



2023 Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair Tractor Driving Competition

Theme: BARN IN THE USA

2023 Tractor Driving Competition Rules and Registration

Contest Date & Time: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 | 6:00pm in the Horse Arena

All Registration will be on-site at the competition location

1. The Tractor Driving Contest will help held Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 6pm in the Horse Arena
2. Contestants must be at between 15 – 18 years of age, as of February 28, 2023, hold a least a Restricted Driver's License, and be a Registered Exhibitor of the Fair.
3. All Contestants must sign and submit the Release of Liability Form contained with this information.
4. The contest is designed to be a practical demonstration and an attempt has been made to simulate actual farm operating conditions. Both are designed to show knowledge of tractor safety and the operation of a tractor.
5. Only designated contest officials and operating contestants are allowed in the course area.
6. If a cell phone is seen or heard in the possession of a contestant, that individual contestant will be disqualified from competition and receive a score of zero.
7. Contestants must enter their name on the scorecard, or they will receive a score of zero. Judges will not attempt to figure out who the score card belongs to.
8. A 'Drivers Meeting' for all Contestants will be held prior to the contest. Any contestant not in attendance for the meeting will be disqualified. The meeting will include:
 - a. Introduction of judges and assistants.
 - b. Collecting Release of Liability Forms from Contestants. ***(This Form must be signed by Parent or Legal Guardian and be turned in prior to the beginning of the contest.)***
 - c. Drawing lots to determine the order in which the contestants will participate.
 - d. Handing out forms to the contestants and having them put their name and contest number of the forms.
 - e. Explaining and walking through the driving course.
 - f. Explaining time and phases of the contest.
9. Scoring will be a weighted 'fault points' system. Low score wins. Perfect score is a zero.
10. The first tie breaker for the contest will be the amount of time it takes a driver to complete the Safety Check portion of the contest. A second tie breaker, if necessary, will be the nearest measurement to the perfect clearance on the measurements
11. Any driver that is deemed a danger to him/herself or equipment during the driving portion or continually operates the tractor in an unsafe manner may be asked by the judges to discontinue and will be disqualified from the contest.
12. SAFETY CHECK: When the contestant is ready, a safety check must be conducted of the tractor, which includes:

Before starting the engine, the contestant must check the following:

 - a. Tires: Touching or kicking with the foot will suffice. All four tires should be checked.
 - b. Fuel: The fuel check will be a visual check of the fuel gauge and verbal acknowledgement to the judge.
 - c. Brakes: The brakes will be checked by depressing the pedals and then setting the brakes in the locked position, if the tractor is not equipped with a park position.
 - d. Throttle: the throttle must be set to the starting position – not wide open.
 - e. Seat Belt: The seat belt must be fastened before starting the engine.

After the engine has been running, the contestant must indicate verbally to the judges that the following are normal:

13. DRIVING COURSE:

- a. The tractor is hitched to a trailer in the designated area.
- b. The contestant is standing with a judge and indicates when he/she is ready to begin.
- c. Time begins when the contestant indicates he/she is ready.
- d. Contestant makes sure the trailer is security hitched to the tractor and performs the safety check.
- e. Once the safety check is completed, the constant is ready to begin the driving phase. The contestant indicates to the judge that he/she is ready to start the driving phase and the judge will signal to start.
- f. The contestant will pull the trailer, line up, and back it down the alley until the back of the trailer clears the end of the alley. A judge will signal the driver when he/she has cleared the end of the alley.
- g. The contestant will pull the trailer out of the alley and begin the course.
- h. The contestant will proceed through the course as described by the Coordinators and Judges.
- i. At the end of the course, the contestant will back the tractor and trailer into the designated location, set up the tractor, and signal the judge that he/she is ready for the measurements to be checked. Upon completion of the measurements, the driver will pull the trailer and clear the shed, set up the tractor, turn off the engine, and dismount.
- j. The time stops with the engine fan stops.
- k. When the contestant dismounts from the tractor, both brakes must be set or the gear shift must be in the park position on tractors that are so equipped.



**2023 Tractor Driving Competition – Release of Liability Form
Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

**Registration will be on-site at the Competition Location
This Form must be turned in at the at the time of the Competition**

Contestant Name: _____ Age: (as of 2/27/23) _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Email address: _____

I certify that the above information is correct and the I have read, understand, and will abide by the rules and regulations governing the Tractor Driving Contest as established by the Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair. I agree to Indemnify and Hold Harmless with Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair Association, it's Directors, Officers, and Agents, Staff, Volunteers, and Judges, the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida, it's Directors, Officers, and Agents, from any self-inflicted injuries arising from my participation in the Tractor Driving Contest at the Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair.

Exhibitor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Printed Name: _____

