

# ELLIS COUNTY FAIR

## COMBINE DEMOLITION DERBY

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### DISCLAIMER

The rules and/or regulations set forth herein are designed to afford the highest degree of safety that can be obtained, provide for the orderly conduct of the derby events, and to establish minimum acceptable requirement of such events. These rules shall govern the organization and procedures of the derby event and by participating in this event, all participants are deemed to have complied with these rules. NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF SAFETY SHALL RESULT FROM PUBLICATION OF OR COMPLIANCE WITH THESE RULES AND/OR REGULATIONS. They are intended as a guide for the conduct of the sport and are in no way a guarantee against injury or death to a participant, spectator or official.

#### ENTRY RULES

Entry form and \$25 entry fee should be received by July 1. Combines starting in assigned heat will receive \$250. If you place First, Second, or Third in the final heat, \$250 will be deducted from the prize amount. Entries can be mailed to Ellis County Fair Association, P.O. Box 720, Hays, Kansas 67601.

#### Classes

There will be large and small combine classes with breakdown as follows:

#### Small Combines:

- Gleaner - G and down
- International - 815 and down
- New Holland - 1400 and down
- John Deere - 6600 and down
- Massey Ferguson - 550 and down

#### Large Combines:

- Gleaner - M and up
- International - 915 and up
- New Holland - 1500 and up
- John Deere - 7700 and up
- Massey Ferguson - 750 and up

1. At time of check-in on derby day a \$100 clean-up deposit check will be required. The check will not be deposited and will be returned if combine is removed by noon on the day following the derby. Loaders will be available on the night of the derby to assist with the loading of combines.
2. Driver MUST be at least 18 years of age and show proof of age, OR 16 years of age, show proof of age, and supply signed parental consent
3. All drivers and pit crews MUST sign the Liability Waiver.
4. Alcohol or drug use is prohibited before or during the event in the pits or in the demolition arena and is grounds for immediate disqualification.
5. Each driver will receive a gate pass and a pit pass.
  - # The pit crew members will be responsible for purchasing a \$20 pit pass. No other people will be allowed in the pits once the combine derby is ready to begin.
6. The combine demolition derby committee MUST approve the combine before the combine will participate in the derby.

### PRIZES

1. Payout for large machines competing in the final heat will be First Place - \$1000, Second Place - \$750, Third Place - \$500.
2. Payout for small machines competing in the final heat will be First Place - \$600, Second Place - \$500, Third Place - \$400
3. Best Decorated/Best of Show: Thirty minutes before the 1st heat begins all combines will be required to line up on the racetrack in front of the grandstands. People from the stands will have the opportunity to view the combines and vote for the best decorated machine. First place will receive \$100 for best of show.

### DRIVERS

To participate in the derby, a driver must be at least 18 years of age with a valid driver's license OR 16 years of age with a valid driver's license and supply signed parental consent. Drivers must adhere to safety standards to protect themselves as well as others. Drivers may be disqualified by the judges for abusing the rules, at which time a pit crew member, at the discretion of the judges, may drive the combine in the derby. Any driver or pit crew member drinking before or during the combine derby will disqualify the combine from competing. When competing in the arena, a driver must be aggressive. Drivers have a three minute time limit to make contact or to attempt to do so. The three-minute rule applies to all heats. Being non-aggressive and avoiding contact in the three minute time period can result in disqualification. Each driver must accompany his/her combine out of the arena so the combine gets to its proper space in the pit area in a timely manner.

## DRIVER MEETING

A driver meeting will be held at the RPM Speedway infield approximately two hours prior to the start of the derby. At this time, final inspection of machines will be made by the judges, heat numbers will be drawn, and entry numbers assigned. Drivers will draw for their heat assignment at this time. The pit will open at 1:00 PM on the day of the derby and all combines must be on the Ellis County Fair Grounds by 3:00 PM on the day of the derby to be eligible to compete in the derby. Combine and driver must be ready for action no later than 6:00 PM on the day of the derby. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for disqualification.

## HEATS

The Derby will consist of three or four heats (regulated by the number of entries), a consolation heat (if necessary), and the final heat. However, if there are only two combines left for a consolation heat, the two drivers will draw for the final heat status. Length of heats will be determined by number of entries, except for the final heat.

There will be a thirty-minute intermission before the final heat, allowing drivers and crew members time to make necessary repairs.

If, during a regular heat, there is no winner by the end of the heat, the remaining combines will be eligible for the final heat or a consolation heat before the final heat.

## COMBINE PREPARATION-REINFORCEMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

1. All combines must have a cab or roll cage and be two-wheel drive (no-duals).
  - a. A safety bar or shield, at least 36" high, must be added to the front of the cab area for driver safety. (This will not count against the ten piece limit. See combine reinforcement.)
2. A roll cage of 2" pipe must be added if there is no cab.
3. Glass must be removed from cab, and cab doors/window welded, chained or bolted shut.
4. Combine must use a grain table (platform) that is fixed 18"-24" from ground.
  - a. Participants must reinforce header to maintain 18"-24" header height. See combine reinforcement. Cylinders can remain intact, BUT header must be welded or held rigid to maintain 18"-24" height.
  - b. Maximum header/platform width is 18' and no less than 10'.
  - c. Header can be reinforced. (See combine reinforcement.)
  - d. Loss of header will result in disqualification from the competition.
  - e. Combine header platform must have reel, cutting system (guards and sickle) and loose sheet metal removed.
5. All combines are to be as originally manufactured (no reinforced parts or shields allowed) except as outlined in Rules 1, 2, and 4 above. However, electronics may be altered.
6. Combine ladders, unloading auger, and straw choppers must be removed.
7. No factory fuel tanks. Maximum of 10 gallons allowed in fuel cell. Fuel cell must be SECURELY MOUNTED inside grain tank.

8. Batteries must be mounted on top of combine. BATTERIES MUST BE SECURELY STRAPPED.
9. Combine tires MUST be rubber and filled with air only – NO TYPE OF FLUID, FOAM OR CONCRETE.
10. Separator/threshing unit and header must be inoperable and all drive belts/chains should be removed.
11. A lath stick with flag should be mounted within drivers reach.
  - a. The stick must be broken off when the driver is unable to continue or is disqualified.
12. Radiators and transmission coolers must remain in original location or may be removed, and can only contain water. No antifreeze.
13. All non-essential hydraulic hoses must be removed.
14. No dished-out rear wheels.
15. Rear axle pivot may be welded.
16. Seat belt must be mounted to cab frame or roll cage, not to seat.
  - a. No spring-loaded seats unless securely chained.
17. Recommend that fire extinguisher be mounted within reach of driver.
18. All combines MUST have a 12" x 12" white-painted square on both rear sides of the machine to be used for entry number.
19. Combines may be decorated, painted, or offer advertising. No profanity, or obscene graphic or materials will be allowed. "Best Decorated Combine" will receive \$100.

### COMBINE REINFORCEMENT

Reinforcing is allowed. Excessive reinforcement will be disallowed by judges. Reinforcing iron replacement can be any iron - angle, channel or flat, and is limited to a maximum gauge of 2"x2"x1/4". Iron spears or external iron used for aggressive action is prohibited. There is NO extra welding on the cutter bar edge. Welding on bottom of header and of rock guards is permitted. NO concrete in the platform auger (inspection plates must be removed or a hole cut in platform auger for inspection). NO well casing can be used as a stiffener. Rub bars can be placed around the radiator or variable speed drive pulleys, but not the rear axle parts. The reinforcing ten piece limit allows for protection, but leaves machines vulnerable enough to become immobilized, but not too soon. The bracing limit does not include bracing used for hydraulic stops for safety or any driver protection supports. For safety, any number of iron pieces can be used.

Bracing can be added from combine feeder house to edge of platform, not to exceed the original width of the platform. No other extra header reinforcements are allowed. MAXIMUM HEADER width is 18'. The minimum header width must be at least as wide as the outside of the drive tires. If header falls off, you will be disqualified. Square tubing may not be capped. If square tubing is capped, you will be required to cut the cap off to verify the thickness of the metal.

If a combine has suffered a broken piece such as a tie-rod or axle, it can be repaired with iron to

support the break and will not fall into the ten-piece limit, as long as the reinforcing iron is the same width as the broken piece. This limit is at the judges' discretion.

## REPAIRS

Repairs to machines may commence at any time after the machine has been removed from the arena, between heats or during intermission. If a machine, approaching the heat or during the heat, suffers an engine failure not caused by competition contact, it may be able to return for a consolation heat before the final heat, depending on whether or not the crew is able to get it running within twenty minutes after their heat ends. This applies only to engine failure, and not to failure due to damage to the combine body.

## RULES OF THE RING

1. All combines must participate in the introduction parade and judging for Best Decorated/Best of Show. Pit crew may ride in the grain tank during the introduction parade.
2. Only the driver may be on the machine during demolition heats.
3. Drivers must wear seat belt, DOT helmet, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, boots and hand protection.
4. No direct hits to the driver area. All direct hits must be made with the front of the combine.
5. Contestants have a three-minute time limit to make contact with another combine. Flag man will give one warning and then contestant will be disqualified.
6. If combine dies during a heat, there is a three-minute time limit to restart and make contact. Flag man will give one warning and then contestant will be disqualified.
7. During the competition, drivers of combines are not allowed to lift the wheels of another combine off the ground more than three (3) feet.
8. Contestants must not leave designated derby arena during heats or they will be disqualified.
9. Upon disqualification or when combine is inoperable, driver should break-off lath stick with flag to indicate combine is out of competition.
10. All motions of combines MUST be halted upon signal of flag man, officials and/or announcers in case of fire, injury or other emergency.
11. No hits are allowed when opponents combine is out of bounds or caught on the sidewalls or barriers (to reduce the possibility of combine upsetting). There will be no deliberate hitting of disabled combines that have flag broke off. Disabled combines MUST have motors turned off.
12. No tag-team or buddy driving. Flag man will give one warning and then contestants participating in tag-teaming will be disqualified.
13. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in immediate disqualification and removal of participants from the fairgrounds and moneys will be forfeited.

## PIT RULES

1. NO alcohol allowed in Pit. Any driver or pit crew member drinking before or during the combine derby will disqualify the combine from competing.
2. No one allowed in the pit that has not signed the waiver for that entry.
3. Limit of two (2) support vehicles per combine entry (one haul/tow vehicle and one service vehicle).
4. No persons under the age of 16 will be allowed in the pit area. Persons under 18 must have signed parental consent.
5. No radios or driver communication allowed.
6. No racing of support vehicles or combines in the pit.

### INSPECTION

Inspection for all combines will begin 3 hours before the derby begins. Any infractions of combine preparation or conduct during the derby may result in disqualification. Judges will have final decision for any infractions.

The rules are subject to change without notice at judge's discretion.