

NORTH SACO LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION

Presents the

PATHFINDER CUP RACING SERIES

Racing Rules and Guidelines 2011

No alcohol or drug consumption by the racers or pit crew will be tolerated prior to/during any race event. Violation will be cause for immediate disqualification from the race AND a LOSS OF 100 POINTS.

NSLMRA reserves the right to change rules at any time.

1) Conduct

- a) Any unsafe action is cause for immediate disqualification.
- b) Any un-sportsman like conduct by drivers or pit crew members will be brought up to the presidents attention, which could lead to possible loss of points, suspension from future races, or banned entirely from the association. All violations will be noted in association's records. Complaints and disagreements must be taken to the announcers table after the race. This is where the race officials will settle the complaint.
- c) No scenes (harsh words exchanged) or fighting will be allowed on the track or the pits. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

2) Inspections

- a) NSLMRA officials must have a pre-race inspection on every mower. Mowers must comply with the rules of each class entered.

3) Age

- a) Drivers must be 18 years of age with the following exception; ages 14-17 may race if they have parental or legal guardian consent release form and proof of age. Parent or legal guardian must be present with the child at each race.

4) Liability Waiver

- a) ALL DRIVERS, PIT CREW AND SAFETY PEOPLE MUST SIGN A LIABILITY WAIVER. ANYONE NOT SIGNING THE WAIVER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE PITS OR ON THE TRACK.

5) Helmets / Clothing

- a) DOT or SNELL approved helmets required. Goggles or approved safety glasses required. Helmet face shields are acceptable.
- b) Long pants, long sleeve shirts and gloves are **mandatory**. (NO SHORTS, NO SHORT SLEEVES, NO TANK TOPS)
- c) Heavy shoes that cover ankles must be worn. No type of tennis shoes/sneaker is allowed.
- d) Neck braces designed for racing applications are **mandatory** in all classes.

6) Race Time Meetings

- a) All drivers are required to arrive one hour prior to announced race time. All drivers will attend a drivers meeting prior to every race night.

7) Numbers

- a) Number must be at least 4 inches high. Numbers will be displayed on both sides and back in contrasting colors.
- b) Assigned numbers will come from the NSLMRA by request. Numbers will remain in effect from year to year as long as the membership dues are current. If a mower is sold, the new owner has the option to keep the number or have it changed. If the buyer chooses not to keep the number, they must apply for a new one. Point Champion will have the option to claim number 1 if they choose to.

8) Safety/Tech Committee/Inspectors

- a) Members with assigned responsibility and the NSLMRA president have final authority on all matters regarding the safety and conduct of all racers and any matters relating to racing conditions and mowers.
- b) Motor tear-down is not a requirement for disqualification.
- c) Mowers may be inspected at any time for compliance with existing rules and regulations.

9) Racing Fees

- a) NSLMRA members in good standing will pay a fee of \$10.00 a race. An additional \$5.00 will be charged for each additional class entered, per race.

10) Pits

- a) Must be 14 years of age to be in the pit area during racing events. All pit crew and equipment will be kept in the pit area. Everyone in the pits must use caution. Drivers must keep mowers at a slow speed at all times in the pits. Pit road speed is 4 MPH.

11) General Motor Requirements

- a) If a driver leaves the course, he/she must re-enter as close as possible to the same point. The driver may not re-enter further down the track. All decisions made final by the flag official will be final. Flag official will control the track at all times.
- b) If a mower stalls on the race course, the driver's first responsibility is to move the mower to a safe position at least 10 feet off the course. Crew members may NOT go out on the course at any time during the race unless specifically directed so by the chief flag man. Drivers are only allowed 2 YELLOW flags per race. 1st will be a warning with a rolled up yellow flag being waved at the driver. 2nd will be an automatic black flag **PUTTING YOU OUT OF THE RACE.**
- c) Grid positions for the race line-up will be drawn from a hat. (Or bucket if no hat is available)
- d) **NO INTENTIONAL BUMPING WILL BE TOLERATED ON OR OFF THE RACE COUSE.**
- e) The responsibility for a safe pass rests with the overtaking driver.
- f) Unsafe off track driving practices may result in disqualification.
- g) Flat tires will be black flagged.

- h) All mowers MUST be equipped with an automatic throttle-closing device.
- i) All mowers must be equipped with a kill switch, which will turn off the ignition if the driver leaves the mower. Mowers shall use the tether, mechanically attached to the mower and the driver. Velcro is NOT acceptable. Tether may reach to the back of the seat and/or shall not be longer than 30 inches, tip to tip in stretched out length. Pressure switches are not allowed. Kill switch must remain in closed position (engine not running) until driver mounts mower. Additional switches that can by-pass the kill switch are not allowed under any circumstance.
- j) Mowers must be free of projection, which could injure the driver or competitor, or damage another mower. No axle or wheel mounting bolts may protrude beyond the face of the tire sidewall.
- k) Mowers must be safe and complete, all parts and panels in place without any missing nuts, bolts, cotter keys, etc...

TRACK RULES

FLAGS: Every driver must know the meaning of the flags and respond to their meaning precisely or they will be subject to the association's code of conduct rules and possibility penalties.

GREEN: The race/practice is underway when the green flag is waved.

YELLOW: Take care, DANGER. NO PASSING ON THE ENTIRE COURSE. As soon as any driver notices the yellow flag, he/she must raise one arm to notify other driver of the caution. Drivers then form a single line, close up with the leader and follow the Starters directions.

RED: STOP RACING IMMEDIATELY! Clear the course as much as possible.

BLACK: You have got trouble or you are in trouble. If this flag is rolled up and shaken at a driver you have been given a warning for some type of infraction or equipment violation. There is only ONE warning, once an open black flag is waved at you, you are out of the race. At that point you must pull off the track if possible and stop your mower or into the pits and the issue will be settled after the race.

WHITE: One lap to go before the race is finished. Crossed with GREEN means halfway point of race.

CHECKERED: End of the race or practice session.

Race officials may test drivers at any time for knowledge of flag procedures and these regulations. Drivers must pass all tests in order to practice or race.

MASTER FLAGMAN: Will have the final decision on all tracks and racing controversies. His decision will be final, unless the violation needs to be addressed by the NSLMRA committee because of possible violations that may lead to penalty or suspension.

- 1) Grid positions will be determined by a drawing on race day.
- 2) All mowers will be inspected before a race for safety equipment and racers gear. (Boots, kill switch, helmets, neckbrace, etc...)

- 3) Upon a caution the flagman will show one finger and a rolled up *YELLOW* flag to indicate one lap remaining before the *GREEN* flag will restart the race. If there is a problem with restarting after giving the one to go flag, the flagman will wave crossed arms back and forth to indicate that the start has been waved off.
- 4) A pass is not complete until you cross the finish line. If a caution flag comes out before a driver crosses the start finish line after making a pass then the driver must go back to his original position.
- 5) If a driver is unsure of his or her current position, then the driver should pull along side the position that is in question and wait for an official to indicate where the driver is to be placed.
- 6) If a caution flag occurs with less than 3 laps, it will create a *GREEN/WHITE/CHECKERED* situation, meaning when racing resumes the drivers will take a *GREEN* flag then the next lap will be a *WHITE* flag followed by a *CHECKERED* flag.
- 7) Drivers are only allowed 2 *YELLOW* flags per race. 1st will be a warning with a rolled up *YELLOW* flag being waved at the driver. 2nd will be an automatic *BLACK* flag PUTTING YOU OUT OF THE RACE. Caution laps do not count.
- 8) Upon a *RED* flag, stop on the track and wait for the official to line up the field in order. Once the field has been lined up, the *YELLOW* will be displayed to pace for a restart.
- 9) Finishing order will be determined by what position you cross the start/finish line. In the event that you are unable to cross the finish line, the amount of laps you complete, or your distance to the start/finish line will determine your position.
- 10) If you wreck or have trouble with your mower, try to drive your mower off the track. In the event that is not possible to move, DO NOT step off your mower or remove any safety equipment. Raise your hand and wait for the official to relieve you from your mower. Then and only then, you can remove your mower from the track and then your safety gear.
- 11) All decisions made by the flagman are final.
- 12) All protest can be made after the race to the race director. Protest will be ruled upon a case-by-case scenario. Protest in a good sportsman-like manner or you will not be heard at all. (THIS MEANS NO YELLING AT ONE ANOTHER)
- 13) If a Racer is not on the track for more than 3 consecutive green flag laps, you will be not allowed to return to the track.
- 14) Grid positions for the feature race will have top 3 finishers from previous feature race inverted at tail of field. I.e. Winner starts last, second place, second to last, third place, third from end.

SPORTSMAN CLASS RULES

- 1) No mowing blades, removal of mowing deck optional. If it stays on mower, it must be mounted securely.
- 2) Open to all self-propelled rotary type lawn mowers. Mowers must have been designed and sold commercially to mow residential lawns.
- 3) Engine: 5 to 20 hp single cylinder must be governed as stock up to 3650 rpm (will be checked with a tachometer)
 - a) Fuel = gasoline (boosters optional)
 - b) NO performance enhancing parts (stock air filters, mufflers, carburetors, etc)
 - c) Must have operative spring return throttle. Must have operative tether switch.
 - d) Must have throttle locks.
- 4) **Safety Kill Switch:**
 - a) Tether switch is mandatory. Must have breakaway type. ei. Types found on boats, wave runners, quad runners. The hook-up cord may be no longer than 30 inches stretched out. It may not reach any further than the back of the driver's seat.
- 5) Body and Frame: Frame, fenders and hood - all stock and mounted securely.
 - a) Must be stock height from ground.
 - b) 4 Stock tires and wheels. (turf tires) With 6" minimum wheels
 - c) Brakes must work properly.
 - d) Batteries must be mounted securely.
 - e) Front-end parts must be in good condition. (No worn out wheel bushings, tie-rod ends, or spindle bushings)
 - f) No front-end alterations or modifications. Camber ok on stock spindles
 - g) Maximum width of mower is 36"
- 6) Gearing: changes allowed.
- 7) Bumpers/Safety Bars/ Mower Desks:
 - a) Front bumpers are **MANDATORY**, may not exceed the front width of the tires.
 - b) Rear bumpers must not exceed the rear tire width.
 - c) Running boards or nerf bars are highly recommended but can NOT exceed the width of the tires. Mowing decks may be used in place of running boards or nerf bars, but must be securely fastened to the frame of the mower. An outside barrier on the running boards or mowing deck to keep your feet from slipping is highly recommended (will help control your body weight while cornering)
 - d) Center of bumper should be 10 inches off the ground and 6 inches in height.

SUPER MODIFIED CLASS RULES

- 1) Engines:
 - a) 5 to 20 horsepower single or twin cylinder.
 - b) Vertical or horizontal shaft.
 - c) Must be lawn mower type engine
 - d) May be internally and externally modified.

- e) Must be 4 cycle engine.
 - f) Exhaust must route downward or to the side of the mower. Must be stock muffler in good working condition. Maximum decibel limit of 62
- 2) Transmission/Drive-line:
- a) Driveline choice is open. (Gearboxes, centrifugal clutches, torque converter clutches direct drives, solid rear axles)
- 3) Body and Frame:
- a) Must have a lawn mower frame. If stock frame is inadequate for racing, it may be reinforced or a new one built from steel of the same dimensions and style. No aluminum frames.
 - b) Wheel base may be no longer than 60 inches (that's the length from axle to axle)
 - c) Width may be no wider than 42 inches (that's outside tire to outside tire distance)
 - d) Body must have lawn mower style hood and fenders. May be modified to fit frame. Hood must be locked down in place securely.
- 4) Starters:
- a) Electric or pull start only. No hand held gear drive starters (like on go-karts and dragsters)
- 5) Gas tanks and fuel systems:
- a) Gas tanks must be securely mounted and reasonably protected. (NO nitrous oxide allowed)
 - b) Inline fuel shut off valve mandatory.
 - c) No fueling a running engine.
- 6) Throttles:
- a) Any type throttle may be used, twist grip, thumb throttle, squeeze grip or foot pedal. Must operate freely and have an operable return spring. No fixed throttles.
- 7) Safety Kill Switch:
- a) Tether switch is mandatory. Must have breakaway type. Eli. Types found on boats, wave runners, quad runners. The hook-up cord may be no longer than 30 inches stretched out. It may not reach any further than the back of the driver's seat.
- 8) Wheels and tires:
- a) Any style wheels may be used. They must be mounted securely to the axle.
 - b) 4Turf style tires only (No go-kart tires are allowed). Tubes must be used in front tires.
- 9) Brakes:
- a) Mandatory! Must be upgraded from stock braking system.
- 10) Suspension:
- a) Starring arms and tie-rods ends must be 3/8 inch diameter minimum.
 - b) Must use hime joints or large type ball joints.
 - c) NO shocks or springs are allowed.
- 11) Bumpers/Safety Bars/ Mower Desks:
- a) Front bumpers are **MANDATORY**, may not exceed the front width of the tires.

- b) Rear bumpers must not exceed the rear tire width.
- c) Running boards or nerf bars are highly recommended but can NOT exceed the width of the tires. Mowing decks may be used in place of running boards or nerf bars, but must be securely fastened to the frame of the mower. An outside barrier on the running boards or mowing deck to keep your feet from slipping is highly recommended (will help control your body weight while cornering).
- d) Center of bumper should be 10 inches off the ground and 6 inches in height.