



## Tractor Safety & Skills CDE

### Purpose

The purpose of the Tractor Driving Career Development Event is to encourage the safe and appropriate use of farm tractors in an agricultural setting. The event challenges students to safely maneuver a tractor with a small trailer through a set course with accuracy.

### Sponsor

The Tractor Driving event is sponsored by Southern Shows and Kubota Tractor.

### State Event Superintendent

The superintendent for this event is Dr. Jason Davis, State FFA Coordinator, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654 Phone: 919.513.0216 Fax: 919.513.3201 Email: jason\_davis@ncsu.edu

### Eligibility

The state event will be open to only one participant from each federation - the federation winner. The federation winner must be an active member; however, no previous state winner is eligible. FFA members may not participate in a Career Development Event that leads to a state level event after July 1, following their high school/early college graduation.

Each participant's chapter advisor must return a completed registration form (which carries parental consent and waiver of liability). Each year's form is provided in a mailing from the Southern Farm Show.

The use or possession of cellular phones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) or any other mobile electronic communication device is prohibited during any state-level career development event. Any violation of this rule will result in total disqualification.

Any member found cheating in any state-level career development event will result in total disqualification for that event.

**The North Carolina FFA Association, in keeping with the FFA mission and purposes, does not permit the use of tobacco products at any FFA facility or at any FFA activity.**

### Dress Code

Participants are required to follow the North Carolina FFA Career Development Event Dress Code. A ten percent reduction in the total score will be taken if a participant violates the dress code. Participants are allowed to wear long pants, an appropriate shirt with a collar or an appropriate high school or FFA t-shirt.

### Procedures for Administering the Event

Participants will be judged on their knowledge and demonstration of safety practices and skills in the operation of a tractor with a two-wheeled trailer. The lowest score is the winner.

### Scoring

Participants will be scored on their performance using the North Carolina FFA Tractor Driving Score Card. Performances will be timed and the time is calculated into the individual score. Participants start with a score of zero and points are given for each infraction earned. The participant's event time is calculated into the score as a deduction. The participant with the lowest score is considered the winner.

### Frequently Asked Questions Regarding this Event

#### *Riding the Clutch?*

The state event uses Hydro-static driving tractors that do not have a clutch. For chapter or federation events, many judges will deduct points if the driver's foot rests on the clutch. It is recommended that unless the driver is clutching, the driver's foot should rest on the foot rest.

#### *Can the tractor be left running while hooking to the trailer?*

Yes, be sure to apply the parking brake and remove the tractor from gear.

#### *What if the trailer touches a marker while the driver is hooking to it?*

It is the duty of the judges to make sure that the trailer is square inside of the shed area. If the trailer touches or knocks down a marker while it is being pulled out, the driver has not backed square to the trailer or has turned quickly, and thus points will be added.

#### *Can a driver take extra long turns when turning?*

Yes, but this will cost him/her more time and thus affect his/her score.



*What are the dimensions of the trailer used at the state event?*

The wheel base is 5' and the trailer tongue length is 78".

*What is the end point for the state event?*

When the driver has backed the trailer into the shed, the driver should cut off the tractor when he or she is satisfied. Time will be called as the fan blade stops turning on the tractor by the officials.

*What if I do not follow the prescribed course in the chapter guide?*

You will be disqualified.

### **State Awards**

The awards for the state event will be presented annually at the state FFA convention to include a team 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place certificate. Trophies will be given on site at the conclusion of the event.



### North Carolina FFA Tractor Driving Score Card

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Scoring	No. Errors	Times	Points Off
1. Failure to check neutral position before starting engine.	_____	x 25	_____
2. Failure to disengage clutch while starting engine.	_____	x 50	_____
3. Failure to set both brakes or set transmission in park before dismounting tractor.	_____	x 50	_____
4. Failure to check P.T.O. for disengagement prior to starting engine (score only once at beginning of driving).	_____	x 50	_____
5. Moving tractor with brakes set	_____	x 10	_____
6. Turning too short and fouling equipment	_____	x 50	_____
7. Unnecessary side skidding, or spinning of wheels, or operating tractor at unsafe speed, each instance.	_____	x 100	_____
8. Other unsafe practices (score for each offense)			
Extra riders.	_____	x 100	_____
Seat belt on tractor not used.	_____	x 50	_____
Other (discretion of judges).	_____	x	_____
	Total Points Off (SAFETY) _____		
1. Each change in direction other than necessary for course.	_____	x 10	_____
2. Markers or lines:			
Touched.	_____	x 40	_____
Knocked down or lines crossed.	_____	x 50	_____
Running over a post	_____	x100	_____
3. Rough clutch engagement, riding clutch, clashing of gears, or engine stalled, each instance.	_____	x 10	_____
4 Measurement in shed (measure to nearest inch)			
Inches off-center, front.	_____	x 10	_____
Inches off-center, rear.	_____	x 10	_____
Inches greater than one from center-rear-post	_____	x 10	_____
5. Time: Minutes _____ Seconds _____ Total Seconds _____		x0.2	_____
6. Time in excess of 8 minutes, 100 points			_____
7. Dress Code Violation (10% penalty)			_____



TOTAL POINTS \_\_\_\_\_

# North Carolina FFA Association Tractor Driving Course Outline

