



2019 Tractor Operating Contest

Rules

DCLA Youth Fair PO Box 887
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The Tractor Operator Contest is sponsored by the Zimmer Kubota and Equipment Inc. It is designed to develop skills in operating farm tractors and equipment. Safety is a major consideration.

Dates and times

1. **Entry time:** March 4, 2019 (Please use Contest Entry Form)
2. **Judging:** 1p.m. Friday March 29, 2019 - South of the Rodeo Arena (Weather Permitting)
3. **Entry fee:** \$10.00

Entries are subject to the following general rules.

4. **Divisions** — The contestant's age must be determined by August 31, 2017
 - Junior (age 12 — 14)
 - Senior (age 15 — 18)(Contestants must take a 15 question test and must pass to advance to the driving portion of the contest. The test will be about Safety, Maintenance & History of Tractors. A study guide will be made available on the DCLA website. dentonyouthfair.com/events/contests)
 5. **Equipment:**
 - Tractor
 - 3 Point Equipment
 6. **Scoring** — Contestants are assessed penalty points for safety violations, time, hit markers, etc., according to the score sheet.
 7. **Judges** — Judges will rule on all questions. The judges' interpretations of the rules are final.
 8. **Awards** — The first three place winners will receive trophies and awards. Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.
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Contest Rules

The contest will consist of mounting a tractor, starting it safely and correctly, and driving the indicated course.

The contest requires the contestant to drive and back a tractor with the implement attached. Stakes or cones will outline the course.

1. Starting the tractor engine — Upon mounting the tractor, the contestant will be responsible for the following items:

The tractor will then be started and run at idling speed until the contestant is to start driving.

- a) At least one brake must be set.
- b) The gear/range shift lever must be in the neutral position.
- c) PTO must be disengaged.

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2. Driving the course — The contestant will notify the official when they are ready to begin driving. Time begins when the signal to start is given by the starting official. The driver is then allowed six minutes to complete the course.

3. Stopping procedure — Contest time is complete when the operator has backed the implement into the “shed”, is satisfied with their stopped location in regards to distance from the stakes, and has shut off the tractor.

This particular sequence is not necessary as long as all operations are accomplished safely.

Timing ends when, after stopping the engine, the contestant raises both hands about shoulder height.

a) Shift into neutral and lock at least one brake.

b) Stop tractor engine.

c) Scoring — Contestants will be scored upon the items shown on the score sheet.

The event will have a six minute time limit. A penalty of 400 points will be added to the contestant’s score for failure to complete the course in the allotted time. When time is called, the contestant will be stopped and measurements will be taken. If penalties due to measurement are less than 400 points for exceeding the time limit, they will receive the lower score. In the event time is called, the penalty points received for time will not exceed 760 penalty points, (6 minutes x 60) + 400.

Two stakes will serve as the back of an imaginary shed, each located two feet in from the corner. Contestants will be penalized 20 points for each inch over two inches from the farthest stake to the back of the spreader.

Safe Tractor Driving Rules

The following rules are offered as a guide for safe tractor operation. Officials should be guided by, but not limited to, the scope or coverage of the following paragraphs:

1. After mounting tractor with standard transmission, set at least one brake, place the gear shift lever in neutral position, and disengage clutch before starting engine..
2. Place PTO lever in neutral position before starting engine and keep disengaged at all times except when it is in use.
3. Engage clutch gently and avoid careless or sudden starts and stops which tend to “bounce” front wheels off the ground or cause rear wheels to “dig in”.
4. Release brakes before starting to drive the tractor.
5. Keep tractor in gear when driving. Never shift into neutral or disengage clutch to coast part of the way.
6. Ride on the tractor. Never ride on drawbar or hitch of trailer or implement being drawn.
7. Reduce speed to a safe level before making a turn or applying one brake.
8. Do not permit extra riders on the tractor at any time.
9. Bring tractor to a complete stop before dismounting.
10. Do not use road gear while driving the course. Any gear which permits a ground speed of 10MPH or faster is considered a road gear.
11. Drive tractor at speeds slow enough to ensure safety, both for driver and for officials.
12. Wear clothing with snug fitting cuffs. Avoid loose-fitting baggy clothing.
13. Tobacco use while driving the course is NOT permitted.
14. Avoid short turns which will foul implement against tractor wheel.
15. When leaving tractor, shift into neutral, set at least one brake, and shut off engine. Mount and dismount tractor properly. Use steps if provided by manufacturer.