NATPA

General Pulling Rules & Regulations

Effective until 4/2027

The following rules are general in nature and apply to all pullers, tractors and operations involved at all NATPA sanctioned events.
All NATPA Classes are intended for agricultural production type tractors. No - homemade, experimental, industrial or prototype tractors are permitted.
TRACTOR YEAR: 1959 and Older or production models that started in 1959 for Divisions II – IV and 1961 and Older for Division V+

1. **ENTRY** - A tractor may pull only once in each class. Pull promoters decide the number of classes each tractor may enter in excess of two classes. A non-member will be charged a $10 non-member fee per tractor per event.
2. **AGE** - Drivers up to 18 years old - must show proof of age and have a written parental/guardian NATPA permission form filled out before they can pull at a NATPA sanctioned pulling event. This person must pass a given driver's test provided and administrated by a NATPA Board of Trustee or Safety Tech individual, or individuals to test this person's skills and knowledge of the entered tractor that the person will be driving in that particular chosen division and weight classes. It will be the judgement and decision of the NATPA representative giving the driver's test to determine if the entered person is qualified to participate with and at a NATPA sanctioned event.
3. **DRIVER** - Drivers must stay in the seat of the tractor at all times. No bouncing in the seat is permitted. Hands or hand must be on the steering wheel, hand brakes, hand clutch, or throttle at all times during the pull. Never try to start a tractor by pushing it off the scale. No one except the driver is to be on a moving tractor. No riders allowed on moving tractor. Anytime a tractor is moving the driver is required to be seating down in the seat. Driver must be in the seat when starting the tractor. Tractor is to not exceed a 4-mph speed limit off the track or in the pit area.
4. **ALCOHOL & BEHAVIOR** - No abuse or over consumption of alcohol or drugs will be permitted or tolerated. **-** No abusive or aggressive language or behavior will be tolerated on and off the track.
5. **BARRED** - Any tractor or puller found to be unsafe, unruly and illegal or does not follow or respect the rules and regulations of the NATPA; may be disqualified or barred and or banned from hooking or attending any NATPA function, meeting or event.
6. **SIGNING IN** -You must be signed in and registered before a weight class starts to be entered in that weight class.

7. **WEIGHING IN –** Each Tractor is required to weigh in on the scales and to have their hitch height checked before they can hook to the sled. This is required for each and every time you pull in a different weight class. If there is no one there at the scales you are still required to check your weight and hitch height. DO NOT spend the day on the scales. Have courtesy for the other entries and pullers.

8. **WHEELIE BARS & KILL SWITCH** - Wheelie Bars and Kill Switches are required in ALL NATPA Divisions II, II-TC, III, IV6, IV, & V+. Wheelie bars should not be attached to the drawbar in any way. Drawbars and kill switches should be easy accessible for the sled or hook person. Minimum requirements for the wheelie bars are as follows - A: 10"maximum above ground. B: The back of the wheelie bar is to extend 5" behind the tire radius. C: Pads - 5" square minimum, spaced minimum of 20" from outside each pad. D: Stabilizer bar system must be able to support the weight of the tractor and driver in the heaviest weight class pulled. E: Jacking up the pads so the tractor is completely off the ground is a means to test the strength of the system's support ability and the NATPA Tech Official reserves the right to perform this test at their discretion.

9. **DRAWBAR/HITCH** - Hitch material cannot be thinner than ¾" and not thicker than 1.25". Hitch has to have a 3.0" wide hole with 1" material thickness around the hole or a straight clevis or D-Ring (hitching eye) bolted or pinned tightly to the drawbar with a minimum of 3.75"long hole. Top of hitch adjuster cannot be above center line of axle or hub. Hitches and drawbars must be stationary and locked in all directions. Hitches or drawbars cannot be moved when pulling down the track. Hitching point should be easy accessible for the sled or hook person and fit freely.

10. **COVERS & EXHAUST** - All flywheels must be covered. John Deere 2 – two-cylinder production tractor's clutch housing (clutch cover) must be covered. All fans, P.T.O's, or exposed moving parts must be shielded or covered. All exhaust pipes must be straight up with no curves or bends. All battery posts must be covered. No essential parts can be removed. Such as: (Front Wheels/Brakes etc.).

11. **SAFETY EQUIPMENT** - In DIV's IV6, IV and V+ ALL tractors must be equipped with a high back seat measured 7 inches from the base or cushion. Fenders and a dead man's throttle: (Except hand clutch models) are mandatory. Fenders must be as high as the tallest part of the rear tire and must support the weight of the driver. An approved SFI certified safety blanket is required in Division V+. The installation and fastening method will secure the blanket in place to sustain fragment containment in case of an explosion.

12. **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS** - Are recommended but not required. Extinguishers must be easy accessible and up to date.

13. **SPONSORS** - Advertising plaques, signs or decals may be put on a tractor as long as it does not interfere with the teching or the safety of that tractor and is not offensive in nature. (NATPA Board's discretion).

14. **WEIGHT** – Suitcase or custom-made weights allowed in Divisions II – V+. All weights must be stationary and safely secured. There is no allowance on weight for any class in any Division. Weight of class is maximum weight allowed.

15. **CHASSIS** - All Division II, II-TC, III, and IV, IV6 Tractors must maintain a stock/factory wheelbase for that make and model tractor. Rear wheels, differentials and frontends must maintain stock/factory location and wheelbase. Division V+ must be stock/factory appearing in location. Tractors in question will be judged and ruled by the NATPA board and tech committee.
16. **REPLACEMENT PARTS** - The term "Replacement Parts" is defined as any part that was available for that tractor make and model of that era, or reproduction parts that duplicate the original part and must be produced and is accessible to purchase by the general public. ALL replacement parts must meet the current board's approval. Example: Reproduction blocks, heads and or manifolds are allowed in Divisions: II-TC, III, IV6, and IV & V+ and not allowed in Division II. NOTE: Blocks, heads and/or manifolds are NOT allowed to be reproduced using aluminum materials in all Divisions except Division V+ (as per Board of Trustees 8/29/2018).
17. **TIRES** - Tires NOT allowed: radial, duals, tire chains/studded or steel wheels. No purpose built pulling or non-agricultural tires will be allowed except in Division V+.
18. **WHEELS & HUBS** - Aftermarket rear Wheels and Hubs are allowed in all Divisions.
19. **FUELS** - Gas, Diesel or LP fuels only. No alcohol or nitrous oxide: fuels/systems/kits or fuel additives may be used in tractors. Gas is allowed a maximum of .750 specific gravity. All tractors are subject to random fuel checks by a NATPA Board of Trustees or Tech Official.
20. **DIESEL TRACTORS** - It is the discretion of the promoter to allow diesel engine/motor tractors to participate and pull at their in-door facility, arena or event area. Tractors manufactured to use diesel fuel only cannot be converted to Gas or LP. (Example: No spark plugs added to a diesel head in Divisions II-IV). Only diesel tractors produced before 1959 and or model series are allowed to pull in the NATPA. Diesel Injection Pumps must stay in their original factory location. Tractors must be naturally aspirated. No turbo chargers or blowers except factory equipment as in Oliver GM, John Deere 435 GM etc. In Division V+ diesel tractors are allowed
21. **RPM's** – Rpm's allowed will be determined by the NATPA RPM Chart. Any tractor not listed will use manufacturers or Nebraska Tests Data. All tractors must have a positive throttle stop with a working governor in the stock location in all Divisions. The NATPA Board of Trustees and or a Tech Official can check a tractor's RPM at their discretion. If a tractor is found over the given RPM percentage of that make and model for that Division; that entry number card will be pulled and given to the registration office and will be counted as a (DQ) disqualification for that weight class entered.
22. **RPM CHECKS** - All tractors are required to have a spark plug wire easily accessible and outside a shielded area so Tech Officials can check tractor's RPM's manually. All Divisions have the option to use a Tattle Tale Memory Tachometer (Tach) and is recommended in DIV's IV6 and IV. Tattle Tale Tachometers are required in Division V+ to be checked by a Tech Official.

23. **SIDE SHIELDS** - All side shields must be removed prior to a tractor being inspected by a Tech Official. They may be reattached after the Tech inspection is finished. Side Shields are mandatory in Division V+ and are recommended in Divisions IV6 and IV.

24. **SPEED CONE** - Divisions and mile per hour (MPH), speed cone distance will be set at 60 feet as decided by the NATPA Board of Trustees. One beep or horn after a division marker, flag, or cone will result in disqualification. A 60 foot marker, flag, or cone (depending on length of track or tracks) will identify the mark you must stop at before the puller chooses to restart another attempt at their pull. If you go past the 60 foot mark your distance will be counted after that point for your pulling distance. The puller will have two chances or two tries to move the sled. If there is no measurable success of movement after two tries, 5 points will be granted/awarded for that weight class. Note: The tractor must make an attempt to hook and move the sled to earn points for that weight class. It is the decision of the NATPA Board of Trustees to allow more than two tries due to tractor or sled malfunction, and track or weather conditions.
25. **WEIGHT OR PART FALLING OFF** - Any part or weight falling off the tractor after being hooked, during the pull and until the tractor is unhooked from the sled, will result as a (DQ) disqualification. No measurement will be taken after a disqualification or refunds given. (Do Not touch an unsecured or partially hanging weight/part until the tractor is unhooked from the sled).
26. **OUT OF BOUNDS** - Contact point of tractor and or sled must remain in bounds at all times. Out of bounds will result in (DQ) disqualification. No measurement will be taken after a disqualification or refunds given.
27. **FULL PULL** – A measurable track distance of a Full Pull marker will be determined and established by the NATPA Board of Trustees for that scheduled event. The measurement will be announced before the commencement of said pull to the participants of that event. The Full Pull marker, flag or cone is only used as a guideline and not as an accurate distance. The sled reading will determine the final recorded distance of entered tractor's final progress.
28. **RE PULL** - If a class is restarted for any reason; all tractors that are registered in that weight class and that have already pulled, will be allowed to re-pull. No new entries allowed in that class during a re-pull or re-start of a weight class.
29. **PROTEST** - Any protest filed with the flag person or track person will result in both the tractor and the protester's tractor being checked for any NATPA violations or infractions. The protester must be a puller in the same weight class. The protest must be made before the tractor believed to be in violation leaves the end of the track; you must go to the flag/track person or a NATPA Board of Trustees member to protest a tractor. Once the tractor leaves the end of the track, no protest can be made. Rules committee has the right to protest any tractor at any time on or off the track. All decisions are final. All judge's decisions are final. Track judges have the right to stop a tractor pull at any time. NO one during the pull is allowed on the track except: Members of the NATPA Board of Trustees, Track Officials and or Flag Personnel during a pulling event.

30. **CHAMPIONSHIP PROTEST** - Championship protests may be made prior to or during the Championship Pull. On the day of the Championship Pull an inspection of that tractor entered for points must pass the Tech Committee - after that day of pulling.
31. **POINTS** - For a tractor to receive a point's award that tractor must have competed in the minimum events required to qualify for the same designated point's weight class. The minimum events required to qualify for point's awards shall be six (6). The number will be rounded down if odd number of total events. You must notify the (NATPA Secretary) by the Day after the last sanctioned pull and or before the Championship weekend pull; what two classes you are declaring for points. If you have not declared by this date - the NATPA will automatically declare your two lightest weight classes you pulled in that season for points.

32. **FLAG & TRACK OFFICALS** – You will line up when your weight class is ready to start and not before. You will be asked to hook to the sled and then go forward until the chain to the pulling sled is tight. The flag person will show you a Green flag before you can take off. You will not take off until you get the Green flag. When you see the Red flag at any time, you must STOP! The flag person will stop you if you are not making any more forward progress with the sled or for a safety and or equipment problem or issue. If the flag person feels your front end of the tractor is too high or the driver can no longer maintain safe control; you will also be Red flagged and stopped at that time. If you continue with your pull after being Red flagged, you will be disqualified from that class. If you do it again, you will be asked to leave the tractor pull. Do it a third time and you will be banned from all NATPA pulls and events involved with this organization for a one 1-year period or pulling scheduled season.

33. **BY LAWS** - Rules for each division will not be changed for a period of three years with the exception of a safety issue or to clarify a questionable rule per Section 5 on Page 3 of the NATPA By-Laws.
34. **BOARD RULE CHANGES** - All rules will be interpreted by the NATPA Tech/Rules Committee. Any unforeseen problems, safety issues or oversights will be ruled on by the Tech/Rules Committee with their rulings being final.

All NATPA Rules and Regulations will be Strictly Enforced.

The NATPA Board of Trustees or Tech Officials can judge and inspect any tractor in question at any time before, during and after the pull at their discretion.

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