



TOP SPORTSMAN

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Class is for full-bodied, side-steer-type vehicles only.

Qualified fields with competition run in a dial-in elapsed time (e.t.) format.

Dial-in range:

- Quarter-mile: Minimum 6.00 seconds, maximum 7.99 seconds.
 - Any laps faster than 5.950 seconds- that run will be thrown out.
- Eighth-mile: Minimum 3.70 seconds, maximum 5.29 seconds.

Designation:

- Use "TS" followed by the car number.
- Car number must be at least 4 inches high.

Engine

- Any internal combustion engine allowed with any modifications
- Only one engine permitted; no cubic-inch limit
- Harmonic balancer must meet SFI Spec 18.1

Exhaust System

- Competition systems permitted
- Exhaust must exit rearward, away from driver and fuel tank
- Zoomies must angle upward a minimum of 3 degrees

Fuel

- Permitted: Racing gasoline, gasoline, alcohol, gasohol, ethanol, diesel
- Prohibited: Nitromethane and propylene oxide

Fuel System

- No components mounted on firewall or flywheel/flexplate area
- Rear-mounted tanks/cells must be vented outside body and have a flash shield

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- Front-mounted systems must be between framersails and enclosed in round tube frame:
 - Minimum tubing: 1-1/4" O.D. x .065" chromoly or Docol R8, or .118" mild steel

Nitrous Oxide

- Commercially available systems allowed
- Bottles in driver compartment require relief valve and external vent
- Must be DOT-1800-lb rated and permanently mounted
- Hoses must be steel-braided or IHRA-accepted
- Only thermostatically controlled blanket warmers allowed
- Torch or external heating prohibited; violation results in disqualification and penalties
- Prohibited on supercharged/turbocharged engines unless diesel is used

Induction

- Any carburetor/throttle body setup allowed; EFI permitted
- Two return springs required
- Throttle stops prohibited

Liquid Overflow

- Coolant catch can required (min. 1-pint/16 oz capacity)

Oil Lines

- Pressure lines (except return or ≤ 30 psi) must pass 300 psi test for 30 seconds
- Label with date, pressure, and tester ID; must be chemical-resistant
- Lines must be tested/tagged within 2 years
- On supercharged alcohol cars, routing must avoid cylinder head gasket areas

Oil-Retention Device

- IHRA-accepted lower engine oil retention system required
- Belly pan permitted instead; must span:
 - From in front of front motor plate to rear motor plate
 - From framersail to framersail
- Must include 2" high lip and nonflammable absorbent liner

Supercharger

- Roots-type, high-helix, centrifugal, or screw-type allowed
- Screw-type must meet SFI 34.1
- SFI 23.1 burst panel and SFI 14.21 restraint required for screw-type

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- OEM-type screw blowers exempt from restraint if used with original production engine
- 12-71 or 14-71 units require SFI 14.2 or 14.3 restraints
- Belt guards over fuel/oil lines mandatory
- No load should be placed on fuel lines by blower restraints
- Aluminum studs required for supercharger mounting

Turbocharger

- Single or dual turbochargers allowed

Throttle Stop

- All forms (mechanical, electronic, pneumatic) prohibited for controlling downtrack RPM
- May be present but must be disconnected from controls

Starter

- Onboard, self-starting system with battery required

Valve Covers

- Cast or fabricated metal valve covers mandatory on boosted engines
- All bolt holes must be used

Vent Tubes/Breathers

- Mandatory for all supercharged engines
- Two 1" diameter, positive-locking breathers required

Clutch, Flywheel, Flywheel Shield

- Flywheel and clutch must meet SFI Spec 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, or 1.5.
- Flywheel shield meeting SFI Spec 6.1, 6.2, or 6.3 is mandatory on clutch-equipped cars.
- Engine combination determines the applicable specification.
- Refer to appropriate SFI Specification or IHRA General Regulations for motor plate and bolting requirements.

Driveline

- Driveshaft must have round 360-degree loops within 6 inches of each U-joint.
- A 360-degree tube must cover the front U-joint and extend rearward at least 12 inches.
- Minimum tube thickness: .050-inch chromoly, Docol R8, or titanium.
- Tube must be attached to chassis with at least four points using 5/16-inch SAE bolts, welding, or 1/4-inch push/pull pins.
- Refer to General Regulations 2:4.

Flexplate

- Automatic transmission flexplate must meet SFI Spec 29.1.

Flexplate Shield

- Flexplate shield must meet SFI Spec 30.1.

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- SFI 6.1 bellhousing allowed on torque converter assisted planetary transmissions.

Rear End

- Aftermarket axles and axle-retention devices are mandatory.
- Welded spider gears are prohibited.
- Wheel studs must be at least 5/8-inch diameter.
- Aftermarket full-floating or live axle assemblies permitted.
- Independent rear suspension is prohibited.

Transmission

- Any type of transmission is allowed.
- Must have a positive system to disengage from final drive.
- All automatic transmissions must have:
 - Neutral safety start switch
 - Reverse lockout device
- Pressurized units must use:
 - Flexible hoses tested to 300 psi and labeled, or
 - Steel lines with AN fittings
- High-pressure vent line (minimum 1/8-inch pipe connection) must route to an overflow tank (minimum 1-pint capacity).

Transmission Shield

- A one-piece transmission shield meeting SFI Spec 4.1 is required.

Brakes

- Four-wheel brakes are mandatory.
- Dual master cylinder must be mounted above the framerails.
- Steel brake lines are mandatory.

Steering

- If using a removable steering wheel, it must have a commercially available quick-disconnect adapter.
- The adapter must meet SFI Spec 42.1.

Wheelie Bars

- Permitted.
- Wheels must be nonmetallic.

Ballast

- Permitted up to 250 pounds total
- 100 pounds maximum removable

Chassis

- All cars must have a full frame meeting SFI Spec 25.1, 25.2, or 25.3 for 7.499 and quicker
- Cars running 7.50 and slower must meet the appropriate SFI Spec (25.1, 25.2, 25.3, 25.4, or 25.5) based on body/chassis design
- Must have a current SFI serialized sticker affixed to the roll cage prior to competition

Roll-Cage Padding

- Padding that meets SFI Spec 45.1 is mandatory anywhere the driver's helmet may contact the roll cage

Ground Clearance

- Minimum 3 inches from the front of the car to 12 inches behind rear axle centerline
- Minimum 2 inches for the remainder of the car (excluding oil pan and headers)

Parachute

- Required
- Cars exceeding 200 mph must use dual parachutes

Wheelbase

- Minimum 90 inches
- Allowed 1-inch variation side-to-side

Wheels

- Each competition vehicle must have automotive-type wheels designed for racing
- Rear wheels must meet SFI Spec 15.1 and have beadlocks or liners if the vehicle runs:
 - 6.50 seconds or quicker, or
 - 210 mph or faster

WINDOW NET

Window net meeting SFI Spec 27.1 mandatory.

Body

- Must be a full-bodied vehicle (trucks, vans, wagons allowed)
- Must have two functional doors
- Front overhang limited to 45 inches from center of front spindle, unless OEM stock is longer

Firewall

- Required
- Must be a minimum of .024-inch steel or .032-inch aluminum

Floor

- Driver's side: Minimum .024-inch steel, welded from firewall to rear crossmember
- Remainder: .032 aluminum, .024-inch steel, or IHRA-accepted carbon fiber

Hood Scoop

- Maximum height: 15 inches, measured from the flat portion of hood to top of scoop opening

Windshield and Windows

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- Required
- No tint allowed beyond factory specifications
- Entries using nitrous oxide or superchargers must have a minimum 4-inch diameter opening adjacent to the driver

Spoilers/Wings

- Non-OEM airfoils/wings permitted
- Must be permanently attached to the frame or roll cage
- Must be nonadjustable during the run
- A positive locking device is mandatory to prevent movement

Electrical & Safety Systems

- Batteries
 - Must be securely mounted
- Delay Box / Device
 - Permitted
 - Pneumatic starting-line enhancers permitted for all applications
- Ignition
 - Aftermarket electronic ignition boxes must remain unaltered from factory specs
 - Timed ignition-interruption devices (stutter boxes) prohibited
 - Starting-line and "high-side" rev limiters permitted
 - Two-steps, rev limiters, or other rpm-limiting devices may not be altered or used as downtrack rpm controllers
 - All ignition system wiring must be visible, labeled, and traceable
- Master Cutoff Switch
 - External master electrical cutoff required
 - If "push/pull" type: "Push" must shut off power, "pull" turns it on
 - Off position must be clearly marked
- Taillights
 - One functional taillight required
 - Flashing, blinking, or strobe lights prohibited

Support Systems

- Data Recorder
 - Permitted to record vehicle functions
 - Cannot activate any function (e.g., throttle, brake, clutch)

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- Must be activated by a separate switch
- Data can only be reviewed after the run
- Fire Extinguisher System
 - Mandatory on all cars
 - Minimum 5-pound IHRA-accepted system required
 - Supercharged methanol-burning cars require minimum 20-pound system
 - System must have:
 - At least one nozzle into driver compartment
 - At least one nozzle into engine compartment

Driver Credentials & Safety Equipment

- Credentials
 - IHRA competition license and Top Sportsman number required
 - Must include license code 3B
 - IHRA membership mandatory
- Driver Restraint System
 - Effective July 1, 2025:
 - Minimum five-point system meeting sfi 16.1 or
 - six-point system (SFI 16.1) or
 - Seven-point system (SFI 16.5) is mandatory
 - Must be updated every two years from date of manufacture
- Helmet
 - Full-face helmet required
 - Must meet one of the following:
 - Snell: M2015, M2020, SA2015, SA2020
 - FIA: 8860-2010, 8859-2015, 8859-2024, 8860-2018
 - Shield mandatory; goggles prohibited
- Neck Collar / Head and Neck Restraint Device (HNR)
 - SFI 38.1 device/system mandatory with valid label
 - Must be worn from ready line to return road
 - Must be properly connected to the helmet and used per manufacturer's instructions
 - Modifications prohibited
 - If no neck collar is used:
 - Driver must wear SFI 3.3 head sock or SFI 3.3 skirted helmet
- Protective Equipment
 - Suit: Jacket and pants or one-piece suit meeting SFI 3.2A/15

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- **Gloves: Must meet SFI 3.3/5**
- **Boots or Shoes: Must meet SFI 3.3/5**