

Western Michigan Old Engine Club  
Garden Tractor Dead Boat Pulling 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 purpose 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. Any person under the age of 18 is not permitted to work on the track during an event.
3. All tractors must have a seat with back, fenders, hood, grill or nose piece.
4. All pulleys visible from outside the tractor, accessible by hand when the tractor is running, must have guards in place.
5. All tractors must have working brakes and steering. Rear brakes cannot be used to aid in the pulling attempt.
6. No chains, half-tracks or dual tires allowed. Rubber tires only.
7. All tractors must be in good working order.
8. There will be only one driver per tractor per weight class.
9. No part of the tractor, hitch or weights can interfere with the pulling sled or pulling chain.
10. No welded or locking "including factory" rear ends.
11. Maximum engine speed is 4000RPM and must be governor controlled.
12. Mower decks are optional but must not interfere with the pulling sled or chain.
13. No 4 wheel drive or front wheel drive allowed.
14. The flagman will be absolute and final governing authority during a pulling attempt.

**B. Hitches**

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 driver in place. Hitch height on vertical mount hitches will be measured from where the chain sets when attached to the sled.

**C. Wheelie Bars**

1. Wheelie bars must be rigid and able to support the weight of the tractor.
2. The center of the pad or wheel of the bar must extend a minimum of 5" beyond the furthest point of the back side of the rear tire.
3. The pad cannot exceed a maximum height of 5" off the ground in pulling trim.
4. Wheelie wheels must be at least 4" in diameter and each pad must be at least 16 square inches in area.

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**D. Weights**

1. Weights must be securely attached to the tractor. Any object falling from the tractor during a pulling attempt, while tractor is attached to sled, will result in disqualification of that attempt.
2. Rear weights cannot exceed 36" rearward from the center of the rear axle.
3. Front weights cannot exceed 96" forward from the center of the rear axle.
4. Pulling weight is that of the tractor, weights, and driver combined.
5. Multiple wheel weight bars extending from wheels; without weights in place must be removed. Single center bars, removal not necessary.

**E. Stock Class Rules**

1. Factory stock, commercially available garden tractor, with cast block engine in one or two cylinder configuration.
2. Engine must be mounted in the original stock location.
3. No engine modifications other than exhaust system allowed.
  - a. All exhaust for new tractors will be required to exit the tractor vertically with a minimum 12" pipe height except for tractors with factory exhaust.
  - b. Tractors with horizontal pipes that pulled in the 2010 season will be grandfathered in until they break or are replaced by the original owner.
  - c. Grandfathered tractors sold to new owners will be required to have vertical exhaust.
4. Maximum rear tire size allowed is 23x10.50x12. Maximum wheel width is 10" bead to bead. Cut tires are allowed but all tires must retain factory size identification.
5. Wheel base must remain unaltered. Sheet metal must retain stock appearance. Does not apply to paint.
6. Pump gasoline only or diesel fuel if appropriate. No octane booster allowed.
7. Engine replacement may not exceed 2 H.P. over stock for the tractor.
8. All tractors will need to be teched at the beginning of the season. Tech will include tire size, wheel width, hitch height, exhaust, RPM and safety. New tractors being pulled for the first time will need to be teched before they can pull. Winning tractors will be teched for weight and hitch height before the next weight class starts. Persons teching tractors need to initial the check in form.

**F. Event Procedures**

1. The event will consist of 7 stock classes. Stock classes will pull 550#, 650#, 750#, 850#, 950#, 1050# and 1150#.

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2. Pulling positions will be determined in each class by first come first serve order at weigh in.
3. Tractors can be weighed prior to the start of the first pull. All drivers must be signed in prior to the start of the first class to be eligible to pull that day.
4. The boundaries of the track will be clearly marked with white marking chalk to include both sides 3 feet from the guard rails and both ends. A pull attempt will be disqualified if any portion of the tractor touches or goes beyond an out of bounds marking. Lines will be construed to extend vertically. Any portion of the tractor touching the line, the pull will be stopped and a measurement taken. This does not constitute a disqualification.
5. The first pull in each class will start in the middle of the track.
6. All pulls will start with a tight chain. No jerking of the sled allowed.
7. After the first pull in each class the sled will be pulled from where it last stopped.
8. The driver must remain seated at all times during a pull attempt. Leaning is permitted. One hand must remain on the steering wheel at all times.
9. Shifting during a pull is not permitted.
10. Each puller will have two attempts if the first pull is not a full pull. The farthest of the two pulls will be the pull of record. Direction for the second pull can be changed if the out of bounds allows.
11. A pull attempt may be stopped at any time by the flagman for any violation of the above rules.
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.

**G. Driver Eligibility**

1. Anyone 16 years of age or older is eligible to pull. They must be able to reach all of the controls and fully apply the brakes from the seated position on the tractor.
2. Children under 16 years of age are welcome to pull under the direct supervision of a responsible adult beside them on the track. They must be at least 48 inches tall and able to reach all the controls and fully apply the brakes from the seated position on the tractor.
3. The pulling fee is \$10.00 per driver and covers three (3) weight classes on the same tractor. To register a second tractor the driver must pay an additional \$10.00 fee which allows up to three weight classes with that tractor. No driver can register more than two tractors.