

# Colorado Garden Tractor Pullers Association

## ***Event procedure***

### ***General***

1. If there is no barrier, distance from track to crowd will be a minimum of 10' that is to include a 10' "no-man's-land".
2. If there is a barrier, distance from barrier to crowd will be a minimum of 10' that may include the required 10' "no-man's-land".
3. During active competition, the only personnel inside of "no-man's-land" shall be track officials, active competitors for that class and sled operator. ONLY active competitors pit crew and other properly credentialed people are allowed between "no-man's-land" and crowd.
4. A weight transfer sled, which conforms, to the rules set forth by CGTPA will be utilized in competition.
5. Anyone assigned to a pull event operation position shall remain on that duty for the entire class unless he is competing in that class (i.e. flagman, measuring crew, sled operator, scale operator). A substitute person may fill the position while the person is competing.
6. Track will measure 25' feet wide by 120' long marked with orange cones and a white chalk line.

### ***Contest Procedures***

1. Contestants must pull in the position designated. In case of mechanical breakage, which has been confirmed by a track official, contestant may drop to last position. From the moment that both track and sled are prepared for competition, the puller has 3 minutes to hook and make his/her attempt to pull.
2. Each driver has the right to have the sled spotted to a particular location on the starting line, and a reasonable attempt will be made to bring the sled as close to that position as possible under the circumstances, subject to not delaying the event. The driver or assigned crewmember is responsible to clearly request the location before the sled is returned to the starting line after the previous puller has completed his pull. In the case of a second attempt, a second location may be requested, and again a reasonable attempt will be made to bring the sled as close to that position as possible under the circumstances, subject to not delaying the event. Entire sled must be within the track boundary line at the start of pull attempt. No official pull may be started beyond the starting line or in back of the starting line. All sleds must be started in

gear and with front of sled approximately even with starting line. Measurements will be based on the sled distance wheel, unless there is a malfunction with that equipment or an error in the recording of the distance; in that event, a hand held distance wheel or a measuring tape may be used. At the discretion of the CGTPA President, an alternate measurement method may be used on a test basis at selected events - e.g., a laser type measurement system.

3. Each competitor will be allowed two attempts to make a measurable pull. An attempt is defined as moving the sled 1" or further. On first attempt, if the competitor lets off on the throttle before reaching the 25' line, the competitor will get a second attempt immediately following the first attempt, even if he/she went a little beyond the 25' line, at the discretion of the track judge or CGTPA Tech committee. If no attempt is made to back off the throttle, and the tractor passes the 25' restart line, no second attempt will be granted.

4. On any re-pull caused by contest malfunction, the competitor may either re-hook immediately or drop 6 positions or drop to last position.

5. Competitor will be able to drop to last if breakage occurs on his/her first attempt and he/she has let off the throttle previous to crossing the 25' line. Puller will be eligible for 1 more attempt, subject to meeting the 3-minute time allowance from the time the sled is ready for the second attempt.

6. Any disqualification on first attempt does not bar a second attempt (see **Rule C Test Puller** below). Should the class be restarted, the competitor disqualified (during the course of competition) will be allowed to re-pull in the position drawn.

7. If a class is restarted, all competitors having pulled previously will (in descending order) have the same options as the number one or test puller (see **Rule C Test Puller** below). In the case of a restart, it is the competitor's responsibility to alert the track officials of his/her decision.

8. If the last competitor in the class has difficulties, this puller will have 6 minutes to hook to the sled and make their first attempt to pull.

9. If a vehicle is legal when hooked to a sled and breakage occurs while under the green flag, the pull will be measured regardless of whether the pull measurement exceeds the 25' restart line. If a second attempt is allowed per previous rules, that pull will be the official measurement.

10. All vehicles must be in neutral/park while being hitched and unhitched to/from sled.

11. All pulls must start with a tight chain.

**12. The order of pull for classes with both youth and adult section entries will have the entries alternated where practical,**

but points will be kept separately for youth and adult.

13. Youth pullers must make a commitment at the beginning of the competition year to either pull in the youth section or the adult section of each class in which he/she competes.
14. Tractors meeting NQS rules will be allowed to pull on an exhibition basis in appropriate CGTPA classes.

## **Test Puller**

1. The competitor pulling in first position of each class, as determined by the order of pull sheet, is considered the test puller.

2. Provided that the weight transfer is deemed right, the test puller may:

- (a) Accept their distance or
- (b) Refuse their distance and immediately hook again for another potential two attempts or
- (c) Refuse their distance and pull again in the sixth or last position (will be allowed two attempts in the sixth or last position).

NOTE: Sixth position is defined as the position immediately following the next 5 competitors and their attempts.

3. If the test puller has mechanical problems during his/her test pull (before first official pull), the track official may grant the competitor the option of dropping to sixth position or to last position.

4. Only the test puller and only on his/her test pull, will the competitor have the option of dropping an out of bounds disqualification past the 25' restart line.

5. If a class is restarted, all competitors having pulled previously will (in descending order) have the same options as the number one or test puller.

**6. It is the competitor's responsibility to inform the track flagman as to his/her decision to take or drop the test pull. Leaving the track without informing the CGTPA track measurement official(s) of his/her decision, forces the assumption that the test puller wishes to accept the first pull as his/her official pull.**

## **Pull-Off**

1. A "floating finish line" may be used at the discretion of the head official and the sled operator in a pull-off situation only. The added distance shall be at the discretion of the sled operator. Competitors must be informed of floating finish line prior to the pull-off. This is an option and is not required at any event.

2. Order of pull-off will be in the order in which the vehicles made full pulls (or tied distances).
3. In pull-off situations, the competitor does not have the option of dropping six positions, with the only exceptions being: if the pull-off is not run on the same track, or with the same sled, or on the same day, or contest malfunction. A rain delay will constitute a judgment call on the part of the CGTPA President, in regards to the degree in which the track has changed.
4. If a pull-off is not completed because of rain, curfew etc., points for the places involved will be divided evenly among all those qualified for the pull-off.
5. In the case of a second pull-off, if all competitors qualified wish not to hook again, the points for the places involved will be divided evenly.
6. Pullers eligible for a pull-off (who have no substantial proof of being broken), do not make an honest attempt to pull, he/she shall receive the same points as the top vehicle that did not qualify for the pull-off.

### ***Inclement Weather***

1. A session of pulling will be called a completed show if 1/2 of the sanctioned classes have been run.
2. Any class canceled after 2/3 of the scheduled entries have pulled shall be considered a completed class for establishing if 1/2 of the classes of a session have run.
3. Points will be awarded to those classes that are completed according to the results for those who have hooked. All tractors present and entered in the class must be allowed to hook for the class in order for points to be tabulated for that class.

### ***CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION***

**A.** Decisions of the event CGTPA officials are final. Arguing with event officials could result in event disqualification or suspension. Upon second occurrence, CGTPA event participation can be revoked for one year from date of second occurrence.

NOTE: CGTPA President will review each of these cases, and dependent upon severity, may hand out suspensions.

**B.** Any competitor or any member of his/her crew found to be under the influence of an intoxicating agent, drug, or alcohol content during contest activities shall be barred from any further involvement or participation in the event and may face suspension, fines, or termination of participation for the year at the discretion of the CGTPA President.

**C.** Delays of contest of more than 3 minutes will result in disqualification.

D. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification.

F. Depositing of any equipment onto the track during the course of competition (breakage excluded). Excessive loss of liquid onto the track by a pulling vehicle, either while hooked to the sled at the starting line and not moving, or while in forward motion, and not due to internal breakage may result in disqualification. Excessive is defined as any steady or intermittent stream discharge on to the track, or a spot equivalent to more than 8" in diameter.

G. Any contestant attempting to leave under the red flag may result in disqualification at the discretion of the track official.

H. During the course of competition, tractor or sled may not touch boundary lines or disqualification will result.

## **PENALTIES**

If deemed necessary, a puller and/or vehicle may be placed on temporary suspension. Possible causes include, but are not limited to, arguing with event officials, fighting, and alcohol or drug abuse during an event, illegal vehicle advantages, unsportsmanlike conduct, unsafe behavior, etc.

## **Voluntary Compliance**

Each participant expressly agrees that by entering a CGTPA sanctioned event:

1. The participant agrees to be bound by all of the decision rules and regulations of the CGTPA including all procedures provided for in this rulebook and by decision rules and regulations, which are applicable to a particular event.
2. The participant agrees to be bound by and abide by the decisions of the CGTPA officials.
3. The participant by entering an event sanctioned by the CGTPA also agrees that all decisions made during or incident to an event are final and may not be appealed or made the basis of litigation and agree to release and waive from liability and agrees not to bring any action against the event manager, his/her designees, the CGTPA, the CGTPA President, the owners of the sled, the operator of the sled, the owners of the pulling track, and/or event sponsors for any loss, damage or injury caused by decisions erroneous or otherwise, or decisions based on malfunctioning equipment, whether due to negligence or otherwise.
4. The participant further agrees that any disputes concerning any event shall be resolved pursuant to the procedures provided for in this rulebook.
5. The participant agrees to indemnify and to hold the CGTPA harmless for any costs incurred by the CGTPA as a result of the failure of the participant to comply with the procedures provided for herein.

## **POINTS**

1. A competition vehicle must be registered for the current CGTPA pulling season at the time of a sanctioned event in order to collect points for that event.
2. Hook points shall be awarded to any CGTPA registered vehicle that has legally entered and passed vehicle inspection at that CGTPA sanctioned event.
3. The CGTPA shall award points in the following manner:
  - 1st 20 place points + 15 hook points = 35 points
  - 2nd 15 place points + 15 hook points = 30 points
  - 3rd 10 place points + 15 hook points = 25 points
  - 4th 5 place points + 15 hook points = 20 points
  - 5th 0 place points + 15 hook points = 15 points
  
  - 5th and lower 0 place points + 15 hook points = 15 points
4. A vehicle may collect points in more than one class that it is legal to pull in.
5. If the end of season points race results in a tie, it will be broken by comparing the number of 1st place finishes during the season. If a tie still exists, 2nd place finishes, 3rd place finishes, etc., will be counted until the tie is broken. **If still tied after this review, the puller with the greatest combined distance pulled in that class will be the winner.**
6. The CGTPA Board of Directors reserves the final authority to settle any questions or disputes regarding point awards.
7. Points will be awarded at all pulls designated as point's pulls by CGTPA. It will be assumed all pulls on the CGTPA schedule are point's pulls unless specifically described otherwise on the schedule. Points will be accumulated for each tractor by class.
8. Total points per tractor per class for each competition season will be based on the total number of actual CGTPA points eligible pulling events held. Points for each tractor will be counted for its best 8 finishes for each class in which the tractor competes.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

- A.** Contest is open to two wheel drives; factory manufactured rubber-tired garden tractors with original or replacement hoods and grills, fenders, etc in place. Garden tractor appearance must be maintained. No ATV's, motorcycles, snowmobiles; dune buggies, sprint cars, or other such vehicles are allowed. No recapped tires, dual wheels, chains, studs, or paddle tires are permitted.
- B.** Drivers under the age of 18 must have a parental/guardian signed consent form on file. Minimum recommended age is 8 years old for Stock classes, 12 for Modified, and 16 for Open classes. Exceptions for younger drivers may be allowed if the driver can demonstrate his/her ability to handle the

tractor question to the satisfaction of the CGTPA President. For purposes of entering classes, young drivers who have not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to the CGTPA Inspect, Test, & Tune Day, will be eligible to compete in the youth class sections throughout that competition year. Anyone 18 years old or older is not allowed to compete in youth sections, unless specifically authorized by the CGTPA President.

**C.** All vehicles are subject to safety, carburetor, fuel, and engine (cubic inch, camshaft, valve, etc.) checks by officials for compliance with CGTPA rules. Passing of safety inspection may be required at each CGTPA sanctioned event, prior to allowing the vehicle to compete.

**D.** Any competitor refusing to have their vehicle inspected for eligibility shall not be allowed to enter and/or pull in the class(es) in question until legality is established.

**E.** All drivers should be clean and neatly attired. Tractors should be clean and painted in a presentable manner.

**F.** It is mandatory that all drivers attend any driver meetings that may be held by the promoter and/or CGTPA officials. A driver who does not attend a driver meeting may be disallowed to compete during the accompanying session of pulling.

**G.** No portion of tractor may interfere with the hitch of the sled during the pull. Chain and kill switch cable (if applicable) must be easily hook able without interference. Provided that they cause none of the previously mentioned interference,

**H.** Judgment calls by CGTPA event officials are non-appealable after the event is complete. The CGTPA Tech Team will resolve any disputes regarding rule interpretations, and their decision is final.

**J.** Engine may not be used as a primary support structure for the vehicle. Engine may not be used as part of frame.

**K.** Front tires must track within the tread of the rear tires.

**L.** A twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) sponsorship fee for each TRACTOR is required. This will be paid to the CGTPA Treasurer no later than the third pull of the season.