



## **NHMA INC. TRACTOR PULL SAFETY GUIDELINES**

ABN: 12 908 261 532Inc

No: A 0020801V

**Preamble:** To be read in conjunction with the **NHMA Tractor Pull Safety Guidelines** on the following pages.

It is the responsibility of the NHMA to regularly review safety guidelines. These guidelines are in place to ensure the viewing public, the participants, and those assisting with the event are provided with a safe environment in which to enjoy the activity.

**In drafting these guidelines, the NHMA Committee is grateful for the assistance of an accredited OH&S/Worksafe Consultant, who has advised that the guidelines must comply with all Statutes covering Motor Traffic Regulations, WorkSafe Regulations, and EPA requirements, and reflect the intent of established basic safety standards.**

The Tractor Pull is a demonstration of tractors from the past to indicate the 'pulling ability' of these machines, and is NOT a motor sport or competition.

**All tractors MUST be in standard form, including:**

- **exhaust systems** - e.g. GM powered tractors that have non-standard exhausts and exceed the accepted noise level.
- wheel and chassis weights.
- drawbars.

Should these guidelines not be followed, NHMA member clubs and participants may risk action by relevant authorities which may ultimately close down some activities at NHMA events.

**The amended NHMA Tractor Pull Safety Guidelines follow on pages 2 & 3:**



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### **NHMA Tractor Pull Safety Guidelines - Australia Wide**

**First Issued: 31st July 2007** (Version 1.0)

**Amended: January 2010;** (Version 1,1); **JULY 2019** (Version 1.2)

- 1. All Federal, State and Local Government Statutes to be observed at all times.**
- 2. If a serious incident occurs, the club Safety Committee may stop any activity or the entire event until allowed to continue by the emergency services.**
- 3. Tractors manufactured 1955 or earlier will be referred to as 'Vintage' tractors.**
- 4. 'Classic' tractors are to be at least 30 years old. Year and Horsepower limitations to be set by the club running the activity, and advised in any advertising prior to the event.**
- 5. Horsepower classing to be set by the organising club (e.g. maximum or rated drawbar) and advised prior to the event.**
- 6. All tractors to be in standard form with NO modifications whatsoever;  
Tyre variations will be allowed only if:**
  - a) original size tyres are not now available and,**
  - b) they are the only modern sized tyre available to replace the old tyre.**
  - c) rim spacers will only be permitted to enable modern tyres to be fitted to old rims**
- 7. Two wheel weights can be fitted per wheel to any tractor, irrespective of make or model, cast or steel rims. The wheel weight must not protrude more than two inches (50mm) outside the tyre. These weights must have been originally manufactured as a wheel weight and be of cast or steel material, and fitted in a proper and safe manner. Sandwich weights fitted to Chamberlain tractors are not to exceed the 2 inches (50mm) rule above. Front chassis weights are to be original for that make and model only.**
- 8. NO other weights will be allowed on the tractor. Tractors fitted with loaders & blades are not standard tractors and as such should NOT participate with standard tractors.**
- 9. Maximum Drawbar height will be:**
  - a) under 25 hp - 450mm maximum (18 inches)**
  - b) above 25 hp - 560mm maximum (22 inches)**
  - c) No modified drawbars are allowed (definitely not connected to the top link)**
- 10. When the front wheels lift off the ground, the driver has lost full control of the tractor and will be stopped.**



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11. As many of the tractors in this activity are not registered, all drivers must be licensed and insured for personal injury.
12. No passengers are allowed on tractors.
13. Pulling will start and stop at the sound of a horn on the sled, or a signal by the flagman who is in complete control of the activity and should exercise wise judgment during a tractor pull where there may be a critical moment that the tractor needs to be "flagged".
14. Pulling procedures will be determined by the sled design and the member club running the event, and disclosed to drivers at the 'toolbox meeting' prior to commencement.
15. Tractors must be in neutral and drivers must have both hands raised to indicate neutral before hooking up will proceed.
16. Tractors must be driven at walking speed at all times.
17. Tandem-hitched tractors will be accepted at NHMA events ONLY if the hitch is approved by the manufacturer and built to structural engineering requirements (Certificate required). *"Tandem tractor pulling using chains etc should not be accepted under any circumstances."*
18. If there is a seat on the tractor the driver is to remain correctly seated at all times.
19. All people on the track assisting with the pull must be wearing reflective safety vests for their own safety.
20. Loading & Unloading: the loading ramps need to be inspected by a suitable safety officer prior to the event. *(there have been a number of fatal accidents in other countries at loading ramps)*. Ensure that trucks/trailers carrying tractors are properly parked to avoid moving during unloading and the 'tip tray' is secured on tip trucks prior to unloading to prevent accidental tipping.
21. All tractors should have standard exhaust systems - no exceptions.

*It is intended that these 'NHMA Tractor Pull Safety Guidelines' should be followed by all NHMA member clubs conducting such an activity. These guidelines are produced with the aim of providing a safe operating procedure for the exhibitor, the officials, and the viewing public. Please remember modifications only as above - this event is for vintage and classic tractors only.*

*Your club input is always welcome. Please contact the NHMA Secretary or a member of the NHMA Committee with information. (PO Box 304, Strathdale, VIC. 3550)*