

# SWOTPA RULE BOOK - 2008 TO 2010

## General Information

1. Each member that is a point collector with Southwestern Ontario Tractor Pullers Association (SWOTPA) will follow the association rules regardless of changes the sponsor/promoter may make.
2. Membership to the Southwestern Ontario Tractor Pullers Association will be \$75 for drivers and \$35 for general members, those who are not driving but want to be in the pits and at track side. There will be a \$25 insurance fee per hook for non-members and those who don't meet class specifications.
3. Membership Fees and Class Prize money will be subject to change upon review of the executive during the three (3) seasons the 2008 Rule Book is in effect.
4. Sanctioned classes are as follows:
  - 6000 lb Modified Farm
  - 7000 lb Modified Farm
  - 8000 lb Modified Farm
  - 9000 lb Modified Farm
  - 9300 lb Super Farm
  - 10000 lb Super Farm
  - 2WD Wheelie Trucks - Class 1
  - 2WD Wheelie Trucks - Class 2
  - 4WD Super Stock Trucks - Class 1
  - 4WD Super Stock Trucks - Class 2

## Event Procedures

1. The classes listed in these rules are the only classes that are sanctioned by SWOTPA for points.
2. Vehicles are limited to two classes for collecting points and prize money.
3. Number system of each competitor will be as follows: the first two (2) digits in the number will be the weight class and the last two digits will be the order in which the competitor will pull. For example: 6004 means the 6000 lb Modified Farm class and the 04 means the 4<sup>th</sup> position. Number should be placed on the left side of the tractor.
4. The driver to register will draw for positions.
5. Each vehicle may only be entered by one driver per class.

## Points

1. Points will be calculated in this manner.
  - a. Each member will receive:  
Hook Points - 10 points (must move the sled a measurable distance) + Place points
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> - 20 points
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 19 points
    - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 18 points
    - iv. 4<sup>th</sup> - 17 points
    - v. 5<sup>th</sup> - 16 points
    - vi. 6<sup>th</sup> - 15 points
    - vii. 7<sup>th</sup> down at 1 point decrease per place.
  - b. If there are more than 20 competitors in a class, this will be adjusted accordingly in all weight classes for that pull.
2. Points will be calculated in the position the member places, excluding any non-member which may place in-between (i.e. member 1<sup>st</sup>, non-member 2<sup>nd</sup>, member 3<sup>rd</sup>: member in 1<sup>st</sup> place will get points for first place and member placing 3<sup>rd</sup> will received points awarded to get 2<sup>nd</sup> place points only, excluding the non-member.

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3. Members will begin collecting points with the first pull after a competing membership has been paid.
4. In the event of a tie at the end of the year, calculating will be done as follows: calculating the total distance for the year will break the tie. The vehicle calculating the farthest will move ahead of the other puller.
5. Each puller will be granted one (1) grace hook per class per year. The lowest points for that event will not be counted in the year-end total. Example: if there are 14 sanctioned classes, the lowest of the 14 event point placings will be discarded and points standings will be calculated based on 13 events.

### Contest Operations

1. All vehicles are to have a legal operator in the driver's seat when being started and while running.
2. All pulls will operate with two flagmen. The starting flagman will be responsible for the readiness of the track, the vehicle, and the competitor up to the 100' mark, ensuring a tight chain and giving the green flag. The second flagman will be responsible for the remainder of the track, giving the red flag and will be the track official unless otherwise stated.
3. Each hook is to begin with a tight chain and a green flag.
4. When the flagman raises the red flag, the competitor **MUST STOP IMMEDIATELY**, irregardless of whether the sled has stopped moving or not.
5. While being hitched or unhitched, all competitors are to be in neutral or park and the driver **MUST** indicate this has been done by raising the hands.
6. The first competitor of each class may choose to hook again. If so, the competitor will go to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or last pulling position and the first hook will not be counted. The decision to hook again must be made **BEFORE** the vehicle is unhitched from the sled by informing the track official. **IF PULLER DOES NOT LET TRACK OFFICIAL/ANNOUNCER KNOW WHETHER HE OR SHE IS KEEPING THE HOOK OR NOT, PULLER WILL FORFEIT THE CHANCE TO PULL AGAIN.**
7. During a pull off you can only pull in the position you finished in the class to get into the pull off. **YOU MAY NOT DROP.**
  - a. When in a pull off, there will always be a floating finish, unless otherwise instructed. Check with a track official to determine the distance. Your pull will not end at the 300' marker.
  - b. One attempt only.
8. Drivers are required to remain seated at all times while pulling with seat belts on.
9. The driver is the only one allowed on the vehicle while pulling or while moving in the pit area.
10. When a class is called each competitor in that class will line up in the staging area after being cleared by the scale operator and will not leave this staging area until your pull is complete. If for any reason you have to leave the area, you will have to be cleared through the scale operator again.
11. If the laser beam is accidentally cut off before the final reading is taken and the sled has been moved, the competitor will be required to pull again.
12. If in the middle of a class, we have rain changing the conditions of the track, the entire class will start over.
13. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** will be allowed in or around the track, nor will there be any tolerance for drinking before driving on the track.
14. **ALL CLASSES**, excluding vintage and out-of-field tractors require a helmet while pulling.
15. Any puller caught going over idle speed while in the pit area will be disqualified and asked

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to load his/her pulling vehicle. SEE DISQUALIFICATION RULES #1. This also applies to any vehicle that pullers or part of their team is using in the pits.

16. A 20-pound fire extinguisher is to be readily available in the track area.
17. Spectators are NOT to be on or crossing the track when a pull is in operation.
18. All spectators are to be back at least 35' from the edge of the track. Track must be at least 35' in width

## General Rules - All Divisions

1. All vehicles must have working brakes, clutch housing safety blanket, air shut off, fuel shut off, 3" reverse light, neutral safety switch, electrical power shut off accessible to track official on the left-hand side of vehicle.
2. All vehicles in the **Modified Farm** and **Super Farm** classes will require an additional inner side shield made of 1/8-inch steel or titanium or 1/4-inch aluminum inside the current side shields. This shield is independent of the current side shields and must be attached to the vehicle frame using a minimum of 5/16 inch fasteners at both ends and the centre on the bottom and to the engine block at both ends (bolted solid or with a length of 5/16 inch chain) at deck height on the top. This shield must extend from the bottom of the head to the centerline of the crankshaft and extend the full length of the block on each side of the engine.
3. The "D" hitch is to be rigid and mounted solidly to the frame. No side-to-side movement, must be solid and cannot be fastened to wheelie bar. No top links allowed.
4. "D" hitching device: diameter of the hole, round or square, is a minimum of 3" wide and 3-3/4" long. From the rear point of the hole to the rear point of the hitching device is a maximum of 1-1/2".
5. The hitch point must be clear and visible for hooking up the sled.

## Mandatory Safety Equipment

These items are required on all vehicles in sanctioned classes.

- Fire extinguisher
- Kill switch for ignition and electric fuel pump
- Reverse light
- SFI Fire suit of with applicable rating for class and type of fuel used; SFI Fire gloves, fire boots and balaclava.
- Neck brace for any driver of a vehicle using a roll cage and/or 5-point harness
- Helmet - Rated Snell 90 or better

## Disqualification Rules

1. Competitor not operating in a safe manner at all times while on the grounds.
2. Consumption of alcoholic beverages PRIOR to pulling.
3. Any vehicle that touches the white chalk boundary while pulling.
4. Loss of ballast weight or equipment under the green flag.
5. Excessive loss of fluids or liquids while pulling unless due to an internal breakage. (Excessive is defined as any steady or intermittent stream discharged on the track or a spot equivalent to more than 8" in diameter.)
6. If a track official reports a complaint of unsportsmanlike conduct to the association and the complaint is found valid, the puller(s) will forfeit accumulated points and will be suspended for the rest of the season.

## Protest Procedures

1. The protest fee is \$500.
2. The protest may be put forth by an individual or group, but **all** protestors must be members of that class.

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3. Members will have 30 minutes from the time the vehicle being protested completes their hook, to complete the Protest Form available from the secretary-treasurer and present the completed form with the protest fee to the head track official.
4. The head track official shall notify the president, vice-president or secretary-treasurer that a protest has been entered. The head track official will also be responsible for forwarding the protest fee to the secretary-treasurer.
5. The executive will review the protest. The protestor and the protestee will be notified of the decision verbally within 7 days and in writing within 10 days.
6. If the protest is found to be valid, the protest fee, less the cost of any required inspection and applicable fees for inspection, shall be awarded to the protested member.
7. If the protest is found to be invalid, the protest fee, less the cost of any required inspection and applicable fees for inspection, shall be returned to the protesting member or members.