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**NHRA ANNOUNCES FIRST OFFICIAL DOUBLEHEADER LUCAS OIL DRAG RACING
SERIES EVENT IN HISTORY**

GLENDORA, Calif. (Jan. 5, 2012) – NHRA announced today the first official doubleheader NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series event in history, the week following the NHRA Arizona Nationals at Firebird International Raceway in Phoenix, Ariz.

The NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series doubleheader will consist of a standard race on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 23-24, followed by a regional NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series event featuring Top Alcohol Dragster and Top Alcohol Funny Car on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 25-26.

“This format provides a huge benefit to the sportsman racer,” said division director Mike Rice, of NHRA’s Division 7. “Specifically, it helps reduce travel costs by allowing racers to compete in two races in one weekend. And, for those sportsman racers that decide to race in the NHRA Arizona Nationals the previous weekend, it provides an opportunity to compete in three points events in a 10-day window. I would like to thank Charlie Allen and his team at Firebird International Raceway for their assistance and willingness to make this concept become a reality for the sportsman racers.”

NHRA has never officially scheduled a doubleheader Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series event. However, it has happened out of necessity, due to rain reschedules. If proven successful and a financial benefit to the racer as it is intended, the doubleheader concept could be implemented at other events in the future.

Headquartered in Glendora, Calif., NHRA is the primary sanctioning body for the sport of drag racing in the United States. NHRA presents 23 national events featuring the NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series, NHRA Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series and NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series presented by ProCare Rx. NHRA provides competition opportunities for drivers of all levels in the NHRA Summit Racing Series and the NHRA Drags: Street Legal Style presented by AAA. NHRA also offers the Jr. Drag Racing League for youth ages 8 to 17. In addition, NHRA owns and operates five racing facilities: Gainesville Raceway in Florida; Atlanta Dragway in Georgia; National Trail Raceway in Ohio; Lucas Oil Raceway at Indianapolis; and Auto Club Raceway at Pomona in Southern California. For more information, log on to NHRA.com, or visit the official NHRA pages on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.