

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

The Rotary Club of Harvey is a not-for-profit organisation of volunteers. The annual Rotary Mower Challenge is run to enable the local community of Harvey to participate in a combined fun and fund raising event designed to attract participants and spectators from outside the town.

Participants will enjoy a challenge and the novelty of varieties of lawn mowers, a necessity throughout the Shire of Harvey and the South West, will enable children, adults and family groups to participate in a day of fun and excitement.

These Rules are designed for the safe conduct and acceptable requirements of lawn mower challenges at this event.

These Rules are in no way a guarantee against injury to the person or property of participants, nor are they a substitute for the due care which should be exercised by participants, spectators or others.

The Rotary Club of Harvey assumes no liability for any injury or death and all participants shall execute a release of liability discharging the Rotary Club of Harvey from such liability. By entering and participating in this event, all participants agree to abide by these Rules.

Of paramount importance to all the organisers, competitors, officials, spectators, and any other person whomsoever attending this event shall be the safety of those persons. These Rules should be read and interpreted with this in mind.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

CONTENTS

1. Purpose	page 3
2. Definitions	page 3
3. Drivers	page 5
4. Mowers	page 5
5. Fuel	page 7
6. Driver Equipment	page 7
7. Pit and Track Areas	page 8
8. Technical Inspections	page 9
9. General	page 9

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

1. PURPOSE

The main purpose of these Rules is

1. To provide for the safe conduct of the Rotary Mower Challenge in Harvey; and
2. To provide specifications for the lawn mowers in each category; and
3. To provide a safe environment for all persons attending the event.

The Rules may be modified at any time in the interests of safety.

2. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules

- 2.1 “**Association**” means the Rotary Club of Harvey Inc
- 2.2 “**Crew**” means one (1) guest of the Driver over the age of 18 who is required to assist the Driver in the preparation of the vehicle and who is permitted to enter and remain in the pit area.
- 2.3 “**Driver**” means a competitor in any event
- 2.4 “**Eligible Driver**” means a Driver who has submitted the required forms and has paid the entry fee.
- 2.5 “**Grid**” means starting line
- 2.6 “**Helmet**” means a full face or motor-cross style motorcycle rider’s helmet or race car driver’s helmet of superior quality which complies with Australian Standards AS1698.
- 2.7 “**Intoxication**” includes being affected by intoxicating liquor or drug, prohibited substance or illegal drug but does not include being affected by medicines which have been prescribed and which are being used in the prescribed manner.
- 2.8 “**Motor**” means an internal combustion engine naturally operated by any fuel permitted by these Rules.
- 2.9 “**Regulations**” includes Rules
- 2.10 “**Restricted Driver**” means a Driver over the age of 18 who, in the opinion of the officials, is required to undergo a test for ability and competency before being permitted to participate in any event
- 2.11 “**Ride on Lawn Mower**” means a motor driven vehicle which has been specifically designed and sold commercially for mowing residential type lawns
- 2.12 “**Rules**” includes Regulations
- 2.13 “**Standard Mower**” means a ride on lawn mower which has not been altered in any way from the manufacturer’s original specifications
- 2.14 “**Modified Mower class C**” means a ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has been fitted with a motor that does not exceed 200cc capacity.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

- 2.15** “**Modified Mower class B**” means a ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has been fitted with a motor that does not exceed 250cc capacity.
- 2.16** “**Modified Mower class A**” means a ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has been fitted with a motor that does not exceed 450cc capacity.
- 2.17** “**Zero Turn Mower**” means a motor driven Zero Turn ride on mower which has been specifically design and sold commercially for mowing large residential or commercial lawns.
- 2.18** “**Standard Zero Turn Mower**” means a Zero Turn ride on lawn mower which has not been altered in any way from the manufacturer’s original specifications.
- 2.19** “**Modified Zero Turn Mower class C**” means a Zero Turn ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has a motor that does not exceed 21hp.
- 2.20** “**Modified Zero Turn Mower class B**” means a Zero Turn ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has a motor that does not exceed 27hp.
- 2.21** “**Modified Zero Turn Mower class A**” means a Zero Turn ride on lawn mower which has been altered from the manufacturer’s specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has a motor that does not exceed 38hp.
- 2.22** “**Pit area**” means a separate area set aside for drivers and/or pit crew to perform any works on mowers, refuelling, and the area used for safety checks / scrutineering by event officials.
- 2.23** “**Pit Crew**” means crew
- 2.24** “**Pit Pass**” means a card method of identification to be issued to officials, pit crews, drivers or other authorised persons under these Rules to have access to any restricted area.
- 2.25** “**Steward or Marshall or Official or Scrutineer**” means an official person assigned the task of supervising behaviour and other matters at the event, including the Pit Area, Track Areas and Safety Inspections of Mowers.
- 2.26** “**Track Area**” means the track area upon which any of the challenges will take place, and which is clearly defined by boundaries and is an area prohibited for access by unauthorised persons.
- 2.27** “**Safety Gear**” means the gear that Drivers of Ride on Lawn Mowers must wear in addition to their Helmet. That is, long trousers and long sleeve shirts, gloves, socks and closed toe, well-fitting shoes.
- 2.28** “**Unauthorised persons**” includes any person not displaying a “Pit Pass”
- 2.29** “**Unrestricted Driver**” is a driver over the age of 18 years deemed competent by the officials

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

3. DRIVERS

3.1 Minimum Age for Restricted Drivers

The minimum age for drivers in the Ride On Mower categories is 18 years of age.

3.2 Release of liability

All Drivers before being eligible to participate in any event shall sign and submit the release indemnity on the prescribed form discharging the Rotary Club of Harvey from all liability.

4. MOWERS

4.1 This event is open to all mowers that comply with the provisions in these Rules.

4.2 All blades or cutters are to be removed.

4.3 All mowers will be subject to a safety check / scrutineering on the morning of the event and thereafter no modifications may be made. The decision by the Officials / Stewards is final.

4.4 Exhaust designs may vary but must remain at an acceptable noise level and are to be mounted as high to the body as possible.

4.5 Brakes must work efficiently, and safety cut-off must be proved to be in working order

4.6 Driveline must be standard available ride on mower equipment

4.7 The mower may be lowered but must remain 200mm or higher from the ground measured from the lowest part of the chassis.

4.8 All steering rods back from the kingpin must slope upwards to achieve the 200mm ground clearance

4.9 200mm clearance must be maintained under the side steps of the mower.

4.10 Driver's seat may be lowered but only by bolting it directly to centre bodywork. Cutting it into the guards or bodywork is not permitted. The seat must be securely and safely attached to the mower.

4.11 The front cross member may be bolted to stop lateral movement. The caster and camber angle may be altered. To this end, fabrication of a new cross member and kingpin arrangement is allowed within the tolerances.

4.12 Where no running board is fitted as standard, a suitable running board must be fitted to prevent feet from becoming entangled with wheels.

4.13 Mower must be recognised as a commercially available domestic ride on lawn mower. Modifications to any body panels are permitted through original manufactured type materials must be used (ie mild steel must be replaced with mild steel, plastic replaced with plastic). The exclusion is the bonnet.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

- 4.14** Bonnets can be plastic, mild steel or fibreglass but must still be recognised as a commercially available domestic ride on lawn mower. Bonnets must be properly secured in a closed position.
- 4.15** Any mower deemed ineligible for participation must be re-inspected by the Official Scrutineers prior to participation in any challenge.
- 4.16** No turbo / supercharged engines are permitted. Only internal combustion engines naturally aspirated and carburetted / fuel injected, operated by any fuel permitted under the provisions of these Rules will be allowed.
- 4.17** All participating mowers shall be fitted with an operational cut off switch commercially available (ie. not homemade) and which is connected to the driver by means of a lanyard.
- 4.18** Petrol tanks are to be constructed of an approved type (no plastic bottles) and need to be secured and covered.
- 4.19** Mowers must be fitted with an effective rear braking system only which will slow both wheels simultaneously. No front brakes fitted at all.
- 4.20** Mowers which have sharp or dangerous protrusions shall be deemed ineligible for participation unless and until such sharp or dangerous protrusions have been removed or made safe and re-inspected by the Official Scrutineers.
- 4.21** Guards / Belly pans must be covering chains and constructed of mild steel only.
- 4.22** Handlebars constructed of hollow tubing which are fitted to a ride on lawn mower must have the ends solidly or securely plugged, otherwise the mower shall be deemed unsafe. All steering mechanisms must be securely fitted.
- 4.23** Mowers shall not be fitted with suspension to the front or rear wheels, however springs under the seat are permissible.
- 4.24** Batteries must be securely mounted.
- 4.25** Rear or front nudge bars are not permitted
- 4.26** A grab rail is permitted provided it remains behind panelling, is no more than 50mm below rear panelling and a maximum of 25mm wide. Maximum length from Panel to bottom of rail is 75mm. Reinforcing of body panels is permitted.
- 4.27** The maximum width of a ride on mower shall be 1000cm at the widest point.
- 4.28** The maximum width of a Zero Turn ride on mower shall be 1600cm at the widest point.
- 4.29** The maximum length of any mower will be determined by its structural soundness.
- 4.30** Chassis rails must be made of 50mm x 25mm x 2.5mm RHS mild steel only, no laddered or trussed chassis allowed.
- 4.31** The front axle must be non-pivoting, securely attached to the chassis. The rear axle must be one piece, minimum 25mm in diameter and securely mounted to the chassis

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

- 4.32 Wheel rims shall be of steel or alloy only.
- 4.33 Any type of pattern tyres which are sold for use in lawnmowers are permitted. Tyres fitted with tractor type lugs are not permitted. All front tyres must have tubes. No Racing Tyres are permitted.
- 4.34 Competitor numbers will be issued by the Official Secretary. Competitor numbers must be clearly displayed on both sides towards the front, and on the rear of all mowers. Competitor numbers will be a minimum of 100mm in height and will of a contrasting colour to that of the mower. Every mower must have their Competitor Number and Class of Event clearly displayed.
- 4.35 All mowers must have a red dust light fitted to the rear of the mower and should be operational with the ignition on. A mower without their own battery charging system should use a bicycle style LED.
- 4.36 No glass headlights are permitted
- 4.37 Footrests must have a non-slip surface,
- 4.38 Electric gears are not permitted

5. FUEL

- 5.1 Petroleum or gasoline products commonly referred to as super, avgas, unleaded, lead replacement and premium unleaded fuels are permitted.
- 5.2 Prohibited fuels include fuels commonly referred to as nitrous oxide (N.O.2, laughing gas), methanol or alcohol, LPG or liquid petroleum gas, or any fuel which is stored in a pressurised tank or container.

6. DRIVER EQUIPMENT

- 6.1 **Helmet** – every ride on mower driver shall wear a protective helmet which complies with Australian Standard AS1698 while on the track area which fits snugly on the head and must be securely buckled when the driver is operating a vehicle on the track area. If using a motor-cross style helmet, then safety goggles must be worn. Bicycle hats and hard hats are not acceptable safety helmets for this event.
- 6.2 Drivers are required to wear an Australian standard motocross or go-kart neck brace correctly fitted and fastened securely.
- 6.3 Every driver shall wear full body clothing which is constructed of substantial material and which is in one piece (overalls) or a two piece outfit of motocross quality or better.
- 6.4 Drivers are required to wear motocross or leather gloves
- 6.5 Every driver shall wear closed tow footwear of substantial construction and must cover ankles. Runners and footwear of lesser quality will not be permitted.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

6.6 Every driver shall be responsible for ensuring their clothing cannot be fouled or caught up in the machinery, chains, belts or any moving parts of his or her mower. Guards must be fitted to prevent this.

6.7 Every mower must have a fully charged and current fire extinguisher rated for the fuel type used in his / her mower.

7. PIT AND TRACK AREAS

7.1 No unauthorised person shall be permitted on the grid which is only for mowers, riders and Officials.

7.2 A separate Pit Area will be designated for the specific purposes of maintenance or repairs using power tools.

7.3 A guest Pit Pass may only be issued by the Event Convener. The guest must wear a fluoro vest to identify themselves whilst in the Pit Area. It is not an all-day pass, but may be issued to visitors such as film crew and journalists.

7.4 At any time that fuel is being added to a mower

- a) The driver must have dismounted the mower; and
- b) The mower must be turned off; and
- c) A correctly rated fire extinguisher must be in the hands of an adult crew member who is present for that purpose.

7.5 Mowers must be completely stopped and stationary before a driver dismounts

7.6 No unauthorised persons will be given access to the track area. All flag Marshalls must remain at their designated positions unless instructed otherwise.

7.7 Each driver is allowed one (1) Pit crew over the age of 18 who must wear high visibility vest with the mower number applied. Pit crew must attend the initial and subsequent Driver's briefing and be in attendance during scrutineering. The Pit Crew, before being permitted to enter track or pit areas, shall sign and submit a release or indemnity on the prescribed form discharging the Rotary Club of Harvey from all liability.

7.8 All authorised persons entering the track or pit area must clearly display a pit pass.

7.9 No person under the age of 18 is permitted to be in the pit area or track area at any time.

7.10 No pets are allowed in the pit area or on the track at any time.

7.11 There will be no smoking or consuming of alcohol in the pit or track area at any time.

7.12 No vehicles other than participating mowers or official vehicles such as tow vehicles, track maintenance vehicles or emergency vehicles shall be on the track area.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

8. TECHNICAL INSPECTIONS

- 8.1 The Scrutineer must first approve any mower for any event. Any serious faults or safety issues will result in the inability to compete until rectified. Issues of a non-serious nature may be allowed to compete at the discretion of the Scrutineer.
- 8.2 At any time deemed necessary, the Scrutineer may require the driver to participate in a re-inspection of the mower before participation can continue.
- 8.3 The Scrutineer may refuse any mower on the grounds of unsafe or unstable construction.
- 8.4 Drivers involved in an accident must have their mowers re-inspected in the pit area.
- 8.5 The Scrutineer will complete a Technical Inspection Report on the prescribed form which declares that the mower is approved or not approved for participation.
- 8.6 It is the responsibility of the driver to correctly designate the engine type, sizer and event classification.
- 8.7 The Rotary Club of Harvey reserves the right to reject any mower or application to participate which in their opinion represents an attempt to defeat the spirit of these Rotary Mower Challenge Rules.

9. GENERAL

- 9.1 As part of the Rotary Club of Harvey's commitment to safety, all drivers and Officials are required to attend all announced drivers meetings and then all drivers are to walk the track as a group. Failure to attend may result in a refusal to participate.
- 9.2 Deliberate or persistent bumping will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
- 9.3 The responsibility for a safe challenge rests with all drivers. Care needs to be taken when overtaking or passing another mower.
- 9.4 Any driver wishing to lodge a protest for any alleged incident or breach of rules during their event is required to remain on their mower and not leave the track until the protest has been acknowledged or determined by the Official Steward and has then been instructed to leave the track area.
- 9.5 The following flag signals will be obeyed without question – any driver failing to do so will be immediately disqualified from further participation in any event on that day.

GREEN - shall start or restart an event

YELLOW - indicates trouble ahead and drivers will immediately reduce their speed to walking pace and maintain their positions. Overtaking under these conditions is not permitted. Drivers are not permitted to increase speed until they pass the next green flag.

RED - indicates that a dangerous condition exists and drivers must stop immediately when safe to do so and follow Officials directions.

Rotary Mower Challenge

2018 Rules

BLACK - indicates that a driver is alleged to have committed a serious breach or safety concern and the indicated driver is required to immediately leave the track and report to the Official in the Pit Area.

WHITE - indicates one lap to go

CHEQUERED - signifies the end of that challenge

- 9.6 Laps will be counted under a yellow flag.
- 9.7 If the mower leaves the track, then the driver must re-enter the track as close to the same point as possible so as not to gain any track position advantage.
- 9.8 Crew may not enter onto the track at any time during any event unless specifically directed to by the Official after that challenge has been completed.
- 9.9 No one shall behave in a manner endangering the safety of others.
- 9.10 No one shall be permitted participate in any event or enter the pit or track area if they are in any way affected or under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or drug.
- 9.11 No illicit drugs or prohibited substances shall be tolerated on the venue grounds at any time.
