

Western Michigan Old Engine Club

Garden Tractor Transfer Sled Pull Rules

A. General Rules

1. Anyone who participates must be a member of the Western Michigan Old Engine Club. Participation includes anyone who operates a garden tractor for the purposes of pulling, operates any mechanical equipment used to maintain the track or works on the track while an event is underway. If the tractor operator is under the age of 18, then a parent or guardian must be a member.
2. The Pulling Committee must approve any track worker under the age of 18.
3. Drivers must be able to reach all of the controls and fully apply the brakes from the seated position on the tractor.
4. Children must be at least 7 years old in order to participate in any stock class. Children must be able to demonstrate proficiency in operating the tractor to the pull committee members prior to participating; including but not limited to being able to reach and operate the clutch and brake pedals from the seated position, operate the throttle and properly shut off the tractor. Children under 14 years of age must be under the direct supervision of a responsible adult who is beside them on the track at all times.
5. All tractors that are operated by a person under the age of 14 must be supervised by an adult while the tractor is attached to the pulling sled.
6. The flagman will be absolute and final governing authority during a pulling attempt.
7. Running into a guard rail, track personnel or spectators will result in immediate disqualification.
8. All belts, chains and pulleys that are visible from the outside of the tractor and are accessible by hand when the tractor is running must be covered by guards.
9. No four-wheel drive or front wheel drive allowed. No chains, half-tracks or dual tires allowed. Rubber tires only.
10. All tractors must be in good working order and have working brakes and steering.
11. No part of the tractor, hitch or weights can interfere with the pulling sled or pulling chain.
12. Tractors can have a technical inspection at any time. Inspection may include tire size, wheel width, hitch height, exhaust, engine R.P.M., wheelie bars, oil and gas leaks, pulley covers and other safety items. Tech inspections will be recorded and filed with the pull committee.
13. All tractors must pass over the scale prior to entering the track.
14. All weight classes indicate the maximum amount that the tractor can weigh in pulling trim.
15. Pulling trim is defined as the tractor being ready to attach to the pulling sled for the pulling attempt. This includes all weights, fluids, tires inflated to proper air levels, wheelie wheels or skid pads at the proper height and the driver on the seat.
16. The registration fee is \$5.00 per driver - per class – on the same tractor. To register an additional tractor, the driver must pay an additional \$5.00 for each class that the tractor is entered in. The number of classes that a driver can register in or the number of tractors that a driver can register will depend on the event and the number of participants and will be up to the discretion of the pulling committee.

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17. There will be only one driver per tractor per weight class.
18. The number of pulling attempts will be determined by the pulling committee prior to the start of the event.
19. Drivers need to declare which weight classes they will be pulling in at the time of registration.

B. Event Procedures

1. Pulling positions will be determined at the time of registration.
2. Tractors can be weighed before the pull starts.
3. All drivers must be signed in prior to the start of weight class to be eligible to participate. Once the class has started, registration is closed for that class.
4. Out of bounds lines will be established a minimum of 3 feet from the guard rails. Out of bounds lines will be construed to be vertical from the marked lines. If any portion of the tractor touches the line, the pull attempt will be stopped, and the pull distance will be recorded at that point.
5. Once the tractor is hooked to the sled that will qualify as an official attempt.
6. All pulls start with a tight chain. No jerking of the chain allowed.
7. Rear brakes cannot be used to aid in the pulling attempt.
8. The driver must remain seated at all times during a pull attempt. Leaning is permitted
9. One hand must remain on the steering wheel at all times.
10. Shifting during a pull is not permitted.
11. If drivers are allowed more than one attempt per class, the longest pull will be the pull of record. In the case of multiple full pulls in a weight class there will be a pull off with those tractors to determine the winner for the class.
12. Tractors must be in neutral when hitching and unhitching the sled.
13. Both feet must be kept on the running boards or foot rests of the tractor during a pull attempt.
14. Any object falling from the tractor while tractor is attached to sled will result in disqualification of that attempt.
15. A pull attempt may be stopped at any time for a violation of the above rules, a safety incident or for adjustments to the pulling sled or track surface.
16. If the pull is stopped due to adjustments being needed on the pulling sled the driver will be offered a chance to pull again.
17. If a driver is delayed in getting to the track due to mechanical or other problems, he or she will have three minutes to get to the track. After the three minutes has expired that driver move be moved to the bottom of the lineup.
18. All drivers are required to wear helmets while pulling.

C. Hitches and Wheelie Bars

1. All tractors shall have a hitch that is stationary in all directions when pulling.
2. The maximum hitch height shall not exceed 13 inches with the tractor in pulling trim.
3. The hitch height on vertical mount hitches will be measured from where the chain sets when attached to the sled.

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4. Wheelie bars must be rigid and be able to support the weight of the tractor. Either skid pads or wheels may be used.
 - a. Wheelie wheels must be at least four inches in diameter. Any tractor built after the 2015 pulling season must have wheelie wheels that are a minimum of 4 inches in diameter by 2 5/8 inches in width.
 - b. Skid pads must be at least 16 square inches in surface area.
5. The center of the skid pad or wheel must extend a minimum of 5 inches beyond the furthest point of the backside of the rear tire.
6. The bottom of the pad or wheel cannot exceed a maximum of 5 inches off the ground in pulling trim.
7. The hitch must have an opening that is at least 1.25 inches in diameter.

D. Weights

1. Weights must be securely attached to the tractor.
2. Rear weights cannot exceed 36 inches rearward from the center of the rear axle.
3. Front weights cannot exceed 96 inches forward from the center of the rear axle.
4. Multiple wheel weights bars that extend from wheels must be removed when there are no weights on the bars. Single wheel weight center bars must be removed when there are no weights on the bars.

E. Stock Class

1. Factory stock, commercially available garden tractor, with cast block engine in one or two-cylinder configuration. Diesel engines are allowed but must remain unaltered.
2. Replacement engine must be stock design, OHV or Flat-Head.
3. The engine must be mounted in the original stock location.
4. Engine speed shall not exceed 4000 R.P.M. and must be governor controlled.
5. No engine modifications other than exhaust allowed.
 - a. All exhaust pipes must exit vertically with a minimum 12 inch vertical pipe height. The pipe height is measure from the top down.
 - b. Tractors may run factory stock exhaust.
 - c. Horizontal exhaust is not allowed.
6. All tractors must have a seat with a back, fenders, hood, grill and/or nose piece.
7. No welded or locking "including factory" rear ends.
8. Mower decks must be removed.
9. The maximum rear tire size is 23x10.50x12. The maximum wheel width is 10 inches bead to bead.
10. Cut tires are allowed but all tires must retain the original factory size identification.
11. The wheel base must remain unaltered. Sheet metal must retain stock appearance. This does not apply to paint.
12. Pump gasoline only or diesel fuel if appropriate. No octane booster or fuel performance additives allowed.
13. Stock weight classes are:

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650# 0 – 13 H.P. (Ages 15 and under only)
750# 0 – 13 H.P. 750# 14 – 20 H.P.
850# 0 – 13 H.P. 850# 14 – 20 H.P.
950# 0 – 13 H.P. 950# 14 – 20 H.P.
1050# 0 – 13 H.P. 1050# 14 – 20 H.P.
1150# 0 – 20 H.P.

14. Drivers in the lower horsepower division can pull in the higher horsepower division.
Drivers in the higher horsepower division cannot pull in the lower horsepower division.

F. Stock Altered Class

1. All rules in sections A through D apply to this class.
2. Any driver under the age of 16 years of age must be approved by the Pulling Committee.
3. Tractors may be hand built from garden tractor parts only. Any configuration – must resemble a garden tractor.
4. The chassis wheel base may not exceed 60 inches.
5. The engine must be of garden tractor type, any make or brand up to 55 cubic inches. No more than two cylinders and no more than 2 single cylinder engines. Multiple cylinder engines may be used but cannot exceed an engine displacement of 55 cubic inches.
6. Externally bolt on engine parts may be modified or aftermarket parts may be used.
7. No internal modifications (cam, stroking or block modifications). Port polishing and head milling is allowed.
8. Engine speed shall not exceed 4000 R.P.M. and will be checked.
9. Drive systems may be modified. Differentials may be locked.
10. The maximum rear tire size is 23x10.50x12 with a maximum wheel width of 10 inches or 26" bar type only (no 26" pulling tires). Cut tires are allowed but all tires must retain original factory size identification. Any tractor running a 26-inch tire will be require to run 50 pounds lighter in pulling trim weight.
11. Pump gasoline only or diesel fuel if appropriate. No octane booster or fuel performance additives allowed.
12. All stock altered tractors must be in safe operating condition and are subject to safety inspections. Club and/or track officials may deem a tractor unsafe at any time.
13. All tractors must have a rear mounted kill switch with a tether that connects to the pulling sled.
14. Stock Altered weight classes are 1000# and 1200#.
15. Any tractor that pulls in a stock altered class may not participate in a stock class. However, a stock tractor may participate in the stock altered class.

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G. 1050# Open Class

1. All rules in the Stock Altered class apply except #5, #9, #10 and #14.
2. The maximum rear tire size is 26x12x12. The maximum wheel width is 12 inches and any type of tread may be used. Cut tires are allowed but all tires must retain the original factory size identification.
3. Octane booster may be used in pump gasoline. Racing fuel may be used, no more than 105 octane. No alcohol fuels. E85 fuel may be used.
4. All Stock Altered tractors may compete in this class.
5. All Open Class tractors must resemble garden tractor style. The tractor must have a hood and grill and guards over all moving parts.
6. Tractors must have break away tethers.
7. Locking differentials are allowed; no weld after market is allowed.
8. Drivers need to wear a helmet to compete in this class.