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# **The Maritime Lumberjack Association (MLA)**

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Constitution, By-laws and Rules



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# **The Maritime Lumberjack Association**

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Maritime Lumberjack Association (MLA) is to preserve the tradition and skills of yesterday's lumberjacks through modern competition; giving our athletes the opportunity to amass points towards annual year-end awards, and providing spectators with quality entertainment. Our competitions will be fast paced, and fairly run with good announcing, judging, and competition at various levels (amateur, professional and masters).

## **DEFINITIONS**

- 1) Association or MLA – refers to the Maritime Lumberjack Association.
- 2) Member – refers to a person who has paid his membership dues to the MLA for the year in question.
- 3) Contestants/Competitors – refers to any individual competing in a lumberjack competition whether or not sanctioned by the Maritime Lumberjack Association and in which points may be awarded to competitors towards annual awards of the Association.
- 4) Competing member - any member who competes in one or more competitions affiliated with the Association per year.
- 5) Team – refers to two competitors that partake in crosscut sawing, log rolling, kettle boil, run, cut and split or other events as partners.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **Membership**

- 1) In order to qualify for membership into the Association, the applicant must complete a membership form accurately and completely and designate the membership they qualify for.
- 2) To be a member in good standing, a membership fee of \$20.00 must be paid to the Association for the year the applicant wishes to be a member.
- 3) The Association shall meet bi-annually in the spring and in the fall.
- 4) The Executive of the MLA shall finalize show dates and locations each year at the spring meeting, and provide a season calendar for the summer series to all members.
- 5) Membership runs from January 1 through to December 31.

- 6) Before any competitor is permitted to compete at a MLA sanctioned show or shows of the MLA ECHO Challenge, he/she must either be a member in good standing of the MLA OR must pay the membership fee of \$20.00 to participate and qualify for awards and prizes.

## **Voting**

- 1) A voting member of the association must be at least 16 years of age or have the consent of their parent/guardian to vote.
- 2) Only members in good standing have the right to vote on motions of the Association and changes or amendments to the by-laws.
- 3) To vote on a constitutional issue or other significant affairs of the Association, a quorum of 6 voting members plus the President, must be present.
- 4) Voting by proxy is acceptable and will count towards the quorum.

## **Executive**

- 1) The Association's Executive shall consist of a President, a Secretary/Treasurer and at least two directors at large.
- 2) Directors at large shall consist of representatives from the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island that chooses to so be represented.
- 3) Decisions affecting the Association and its membership that do not require a quorum of all membership shall be made by the Executive of the MLA.
- 4) To be nominated for an Executive position, the nominee must be a voting member of the association, and a member in good standing.

Duties of the President:

- a) The President shall head the Association;
- b) The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association;
- c) The President shall have signing authority on the Association's account.

Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer:

- a) The Secretary/Treasurer shall record the minutes of every meeting of the Association;
- b) The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep accurate and timely financial records of the Association and present a financial report at each meeting of the Association;
- c) The Secretary/Treasurer shall have signing authority over the Association's account.

Duties of the Executive of the MLA:

- a) The President of the MLA shall chair the meetings of the Executive.

- b) The Executive of the MLA shall be responsible for setting handicaps for members of the Association.
- c) The Executive of the MLA will be the body that selects membership to regional and national lumberjack teams that are to represent the region, or regional membership to national teams to represent the country at national and international venues, where Canadian and regional teams are required, and shall be done in a fair and consistent manner;
- d) The Chairman to the Executive shall not vote on motions from the floor, except in the event of a tie.
- e) Term of office for all positions of the Executive shall be one year;
- f) An Executive member may run for re-election if they so desire and performance is satisfactory to the Association.

## **The MLA Lumberjack Challenge**

The Maritime Lumberjack Association shall organize, in conjunction with it's primary sponsor, an annual lumberjack circuit consisting of competitions held throughout the region. Competitors that are members in good standing with the Association will earn points at each affiliated competition in the challenge series towards the year-end lumberjack awards. For competitions to be affiliated with the challenge series they must meet the following criteria:

1. The show must be operating for at least 2 years or
  - New competitions can be voted into the series by the membership at the spring AGM.
  - New competitions will not be included in overall point totals in their first year.
  - If a competition has a change of organizer the competition needs to be voted into the series at the spring AGM
2. The show organizers must contact the Association prior to the spring meeting of the MLA each year so that adequate notification can be given to Association members who plan to attend;
3. The show must operate according to the MLA rules for affiliated competitions and the terms and conditions set out in the annual contract between the primary sponsor and the MLA;
4. Affiliated shows cannot limit competitors; the show must be open to any and all MLA members in good standing;
5. MLA rules will supercede those of the local contest in case of discrepancies.

## **GENERAL RULES FOR MLA AFFILIATED COMPETITIONS**

- 1) Contestants under the influence of alcohol or other illegal substances will not be permitted to compete.
- 2) Each contestant is responsible for his/her own equipment.

- 3) Sharing of Equipment - Each show organizing committee should be notified in advance. If a competitor falls in the same heat as the competitor he or she is sharing equipment with, it will be up to the competitor to get another piece of equipment or be disqualified.
- 4) Prizes shall be awarded based on the following point system Points will be given in all events as follows:
 

▪ FIRST	5 Points
▪ SECOND	4 Points
▪ THIRD	3 Points
▪ FOURTH	2 Points
▪ FIFTH	1 Point
- 5) Competitors who tie for overall awards will break the tie by throw-off in an axe throw.
- 6) In the event that a team member is unable to attend or unable to continue competing, the remaining partner shall be permitted to choose another partner, if approved by head judge prior to beginning the event.
- 7) The countdown (starting cadence) shall be "Timers ready.....Competitors ready.....3,2,1,GO!"
- 8) Contestants starting before the starting cadence is completed to gain a competitive advantage will be disqualified.
- 9) The judge's decision shall be final in all circumstances.
- 10) MLA rules preside over all other rules if the competition is an MLA affiliated competition, or a show that is a participant in the annual Lumberjack Challenge with points awarded being counted towards the year-end awards.
- 11) At the end of each event, the top five finishers shall be awarded their placing so as to hold the interest of the crowd.
- 12) Wood that is to be sized round must be done before the commencement of the contest. Sizing must be done to retain the round shape of the bolt of wood. Any sizing below the minimum circumference or wood sized to afford the contestant an advantage (shaping the block square or rectangular) will result in immediate disqualification. Blocks will be measured by a cloth tape by the chief judge prior to the commencement of the contest.
- 13) Any blocks sizes used in MLA affiliated events that are not on the full inch shall be rounded down to the next smaller full inch for record purposes.
- 14) For a rule to be changed, deleted or added it must be supported by a majority vote of the membership.
- 15) General and event rules should be printed on all entry forms. **MLA RULES will always SUPERCEDE SHOW GROUND RULES when none are provided.**
- 16) One of the Executive Committee shall be available to attend all sanctioned shows and shall act in the interests of the MLA in umpiring events, if an MLA Head Judge is not available to attend. They will act for the MLA in an advisory capacity to ensure that the show is conducted in a manner compatible with sportsmanlike lumberjack events and MLA rules. This person shall have the right to file notice of protest to the MLA on or after the date of the event.

- 17) Show organizers are required to send complete results and wood sizes to the MLA statistician immediately following their show (or give the results to a MLA executive member attending the event).
- 18) In events where competitors have to qualify, but are disqualified, the competitors shall be paid out regardless by splitting money evenly between disqualified competitors.
- 19) Unsportsmanlike conduct at any MLA event will be dealt with by the discretion of the head judge to determine any penalties or actions at the event. The head judge will provide a report to the membership at the fall AGM where the following disciplinary actions will take place:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Infraction – Apology sent to all parties concerned
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction – 2 show suspension
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Infraction – Season suspension
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Infraction - Lifetime ban from all MLA sanctioned competitions
- 20) It is the responsibility of the contestants to know the event rules, order of events, their and stand position, and to be prepared so as not to slow down the competition.
- 21) It is recommended that the type of wood and size to be used in the contests should be specified in the contest registration sheets for every show.
- 22) “Clothing” - pants no shorter than halfway between the knee and ankle must be worn (exception water log rolling/birling). NO SHORTS WHILE THE SHOW IS IN PROGRESS. SHIRTS MUST BE WORN.
- 23) A contestant or announcer MAY NOT be an OFFICIAL TIMER or JUDGE in any event in which they are participating.
- 24) Only OFFICIALS, or those actually competing or people with special permission may be allowed in the immediate competition area. Competition area as well as a competitor’s area should be designated by rope, barricades or other means to limit the chance sharp equipment comes into contact with spectators.
- 25) It is recommended that contestants be 16 years old to compete unless accompanied by a guardian or coach.
- 26) In sawing events, it is the competitor’s or team’s responsibility to check and secure their wood to make sure that it is adequate and adjust it within the judge’s discretion.
- 27) Jack and Jill or other partnered events: Competitors must be registered for the show by the morning of the competition and wear proper attire during the event.
- 28) Minimum prize money be \$10 per point and to aim to get to at least \$15 per point within the next 3 years (by 2018).
- 29) All prize money should be equal for women’s, men(open/professional), amateurs and masters divisions.
- 30) For handicap events;
  - 1) It is recommended there be qualifying heats with a finals. If there is no qualifying heats with finals, there must be a maximum number of competitors per heat, and each competitor in the heat will be independently timed

- 2) Winner of event will have 2 seconds added to their starting cadence and all other competitors who “place in the money” will have 1 second added to their handicap starting cadence
- 3) Starting cadence is to be adjusted throughout the season after every handicap event by the “MLA handicap committee” and provided to event organizers prior to their competition

## **MLA SAW DIVISION EVENT DESCRIPTIONS and EVENT RULES**

### **SAW DIVISION EVENTS GENERAL**

For all saw events, a cut must be complete (ie, all wood must be cut across the face of the timber), but not necessarily in one piece. Time stops once the last cookie/disc is severed from the timber. If the cut is incomplete, or if the saw cuts out and the complete cookie is not severed, the contestant must saw an additional cookie/disc or else will be disqualified.

### **EVENT NAME: SINGLE BUCK (or Single Crosscut)**

#### **1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word GO – STOPS when the cookie or disk leaves the cant.
- 1.2 The type of saws to be used must be stated on the entry form. If not, any type of saw will be permitted.
- 1.3 The cookie or disk is deemed to be complete as long as it or the block on the stand does not show a sliver discernable by a judge running his hand down the face of the cant. If there is a solid piece remaining that can be cut, the cut must be finished to obtain a time.
- 1.4 Starting cuts are not required (HOT START).
- 1.5 Saw must cut completely through log and saw must not be used to pry the cut.
- 1.6 Cuts to be made within the area designated by the Judge.
- 1.7 Each contestant will be allowed one “wedge” (assistant) to oil the saw, put in wedges, etc.
- 1.8 The wedge must not touch the saw after the words “Contestant Ready” and can only drive wedge as is necessary and shall not touch or guide portion of the log that is being cut off.
- 1.9 The wedge must not be worked back and forth.
- 1.10 The free end of the single buck saw must be free of handle or weight.

#### **2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Centre line of the log to be approximately 24 inches off the ground.



2.2 For **Open** competitions, any manufactured or hand made saw may be used if there are no stipulations made by the show organizers.

2.3 Cutting areas should be free of knots.

### **3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 Try to get all the wood for the competition from the same tree.

3.2 Indicate on the entry form the wood species and size.

3.3 14 inches and larger diameter logs are to be used when possible.

### **4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 Wedger shall stand on the support side of the saw log.

4.2 All saws should be covered when carried at the show.

**EVENT NAME:       DOUBLE BUCKING (or Crosscut saw) and JACK & JILL**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word GO – STOPS when the cookie or disk leaves the cant.
- 1.2 Both contestants must not hold a rating higher than the division they are competing in.
- 1.3 The cookie or disk is deemed to be complete as long as it or the block on the stand does not show a sliver discernable by a judge running his hand down the face of the cant. If there is a solid piece remaining that can be cut, the cut must be finished to obtain a time.
- 1.4 Saw must cut completely through the log and saw must not be used to pry the cut.
- 1.5 If wood is not plentiful, cuts may need to be made within the area designated by the Judge.
- 1.6 If desired, each team will be allowed a “wedge” (assistant) to oil the saw, put in wedges, etc.
- 1.7 The wedger must not touch the saw after the words “Contestant Ready” and can only drive wedge as is necessary and shall not touch or guide portion of the log that is being cut off.
- 1.8 The wedge must not be worked back and forth.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Centre of the log should be approximately 24 inches off the ground.
- 2.2 Cutting areas should be free of knots.
- 2.3 The type of saws to be used must be stated on the entry form.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Try to get all the wood for the competition from the same tree.
- 3.2 Indicate on the entry form the wood species and size.

**4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Wedger shall stand on the support side of the saw log.
- 4.2 Saws should be covered when carried at the show.

**EVENT NAME:       BUCKSAWING       (or Bow Sawing/Swede sawing)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word GO – STOPS when the disk or cookie leaves the cant.
- 1.2 The saw may be resting on the top of the log at the start of the event.
- 1.3 No starting cuts or marks are to be used.
- 1.4 The saw blade should not exceed 48 inches in length.
- 1.5 The blade can be factory or handmade.
- 1.6 The saw frame must be of original factory manufacture 48 inches long.
- 1.7 The cookie or disk is deemed complete as long as it or the cant does not show a slab greater than 1 cm.
- 1.8 Saw must cut completely through the log and the saw must not be used to pry the cut.
- 1.9 If wood is short, cuts may need to be made within the area designated by Judge.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Log diameter should not exceed 10 inches.
- 2.2 The centre of the log should be approximately 24 inches off the ground.
- 2.3 Cutting areas should be free of knots.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Try to get all the wood for the competition from the same tree.
- 3.2 Indicate on the entry form the wood species and size.

**4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Saws should be covered when carried at the show.

**EVENT NAME:       HOT SAW (Modified saw or Open chainsaw)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and time STOPS (with the specified sequence of cookies or disks have been cut) when the last cookie or disk leaves the cant.
- ~~1.2~~ Contestant must make a specified number of complete cuts in the allotted cutting area. . Cutting area to be designated by a line drawn 6" from the face of the block around the blocks circumference. A DQ will result if there are any cuts made outside the designated area as defined by the circumference line.
- 1.3 A one-minute warm-up will be given prior to each event heat.
- 1.4 Cuts cannot be pried off.
- 1.5 Contestants will be given one minute to attempt to start a saw due to a mechanical failure after the word "GO". If the saw does not start within the minute, a DQ will result.
- 1.6 Approved LEG PROTECTION is MANDATORY in Hot Saw.
- 1.7 A line must be drawn by the head judge on top of the block. Both hands must be on the top of the block with all fingers across the line at the word "GO".
- 1.8 Maximum two competitors can run a hot saw during the hot saw event at a competition if they are preregistered and indicate they are sharing gear
- 1.9 Plexiglas™ or steel mesh safety screens must be used in front of each contestant.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Saw must be hand started (no Wind-up or Automatic starters).
- 2.2 In all chain saw events, one man saw, with one cylinder, max. 140 C.C. stock displacement, one carburetor. (Except the OPEN HOT SAW where multiple carburetors may be used.)
- 2.3 Any uncompressed fuel can be used in your own chain saw, except that Gasoline or WD-40 may be used for starting only.
- 2.4 Size of log to be cut must be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.5 Maximum C.C. of saw to be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.6 If a tuned exhaust is permitted it should be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.7 If the starting cord is detachable it must be tethered.
- 2.8 In the Modified saw (Hot Saw) event, a saw can be used by only two competitors. Two people to one saw.
- 2.9 Eye, ear and leg protection is required in all Chain Saw Events unless otherwise stated.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Recommended saw size categories are Max: 70cc or OPEN (Hot saw)
- 3.2 In all modified saw events, cut sequence shall always be THREE cuts – DOWN, UP, and DOWN.
- 3.3 State on the entry for which CHAIN SAW EVENT – CHAIN SAW SIZE – CATEGORY and WOOD SIZE will be offered at the show.
- 3.4 Saws running on alcohol will be permitted a 10-minute period for saws to be flushed immediately following the event.
- 3.5 Recommend 20-24” maximum measured from the ground/stage to the center of the log.

#### **4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Chain guards be in place when saws are being moved in and around competitor area.
- 4.2 Bucking logs be placed far enough apart, and away from the crowd, and/or safety guards should be used.

**EVENT NAME: STOCK SAW**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and time STOPS (once the specified sequence of cookies or disks have been cut) when the last cookie or disk leaves the cant.
- 1.2 Contestant must make a specified number of complete cuts in the allotted cutting area. Cutting area to be designated by a line drawn 4" from the face of the block around the blocks circumference. A DQ will result if there are any cuts made outside the designated area as defined by the circumference line.
- 1.3 A one-minute warm-up will be given prior to each event heat.
- 1.4 Cuts cannot be pried off.
- 1.5 Contestants will be given one minute to attempt to start a saw due to a mechanical failure after the word "GO". If the saw does not start within the minute, a DQ will result.
- 1.6 Approved LEG PROTECTION is MANDATORY in all chainsaw events.
- 1.7 Both hands must be on the top of the cant at the word "GO".
- 1.8 All covers must be in place when the saw enters the competition area and remain in place until cuts are complete. (Timing has stopped)
- 1.9 Plexiglass™ or steel mesh safety screens may be used in front of each contestant.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Saws for the stock saw shall be provided, and must be tached to identical RPM and both have new chains on prior to each event.
- 2.2 Size of log to be cut must be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.3 Rubber vibration mats provided by the MLA may be used under the stock saw to prevent vibration, if used mats provided by the MLA not the competitor. The competitor can use his own discretion to use the mat or not.
- 2.4 Eye, ear and leg protection is required

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 In the stock saw, cut sequence shall always be TWO cuts – DOWN and then UP.
- 3.2 Wood allowance shall be 4 inches, and the judging line shall be made only on the top of the cant.
- 3.3 State on the entry for which CHAIN SAW EVENT – CHAIN SAW SIZE – CATEGORY and WOOD SIZE will be offered at the show.

**4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Chain guards be in place when saws are being moved in and around competitor area.
- 4.2 Bucking logs be placed far enough apart, and away from the crowd, and/or safety guards should be used.

**EVENT NAME: STOCK APPEARING MODIFIED SAW**

**EVENT RULES**

- 1.10 The event starts on the word "GO" and time STOPS (with the specified sequence of cookies or disks have been cut) when the last cookie or disk leaves the cant.
- 1.11 Contestant must make a specified number of complete cuts in the allotted cutting area. . Cutting area to be designated by a line drawn 6" from the face of the block around the blocks circumference. A DQ will result if there are any cuts made outside the designated area as defined by the circumference line.
- 1.12 A one-minute warm-up will be given prior to each event heat.
- 1.13 Cuts cannot be pried off.
- 1.14 Contestants will be given one minute to attempt to start a saw due to a mechanical failure after the word "GO". If the saw does not start within the minute, a DQ will result.
- 1.15 Approved LEG PROTECTION is MANDATORY.
- 1.16 A line must be drawn by the head judge on top of the block. Both hands must be on the top of the block with all fingers across the line at the word "GO".
- 1.17 All covers must be in place when the saw enters the competition area and remain in place until cuts are complete. (Timing has stopped)
- 1.18 A 1/4" hole may be drilled in the cover to facilitate priming gasoline or WD-40.
- 1.19 Maximum two competitors can run a stock appearing saw during the event at a competition if they are preregistered and indicate they are sharing gear
- 1.20 Plexiglas™ or steel mesh safety screens must be used in front of each contestant.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.10 Saw must be hand started (no Wind-up or Automatic starters).
- 2.11 In all chain saw events, one man saw, with one cylinder, max. 140 C.C. stock displacement, one carburetor.
- 2.12 Any uncompressed fuel can be used in your own chain saw, except that Gasoline or WD-40 may be used for starting only.
- 2.13 Size of log to be cut must be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.14 Maximum C.C. of saw to be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.15 *DEFINITION OF STOCK APPEARING:*
  - 2.15.1 Saw must be standard factory built as a chain saw, with a stock appearing one (1) piece cylinder.
  - 2.15.2 All covers must be as original and completely in place.



- 2.15.3 Carburetor and internal modifications are allowed provided they are within the above rules, and are not visible outside the covers.
- 2.15.4 The cylinder and the head may NOT be externally modified.
- 2.15.5 Muffler screen may be removed, but must be stock appearing on the outside.
- 2.15.6 No outside assembly type filter systems allowed.
- 2.16 If a tuned exhaust is permitted it should be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.17 In the Stock Appearing saw event, a saw can be used by only two competitors. Two people to one saw.
- 2.18 Eye, ear and leg protection is required.

### **3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.6 Recommended saw size categories are Max: 70cc or OPEN (Hot saw)
- 3.7 In all modified saw events, cut sequence shall always be THREE cuts – DOWN, UP, and DOWN.
- 3.8 State on the entry for which CHAIN SAW EVENT – CHAIN SAW SIZE – CATEGORY and WOOD SIZE will be offered at the show.
- 3.9 Saws running on alcohol will be permitted a 10-minute period for saws to be flushed immediately following the event.

### **4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.3 Chain guards be in place when saws are being moved in and around competitor area.
- 4.4 Bucking logs be placed far enough apart, and away from the crowd, and/or safety guards should be used.

**EVENT NAME: CHAINSAW CARVING**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and end at a time limit of 10 minutes.
- 1.2 Contestant will be allowed any saw.
- 1.3 Carving to be cut out of a block which may be secured in an upright position.
- 1.4 Judges committee will decide the winner based on design, neatness, originality, etc.
- 1.5 A one minute time limit will be given to start a saw due to a mechanical failure after the word "GO". A DQ will result if the saw does not start within this time limit.
- 1.6 Approved LEG PROTECTION is MANDATORY in all chainsaw events and must be supplied by contestant.
- 1.7 A one minute warm-up will be given prior to the event.
- 1.8 Chainsaw carving may count towards points at the contest, but does not count towards point totals for overall MLA awards

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Block to be a minimum of 12 inches in diameter and 30 inches long.
- 2.2 Eye, ear and leg protection is required.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Species of log should be identified.
- 3.2 Stage the event close in front of the crowd with blocks equally disbursed.

**EVENT NAME            OBSTACLE POLE BUCKING (or Obstacle Pole)**

**1    EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS after completing all the given Obstacles and returning to and touching starting point with the hand.
- 1.2 A one-minute warm-up will be given prior to each heat.
- 1.3 Saw must be shut off at the start and on the ground with one hand on the starting line. The second hand is not to be in contact with the saw.
- 1.4 The starting line must be made so that it does not change as the event progresses (i.e. don't use the end of the cant being sawed that shortens during the event).
- 1.5 Contestant must touch one foot on the inclined pole below the lower given mark before they run up the pole.
- 1.6 The saw can only be started AFTER the contestant's foot crosses the upper line.
- 1.7 Two cuts must be made on both sides of the cant and must use BOTH sides of the bar, and result in one cookie/disc.
- 1.8 The saw must be shut off before crossing the top line continuing down the pole.
- 1.9 Contestant must run down pole and plant leading foot below (not touching) the lower line before getting off the pole.
- 1.10 Saw must be carried back to the FINISH line as the contestant returns to and touches the starting point with hand.
- 1.11 Caulk footwear may be worn.

**2    EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Saw must be hand started (no Wind-up or Automatic starters).
- 2.2 Where stock saws are not supplied, all chain saws must be one man saws, with one cylinder and a max. 75 C.C. stock displacement.
- 2.3 End of pole should be 4 ft. – 6 ft. off the ground.
- 2.4 Running distance on the ground for both poles as well as both sides of the pole shall be equal.

**3    SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the sawing end of the pole be a standard size in diameter.
- 3.2 The base of the pole should be anchored to the ground.

#### **4 SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Chain guards must be in place when saws are being moved in and around the competition area.
- 4.2 Eye and Ear protection and leg protection is recommended for this event but not mandatory.
- 4.3 Leg protection is recommended.

**EVENT NAME:        ACCURACY CUT    (or Grand Prairie Accuracy Cut)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and stops when contestant throws hand in the air.
- 1.2 The object of this event is for the contestant to demonstrate his skill with a chain saw by completing a series of cuts on a log.
- 1.3 Cut four discs which, when stacked on top of one another, will measure not less than 4” and not more than 6” in height.
- 1.4 Cut a notch in the log not less than 3” wide and not less than half the diameter of the log in depth.
- 1.5 Cut off a section of log not less than 18” long (the notch to be included in the section).
- 1.6 Cut a ledge on the remaining piece, using 2 cuts.
- 1.7 Stack the 4 discs and the 18” section on top of each other on the ledge. The 4 discs must be placed on the bottom of the stack.
- 1.8 The stack must stand. If it does, the time will be stopped and recorded. (3 sec)
- 1.9 No delays will be allowed due to mechanical failures of chain saws.
- 1.10 LEG PROTECTION is MANDATORY in all chain saw events unless otherwise stated.
- 1.11 A one minute warm-up will be given prior to each heat.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Species of log should be identified on entry form.
- 2.2 Stock Appearing chain saw to be supplied by the competitor.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 A PIECE OF PLYWOOD should be provided ON THE GROUND AND/OR A CHAIN BRAKE BE USED TO STOP CHAIN.
- 3.2 State the chain saw requirements on the entry form.

**4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Chain guards be in place when saws are being moved in and around the competition area.
- 4.2 Bucking logs should be placed far enough apart and away from the crowd and safety guards should be used.

# MLA AXE DIVISION EVENT DESCRIPTIONS and EVENT RULES

## AXE DIVISION EVENTS

All axe division events the tool cannot strike the wood until the word “GO”. Time stops once the bolt of wood has been completely severed. Wood not completely severed, or a jump off the start to gain a competitive advantage will result in disqualification. Contestants must make efforts to prevent slabbing – any intentional slabbing to gain an advantage over other contestants will result in disqualification.

### **EVENT NAME:        AXE THROWING (20 ft)**

#### **1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event STARTS when the area is cleared by the Judge.
- 1.2 The event STOPS after completing throws.
- 1.3 Contestant must take the one mandatory practice throw at the competitive target prior to their qualifying throws (typically 3 throws).
- 1.4 Event will be scored 5,4,3,2, and 1 from the bullseye out.
- 1.5 Competitor with the highest total of the qualifying throws wins.
- 1.6 Axe needs only to cut outer edge of line of scoring area to win points with any part of the leading edge. Axe may be backed out of the target to determine if the leading edge broke through the higher scoring ring.
- 1.7 Axe must stick in target to count.
- 1.8 The leading edge of the axe shall be the only scoring edge.
- 1.9 If both edges of axe stick in target, throw is disqualified.
- 1.10 Throwing axes must be double bitted, have four points and be reasonably symmetrical as per the judge’s discretion
- 1.11 Foot/feet may not cross the line until the axe hits the target, and the competitor may not proceed to the target to retrieve his/her axe until the judge has scored the throw.
- 1.12 Judging must be done and scored before axe is removed.
- 1.13 Practicing on competitive targets means automatic disqualification.
- 1.14 All axes must be pinned through the axe head and handle.
- 1.15 If preliminary axe throw occurs prior to the show, any and all ties must be thrown off prior to the show so as not to disadvantage other throwers who did not tie and do not have the opportunity to throw prior to the main event.

- 1.16 If a preliminary axe throw occurs prior to the show the top 5 male and top 5 female competitors will move on to the finals

## **2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Axe must have a 24 in. minimum overall length handle, including axe head, and the face of the leading edge shall not exceed 6 in.
- 2.2 Target 36 in. in diameter. (Approximately)
- 2.3 Centre of target 60 in. from the ground.
- 2.4 Bullseye should be 4 inches in size whenever possible.
- 2.5 5 scoring areas of minimum 2-4 inches in width.
- 2.6 Throwing line 20 ft from the ground directly below the target (can be determined by dropping a pebble from the bulls eye) to the throwing line.

## **3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Practice target should be provided.
- 3.2 Targets should set up on level ground.
- 3.3 Practice target should be open until preliminary axe throw opens.

## **4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Area behind targets should be kept clear.

## **5. The LOUIS BOURQUE BULLSEYE CHALLENGE:**

Currently, the highest number of consecutive bullseyes thrown by a competitor is 5. The L. Bourque Axe throw challenge is for a purse which will consist of minimum \$100. To be eligible to win the L. Bourque Bullseye Challenge a competitor must pay \$10 (one-time fee per season) prior to competing in the axe throw event. The total purse will be won by the person who throws more than 5 bullseyes in a row at a competition – including the preliminary axe throw, and does not count practice throws. Once the record has been broken, the pot will begin again with a minimum \$100 and grow until it is awarded to the person who next breaks the set record. If a competitor throws 3 consecutive bullseyes in the final, they may continue throwing in an attempt to challenge for the record of highest consecutive bullseyes.

**EVENT NAME            UNDERHAND CHOP            (or Horizontal Chop)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the LOG (Block) is completely severed by a blow of the axe while contestant is standing on the log (Block).
- 1.2 One turn must be made from side to side and the block must be chopped clean (no splinters connecting the two halves). Blocks must be completely severed with axe. A competitor cannot pull log with an axe, kick log with foot while on it, or chop log while standing on ground.
  - 1.2.1 After the final blow of the axe the competitor must step off the log and not touch the log until after the judge has inspected the block.
- 1.3 Any competitor SLABBING his/her block will be DISQUALIFIED, unless they have taken precautionary measures and used at least 3 slabbing nails a minimum of 3 inches in length driven completely into the block.
  - 1.3.1 This rule is void if competition organizers do not provided slabbing nails that meet the 3” requirement
- 1.4 A slab is defined as that portion of the log which is dislodged as a result of a blow of the axe.
- 1.5 Each competitor will be allowed to make marks on his log before starting, but will not be allowed to make axe marks or to strike the block inside the cutting area.
- 1.6 The only exception to striking the block with an axe prior to the event start is when making FOOTHOLDS. Footholds will be allowed using an axe or a chainsaw.
- 1.7 Any competitor cutting into a foothold will be DISQUALIFIED.
- 1.8 Logs (Blocks) may be secured at outside edge.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Underhand blocks may be round, or minimum 6 by 6 if squared.
- 2.2 All axes must be pinned through the axe head and handle.
- 2.3 Foot protection is required.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that chopping blocks be between 8” – 13” diameter or 6 by 6 squared or greater and be free of knots in the chopping area.
- 3.2 Larger diameter blocks may be used in team events.

**4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**



4.1 Cradles must be stable as not to tip over when Log (Block) is severed.

**EVENT NAME:           STANDING BLOCK CHOP (or Vertical Chop)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the block is completely severed.
- 1.2 Logs must be cut from both sides with only one change being made from side to side and must be chopped clean.
- 1.3 Any competitor SLABBING his/her block will be DISQUALIFIED, unless they have taken precautionary measures and used at least 3 slabbing nails a minimum of 3 inches in length driven completely into the block.
  - 1.3.1 This rule is void if competition organizers do not provided slabbing nails that meet the 3” requirement
- 1.4 A slab is defined as that portion of the log which is dislodged as a result of a blow of the axe. The first swing to a vertical block on each side MUST be an up swing.
- 1.5 Each competitor will be allowed to make marks on his log before starting, but will not be allowed to make axe marks or to strike the block inside the cutting area.
- 1.6 The only time an axe may strike a block prior to the event start will be to make DOGHOLDS if required for the block to fit a stanchion.
- 1.7 Any competitor who chops through any dog hold to gain a competitive advantage shall be disqualified.
- 1.8 Blocks must be completely severed with axe, not pushed off by hand or axe.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Blocks must be round, or 6 by 6 or greater.
- 2.2 All axes must be pinned through the axe head and handle.
- 2.3 Leg and foot protection is required.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that chopping blocks be 7” – 12” diameter, 6 by 6 for ladies or 8 by 8 for open and be free of knots in the chopping area.
- 3.2 Larger diameter blocks may be used in team events.
- 3.3 Recommend stand is 28” high (bottom of block).

**EVENT NAME            SPRINGBOARD CHOP            (Jigger Board)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the Block is severed.
- 1.2 Logs must be chopped from BOTH sides. If the block becomes dislodged prior to the block being severed, a DISQUALIFICATION will result.
- 1.3 Any competitor SLABBING his/her block will be DISQUALIFIED, unless they have taken precautionary measures and used at least 3 slabbing nails a minimum of 3 inches in length driven completely into the block.
  - 1.3.1 This rule is void if competition organizers do not provided slabbing nails that meet the 3” requirement
- 1.4 Each competitor will be allowed to make marks on his log before starting, but will not be allowed to make axe marks or to strike the block inside the cutting area.
- 1.5 The only time an axe may strike the chopping block prior to the start will be to cut DOGHOLDS if required for the block to fit the stanchion.
- 1.6 Blocks must be completely severed with axe, not pushed off by hand or axe.
- 1.7 Springboard holes must be cut in such a manner so that no benefit or competitive advantage is obtained from previously cut holes.
- 1.8 Trimming of sapwood or deeper is prohibited unless for special reasons and then ONLY after permission obtained by the Judge (Official). Tree may only be scraped clean, NOT slabbed clean.
- 1.9 Nails to secure pocket wood are not permitted, but at the discretion of the head judge, duct tape may be used to wrap the tree above or below the pockets.
- 1.10 Boards must be balanced without any hanging devices.
- 1.11 First strike into block on top board must be an up-hit

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 All axes must be pinned through the axe head and handle.
- 2.2 Two board springboard trees to be (8.5 - 9ft. high) from the ground.
- 2.3 One board springboard trees to be (6 ft. high) from the ground.
- 2.4 Leg and foot protection is required.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that chopping blocks be between 7" – 12" diameter and be free of knots in the chopping area.
- 3.2 Springboard tree top should be equal or bigger than the Chopping Block.

## **EVENT NAME: CHOPPING HARD HIT**

### **1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and STOPS when the block is completely severed.
- 1.2 The contestant who severs the block with the least number of blows in a 2-minute time limit is the winner.
- 1.3 In hard hit chopping events, the competitor must make the decision whether or not they can afford the time it takes to request the judge to rule on what they feels is a dangerous chip.
- 1.4 If the chip is ruled dangerous by the Judge the competitor must clear the chip with the back of their axe (not with their hand).
- 1.5 Both sides of the log must be chopped and must be chopped clean.
- 1.6 Any competitor SLABBING his/her block will be DISQUALIFIED, unless they have taken precautionary measures and used at least 3 slabbing nails a minimum of 3 inches in length driven completely into the block.
  - 1.6.1 This rule is void if competition organizers do not provided slabbing nails that meet the 3" requirement
- 1.7 Each competitor will be allowed to make marks on their log before starting, but will not be allowed to make axe marks or to strike the block inside the cutting area.
- 1.8 Any competitor cutting into a foothold in an Underhand Butcher block chop will be DISQUALIFIED.
- 1.9 Blocks must be completely severed with axe, not pushed off by hand or axe.

### **2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Championship blocks must be a minimum of 10".
- 2.2 All axes must be pinned through the axe head and handle.
- 2.3 Leg and foot protection is required.

### **3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that chopping blocks be between 10" – 14" diameter and be free of knots in the chopping area.

**EVENT NAME            LOG ROLLING            (or PV Log Rolling)**

**1    EVENT RULES**

- 1.1    The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the log hits square with end bumpers at completion of course.
- 1.2    If a ramp is a part of the course, the log must be rolled up the ramp with the peavey only.
- 1.3    No use of the hands on the log will be allowed.
- 1.4    The log must be rolled, and cannot be pushed or slid to gain a competitive advantage.

**2    EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1    If a ramp is used, the ramps should be a minimum of 10 feet in length, and cannot be built more than 4 ft. from the ground.
- 2.2    The top of the ramp area should be 4 ft. including log stop bumper.

**3    SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1    Stage event in show arena where crowd can see clearly.

**4    SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1    Spotter should be used to make sure log doesn't roll back on top of competitor.

## **EVENT NAME      KETTLE BOILING    (or Tea Boiling)**

### **1    EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and STOPS when the soapy water mixture boils above the top of the can and over the side.
- 1.2 Competitors may only use one axe to split their wood and build a fire, unless the axe breaks during the event.
- 1.3 Competitors will receive 5 matches to begin the event, and may only receive one additional match at a time until the fire is started.
- 1.4 No use of covers of any type are permitted on the top of the boiling kettle to act as a lid.
- 1.5 At the judge's discretion, a boiling can with an excessive lean will be straightened prior to the start of the event.

### **2    EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Cedar should be uniform, with minimal knots, and if not entirely dry, every effort must be made to make the wood as uniform as possible in terms of moisture content.
- 2.2 Matches to be used must be Eddy Red Bird strike anywhere matches ONLY.
- 2.3 Kettles for use can either be new, or used, but all kettles must be the same (i.e. both used and new kettles cannot be used in the same event)

### **3    SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Stage event where crowd can see clearly.

### **4    SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 First Aid or Emergency Medical Officers should be on site and prepared to administer first aid in the event of a cut during this event.
- 4.2 Competitors should use chain mail or leather gloves on the hand holding their block to be split.

**EVENT NAME            QUARTER SPLIT    (or BLOCK SPLIT)**

**1    EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the competitor signals to the timers that he or she has completed the event, or if they do not signal, when the axe is dropped.
- 1.2 Bolts must be separated completely.
- 1.3 Paint from the dot (and not overspray) must be visible on all pieces required.

**2    EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Wood should all be the same species for each event, and as uniform as possible.
- 2.2 Dots used in the quarter split should be a minimum of 2 inches in diameter.

**3    SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Event should be held on a relatively hard surface to assist in splitting.



**EVENT NAME        RUN, CUT and SPLIT**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” and STOPS when the last competitor signals to the timers that he or she has completed the event, or if they do not signal, when the axe is dropped.
- 1.2 The running competitor will start the event with one hand on the sawhorse.
- 1.3 Bolts must be separated completely.
- 1.4 Paint from the dot (and not overspray) must be visible on all pieces required.
- 1.5 Contestants must supply their own bucksaw, and either one or both contestants may use it to saw the bolt.
- 1.6 Only one competitor may split at a time. If the second splitter begins before the first is completed, a DISQUALIFICATION will result.

**3 EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 3.1 Wood must be the same species and the same length and approximate diameter to ensure fairness.
- 3.2 Show will provide the sawhorses required to hold the bolt while it is being sawn.
- 3.3 Any size or type of axe will be permitted for splitting, and an axe may be shared between two team members

**4 SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.2 Stage event in competition area where crowd can see clearly.

**5 SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 Steel toed shoes are recommended for amateur competitors.

**EVENT NAME:        BIRLING        (or Log Rolling)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 10.1 Both birlers on log holding steadying poles. Log to be pushed well clear of pool edge.
- 10.2 JUDGE call “Steady the log” when both birlers are set. The Judge then calls “Throw your poles”. When both birlers have dropped poles and have their balance the Judge calls “Time in”.
- 10.3 Contest to stop and be restarted at time remaining if log nears obstacle or pond sides.
- 10.4 The first birler losing contact with the log with both feet or stepping over the foul line is the loser.
- 10.5 Deliberate splashing of water before TIME IN is called will result in loss of fall to the guilty contestant.
- 10.6 Contestant will draw for order of appearance.
- 10.7 In as much as this is a bracketed event; there will be some “byes”.
- 10.8 The loser of any fall shall have the choice of end of log for the next fall.
- 10.9 The TOTAL “time in” on log, including all falls, shall be used in the determination of when to move to a smaller log.
- 10.10 If both contestants and Judge agree they may move to a smaller log, but may not move up to a larger log once the time limit is used up.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Log to be lathe turned cedar, 12 or 13 feet in length with a 4 inch red band painted in the middle
- 2.1 A four inch blue band shall be painted on each side of the red band as well as on each end of the log.
- 2.2 # 1 LOG: Seventeen inch diameter to be used for Amateur competitions and is optional for the **Open** division. 2-minute time limit.
- 2.3 # 2 LOG: Fifteen inch, this can be the starting or second log for open competition. 2-minute time limit.
- 2.4 # 3 LOG: Thirteen and one half inch diameter. 3-minute time limit.
- 2.5 # 4 LOG: Twelve-inch diameter (if needed). NO TIME LIMIT TO THE FINISH.
- 2.6 During the main show, the contestant must be attired in shirts and staged pants, (in ALL DIVISIONS) cut approximately halfway between knee and ankle. During morning eliminations, shorts may be worn.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Championship birling logs must be in near new condition.
- 3.2 It is recommended that all new logs be 13 feet.
- 3.3 Draw for random positions on the bracket sheet. (Canadian Championships) A modified bracket sheet to allow for a Double Knockout system can be used.
- 3.4 If birlers cannot agree on log ends for the first match a coin toss can be used.
- 3.5 Each contestant to have a maximum of 60 seconds warm up time on the first log.
- 3.6 Each contestant to have a maximum of 30 seconds warm up time on the second log.

#### **4. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Try to avoid having knots in the main running area of the log.
- 4.2 Remove knots as they appear and soften with an axe.
- 4.3 Try to have a clean non-abrasive area for birlers to walk.

## **EVENT NAME: POLE CLIMBING (or Speed Climb)**

### **1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The competitor must have at least one foot on the crash pad at the word "GO"
- 1.2 Upon start, the competitor must climb until he/she rings the bell with his/her hand.
- 1.3 Timing ends when the bell is rung by the competitor's hand.
- 1.4 Crash pads must be provided at the base of the tree.
- 1.5 Pads must be filled with foam rubber, bales of hay or straw or similar material, minimum 2 ft deep, overall minimum size 8 ft<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.6 Competitors must make a controlled descent of the pole and not rely solely on the belay system.

### **2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 A belay system should be provided and used wherever possible.
- 2.2 Climbing rope should be at least 1 inch-7/8 inch in diameter with steel core.
- 2.3 Any high top, 5 in. (excluding tongue) manufactured footwear of climber's own choice. The measurement will be from bottom of the heel to top of boot at the back of the leg. Where footwear does not reach a 5 in. to top the competitor must wear lace up ankle braces on their ankles.
- 2.1 Gloves, Spur Shincup, Spur Gaff, and Climbing Belt, may be of the climber's own design.
- 2.2 TROMBONE or TOE SPURS are allowed in the **Open** Division. (Trombone spur must be equipped with a stop to prevent shank from separating).
- 2.3 **Amateur** division must use the traditional standard shaped shank no wider than 2 inches. Reinforcement will be allowed along the length of the shank.

### **3. SHOW CENTRE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 A Belay system with safety rated climber's rope should be provided whenever possible.

### **4. SAFETY**

- 4.1 Top of trees shall be equipped with guy wires or device to prevent climber's rope from going over the top of the tree.
- 4.2 The spur must be of safe design
- 4.3 Trees to be free of staples, nails and foreign objects.
- 4.4 Guy lines – trees should be installed in such a manner that they are supported by two methods: the first from the base of the tree (e.g. placed in an appropriate socket system and one the second from the top of the tree (e.g. appropriate guidelines).

- 4.5 Condition of trees – Tree condition should be monitored/inspected in its entirety annually at a minimum. As the trees age, these inspections must be closely scrutinized to ensure that the trees remain in a sound condition.
- 4.6 Life span of climbing tree – Generally, the expected life span for a climbing tree is 10 years.
- 4.7 Maximum taper for climbing trees of 1” per 10 climbing feet.

**EVENT NAME: FELLING (or Tree Falling)**

**1. EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word "GO" and STOPS when the pole (tree) touches the ground.
- 1.2 One man per pole only.
- 1.3 Poles that hit the peg will be considered first in determining placings.
- 1.4 Poles (trees) that roll onto the peg do not count as a direct hit.
- 1.5 The poles should be of the same length and the pegs a common distance from bottom of the pole.
- 1.6 Each competitor will be allowed to make marks on his pole and tree before starting.

**2. EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Any axe may be used by the competitor.
- 2.2 Size of log to be cut must be specified on the entry forms.
- 2.3 If an axe is used, foot and leg protection is required.

**3. SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 When there are more contestants than positions, then a draw for those positions should be held.

**EVENT NAME            CHOKERMANS RACE            (or Choker Race)**

**1    EVENT RULES**

- 1.1 The event starts on the word “GO” from a given position or line.
- 1.2 The event time STOPS after returning to the starting point.
- 1.3 Contestant must race from the starting point with supplied new or near new chokers.
- 1.4 Competitors run over designated course, set choker on log and return over the course to the starting point.
- 1.5 Caulk footwear may be worn. (**Exception** Competitors are not required to where caulked footwear if they are not required to cross a water obstacle).
- 1.6 Judge shall pull free end of choker, if it comes undone contestant will be disqualified.

**2    EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2.1 Size of chokers and the arrangement of the course and obstacles will be the option of the Show Centre.
- 2.2 Chokers should be the same weight, length and size per event.

**3    SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 When running two or more contestants at once make the choker race courses the same in length and obstacle.
- 3.2 Try to use chokers that have Knobs on both ends for left and right hand carrying.

**4    SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Keep the course clear of unrelated equipment.

## **MLA DIVISIONS AND ADVANCEMENT**

To promote lumberjack sports within the Maritimes, the MLA will designate four divisions for competition, an Open (Professional) Division, a Women's Division, an Amateur Division and a Masters Division. Contestants may enter only one division per event at any contest.

All MLA Sanctioned competitions must have an Open (Professional) and Women's division. Masters and Amateur/Local divisions are optional at the discretion of the competition organizer.

### **OPEN Division Criteria**

- 1) The Open (Professional) Division can include any/all events and is open to all competitors.

### **MEN'S Division Criteria**

- 1) The Men's Division can include any/all events and is open to male competitors only.

### **WOMEN'S Division Criteria**

- 1) The Women's Division shall include Underhand Chop, Stock Chain saw, Axe Throw and either Bow Saw or Single Buck Saw and is open to female competitors.
- 2) There shall be separate prize money and overall award for the Women's Division.

### **AMATEUR Division Criteria**

- 1) If desired, a local show may hold a "local contestant" division, open to residents of the local area. This event is not necessarily an AMATEUR division event, but may be considered so if the show organizers so wish.
- 2) If the AMATEUR wins 1<sup>st</sup>, his/her new rating, effective immediately, shall be OPEN.
- 3) Once you move out of an AMATEUR event, you may not enter this division again.
- 4) Persons without a rating record shall be rated to a category by members of the Executive of the MLA that are at the contest. Competitors who have yet to win an open event may enter Amateur for this event. Ratings shall be determined at the spring meeting of the MLA each calendar year.
- 5) The MLA shall have the power to classify or re-classify any contestant in the interest of fairness to all contestants.

### **MASTERS Division Criteria**

- 1) The Masters Division shall include Standing Block Chop, Underhand Chop and Bucksaw.
- 2) To be eligible to compete in the Masters Division, the competitor must turn 55 within the competition year.
- 3) There shall be separate prize money and overall award for the Masters Division.



## SHOW RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Entry forms should be mailed out with adequate time for competitor to mail back to the show, or made available through online registration.
- 2) Where there are a limited number of entries accepted for a particular event at a contest, the event organizers can use a first-come, first-served method of determining who competes.
- 3) Deadlines on show application forms will be enforced.
- 4) The competing area and a competitor's area must be roped or fenced off from the general public.
- 5) There should be an Emergency Medical Technician with vehicle in attendance.
- 6) A whistle or microphone can be used by the head judge to clear the field before an events starts.
- 7) Chopping events should have a 3-minute time limit, except the Springboard Chop that shall have a 5 minute time limit.
- 8) 3" nails (minimum) be available for competitors to use for slabbing rules.
- 9) Recommended minimum dimension stand placement as follows:
  - Standing Block Event – 4 meters apart
  - Underhand Event – 3 meters apart, angle 45°
  - Springboard Event – 4 meters apart
- 10) Wood for each final and/or heat in handicap events should be taken from the same tree.
- 11) Bucking stands should be offset or angled so competitors are not directly in line with the next person.
- 12) Shows should include a handicap event.

## MLA ANNUAL AWARDS AND CRITERIA

1. Overall Axe Division Men's Champion: Will be determined by totaling all axe division event points that MLA members in good standing have accrued during the series at every MLA affiliated show they attended for the year in question.
2. Overall Saw Division Men's Champion: Will be determined by totaling all saw division event points (except chainsaw carving) that MLA members in good standing have accrued during the series at every MLA affiliated show they attended for the year in question.
3. Overall Women's Division Champion: Will be determined by totaling all event points from eligible events (*per "Women's Division Criteria" section*) that MLA members in good standing have accrued during the series at every MLA affiliated show they attended for the year in question.
4. Best Show of the Year: Will be determined by popular vote of all MLA members in good standing and awarded to the show in the Maritimes that receives the most votes. Shows must be open to all

MLA competitors to compete, and competitors must have been notified prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> of the show, and the time, place and events to be offered.

5. Most Improved Lumberjack: Will be determined by popular vote of all MLA members in good standing. All current members in good standing that have competed in at least one show for the year in question will qualify.

6. Most Sportsmanlike Competitor of the year: Will be determined by popular vote of all MLA members in good standing. All current members in good standing that have competed in at least one show for the year in question will qualify.

7. The prize payouts for the men in both the overall axe division and overall saw division will be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$75, 4<sup>th</sup> \$50, and 5<sup>th</sup> \$25

8. The prize payouts for the women's division overall will be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$75, 4<sup>th</sup> \$50, and 5<sup>th</sup> \$25

## MLA HALL OF FAME

A Maritime Lumberjack Hall of Fame will be designated to provide recognition to previous or current A Maritime Lumberjack Hall of Fame will be designated to provide recognition to previous or current lumberjack competitors or organizers who have excelled at the sport, or other individuals who have made significant contributions towards the promotion and support of lumberjack sports in the northeast. The Hall of Fame will be located at the Central New Brunswick Woodsmen's Museum to prominently display an autobiography of each inductee.

### Criteria

- 1) Must have been a competitor at or an organizer of lumberjack shows or competition in the Maritimes;
- 2) Must have made significant contributions to and promotions of lumberjacking in the region;
- 3) Must be or have been outstanding in one or more lumberjack events and the exhibition of the skill of using an axe or saw;
- 4) Must have exhibited true sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct while active at lumberjack sports;
- 5) Nominees will be graded according to where they are a major **"Builder"** or **"Competitor"** of the sport

### Process:

- Fill out and submit the "Hall of Fame Nomination Application Form" (Appendix A) and submit to the MLA president prior to the spring annual general meeting on even years. Applications will be accepted every 2 years starting on even years. Deadline by Spring meeting of that year. (Deadline Spring meeting 2018,2020,2022 etc.)
- During Spring AGM a Hall of fame committee will be elected by the membership to review the applicant or applicants if multiple. Committee membership to be comprised of the following:
  - President of the MLA

- Current member in good standing
  - Long standing organizer of a lumberjacking competition
  - A past hall of fame inductee
  - A knowledgeable person selected by the above-mentioned panel
- The HOF committee will review the applicant and approve or disqualify the application. If disqualification occurs reasons will be submitted back to the submitter of the application.
- Any member of the public may submit an application for induction into the MLA Hall of Fame and accompany the application with as much information on the suggested inductee as possible;
- If approved the nominee will be inducted into the hall of fame at the Fall AGM and awards banquet.

**Note:** The hall of fame recognizes people who have been considered by their peers to be an exemplar candidate representing the sport of lumberjacking in the maritime provinces. This is considered the top honor that the association can give and thus not everyone who is nominated and affiliated with lumberjack sports is deserving of this top honor. Therefore, these rules have been put in place not to chastise nominees who are rejected but to further hold the inductees to an elite level of honor.

Appendix A.



## Hall Of Fame Application form

Category:        Builder (organizer, etc.)        Competitor

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Years Active in Lumberjack Sports: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Active From : \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

Hometown: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

(To be considered for the Maritime Lumberjack Association Hall of Fame nominees must have contributed significantly to the promotion and development of the sport in the Maritimes, or for competitors, the applicant must show strong evidence of how the athlete excelled to a level above and beyond his contemporaries to merit Hall of Fame

status. Please use the space provided to record all pertinent information for the HOF Committee to consider:

Total Number of years involved: \_\_\_\_\_

Significant contributions:

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\_\_\_\_\_ (append additional pages if required)

Constitution and bylaws for the original New Brunswick Lumberjack Association (NBLA) were drafted in 1990. These were subsequently amended to form the Northeast Lumberjack Association (NLA) on July 10, 2002. The constitution and bylaws were again amended on November 27, 2010 to form and govern the Maritime Lumberjack Association (MLA) which was formed in 2006 and operated without a constitution revision until 2010. These were further amended on May 1, 2016 to included changes voted on by the MLA membership at the bi-annual meetings in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014,2015, and spring 2016. Further changes made and voted on at 2018 Spring meeting.