

HANCOCK COUNTY AG SOCIETY
MINI ROD RULES

SECTION #1
ELIGIBILITY OF CONTEST

1. All drivers must be able to control all controls of their tractor from the driver's seat. All minors must submit written consent of a parent or guardian to enter the contest. Such statements must be turned in at the time of entry each day. Each contestant enters the contest at his or her own risk or that of a parent or guardian and recognizes that he/she may be held responsible for any accidents, injuries or property damage to others caused by his/her tractor. Multi-cylinder tractors -16 years old minimum and must have a guardian present for anyone under 18 years of age.
2. Approved safety helmets with a full-face shield or approved goggles must be worn by all drivers in all classes during their pull. This will be the judge's decision depending on weather conditions.
3. All drivers in all classes must wear fire suits during the pull. Approved fire suits are constructed of 1ply Nomax or Proban. At this time it is optional to wear gloves or hoods. Fireproof footwear is also optional. No canvas tennis shoes.
4. Any consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs by any drivers or helpers before or during the pull will be grounds for immediate disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs will be allowed within spectator boundary lines of the track during the pull. No exceptions to this rule! PENALTY will result in disqualification for the remainder of the day's pull and the NEXT PULL THAT THEY ATTEND. This includes Driver and Tractor

SECTION #2 CLASSES

1. All multi-cylinder tractors are to be naturally aspirated. There will be no blowers or turbo chargers allowed. No electronic or computerized fuel systems allowed. (Open class & Carb class)
2. Open class: Engines not to exceed 575 available cubic inches per tractor, naturally aspirated engines can run fuel injection and multiple carburetors. Blown small block is limited to a maximum of 370 cubic inches, up to 8-71 blower with max 7% overdrive, no high helix blowers allowed. Blower to manifold must use aluminum studs No steel studs allowed, blower must have 4 SFI approved blower restraints holding blower down. Must have a SFI approved burst panel to protect the driver and fuel tank. Engine block must be of a 1955-1975 style, no aluminum blocks allowed for blower class. Big blocks are naturally aspirated only
3. Carburetor class is limited to one (1) carburetor, 4150 base. No dominators or predators allowed. NOTE: Carburetor class winners may have carburetor checked before any winnings are collected
4. Carburetor class engines not to exceed 540 available cubic inches per tractor. No electronic or computerized fuel system allowed. Carburetor base 4150 no fuel injection.

SECTION #3 ELIGIBILITY OF TRACTOR

1. Contest is open to mini tractors with rubber tires. No four-wheel drive allowed. No dual tires, no tire studs or chains are permitted. All power must be transmitted through the two rear wheels. Tires are to be 16" rim size maximum, not to exceed 16.1 x 18.4 tire size.
2. No portion of any tractor may exceed 8 feet forward of the center of the rear wheel. No portion of any tractor will exceed 6 feet in width.
3. All pulling tractors must be equipped with a deadman throttle. All throttles working in a forward- rearward direction and shall be closed in the rearmost position. For carburetor and fuel injections, there must be a spring on the butterfly shaft. No hydraulic throttle linkage allowed. Must be positive. All foot throttles must have metal toe strap. Metal strap must conform to the satisfaction of the Rules Committee. All hand throttles must

be operated by hand only. A reverse lockout on automatic transmissions. All multi-cylinder tractors are to have a neutral start switch.

4. All tractors must be equipped with workable brakes. All multi-cylinder tractors must have manufactured workable rear wheel brakes.
5. Minimum drawbar length is 6 inches from the center of the rear wheels to the point of hook. Drawbar must be stationary in all directions, 13 inches from the top of hitching device parallel to the ground.
6. Drawbar must be equipped with a hitching device not more than 1-inch in thickness and must have at least 1 3/4 inch round hole opening. Cross-sectional thickness must be equivalent of 1/2 inch round stock. Pulling point may not be more than 3/4 inch from back edge of hitching device. All tractors must have 1/2 inch cable around hitch and over the pig and under the rear end with two (2) 1/2 inch cable clamps fastened securely. The pin in the hitch is to be no smaller than 1 7/16 bolt, grade 8 or better.
7. All tractors must have two (2) safety devices to prevent turnover. These devices to have wheels or skid plates. Wheels are to be at least one (1) inch wide and five (5) inches in diameter. All wheels must have metal centers. Skid plates are to be at least three (3) inches square and parallel with the ground. Wheelie Bars/Skid Plates must support the weight of the tractor with the driver seated. Wheels or skid pads must be no less than five (5) inches behind the rear of the rear tires and not more than six 6" above the ground. **Front end skid plates:** Skid plate mounted in line with each rail (on both sides) equal in strength to frame rail material. Skid plate surface to be a minimum of 2 inches wide, 10 inches long, with a minimum 2-inch curved radius when measured from the front most part of rolled edge, or a maximum of 45-degree bend from the ground and a minimum of 1 inch in material past the bend.

All tractors, single-cylinder and multi-cylinder, will be equipped with a working kill switches. Switches are to have a two (2) inch solid metal ring as hooking point. KILL SWITCHES must be 18 inches above the Hitch and 6 inches either Way. Can be checked randomly.

9. No pressurized fuel tanks allowed. All forms of nitro-methane including nitrous oxide are illegal.
10. All modified class engine fans must be shrouded with steel 1/16 inch or thicker 360 degrees. All fly wheels, clutches and pressure plate assemblies must be covered 360 degrees with 3/8 inch steel, five (5) inches wide or a blow proof bell housing. Automatic transmissions must be covered with an SFI approved scatter blanket. Blankets must cover from the valve body to the motor securely fastened at both ends or 360 degrees with 3/8 inch steel the full length. All final drives to be covered with 3/8-inch steel or 3/8 inch aluminum 360 degrees on multi-cylinder tractors. All automatics with blow proof bell housing must cover valve body to blow proof bell housing with an automatic transmission blanket. All universal joints must be covered five (5) inches minimum or one (1) 1/4 inch by two (2) inch wide strap and fastened securely. Must have a bolt in the crankshaft to hold the harmonic balancer. If harmonic balancer is solid steel,

aluminum or cast steel, it does not have to be shielded. All tractors to have side shields .060 thickness (length of block, top of block to top of pan). Or SFI Approved Balancer.

12. All belts, gears and open pulleys must be protected with 16-grade metal, twice as wide as belt of gears to be protected.
13. A safely secured normal size seat must be used. Minimum six (6) inch high rigid back on all tractor seats. All tractors to have either a wrap around seat or fenders to keep the driver out of the wheels. All tractors must have a metal ¼ inch bar behind the seat attached to each of the fenders. The wrap around and fenders must support the weight of the driver.
14. All exhaust must discharge vertically upward one (1) foot above the final bend. Vertical is defined as being within 10 degrees of being plumb.
15. Driver or eligible drivers must be sitting on the seat anytime the tractor is started or being run
16. Each tractor may be entered in more than one class, but only once in each class.

SECTION #4 OPERATION OF CONTEST

1. The use of torque converters, automatic shifts, etc., will be permitted during the pull.
2. All pulls must start from a tight hitch. No jerking or double clutching permitted. Contestants will be allowed two (2) attempts in the first 50 feet to start the sled or the first 30 feet if the track is less than 150 feet long. Average length of the track is 200 feet and maximum width is 30 feet. Where acceptable we will run a 300-foot track allowing two (2) attempts in the first 75 feet. Acceptability will be determined by the track width, distance of the crowd from the track and the run off space at the end of the track. The officers, sled operator and the promoters will make the decision. **Floating finish lines will be used only when Sled Operator and Track Judge consider it to be safe.**
3. Drivers must REMAIN SEATED during the pull and have complete control of their tractor at all times
4. All tractors and tow tractors must be operated in a safe manner or this is ground for disqualification.

Loss of liquid in an eight (8) inch circle by a tractor while on the track will be cause for disqualification. No intentional loss of liquid allowed. Catch cans on all water overflows. Tractor must remain within boundaries of contest course during the pull or they will be

disqualified. If the tractor goes out of bounds past the finish line marker it will not be disqualified. Sled can go out of bounds but the tractor cannot.

Only one pull allowed for each contestant unless tie is declared.

The pull shall be considered over when forward motion of the load stops. The judge shall hold hole digging to a minimum.

No portion of the tractor shall interfere with the sled or sled hitch during a pull.

All weights must be safely secured to the tractor. Any ballast lost while on the track will be cause for disqualification. Weights include tractor and driver. Pull is considered good when the judge OK's the unhooking of the tractor. Pull will be measured when you have internal damage.

Number one (1) tractor will be the test puller and may take pull if weight machine is OK or he or she may pull in sixth position or last, test pullers only. If weight exchanger needs further adjustments, first puller after each adjustment will be treated as number one (1) puller. **All decisions on re-pulls must be made before tractor in question is unhooked from the sled.** On any re-pull caused by contest malfunction, puller at his own discretion may drop back six (6) positions, but he must make that decision before being unhooked. All tractors must be running when entering the track.

12. On first attempt any tractor going out of bounds before marker may have a restart.
13. If class restarts everyone starts over from the top of the class unless a contest malfunctions such as transfer sled breakage or rain. If 2/3 of the class is not completed all money will be refunded.
14. At the end of a pull, distance must be marked before anything is removed. Measurement to be taken in the middle of the sled.
15. Contestants must pull at position drawn. There will be two (2) staging areas, one (1) for checking hitches and one (1) for the tractor that is on deck. If the one on deck is not ready, the next tractor moves into that position. The tractor on deck must be running and ready to go before the transfer sled is back into the starting position. Tractors will have one (1) minute when the sled is back on the starting line. In pull off you must pull in position you pulled in.
16. All tractors must weigh out to be eligible for prize money. Tractors must go directly from the track to the scales with the exception of there being six (6) or fewer tractors and all drivers agree not to weigh out.
17. **Tractors are not to be driven around the Pit Area. You may drive your tractor on to the track and when you are finished, you may drive it off the track and then it must be shut down. Tow vehicle should be used to move your tractor when not entering or leaving the track.**

18. It is the driver's responsibility to have passed a tech inspection for certification before attempting to hook to the sled in any class, to do so you must be to the pull 1 hour prior to the start of the pull.
19. Any competitor in the class may make a protest for a suspected violation. That protester should go to the track judge after the pull of that tractor has been completed. The track judge will then ask that driver to take his/her tractor to a designated place to be inspected. If there is any doubt as to the reasonability of the protest the track judge may then decide to ask for additional support from the rules committee. No money will be paid out until a decision has been made. To protest a tractor, a \$500.00 fee must be paid by the protester. The tractor cannot be checked until after the pull is over that day. Someone other than the protester must check the tractor.
20. Protest Procedures For Cubic Inch Limitation:
 - a. Cubic inch limitation shall be defined in the HCAS current year's rules for the class of competition of the mini rod under protest. Protests can be made only by a current member of the HCAS competing in the same class as the mini rod being protested.
 - b. A \$500.00 cash protest fee must accompany all protests.
 - c. Protests may be made at any time during a pull; however, no mini rod shall be torn down or prevented from competing at that pull. The protest shall be enacted after the mini rod under protest has finished competing at that pull. (Executive Board reserves the right to delay engine disassembly if it would interfere with the protested mini rods competing in another competition."
 - d. Cubic inch determination shall be accomplished by actual measurement of engine bore & stroke. Disassembly of the engine shall be done by the owner of the mini rod or by a person chosen by him. Engine must have one cylinder head removed to provide access to the cylinder and piston. Engine disassembly may be done in private so long as the tech inspector and protester is granted access for required measurements.
 - e. Determination of stroke will be as follows:
 - 1) Rotate engine to establish Top Dead Center of piston travel by use of a dial indicator.
 - 2) Measure deck to piston height at TDC.
 - 3) Rotate engine to establish Bottom Dead Center of piston travel by use of a dial indicator.
 - 4) Measure deck to piston height at BDC.

- 5) Stroke = BDC measurement - TDC measurement.
- f. Bore will be determined by measurement of bore at the cylinder being checked. All measurements to be taken with micrometers, dial calipers or Vernier calipers. All measurements to be stated in inches. Actual cubic inch displacement will be determined by the following formula:

ENGINE DISPLACEMENT = Bore x Bore x Stroke x .7854 x Number of cylinders.

All cubic inch computation will be allowed a 1/2 of 1% error on the total for measurement errors and normal wear.

21. RESULTS OF PROTEST:

a. The engine displacement FALLS WITHIN THE LEGAL LIMIT:

- 1) All protest fees shall be forfeited to the owner of the protested mini rod.
- 2) The mini rod shall retain all points and earnings and shall be allowed to compete with no penalties.

b. The engine displacement EXCEEDS LEGAL LIMITS:

- 1) All protest fees shall be returned to the individual filing the protest.
- 2) The protested mini rod shall return all winnings earned from the HCAS on the date of protest.
- 3) The protested mini rod shall forfeit all points accumulated for the current year.
- 4) The protested mini rod shall be barred from further competition with the HCAS until such time as the engine is rechecked and found to be within the legal cubic inch limits.

SECTION #5 GENERAL

1. Violation of any of the rules shall constitute disqualification
2. Contest to be governed by a judge with all decisions being final. Judges have the right to stop and disqualify any tractor if it is not being operated in such a manner, as it would be considered safe. Any disagreements shall be cause for immediate disqualification.

3. There will be an eight place payback no matter if there are only five tractors or four or on down. Any arguments with any of the judges will be cause for disqualification for the next two (2) HCAS pulls that you attend. Tractor & Driver Rules Committee to make the decision.
4. Only the driver will be allowed on a vehicle when it is being towed or driven, NO RIDERS. No rider is or on any vehicle in pit, track or adjacent areas, to include tow tractors unless it has two (2) seats, competing vehicles, tow back and maintenance equipment of any kind.
5. All exchangers must be equipped with two (2) fire extinguishers not less than 2 3/4 pound; it will also be equipped with a 36-inch chain minimum.
6. There will be no arguments during the pull. Any discussion can be held with the Rules Committee after the pull is over at either's discretion.
7. **All entries for the day must be in prior to 5:30 pm.**

**ALL RULES GOVERNED BY THE HANCOCK COUNTY AG SOCIETY –
MOTORSPORTS COMMITTEE**

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