

LAWN AND GARDEN TRACTOR

OPERATOR SKILLS

LEADERS: GLEN & TERRI SULLIVAN

LEVEL/GRADE:

Junior – grades 3-7

Senior – grades 8-12

GENERAL RULES: (PUBLICATION: 4-H 84-W)

1. The purpose of this contest is to assess and encourage development of the 4-H member's ability to properly and safely operate a garden tractor.
2. All participants must be enrolled in 4-H and the Lawn and Garden Tractor Driving Project prior to participating in a meeting.
3. The garden tractor must contain a middle-mounted mower deck that should extend at least 4 inches beyond the tractor's rear tire. The garden tractor should contain tractor-type front wheel steering.
4. All tractors must have normal standard factory-installed equipment only.
5. The contestant is responsible to see that the tractor is suitable to be driven in the contest for its proper operation.
6. The penalty scoring system is to be used. Unanswered or incorrectly answered questions and violation of rules draws penalty points for the contestant. In each division, the contestant who completes the event with the lowest total score or number of penalty points is the contest winner.
7. The driving event is timed and scored on the basis of one penalty point for each second of operation. However, penalty points for safety violations, hit stakes, etc. are severe enough that the importance of speed is minimized.
8. The written exam will consist of 25 questions. The questions will be multiple choice. Twenty points will be added for each question answered incorrectly or omitted.
9. The first, second and third place participants in both the Junior and Senior Divisions will compete in the Area V Lawn and Garden Driving Contest involving nine counties.
10. In case of a tie score for a trip award, contestants will re-drive for a new score. The tie-breaker will be based on driving score ONLY.
11. Any rule not covered here will be decided by the Tractor Club Leader and the Extension Educator. Their decision is final.
12. Failure to back through the serpentine (figure eight) course will result in disqualification.

CONTEST:

JUNIOR:

Junior entrants will be scored on five items.

1. Quiz questions drawn from 1st unit of work.
2. Garden Tractor Operation on Obstacle Course
3. Safety while at the contest
4. Time Garden Tractor Parts Identification

Junior entrants will operate a garden tractor through the prescribed course.

SENIOR:

Senior entrants will be scored on five items.

1. Quiz questions drawn from 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th units of work
2. Garden Tractor Operation on Obstacle Course
3. Safety while at the contest
4. Time
5. Garden Tractor Parts Identification
6. Senior entrants will operate a garden tractor through the prescribed course.