

PLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS
CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP PLOWING CONTESTS
2009

1. COMPETITIONS

The Canadian Plowing Championships shall consist of three contests

- A) Senior contest using conventional plows
- B) Senior contest using reversible plows
- C) Junior contest using conventional plows

2. COMPETITORS

Open to two or more senior contestants and two junior contestants from each Province or Territory who must be recognized as having qualified in a Championship Plowing Contest in his or her Province or Territory conducted in accordance with rules of qualification approved by the Canadian Plowing Organization. Host Provinces or Territories may enter one additional Junior contestant. The Plowing Association conducting the Provincial or Territorial championship plowing contest must satisfy the Canadian Plowing Organization that the true champions are chosen to represent their respective Province or Territory.

There is no age limit for senior contestants. Junior Contestants must not have reached the age of twenty one years by December 31st in the year the contest is held.

3. TYPE OF PLOW

- a) Open to tractor drawn mouldboard plows, two or three furrow plows, either conventional or reversible, equipped with skimmers and coulters.
- b) Tailpieces may be used provided the size of the tailpiece does not exceed 26cm in length, 22cm in width, and the total distance from the end of the mouldboard to the end of the tailpiece including brackets does not exceed 32cm. The concave or convex of the tailpiece must not be greater than a ratio of 1 mm to 15 mm in width.
- c) No extraneous attachments allowed. No wires or chains to assist with burying trash are allowed.
- d) Plow bodies must not be removed or raised out of position or otherwise adjusted in such a way as to make the plow, in effect, a single furrow plow during the course of the contest. In conventional plowing, this rule does not preclude using only one body in making the opening and

first run of the cast-off, provided both bodies remain in the normal position as a complete two furrow mouldboard plow. In reversible plowing, the rear body may be raised out of position only when entering or leaving the soil while plowing the butts. On three furrow plows it shall be permissible to raise only one bottom to a non plowing position when plowing the opening split (two runs in conventional plowing and one run in reversible plowing).

- e) Any competitor that double scratches after making the opening split must not tramp the furrows plowed while completing the opening split.
- f) All plows shall be fitted with shares, coulter and Skimmers and must not be removed from the plow, except that skimmers may be removed on splitting and the first gathering of the crown.
- g) All tractors must be fully equipped with hoods and fenders etc. and are in good overall repair. The C.P.O. encourages contestants to use tractors equipped with either a roll bar or cab.

All plows and tractors will be inspected by the Head Stewards to ensure they conform to the above rules.

Definition -

"Extraneous attachments" are extra appliances (or additional unusual elements) fitted to any part of the plow for the purpose of treating, or shaping the furrow after it leaves the mouldboard. These would become a supplementary tool to the plow as for example, are press wheels, seamers, knives, etc., which shape the furrow subsequent to the work of the plow.

4. LAND

Each competitor will be required to plow at least one plot of stubble and one plot of grassland, when available.

Size of plots

Conventional plowing

The minimum size to be 20 m by 100 m for seniors and 17m x 100m for juniors for both types of land when practicable.

Reversible plowing

The plots will measure 100m in length and 24 m in width at one end and 16 m at the other end as shown on appendix "A"

5. **TIME ALLOWED**

- a) **Opening Split** - The time allowed to complete the opening split shall be twenty minutes.
- b) **Break** - After the completion of the opening splits, all plowing must stop for a minimum of thirty minutes while the opening splits are judged. Cast-off furrows must be plowed while the opening splits are being judged. Reversible competitors must make their scratch mark for the butts while the opening furrow is being judged
- c) **Plowing the plot** - the time allowed for the completion of the plot is two hours and forty minutes, making a total of three hours.
- d) **Extra Time** - extra time may be requested in case of mechanical breakdown, waiting on a neighbour before commencing to cast-off, or any other situation beyond the competitor's control or the Canadian Plowing Organization. In these circumstances, the competitor must contact the Plot Steward and through him or her, receive permission from the Head Stewards.
- E) **Plot size** - If the plots are smaller than the stipulated size the plowing time may be adjusted downward, subject to the size of plots that are being plowed.
- f) **Time Penalties** -
 - i) Overtime for Opening Split - One (1) point for each minute or part minute.
 - ii) Overtime for Plot - Five (5) points for each minute of part minute.

Any extra time taken by a competitor for overtime will be recorded from the moment the finishing signal is given, or, as the case may be, from the expiration of the period of any extra time already granted under clauses d) & e) until the plow is finally lifted out at the headland scratch mark upon completion of the opening split or plot.

The penalties will be formally imposed by the Head Stewards in committee at the conclusion of each day's competition.

6. FURROWS

- a) **Minimum width** - Unless otherwise indicated, the width of furrows shall measure not less than twelve (12) inches (30.5 cm).
- b) **Minimum depth** - the host organization shall recommend the minimum depth to the C.P.O. at the time of the invitation to host the Championship Plowing Contests.
- c) **Maximum depth** - should a maximum depth need to be imposed, the host organization shall recommend the maximum depth to the C.P.O. at least one year prior to the contests.
- d) **Depth range** - when there is a minimum and a maximum depth stipulated, the depth range shall not be less than 4 cm.

Depth changes - the depth or depth range will either be confirmed or altered by the C.P.O. Directors after reviewing soil conditions and with full consultation with the host organization.

7. DEPTH MEASUREMENTS

Conventional

The specified depth must be achieved by the sixth furrow and adhered to until the last seven furrows.

Reversible

The specified depth must be achieved by the sixth furrow and adhered to until the commencement of the last two runs

Measurement

Conventional

The depth will be measured nine (9) times in three sets of three measurements on each competitor's plot during the contest. The first set will be taken in the sixth or subsequent furrows and the last set taken while there are at least seven unplowed furrows left.

Reversible

The depth will be measured twelve times in four sets of three measurements on each competitor's plot. The first set will be taken on the third or subsequent run of the crown. The second set will be taken on the third or subsequent run plowed against the neighbouring plot. The third set will be taken on the second or third run before plowing the connecting furrow. The final set will be taken before the commencement of the last two runs of the finish. Each set of measurements will consist of three measurements taken at random in the same furrow at

spaces at least 15 m apart against the furrow wall, where the depth is an "average" of the plowing depth. At least one measurement will be taken at the two (2 m) meter distance from the headland scratch mark on each competitor's land.

The average of the three depth measurements in the same furrow will be the true depth for each set of measurements. Should the first set of measurements not be the required depth, the measuring team will notify the competitor that the ploughing is not the required minimum or maximum depth.

Penalties -

1 point will be deducted for each 0.50 cm or part thereof when the ploughing is up to 2.50 cm shallower than the minimum or deeper than the maximum depth required, for each set of measurements.

10 points will be deducted when the ploughing is more than 2.50 cm shallower or deeper than the minimum or maximum depths required, for each set of measurements.

Note- In the event the Board of Directors of the Canadian Plowing Organization deems it unnecessary to perform depth measurements, no measurements will be taken.

8. **STUBBLE PLOWING**

A crumbled furrow with a rounded top is preferred. Furrows should be discernible from headland to headland.

9. **GRASSLAND PLOWING**

Grassland plowing should have unbroken furrows with either a rounded or edged top. Furrows must be recognized throughout the complete length of the plot. The turned furrows should be at an angle of 40-50 degrees from the horizontal.

10. **WEED CONTROL**

- a) All stubble, grass and trash must be completely buried beneath the furrows, by the use of the skimmers.
- b) All roots must be cut or torn off, in order to obtain high points.

11. **WHEEL MARKS**

The only tractor wheel mark permitted on the plot is in the finish. Any other tractor wheel mark on the plot is a fault and will be judged accordingly. Plow wheel marks must also follow and be in the tractor wheel mark to avoid possible deductions of points.

12. **INFRINGEMENTS**

- a) no shaping of furrows by hand or handheld instruments, by treading or other manipulation.
- b) no assistance from the headland or elsewhere will be allowed, nor any guidance either by signal or other means.
- c) competitors must dismount from their tractors on the landside. Dismounting from the tractor onto the plowing will be regarded as treading and will be penalized.
- d) rolling of the plots, opening rippling or ins and outs, with the tractor wheel or wheels, except in the normal course of plowing, is not permitted. In conventional plowing, required idle runs to the opposite end of the plot are permitted but must be made on the headland and not across the plot.
- e) the abuse of any Official before or during the Canadian Plowing Contest period will be subject to penalties or disqualification from the contest.
- f) using more than three sighting poles.
- g) removing plow bodies, skimmers or coulters while plowing, except as stated in rule 2.
- h) use of extraneous attachments.
- i) no practice plowing is permitted after the commencement of the contests.

13. **PENALTIES**

A competitor breaking any of these rules shall receive notification from the Head Stewards who will deduct from one to five points from the competitor's score, at their discretion. Upon a second infringement, the Head Stewards shall deduct from five to ten points from the competitor's score. Upon subsequent infringements, the Head Stewards may deduct extra points or disqualify the competitor.

Infringements that incur set penalties:

- a) Overtime for opening - 1 point deducted for each minute or part minute
- b) Overtime for the plot - 5 points deducted for each minute or part minute

- c) Conventional plowing - Ten (10) points will be deducted if a contestant plows more or less than four rounds on the crown and also if the sole furrow is laid the wrong way.
- d) Reversible plowing - Ten (10) points will be deducted if there are more or less than the four runs in the crown when using a two furrow plow or three runs when using a three furrow plow and if the number of furrows from the butts to the finish is incorrect.

14. **TIES**

When a tie score occurs, the competitor scoring the highest total points in "General Appearance", stubble and grassland combined, shall advance.

15. **SUPERVISION**

- a) These rules will be strictly enforced.
- b) The Head Stewards Committee will consist of three members appointed by the Board of Directors of the C.P.O. Head Stewards will be identified during the contest by white coats / orange vest or other identifying badges.
- c) Any questions arising, or incident occurring involving the rules and proper conduct during the contest shall in all cases be referred to the Head Stewards who will make a decision in each case. All decisions of the Head Stewards will be final and binding.
- d) Assistance may be permitted by the Head Stewards in the event of mechanical breakdown. No other assistance will be allowed as stated in rule 12(B).
- e) Any question arising and not covered in these rules will be decided by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Plowing Organization whose decision shall be final and binding.

16. **JUDGING**

- a) The Canadian Plowing Organization score sheets will be used.
- b) Up to two Judges will be nominated by each participating Province or Territory, which nominations must be approved by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Plowing Organization.
- c) When practicable, the judges will judge in panels of two or three and judge only those aspects of the plots assigned to that panel. The decisions of the judges are final and binding.

1. **SIGHTING AND SETTING OUT**

The plot number stake indicates the centre of the crown. The help of a second person in placing and removing the sighting poles is the only assistance permitted. Maximum of three sighting poles allowed. One sighting pole is allowed on the headland. The use of a guideline, footmarks, stones etc., in addition to or instead of sighting poles is not allowed. All plowing must start at the same headland as directed by the Head Stewards and no other person other than the Competitor, Judges and Officials will be allowed on any plot.

2. **OPENING SPLIT**

The crown must be made with an opening split in both stubble and grassland. The depth of the split furrows should be such that the furrow slice is well cut through so that no land is left uncut throughout the total length of the crown. The rippling furrows must be straight, neat and uniform in width and depth throughout, however, they do not have to conform in size with each other. No rolling of the split allowed.

3. **CROWN**

In setting up the crown, all land must be cut. The two centre furrows should blend with the other furrows and lie close to each other so there are no gaps or openings between the furrows. The crown furrows should be uniform with the rest of the plowing.

4. **METHOD**

After completing the crown, which shall consist of three rounds for three furrow plows and four rounds for two furrow plows, the competitor then commences to cast off.

5. **CAST-OFF**

Faulty plowing done by the neighbouring competitor may be corrected during the first round of the cast-off without loss of points. However, in the opinion of the Head Stewards, if this is impossible to accomplish due to the neighbouring land being extremely crooked or wedge shaped, two rounds shall be allowed, but in no case shall a green strip be left uncut. No wheel marks are permitted on the neighbouring competitor's plot.

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6. **FINISH**

The finish comprises the last six furrows on either side

and the sole furrow. The finish must be straight and parallel to the crown. The sole furrow must be laid toward the competitor's own crown. The sole furrow should be about the same depth as the rest of the plowing and not wider than normal furrows. There should be no loose soil in the finish furrow nor should there be a step.

7. **INS AND OUTS**

Ins and Outs are ideal when the front share enters the ground at the headland scratch mark and the rear share leaves the ground at the headland scratch mark. All land within the headland scratch marks must be plowed. Neatness, regularity and proximity of normal plowing depth to the headland scratch will be considered by the judges.

RULES FOR REVERSIBLE PLOWING

1. **Sighting and setting out**

Three sighting poles only may be used. One pole may be

sighted on the headland of the plot. The use of plot number markers, guidelines, footmarks, stones or any guide other than the three sighting poles is not allowed. Competitors may have assistance to place and remove sighting poles. No other assistance is allowed during the contest.

2. Opening furrow

In reversible plowing, competitors must make a single opening furrow at the setting out. The single opening furrow is plowed from the start using the rear right-body. Time allowed for the completion of the opening furrow is twenty minutes (20 minutes)

Failure to complete the opening furrow in the permitted time will be penalized.

Penalty - One (1) point for each minute or part minute for the extra time taken

- 3. Scratch mark for butts** - This scratch mark must be made while the opening furrow is being judged. The scratch mark should be made parallel to the opening furrow to allow for the mandatory 19 or 20 furrows from the butts to the opening furrow for two furrow plows and 20 or 21 furrows for three furrow plows. Three sighting poles may be used to make the scratch mark. Assistance is allowed to place and remove the sighting poles. No handling or rolling of the scratch mark is allowed. Either the right or left hand bodies may be used for making the scratch.

4. Method of plowing

Two furrow plows - plowing must commence using the left hand bodies and after completing eight furrows, which shall constitute the CROWN, the competitor then proceeds to plow against the neighbor with the next higher number.

Three furrow plows - plowing must commence with the left hand bodies and after completing nine furrows, which shall constitute the CROWN, the competitor then proceeds to plow against the neighbor with the higher number.

On completion of the crown, the competitor then plows all the land between the next neighbor's plot and the scratch mark, thus completing the butts.

Connecting furrow

The competitor then starts at the scratch mark and plows to a finish at the cut of the opening furrow. No add-on

attachments are allowed for the connecting furrow. Sighting poles are not allowed when plowing the connecting furrow at the scratch mark

Finish and final furrow

The finish is the plowing from the butts to the final furrow. (Mandatory 19 or 20 furrows for two furrow plows and 20 or 21 furrows for three furrow plows)

If the number of furrows is incorrect, Ten (10) points will be deducted from the competitor's score.

The final furrow should be cut close to the opening furrow. There should be no land left unplowed and no part of the first furrow at the start replowed. The first furrow and the final furrow should be the same height.

Only one wheel mark is allowed at the finish. Any other wheel mark on the plot is a fault and will be judged accordingly.

General

Alternate bodies must be used at all times when plowing the plot.

In reversible plowing, idle runs are not permitted.

Penalty -

Idle Runs - 10 points per run