



HOT ROD

Hot Rod

General Class Information

- Runs on a 10.90 index (or 7.00 for 1/8-mile tracks).
- Heads-up start with a .500 pro tree
- Reserved for full-bodied cars with:
 - Full fenders, hood, grille, roof, windshield, and functional doors.
- Allowed vehicles: Sports cars, street roadsters, vans, panel trucks.
- Prohibited: Open-wheel altered, dragsters, Funny Cars, motorcycles.

Weight Requirements (Including Driver)

- 8-cylinder: 2,800 lbs
- 6-cylinder: 2,000 lbs
- 4-cylinder/rotary: 1,200 lbs

Prohibited Items

- Timed vehicle-control devices (unless class rules permit).
- Track location/time/distance display or transmission.

Speed Regulations

- Vehicles exceeding 135 mph must comply with 9.99-second vehicle rules

REQUIREMENTS & SPECIFICATIONS

Engine

- Any automotive engine permitted.
- SFI 18.1 harmonic balancer required.
- Engine location: Optional.

Exhaust

- Must not exceed 95 decibels at 50 feet (measured at 3,500 RPM, no load).
- Sound suppression not mandatory if within noise limits.

Fuel

- Allowed: Racing gas, pump gas, alcohol, diesel, ethanol, CNG, propane.
- Nitrous oxide permitted.

Fuel System

- Aftermarket tank or cell allowed (must be outside driver compartment).
- If inside trunk:
 - Requires bulkhead (.032" aluminum or .024" steel).
 - Must be vented outside the vehicle.

Induction

- Any number/type of carburetors or throttle bodies.
- Electronic fuel injection allowed.

Other Engine Requirements

- Liquid overflow tank required.
- Oil-retention device mandatory (or compliant belly pan with absorbent liner).
- Superchargers/turbochargers allowed with gas, diesel, or alcohol.
 - Roots-type, centrifugal, or OEM screw types only.
 - Alcohol use requires SFI 14.1 restraints.

Throttle

- Manual foot or hand control required.
- No external influence (electronics/pneumatics/etc.).
- Timed throttle stops allowed (display may only show throttle timer).

Drivetrain

Clutch & Flywheel

- Must meet SFI 1.1–1.4 standards (2-disc max).
- Flywheel shield requirements:
 - Supercharged/SFI 1.3–1.4 clutches: SFI 6.2 or 6.3
 - All others: SFI 6.1
 - Rotary engines: ¼" steel shield around bellhousing.

Driveline

- Driveline loop required.

Rear End

- Aftermarket axles and retention devices required.
- Independent rear suspensions:

- Without upper/lower control arms: must use conventional diff housing.
- With both arms: swing axle allowed.
- Axle retention loops: 1" wide x ¼" thick, 360° coverage.
- Quick-change/locked differentials allowed.

Transmission (Automatic)

- Reverse lock-out and neutral safety switch mandatory.
- Transbrake allowed (if using high-gear transbrake, must have 2 buttons).
- May use preset timed or rpm-activated shifters (but not both).
 - RPM shifters: No delay boxes or link to delay devices.
 - Timed shifters: Must not connect to ignition system.
- IHRA-accepted aftermarket transmissions allowed.

Transmission Shield

- Must meet SFI 4.1 specification.

CHASSIS COMPONENTS

Brakes

- Four-wheel hydraulic brakes mandatory

Steering

- Only conventional steering systems allowed
- Minimum 11-inch steering wheel diameter
- Butterfly wheels prohibited

Suspension

- Automotive-type front suspension required
- One hydraulic shock absorber per sprung wheel

Traction & Wheelie Bars

- Traction bars permitted
- Wheelie bars permitted (must have nonmetallic wheels)
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FRAME & BODY STRUCTURE

Ballast

- Permitted

Bumpers

- Optional

Ground Clearance

- Minimum 3 inches (front to 12" behind front axle centerline)
- Minimum 2 inches (rest of car, excluding oil pan/exhaust)

Parachute

- **Mandatory if vehicle runs 150+ mph**

Roll Cage

- **Required if:**
 - **Firewall, floor, or body altered**
 - **Car exceeds 135 mph**
- **Roll bar acceptable in cars with unaltered interiors**
- **Full roll cage mandatory in convertible**

Wheelbase

- **Minimum: 90 inches**
- **Maximum: 125 inches (unless OEM exceeds it)**
- **Left-right variation must not exceed 1 inch**

TIRES & WHEELS

Tires

- **Racing slicks permitted**

Wheels

- **No wire or motorcycle wheels**
- **Minimum size: 13 inches (unless originally smaller and stock engine used)**

INTERIOR REQUIREMENTS

Seats

- **One seat mandatory**
- **Must be:**
 - **Properly braced and framed**
 - **Made of aluminum, fiberglass, poly, or carbon fiber**

Sheet Metal

- **Driver compartment must be aluminum, IHRA-accepted carbon fiber, or steel**
- **Magnesium prohibited**

Window Net

- **Mandatory for full-bodied cars running 135+ mph**
 - **Ribbon-type or SFI 27.1 mesh-type**

Other Interior

- **Tonneau covers allowed if they don't restrict entry/exit**
- **Upholstery optional**

BODY SPECIFICATIONS

Body Type

- **Must be full-bodied**
- **Coupes, sedans, roadsters, vans, pickups, sports cars, panel trucks allowed**
- **Fiberglass bodies allowed**
- **Lift-off doors must have pins or locks**
- **Cars with top/windshield: Must have two driver exits**
- **Convertibles and removable-top cars may run topless**
- **Chopped tops and setback bodies allowed**
- **Rear wheel opening cannot intrude into door**
- **Hood scoop height limit: 11 inches above original hood**

Fenders

- **Mandatory**
- **Lightweight fenders allowed**
- **Front fenders may be extended; rear may be trimmed for clearance**
- **Modified fenders must have rolled or beaded edges**

Firewall & Floor

- **Both mandatory**

Hood

- **Required on full-bodied cars**
- **Street roadsters may omit side panels**

Spoilers/Wings

- **Rear spoilers allowed**
- **Non-OEM wings prohibited**
- **Roof spoilers only if OEM**
- **Front spoilers on roadsters allowed (max 30" ahead of front spindle)**
- **No adjustments during run allowed**

Top

- **May be removed if originally removable**
- **Convertibles may run top down**
- **Chopping allowed**

Windshield/Windscreen

- **Mandatory unless originally topless**
- **If removed, must install metal or flame-proof screen**

Windows

- **If car has roof/windshield, all windows required**
- **Must be safety glass, Plexiglas, or similar (min. 1/8" thick)**
- **Decals only on rear quarter windows**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

Battery

- **Must be securely mounted with metal hold-downs**
- **Must be outside driver compartment**

Delay Box/Device

- **Permitted**

Ignition

- **Stutter boxes prohibited**
- **Starting-line/high-side rev limiters allowed**
- **No downtrack rpm control**
- **All wiring must be visible, labeled, and traceable**

Instruments

- **One tachometer permitted**
- **Driveshaft sensor may connect to tach OR recorder (not both)**
- **Speedometers not allowed**

Master Cutoff

- **Mandatory on all cars with batteries**

Taillight

- **One functional taillight required**

SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

Data Recorder

- **One allowed**
- **Wheel counters prohibited**
- **Any drivetrain sensor is allowed**

Fire-Extinguisher System

- **Permitted**

Tow Vehicles

- **Prohibited**

DRIVER REQUIREMENTS

Arm Restraints

- **Mandatory in open-bodied cars**

Credentials

- **Must have a valid IHRA Hot Rod License**
- **Applies to vehicles running 10.00 (6.40 for 1/8 mile) or slower**

Driver Location

- **Driver's torso must remain on left or right of driveshaft**

- **Seat can be moved backward but must remain ahead of rear differential**

Driver Restraint System

- **Must meet SFI 16.1 or 16.5**
- **Must be recertified every 2 years from manufacture date**