



## TOP SPORTSMAN

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#### Vehicle Types Allowed

- Full-bodied, side-steer-type vehicles only.

#### Competition Format

- 32 car field
- Dial In
- 1/8<sup>th</sup> mile

#### Dial-in range:

- Minimum dial 3.70 seconds, maximum dial 5.29 seconds.
  - Any laps faster than 3.65 seconds will be thrown out
- In eliminations, must dial within 0.100 seconds of the bump spot

#### 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

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

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- SFI 23.1 burst panel and SFI 14.21 restraint required for screw-type
- 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

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- Flexplate shield must meet SFI Spec 30.1.
- 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

- 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 4.499 and quicker
- Cars running 4.50 and slower must meet the appropriate SFI Spec (25.1, 25.2, 25.3, 25.4, or 25.5) based on body/chassis design

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- 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 bead locks or liners if the vehicle runs:
  - 4.20 seconds or quicker, or
  - 160 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

- 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 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

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- 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
  - 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
  - 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