

Allmendinger Nets Shootout Invite

15 December 2011--After placing a career-high 15th in the 2011 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series standings, AJ Allmendinger will make his first Bud Shootout start in February as the 2012 season kicks off at Daytona International Speedway.

2011 saw Allmendinger complete his best season to date as he picked up a top-five finish and 10 top-10 results en route to earning his best ever finish in the championship. HIs year-long effort for Richard Petty Racing has ben recognized as he has earned a spot in the 2012 Shootout on February 18.

The All-Star race format isn't new to Allmendinger and he is already quite familiar with what it takes to win such an event having won the 2008 Sprint Showdown at Charlotte Motor Speedway in only his second Sprint Cup Series season.

Allmendinger has traditionally run well at the World Center of Racing – leading laps at the famed oval as well as scoring a career-best result of third in the 2009 Daytona 500.

The Bud Shootout, held a week ahead of the Daytona 500, includes what could be the most talented field to date but Allmendinger looks to return to his winning ways as he returns to a track where he has always been quick.

The race format is a total of 75 laps divided into a 25-lap and 50-lap segment. A 10-minute pit stop between segments allows teams to change tires, add fuel and make any necessary chassis adjustments.

The Bud Shootout is set to begin February 18 at 8:10 PM (ET) on FOX.

"The more I can race, the better, so it's great to know that we'll be getting a little bit early start on the season next year in the Shootout," said Allmendinger, who will also race karts at Daytona in an upcoming WKA event. "It sounds like there are going to be some changes in terms of tandem racing and the draft next year so the more experience we can get with that before the 500, the better so I'm happy and hopefully it helps us in the big show a week later. There would be no better way to start 2012 by winning the Daytona 500."

Remember to follow AJ on Twitter (at www.twitter.com/ajdinger) or LIKE him on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/AJAIImendinger).

About Walldinger Racing, Inc.: Walldinger Racing was formed in 2006 to support AJ Allmendinger's motorsports career by developing commercial opportunities and partnership programs.

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