

Horse Pulling Competition Rules

1. Competitors are required to have a current year Bracebridge Agricultural Society membership.
2. All drivers/owners must carry liability insurance and provide policy information at time of registration.
3. No Drugs allowed. All horses will be subject to random drug testing. A refusal to comply will constitute a positive test, disqualifying the team from the pull.
4. No horse may compete in more than one drawing class.
5. Course to be 15 feet long. Side lines to be 20 feet apart. A qualifying pull to be a minimum of 15 feet. There must be a qualified judge and pin person at each contest.
6. If the stone boat is equipped with a seat, it is the teamster's option to ride on the seat or walk.
7. There will be no pass-up of loads.
8. There will be 2 tries to pull the load 15 feet. While pulling, horses must stay within the lines of the course or be disqualified from that try only.
9. If a break in the harness or equipment occurs, there will be a time limit of 5 minutes to fix the break before moving on to the next team. The teamster shall have the option to keep the distance gained on the pull where the break occurred.
10. Teamster and 2 helpers only allowed with each team.
11. No helper shall lead the team to the boat or at no time stand at their heads while hitched to the boat.
12. Helpers are not allowed to talk to the horses while horses are hitched to the boat.
13. Teamster and helpers must not touch the horses at any time.
14. Slashing with lines, whipping or use of profane language while in contest will constitute a fault, disqualifying the team from the pull.
15. If any team becomes unmanageable or difficult to handle, and in the opinion of the judge and Fair Committee becomes dangerous to the public, they will be disqualified. No team is to be left unattended.
16. Two passes in front of the boat will be counted as a try.
17. Any forward motion of the boat will be counted as a try.
18. When the teamster enters the pull area, he will have 2 minutes only to hitch the team and 4 minutes to complete his pull.
19. Entries will draw for their order of pulling prior to the beginning of the pull.
20. Teamsters and helpers must be properly dressed for the occasion.
21. The decision of the judge is final. Failure to comply promptly with the directions of the judge shall result in immediate disqualification of the contestants.
22. Horses and drivers may be disqualified at any time by the judge, either for violation of one or more of the rules, or because the contesting team's condition is such to render it cruel or inadvisable to permit the horses to proceed.
23. In case of a tie, the boat will be pulled back to the starting line and each team will make one pull on the tying load, with the furthest distance taking the higher place.

To Determine Light Teams:

1. Weight Scales to be used. All light teams subject to weigh-in.
 - (a) Combined weight not to exceed 3400 lbs, including shoes and halter.
 - (b) Scales open at 9:00 am
 - (c) Horses to be weighed twice only
2. A loose shank is to be used.