



## Vermilion River Lawnmower Racing Rules and Regulations

Hello, Race Fans!!

The **Vermilion Agricultural Society: Vermilion River Lawnmower Racing committee** is pleased to host multiple **Lawnmower Racing Events**.

### **Description of Event**

Lawnmower racing is a fun, family-friendly event. Racers age from 8 and up with everyone welcome to participate.

Lawnmower racing is catching on in Canada. The sport is sometimes called the “poor man’s NASCAR,” machines can reach 100 km/h with engines having from 8 to 90 horsepower and cost from \$500 to \$5,000 to build depending on the racing class.

### **Our Track**

- Outside Oval Track size 20’-25’ wide, with 220’ straight away and a total length of 920’.
- The stock track is 618’
- The inside road track is 1200’ in length with challenging turns and a great straightaway.
- Classes based on configuration of tractors following Alberta Lawnmower Racing guidelines.
- The average race consists of 3 – 10 laps depending on the class.
- 4-8 drivers per race.
- Waivers must be signed by all participants.
- A pit area would be established prior to race day.
- Entrance and Exit lanes will be marked at race day.

To register use the following link or register the day of the event. <https://form.jotform.com/242217841228252>

If you have any questions please contact:

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## **READ GENERAL RULES AS WELL ADDITIONAL RULES APPLY.**

All rules should be read thoroughly as they will be enforced at all events, and subject to a technical inspection at the discretion of the Tech Inspector or Race Director. When in doubt, ask for a ruling in advance to ensure that you are not disqualified during the event.

The Vermilion Ag Society Lawnmower Racing Committee reserves the right to make changes to the rules for safety and the benefit and growth of lawnmower racing.

Please forward any questions, suggestions, or concerns to the association executive.

### **Code of Conduct**

We believe in supporting good sportsmanship and fair competition while maintaining a common sense approach and keeping it simple and fun for everyone.

-No drugs or alcohol shall be consumed during any race event. Doing so will result in immediate disqualification from that event and continued infractions may result in being ejected from future events.

-Profanity or insulting behaviour will not be tolerated.

-Each racer is responsible for his/her guests and crew while at the race event. This includes while you are on the track.

-Tractors must remain at a minimum speed while in the pit area and starting grid area.

-All racers must register prior to the event.

-It is the responsibility of each participant to read and understand any and all rules that may apply. If you are in doubt, ask either the Tech Inspector or Race Director to avoid disqualification.

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

The following equipment must be worn at all times when operating the racer: Motorcross style CSA/DOT approved helmet, eye protection (goggles, visor, glasses), boots that cover the participants ankles recommended, long pants, and a long sleeved shirt or jacket (coveralls are recommended). Chest protector and neck brace recommended for modified stock and super stock classes, mandatory for outlaw class.

### **Race/Track Rules**

-Lawnmowers must give right of way to larger vehicles in the pit area. Being smaller, lawn tractors are difficult to see from larger vehicles. Be aware and avoid areas where larger vehicles are driving.

-Event officials reserve the right to further split/combine classes based on entrant attendance to make competitive and entertaining racing.

-All racers are required to have and wear a tethered kill switch, except in the case of the Stock Class, in which the stock seat shut-off switch must be retained and functional. A working kill switch is required to race.

-Race lineup will be determined by either an executive member or the race director. The number of heats and racers per heat will be determined on race day. Any questions may be directed to the race director at any time.

-The start of any race is determined by the flagman. When the green flag drops race has started.

- The Modified Stock, Super Stock and Outlaw class will do a slow lap on the oval to line up two by two and group together, once they are lined up and close to the start line a driving start will take place when the green flag is dropped.

## FLAGS

-Green flag signals the start of the race

-Yellow flags mean foot off the gas and remain in order, no passing, racers may group up but will remain in the order they were in. The race will continue once the green flag is waved. Yellow flag laps do not count towards the race laps.

- Red flags mean an immediate stop until a green flag is waved.

-White flag means the start of the last lap

-Checkered flag signals the end of the race

-If a driver leaves the track during racing, they must safely re-enter and must yield to traffic. (You cannot gain a position). If a driver does gain a position, you will be given one lap to give the position back. Failure to do so will result in being black flagged

- Racers being lapped must stay on the outside line of the track

-Intentional bumping, uncontrolled ramming, and blocking will not be tolerated. It is conceded that some light tapping is part of racing, intentional infractions will be black-flagged after a warning. Racers deliberately driving in a reckless manner will be disqualified from the event and may be banned from future events.

-Drivers are responsible for knowing their starting positions and heat numbers. They must stay near their mowers while waiting to line up. Failure to be present at a race grid immediately prior to your race may mean forfeiture of your position and you may not be allowed to participate in that race.

-If a mower quits during a race, the driver's first responsibility is to safely move the mower to a safe distance from the track.

-Any suspicious modifications in any class will be subject to a re-inspection at any time during the event at the discretion of the Tech Officials or Race Director.

-All decisions of Tech and Race Officials are final and anyone displaying unsportsmanlike conduct will be disqualified at the discretion of the officials.

## **Basic Rules For All Classes:**

-Tethered kill switches are required on all mowers with the exception of the junior/open stock class, in which the stock seat shut-off switch can be used. A working kill switch is required to race.

-No Zero-Turn mowers are permitted.

-All mowers must pass a tech inspection before racing. Any unit considered to be dangerous will not be allowed to race until the hazards have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Tech Inspector. All mowers must have safe steering, working brakes, safe tires and a kill switch.

-Batteries must be fastened securely and covered. Stock mounting is acceptable.

-Fuel tanks must be proper metal or plastic fuel tanks, mounted securely and protected. Stock tanks/mounting are acceptable.

-Sharp corners, edges, or protrusions should be removed, blunted or protected for racer safety.

-Mower decks may be retained however blades MUST be removed.

-Any belt, chain, or moving parts must be guarded unless on the underside of the tractor.

-All tractors must have a visible race number. A minimum 3" height is recommended on a contrasting background. Numbers must be from 0-999, no more than 3 digits, no letters.

**Engines:** Each class has a specific maximum horsepower rating and maximum displacement. Any allowable modifications will be stated for that class, if it does not say you can do it, it is probably not allowed. No grinding or machining of flywheels. Engines using cast iron flywheels are limited to a maximum of 4000 RPM for safety reasons. Cooling fins and safety shields must be intact. No push start allowed.

**Chassis:** Tractors must retain a lawn tractor appearance with a hood covering the engine and rear fenders. No handlebars to prevent a racer from being pierced in the event of a rollover. Additional bumpers/nerf bars may be added for protection but must not pose a hazard to other racers.

**Body:** Can be customized (where allowed) but must retain the appearance of a lawn tractor. All parts must be securely fastened to the chassis.

**Fuel:** Pump gas (maximum 96 octane) unless specified otherwise within that class.

**Brakes/Clutches:** Must be intact and working. If not equipped with a neutral gear, tractors must have a clutch lockout so the machine can be pushed by hand. When running centrifugal clutches, the driver must be seated on the machine to have it started or have the rear wheels securely off the ground.

**Throttle:** No fixed throttles unless specified otherwise within that class. The throttle must have an effective spring return and the engine must return to an idle when the throttle is released. Both foot throttles and squeeze or trigger-type steering wheel-mounted throttles are acceptable.

**Exhaust:** Open is allowed as long as it points away from the driver and poses no apparent hazard.

**Tires/Wheels:** Turf-type lawn tractor tires only for all classes unless specified otherwise within that class. Go Kart tires are allowed. No using fasteners to secure tires to the rim. Maximum 42" width outside of tires in all classes except Outlaw class which is 46" outside of tires. No modifications to frame length except in Modified, super stock and Outlaw Class (Mower must still look like a riding mower)

**Turf Saver style example**



**Turf Master style example**



**Race Tire style example**

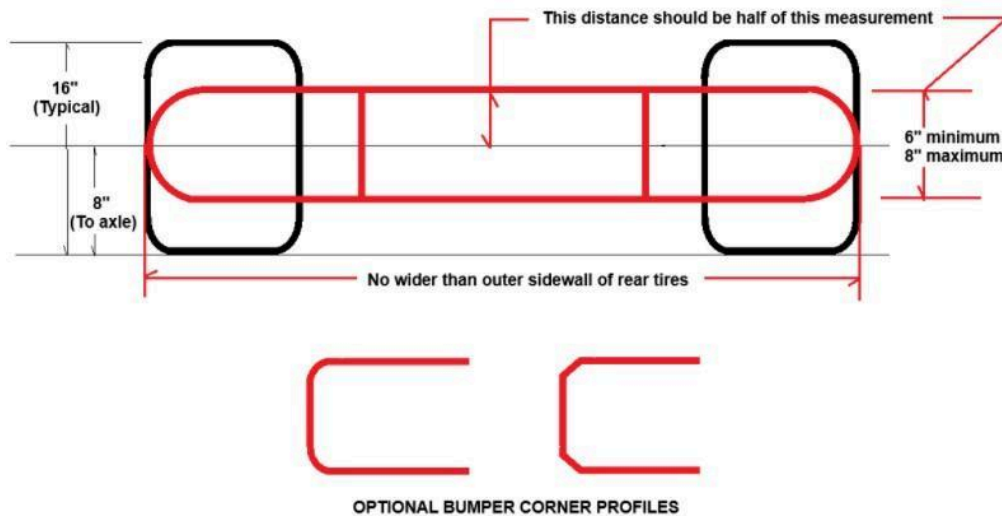


**BUMPERS:** No straight pipe bumpers.

A rear bumper is required and should be no wider than the rear tires. It is recommended to use 3/4" - 1" round, square or hex steel tube material tubing with 6" - 8" between the top and bottom tube. It is to be installed a maximum of 2" from the closest surface of the rear tire. The bumper should be vertically centered on the rear axle. The intent of the bumper is to prevent mowers from climbing the rear tires and making contact with a driver. No other bumpers are permitted, even those offered as factory options.

Front Bumpers are optional but cannot exceed 2" pass the sides of the hood, and at no time will the front bumper cover or protect the front tires. They are intended to protect the hood only.

### REAR BUMPER SIZING AND LOCATING



**SIDE / NERF BARS:** Side nerf bars are flush to the outside of tires. No sharp edges. Side bars/nerf bars, when equipped, must be installed no more than 1.5" in from outside of tires. They must have a kart style secondary hoop or brace intended to withstand side impact. They will be made of round or square stock not exceeding 1-1/2" in diameter. The maximum height of the bar is 6" from the footrest platform and should be blanked with a panel to prevent a driver's foot from being trapped.

Fuel tanks must be proper metal or plastic fuel tanks, mounted securely and protected. Stock tanks/mounting are acceptable.

Shut-off valves are recommended.

Electric fuel pumps may have switches but must shut-off when the tethered kill switch is tripped.

Pump fuel only - all classes but Super Modified.

Race fuel (i.e. VP) allowed in Super Modified.

No methanol. NO

Nitrous.

**BODY WORK:** Stock, Super Stock and Pro Stock classes are to use original mower hoods, fenders and consoles. OEM style Consoles are optional for all other classes, but a panel separating the driver from the engine compartment is required.

Fenders are required to the extent of maintaining the appearance of a mower.

Sharp corners, edges, or protrusions should be removed, blunted or protected for racer safety. Mower decks may be retained however blades **MUST** be removed.

**ELECTRICAL:** Batteries must be fastened securely and covered. Stock mounting is acceptable.

Positive terminals and connections must be covered to prevent shorting, arcing and sparking.

Electric fuel pumps may have switches but must shut-off when the tethered kill switch is tripped.

**TORQUE CONVERTERS:** No torque converters except in Outlaw class.

## **Junior Stock & Open Stock Class**

**Age:** Must be at least 8 years old or at the discretion of the race director

This class is intended for people to drop the deck (if they want) from their working mower and come out to race. **BLADES MUST BE REMOVED** This will be the first experience racing for some folks and could be the start of something great. This is the only class where rear engine mowers are allowed. The racing will be really close as long as the rules are followed. No performance modifications allowed. Cosmetic modifications allowed at the discretion of the organiser.

**Engine:** Maximum 28 hp OHV engine, restricted to a maximum of 3750 rpm (governed, no load). Absolutely **no modification** whatsoever, these mowers are intended to be exactly as they came from the original manufacturer. An engine kill switch is required, a stock seat engine shut-off switch may be used but this is the **ONLY** class in which that is acceptable.

**Drivetrain: No modification allowed.** No gear or pulley swaps, no centrifugal clutches. Mowers must retain a completely stock drivetrain.

**Throttle:** Stock throttle acceptable.

**Chassis: No modification allowed,** must be a stock lawnmower by original manufacturer's specifications.

**Tires/Wheels:** Must retain factory wheels and tires or an equivalent to those supplied by the original manufacturer.

## *Super Stock Class*

This class is the next step in the search for speed with minimal modifications allowed.

Super Stock encourages you to develop your mechanical skills, gradually. The racing will be really close as long as the rules are followed.

**Age:** Must be at least 14 years of age or at the discretion of the race director. Racers may be asked to prove they can handle their machine.

**Engine:** Maximum 32 hp OHV engine, restricted to a maximum of 4000 rpm (governed, no load). All vertical and horizontal shaft engines. An engine kill switch is required. Generally there are no modifications allowed, but there are existing Stock class machines with modified exhaust that will be allowed to continue racing.

**Drivetrain:** Tractors must utilize a shift able transmission or transaxle of the lawnmower type. Locking transaxle/differential allowed. **Driveline pulleys and sprockets may be changed.** *FOR THE 2026 SEASON* the pulleys must not be cast iron part as it may come apart (explode) at the high rpm it will now experience. All moving chains/belts not covered by the underside of the tractor must have guards in place. Factory-style clutches only.

**STEERING:** Stock steering with minimal slop / play is acceptable but direct (kart style) steering is recommended. No handlebars.

**BODYWORK:** No performance modifications allowed.

**FRAME:** Reinforcement of the frame is allowed.

**Chassis: Modification allowed,** The mower must ride level and at the same height as delivered from the factory.

**Tires/Wheels:** Tires must be standard Turf Saver, Turf Master style patterns as shown in the General Requirements.

## *Pro Stock Class*

If less than 4 racers are registered in this class for the event, they will be placed in the Modified Stock Class.

Pro Stock will test you and your mechanical skills right from the start; you can lower your machine, upgrade or replace the steering, and minor mods to the engine are allowed.

**Age:** Must be at least 16 years of age or at the race director's discretion. Racers may be asked to prove they can handle their machine.

**Engine:** Maximum 32 hp OHV engine. Ungoverned engines are allowed, if over 4500 rpm, we recommend a billet flywheel. An engine kill switch is required. All vertical and horizontal shaft engines. Air filters can be replaced. Exhaust system can be modified but should exit toward the ground. There are existing Pro Stock class machines with modified exhaust that do not exit toward the ground but will be allowed to continue racing.

**Drivetrain:** Live axles allowed. **Driveline pulleys and sprockets may be changed.** All moving chains/belts not covered by the underside of the tractor must have guards in place. The drive pulleys may be changed from

stock. *FOR THE 2026 SEASON* The rear pulley must not be a cast iron part as it may come apart (explode) at the high rpm it will now experience. If a jackshaft is used to accommodate lowering the mower, the input / output pulley size ratio must be 1:1.

**STEERING** Stock steering rod ends must be upgraded and steering slop minimised. Direct (kart style) steering is recommended. No handlebars.

**Chassis: Modification allowed**, there must be a minimum 4" frame ground clearance.

**BRAKES:** Functioning stock brakes that stop the mower in a reasonable distance are acceptable. Upgraded mechanical or hydraulic brakes are recommended.

**BUMPERS:** A rear bumper is required per the general requirements. No other bumpers are permitted, even those offered as factory options.

**Tires/Wheels:** Turf or Kart tires are all allowed.

## **Outlaw Class**

If mower power doesn't do it for you, this class is where you want to be. It isn't unlimited...but nearly. Be ready though - a high level of mechanical and fabrication skill is required.

**Age:** Racers must be a minimum of 16 years old, or at the discretion of the race director. It is recommended that you have previous experience in racing in the outlaw class. Racers may be asked to prove they can handle their machine.

**Engine:** Open- ATV, motorcycle, snowmobile, etc. are all allowed. (No automotive engines) Internal and external modifications allowed for all engines. Modification to block and heads are open. Ignition is open. High-octane fuel is allowed. If electric fuel pumps are used they must be killed with the tether switch in addition to on/off switches. The use of nitrous is not allowed. Exhaust system can be modified but should exit toward the ground. A governor is not applicable for non-mower / non-agricultural engines.

If a mower or agricultural (typically used at 3750 rpm) engine is used with the governor removed, the use of a billet flywheel is strongly recommended.

**Drive Train:** This is open to live axle, belt or chain drive, custom gearboxes or transaxles. Centrifugal clutches are allowed. Where the drivetrain may be hazardous, guards must be installed and must be a minimum of 1/8" aluminum or steel. No all-wheel or 4-wheel drive machines are allowed. The driveline must include a clutch. Right angle gearboxes are allowed. Chains and belts on the top side of the mower must have a protective cover of steel or aluminum. Torque converters rated to the HP of the engine are allowed.

**Chassis:** Frame and axles may be modified. Fabricated frames are allowed provided they pass a tech inspection and are deemed safe. Direct steering is mandatory. Steering wheels must be circular in design (no handlebars) and plastic steering wheels will not be allowed unless it is the type that is reinforced with steel. Brakes must be located on the rear axle and hydraulic brakes are recommended. Bumpers and nerf bars are recommended. The frame may use stock rails. The maximum frame width is 15" to the outside. Custom fabricated frames are allowed and limited to 15" width. The minimum clearance between the frame and ground is 2".

**Wheels/Tires:** Turf or Kart tires are all allowed.



I appreciate you all taking the time to consider participating in our events.

Thank you,

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