

Kyle Busch holds off Brad Keselowski for Cup win at the Glen

The third time may have been the charm for Kyle Busch, but it was a jinx for pole winner Marcos Ambrose.

Having surrendered the lead late in the last two NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at Watkins Glen International, Busch reversed the trend Sunday in winning the Cheez-It 355 at the 2.45-mile road course by .486 seconds over runner-up Brad Keselowski.

Ambrose had the race in hand, having led 51 of the first 61 laps, until an inopportune caution in the middle of a pit stop cycle dropped him back to 12th for a restart on Lap 64 of 90. Busch grabbed the lead when Ambrose came to pit road under yellow on Lap 62 and held it the rest of the way.

A wreck on Lap 85 ended Ambrose's bid for a third straight win at the Glen.

Martin Truex Jr. ran third, followed by Carl Edwards and Juan Pablo Montoya. Clint Bowyer, Joey Logano, Jimmie Johnson, Kurt Busch and AJ Allmendinger completed the top 10.

Busch, who was already on pit road when the fifth caution changed the race on Lap 60, nevertheless had to survive a succession of restarts in the final 15 laps before edging Keselowski for the victory in a two-lap shootout. Busch collected his third win of the season, his second at the Glen and the 27th of his career—but nothing about it was easy.

And he can thank Keselowski for resisting the temptation to move him out of the way in the final two corners.

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