

## **Sammy Smith wins NASCAR Xfinity Series race in front of a sold out crowd**

### **NASCAR has upheld the disqualification of Jesse Love's car**

Sammy Smith was awarded the victory in the North Carolina Education Lottery 250 presented by Black's Tire after the No. 2 Chevrolet of Jesse Love was deemed to have violated Rule 14.14.2.1-5.h which covers trailing arm spacers and pinion angle shims.

The disqualification of Love's car was upheld the Wednesday following the much-anticipated return of NASCAR to Rockingham Speedway by the National Motorsports Appeals Panel.

Before the infraction was discovered, Love was ecstatic to win at The Rock in front of a sold out grandstands.

"Oh, my gosh, these fans are amazing," said Love, who was all but drowned out by the cheers from the onlookers, who celebrated the return of the Xfinity Series to Rockingham for the first time since 2004. "What an amazing race track. Man, this race track's right in my alley. It's hammer down—you've got to be in the gas good today!"

Fans who came to Rockingham anticipating a show weren't disappointed. A workable second groove opened above the bottom lane, and drivers were even able to roll three-wide through the corners on occasion, though some of the attempts to do so produced regrettable outcomes.

"It's a tough way to win that, but I feel like we'll take 'em any way we can get 'em," Smith said after learning of Love's disqualification. "We waited here to see what happens, but overall, it was a good day, and I'm very happy with the progress we've made recently."

Alpha Prime Racing placed both of their drivers in the top five at the finish. Wisconsin native Parker Retzlaff finished a career-best second with Texas teammate Brennan Poole in fourth. Harrison Burton's third place finish was the best run to date for his AM Racing team in the Xfinity Series.

Sunoco rookie Taylor Gray completed the top five. Austin Hill, Josh Williams, Jeb Burton, Daniel Dye and Jeremy Clements finished sixth through 10th respectively.

In a welcome return to NASCAR racing, Kasey Kahne qualified fourth but was unable to avoid a spinning car in turn one 52 laps into the North Carolina Education Lottery 250 presented by Black's Tire. Repairs by his Richard Childress Racing team - and Kahne's ability - produced a 14<sup>th</sup> place finish on the lead lap.

Kahne, one of NASCAR's 75 Greatest Drivers, sought out a race-winning ride as soon as Rockingham Speedway's return to the 2025 NASCAR Xfinity schedule. He was determined to race again at Rockingham Speedway, where Kahne won the 2012 NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series race and finished a very close second to Matt Kenseth in the most recent Cup Series race held at the rejuvenated mile oval in 2004.

Fans are encouraged to visit [www.RaceTheRock.com](http://www.RaceTheRock.com) for updates and information on NASCAR's return to Rockingham Speedway.



NASCAR Xfinity Series Race Number 10

Race Results for the North Carolina Education Lottery 250 presented by

Black's Tire - Saturday, April 19, 2025

Rockingham Speedway - Rockingham, NC - 0.94 - Mile Paved

Total Race Length - 256 Laps - 240.64 Miles

Provided by NASCAR Statistics - Saturday, 4/19/2025 @ 10:54 PM Eastern



Fin	Str	Car	Driver	Team	Laps	Stage 1	Stage 2	Pts	Status	Tms	Laps	Playoff
						Pos	Pos					Pts
1	13	8	Sammy Smith	Pilot Chevrolet	256			40	Running	1	9	5
2	2	4	Parker Retzlaff	Scentsy Chevrolet	256	2		44	Running			
3	29	25	Harrison Burton	DEX Imaging Ford	256			34	Running			
4	28	44	Brennan Poole	Macc Door Systems Chevrolet	256			33	Running			
5	15	54	Taylor Gray #	Operation 300 Toyota	256		9	34	Running			
6	10	21	Austin Hill	Bennett Transportation Chevrolet	256			31	Running			
7	21	11	Josh Williams	Alloy Employer Services Chevrolet	256			30	Running			
8	22	27	Jeb Burton	CELSIUS Chevrolet	256	5	2	44	Running			
9	27	10	Daniel Dye #	Champion Container Chevrolet	256			28	Running			
10	16	51	Jeremy Clements	Harrison's Chevrolet	256	9	3	37	Running			
11	18	26	Dean Thompson #	Thompson Pipe Group Toyota	256		1	36	Running	1	11	1
12	6	20	Brandon Jones	Menards/Barracuda Toyota	256	10	6	31	Running	2	6	
13	1	88	Connor Zilisch #	WeatherTech Chevrolet	256			24	Running			
14	4	33	Kasey Kahne	HendrickCars.com Chevrolet	256			23	Running			
15	34	42	Anthony Alfredo	Randco Chevrolet	256	4	5	35	Running			
16	25	1	Carson Kvapil #	Bass Pro Shops/Clarience Tech Chevrolet	256	7	7	29	Running	2	47	
17	26	91	Josh Bilicki	Insurance King Chevrolet	256			20	Running			
18	12	39	Ryan Sieg	Sci Aps Ford	256	3		27	Running	2	77	
19	37	07	Patrick Emerling	Firman Power Equipment Chevrolet	256			18	Running			
20	35	28	Kyle Sieg	Night Owl Companies Ford	256	6	8	25	Running			
21	8	7	Justin Allgaier	BRANDT Chevrolet	254			16	Running			
22	33	14	Garrett Smithley	Molly Strong Chevrolet	253			15	Running			
23	9	16	Christian Eckes #	Black's Tire Chevrolet	252			14	Running	1	1	
24	36	45	Vicente Salas	Miramar Financial Group Chevrolet	251			13	Running			
25	5	18	William Sawalich #	Soundgear Toyota	248			12	Running			
26	11	41	Sam Mayer	Audibel Ford	247		10	12	Accident			
27	14	99	Matt DiBenedetto	Viking Motorsports Chevrolet	247	8	4	20	Accident			
28	30	5	Kris Wright	First National Bank Corp Chevrolet	247			9	Accident			
29	20	70	Thomas Annunziata	Bayshore Mortgage Chevrolet	246			8	Suspension			
30	32	87	Austin Green	OVERPLAY Chevrolet	241			7	Accident			
31	3	48	Nick Sanchez #	Big Machine Vodka Spiked Chevrolet	240	1		16	Accident	2	52	1
32	24	31	Blaine Perkins	Opti-Coat/KSDT CPA Chevrolet	226			5	Accident			
33	23	71	Ryan Ellis	Southern Elevator Chevrolet	180			4	Accident			
34	38	35	Greg Van Alst	CB Fabricating Chevrolet	171			3	Brakes			
35	17	00	Sheldon Creed	Road Ranger Ford	109			2	Accident			
36	31	53	Katherine Legge(i)	Ace Hardware Rock Hill Chevrolet	50			0	Accident			
37	7	2	Jesse Love	Whelen Chevrolet	256			2	Running	6	53	
38	19	19	Justin Bonsignore	M3 Technology Toyota	157			1	Accident			

**Fastest Lap Bonus:** #39, lap 167 / 23.39

**Time of Race:** 2 Hrs, 59 Mins, 38 Secs.

**Average Speed:** 80.377 MPH

**Margin of Victory:** 0.691 Seconds

**Stage 1 Top 10:** 48, 4, 39, 42, 27, 28, 1, 99, 51, 20

**Stage 2 Top 10:** 26, 27, 51, 99, 42, 20, 1, 28, 54, 41

**Race Comments:** Sammy Smith has won the North Carolina Education Lottery 250 presented by Black's Tire at Rockingham Speedway, his third career victory in the NASCAR Xfinity Series. Prior to the start of the race, the following cars dropped to the rear for the reasons indicated: No. 35: engine change, No. 42: unapproved adjustment, No. 53: Driver Change, No. 88: Unapproved adjustments.

**Failed to Qualify:** (2) 32 Katherine Legge(i), 74 Dawson Cram.

**Caution Flags:** 14 for 83 laps; Laps: 14-17 (#45 Incident Backstretch [None]); 53-58 (#18, 33, 53 Incident Turn 1 [14]); 62-70 (Stage 1 Conclusion [35]); 110-117 (#00, 19 Incident Turn 4 [14]); 122-128 (Stage 2 Conclusion [39]); 130-134 (#11, 18 Incident Turn 4 [33]); 139-143 (#35 Spin Turn 2 [88]); 149-153 (#07 Incident Backstretch [88]); 159-164 (#19 Incident Backstretch [07]); 182-188 (#28, 51, 71 Incident Backstretch [14]); 228-232 (#31 Incident Turn 4 [07]); 236-240 (#10, 33, 91 Incident Turn 3 [28]); 242-246 (#1, 7, 16, 20, 39, 48 Incident Turn 1 [Red Flag: 2:59] [28]); 249-254 (#27, 88 Incident Turn 2 [Red Flag: 5:38] [39]).

**Lead Changes:** 17 among 8 drivers; C. Zilisch # 0; N. Sanchez # 1-44; J. Love 45-56; N. Sanchez # 57-64; C. Kvapil # 65-102; J. Love 103; C. Kvapil # 104-112; D. Thompson # 113-123; B. Jones 124-128; J. Love 129-133; B. Jones 134; J. Love 135-160; R. Sieg 161-187; C. Eckes # 188; R. Sieg 189-238; J. Love 239-245; S. Smith 246-254; J. Love 255-256.

(i) Ineligible for driver points in this series

**Next Race:** April 26, 2025 - Talladega Superspeedway