



HOT ROD

Hot Rod

General Class Information

- Runs on a 10.90 ¼-mile or 6.90 1/8th-mile index
- 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.

Fuel

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

HOT ROD

- Nitrous oxide permitted.

Fuel System

- Aftermarket tanks or cells 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)

HOT ROD

- Reverse lock-out and neutral safety switch mandatory.
- Trans brake allowed (if using high-gear trans brake, 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)

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

HOT ROD

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

HOT ROD

- 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 down track rpm control
- All wiring must be visible, labeled, and traceable

Instruments

- One tachometer permitted

HOT ROD

- 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

Helmet Requirements:

- Snell (M2015, M2020, SA2015, SA2020) or FIA (8860-2010, 8859-2015, 8859-2024, 8860-2018).
- Open-bodied cars: full-faced and shield mandatory.

Neck Collar

- SFI Spec 3.3 neck collar mandatory.

Protective Gear

- Jacket & pants: SFI 3.2A/1 or 3.4/1 (minimum).
- Supercharged/turbocharged alcohol-burning vehicles and/or vehicles with auto trans inside driver compartment:
 - Jacket & pants or suit: SFI 3.2A/15.
 - Gloves & footwear: SFI 3.3/5.

- **Open-bodied cars without SFI 3.3 neck collar:**
 - **Must use SFI 3.3 head sock or skirted helmet.**