SAFE TRACTOR DRIVING CONTEST

RULES AND REGULATIONS

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

ALABAMA FFA ASSOCIATION
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility and Regulations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Rules</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phases of Contest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART I Written Examination</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART II Parts Identification</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART III Tractor Safety and Operation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Check</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving Course</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Layout</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Safety &amp; Operation Score Sheet</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of Liability Form</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parts Identification Score Sheet</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabulation Sheet</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alabama State Department of Education, Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education

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Revised September 2018
Safe Tractor Driving Contest
SAFE TRACTOR DRIVING CONTEST

PURPOSE

The general purposes of this contest are: (1) to provide competitive activities which reflect certain abilities and areas of emphasis needed in the education of the successful agriculturist; (2) to advance safety, skill and efficiency in the use of tractors and equipment; and (3) to give FFA members who are participating in the FFA Safe Tractor Driving Contest an opportunity to demonstrate their skill in operating a tractor and their knowledge of tractors.

(SAFETY WILL BE STRESSED THROUGHOUT THE CONTEST.)

ELIGIBILITY AND REGULATIONS

For specific eligibility of participants, refer to the Contests and Awards Booklet.

County eliminations must be held in order for the county winner to participate in the District Contest.

The top four place winners in the North, Central and South Districts are eligible to compete in the State Contest.

Contestants must have a RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM with appropriate signatures.

STATE AWARDS/SPONSOR(S):

Refer to Alabama FFA Contests and Awards Booklet at: http://www.alabamaffa.org/forms_applications.htm

GENERAL RULES

1. It is the responsibility of the County Chairman to coordinate contests that will select the representative from each county in the District.

2. Only contest officials and operating contestants are allowed in the course area.

3. If a cell phone is seen or heard in the possession of a competitor, that individual student will be disqualified from competition and receive a score of zero.

4. Competitors must enter their name on the scorecard or they will receive a score of zero. Judges will not attempt to figure out who the card belongs to.
5. An orientation meeting for all contestants will be held prior to the contest. The meeting will include:

a. Introduction of judges and assistants.
b. Collecting Release of Liability Forms from contestants. (Form must be signed by parent or guardian and be with contestant at beginning of contest.)
c. Drawing lots to determine the order in which the contestants will participate.
d. Handing out forms to contestants and having them put their name and contestant number on the forms.
e. Explaining and walking through the driving course.
f. Explaining time and phases of the contest.

6. Scoring will be a weighted “fault points” system. Low score wins. Perfect score is zero.

7. The first tie breaker for the contest will be the amount of time it takes a driver to complete Part III. A second tie breaker, if necessary, will be the nearest measurement to the perfect clearance on the shed measurements.

8. Tractor(s) used in the contest must have a seat belt and roll bar.

9. The tractor size should be 30-60 horsepower.

10. Failure to attempt all portions of the contest will result in disqualification.

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/superintendent to discontinue and will be disqualified from the contest.

PHASES OF CONTEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part I</th>
<th>Written Examination (10 Minutes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part II</td>
<td>Parts Identification (15 Minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part III</td>
<td>Tractor Safety and Operation (15 Minutes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART I -- WRITTEN EXAMINATION

The written examination is made up of twenty (20) questions about tractor operation, maintenance, and safety. References for the written examination are (1) Operator's Manual, John Deere; and (2) Safe Tractor Operation and Daily Care, AAVIM. Five (5) penalty points will be given for each wrong answer. Each contestant will have up to ten (10) minutes for the written examination. The written examination is optional for the county contest.

PART II -- PARTS IDENTIFICATION

Each contestant will identify ten (10) tractor parts from the Tractor Parts to Identify List. Each item missed will be a penalty of 5 points. Answers must be written as presented in the list below to be considered correct. (Ex. A “Head Light” in place of a “Head Lamp” would be considered incorrect. The
correct answer would be “Head Lamp”) Only parts from the parts list below will be used in the identification portion.

STD-3

Parts to identify will be: (1) numbered on tractor, (2) actual parts, and/or (3) pictures of the parts.

Tractor Parts to Identify List

- Adjustment For Ride Comfort
- Air Cleaner
- Alternator
- Battery
- Brake Pedals
- Center Link
- Clutch Pedal
- Coupler Receptacle
- Differential
- Dip Stick
- Drawbar/Rockshaft
- Filler Cap
- Fixed Draft Links
- Foot Throttle
- Fuel Filter
- Fuel Gauge
- Fuel Injector
- Fuel Tank
- Gear Shift Lever
- Hand Throttle
- Head Lamps
- Hydraulic Hose
- Injection Pump
- Key Switch
- Lift Arms
- Oil Filler Cap
- Oil Pressure Gauge
- Outlet (To Connect Remote Electrical Equipment)
- Park Brake Indicator
- PTO Lever
- Quick Lock Pens
- Radiator
- Range Shift Lever
- Recovery Tank
- Draft Control Lever
- Rockshaft Position Control
- Lever
- Roll Over Protection Structure (ROPS)
- Seat Adjustment Lever
- Seat Belt
- Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem
- Steering Wheel Adjustment
- Sway Chains
- Tachometer
- Thermostat Housing
- Throttle Lever
- Tractor Serial Number
- Turn Signal Switch

PART III -- TRACTOR SAFETY AND OPERATION

The Tractor Safety and Operation phase of the contest includes the safety check of the tractor and driving through the course.

Each contestant will be limited to a total of fifteen (15) minutes for Part III. Contestants must complete Part III in the specified time limit or be disqualified.

The contestant will be scored on safety throughout the driving phase of Part III. This will include starting safety, driving safety, mounting and dismounting safety, and general safety. The number of penalty points given depends on the safety error(s) made.

SAFETY CHECK

When the contestant is ready to start Part III of the contest, the contestant must conduct a safety check 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. Gear Shift: The gear shift must be set in the park or neutral position.
e. Throttle: The throttle must be set to the starting position (NOT WIDE OPEN).
f. 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:

a. Oil Pressure: The oil check will be made by observing the oil pressure indicator and verbal acknowledgement to the judge.
b. Ammeter: The ammeter check will be made by observing the ammeter gauge and verbal acknowledge to the judge.
c. Temperature: The temperature check will be made by observing the coolant temperature gauge and verbal acknowledge to the judge.

DRIVING COURSE

The tractor is hitched to the trailer parked outside the implement shed.

The contestant is standing with a judge and indicates when he/she is ready to begin Part III.

Time begins when the contestant indicates he/she is ready.

Contestant makes sure the trailer is securely hitched to the tractor and performs the safety check.

Once the safety check is completed, the contestant 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.

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.

The contestant will pull the trailer out of the alley and through gates 1 and 2, around the end, and back through gates 3 and 4.

The contestant will drive back to the implement shed, line up the trailer, back it into the shed, 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 out and clear the shed, set up the tractor, turn off the engine, and dismount.
The time stops when the engine fan stops.

When the contestant dismounts from the tractor, both brakes must be set or the gear shift must be in park position on tractors that are so equipped.

Riding the clutch, using excessive throttle, excessive ground speed, and controlling ground speed with the clutch may be scored at any time during the contest.

The Course Layout with notes is shown on page 6.

SCORING

Number of times each error is made $ \times $ value of error = Total penalty points.

The possible infractions along with the respective values are shown on the Official Score Sheet on page 7.

The failure or omission of a driver to follow the prescribed course will be assessed in the Failure to Follow the Prescribed Driving Course.
Notes:

1. **Trailer:** The length of the trailer should be a minimum of 6 feet and a maximum of 10 feet. The width of the trailer should be a minimum of 6 feet and a maximum of 8 feet.

2. **Implement Shed:** The implement shed should be centered on the alley way length (as shown above), and located a minimum of 10 feet away from the nearest side of the alley. The implement shed should be 12 feet in length and a width equal to the width of the trailer being used plus 6 inches.

3. **Alley:** The length of the alley should be 40 feet. The width should be equal to the width of the trailer being used plus 12 inches.

4. **Obstacle Course:** The obstacle course should be 17 feet wide and 50 feet long. All gates should be 12 feet wide. There should be a 25-foot minimum clearance around the obstacle course.

STD-7
### Part III: Tractor Safety & Operation Score Sheet

#### INFRINGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFRACTION</th>
<th>NO. OF INFRACTIONS</th>
<th>POINTS LOST FOR EACH INFRACTION</th>
<th>TOTAL PENALTY POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure To Check</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Gauge</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brakes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gear Shift</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throttle</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat Belt</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Pressure</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammeter Gauge</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Gauge</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral Position</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTO for Disengagement Prior to Starting Engine</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Disengage Clutch While Starting Engine</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Fasten Seat Belt</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving Tractor While Brakes are Set</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough Clutch Engagement</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grating/Grinding Gears</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riding the Clutch</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalling the Engine</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Engine Speed</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Tractor Speed</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Clutch to Control Ground Speed</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skidding or Spinning Tractor Wheels</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitting Markers/Posts/Lines</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnecessary Change of Direction</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fouling Tongue of Trailer</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching Markers/Posts/Lines</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running Over Markers/Posts/Lines</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching Side of Shed/Alley</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough Fouling of Shed/Alley</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Completely Stop Before Dismounting</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Set Both Brakes Before Dismounting</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Follow Prescribed Driving Course</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement in the Shed (Nearest 1 inch)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inches off center in front</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inches off center at rear</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inches greater than 6” of the back (+/-2”) from center rear post</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REVISED AUGUST 2018**
FFA SAFE TRACTOR DRIVING CONTEST

Release of Liability

I, ________________________________________, hereby release all (Parent or Guardian) parties involved of any liability for accident or injury occurring during the ____________ FFA Safe Tractor Driving Contest. Specifically (Year) released of liability for accident or injury are farm machinery dealers or their employees, the State Department of Education or its employees, __________________________ High School (Name of School) and the ________________________________ Board of Education and (City/County) its employees, the judges and assistants assigned to conduct the contest. Contestants will operate the tractors and machinery at their own risk.

Parent or Guardian______________________________ Date __________

Contestant________________________________ Date __________

FFA Advisor ________________________________ Date __________

__________________________ Date of Contest

STD-9
Part II -- Parts Identification
Score Sheet

Name________________________ Chapter________________________

Directions:  Write the name of the part beside the correct number.

1. ____________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________________________

5. ____________________________________________________________

6. ____________________________________________________________

7. ____________________________________________________________

8. ____________________________________________________________

9. ____________________________________________________________

10. ____________________________________________________________

Scoring: Mark the incorrect answers. Multiple the number of incorrect answers by 5 to determine the number of penalty points for Part II.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Incorrect Answers</th>
<th>Total Penalty Points Part II</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>X 5 =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STD-10
TABULATION SHEET

SAFE TRACTOR DRIVING
CONTEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Phase</th>
<th>Penalty Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Examination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parts Identification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Safety/Operation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Penalty Points

PARTICIPANT’S RANKING*

*The contestant with the smallest number of penalty points will be the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner, the second smallest number will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner, etc.

Tie Breakers:
1<sup>st</sup> Shortest Time without excessive speed
2<sup>nd</sup> Least amount of penalty points for Tractor Safety/Operation portion of the event

STD-11