

DEMOLITION DERBY
REVISED
COMPETITION RULES
FOR COMPETITORS
(effective 1 January 2026)

1. Introduction

These Competition Rules outline the mandatory safety, vehicle, and conduct requirements for all drivers participating in an AgShows NSW Demolition Derby. They are designed to ensure a fair, controlled, and safe competition for every entrant while protecting officials, volunteers, and spectators.

AgShows NSW formally introduced strengthened Demolition Derby Rules and Operational Guidelines on 1 July 2025. Following an independent incident at a non-AgShows NSW event, AgShows NSW undertook a further review of its existing framework as a proactive safety measure. While the incident was not associated with an AgShows NSW member event, it provided an opportunity to reassess risks and further strengthen competitor requirements.

As a result of this review, these **Revised Competition Rules for Competitors** have been issued and take effect from **1 January 2026**. These rules form part of the approved AgShows NSW Demolition Derby framework and apply to all competitors at AgShows NSW member events from that date.

If an event is run under any rules other than the approved AgShows NSW rules, it will not be covered for Public Liability insurance. This requirement is mandatory and not negotiable.

By entering, competitors agree to follow all rules, scrutineering requirements, safety instructions, and directions from officials. These rules exist to safeguard everyone involved and to ensure the Demolition Derby remains an exciting and enjoyable feature of NSW Agricultural Shows.

Demolition Derbies are designed to ensure a safe and enjoyable competition for participants while delivering thrilling entertainment for spectators.

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2. Definitions

Competitor: A registered participant driving a vehicle in the Demolition Derby. Must meet age and licensing requirements, attend scrutineering and the Toolbox Talk, and comply with all vehicle and conduct rules.

Judge: The Judge is responsible for monitoring the Demolition Derby event to determine competition outcomes in accordance with the rules. This includes identifying the last mobile vehicle, ensuring fair conduct, and confirming the winner(s). The Judge's role is strictly observational and decision-based. All decisions made by the Judge regarding the outcome of the event are final and cannot be disputed.

Scrutineer: The Scrutineer is responsible for inspecting all vehicles and ensuring they meet the safety and compliance standards outlined in the official rules. The Scrutineer has the authority to approve or reject any vehicle or driver they deem unsafe or non-compliant. They will also conduct the mandatory Toolbox Talk, which all drivers and pit crew must attend. The Scrutineer's decisions are final, and no protests or appeals will be accepted.

To maintain fairness and accountability, the roles of Judge and Scrutineer must be performed by separate individuals.

Marshal: An official positioned around the ring or entry/exit points to manage safety, enforce boundaries, assist with communication, and coordinate emergency response if required.

Safety Car: A designated emergency vehicle, such as a fire engine or response unit, positioned with visibility of the ring and ready to respond immediately to fire, rollover, or medical incidents. May also be referred to as the Control Car.

3. Driver Safety Requirements

3.1 Full-faced helmet with visor or goggles must be worn.

3.2 Neck Brace must be worn – SFI Foam collar to be used.

3.3 One-piece driving suit or one-piece cotton drill overalls to be worn with covered footwear. No synthetic or nylon clothing allowed. No exposed skin allowed. All drivers must wear full-length, long-sleeved overalls. Leather gloves, boots or shoes must be worn. **NO THONGS or SNEAKERS. NO NYLON CLOTHING.**

3.4 Gloves of fire-retardant material to be worn.

4. Minimum Age

4.1 All drivers must be 17 years or over and hold a current driver's licence – P Plate minimum. Parent or legal guardian must complete and sign the waiver for all participants under 18 years.

5. Drugs and Alcohol

5.1 Drivers under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted to compete. Random drug and alcohol testing may be conducted before the event begins, and drivers must return a 0.0 or negative test result.

6. Vehicle Requirements

6.1 Vehicle Security and Safety

- 6.1.1 No obscene or offensive sign writing on cars.
- 6.1.2 The driver's name must be displayed on the right-hand side of the roof (150mm).
- 6.1.3 Strictly **NO** passengers will be permitted to travel in the vehicle.
- 6.1.4 Padding to be placed on all bar work and protrusions to protect the driver.
- 6.1.5 Centre of steering wheel to be padded, with airbags disconnected and removed.
- 6.1.6 Driver's side door to be painted white or red with the opposite colour painted in a cross on the door.
- 6.1.7 All doors and tailgate to be chained shut around door pillars using 6mm chain and bolted using 10mm bolts. Chain to go twice around door pillars and be bolted. Both front doors to be securely chained (6mm), bolted or welded shut.
- 6.1.8 If the vehicle has a tailgate, it must be chained closed with 6mm chain and bolted using 10mm bolts but must be accessible for scrutineering.
- 6.1.9 Battery to be securely mounted and covered with rubber matting.
- 6.1.10 Effective kill switch to be mounted in the centre cowl panel & marked in contrasting colours "KILL SWITCH."
- 6.1.11 All wires to be suitably grommited where they pass through the firewall.
- 6.1.12 Wires not to be attached to fuel lines.
- 6.1.13 All cars are to be cleaned out (no loose objects).

6.2 Vehicle Eligibility

- 6.2.1 All competing vehicles must be sedans, station wagons, panel vans, or utilities of average sedan size.
- 6.2.2 Full-chassis vehicles, defined as those where the chassis can be unbolted or separated from the body for the full length of the vehicle, are strictly prohibited.
- 6.2.3 Four-wheel drive vehicles are not permitted, and all-wheel drive vehicles must have their four-wheel drive system disconnected to operate as two-wheel drive.
- 6.2.4 Only original manufacturer body panels and equipment must be used in their entirety.
- 6.2.5 Special dispensation **MUST** be sought from the insurer for the inclusion of V8-powered vehicles.
- 6.2.6 Electric vehicles (EV), hybrid vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles are prohibited.

6.3 Vehicle Modifications

- 6.3.1 Vehicle must use the original type manufacturer engine and transmission mounted in the original position.
- 6.3.2 The vehicle must be retained at its original height, i.e., no alteration to the suspension.
- 6.3.3 All holes in the firewall and front floor are to be covered.
- 6.3.4 Tow bars and bull bars to be removed.
- 6.3.5 All glass must be removed.
- 6.3.6 All interior linings, trims, interior/exterior door handles, glovebox lid, airbags, ornaments, chrome strips, and lights to be removed.
- 6.3.7 Dashboard (dashboard plastic) should remain in place as well as an interior rear-vision mirror.
- 6.3.8 Steel mesh must be welded on the driver's half windscreen.
- 6.3.9 A seat incorporating a headrest must be used.
- 6.3.10 All drivers are to wear a seat belt. Seat belts must be in good condition. The vehicle must not contain rust in either the seat or seat belt mountings.

6.3.11 Driver Safety Bars – **Mandatory**

No other internal or external bar work or reinforcement is allowed except for the two bars below, which are required:

- 1. A horizontal bar running from B pillar to B pillar (side to side) that supports the driver's seat.
- 2. A vertical bar running from the floor to the roof, positioned just behind the driver's seat and as close to the horizontal bar as possible. It must allow the driver's headrest to be properly fitted and secured.

Specifications for both bars:

- Minimum size: 50x50mm, 5mm thick RHS steel
- Ends must have 6mm thick steel plates
- Must be bolted in with at least 2 x 12mm (½ inch) bolts per end, using heavy-duty washers

Note: If using galvanised steel, it must be ground and prepped before welding.

6.3.12 Driver's Door Bracing – **Mandatory**

One of the following options must be used:

- a. Steel Plate:
 - Minimum 6mm thick steel plate
 - Must span at least the full width of the window if installed inside the door, or beyond the length of the door if installed externally
 - Must be welded or bolted on securely

OR

- b. RHS Bar Option:
 - Use two horizontal RHS steel bars, minimum size 40x40mm and 5mm thick
 - Bars must be 300–400mm apart
 - The bottom bar must sit roughly at hip height
 - Bars must be welded securely

6.3.13 The driver's door must be in good condition and approved by officials as safe.

6.3.14 No sand, concrete, liquid, metal fill, or reinforcement of any type may be placed inside doors, panels, bumpers, or vehicle cavities. Only mandatory barwork listed in these rules is permitted.

6.3.15 The driver's door may be fully welded and/or chained closed.

6.3.16 Any sharp edges near the driver must be removed

6.3.17 Padding to be placed on all bar work and protrusions to protect driver.

6.4 Fuel and Fire Safety

6.4.1 An approved boat fuel tank or Jerry can with a breather must be fastened in the centre rear in a cradle, where the back seat was.

6.4.2 Fire extinguishers are allowed but must be securely mounted with a steel bracket.

6.4.4 The vehicle's petrol tank must be removed or punctured with a minimum 12mm hole.

6.4.5 A maximum of five (5) litres of petrol in the fuel tank is permitted.

6.5 Wheels and Tyres

6.5.1 **Standard passenger road tyres only.**

Prohibited: winter tread tyres, rally tyres, mud-terrain tyres, agricultural tyres, tractor tyres, racing tyres or reinforced wheels.

6.6 Surrender Flag

6.6.1 Each vehicle must have a white surrender flag (minimum size 30cm x 30cm) securely attached to a piece of dowel. The flag must be mounted above the driver's door in a location easily accessible to the driver. To indicate surrender or withdrawal from the event, the driver must snap

the flag off.

All vehicles must have their surrender flag flying before the derby commences.

6.7 Re-Entering / Re-Use of Demolition Derby Cars

6.7.1 Vehicles previously used in demolition derby events may only enter at scrutineer discretion.

- If a scrutineer deems a vehicle unsafe or excessively damaged, the vehicle will not compete.
- Competitors planning to enter a reused vehicle are advised to submit photos of the vehicle to the organiser prior.
- Scrutineer decisions are final.

This document, together with the complete [Demolition Derby Toolbox Suite](#), [Member Society Code of Conduct](#), [General Rules and Entry Conditions](#) and the [AgShows NSW Waiver Form](#), constitutes the official rules and guidelines governing Demolition Derby competitions held at NSW Agricultural Shows.

Compliance with these requirements is mandatory for all participants. By signing the official entry form, each entrant (including competitors, exhibitors, and drivers) acknowledges and agrees to abide by all rules, regulations, terms and conditions of entry, and the Code of Conduct.
