



Queensland Ag Shows

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COMPETITION REGULATIONS Queensland Chainsaw Racing Rules

(For the conduct of competitions at Queensland Ag Shows affiliated Agricultural Shows)

Subject to the Rules, By-Laws and Regulations of the Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Society's Inc. (Queensland Ag Shows) and the Society/Association relevant to this schedule, the following Regulations shall apply.

Where there is a conflict between these regulations and the regulations and rules of the local Agricultural Society, the rules of the Affiliated Agricultural Society prevail.

1 GENERAL REGULATIONS AND ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRIES

- 1.1. All rules set down by the organisers must be adhered to.
- 1.2. The decision of the Judge and the Chief Steward is final.
- 1.3. All competitors who are **operating a chainsaw** at an event must hold a minimum of a Chainsaw Level 1 accreditation and should a competitor be aged between 16 and 18 years at the time of the competition they will need to be assessed by a reputable and properly qualified independent party. Only if the independent party confirms the said individual meets their level of knowledge and skill to participate, will they be allowed to compete. (Competitors under the age of 16 are not allowed to compete)
- 1.4. If a competitor who is operating a chainsaw doesn't hold a Chainsaw Level 1 Accreditation, they will be permitted to compete at a maximum of two shows under the supervision of an experienced accredited ticket holder. After the two shows, if a competitor wishes to continue racing, they must complete their Chainsaw Level 1 Accreditation with an accredited provider.
- 1.5. ALL Competitors must always wear Australian Standard PPE Safety gear while competing. including but not limited to, Helmet & muffs (or ear plugs), eye protection, leg protection and steel cap boots.
- 1.6. No loose-fitting clothing to be worn.
- 1.7. All hammers, axes and blockbusters to be pinned with 1/8 – 1/4 inch pin, and handles are to be in good condition. Fibreglass handles are allowed without pinning. Wedges are to be in good condition.
- 1.8. Judges /Stewards have the authority to check equipment and saws at any time. This may include removal of the front muffler cover, pipe and top plastics. If saws are found to be out of specification for a class, disqualification from the event will occur.
- 1.9. Chain brake system must be operational if the saw is manufactured with one and you are competing in any production saw events. The only exception being the Production Hot Saw class.

- 1.10. There must be no loose handles or broken components on the chainsaw and saws must have complete sprocket covers.
- 1.11. Bar covers must be fitted when the saw is not in use.
- 1.12. Competitors must not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 1.13. Any competitor who is running a fuel mix, which is outside standard pump fuel, must notify officials prior to racing.
- 1.14. Officials and Competitors only in the cutting area while racing in heats and finals.
- 1.15. NO drop starts. This will result in instant disqualification. Chainsaw must be placed on the ground or between the knees for support when starting.
- 1.16. Operator needs to be in complete control of chainsaw. When the saw is fully operational, a hand on each handle is always required.
- 1.17. Left-handed operators are allowed to run their saw left side to allow safe and comfortable use of the saw.
- 1.18. Bad sportsmanship and/or bad language will not be tolerated. Judges have the discretion to instantly disqualify a competitor should they display bad conduct. Continuing bad sportsmanship could lead to a prolonged ban from the sport.
- 1.19. Following each heat/race, results will be announced so competitors have the opportunity to protest the result prior to the commencement of the next heat/race. All protests must be lodged by the competitor concerned accompanied by a protest fee of \$50.
- 1.20. If a protest is successful the \$50 will be returned to the competitor who protested, if its unsuccessful the \$50 should be paid to the Show Society with an explanation why it failed. The Protest will be assessed and determined by the Judges on the day.
- 1.21. Judging decisions will be made off the official cameras on the day. No other footage, unless called upon by the judges, will be considered.
- 1.22. (Optional) Cutters will be required to nominate the saws they will be using in the Modified Production and Unlimited Production Classes (including the post rip events). These saws will be tagged by officials. In the event of a mechanical failure of the nominated saw, the competitor is to see the officials to nominate another saw for them to use.

2 - Speed Events

- 2.1. All cutters are responsible for ensuring they are happy with their block, and is mounted securely in the stand, that they have a complete line marked around their block and that the block is square.
- 2.2. Qualifying competitors must use the same saw (powerhead) in subsequent semis or finals that they originally qualified with. In case of saw breakdown or malfunction, a competitor should immediately notify the judges/stewards. In this instance a competitor will be given 3 minutes to repair the saw. If the saw is not repairable within the time frame, a cutter can use a backup saw, as long as that saw hasn't raced in that event or wasn't planned to be raced in that event. One saw per cutter per event. Following the three minutes, the starting procedure will re-commence.
- 2.3. There will be a 2-minute call up before each event. Once competitors are at their blocks the starter will announce each competitor in the race. Competitors will then be given up to 1 minutes to warm their saws and stand to their blocks so the race can be commenced. Competitors will know the race is about to commence as the starter will walk down the line of competitors and commence marking them off.

- 2.4. The distance of 4 inches will be marked with a pen or chalk on the end of each block. Three (3) full disks must be cut from the end of the block. After the 3 full discs have been cut, the line must still be visible on the block all the way around the block and unbroken. Splinters and/or feathers of timber will not be folded back to determine if a line is complete. The line must be clearly visible without having to do this.
- 2.5. The first cut of the saw must enter the timber via a pierce cut into the top half of the block, BUT NOT THROUGH the top of the block. The disc **must** hang when the first down cut is completed and the disc is cut off on the up cut, unless there is a fault in the wood or the disc breaks away. If the first disc breaks away, all timber must be cut in the up cut. The second cut is a down cut and the third and final cut is an up cut. If all timber isn't cut, it will not be considered a full disc. If a disc is not completely cut off, the competitor must complete that cut from the direction that the cut is originally started from.
- 2.6. The specific Ladies speed races will not require a pierce cut. They will cut three (3) discs, with two down cuts and an up cut in this order. If an event has specific Ladies speed races on the program and the competitor chooses to race in the Open races on the day, they will not be eligible to compete in the specific Ladies races as well. Where there isn't specific Ladies races, the Ladies are able to compete in the Open competition.
- 2.7. Veteran events are for competitors over the age of 55 years. (must turn 55 during the year of competition).
- 2.8. All competitors must face the same designated direction.
- 2.9. The competitor's top hand should have thumb wrapped firmly around the handlebar for the pierce cut. (Kickback control)

3 - Fence Post Cutting

- 3.1. A Novice cutter is a cutter who has won less than 3 Novice Post rips. If the program has a specific Novice Post Rip event, that race will be a 100cc race.
- 3.2. If a Novice cutter chooses to compete in the Open Post Rip event on the day, they will not be eligible to compete in the Novice Race as well.
- 3.3. Novice competitors must be deemed competent and safe by the event organising committee before being allowed to start in the arena.
- 3.4. A spare saw can be warmed up but switched off prior to the start of the race. A second saw can be supplied to a competitor but once the race has commenced, it must not be started by anyone other than the competitor.
- 3.5. Competitors must wedge away from the crowd where possible. If in doubt, discuss with judges prior to racing.
- 3.6. The cutter must also draw a ring on the end of the billet at an allocated depth (as advised by the officials) for wedging. This wedge line must be drawn in lumber crayon, not chalk. Officials must check the crayon line is at the correct depth prior to the commencement of the race.
- 3.7. At the completion of the race, all posts must have crayon clearly visible on the end of each post at the wedged end. This line will have been checked prior to racing not after. Hence if you have a post that doesn't have crayon on it, the post will not be measured to check for correct depth, it will be deemed illegal, and disqualification will occur.
- 3.8. If cutters have any queries regarding the depth of wedging, defects in the timber, flares etc, ensure you check with the officials before the commencement of the race.
- 3.9. Billet supports or chocks are allowed to stabilise the billet before and during the race.
- 3.10. Wedges must not enter the billet before the start of the event.

- 3.11. Once the billets have been allocated to the competitor, cutters may commence marking the billet. Chalk lines can be drawn along the billet to assist the cutter.
- 3.12. The event will be called by the announcer/starter. Cutters are to be at their blocks within the two (2) minute call up time and during this time can warm up their saws. Cutters will then be asked to turn off their saws so they can be individually announced. Cutters will then be asked to start their saws and they will be given no more than one (1) minute to be ready for the starters signal.
- 3.13. The post cutting events are hot starts, saws running and on the ground before the start with throttle lock off. Failure to do this will result in disqualification. At start, competitor is to have one knee on the ground, with one hand on the saw and one hand raised. The official will start by acknowledging each cutter is ready to commence and then the flag will be dropped.
- 3.14. The chain break is to be engaged at all times when the saw is not in the operators' hands, if it isn't turned off. In the case of a saw that wasn't manufactured with a chain break (i.e. Stihl 090) the saw must be turned off when not in the operators hands.
- 3.15. After sawing is complete, wedges are hit with the sledgehammer or other approved equipment to free the posts from the billet heart.
- 3.16. All posts must be wedged which means all wedges must be entered. If a post falls free from the billet above the wedge line, a wedge must still be entered into the heartwood below the line. If a post falls free below the line, a wedge must still be entered whether in the post or in the heartwood.
- 3.17. If a V post is cut above the chalk line on the wedged end, it will be deemed an illegal post and be disqualified. If the post is V'd below the chalk line, it will be a legal post, but the post must be wedged.
- 3.18. When there is no visible distinct heart, heartwood must be cleared one foot from the wedged end on One (1) post that has distinct heartwood attached. Posts must be free from each other and free from the heartwood with no connecting splinters. Disqualification will result if there is no visible heart and posts are still joined to heart or other posts.
- 3.19. Competitors signal they have finished racing by raising both hands above their shoulders. A Competitor must not walk through their posts or touch or move any part of their billet after they have thrown their hands and prior to judging by officials.
- 3.20. Posts are to be a minimum of 5 inches across the back. If a legally cut post runs out to a slab whilst wedging, the post is classed as legal.
- 3.21. All posts must be wedged unless exempted by the officials i.e., in the case of an event which requires only rip and bust.

4 - Team Post Rips & Jack & Jill Events

Rules as set out for Fence Post Cutting above apply with the addition of the following:

- 4.1. One saw is to be used per team, with one designated operator.
- 4.2. Team members may help to roll the billet, but they can't place their hands on the timber while the saw is operational in the wood.
- 4.3. Wedging of the billet must not commence whilst sawing is in progress. Wedging commences when the saw is on the ground and chain brake is on for a one billet race, or when ripping of another billet commences (in a race with 2 or more billets per team). Whilst wedging is in operation, the other team member cannot assist.

- 4.4. Barring out of posts commences when the hammer is on the ground or when hammering commences on another billet (in a race with 2 or more billets per team). Both team members can help with the barring out of posts.
- 4.5. The first team member to raise both hands above their shoulders will signify the end of the race.
- 4.6. If the other team member is still working on the billet after this time, the team will be disqualified.
- 4.7. If there are two or more billets in the race, the wedging of the 2nd billet can be commenced by the saw operator if the other team member hasn't finished barring the posts of the preceding billet.
- 4.8. Traditionally in a Jack and Jill post rip the Man will undertake the sawing, and the Lady will undertake the wedging. It is up to the discretion of the individual event if they wish to vary this, however it must be clearly stated on the program if this variation is to occur.

5 - Vertical Disc Stacking

- 5.1. The cutter has One (1) minute to cut as many discs as they can off the top of the block. This time may vary depending on the size of the blocks and timber available.
- 5.2. Each disc must be cut through cleanly and must be a complete disc. NO back cutting is allowed to separate joined discs.
- 5.3. Every disc must remain on the stack to be counted. Discs on the ground will not be counted.
- 5.4. Competitors will be disqualified if they touch or support the stack with their hand, body or any part of the saw, except the bar and chain.
- 5.5. Knees are allowed to touch the ground for support and balance.
- 5.6. As soon as the allotted time is up, the competitor is to stop cutting immediately and stand back from their block to allow for judging.
- 5.7. A Timekeeper will count down to stop and each competitor. A person will signal the competitor to stop by tapping them lightly on the shoulder.
- 5.8. If two (2) competitors cut the same number of discs, the last cut in the timber will be measured. The block will also be measured and the person with the most timber (measured from the lowest point of the last cut) will win.
- 5.9. Left hand cutters are allowed to turn their saw to allow safe and comfortable operation.

6 – Cold Start Open and Production Hot Saw

- 6.1. An Open or Production Hotsaw may be configured as set out in clause 7 - Definition of Saw Classes of these regulations.
- 6.2. Prior to the commencement of any Hotsaw Event, all Hotsaws intended to be used in that event may be required to be presented for inspection by the Steward, or his delegate.
- 6.3. An Open Hotsaw may only be used in an Event if, following the inspection provided for in Rule 2, permission has been granted by the Steward or his delegate. The Steward must not grant that permission unless he has been advised, in writing, by a suitable technically experienced person. Nonetheless, the decision whether or not to grant permission is wholly at the discretion of the Steward (or his delegate, as appropriate) and must not be called into question by a Competitor.
- 6.4. No person may make any modification of any kind or description to an Open Hotsaw after inspection as provided in Rule 2 unless directed to do so by the Steward or his delegate.

- 6.5. At all times when carrying, testing or operating an Open or Production Hotsaw, a Competitor must be wearing safety protection equipment that is appropriate in the circumstances, including at least eye and ear protection and chaps or long pants that are cut proof and steel cap boots.
- 6.6. The Steward (or his delegate) may direct that a Competitor comply with any requirement which the Steward, or his delegate, considers is desirable in the interests of safety.
- 6.7. The Hotsaw may only be started and operated in the area designated for that purpose by the Committee, which area must include safety screens of no less than 600 x 1500 positioned in such a way as to protect persons in the area from impact of shavings thrown during operation of the Hotsaw.
- 6.8. At all times when a Hotsaw is operating, it must be held and must be pointing in a manner and direction that is safe for all Competitors and other persons in the vicinity.
- 6.9. In a Hotsaw Event, the block must be marked with a line drawn around the entire block, approximately 6 inches (15cm) from the end of the block. If during the conduct of the Event the line is severed or the Competitor cuts on the other side of the line, the Competitor is disqualified.
- 6.10. For the start, a starter cord tether must be used where the Open Hotsaw has a detachable starter cord. If a second starter cord is required, a tether is not required, but the second starter cord must remain within the area defined by the safety screens, failing which the Competitor is disqualified.
- 6.11. A Competitor must supply his own starter cord tether, or the organisers of the event can supply one to be used if they wish.
- 6.12. Prior to commencement of the warmup for the event, all persons, other than the Competitor, must vacate the area in which the event will take place, and must stay in such position as may have been nominated by the Committee for that purpose.
- 6.13. A period of 60 seconds will be allowed for warming up a Hotsaw. This will be announced as follows: "Timers ready, Competitors ready, 60 seconds to warm up starts now". The announcer will advise when there is 30 seconds remaining and at the completion of the full 60 seconds, the announcer will tell the cutters to shut down the saws.
- 6.14. The Hotsaw must be shut off, placed on the ground, and the Competitor's hands must be resting on the top of the block. The announcer will say: "Hands on the block, get set 3 2 1". The gun will be fired, or other signal to start given, at which point the timer starts.
- 6.15. Until such time as the starter's gun is fired (or other signal to start is given) the Competitor's hands must be placed in such a way so that the Competitor's fingers (not the thumb) of each hand break the plane of a line drawn longitudinally down the centre of the block. If the competitor moves their hands from the block, prior to the starters gun or other signal, they will be disqualified.
- 6.16. The Competitor must make 3 complete cuts of the block: first cut down, second cut up, third cut down. If a disk is not complete, the Competitor may make a fourth cut, either up or down. If there are not 3 complete disks, the Competitor is disqualified. The timer stops when the last disk is completely severed.
- 6.17. Rules 1 to 17 are binding in respect of all Cold Start Open & Production Hotsaw Events and Competitions and no Show Society or Local Association, seeking to conduct, or in fact conducting a Cold Start Open or Production Hotsaw Event or Competition may make any rule, or adopt any practice or procedure, that is inconsistent with those Rules. However, this does not prevent any such Show Society or Local Association from adopting any rule in respect of a Cold Start Open or Production Hotsaw Competition that is not inconsistent with those Rules and which enhances safety.

7 - Definition of Saw Classes

Supplied Production Saw (Stock Saw)

- Standard saw supplied by a dealer.

Modified Production Saw (This class of saw is to be used for the Production (visually standard) Speeds, Post rips and Vertical Disc Stacking (Unless the program specially states otherwise)

- As this is a Production Saw class, the pot, piston and crankshaft must come from a production saw of the relevant CC class.
- Standard muffler which may be modified.
- 50% plus of the front plate must be on the muffler.
- All external covers must be fitted to the saw as purchased. There should be no aftermarket modifications to the covers.
- No modified external fittings to be used.
- Sprocket covers must be intact at all times.
- Log spikes may be removed for racing.
- A fully functioning chain brake is to be used on every saw that was manufactured with one.
- Internal modifications are allowed as long as the saw isn't over the CC rating for the particular class.

Unlimited Production Saw (This class of saw is to be used for the Unlimited Speed events)

- Same as Modified Production saw with external modifications allowed i.e., pipes, air filters, modifications to plastics etc.
- NO TWO-PIECE HEADS OR EXTERNAL BOOST PORTS or full circle cranks ARE ALLOWED IN THE PRODUCTION SAW CLASSES

Production Hot Saw

- Same as Unlimited Production Saw above however additional modification are allowed including:
- 2-piece heads, boost ports, and other external modifications allowed.

Open Hot Saw

An Open Hot Saw may be configured in such a manner as the competitor chooses but

- Must only have 1 cylinder (or rotor).
- There must be no alteration to the chain side strap
- Must have an internal combustion engine
- May be started with help and an external power source.
- Must be carried to the block and operated by one (1) person only, another person may assist to start the saw. This is not applicable in a Cold Start race

090 Chainsaws

These saws were manufactured without a working Chain break. These saws are to be switched off when they are not in use (in completion of the speed race or post rip) and placed on the ground.