



TOP DRAGSTER

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Vehicle Types Allowed:

- Dragsters and open-bodied altered-type vehicles only
- Alteredds must have open front wheels

Competition Format:

- 1/8th mile
- 32 car field
- Dial In

Dial-in range:

- Minimum dial 3.70 seconds, maximum dial 4.99 seconds.
 - Any laps faster than 3.65 seconds will be thrown out
- In eliminations, must dial within 0.100 seconds of the bump spot

Vehicle Designation:

- Must display "TD" (Top Dragster) followed by 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

Fuel

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

TOP DRAGSTER

Fuel System

- **Fuel tank requirements:**
 - **Must have enough capacity to complete a full run.**
 - **Refueling after the engine has started is prohibited.**
 - **Must have a positive locking screw-on cap.**
 - **Must be vented to the outside of the body.**

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 framerail to framerail**
- **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**

TOP DRAGSTER

- 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 down track 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.

TOP DRAGSTER

- SFI 6.1 bell housing 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

- Minimum of two rear-wheel hydraulic brakes required.
- Hand brake (if used) must be located inside the body or driver's compartment.
- Steel brake lines are mandatory.
- Brake lines passing the engine in rear-engine cars must be shielded; shielding is recommended for all cars.

Steering

- A device must be used to prevent the steering shaft from injuring the driver during a frontal impact.
- The steering shaft must attach to the steering box with a positive locking device (no rolled or pressed pins allowed).

Wheelie Bars

- Permitted.
- Wheels must be nonmetallic.

Ballast

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

Pinion Support

- A rear axle and/or pinion housing anti-rotation device is mandatory.

TOP DRAGSTER

- Must be of rigid design.
- Must be attached directly from the frame or a suitable crossmember to the rear axle or pinion housing.
- Designed to prevent rotation in either direction on unsuspended rear ends.

Suspension

- Any type of automotive suspension is permitted.
- Rigid-mounted rear axles are allowed.
- Rigid-mounted front axles are allowed if the wheelbase is 120 inches or more.
- A device must be in place to protect the oil pan from contacting the track in the event of excessive frame flex, tire, or wheel failure.
- For front suspensions using a beam or tubular axle:
 - Radius rods must be attached to the frame.
 - Radius rods not required on front axles rigidly mounted 18 inches or less from the kingpin.

Chassis

- Must have SFI sticker affixed to frame for applicable E.T. before competition.
- Rear-engine dragsters must conform to SFI Spec 2.1, 2.3, 2.5, or 2.7.
- Front-engine dragsters must conform to SFI Spec 2.2, 2.4, or 2.6.
- Alters must conform to SFI Spec 10.1E, 10.2, or 10.3.
- Side-steer alters must meet SFI Spec 10.4 for applicable E.T. before competition.

Deflector Plate

- Mandatory on rear-engine cars.
- Must be installed between roll cage and engine to protect the driver.
- Minimum material:
 - .125-inch aluminum, or
 - .060-inch steel.

Wheelbase

- Rear-engine dragsters: Min 150 in., Max 300 in.
- Front-engine dragsters: Min 150 in., Max 300 in.
- Alters: Min 120 in., Max 150 in.
- Max allowable wheelbase variation (left to right): 2 inches.

WHEELS & TIRES

Tires

- Front tires must have minimum 13-inch diameter.

Wheels

TOP DRAGSTER

- Automotive-type wire wheels allowed on dragster front axle only, if car weighs 1,800 lbs. or less (excluding driver).
- Front-wheel fairings prohibited.
- SFI Spec 15.1 rear wheels with bead locks or liners required on any vehicle running 4.20 or quicker or at 160+ mph.

Airfoil

- Must include a positive-locking device to prevent accidental movement.
- Side-mounted canard-type units are allowed.
- No part of the canards or wings may be within 6 inches of rear tires.
- A rear wing is mandatory on all cars exceeding 200 mph.
 - Minimum wing area: 360 sq. in.
 - Maximum wing area: 750 sq. in.
 - Minimum height: 55 inches (measured vertically from the trailing edge to the ground).
- Spill plates must:
 - Be flat, straight, and parallel.
 - Measure a minimum of 50 sq. in. each.
- The leading edge of the wing must be no more than 10 inches forward of the rear axle centerline.
- Negative downforce or lift generation is prohibited.
- No adjustments or movement of the wing during the run are allowed.

Body

- Body and cowl may be made of metal, fiberglass, or carbon fiber.
- Must extend forward to the firewall.
- Altered class entries must use reproduction pre-1949 roadster or open-wheeled IHRA-accepted bodies (e.g., 1936–48 Fiat, Volkswagen, etc., with roof exit).
- Driver compartment, frame, roll bars, and body must be designed to prevent contact between the driver's body/limbs and:
 - Wheels
 - Tires
 - Exhaust system
 - Track surface
- If the driver's body contacts the belly pan, a crossmember and subfloor are mandatory.
- Front overhang may not exceed 30 inches from the forwardmost spindle centerline.

Electrical & Safety Systems

- Batteries

TOP DRAGSTER

- 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 down track 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)
 - Must be activated by a separate switch
 - Data can only be reviewed after the run

Driver Credentials & Safety Equipment

- Credentials
 - IHRA competition license and Top Sportsman number required
 - Must include license code 3B
 - IHRA membership mandatory
- Driver Restraint System
 - Minimum five-point system meeting SFI 16.1
 - Effective January 1, 2027:
 - Seven-point system meeting SFI 16.1, 16.5, or 16.6 mandatory
- Helmet
 - Full-face helmet required

TOP DRAGSTER

- Must meet one of the following:
 - Snell: M2015, M2020, SA2015, SA2020
 - FIA: 8860-2010, 8859-2015, 8859-2024, 8860-2018
- Shield mandatory; goggles prohibited
- 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
 - Gloves: Must meet SFI 3.3/5
 - Boots or Shoes: Must meet SFI 3.3/5
 - Arm Restraints mandatory
- For front-engine open-bodied vehicles with supercharger/turbocharger:
 - Jacket and pants or suit: SFI Spec 3.2A/20
 - Gloves: SFI Spec 3.3/15
 - Boots/shoes: SFI Spec 3.3/15