

4th OF JULY HERITAGE DAYS LAWN MOWER RACE



2009 RULE BOOK



Additional rule changes may be implemented as needed. Please monitor the Fairground website-www.tehamadistrictfair.com- for updates.

CLASSES	ALL MOWERS ARE TO BE OF LAWN MOWER ORIGIN	
OPEN CLASS 26 horse and over	15 – 25 horse	14 horse & under

General Regulations

1. Pit Area and Track Regulations

- a) No person under 16 years of age shall be on the grid. Those 16 years of age and older are permitted with an approved parents consent form on file.
- b) Mower pit speed is 5 MPH maximum.
- c) Long pants, closed shoes and shirts are required in the track area.
- d) Refueling: Driver must dismount and engine must be shut off when fuel is added. A fire extinguisher (Liquid Fire Rated) must be in the hands of a crew member any time fuel is added to a hot machine.
- e) Mower must be completely stopped before driver dismounts.
- f) Track crews are under the direction of the Track Steward at all times.
- g) The driver is responsible for the conduct of his/her guests and crew, even while on the track.
- h) Only authorized personnel and drivers shall enter the racing course during racing activity. All individuals entering the pit area, including crew members and guests, must sign a release discharging Tehama District Fairgrounds (TDF) from liability and must have a wrist band.
- i) No pets are allowed on the Fairgrounds or racing course.
- j) TDF reserves the right to limit pit space. Campers and RV's may be permitted on race day only if space permits.
- k) No vehicles other than racing mowers and official vehicles such as tow vehicles shall be on or near the track.

3. Driver Eligibility

- a) Drivers must be at least 16 years of age. Drivers under 18 years of age may compete with the approved parent's consent form on file.
- b) All drivers must sign a release discharging the TDF from liability.

4. Safety Equipment

- a) Every driver must wear an automobile racing or motorcycle-type full-face helmet approved by the U. S. Department of Transportation or the Snell Foundation. The helmet must fit snugly and be securely buckled when driver is on the track.
- b) Goggles or a face shield are required. Glasses are not adequate protection.
- c) All drivers must wear long pants, long sleeved shirt, neck brace, full-fingered gloves and leather over the ankle footwear on the track. Chest protectors and other anti-abrasive suits are highly recommended. No loose clothing on the track.

5. Mower Eligibility

- a. Events are open to all riding type lawn mowers and garden tractors (with tires 20" or less) that were mass-produced and commercially available to mow residential lawns. Zero turn riders are welcome and will run in their own class. The mower may be modified from its original configuration as noted in section 7 **General Mower Specifications Modified Classes**.
- b. Final determination of eligibility and classification is up to the technical inspector.
- c. Organizers reserve the right to reject at any time any mower, which in their opinion, represents an attempt to defeat the spirit of these rule, even though it complies with the letter of them.

6. Technical Inspection

- a. All mowers entering the event must be inspected for compliance by the Technical Inspector prior to participating in practice or racing.
- b. Drivers must complete the registration process and sign insurance releases prior to entering the tech line.
- c. Drivers may be questioned on the content of this document and must pass in order to practice or race.
- d. All required safety equipment must be present at technical inspection.
- e. Any driver, guest, crew member or official that displays behavior that is considered dangerous to other drivers, guests, crew members or spectators may be removed from the event by authorized event officials.
- f. Contact a staff member for clarification of any item mentioned above.
- g. If it is the opinion of a race official that a mower is out of compliance with rules for its classes said mower may be examined.

7. General Mower Specifications- (All classes)

- a. Cutting blades must be removed.
- b. Cutting decks must be securely mounted in near stock location.
- c. Mowers must maintain a minimum of 2.5" ground clearance under the lowest point of the deck.
- d. Mowers must maintain a minimum of 4" of ground clearance under the lowest point of the frame. Unused brackets and non-structural material may be removed to gain clearance.
- e. Exhaust design is open, but must terminate away from the driver and competitors, in a rearward and downward direction without creating a safety hazard.
- f. **Starter and functional battery** must be on board, either electric or pull rope **in all classes except OPEN Class**.
- g. Rear wheels must be secured to the rear axle with shaft locks, center bolts or thru-bolts.
- h. All non-stock mowers shall have an automatic, throttle closing device.
- i. Kill switch lanyard length shall be as short as necessary to effectively stop the mower as quickly as possible. Lanyard length shall not exceed 40". This device

must be commercially available for racing and/or recreational vehicles such as ATVs, jet skis snowmobiles, etc. Homemade and/or magnetic switches are not allowed.

- j. Mower brakes must be in good working condition
- k. Brakes may be hydraulic or mechanical.
- l. Throttle and brake control may be relocated.
- m. The steering wheel, seat, body and frame must be centered between the right and left wheels. Offset is not permitted.
- n. Drive line may be modified from the engine pulley to the rear wheels. All classes except Open must use a shift-able lawnmower transmission or transaxle. vari-drives may be used if originally equipped.
- o. No centrifugal or torque converter clutches permitted in any class except Open.
- p. Rear axle may use open differential, locked, live or solid axle. No single wheel drive.
- q. Wheels must be the same size on each axle, of any origin, but made of metal. Duel or tandem wheels are forbidden.
- r. Front axle and steering may be modified or fabricated. Front axles may be pinned, bolted or welded into place. No suspension allowed. All modifications and fabrications are subject to the judgment of the technical inspector.
- s. All steering linkage must be ball-type or spherical threaded rod ends.
- t. Footholds and seat side boosters must be **minimally** designed so as not to entangle body parts.
- u. External ignition systems and aluminum flywheels are authorized.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTE

- a. All steering and wheel retention fasteners must terminate with locking nuts, castellated nuts with cotter pins, washers with new cotter pins, shaft locks, or locking bolts. Cotter pins, E-rings and C-rings alone, bent nails, hitch pins, over center pins and quick-release pins are not permitted.
- b. Mowers may reach a maximum width of 38" sidewall to sidewall.
- c. Carburetors must be of lawnmower origin and from the same manufacturer as ck. Prepared mowers participating in the Mini-Sportsman class and above will be required to have dual return springs on the throttle.
- d. Mowers may only operate on pump gasoline. No additives or additions to the fuel are allowed. No nitrous oxide, rocket fuel, alcohol or other oxidizers are permitted. Any attempt to circumvent this rule will result in disqualification from the event.
- e. All engines must be naturally aspirated. Blowers, turbochargers, and water injection systems are not allowed.
- f. Tires must be lawn tractor tires in all classes except Pro-X.
- g. Substituted steering wheels are permitted. They may not be mounted offset unless originally mounted offset. Steering "wheel" consists of a 360 degree circular device. This wheel may not be pegged or have steering devices attached to them. **Hand throttle and brake controls are permitted.**
- h. All positively charged terminals must be insulated with a cover or heavy tape. Battery must be well secured on the mower.
- a. All mowers must be safe and complete with all parts and panels in places with no missing fasteners. Machines that have been involved in a on-track incident resulting in removal of body parts will only be allowed back on the track after the mower has been inspected to determine if its return would present a safety issue.

- b. All exposed sprockets, chains, **rotating shafts** and pulleys must be fitted with metal guards deflecting a broken chain downward **and preventing entanglement with mower parts**.
- c. Mowers must be free of sharp edges, projections and protrusions.
- o A rear bumper is highly recommended and should be no wider than the rear tire
 - width, fabricated from ¾" outer diameter tubing with radius bends and installed a
 - maximum of 2" from closest surface of the rear tire. Recommended height of 6",
 - no higher than 8". The bumper should be centered on the rear axle. The intent of
 - the bumper is to prevent mowers from "climbing" the rear tires and making contact
 - with a driver. No other bumpers are permitted, even those offered as factory
 - options.
- d. Seats **must be present and of lawn mower origin. Seat is defined as being a separately attached device on which the driver will place his body during racing competition. They** should be securely mounted to the mower, on the center of the frame.
- e. Seats may be adjusted more towards the front or rear of the mower along the center line to help achieve better weight balance for handling.
- f. The lowest portion of the seat pan should not be mounted lower than the top of the rear tires.
- g. Sheet metal should be as delivered from the factory with the following exceptions:
Substitutions:
 - Where original factory sheet metal is not available or is damaged in a way that renders it unsafe or unusable sheet metal from another similar model mower that would otherwise be eligible to race may be used.
 - Replacement sheet metal must fit properly and be as close in shape to the factory panel as possible.
 - Substitute sheet metal should be attached to the frame in as close to the original position as possible.
 - All panels must be securely fastened so as not to create a safety hazard.
 - Substituted panels must be modified to fit properly and safely.
 - Minimal under hood mounting brackets are acceptable.
 - Panel substitution is provided in order to give the opportunity for a racer to run a mower that might otherwise be sidelined. Panels may not be substituted simply to modify or customize a mower's appearance. Panel substitutions that make a mower look radically different than other mowers in a class will not be allowed.

Removal:

Any sheet metal originally on a mower may not simply be removed. A mower originally delivered with fenders must have fenders. A mower originally delivered with a hood must have a hood.

- ll. Race numbers should be a minimum of 3" high and of a sharply contrasting color from its background, and be visible from all four sides of the mower. Mowers without numbers or mower with same number will be assigned one during registration.
- mm. All mowers must have a functioning mechanical clutch. No chain drive from engine to transmission is allowed.
- nn. Mowers must present a neat and clean appearance.
- oo. No written profanity is allowed on mowers.