

NATIONAL HISTORICAL MACHINERY
ASSOCIATION Inc.
TRACTOR PULL GUIDELINES
AUSTRALIA WIDE

Issued: 31st July 2007. Amended: January 2010; November 2012.

Preamble: Tractor pulling is not a competition; it is only a fun sport to test the pulling capacity of your old tractor. Tractors are to be classified into three classes:

- a) Tractors manufactured 1955 or earlier; referred to as ‘Vintage Tractors’.
 - b) Tractors manufactured 1956 or later; referred to as ‘Classic Tractors’. All participating tractors need to be at least 30 years old.
 - c) All participating tractors be limited to 1973 year of manufacture or earlier, and a limit of 100 maximum drawbar horsepower be placed on all tractors.
1. Horsepower ranges will be set on the maximum drawbar horsepower.
Under 15hp, 16-20hp, 21-25hp, 26-30hp, 31-35hp, 36-40hp, 41-45hp, 46-50hp, 51-55hp, 56-60hp.
Open: Horsepower classes are optional to all clubs.
 2. All tractors must be in standard form with no modification whatsoever.
Type variations will be allowed only if:
 - a) They were available as an option when new.
 - b) They are the only modern size tyre available to replace old tyres.
 - c) Rim spacers will only be permitted to enable modern tyre sizes to fit old rims.
 3. Two wheel weights can be fitted per wheel, to any tractor irrespective of make or model, cast or steel rims. The wheel weight must not protrude more than two inches or 50mm past the outside of the tyre. These weights must have been originally manufactured as a wheel weight, be of cast or steel material and fitted in a proper and safe manner. It is left to the discretion of the Safety Officer or Club Committee regarding the number of ‘Chamberlain weights’ (sandwich weights) fitted to Chamberlain Tractors only.
 4. No other weights will be allowed on the tractor. No tractors will be allowed with any other equipment fitted
 5. Maximum height for drawbar will be: a) Under 25hp classes : 18” Maximum
b) Above 25hp classes : 22” maximum

No modified drawbars are allowed. All drawbars must be supplied by the manufacturers.

6. When front wheels lift off the ground you will be stopped.
7. All drivers must be licensed and insured, however, underage drivers fifteen to seventeen may participate under strict supervision of an adult club member in a fenced compound. Outside fenced compounds all drivers must be licensed.
8. No passengers allowed on tractors in compound or pulling track.
9. No riding on the sled, only drivers allowed on shed, unless an extra seat is fitted.
10. Pulling will start and stop at the sound of a horn on the sled, or a signal by the flagman.
11. Tractors must be in Neutral and drivers must have both hands raised to indicate ‘Neutral’ before hooking up and unhooking.
12. Tractors must be driven no faster than walking pace at all times.
13. All tractors will be observed by a Safety Committee appointed by the club.
14. If there is a seat fitted on the tractor, the driver must remain correctly seated at all times.
15. Tandem hitched tractors will be accepted at NHMA events, only if the hitch is approved by the

It is intended that these “Tractor Pull Guidelines” should be followed by all NHMA clubs conducting such an event. These Guidelines are produced with the aim of providing a safe operating procedure for the exhibitor, the officials and the viewing public. Please remember, modifications only as above, this event is for Vintage and Classic Tractors only. Your club input is always welcome.

Please contact the NHMA Secretary or State Representative with
manufacturer and built to a structural engineer’s requirements [certificate required]. Tandem tractor pulls using chains etc will not be accepted under any circumstances.

GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR TRACTOR OPERATION

Date: April 2015

Introduction

During tractor pulls, displays & parades, **SAFETY** is a serious matter. Participants must take reasonable care and remain vigilant at all times in order to look after their own safety as well as that of others. The limited intent of the guidelines below is to provide a safe and fun event for operators, officials and the general public. As such, they do not purport to list all matters for safe operation of a tractor. Common sense practical safety considerations should be all participants conscious endeavour.

Loading and Unloading

Loading and unloading of tractors is to be carried out in a safe manner on the loading ramps provided, or by the transport's own ramps which must be of adequate construction for the tractor being on/off loaded

General

- Parked tractors are to be secured in such a way as to prevent accidental starting, or accidental rolling
- No tractor may be started or running without the owner/driver in attendance
- Only start a tractor with a qualified person in the driver's seat
- The tractor has ONE seat to carry ONE person only – the driver – NO passengers. The driver must remain correctly seated at all times
- Always mount and dismount from the left-hand side [looking from the rear] unless the tractor design prevents this, in which case extra care is to be taken
- No mounting or dismounting from a moving tractor
- Never fuel a tractor with the engine running
- The storage of combustible fuels shall be in an approved container and stored away from running engines
- No loose objects are to be on the tractor, especially fuel containers
- Tractors shall be driven at no greater than walking speed at all times

Tractor Pull

- ALL drivers MUST attend briefing prior to each pull session
- Pulling will start and stop as signalled by the track flagmen
- Tractors must be in neutral and driver must have both hands raised to indicate neutral before hooking or unhooking occurs
- Track marshals are in control of the pull at all times
- Only tractor driver, sled crew and track officials to be on pulling track at any time

2017 ROTARY JOHN DEERE TRACTOR PULL SPORTING COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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Issued: 28 March 2015

Preamble: Tractor Pulling is a fun, sporting competition meant to test the pulling capacity of your antique or vintage tractor. To qualify as vintage or antique for this event, tractors must be:

40 YEARS or OLDER

1. **Horsepower ranges will be set on the maximum engine horsepower.**
20-29hp, 30-39hp, 40-49hp, 50-59hp, 60-69hp, 70-79hp, 80-89hp, 90-109hp, 110-129hp, 130-149hp
2. **All tractors must be in standard form with no modification. Safety Panel to decide compliance.**
Type of variations will be allowed if:
 - a) They were available as an option when new
 - b) They are the only modern size tyre available to replace old tyres
 - c) Rim spacers will only be permitted to enable modern tyre sizes to fit old rims
3. **Two wheel weights may be fitted per wheel, to any tractor, irrespective of make or model, cast or steel rims. The wheel weight must not protrude more than 2" (50mm) past the outside of the tyre. These weights must have been originally manufactured as a wheel weight, be of cast or steel material and fitted in a proper and safe manner. It is left to the discretion of the Safety Officer and/or Safety Panel regarding the number of 'Chamberlain weights' (sandwich weights) fitted to Chamberlain Tractors only.**
4. **No other weights will be allowed on the tractor.** No tractors will be allowed with any other equipment fitted.
5. **MAXIMUM height for drawbar will be:**
 - a) Under 30hp classes: **18" (457mm) Maximum**
 - b) Over 30hp classes: **22" (559mm) Maximum**No modified drawbars are allowed. All drawbars must be supplied by the manufacturer.
6. **When front wheels lift off the ground, the pull is determined to be FINISHED and you will be stopped immediately. The puller will be disqualified if any tractor wheel touches a track boundary line.**
7. **All drivers must be licensed, however, underage drivers 16 to 17 years of age, deemed to be a competent operator by the Safety Officer/Panel, may participate under strict supervision** of an adult participant or parent, but ONLY within the fenced compound. Outside of fenced compound ALL drivers must be licensed. Track Safety Officer or Track Marshall's determination to be final.
8. **No passengers allowed on tractors.**
9. **No riding on sled, only operator is allowed on sled, unless a properly fitted extra seat is present.**

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10. Pulling will start on the drop of the GREEN flag, and finish on the drop of the RED flag. The track flagman is in control of the pull. Failure to obey track flagman will result in immediate disqualification. The track flagman has the right to stop any pull if safety becomes a factor.
11. Tractors must be in NEUTRAL and clutch disengaged with brakes applied when being hooked or unhooked. Drivers MUST raise both hands to indicate 'NEUTRAL & BRAKED' before hooking up or unhooking takes place. The operator will take up slack in chain when instructed to do so by the track flagman.
12. Tractors must be driven no faster than walking pace at ALL times.
13. All tractors will be assessed by an appointed Safety Panel and must be submitted for scrutineering prior to each pull session. Safety Panel Decisions are FINAL.
14. All drivers MUST attend the safety briefings scheduled for 9:45am & 1:45pm prior to each pull session on both days. Failure to do so will result in NO PULL for that session. A wrist band will be provided during each briefing to prove attendance.
15. Anyone operating a tractor while under the influence of intoxicants will be automatically disqualified. Any foul language, offensive behaviour, poor sportsman-like conduct, etc. towards any track official or competitor will be grounds for immediate disqualification. All decisions FINAL.
16. Three point hitch arms cannot interfere with hooking and unhooking. If left on, they must be raised to the highest position and adequately secured.
17. Two (2) tries will be allowed to start the sled, providing the initial pull does not exceed the fair start mark of 10 meters.
18. Any competitor failing to be ready to pull in assigned order for that session will result in NO PULL. At the discretion of the Track Marshall, competitor may be allowed to pull LAST in that session.
19. WINNER in each class will be LONGEST single pull in that class. If time permits, two (2) pulls for each session will be allowed, providing a total of 8 possible pulls over the two (2) days.

Fuel/Diesel to only be stored in 5 litre containers (out of the sun) and that any refuelling required should only be decanted from 5 litre Jerry Cans request by local Fire and Rescue, Regional Community Engagement Officer.