Colorado National Speedway (aka CNS) is located in Dacono, CO. CNS is directly affiliated with NASCAR and its competitors compete for points and championships on both a regional and national level. The chaplain team at CNS provides emotional and spiritual support to competitors, crews, family members, and all track officials and employees.

The chaplain team began in 2007 when former youth pastor Brent Bettman saw the need for a spiritual presence at the track and obtained permission from track management to begin a chaplain outreach. Brent has since left the ministry and Jim Mitchell has served as head chaplain since 2013. Other current team members include Robin Mitchell, Brian Rodgers, Norval Scrivner, Mark Pearcy, Kent Nelson, and Abram Romero. The team is non-denominational and a 501(c) 3 non profit ministry. It is also affiliated on a national level with the Motor Racing Outreach Association and Raceway Ministries. These ministries provide chaplain support to all levels of NASCAR as well as many other forms of racing. They also provide essential training, accountability, and resources for ministry. Our partnership with them gives credibility to the outreach at CNS.

The chaplain ministry provides several essential functions to CNS:

* They provide trauma response in the event of an incident at the track that requires anyone to be transported to a local hospital for medical treatment.
* They are available to individually pray with drivers immediately before they take the track to compete.
* They are available for prayer and support to all members of the track community on each night of competition.
* They are available as a resource for ministry with issues away from the track (family, marriage, etc).
* They provide a consistent and caring level of emotional and spiritual support to the track community.

The track outreach is best described as the ‘philosophy of hanging out’. That title is appropriate because that’s exactly what track chaplains do: they consistently hang out in the racing environment. It is a low key approach that is based upon allowing friendships to be naturally built with individuals in the racing community. It also mirrors the pattern the Apostle Paul used in building relationships and gaining an understanding of the culture of the day before preaching. The chaplain team does not have an evangelistic agenda nor do we view all the people in the track community as targets for conversion. We have a passion and love for the racing community and simply strive to serve their emotional and spiritual needs with Godly wisdom. This is done through the building of authentic friendships that offer support both at and away from the racing venue. Authenticity in relationships is the cornerstone of everything else the track ministry does.

Because of the growing need at CNS and possible expansion of the ministry to other tracks the chaplain team is also actively recruiting new members. Qualified applicants do not need to be ordained or licensed professional members of the clergy. The most important qualities are that they have a heart for ministry to those in the world of motorsports and that they have a proven track record of ministry in their local church. Chaplains must also be willing to undergo necessary training and obtain membership with either MRO or NFRM and make a commitment to be a part of the chaplain team for at least 1 full season. Those interested in becoming involved can contact the chaplain team via the information below.

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