

## MGTPA / Minnesota Minn---E---Rod Association Official Rules

We would like to welcome you to the 2017 pulling season. The following rules will be in effect for the entire 2017 pulling season, the only exception is for safety reasons.

### PULL RULES:

1. The track will be 200 to 300 feet in length and 25 to 30 in width. Officers and the rules committee members will have the final say whether or not the track is fit for a sanctioned pull. There will be a 25 foot shutdown area at the end of each track.
2. All tractors will be in line ready to pull two pullers before your pull. There will be a 3 minute time period for each puller. If he/she is not ready the next puller proceeds.
3. Each puller will have 75 feet to decide whether or not to continue their pull. The puller will have one such false start. The sled will back up to the start line for the final attempt to pull. Minor adjustments may be made between the two attempts.
4. Any driver who touches/crosses the boundary lines will be disqualified, unless the transfer skid pushes you out. This rule will be taken very seriously. If this happens under full power the first time is a disqualification and a verbal warning--- not again! The second time this happens under full power it will be a disqualification and the driver will not be allowed to pull for 1 year and a day. **THIS CALL IS MADE BY THE TRACK OFFICIAL AND IS FINAL!**
5. Anything falling off of the tractor during a pull will be cause for disqualification. This also is in effect for excessive fluid which is a 6 inch circle or larger. All mechanical fluids, excluding water. NOTE: Mechanical breakage that causes the fluid loss will NOT be a disqualification.
6. Additional weights added to the tractor may not exceed more than 12" from the furthest rear edge of the tire.
7. The hitch height on all tractors may not exceed 13" in height, and not more than 14" from the center of the rear axle. The hitch must be secure in all directions. The hitch must contain a minimum 2" hole. A clevis is not allowed with the exception of the **First** time stock pullers.
8. All tractors must make class rules and weight. The weight of the tractor will include the driver, helmet and required safety clothing.
9. No tractor may be in more than 2 classes.
10. The first puller in each class has the option to keep their pull, or to come back in third or last position. You **must** inform the track official of your decision before leaving the track or the first pull will scored. Note: The first puller in the class **doesn't** get the option for a repull if you are disqualified.
11. The adjustment of the transfer/skid is up to its operator and the track official for safety or time reasons.
12. Tractors can be checked at any time for safety, weight or other rule compliances.
13. No nitrous oxide is allowed in any class.
14. **NO** Tire Warming!!
15. The rules of a pull off are as follows: The drivers are to repull to be able to rescore for their final placing. If a **driver** chooses not to repull, they will take

the latter placing in the pull off. If the **drivers** choose not to repull, the points and prize money will be divided equally.

16. Pit meetings are mandatory for ALL drivers. The pit meeting will be held 15 minutes prior to the scheduled pull time. Any driver that does NOT attend the meeting will not be allowed to drive at that pull.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER / SLED BREAKAGE**

1. A session of pulling will be called a complete show if  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the sanctioned classes have been run.
2. Any class cancelled before all the scheduled entries have pulled shall be considered a rain out, no purse money will be paid and each entry will receive 25 hook points.
3. If less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  the session has been completed, no purse money will be paid and each entry will receive 25 hook points. Entry fees will be refunded or credited for use at another event.
4. If more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the session has been completed, purse will be paid in completed classes only. Those who did not hook will receive a refund of entry fees. For classes not started, completed, competitors shall receive a refund of paid entry fees.
5. Purse money will be paid to those classes that were completed according to the results for those classes. Purse money for classes that do not compete will not be paid.
6. In any class in which all entered competitors do not get an official chance to compete, all competitors entered in that class, with the competition vehicle on grounds and ready to compete, will receive only inclement weather points (25 points to replace hook points).
7. The club president, board members, promoter and event director shall be the only involved parties in determining if and when an event shall be stopped because of inclement weather or track conditions.
8. If a session is canceled more than 24 hours prior to the start time, no points will be given for that session.
9. If a session is cancelled prior to the start time and the competitors are on the grounds with the competition vehicle, they will receive a refund of paid entry fees and 25 hook points, but no other financial compensation.
10. Any class not completed for any reason will be treated as a rained out class.
11. If a session is called after  $\frac{1}{2}$  the session is completed, two sets of points will be kept. One for the overall points and one for the class points. Tractors who received placing points will have their points reduced to hook points for the overall points race.

## **SAFETY RULES:**

1. All tractors must pass a safety inspection prior to their first pull with MTGPA. The officials will check to make sure that all rules were followed for the appropriate class. All decisions are final. Anyone that chooses not to cooperate will be asked to leave the pit area and not allowed to pull.
2. All weights attached to the tractor must be securely attached. Loose weights are not allowed to sit on tractor. Weights must not interfere with the hookup of the skid.
3. All steering and brakes must be in proper working order.
4. All contestants, track officials and pit crews will be asked to refrain from using alcohol and any mood altering drugs before and during the event. If the officials find that you are under the influence you will be refused your rights as a driver and may be asked to leave the pit area.
5. Please be aware of the spectators. If they are too close the pull will be stopped.
6. All tractors must be in neutral to hook and unhook with tractor shut off or at idle.
7. Automatic transmissions must retain a reverse lockout, and a reverse light is also recommended for the open classes.
8. A kill switch is mandatory on all tractors. It must shut down the engine, fuel pump, and any other system that controls the engine function. It must swivel or be a manufactured tether switch. It will be located in the center of the rear of the tractor and at least 6 inches above the hitch.
9. All tractors must have a wide front end, tracking within the rear tires.
10. All tractors must have fenders except for stock. They must be a solid barrier between the driver and the rear tires. They must be at least .060 thick aluminum or steel and extend 4" or more over the tires.
11. All tractors must have a fire extinguisher except for stock.
12. Drivers of all classes (except stock) are required to wear a fire suit (pants & jacket). Gloves are required. A SFI approved neck collar is required for drivers in all automotive classes. Drivers of the stock class are required to wear long pants and close toed shoes. SFI footwear recommended.
13. All drivers are required to wear an approved helmet.
14. No one under the age of 16 will be able to drive an automotive engine class tractor, until they receive a MMRPA license. No one under the age of 14 will be allowed to drive an M/P class tractor until they receive a MMRPA license. To obtain this license you must show proof that you are able to control your tractor at all times.
15. No tractors will be started or left running without a driver in the seat.
16. No rotary engines of any form are allowed.
17. All tractors will require wheelie bars. They must be securely fastened to tractor and must not allow the front of the tractor to raise more than 12 inches. See attached diagram, located on the last page.
18. If the track official has the red flag out...NO motion or movement (under power) will be tolerated. Any tractor will be shutdown and disqualified.

**PROTEST RULES:**

1. All protests must be made before the next class starts. If the protest is not presented prior to that time there is no protest.
2. A sum of \$10.00 will be put up by the protestor and \$50.00 will also be required for an engine teardown. All monies will go to the winner of the dispute. The protest and money needs to be presented to a rules committee member.
3. All protests will be handled after the entire pull is over. The decision and/or the teardown will be done by the rules committee members present at that pull.
4. Your entry fee money will be refunded if you choose not to hook.

**CLASSES**

Stock	950 lbs.	1050 lbs.
Modified Production (800cc or less)	1100 lbs	1150 lbs.
Modified Production (over 800cc)	1150 lbs.	1250 lbs.
Open Class 4 Cylinder	1250 lbs.	1400 lbs.
Economy V---8	1650 lbs.	1800 lbs.
ProModV---8	1700 lbs.	1800 lbs.
Open Class V---8	1650 lbs.	1800 lbs.

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND ENTRY FEES**

1. Membership dues are \$30.00 per tractor for all classes.
2. Member's entry fee is \$10.00 per class except the stock. Stock member's entry fee is \$5.00.
3. All non---members will have to pay an additional \$5.00 entry fee to pull with the MGTPA club.
4. A puller must have his or her membership dues paid and current. This is required to become a member in good standing with MGTPA. This allows you to place a vote at meetings.

## **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP FEES**

1. Membership dues are available for a "non---puller" person for \$30.00 a year.
2. This membership allows you to receive all mailings and pull information.
3. You can also place a vote in meetings.

## **POINTS SYSTEM**

1. The Minn---E---Rod Association will be running a points system for the season of events. To be included in this you must be a member in good standing.
2. There will be 25 points awarded for hook points.
3. There will be a class champion for each division of tractors. In the event there is a tie it will be decided by the number of 1st place wins.
4. There will be a overall champion at the end of the season. The overall points champion will be decided by the total points accumulated in any one class. In the event there is a tie, it will be decided by the number of 1st place wins.
5. The points will be as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	100
2 <sup>nd</sup>	90
3 <sup>rd</sup>	80
4 <sup>th</sup>	70
5 <sup>th</sup>	60
6 <sup>th</sup>	50
7 <sup>th</sup>	40
8 <sup>th</sup>	30

6. In the event there are only 2 tractors for a class, the points awarded are 75 per tractor.
7. In the event there is only 1 tractor for a class, they will be pulling exhibition and there will be no points.

### **EXHIBITION RULES:**

1. A fee will be applied to each hook. The fees are \$2.00 for a member and \$5.00 for non---members.
2. The tractor is allowed 1 hook per event.
3. The exhibition pull or pulls will be allowed with the officials discretion.

### **INDIVIDUAL CLASS RULES ARE TO BE FOLLOWED ALONG WITH SAFETY AND PULL RULES.**

### **STOCK:**

1. Engine, frame, carb, and drive train must be stock appearing.
2. Horsepower limits are as follows: 950 lb. class and the 1050 lb. class --- 18HP Gearshift and 20HP Hydrostatic.
3. RPM limit – 4000.
4. Must have stock flywheel, no cut flywheels.
5. All pulleys must be covered.
6. Tractor must be equipped with a starter on the tractor and will need to be operational.
7. Tractor needs to have working brakes.
8. Must use pump fuel. **NO** diesels.
9. Tires max size 26/12/12, Tar---Turf style tires only. Dirt---Bar Tires are allowed (No Cepek, Lawn Tech, Vogel or Pitbull). No tire cutting allowed.
10. Tractor will be able to be driven on & off the scale.
11. Single or Twin cylinders allowed (Limit of 2 cylinders).
12. Tractor must have reverse.
13. Twelve inch wheelie height will be enforced by the track official, if you exceed that height you will be stopped and measured at that distance.

### **MODIFIED PRODUCTION**

1. Engine size will be limited to no more than 1500ccs. There are two classes 800ccs or less and over 800 ccs. The number of cylinders will be limited to 4. Multiple engines will be allowed as long as the number of Cubic ccs are not exceeded.
2. Modifications will be allowed. Engine must remain naturally aspirated.
3. All tractors will be equipped with a dead man throttle. Hand or foot must return to idle when released. On a hand throttle, the idle/closed position must be to the rear.
4. All exhaust must be directed up.

5. The tractor will have all drive train components properly shielded. All exposed gears, chains, belts and U---joints must be shielded at least on 3 sides (top and both sides) 360 degrees recommended with a minimum .060 steel or .125 aluminum. All moving parts must be covered for everyone's safety.
6. Tire Rules
  - a. DIRT PULLS --- Max 26---12---12 sidewalls.
  - b. TARPULLS---No bar tires---Slicks are allowed. Max circumference of 84".
7. The outside dimensions of the tractor must not exceed 6 feet wide long at the furthest point, excluding weights.

### **ECONOMY ENTRY LEVEL V8**

1. Engine Rules:
  - a. No more than 366 cubic and can't be punched more than 30 thousands over stock.
  - b. Stock stroke and rods.
  - c. Flat top pistons and dish pistons only.
  - d. Hydraulic cams **only** (no solid anti pump up lifters).
  - e. Stock Carburetor **only** (2 or 4 barrel).
  - f. **No** injection system of any sort.
  - g. Distributor must be stock style --- No MSD or DUI or after market ignitions.
  - h. Stock timing chain **only** (no gear drives).
  - i. No more than 1" spacer between intake and carburetor.
  - j. Stock harmonic balancer **only**.
  - k. ALL CAST IRON heads, block and intake.
  - l. NO porting, polishing, angle milling, decking or boring of any sort.
  - m. No Vortek motors.
2. Transmission Rules:
  - a. Must be stock with working torque converter or manual transmission.
3. Tire Rules:
  - a. Tar
    - i. 92.11.15 size.
    - ii. No less than 55 compound.
  - b. Dirt
    - i. 31.15.5.15 size.
    - ii. No aftermarket or Cepeks.
4. All **pump fuel** is allowed. No racing fuel, no aviation and no fuel additives. No nitrous oxide.
5. Spec Rules:
  - a. The tractor should not exceed 10 feet in length and 6 feet in width, measured from the furthest point excluded weights.
6. All drive trains must be properly shielded to insure the safety of all.
  - a. Drive line components and Harmonic balancers must be shielded 360 degrees of rotation with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum and be

- securely attached. There must be a strap across the front to retain the Balancer, and must have center bolt installed.
- b. Automatic transmissions must have a SEMA approved explosion shield and/or approved blanket, or Enclosed 360 degrees with 3/16" steel of 1/4" aluminum that is attached securely. It must have a reverse lockout on the shifter.
  - c. Clutch bell housings must be SEMA approved on all V8's, other engines must have approved bell housing blankets or be shielded 360 degrees with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum. Steel flywheels are also recommended.
  - d. All belts and fans must be shielded with 1/8" steel or aluminum.
  - e. All open tractors with a crankshaft parallel to the frame rails must have .060 steel or aluminum side shields from the front of the motor, and from the bottom of the heads to 2 inches below the center throw of the crankshaft. Note: Frame rails count as part of the shield.
7. All transmissions must be shielded on at least 3 sides top and 2 sides from the rear of the engine heads the front of the tails shaft housing. This shield must be at least 1/8" steel or aluminum. A steel torque converter cover must be bolted securely in place on automatic transmissions.
  8. Engine and transmission mounts must include 2 front mounts, 2 rear mounts and a saddle under the rear of the transmission **OR** 2 front mounts and a support saddle under the rear of the engine and a transmission mount. Note: Sufficient strength cable may be used for a center support saddle and a must have a maximum 1/2" clearance.
  9. All tractors must have either a neutral or park safety start switch. (Neutral safety switch or a clutch disengagement switch.)

**REMINDER:** This is an entry---level class, designed with your budget in mind.

### **OPEN CLASSES**

1. Automotive engines only. Modifications will be allowed. All engines must be naturally aspirated.
  - a. 1250 and 1400 lb classes may use 4 cylinder engines up to 4 valves per cylinder and limited to 2800 cc.
  - b. 1650 and 1800 lb classes may use 8 cylinder engines limited to 470 cubic inches.
2. Any form of carburetion or injection will be allowed. No blowers or turbos.
3. Any type of fuel allowed except NO nitrous oxide.
4. All open tractors will be equipped with a dead man's throttle, hand or foot operated.
5. Tires of any design will be allowed, they must have the original printing on the sidewalls. No duals.
  - a. Both Open classes on Dirt i.  
31---15.5---15 max size.



- ii. All brands allowed.
- b. Both Open classes on Tar (Note: Current Spec Tire)
  - i. No bar tires.
  - ii. No slicks.
  - iii. Max of 94" on sidewall.
  - iv. Max circumference of 98" at 10 psi.
- 6. The outside dimensions of the tractor cannot exceed 6 feet wide and 10 feet long. Measured from the furthest points of the tractor, excluding weights.
- 7. Weights must not exceed more than 12 inches from the back to the tires.
- 8. The exhaust must be directed up.
- 9. All drive trains must be properly shielded to insure the safety of all.
  - a. Drive line components and Harmonic balancers must be shielded 360 degrees of rotation with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum and be securely attached. There must be a strap across the front to retain the Balancer, and must have center bolt installed.
  - b. Automatic transmissions must have a SEMA approved explosion shield and/or approved blanket, or Enclosed 360 degrees with 3/16" steel of 1/4" aluminum that is attached securely. It must have a reverse lockout on the shifter.
  - c. Clutch bell housings must be SEMA approved on all V8's, other engines must have approved bell housing blankets or be shielded 360 degrees with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum. Steel flywheels are also recommended.
  - d. All belts and fans must be shielded with 1/8" steel or aluminum.
  - e. All open tractors with a crankshaft parallel to the frame rails must have .060 steel or aluminum side shields from the front of the motor, and from the bottom of the heads to 2 inches below the center throw of the crankshaft. Note: Frame rails count as part of the shield.
- 10. All transmissions must be shielded on at least 3 sides top and 2 sides from the rear of the engine heads the front of the tails shaft housing. This shield must be at least 1/8" steel or aluminum. A steel torque converter cover must be bolted securely in place on automatic transmissions.
- 11. Engine and transmission mounts must include 2 front mounts, 2 rear mounts and a saddle under the rear of the transmission **OR** 2 front mounts and a support saddle under the rear of the engine and a transmission mount. Note: Sufficient strength cable may be used for a center support saddle and a must have a maximum 1/2" clearance.
- 12. All tractors must have either a neutral or park safety start switch. (Neutral safety switch or a clutch disengagement switch.)

### **PRO MOD V---8**

1. Head and Block castings must be ordinary junkyard available CAST---IRON castings. All parts, blocks and heads must retain all casting numbers and ID's. No factory or aftermarket castings.

2. Valve and springs---any valves are allowed. Full roller or roller tip rockers are allowed.
3. Camshafts and lifters---any flat tappet cam and lifters are allowed. No roller cams or lifters allowed, no mushroom lifters allowed. Solid or Hyd. lifters are allowed.
4. Pistons---flat top pistons of any make are allowed, no domes are allowed. Pistons must not protrude above deck.
5. Rings, Rods, Crankshafts, Timing chains of any type are allowed.
6. Engine size is limited to 412 cubic inches max.
7. Intake manifold of any single 4 barrel is allowed.
8. Carburetor of any type is allowed (up to 4 barrels) No fuel injection.
9. Tires:
  - a. DIRT PULLS
    - i. Max. tire size 31---15.5---15.
    - ii. No specialty pulling tires.
    - iii. May use brands such as Firestone, Goodyear.....
  - b. TAR PULLS – NOTE CURRENT SPEC TIRE
    - i. Max of 92 on sidewall.
    - ii. No bar or slicks are allowed.
10. Any type of fuel is allowed. No nitrous oxide.
11. All drive trains must be properly shielded to insure the safety of all.
  - a. Drive line components and Harmonic balancers must be shielded 360 degrees of rotation with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum and be securely attached. There must be a strap across the front to retain the Balancer, and must have center bolt installed.
  - b. Automatic transmissions must have a SEMA approved explosion shield and/or approved blanket, or Enclosed 360 degrees with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum that is attached securely. It must have a reverse lockout on the shifter.
  - c. Clutch bell housings must be SEMA approved on all V8's, other engines must have approved bell housing blankets or be shielded 360 degrees with 3/16" steel or 1/4" aluminum. Steel flywheels are also recommended.
  - d. All belts and fans must be shielded with 1/8" steel or aluminum.
  - e. All open tractors with a crankshaft parallel to the frame rails must have .060 steel or aluminum side shields from the front of the motor, and from the bottom of the heads to 2 inches below the center throw of the crankshaft. Note: Frame rails count as part of the shield.
12. All transmissions must be shielded on at least 3 sides top and 2 sides from the rear of the engine heads the front of the tails shaft housing. This shield must be at least 1/8" steel or aluminum. A steel torque converter cover must be bolted securely in place on automatic transmissions.
13. Engine and transmission mounts must include 2 front mounts, 2 rear mounts and a saddle under the rear of the transmission **OR** 2 front mounts and a support saddle under the rear of the engine and a transmission mount. Note:

- Sufficient strength cable may be used for a center support saddle and a must have a maximum 1/2" clearance.
14. All tractors must have either a neutral or park safety start switch. (Neutral safety switch or a clutch disengagement switch.)

### **CONCLUSION**

The 2017 MGTPA rules are designed to provide for the orderly conduct of the motor sport of garden tractor pulling events and to reduce the risk of injury to both participants and spectators during such events.

It is ultimately the obligation of each participant to ensure that his/her conduct and equipment comply with all applicable MPTPA rules and regulations. No express or implied warranty of safety shall result for the publication or compliance with these rules. They are intended as a guide for the conduct of the sport and are in no way a guarantee against injury or death to pullers, spectators, or others.

### **Rules Committees:**

Rule Compliance for all classes will be enforced by the MGTPA Officers and Board of Directors.

### **Safety Committee:**

Rules in regards to safety will be checked and enforced by the decision of the MGTPA Officers and the Board of Directors along with the sled operator's and the flagman's input.