

### NHRA 101: 4 Wide Facts

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By Jen McVay, MSA Staff Writer, photos by MSA Staff

With another round of 4 wide in the books let's look at a few facts about the NHRA Top Fuel Dragsters.

Top fuel Dragsters race for 1,000 ft. Not ¼ mile like some other classes do. This is due to safety reasons.

First the cars don't go as fast and second it gives for a longer stopping distance.

Top fuel Dragsters mainly use a 500 cubic inch V8 that produces from 8,000-10,000 horsepower each. With two spark plug per cylinder and two valves per cylinder these fire spitting dragons produce twice as much horsepower as a modern locomotive.

At the Zmax 4 wide, Four Top Fuel Dragsters are the equivalent Horsepower of the full field of sprint cup cars.

Top fuel cars reach speeds of over 325 MPH in less than 4 Seconds and at a distance of 1,000 Feet.

Sprint Cup cars reach a top speed of just over 200mph at Talladega Super Speedway it takes about 2 laps to reach full speed of 200 MPH.

Top Fuel dragsters can use around 20 gallons of fuel per run.

Top Fuel Dragsters are very loud. The sound pressure level produced is about 150 Db's. A Jet engine is about 130 Db's. A rock concert about 115 Db's.

In the time it takes a 2013 corvette 427 to reach 60 MPH (3.7 sec) a top Fuel Dragster has crossed to finished line at over 326 MPH!

The winners in the Charlotte Z-Max 4 Wide were:

Top Fuel: Antron Brown, Funny Car: Robert Hight, Pro Stock: Jimmy Alund, Pro Stock Motorcycle: Andrew Hines.



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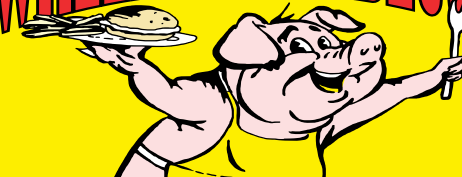
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