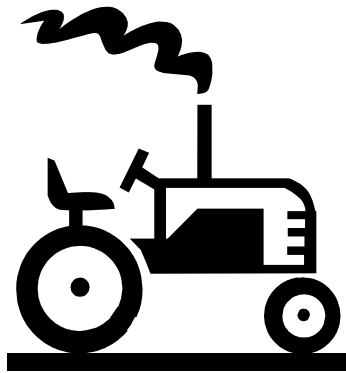


WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA
SAFE TRACTOR OPERATOR CONTEST
RULES AND REGULATIONS



Prepared by

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in cooperation with

the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators (WAAE)

Revised April 2015 – Change to Regional Level Competitions

**WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA
SAFE TRACTOR OPERATOR CONTEST
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

I. CONTEST ORIENTATION

A. Purpose

1. To promote and encourage safe and skillful farm tractor operation.
2. To provide FFA members an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of tractor maintenance.

B. Eligibility

1. Each FFA chapter may enter two bonafide active members in the Regional contest.
2. A contestant must be at least:
 - a. 14 years of age and have successfully completed the tractor certification course or be 16 years of age and
 - b. have completed at least one year of agricultural education and have been regularly enrolled in agricultural education classes the current calendar year of the Regional or State Contest, or must be a high school graduate in the same year of the Regional or State Contest.
3. The online entry form must be completed to registration for the Regional Contest. The liability waiver must be completely filled out and signed in order for the contestant to compete and turned in the day of the contest.
4. Students age 14-16 must provide a copy of their tractor certification form along with their liability waiver to the contest chairperson before competing in the event.
5. Previous state winners are not eligible to participate in Regional contests.
6. It is recommended that the chapter representatives be selected by a chapter elimination contest.

C. Entry Procedure

1. Each contestant in the Regional contest must be entered into the online registration system provided by the Wisconsin FFA Center.
2. If a contestant is between 14-16 years of age, they must bring a copy of tractor certification completion form to the contest site.
3. An entry fee may be required to cover the cost of expenses for contest materials and awards.

D. General Rules

1. The Regional safe tractor operator contest sites will be: Sauk Prairie High School, Plymouth High School, Clear Lake High School and Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton. These sites will provide the contest chairperson to coordinate all components of the event.
2. The Regional contest chairperson will be assisted by other qualified persons to properly administer the contest. Each chapter that has a contestant at the Regional contest should provide an advisor or responsible adult to help run the Regional contest if needed by the contest chairman.

3. Any questions involving interpretation of the rules before or during the contest will be handled by the contest chairperson.
4. Regional contests will be held at such time and place as determined by the WAAE Safety Committee and the Contest Chairperson. May, June, or July are preferred months and in adequate time to prepare for the State Competition.
5. The State Tractor Operator's Contest is currently held onsite at the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days of the hosting county. The contest is currently held on the Tuesday of this event.
6. All personnel will be barred from the course during the contest except for the contestant, the judges, scorers, timekeepers, and other assistants authorized by the contest chairperson.
7. A contest orientation meeting should be held prior to the contest.
8. Numbers may be drawn to determine the order in which contestants will participate or assigned by contest chairperson &/or contest committee to expedite the contest.
9. Safety will be stressed during the practice session, and throughout the entire contest. Penalty points for safety violations will be severe.
10. Each winner from the Regional contests will advance to the State Contest. In addition the 10 overall high scoring individuals (not counting the regional winner) will also advance to the State contest. Fourteen individuals will be allowed to compete in the State contest.
11. The advisor, or other appointed adult, of the contestants advancing from the Regional contest to the State contest will be responsible to help conduct the State FFA Tractor Operator Contest at the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days.
12. Contestants will be allowed to wear the official State Tractor Operator Contest t-shirt during the competition.

E. Contest Recommendations

1. It is recommended that awards be given to the winning contestant(s).
2. At the State competition trophies will be presented to the top three overall individuals in the competition. Each of the Regional winners will receive a plaque at the State Contest.
3. Tractors used in the contest should not be driven to or from the contest site by students or contestants.
4. Contest materials, stakes, etc., should be provided by the contest chairperson.

F. Tractor Selection

1. New tractors will be used, with standard equipment, whenever possible.
2. Whenever possible, the same make of tractor should be used for all parts of the contest.

G. Practice Period

1. Sufficient time should be provided for group orientation to the tractors. Dealers or other persons may give instruction at this time in correct and safe operation of the tractor, and for the contestant to acquire the "feel of the tractor".
2. Contestant practice must be done on the tractors furnished, and must be limited to a maximum of four minutes. Contestants cannot drive through any part of the course during the practice period.
3. Judges will be on hand during the practice period to supervise the driving and check for safety violations. Severe violations during the practice period can disqualify the contestant.

H. Scoring

1. The weighted penalty scoring system will be used. Unanswered or incorrectly answered questions and violations of rules will draw penalty points for the contestant.
2. The contestant with the lowest total score wins.
3. Score sheets will be provided by the contest chairperson.
4. Two- and four-wheeled driving events will be timed; stopwatches will be used.
5. Time penalties will be one point per second; however, other penalty points for safety violations, hit markers, etc., will be so severe that the importance of speed will be minimized.
6. Contestants will be stopped if they do not complete the two wheel or the four wheel driving events after the five minute time limit; the contestants penalty score will depend on the zone he/she is in at that time.
7. The maximum number of location penalty points (400) will be charged if the contestant is in Zone I; 300 points charged if in Zone II; 200 charged if in Zone III. If the contestant is in Zone IV (within 12 inches of the "end" stakes), the penalty will be 10 points for each inch over 2 inches between the rear of the implement and the rear stake of the shed (the average distance between the implement and the stakes). The measurement score for Zone IV cannot exceed 100 points.
8. The time penalty for ending in Zones I or II, would be 300 points plus the penalty points for being in that particular zone even if five minutes has not elapsed.
9. The total penalty for the contestant finishing in Zone I would be 700 points; in Zone II, 600 points; in Zone III, 200 points plus 1 point per second to get to that point; in Zone IV, the score will depend upon the measurement, actual time required, and other factors as described on the score sheet.
10. In case of a tie, the safety points will be used as the tiebreaker.

I. Judges

1. Separate judges will be assigned for each event in the contest: two or three judges may function in unison in judging each event in the contest; specific individual functions could be:
 - a. Official scorer and judge
 - b. Timer
 - c. Safety judge
2. Judges may be FFA Advisors or other qualified resource people.
3. The decisions of the judges will be final.

II. DESCRIPTION OF CONTEST EVENTS

A. Written Examination (45-minute time limit)

The written examination will consist of 50 questions provided by the State FFA Executive Director. The questions will be multiple choice and true/false type questions; resource authorities for the examination will be "Safe Operation of Agricultural Equipment - Student Manual" by Hobar. Twenty penalty points will be added for each question answered incorrectly or omitted.

Scoring

No. of questions missed or unanswered _____ x 20 = _____.

B. Practical Examination (5-minute time limit)

This examination will consist of inspection of a tractor for (1) maintenance and (2) safety items. The basis for selecting these items will be a ROUTINE DAILY CHECK-UP. (Tractor is not to be started by the contestant.)

The practical examination will be conducted in an enclosure away from the contest area and will be given to only one contestant at a time. Contestants will not be allowed to inspect the tractor prior to taking the examination.

Faulty items on the tractor will be prepared by the judges in advance of the contest.

RULES

1. This tractor must be a new tractor or the newest one available.
2. There will be ten items on this tractor which are unsafe, wrong or faulty.
3. Contestants will be provided a Score Card of the "Practical" Contest as on page 5. This Score Card must be used in the contest. Only 10 of the 21 will be used in the contest: items missed or incorrectly checked will be considered wrong.

SCORE CARD - PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

Judges will select ten (10) items from the score card of 21 items and set up tractor accordingly. Contestants will check only ten (10) items

TRACTOR SAFETY CHECK LIST

Put an "X" by ten items on this tractor that are unsafe today!

Number Incorrect x 50 = Score _____ x 50 = _____ (Score)

1. _____ SMV emblem missing
2. _____ Battery fluid level low in one or more cells
3. _____ Battery cable loose on terminals
4. _____ Battery clamps & posts dirty, need cleaning
5. _____ Battery loose in holder
6. _____ Crankcase fluid low
7. _____ Hydraulic fluid low
8. _____ Radiator level low, no visible fluid
9. _____ Radiator hose cracked or deteriorated
10. _____ Shift lever not in park or shift in neutral with parking brake not set
11. _____ Tire inflation pressure visibly low
12. _____ Fan or power steering belt loose
13. _____ Lights not operational
14. _____ Air pre-cleaner dirty
15. _____ PTO guard loose or missing
16. _____ Drawbar attached improperly to tractor
17. _____ Tractor has improper or no fenders
18. _____ Tractor has no ROPS or protective enclosure
19. _____ Tractor has no fire extinguisher
20. _____ Tractor is not equipped with seat belt(only if ROPS is present)
21. _____ Operator's Platform is not free of hazards

C. TRACTOR SAFETY

Procedure: Each contestant will be scored on safety anytime he/she is operating the tractor during the contest. Safety judges will be on hand to record violations during the contest. See safety scorecard page 12.

Rules: A list of rules for safe tractor operation is found on page 10 of this booklet. This list of rules is not all inclusive, other rules may also be used.

D. Two-Wheel Event (5-minute time limit)

(See instructions for rack construction and stake design found later in this booklet)

On starting signal from judge, contestant will proceed to drive the course prescribed in this booklet (see drawing). After backing into shed, contestant must set brakes, shift to neutral or park, re-engage clutch and shut off engine. Timing starts when tractor starts to move and timing ends when tractor is stopped and contestant raises both hands.

Note: The time penalty for ending in Zones I or II, would be 300 points plus the penalty points for being in that particular zone even if five minutes has not elapsed.

The scoresheet for the two-wheel event is found on page 7.

E. Four-Wheel Event (5-minute time limit)

(See instructions for rack construction and stake design found later in this booklet). It is OK to use a hayrack if available.

On starting signal from judge, contestants will proceed to drive the course prescribed in this booklet (see drawing). After backing into shed contestant must set brakes, shift to neutral or park, re-engage clutch and shut off tractor engine. Timing starts when tractor starts to move and timing ends when tractor is stopped and contestant raises both hands.

Note: The time penalty for ending in Zones I or II, would be 300 points plus the penalty points for being in that particular zone even if five minutes has not elapsed.

The scoresheet for the four-wheel event is found on page 8.

JUDGES SHEET

Contestant No. _____

Score _____

**TWO-WHEEL EVENT
SCORING SHEET**

- | | No. of Times | | Points |
|--|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1. Golf balls dislodged | _____ | x 50 | _____ |
| 2. If stake is knocked out of line so that ball will not stay on top. | _____ | x 100 | _____ |
| 3. Crossing Boundary | _____ | x 50 | _____ |
| 4. Tractor engine stalled | _____ | x 50 | _____ |
| 5. Grinding gears | _____ | x 10 | _____ |
| 6. Location on completion of contest (fill in for one zone only) | | | |
| Zone I Backing through alley (add 400 points) | | | _____ |
| Zone II Going forward in serpentine (add 300 pts) | | | _____ |
| Zone III Backing toward end of shed (add 200 points) | | | _____ |
| Zone IV Inches in excess of 2 inches from rear of shed.
Two inches or less is no points.
Fraction of an inch considered as a whole inch. | _____ | in. x 10 | _____ |
| 7. Touching a back panel or stake | _____ | times x 50 | _____ |
| 8. Time (maximum 300 points; See page 3, H8 for clarification of rule)
Note: The time penalty for ending in Zones I or II, would be 300 points plus the penalty points for being in that particular zone even if five minutes has not elapsed. | | | |

Minutes _____ Seconds _____

Total seconds _____ x 1 _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

JUDGES SHEET

Contestant No. _____

Score _____

**FOUR-WHEEL EVENT
SCORING SHEET**

	No. of Times		Points
1. Golf balls dislodged	_____	x 50	_____
2. If stake is knocked out of line so that ball will not stay on top.	_____	x 100	_____
3. Crossing boundary	_____	x 50	_____
4. Tractor Engine stalled	_____	x 50	_____
5. Grinding gears	_____	x 10	_____
6. Location on completing of contest (fill out for one zone only)			
Zone I In starting shed (add 400 points)			_____
Zone II In Yard (add 300 points)			_____
Zone III In finishing shed (add 200 points)			_____
Zone IV Inches in excess of 2 inches from rear of shed. Two inches or less is no points. Fraction of an inch is considered a whole inch.	_____	inches x 10	_____
7. Touching a back panel or stake	_____	times x 50	_____
8. Time (Maximum 300 points; See page 3, H8 for clarification of rule)			
Note: The time penalty for ending in Zones I or II, would be 300 points plus the penalty points for being in that particular zone even if five minutes has not elapsed.			

Minutes _____ Seconds _____

Total Seconds _____ x 1 _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

SAFE TRACTOR DRIVING RULES
for the
FFA SAFE TRACTOR OPERATOR'S CONTEST

The following rules for safe tractor driving are offered as a guide for safe tractor operation. Safety judges will be guided by, but not limited to, the scope or coverage of the following paragraphs.

1. Before starting the tractor, be sure the brakes are set (or transmission in park position), gearshift lever in neutral or park position, and PTO is disengaged.
2. Disengage clutch while starting the engine.
3. Release brakes before attempting to move the tractor.
4. Engage clutch gently so as to avoid careless or sudden starts and stops.
5. Avoid unnecessary slipping of clutch. The operator's foot may remain on the clutch, but "riding" the clutch is to be avoided.
6. Keep tractor in gear when driving. Never shift into neutral or disengage clutch to coast part of the way.
7. Driver must ride on tractor seat. No other people should ever be allowed on tractor when in operation.
8. The driver must wear a seat belt if a ROPS is provided.
9. Reduce speed to a safe level before making a turn or applying one brake.
10. Avoid short turns that can foul implement against tractor tire.
11. Drive at speeds slow enough to insure safety, both for yourself and for bystanders.
12. Bring the tractor to a complete stop before dismounting.
13. Mount and dismount tractor properly. Use steps if provided by the manufacturer.
14. Before leaving tractor, shift into neutral or park, set brakes, engage clutch and shut off engine. ***Shutting off the engine is at the discretion of the host and will be announced when instructions are given before the contest.*** The sequence of this operation does not necessarily need to be followed so long as all operations are accomplished in a safe manner.(Locking one brake or moving gearshift lever to park position will be considered adequate.) ***ALWAYS BE CAREFUL!***

**LIABILITY WAIVER
REGIONAL AND STATE FFA TRACTOR OPERATOR CONTEST**

I. Contestant Information - Please Print

Name _____ Age _____ Birth Date _____

Mailing Address _____ Zip _____

FFA Chapter _____ Year in School _____
(If graduated, use the date of graduation from high school)

II. Safety Pledge

I hereby agree to abide by all rules of safe and prudent conduct during this contest. I realize that I may be disqualified for any violation endangering contest officials, spectators, other contestants or myself, or for any other acts that the judges feel are sufficient grounds to disqualify me. If under 16 years of age, I also vouch that I have successfully completed the Tractor Certification Course.

(Contestant's signature) , (Date)

III. Certification

I hereby certify that this contestant has met the eligibility requirements as set forth in the Wisconsin Association of FFA Safe Tractor Operator's Contest Handbook.

(Advisor's signature) (Date)

IV. Liability Waiver Form

The individual and the parents or guardian signing this paper are aware of the hazards of operating tractors and assumes all liability for the operation of the tractors to person/persons or property while competing in the FFA Safe Tractor Operator's Contest.

(Contestant's signature) (Date)

(Parent's or Guardian's signature) (Date)

(Administrator's or Principal's signature) (Date)

**** If the contestant is under 16 years of age, a copy of successful completion of the Tractor Certification Course MUST be attached.

SAFETY SCORE CARD

CONTESTANT NO. _____

SCORE _____

NO. OF TIMES FOUND

	<u>2-wheel driving</u>	<u>4-wheel driving</u>		<u>POINTS ADDED</u>	<u>JUDGE'S NOTES</u>
<u>Starting Safety</u>					
1. Failure to check neutral position of gearshift	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
2. Failure to check PTO (PTO should be diagnosed before contestant starts in any direction)	_____	_____	x 25	_____	_____
3. Buckling up seat belt	_____	_____	x 50	_____	_____
<u>Driving Safety</u>					
1. Failure to engage clutch gently	_____	_____	x 50	_____	_____
2. Failure to operate tractor in a safe manner	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
3. Running in low gear with high engine speed	_____	_____	x 50	_____	_____
4. Skidding or spinning wheels of tractor or implement	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
5. Turning too short and fouling implement	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
6. Operation of tractor at unsafe speeds	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
7. Using brakes to move tractor and implement (Contestant is prohibited from using brakes to maneuver an implement into a zone)	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
8. Inadequate precautions when people get in the way (Contestant should be aware of judges and other contest personnel in course area)	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
9. Driving in a manner hazardous to equipment or course layout (Contestant damages equipment or course layout)	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
10. Unsafe braking to move tractor and implement (Automatically disqualifies the contestant from all driving portions of contest)	_____	_____	x 2000	_____	_____
<u>Mounting and Dismounting Safety</u>					
1. Failure to check neutral position of gearshift before dismounting tractor	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
2. Failure to set brakes before dismounting tractor	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
3. Jumping on or off tractor	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
4. Failure to bring tractor to a complete stop	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
<u>Other Safety</u>					
1. Loose-fitting clothing	_____	_____	x 100	_____	_____
2. Use of tobacco products (automatic disqualification) Examples include smoking or chewing	_____	_____	DQ	_____	_____
3. Other (List and explain)	_____	_____	x	_____	_____
TOTAL POINTS ADDED				_____	_____

** A safety violation will be scored when the tractor changes direction. (Example: A contestant uses brakes when backing up an implement, then pulls forward to straighten out implement and then backs up implement using the brakes: Score – 2 violations.)

CHARTS FOR COURSE LAYOUT

2-WHEEL COURSE:

Same as old layout except:

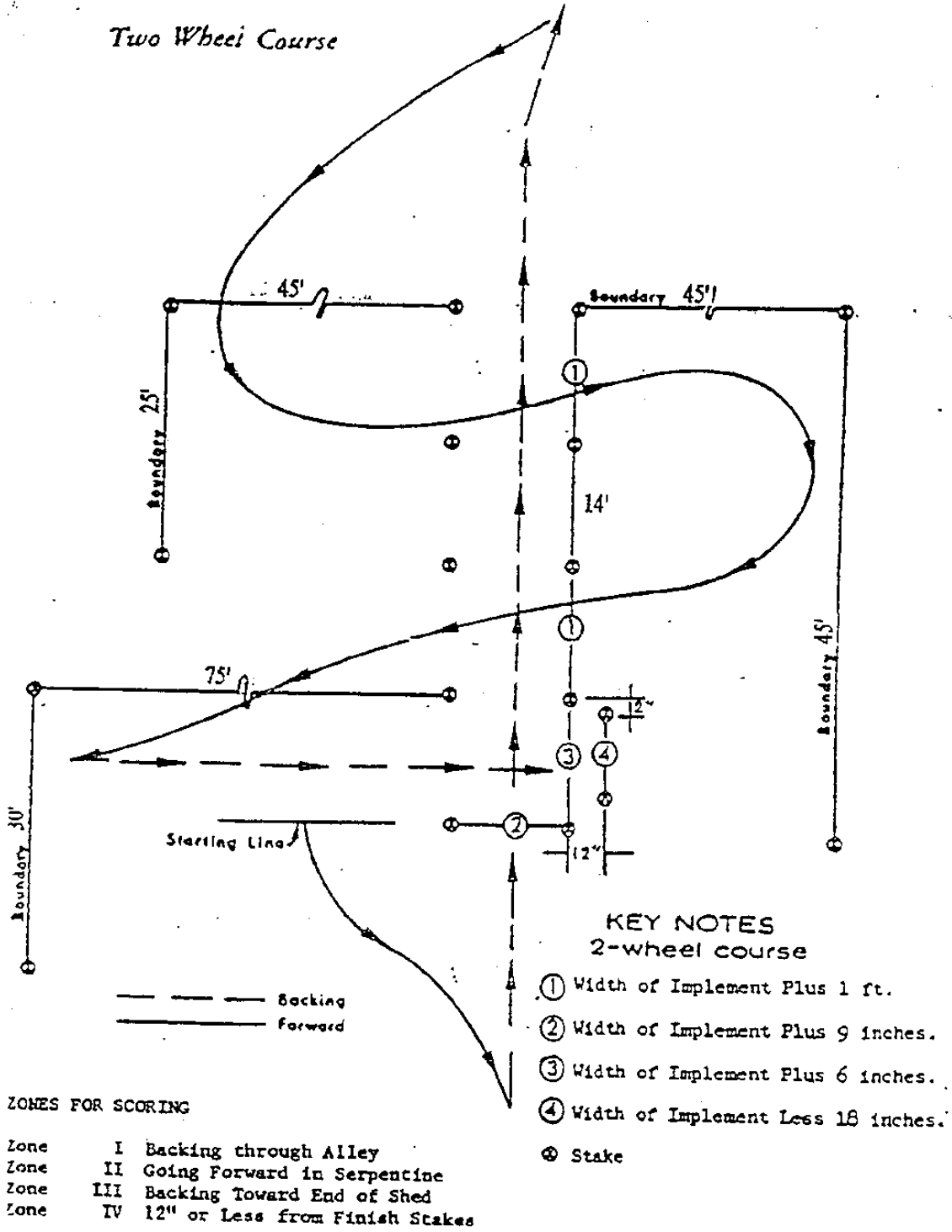
1. end borders for serpentine is 45' rather than 32'
2. 25' for end border instead of 18'
3. 45' for other end border instead of 36'
4. 75' for backing into gate instead of 60'
5. 30' width of boundary for backing instead of 20'
6. 14' for width of gap in serpentine

4-WHEEL COURSE LAYOUT:

Same as old layout except:

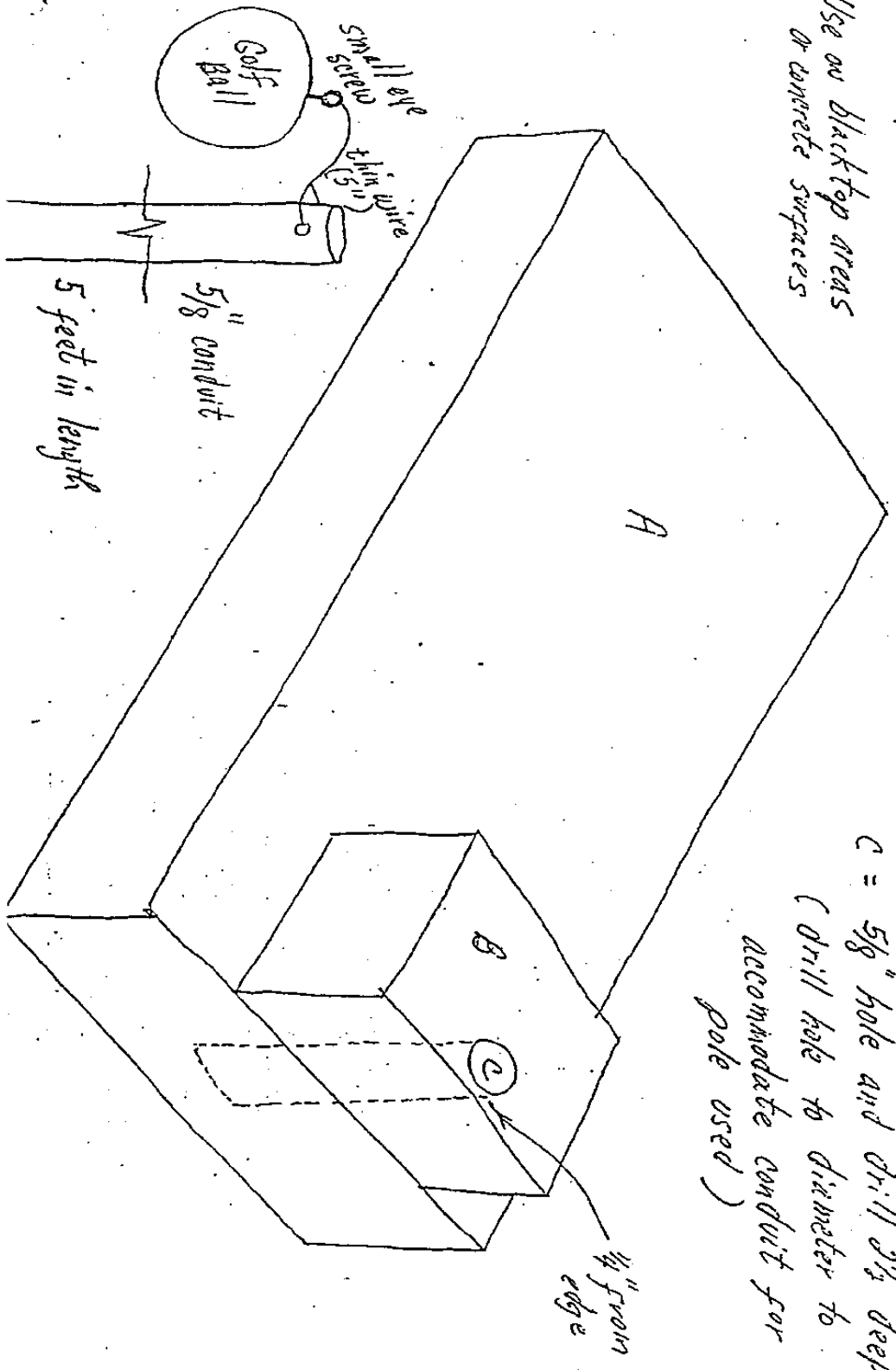
1. make 8' wings instead of 6'(maybe should go 10')
 2. this will make the width of the field approximately 36'(this would make it approximately 40')
 3. make the length of the yard 32' longer than the length of the implement and tractor instead of 25'
-

Two Wheel Course



Safe Tractor Operators Stand Holder
 (Used in the Two & Four Wheel Events)

Use on blacktop areas
 or concrete surfaces

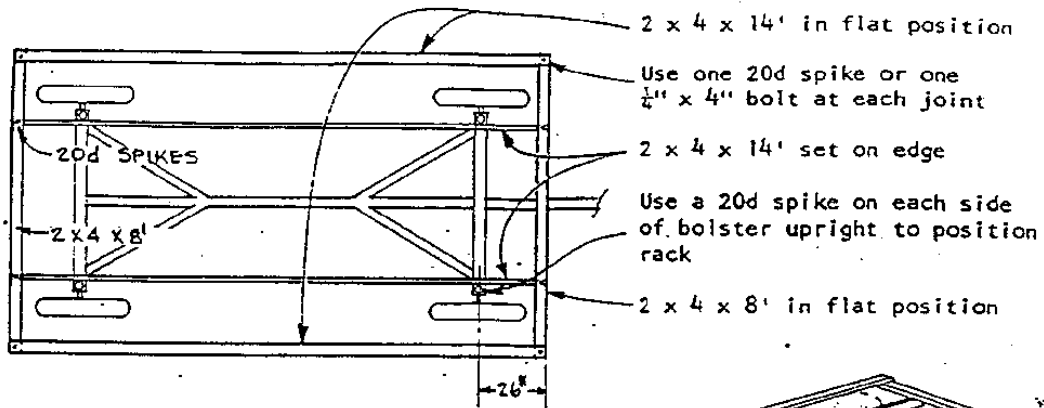


A = 2" X 10" X 16"

B = 2" X 4" X 5 1/2"

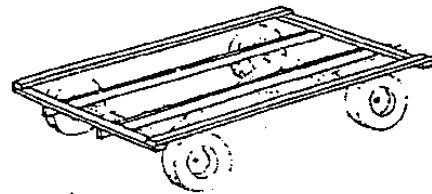
C = 5/8" hole and drill 2 1/2" deep
 (drill hole to diameter to
 accommodate conduit for
 pole used)

SUGGESTED 4 WHEEL
IMPLEMENT RACK

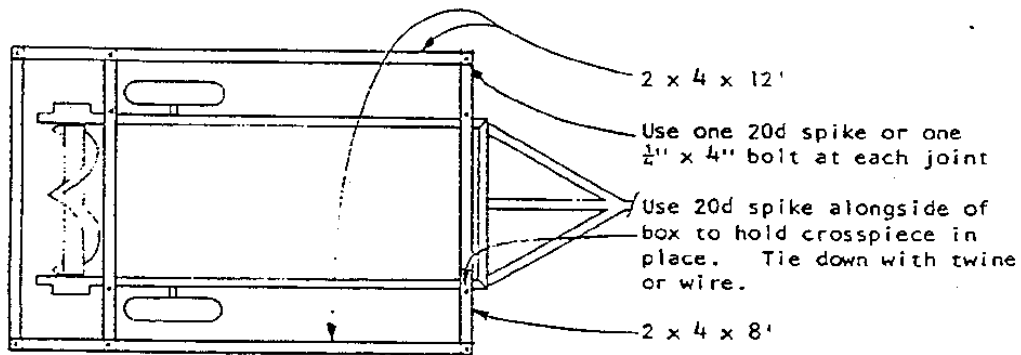


NEED: New Running Gear

- 4 - 2 x 4 - 14 feet long
- 2 - 2 x 4 - 8 feet long

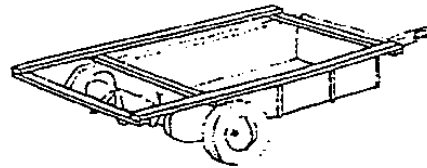


SUGGESTED 2 WHEEL
IMPLEMENT RACK

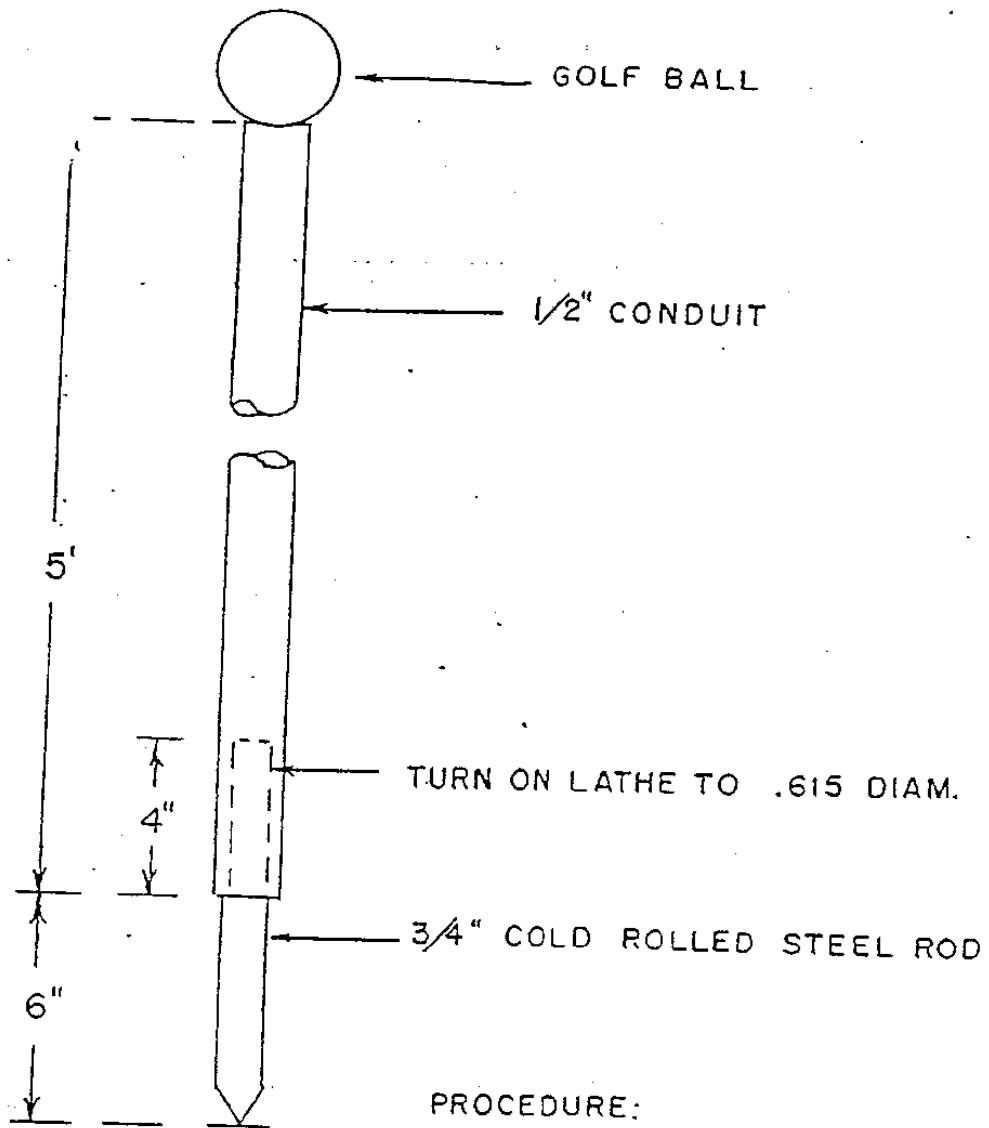


NEED: 2 wheel spreader
100 - 125 Bu. size

- 3 - 2 x 4 - 8 feet long
- 2 - 2 x 4 - 12 feet long



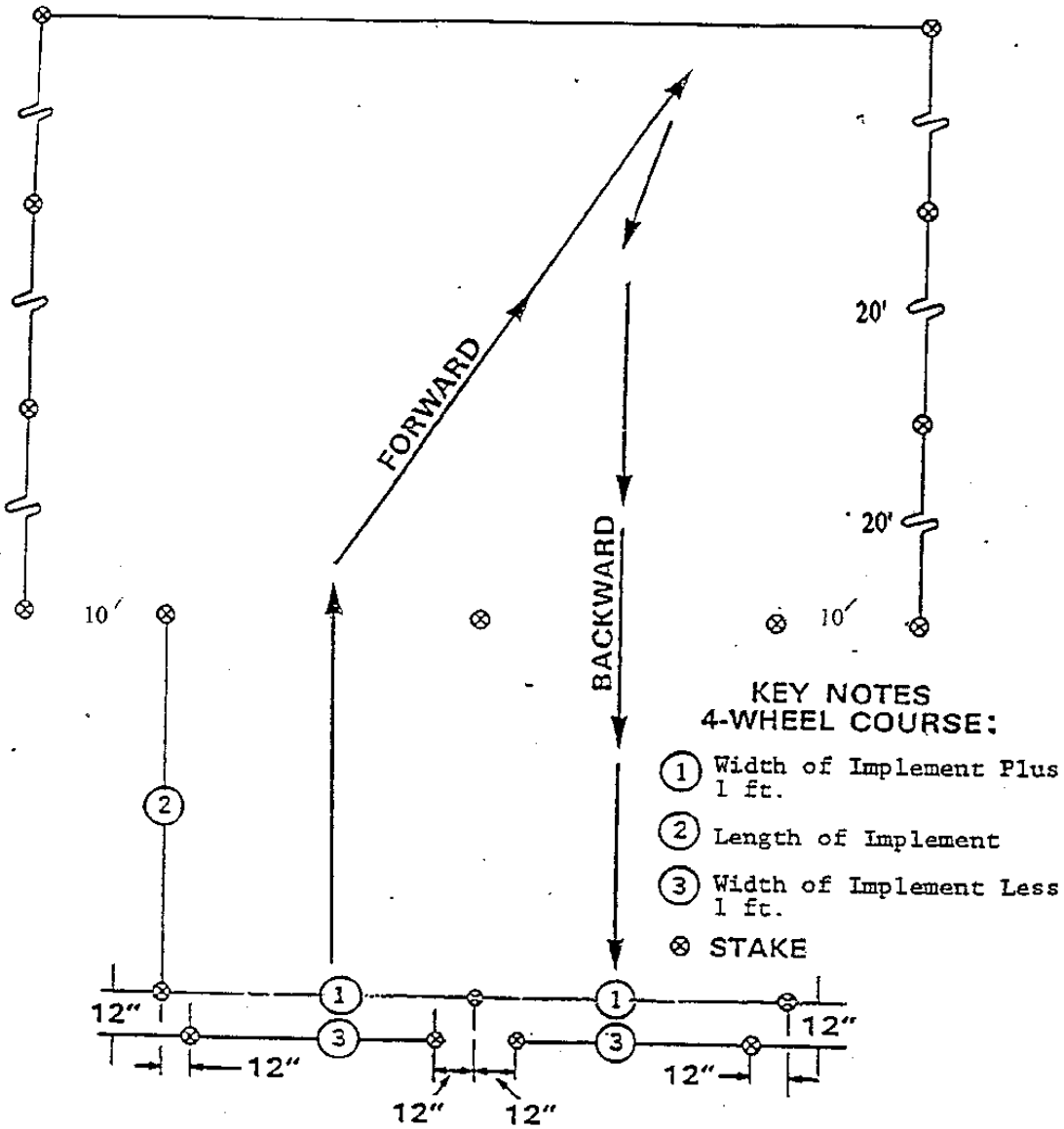
STAKE FOR TRACTOR CONTEST



PROCEDURE:

1. SET STAKE WITH 1/2" PIPE
2. PLACE CONDUIT ON STAKE
3. PLACE BALL ON CONDUIT

FOUR WHEEL COURSE



ZONES FOR SCORING:

- Zone I In Starting Shed
- Zone II In Yard
- Zone III In Finish Shed
- Zone IV 12" or Less from Finish Stakes

Note: The length of the yard in Zone II should be 32 feet, plus the combined length of the tractor and implement.