championship. Each entry application must include written confirmation from the host country sanctioning organization verifying participation in their series.

A contestant competing in one category at some events and another category at others should notify the Division Director of the situation so that all grading points will be awarded to the driver. Similarly, if a contestant competes at an NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series event outside his/her Division, it is that contestant's responsibility to make sure that grading points for all events attended are awarded.

NHRA Division Directors handle the administration of the grading system. Contestants make their request for National Event entry forms for the year by filling out the National Event Request Form (NERF) and returning it to their Division Director. The Division Director "grades" the contestant based on the criteria outlined above.

For additional information about the grading system, contestants should contact their NHRA Division Director.