

NHF

Needville Harvest Festival, Inc.

A Non-profit Organization 501 c3

Racing Lawn Mower Rules

ALL RULES ARE BASED ON THE USLMRA, BUT NOT TO ITS ENTIRE BASIS. IF IT'S NOT LISTED, THEN IT'S NOT LEGAL. ASK BEFORE YOU DO. ALL ITEMS ARE BASED ON SAFETY, KEEPING COST DOWN AND EVEN COMPETITION FOR EVERYONE. RULE CHANGES CAN AND WILL BE MADE AS NEEDED, IF NEEDED.

PART ONE: MOWER SAFETY-ALL CLASSES

1. All mowers should be as clean and neat as possible
2. Make every attempt to remove all sharp edges within reach of the driver
3. Tether Lanyard style commercial kill switches are required on all mowers (no homemade switches allowed).
4. A master kill switch is required on all mowers;
 - a. It should be a push pull, or a toggle style switch. In plain view on the upper left or right of the dash area, and clearly marked.
 - b. In the event that the tethered switch fails when a driver is ejected, this switch needs to be easily found by anyone approaching the mower.
5. Fuel tanks: Plastic and metal tanks are approved, they may be moved from its factory location if it was originally located in the rear of the mower. Otherwise, all under the hood tanks should have a metal shield between it and the engine. The shield should be made in a way that keeps debris and such from breaking the tank.
6. Driver's Seat: the seat should be mounted securely to the frame. Homemade and go kart seats are allowed depending on inspection. No Seat Belts. If making a high side seat, keep edges clean and padded.
7. Engine area needs to be kept clean of oil and fuel leakage
8. Fuel shutoff valve: all mowers are required to have a manual inline fuel shutoff valve in plain sight.
9. All mowers will go through tech inspection before race day, if it's not inspected, it will run. No Exceptions.
10. Steering Wheels: Most complete full circle steering wheels or handle bars are approved. A racing style steering wheel is recommended that has a metal center. Handle Bars are also allowed, however bar ends must have a rubber grip that covers the entire end. No exposed metal on the bar ends. No plastic steering wheels that do not have a metal reinforced center. A finger throttle is allowed to be relocated to the steering wheel/handle bar. It must be of a bicycle brake type with a braided cable and 2 (two) return springs.
11. Hoods that are hinged should also have fasteners installed to keep the hood in a fixed closed position while on the track. Hoods are required at all times and must be closed to its original

Appearance after modification. The only exception, a 1 (one) race grace period will be given for replacement after damage from an accident.

This covers basic safety items. Other items of concern will be covered in the mower specification rules/guidelines.

PART TWO: MOWER SPECIFICATION FX CLASS

Class is determined by the lawn mower at entry

ONLY MOWERS THAT ARE COMMERCIALY MASS PRODUCED FOR SALE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE UNITED STATES ARE APPROVED-Husky, Toro, Scotts, Troy Built, etc.

PREPARED CLASS: Class designation: A/P, S/P, C/P, AND B/P. These mowers are as delivered from the factory except for the modifications listed below

1. ENGINE must be originally manufactured for use in lawn mowing equipment and be stock in appearance, with the exception of air filter, air cleaner or velocity stack. Crankshaft must be in original orientation and clearance hole in the frame. Engine may be internally modified. Shall not exceed 17.5 HP single cylinder only.
2. EXHAUST design is open, must terminate away from driver and competitors, in a rearward and/or downward direction and present no apparent safety hazard.
3. STARTER must be onboard, either electric or pull-rope.
4. DRIVELINE may be modified from the engine pulley to the rear wheels, but must utilize a shaft drive lawn mower transmission or transaxle.
5. Rear axle may use open differential, locked, "live," or solid axle. No single wheel drive.
6. No centrifugal and or torque converter clutches.
7. Rear axle should be shaft locks, center bolts, or thru bolts to secure the rear wheels.
8. All steering linkage must use ball-type or spherical threaded rod end.
9. Front axle may be pinned, bolted, or welded into stock position. No suspension, no shock absorbers. Axles must have a 1-piece beam
10. Front axle and steering may be reinforced, substituted or fabricated. In the case of racer-fabricated axles, these will be subject to the judgement of the Technical Inspector as to their apparent safety for racing. Aluminum may not be used as the material for the one-piece axle.
11. Shaft locks, center-drilled axle with locking bolts, castellated nuts with cotter pins, are acceptable for securing front wheels. Cotter pins, E-rings, and C-rings alone, bent nails, hitch pins; over-center pins and quick release pins are not sufficient for wheel retention and are not approved.
12. WHEELS-8" wheels rear-6" wheels front- custom steel or aluminum are allowed. Wheels must be the same size on each axle, of any origin. No dual or tandem wheels.
13. DECK- Mowers must mount steel factory decks: The deck must be at least as wide as either running boards or body edge whichever is wider. Decks may not extend any more than 2" beyond the tire sidewalls on each side. Deck halves may be mounted to running boards. Decks must be secure. Decks must have the appearance of a factory deck.
14. SAE-rated trailer or lawn mower tires must be used.
15. FOOTHOLDS must be discrete, and no more than 2" high, made of flat or "L" stock (no rod stock) and made such that the foot cannot become entangled in a roll over.

16. All parts should be lawn mower origin with the exception of those specifically mentioned above or otherwise allowed.
17. HOODS and body parts such as fenders may be upgraded or modified.
18. External ignition systems are allowed.
19. Aluminum flywheels are allowed
20. FENDERS may be secured moved or altered
21. Must use axle mounted brakes, no lawnmower transaxle or transmission mounted brakes.
22. FUEL: Pump fuel only. (Chevron, Shell, Exxon, Etc.). No electric fuel pumps/NO aviation fuel.

FX CLASS

1. ENGINE: Shall not exceed 17.5 HP and be single cylinder only.
 - a. No fuel injection
 - b. Internal modification allowed
 - c. Carburetor size/type open
 - d. Custom intake manifolds allowed
 - e. External ignition devices are allowed, cross brands of lawn tractor OEM ignition systems allowed.
2. FUEL: Pump fuel only. (Chevron, Shell, Exxon, etc.). No electric fuel pumps/No aviation fuel.
3. DRIVE TRAIN: Is open to live axle, belt or chain drive custom gearboxes or transaxles. Centrifugal clutches allowed. Where custom drive train may be hazardous to driver, protective shield must be installed; all chain guards must be a minimum thickness of 1/8" aluminum or steel. ATV drive train and suspension not allowed. No all-wheel drive machines allowed. Suspension must be rigid, no shocks or springs allowed.
4. STEERING: Direct steering is mandatory, must use lock nuts on all connections. Rack and Pinion is allowed.
5. WHEELBASE AND MAXIMUM WIDTH: 39" minimum wheelbase. 42" maximum width. No more than 4" of total offset. (Take a measurement from the center of the frame to the outside of your right tire and doing the same on the left side. With this the difference should be no greater than 4")
6. NUMBERS: All mowers must have a visible number. Numbers shall be located on front of hood and on left and right side close to the front. Minimum 6" height is recommended on a contrasting background.
7. SEATS: Must be mounted in center of frame from one side of the frame to the other side. Go kart seats are allowed.
8. FRAME: 4" minimum ride height. Firewall protection recommended. Discreet chopping of the chassis to install after-market clutches, gearbox, seat and axles allowed, but must retain original OEM appearance. 4" ride height will be measured from the frame of the mower.
9. BRAKES: Must have working brakes, hydraulic disc setup recommended.
10. WHEEL/HUBS: Go kart dirt tires are allowed, max 8" rims on rear and 6" on the front. Lawn mower tires, go kart dirt tires and mini sprint tires are allowed. Custom steel or aluminum rims allowed. Custom hubs or spindles must have lock collards, lock nuts, or new HD cotter pins to prevent movement.
11. BUMPER/SIDE BARS: Side/Crash bars optional. Closed loop rear bumper optional. Front bumper optional.

12. EXHAUST: is open, as long as its points down and away from driver and presents no apparent hazard. No stacks.
13. THROTTLE: No fixed throttles. Foot and trigger throttles will have the two return springs as mandated ALL CLASSES. No solid throttle cable. Must be braided cable like a bicycle brake.
14. BODY: Body can be homemade but must resemble a lawn tractor. No sharp edges. Rear fender must not be wider than the bulge or widest part of the rear tire.
15. MINIMUM WEIGHT: 450lbs with driver.

Once completed, the mower should keep the appearance of a mower but with style. This does not mean to mount a mower body on a go kart.

If something is covered more than once, that means it is an area of concern

PART THREE: DRIVER RULES

1. The minimum age for a driver is 18, no exceptions. A valid driver's license for age verification is required at check in.
2. All drivers will be required to sign a waiver and release of liability before unloading, no exception.
3. HELMETS: There are only 2 (two) approved types:
 - a. Full Face with face shield
 - b. Motocross with face guard and gogglesAll helmets must have been approved and inspected by a track official.
4. DRIVER ATTIRE:
 - a. Long sleeve jacket: racing, leather, etc.
 - b. Full finger gloves: leather, mechanics, etc. (NO COTTON GARDEN GLOVES)
 - c. Over the ankle leather boots or shoes. Laces must be taped or tucked.
 - d. Full length pants: Blue jeans, racing pants, etc. (NO SWEAT PANTS)

If it flops in the wind, tape it down.

ALL DRIVERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT WILL BE INSPECTED. THIS IS FOR YOUR SAFETY!

5. All drivers will be expected to conduct themselves in a cordial manner. Rude, obnoxious behavior will not be tolerated from anyone. Tempers will flair when accidents happen. Please do not let it get the best of you!
6. Any driver making rude, obscene remarks, gestures etc. to any track official will be disqualified and depending on the incident banned from any future events
7. The owner/driver is responsible for everyone in his pit crew. Don't let them get you disqualified. We are all here to have fun, remember that!

PART FOUR: RULES OF THE TRACK

1. All races will be started with a rolling start; the track goes green when the leader/front row clears turn four (4).
2. Starting grid will be determined by a random draw during registration for a heat race, not by time.

3. Due to the extreme speeds. No more than 5 mowers will be allowed to race at one time. An A Main and B Main race may be used to determine that feature finalist.
4. As many heat races will be run as needed in order to set the field for the feature race.
5. If a YELLOW or RED flag is thrown before the lead mower completes the first lap the race will be restarted and drivers will be lined up in the original starting grid, but only once. If a second yellow/red flag is thrown before completion of the first lap, the race order will be determined by the order the mowers cross the Start/Finish line at the start and they will resume racing by using a rolling start. The racer causing the 2nd caution goes to the rear.
 - In the event of an accident, driver involved and immediately behind should raise their left hand in the air to signal driver behind that there is a problem ahead.
 - If a driver experiences a problem with his mower, he should also raise his left hand in the air to signal other drivers and move to the inside of the track.
 - Any driver causing 3 (three) cautions in a race will be parked.
6. RED flags will be thrown when any accident involves a mower that has over turned or a driver ejected. All drivers are expected to come to a complete stop as soon as possible. Any driver that passes an accident location on the track after the red flag has been thrown will be disqualified.
7. After a RED flag incident, the mower/driver involved will have to get approval from the track inspector before being able to continue.
8. In the event of a fire, all drivers need to pull to the infield until the safety crew gives an all clear. Any mower that had a fire will not be allowed to continue without being inspected.
9. In the event a driver is shown a BLACK flag during a race, he has three laps to exit the track and report to a race official. The only exception is if he is advised to do otherwise for safety reason. Any driver not acknowledging a BLACK flag will be disqualified and parked for the remainder of the race.
10. All drivers are expected to drive in a safe, respectful manner. This is racing, not destruction derby. Reckless driving will not be tolerated for any reason.
11. Any mower that emits a considerable amount of smoke may be shown the BLACK flag. You will be given 1 (one) attempt to fix the problem before being parked for the remainder of the current race. An inspection will be required before being allowed to enter the next heat/main race.
12. In the event of a RED flag, drivers and 1 (one) crew member will be allowed to do work as needed on his mower in the infield. Once the YELLOW is shown, any further repairs will have to be completed in the pits. As possible, a hot pit area will be available with easy access back to the track in a safe manner.
13. Any vehicle that is helping in the pits, hot pits or on the track must be equipped with a fire extinguisher at all times and a pull rope/strap.
14. Track officials/flag men have the final say, look and listen before arguing. NO decision will be made on opinion or popularity. If an official meeting is required to make a final decision, show them the respect and do not interfere.

PART FIVE: RULES OF THE PIT AND GRID

1. Only one person shall be allowed on a racing lawn mower. This will include parade laps and races. The person on the mower must be registered as a racer for the event. No exceptions will be made to this rule.

2. All pit areas must have a fire extinguisher readily available and visible at all time. These are provided by the owner/driver of the mower.
3. There will be mandatory fuel storage location for all pit areas; all fuel containers will be located in the right front corner of the pit stall. In case of a pit fire, this will make it easy for containment and locating them if needed. All pits will be inspected. This is for everyone's safety and is required.
4. Alcohol is not permitted in the pit area until after the last race of the day is completed.
5. Pit area speed is 5 MPH.
6. The owner/driver is responsible for everyone in his pit/crew; this is a family catered atmosphere so please remember that!
7. Anyone fighting or provoking a fight will be banned from any further participation. We are here for fun. Racing accidents will happen.
8. No unsupervised children will be allowed in the pits under the age of 15, no exceptions.
9. Absolutely no one under the age of 18 will be allowed to operate any vehicle in the pit area, no exceptions.
10. Please keep music/radios at a tolerable level, no loud or obnoxious music allowed.
11. Owner/Drivers remember this is a family atmosphere. Please take the time to chat when approached by those that may be looking to join us. We want to promote this event for future races.
12. Pits will be closed to non-racing person/crews until the last race is done. This is for everyone's safety. Remember you are responsible for everyone in your pit.

PART SIX: FLAG RULES

GREEN	GO, GO, GO
YELLOW	CAUTION, SLOW DOWN AND PAY ATTENTION
BLACK	EXIT THE TRACK, YOU HAVE A PROBLEM
RED	STOP
WHITE	ONE LAP TO GO
CHECKERED	RACE IS OVER

FLAGMAN POINTING AT YOU AND POINTING TO HIS BUTT, GO TO THE REAR OF THE FIELD.

RACING LAWN MOWER AWARDS

THREE CATEGORIES

MODIFIED	STOCK	FXS/V-TWIN
1st 2nd 3rd	1st 2nd 3rd	1st 2nd 3rd
PLACE TROPHY	PLACE TROPHY	PLACE TROPHY

FINAL DETERMINATION OF STOCK OR MODIFIED WILL BE MADE
BY RACE DIRECTOR ON DAY OF THE RACE.

ENDURANCE/OPEN

You may also enter an endurance race. Upon finishing the endurance race a Trophy will be awarded to the winner.

CONTACT INFORMATION

KEVIN SHORES	281-384-1427
GENE ROBERSON	281-686-0292
GENE VENCEL-TRACK MASTER	979-559-2931

NHF
P.O. BOX 1101
Needville, TX 77461

Needville Harvest Festival, Inc.
RACING LAWN MOWER ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT/TYPE AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Team Name: _____ Race Number: _____

Day Time Phone: _____

Race Chief: _____ Cell Phone: _____

_____ Mailing Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Names of additional crew: _____ STOCK _____

_____ MODIFIED _____

EACH TEAM MEMBER MUST SIGN A RELEASE OF LIABILITY & INDEMNITY AGREEMENT PRIOR TO
MOVE IN ON DAY OF RACE!!!

TEAM ENTRY----- \$ 25.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NEEDVILLE HARVEST FESTIVAL INC.

- CHECK ENCLOSED
- CASH (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH)
- CONTACT INFORAMTION

KEVIN SHORES 281-384-1427

GENE ROBERSON 281-686-0292

Needville Harvest Festival, Inc.

RACING LAWN MOWER

OWNER/DRIVER AGREEMENT

By signing this form, I agree to abide by all rules provide. I also am in agreement that I am responsible for all person in my pit and crew members at all times during the race day. If at any point I am caught cheating in order to gain an advantage over my fellow competitors, I understand that I can and will be banned from any further involvement.

Owner/Driver Signature

Date

Owner/Driver Printed Name

Track Official Signature

Date

Track Official Printed Name