

# BRINA **SPLINGAIRE**

*Versatile performer  
with victories in four  
classes*



When it comes to Sportsman drag racing, Brina Splingaire is far more than a one-trick pony. Admittedly, winning any race in any class is difficult, but those with the ability to win in multiple classes while driving multiple cars tend to be a step ahead of the competition.

The Illinois-based Splingaire has the versatile part down pat, as she has got a very impressive racing résumé that currently includes NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series wins in Super Stock, Stock, Super Comp, and Super Gas. As for her national event tally, it's equally as impressive with five wins in three categories.

"When you go from class to class, you really have to pay attention and focus, but that helps make you a better racer," said Splingaire. "For me, it took a little bit of time to adjust, but I'm glad I've been able to have those experiences."

Raised in Northern Illinois, Splingaire got her start at an early age when her parents, Jeff and Cyndi, put her in a Jr. Dragster at age 8. She eventually made the transition to Super Comp and Super Gas, where she won a pair of national events in 2008.

"Racing the Jr. Dragster helped me a lot," she said. "I'd highly recommend it for any kid who wants to race. Once you've been down the track a few times, it helps make it a natural to jump into a 'big car.' I'd have to say the time I spent in the Jr. car played a monumental part in my success."

Education has also played a big role in Splingaire's career, as she holds an MBA in business administration from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and studied mechanical engineering technology at Purdue University. The latter has proven to be especially useful when it comes to racing, particularly tuning her current COPO Camaro Stocker.

"My dad and I split most of the responsibilities when it comes to tuning and maintenance," Splingaire said. "He'll typically adjust the valves while I take care of things like EFI [electronic fuel injection] programming. That's where my background in engineering has been useful. I want to know how things work."

More than a decade removed from her first national event wins, Splingaire remains very competitive and believes her best days as a racer still lie ahead. Last season, she finished No. 18 out of nearly 1,000 competitors in Stock and was No. 4 in a stacked North Central Division.

"We had a couple of unfortunate challenges during the season. Otherwise, I might have been able to finish even higher," said Splingaire. "We got an updated engine from [Barton Engines] over the winter, and we weren't ready for all that extra power. It disrupted the chassis, and we blew the tires off at a couple of races early in the season. I'd like to have a couple of those rounds back, but it does make me really optimistic for 2025."

"I still have a few things I'd like to accomplish. Of course, everyone wants to win a world championship, and I want to win the division as well. I've been second, third, and fourth; every spot but first. Hopefully, that's next." 

