

# NASCAR Media Conference

## Pit Lane Interview

Sunday, May 3, 2026

## Denny Hamlin



**Q. Just a little short of getting that fourth Texas win. Denny, looked like you had a great restart there. Almost able to hang on his quarter panel off of turn two. How close was that to keep on his outside?**

**DENNY HAMLIN:** It was really close, for sure. Props to the 9 team and really the 45, that last third stage, you know, they had some really good speed. I thought it was going to be so close if it went green. I thought I was going to get there, you know, especially with as hard as the 6 was trying to hold off the 9.

Hats off to this whole Progressive Toyota team. Did good. I didn't have great restarts all day. Then you get set behind a little bit. It's just those little fine, small details.

Yeah, I thought I got a good restart there at the end side-by-side, but then, you know, just the way the side draft works there into turn one with him getting the push from the 48, it just allowed his momentum to pick up a little bit quicker than mine. I tried to hang on to the side, but I was just getting tighter as the closer I was getting to him.

So good, decent day. Just one short.

**Q. You mentioned restarts. Looked like the restarts were absolutely crazy all day long. We saw a number of cars spin out on their own. How much of a knife's edge was it out there with those cars, and how challenging was it?**

**DENNY HAMLIN:** I mean, it's this track, right? You have to make some decisions with your setup, with that big bump over in turns three and four. Sometimes if you just get going too aggressively over there and your car is a little free, it doesn't take much to spin them out, as we've seen. It's year after year we've seen a handful of cars do that.

We get close to doing it. I think everyone in the field at some point. Yeah, we had another great Toyota Camry. Just not quite good enough.

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