

Edgewater Park Volunteer Hose Company No. 1 Muster Manual



A muster (or “Fire Muster”) is an event pertaining to Fire/ Rescue/ EMS services. It is held in a central area such as a park and has many activities for fire department members and sometimes other community members. A muster typically revolves around a firematic competition between fire companies from around the surrounding area. Other attractions include a flea market, live music, food, demonstrations, apparatus judging, vehicle shows and contests.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 0800 hrs. – 1000 hrs. Arrival and Set-up
 - Placement of apparatus “Designated Parking Area” E section
 - Venders set-up on field
 - Game & Play area set-up
 - Team Captain’s Meet with Judges 1030 hrs. at Command Post
- 1100 hrs. Opening Ceremony
 - National Anthem
 - Opening remarks EPVHC # 1
 - Guest Speaker
 - MC to start announcements
- 1130 hrs. Competition begins Midnight Alarm
 - Teams report to the Command Post for assignment
- 1300 hrs. Competition begins Hose Roll
 - Teams report to the Command Post for assignment
- 1430 hrs. Competition begins First Water
 - Teams report to the Command Post for assignment
- 1600 hrs. Competition begins Bucket Brigade
 - Teams report to the Command Post for assignment
- 1730 hrs. Closing Ceremony
 - Awards for competition
 - 50/50 raffle
 - Closing remarks
 - End of Program
- *Note: Due to the time limit that the Muster has to operate within, competition may be limited. The purpose of this restriction is to allow the Muster to be completed in the time allotted!! Every attempt will be made to allow all teams a chance to compete. One Fire Dept. team per event entry - NO EXCEPTIONS. The events will take place in the order listed above:*

1. Muster General Rules

MUSTER RULES AND REGULATIONS - The purpose of these rules is to ensure that the muster events are safe, fun, and fair for muster teams and spectators alike. Safety shall be of the greatest concern when events are planned.

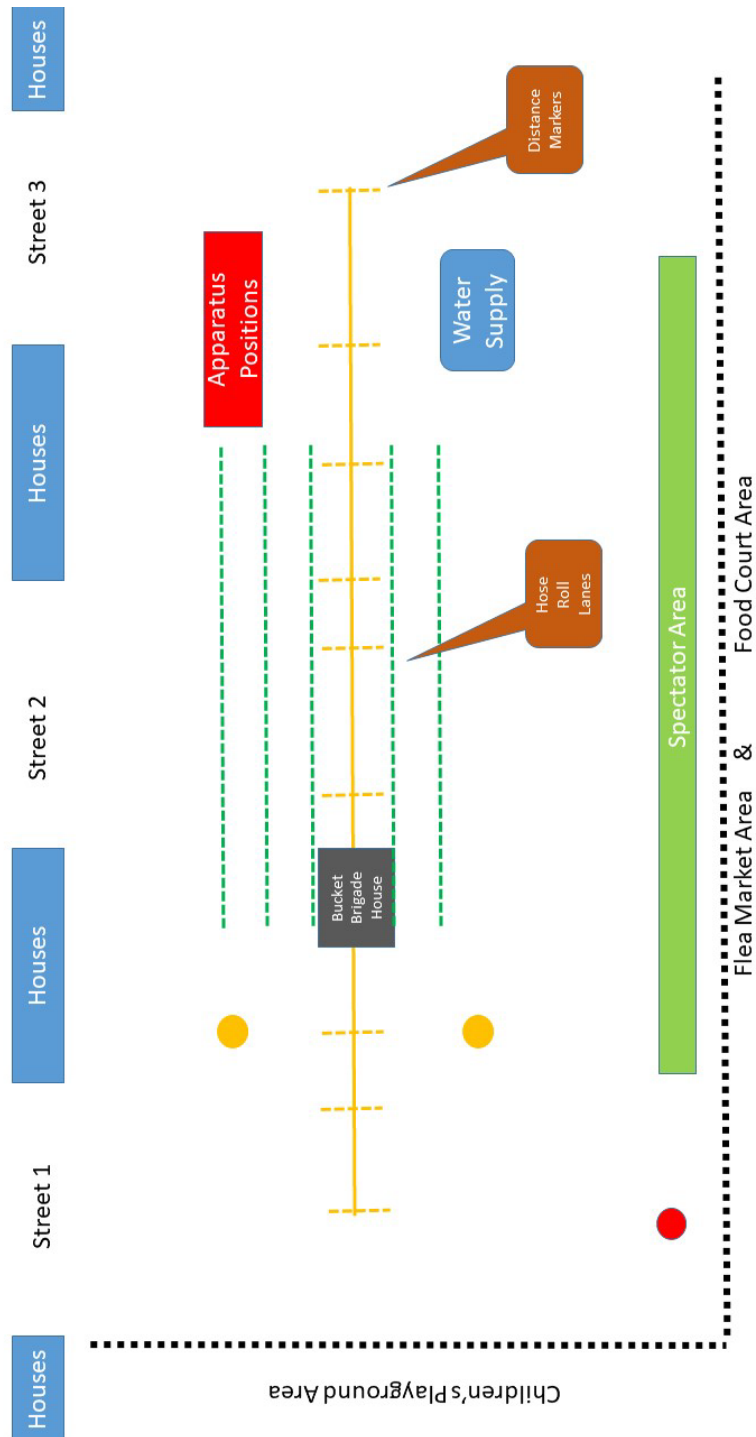
1. The muster shall start on time. It is up to the Edgewater Park Master of Ceremonies (MC) to set a specified time and to make sure that events are ready to start at the specified time.
2. Judges decisions are final. Protests will be decided by the head event judges and chiefs. For additional information, see the following general rules #3, #26 & # 27.
3. Chiefs have final say and rule on any continued problems. Those demonstrating poor conduct will be asked to leave.
4. There will be no selections of position of apparatus or place in competition. Judges will assign your apparatus placement. Competition placement will be by lottery.
5. There will be no borrowing of Apparatus or motorized equipment for any events. You may only enter your department's equipment.
6. Only one team per event from each department.
7. You may be asked for an insurance roster.
8. Alcohol – Be aware of open cans or bottles containing alcohol are unlawful and we are in the eyes of the public. Please use restraint. Alcohol will also be prohibited in the competition area.
9. Muster site at "E" Section will be closed at entrances on Friday morning, till after the competition. Only muster vehicles will be permitted in this area and venders to drop off and pick up equipment - NO EXCEPTIONS.
10. When a unit completes its run in the competition area, the unit will NOT be allowed back to the area. It will park in the Fire Apparatus staging area.
11. NO substitutions per department or per event.
12. Contest pump pressure shall be at discretion of judges, max 50 psi, unless authorized by the judges. This should not be an issue because all supplied water will be HYDRANT PRESSURE ONLY.
13. Refueling of apparatus prohibited on muster grounds, no exceptions; as per the safety committee.

14. NO ladders will be necessary for competition or display purposes. Ladders shall not be deployed.
15. All personnel operating apparatus shall be competent and in physical condition to carry out their assignments. This is each department's responsibility to ensure.
16. PLEASE use care and good judgment at muster site. Deposit refuse in containers provided. Leave the facility as clean as you found it upon arrival.
17. A team captains meeting will be held one half hour before starting the muster (1030 hrs.). This meeting will be at the Command Post.
 - a. All team captains are required to attend the captains meeting with one exception.
 - b. If the team captain cannot be present at the captains meeting, an alternate shall attend in their capacity.
 - c. Starting positions will be drawn at the captains meeting.
 - d. If a team captain or alternate is not present, the team will automatically assume the first position in each event. If more than one team captain or alternate is not present, those teams will be drawn at random for their starting positions.
 - e. A detailed set of rules will be given to all captains to describe each event and the point system.
 - f. The captain or alternate will be the only team member allowed to attend the captains meeting.
18. All persons participating in the muster must be on the current roster of the Department competing.
19. *There will be no separate men's & women's teams; all competition is welcome to joint male/female participation.*
20. Teams shall consist of 6 members as a minimum. Each event may have different requirements.
 - a. Teams will be allowed to borrow up to two members from another department.
21. All muster teams shall conduct themselves in the highest manner of sportsmanship at all times.
 - a. There will be no offensive language or gestures towards anyone present.
 - b. There will be no unfair or cutthroat tactics used that may injure any team member. Judging generally follows SPAAMFAA guide lines. (Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA)).
22. Antique fire apparatus must be 25 years old or older (1989 and older) to qualify.
23. Remember judges volunteer their time for you. Professional conduct is required.

24. Each team will be allowed two false starts per event after which any further false starts will mean disqualification.
25. Judges: will be supplied by the Fairchester Hose Haulers Association (FHHA)
- There will be a minimum of three judges per event.
 - All judges shall keep times
 - The final time will be the middle time with the high and low times thrown out.
 - The time will then be communicated to the scores table in the Command Post.
26. There will be no tie in the competition or show phases of the muster. The judges will determine the tie breaker.
27. All grievances will be settled by following rules #2 & #3 & #28 of this document.
28. The Edgewater Fire Department will supply a three member committee:
- Philip McArdle / Kenneth Banker / Brendan McArdle – all Past Chiefs to act as an arbitration board in the event that the judge's decisions are challenged.
 - This board should be used as a last resort measure only.
29. The muster will consist of four events:
- Midnight Alarm
 - Hose Roll
 - First Water
 - Bucket Brigade
- 30. Command Post Safety Officers - Will be two individuals (2) with Yellow Shirts and white baseball caps. They will alter, suspend or terminate any activity that they view and in their opinion will result in harm or injury to competitors or spectators. They will be supplied with "AIR HORNS"; if you hear an air horn: STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND LOOK AROUND YOU TO SEE IF YOU ARE THE PERSON IN QUESTION! Their opinions are not challengeable or disputable. Anyone ignoring safety concerns will be asked to leave. It is important to keep in mind that they cannot see everything or in some cases act fast enough to prevent accident or injury because the sequence of events happens too quickly. There's is a difficult job that requires support and cooperation from all. It is everyone's responsibility to assist them in these duties throughout the day. Report all unsafe acts to them immediately. These are experienced first responders in Law Enforcement & the Fire Service. Both have served on the front lines for many years. One is currently a Deputy Inspector in the NYPD. The other is Retired FDNY who was the Health & Safety Officer for the UFA during the rescue and recovery efforts after 9/11.**

3. Competition Events Layout

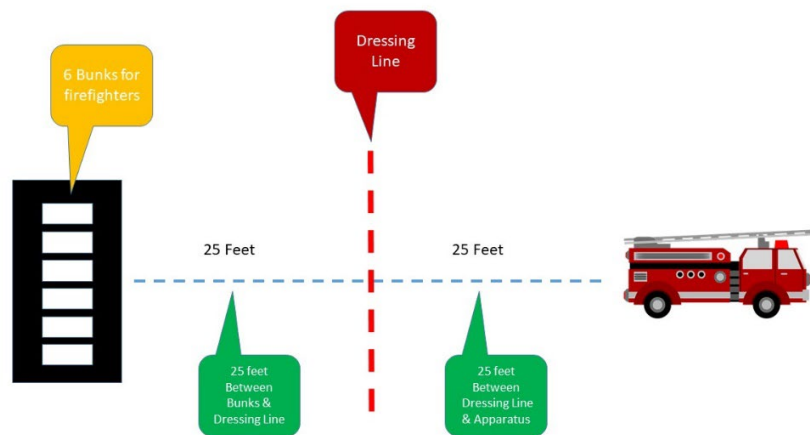
There will be a walk-through for all team captains prior to the running of that event. These events differ in the format of each muster but most follow a basic structure.



3a. Midnight Alarm

(Non-pumping apparatus only)

1. Team shall consist of Six (6) persons. Team composition is as follows: one (1) driver AKA Chauffer / one (1) Officer / four (4) back-step firefighters.
2. Length of the course shall be fifty (50) feet.
3. At the start of the race, the team will recline in the bunks provided. This will be twenty five (25) feet from the Dressing line. Turnout gear (provided by contestants) consisting of: helmet, coat, pants boots & gloves will be placed at the dressing line. All bunker gear will be of the same design.
4. The apparatus driver will be required to wear a helmet only.
5. All personnel shall remain on the apparatus upon boarding, until the contest is completed. Once safely on the apparatus fully and properly clothed the time stops with the sound of a whistle. (No member shall board the apparatus until in their complete gear.
6. Boots and bunker pants shell be properly worn in combination with each other.
7. Coats shall have at least three (3) buckles, if a coat has four (4) the top three (3) shall be buckled.



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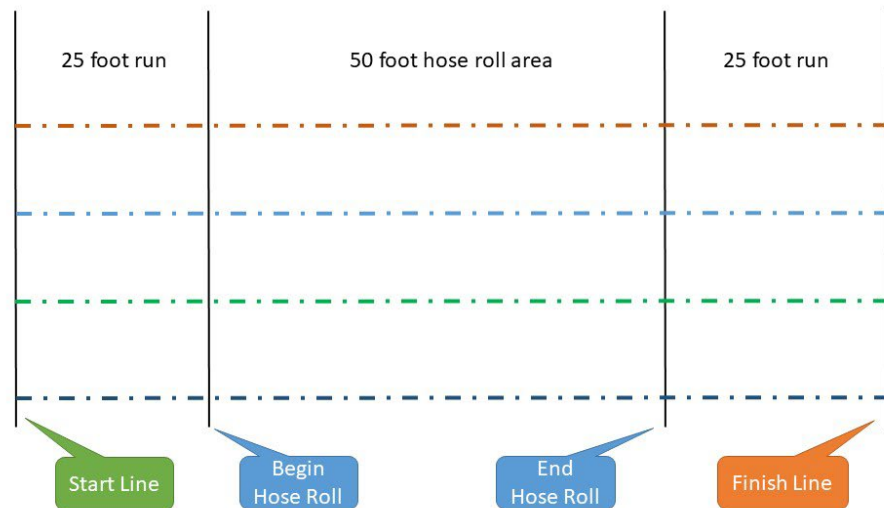
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8. Each team shall supply its own equipment & apparatus will be provided.
9. **Disqualification & Penalties:** The apparatus will be stationary for the event because of the close proximity of spectators. The team will be disqualified if the apparatus is moved. If a person falls off after the apparatus, a five (5) second deduction penalty will be imposed.

3b. Hose Roll

1. Each contestant shall be in full bunker gear.
2. From the start line, at the sound of the horn, competitors will run twenty five (25) feet to the hose roll start line.

Hose Roll



3. Contestants will grab the butt end of the fifty (50) foot 2 ½ "hose and begin to roll the hose to the end of the hose roll line. The hose is then positioned neatly on its side. Judges will ensure that the hose roll is neat an acceptable for storage. A five (5) second point deductions will be assessed for poor quality hose rolls at the judge's discretion.
4. The firehose must remain on the ground during the entire hose roll.
5. Once the hose roll is complete, and the hose has been placed on its side, the competitors runs the last twenty five (25) feet to the finish line.

3c. First Water

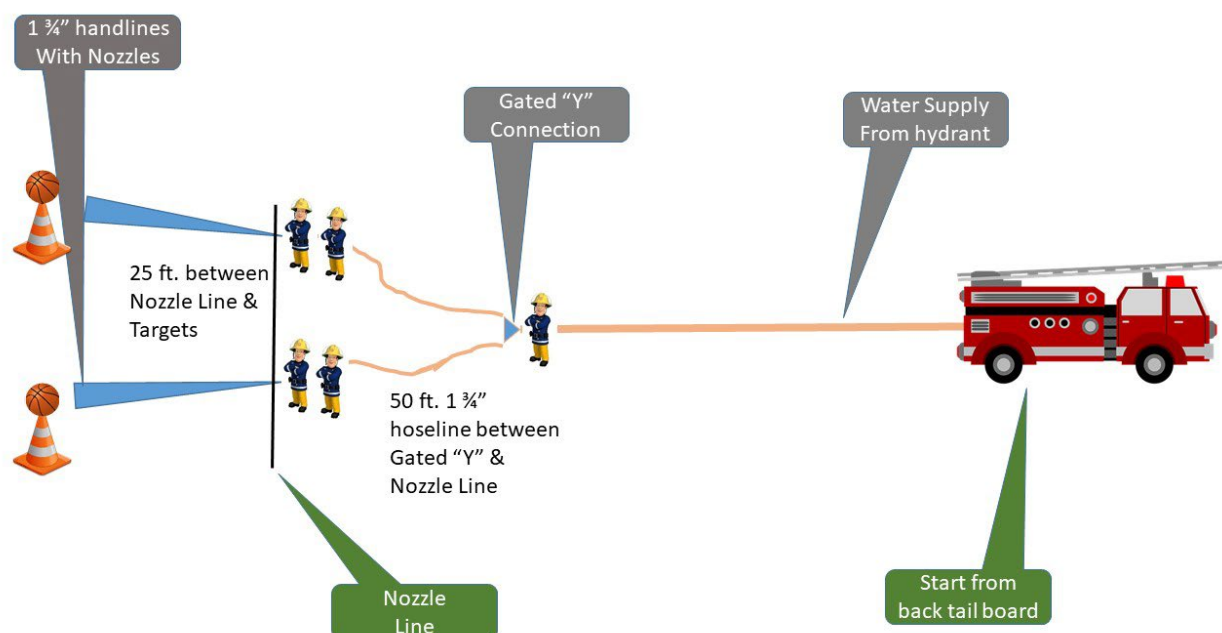
1. Teams shall consist of five (5) personnel with one being the driver AKA Chauffer.
2. The Fire apparatus shall be supplied.
3. Apparatus will be inspected by the judges before each run. If in the opinion of the judges, they feel, a rule is being broken during the inspection, they will point it out and the team will have the opportunity to correct it or they will be disqualified.
4. Only the driver will be allowed to operate and control the gated "Y" to discharge water.
5. *The driver will shut down all lines immediately if either team on the nozzle loses control of their line.*
6. All personnel will be in TURNOUT GEAR with the exception of the driver. The gear will be properly worn and closed. The drivers must wear a helmet and use gloves.
7. All 2 1/2" hose to the gate will be stationary. The 1 3/4" nozzles will be on top of the hose bed and the hose will be attached to the hose on the apparatus.
8. All personnel will start the event mounted on the apparatus in complete gear.
9. Lines may not be removed from the hose bed until the start whistle sounds.
10. Each 1 3/4" length of hose will have its own target. (A basketball resting atop of a highway cone). Each hose will tip its own target.
11. There must be two (2) personnel on each line (Nozzle & Backup).
12. The maximum time allowed from start to completion (tipping both targets) is three (3) minutes. Any team exceeding the three (3) minutes will be given "NO TIME".
13. The timing judge will signal the completion of the contest with a whistle sound.
14. At the completion of each run, each company will have five (5) minutes to pick up all of its equipment and replace it on the apparatus in the condition it was found before moving off the line. Every second after the five (5) minutes will be added to the contest time.
15. Any abusive protest during the contest with judges, muster committee personnel or spectators will mean: *"AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION"*. In

addition, any act deemed unfair to competing personnel from other teams will result in disqualification.

16. All judges' decisions are final. Please refer to General Rules #2, #3, #27 & #28 for clarification.

17. There will be five (5) second penalty times added to a team's time for any of the following violations:

- Each person not properly dressed
- Bunker pants & Boots not properly worn (five (5) seconds per person)
- Less than three snaps connected starting from the top down
- Less than two (2) personnel on the nozzle when water is received
- Any personnel over the nozzle line when the target is tipped
- Any personnel dismounting the apparatus before the start whistle sounds



18. All turn out gear shall be on, before mounting THE APPARATUS!

19. At the start signal, the team will dismount the apparatus and proceed to the off load equipment and stretch and connect 1 3/4' lines to the gated "Y"; they must not cross the target line.

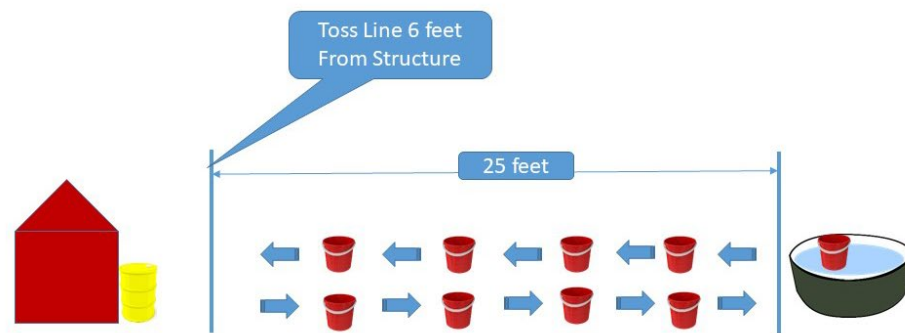
20. Hose connections should be as follows:

- Two (2) separate fifty foot (50') lengths of 1 3/4" hose shall be removed from the apparatus hose bed.

- b. They shall be connected to the 2 ½" X 1 ¾" X 1 ¾" gated "Y" connection.
- c. The "WYE" shall be connected to two (2) separate fifty (50) foot lengths of 1 ¾" hose
- d. A straight tip nozzle shall be connected to the end of each hose length; the nozzle shall have a shut off.

3d. Bucket Brigade

1. Team will consist no less than (8) eight formed in two (2) lines of four (4) persons each. One person will be on the tossing line and one person on the filling line.
2. There will be a twenty five (25) foot distance between the filling tank and the tossing line.
3. The person designated to toss the water must throw the water onto the roof from this line (tossing line). Crossing the line (tossing line) will cause the team to be disqualified.
4. Buckets must be passed from person to person, contestants must not walk more than five to seven (5-7) feet overall distance while passing buckets. Teams will be disqualified if each person in the lines does not handle and pass each bucket.



5. Water must be thrown on and splashed on the roof.
6. A team will be assessed a five second penalty for each bucket thrown with the throwers foot over the line.
7. Buckets will be furnished by the Muster Committee.
8. Contest will consist of one person filling the buckets from the tank, passing in line to the right or left direction (cycle) persons in line will pass buckets in line to the person in the toss line. The toss line person (thrower) will throw the water onto the roof. They will then pass the empty bucket back down the line; in the direction cycle to return to the person filling the buckets at the tank. Judge will start the filler (person at the tank) at the whistle (signal),

the time begins. The time ends the contest when a steady stream of water flows out the spout on barrel.

9. Judges decisions are final! Derogatory or abusive language to judges or spectators will result in automatic disqualification of the entire team, from the event and all other events of the day.

4. Show Apparatus Judging & Rules

1. Each Apparatus entering the competition area will be assigned a vehicle identification card with an assigned number. It is to be placed on the driver's side of the windshield of each vehicle.
2. Each Rig starts the competition with 130 points; i.e. (a perfect score)
3. The burden of proof is upon the entrant for any deviation from a factory standard.
4. The decision of the judge is final; appeals will be in accordance with general rules #2, #3, #27 & #28.
5. It is expected that the motor and mechanism will be operated for the scoring judge upon request.
6. If the front tires match and the rear tires match, it is not necessary that the front tire match the rear.
7. Judging sheets, when used may be obtained after the muster upon request.
8. The rig must be 25 years or older to be considered antique.
9. Apparatus will not be judged unless it has a working fire extinguisher a minimum of 10 lbs. All apparatus wheels will be double chocked with one of the wheels being the front wheel and one rear wheel. No vehicles will be judged if this is not done.
10. Modifications such as pneumatics, windshields or booster systems, will be permitted.
11. The competition date of the tractor-trailer unit, or any other apparatus will be determined by the year of the newest major factory change or rebuild.
12. Oldest motorized means the apparatus is propelled by a motor.
13. Excess lubrication means: accumulated oil and grease packed in the gears and on motor, chains and under fenders that has not been removed for months. Normal throw out of grease and oil in the process of bringing the truck to the muster and or parade is allowed.
14. The owner of the rig is best served if they are present near their rig when the judging is being done to answer questions. For the judges use, any pictures of the before and after, paint chips for color, and tracings of the original scrolls should be on the seat of the truck. These things are considered very helpful in the final analysis.
15. ANY ATTEMPT TO COERCE THE JUDGES MAY BE CAUSE FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

4a. Show Apparatus Judging Scoresheet

Group 1 Motor: Condition, paint & plating

Carburetor -2 Wiring -2 Block Head -1 Hoses -1 excess lubrication -2
 Fire Wall -1 Manifold -1 Crankcase -1
 Fan Belts -1 mag. / distributor -2 Starter / Generator - 2
 Paint /Plating -2

Deductions

Group 2 Mechanism: Pump, hoist, etc.

Operation -3 Booster / Chemical Tank -2 Excess lubrication -2
 Gauges / Valves / Caps -2 Paint /Plating -2

Deductions

Group 3 Art Work: Gold Leaf Work & Pin Striping

Workmanship /Material -5 Scrolls / Designs - 4
 Stripes -2 Pin Stripes -1

Deductions

Group 4 Exterior & Underside finish: body/Fender/Flash Aprons

Luster -8 Underside -4 Wheels -2 Runs -2 Rust -2
 Running Board -2 Fenders (underside) -2

Deductions

Group 5 Seat & Upholstery: Condition, paint & plating

Correctness -3 Workmanship/Material -3

Deductions

Group 6 Tires:

Match across Front/Rear -2 Condition of Rubber -3

Deductions

Group 7 Accessories: Correctness & Condition

Ladders -4 Hand tools/Water Appliances -4 Lanterns/Handlights -4
 Tool Boxes -4 Warning Lights -2 Hose -4

Deductions

Group 8 Bright Work: Correctness & Plating & Conditions (Excludes Engine compartment & Major Mechanisms)

Bumper -3 Trim -2 Side & Tail Lights -2 Radiator
 & Ornament -3 Handles/Hand Bars -2 Head & Spot Lights -3
 Bell/Siren/Horn -2 Hub Caps -1

Deductions

Make: _____ Year _____ PERFECT SCORE 130

Entrant: _____ Total Deductions _____

_____ FINAL SCORE _____

4b. Competition Judging Scoresheet

Department Name _____

Competition 1 **MIDNIGHT ALARM**

Driver without Helmet (-5) Bunker gear not properly worn (-5)
 Bunker Gear not same Design (-5) Member falling off apparatus (-5)
 Apparatus started before all members on board (-5)
 Apparatus movement (Disqualification)

Elapsed Time: _____ **Deductions** _____ = **ADJUSTED TIME** _____

Competition 2 **HOSE ROLL**

Full Bunker Gear worn properly (-5) Hose remains on ground (-5)
 Hose placed on its side (-5) member completes run to finish line (-5) Hose poorly rolled (-5)

Elapsed Time: _____ **Deductions** _____ = **ADJUSTED TIME** _____

Competition 3 **FIRST WATER**

Non Driver operating gated "Y" (-5)
 Bunker gear not properly worn (-5) per person
 Any personnel over the target line when the target is tipped (-5)
 Personnel dismounting apparatus before starting whistle (-5)
 Lines removed from hose bed before whistle is sounded (-5)
 Less than two (2) member handling each 1 ¾" line (-5)
 Falling off apparatus (-5)
 Exceeding the three (3) minute time limit to complete operation (NO TIME)
 Exceeding 5 minute clean -up time (every second after 5 minutes will be added to the time)

Elapsed Time: _____ **Deductions** _____ = **ADJUSTED TIME** _____


Competition 4 **BUCKET BRIGADE**

Number of personnel 8 (-5) if under Foot over the tossing line (-5)
 Bunker gear not properly worn (-5) per person Dropped buckets (-5)
 Crossing the tossing line (DISQUALIFICATION)
 Personnel not handling each bucket (Disqualification)

Elapsed Time: _____ **Deductions** _____ = **ADJUSTED TIME** _____

6. Contest Entries & Contest Cards

Contest cards and welcome packets may be either mailed or handed out at the parade line up. We will be using the card system for all judging and events. This welcome packet includes revised rules for the Muster. PLEASE READ.

CONTEST CARD	
 <p><i>Please fill out completely and turn in at the Command Post before competition begins at 1100 hrs.</i></p>	Name of Department _____ Apparatus Description _____ Year _____ Point of Contact Name _____ Phone # _____
	Team Captain's Name _____ Contact # _____
	Declare Show Apparatus Condition () original () restored Muster Entry # _____ Is Assigned by Muster Committee
	Midnight Alarm () Hose Roll () Bucket Brigade () Response Contest ()
	<i>Please Check All Above That Apply</i>

1. Your participation in the various events of the Muster will be determined by your Muster CONTEST CARD. If improperly filled out your department may be unable to compete.
2. Contest cards will be placed inside your Welcome Packet. The Team Captain will present these cards to the judges at the Command Post at the Captain's meeting at 1030 hrs. JUDGES WILL NOT ALLOW CONTEST PARTICIPATION UNTIL A CARD IS PRESENTED TO THEM.
3. There will be no separate men's & women's teams; all competition is welcome to joint male/female participation.
4. Teams of personnel participating in a contest, may be borrowed from other teams only if that department is short personnel.
5. Each department will be allowed one (1) apparatus for show competition. Space is limited, please ask before bringing additional apparatus.
6. Show apparatus will be judged according your indication on your registration form & contest cards.
7. Incomplete or missing information will result in your apparatus not being judged.

8. References

Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA) Current WEBSITE publications: First established in Syracuse New York in 1958, the organization is still based primarily in the United States and Canada. It has grown to include 50 local chapters, and boasts more than 2,400 members around the globe. It is a diverse organization of firefighting enthusiasts who share a compassion for new and antique fire apparatus, and the history and traditions of the fire service. Members include men and women; children and adults, firefighters, retired firefighters, never-been firefighters, and want-to-be firefighters (fire explorers). They have photographers, collectors, historians, and fire buffs. Some members own antique fire apparatus, while many others do not. Some document fires and fire apparatus through photography, while still others collect books, patches, toys and models, and all manner of fire-fighting memorabilia. You do not need to own an antique fire truck to join this organization. Anyone with an appreciation for, (or the preservation of), the fire service is welcome to apply.

Fairchester Hose Haulers Association 1986 Edition: Manual pumping contest rules revised 12/7/83; Midnight alarm contest revised 1/28/78; Water barrel contest revised 1/1979; Bucket brigade revised 12/7/83; Arena pumping motorized rules revised 12/7/83; Individual pumping contest rules 12/7/83; General regulations show apparatus judging revised 12/7/83; General rules revised 12/10/84; Show judging scoresheet revised 4/1/82

The original Fairchester Hose Haulers was formed in the late 1960s by a group of firemen, volunteer and paid, from various Fire Departments in Fairfield County, CT and Westchester County, NY, hence the name "Fairchester Hose Haulers". Their objective at the time was to promote comradery, friendly competition among the Fire Departments and public awareness through their interest in firefighting equipment. In June of 1970 they held their 1st Annual Antique Fire Apparatus Show and Muster at the Kensico Dam Plaza. This event in

Valhalla, NY continued to grow each year attracting Fire Department and privately owned Apparatus from states across the North East. At its peak the event drew more than 10,000 visitors and was recognized as the Nation's Largest Fire Apparatus Muster. By 1991 the event had out grown the Kensico Dam Plaza and so was moved to the Westchester County Park at Croton Point. The event was held at Croton Point for a few years, but for various reasons, such as the cost of fuel and insurance, participation and interest dwindled to the point that the Muster could no longer be held. Unfortunately, interest and membership continued to drop and within a few years the few remaining members of the Hose Haulers voted to disband.

In 2013 a small group of original members along with some new people got together and decided to try to reform. They petitioned S.P.A.M.F.A.A (The Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America) to use the name Fairchester Hose Haulers of the Hudson Valley. SPAMFAA granted the charter and we are now the SPAMFAA Chapter for this area of NY. We are currently Headquartered in Middletown, NY and have about 250 pieces of Antique Fire Apparatus, some as old as the early 1900s. We have obtained a 501c3 designation and Our Mission is to Preserve the Historical Equipment and educate the public on the History of the Fire Service. Our long-term goal is to open a museum somewhere in the lower Hudson Valley.

Some of our club owned apparatus being road worthy and other apparatus owned by individual members participate in Parades, Car Shows and Antique Musters throughout the Tri-State area. We display our Apparatus to the public each year at an "Open House" in late summer. In August of 2016 we

sponsored the National Summer SPAMFAA Convention, Antique Show and Muster, a four-day event. Over 100 pieces of Antique fire Apparatus were on display and participated in the motorcade through Middletown, the event was a great success.

Check our website - FairchesterHoseHaulers.com

And follow us on Facebook – Fairchester Hose Haulers Association

