

BIG HORN BASIN UNIFIED

2017 COMPACT CLASS RULES

I. Vehicles

- A. All vehicles will be **THOROUGHLY INSPECTED** prior to entering the pits!
- B. Any make and model of passenger vehicle or station wagon can be used provided they have a **WHEELBASE NOT GREATER THAN 106"** and the engine size can **NOT** exceed 6 cylinders. The wheelbases of vehicles can **NOT** be modified in any way to meet this requirement. The following exceptions apply: No AMC Pacers, Spirits, Gremlins, or Eagles are allowed to compete.
- C. No "sedagons" or vehicles with excessive pre-bending will be allowed ... ask before you build.

II. General Vehicle Preparation

- A. Vehicles will be completely stripped of all interior to reduce fire hazards. This includes carpet/door panels/rear seats/dash/headliners/unnecessary electrical wires.
- B. All glass must be removed, and every attempt must be made to remove **ALL** glass fragments prior to inspection.
- C. All exterior trim/door handles/mirrors/lights/plastic grilles/etc. must be removed. Metal grilles may remain.
- D. If the vehicle was equipped with air bags, they **MUST** be removed.
- E. Drivers' doors **MUST BE PAINTED A CONTRASTING COLOR**. For **SMASHTOBERFEST ONLY**, the drivers' doors **MUST BE PAINTED PINK** (*Breast Cancer Awareness Month*).
- F. Body sheet metal seams may be welded from the center of the A-arms forward with no added metal. Otherwise, there is **NO WELDING** allowed unless specifically stated elsewhere within these rules!
- G. Wheel-wells may be trimmed for tire clearance and may have the inner and outer skin welded or bolted together. If welded, no additional metal may be added. If bolted, a maximum of 5/16" hardware will be utilized.
- H. Both front doors and the roof **MUST** have the driver name and number clearly **VISIBLE** and **LEGIBLE**. A safely and properly secured roof sign is allowed but not required. The recommended size, if used, is 16"H x 24"L.
- I. Obscenities or vulgarity will **NOT** be allowed anywhere on the vehicle or drivers will **NOT** pass inspection.
- J. Drivers may use a custom or fabricated steering column but **ALL** steering linkage, tie-rods, etc. must remain stock.
- K. Drivers may patch holes in the body metal or floorpans from rust or other damage as well as repair holes from damage that may have occurred in a previous derby in the case of pre-run vehicles. The patch material **MUST** be of the same thickness (18 to 20 gauge) and can be welded with no added metal up to a maximum of 2" beyond the repaired hole.
- L. If creasing body panels, the hammered, artificial body creases can **NOT** be welded or bolted.
- M. Wheels and tires will adhere to the following rules:
 - 1. Drivers may use any type of tire they desire so long as they contain only air. No solid rubber or liquid/foam-filled tires will be allowed.
 - 2. Wheels **MUST** be stock-type, factory wheels up to 15" diameter.
 - 3. Wheels may have weld-in centers at the wheel mounting surface only (roughly 6-8" diameter). Material can **NOT** exceed 1/4" thick.
 - 4. Wheels may have valve stem protectors welded to them.
 - 5. Wheels and tires (spares included) **MUST** have a large "+" painted on them **IN A CONTRASTING COLOR** to allow Field Judges to determine if/when your brakes are locked.

III. Bumpers

- A. Full size vehicle bumpers are **NOT** allowed - compact car bumpers **ONLY**. Bumper swaps from other compact vehicles are allowed. The only alternative is the use of pipe or square tubing in place of the original bumper. The optional pipe/tubing must be straight, and it can **NOT** exceed 60" in length, 4" in diameter, or 1/8" thick. The ends **MUST** remain open.
- B. Bumpers can **NOT** be stuffed, packed, or reinforced in any way, and factory openings can **NOT** be closed.
- C. Bumper ends may be trimmed and/or bent around and may be re-welded with no added metal.
- D. Bumpers may have the chrome outer shell and steel inner core fully welded together with no added metal.
- E. Bumpers with multiple pieces (i.e. bumper corners) may be welded together with no added metal.
- F. Bumpers or the optional pipe/tubing may be welded directly to the frame with no added metal. In order to accomplish this, trimming or contouring the ends of the frame rails is allowed.

- G. If using OEM bumper brackets, they may be welded to the bumper **AND** the frame with no added metal. If using individually fabricated bumper brackets, they may also be welded to the bumper **AND** to the frame. Individually fabricated bumper brackets will adhere to the following rules:
1. Fabricated bracket material (plate, strap, angle, etc.) can **NOT** exceed 1/4" thick. If using pipe or square tubing, a maximum of 3" pipe or 3" square tubing with a maximum wall thickness of 1/4" will be allowed.
 2. Fabricated brackets can **NOT** exceed the height or width of the frame, and they may not extend more than 6" onto or into the frame. Pipe/tubing can **NOT** extend more than 10" onto or into the frame.
 3. If bolting the bumper, a maximum of (4) bolts **NOT** exceeding 1/2" hardware may be used per side.
 4. The use of a "no-weld bumper plate" not exceeding 1/2" thick is allowed.
- H. Shock absorber-type bumper mounts may be welded to the inside or outside of the frame with no added metal. The shock may also be welded solid around the tube seam only, but it **MUST** be drained if welded. Similar to pipe/tubing, they can **NOT** extend more than 10" onto or into the frame.
- I. **IN ADDITION TO** rear bumper mount, bumper may be secured to the rear of the vehicle by welding **OR** chain:
1. Drivers may weld the entire perimeter of the REAR BUMPER directly to the body metal of the vehicle. Due to varying gaps between the bumpers and car bodies, drivers may use the following filler materials:
 - a. Round stock/rebar/cold rolled steel not exceeding 1/2" thick.
 - b. Up to a maximum of 2" x 3/16" flat strap.
 - c. **NOTE:** If the gap cannot be filled by the above two options, flat strap of a greater width may be used, but it cannot extend more than 1" onto the body or bumper.
 2. If drivers do not desire to weld the entire perimeter of the bumper, they may still choose to use (2) **VERTICAL** straps welded from the trunk lid or wagon tailgate to the bumper.
 - a. Strap can **NOT** exceed 4" x 3/16" metal.
 - b. Strap will **NOT** extend more than 6" onto the bumper and 6" onto the trunk or wagon tailgate.
 3. If chaining, a maximum of (2) vertical chains can extend from the trunk lid to the bumper.
 - a. Chains can **NOT** exceed 3/8" link and links can **NOT** be welded.
 - b. Chain holes may be reinforced with plate material or large washers. Plate material can **NOT** exceed 4" x 4" square and 1/8" thick. Washers can **NOT** exceed 4" diameter..
- J. **IN ADDITION TO** front bumper mount, bumpers may be secured to the front of the vehicle by chain **ONLY**:
1. A maximum of (2) vertical chains can extend from the hood to the bumper.
 - a. Chains can **NOT** exceed 3/8" link and links can **NOT** be welded.
 - b. Chain holes may be reinforced with plate material or large washers. Plate material can **NOT** exceed 4" x 4" square and 1/8" thick. Washers can **NOT** exceed 4" diameter.

IV. Frames

- A. Frames may **NOT** be plated, pinned, or otherwise reinforced in any way **unless specifically allowed**.
- B. Fresh vehicles are authorized (1) reinforcing plate on each frame rail – *a total of (2) on the entire vehicle* – in the location of your choice. The intent of this rule is to give all drivers the ability to strengthen any common, known weak spot(s) on fresh vehicles *in a controlled and equal manner*. Pre-run vehicles are authorized (1) **ADDITIONAL** reinforcing plate on each frame rail – *a total of (4) on the entire vehicle* – in the location of your choice. The intent of this rule is to give all drivers the ability to repair damaged, kinked, or bent frame rails on pre-run vehicles *in a controlled and equal manner*. The following rules apply to reinforcing plates:
1. Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed 1/4" thick.
 2. Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed the height or width of the frame.
 3. Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed 10" in length. Drivers can choose to split a plate **VERTICALLY** into smaller sections if they desire (i.e. two 5" long plates **OR** a 4" and 6" long plates). If one plate is split, drivers can **NOT** combine the remainder with another plate (i.e. a 6" long plate being combined with a 10" long plate to create a 16" plate). Each 10" plate that is authorized may only be split once.
 4. Reinforcing plates can **NOT** be located within 3" of another plate.
 5. Reinforcing plates may be welded or bolted in place lengthwise along the frame.
 6. If drivers utilize any reinforcing plates, the plated locations will be disclosed to inspectors at the time of inspection. They **MUST** be painted bright red or orange in order to allow inspectors to clearly identify them and ensure they are within the rules stated above.
 7. **HIDDEN OR EXTRA PLATES FOUND AT ANY TIME FROM INSPECTION TO CONCLUSION OF DERBY WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION! Entry fees are non-refundable.**

- C. Drivers can **NOT** join or graft non-original sections of one frame type to another frame type ... all frames **MUST** remain as designed and produced from the factory other than modifications specifically allowed in these rules.
- D. Frames may be seam welded from the center of the A-arms forward with no added metal. This includes any factory cross beam, engine crossmember, or K-Frame.
- E. Frames may be notched or dimpled. If notched forward of the A-arms, it may be re-welded with no metal added.
- F. Frames may be shortened in front no further back than the original core support mounts and in the rear only so much as necessary to flush-mount a rear-bumper with the body metal.
- G. Any and all trailer hitches must be completely removed from the frame.
- H. No fresh paint or undercoating is allowed on the frame except the required painting of reinforcing plates if used.
- I. Factory holes and openings in the frame **MUST** remain open for inspection and can **NOT** be welded shut.
- J. Body mount modifications will adhere to the following rules:
 - 1. Body mounts or "pucks" may be removed, but the body of the vehicle can **NOT** be welded to the frame.
 - 2. If body mounts or "pucks" are removed, replacement bolts can **NOT** exceed 5/8" in diameter and replacement washers can **NOT** exceed 3" in diameter.

V. Outside Body Seams

A. Doors

- 1. Doors may be welded around the full perimeter on the **OUTSIDE OF THE VEHICLE ONLY**. At a minimum, the driver door **MUST BE WELDED!**
- 2. If welded, filler material can **NOT** exceed 1/2" round stock/rebar/cold rolled **OR** 2" x 3/16" flat strap. On the front door to front fender seams **ONLY**, a maximum of 4" x 3/16" strap is allowed.
- 3. Inner and outer door skins may be pinched together along the top and welded with no added metal.
- 4. If welding is not used, doors can be chained or banded around the full perimeter:
 - a. The chains or banding material can **NOT** attach to or encompass the frame.
 - b. Chains can **NOT** exceed 3/8" link. Banding material can **NOT** exceed 1" wide.
 - c. You can choose to combine methods if you are not welding the door seams (i.e. band window frames and door posts combined with chaining the body in the lower door jambs).
- 5. Bottom line ... any vehicle has **ANY ONE** of its doors come open during the derby will be **IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED**.

B. Trunks and Wagon Tailgates

- 1. Trunks and tailgates can be welded around the full perimeter on the **OUTSIDE OF THE VEHICLE ONLY**.
- 2. If welded, filler material can **NOT** exceed 1/2" round stock/rebar/cold rolled **OR** 2" x 3/16" flat strap.
- 3. Trunk and tailgate seams can **NOT** be welded in any place on the interior of the trunk floor or lower trunk side extensions; however, rear fenders may be pushed inward and bolted to the lower trunk side extensions with a maximum of 5/16" hardware. No more than (10) bolts may be used on each side.
- 4. Trunk lid support webbing can **NOT** be welded or bolted to the trunk lid.
- 5. Inner and outer tailgate skin may be pinched together along the top and welded with no added metal.
- 6. If not welded, trunks and tailgates can be chained / banded around the full perimeter within the following rules:
 - a. Chains or banding material can **NOT** attach to or encompass the frame.
 - b. Chains can **NOT** exceed 3/8" link. Banding material can **NOT** exceed 1" wide.
 - c. Chaining and banding methods can be combined if not welding the trunk or tail gate seams.
- 7. Trunks lids may be "tucked" within the following rules:
 - a. If welding, the trunk lid may be welded to the interior trunk floor with no added metal. In the event the trunk lid does not fully meet the trunk floor, the **ONLY** filler material that can be used is sheet metal.
 - b. If bolting, the trunk lid may be bolted with a maximum of 5/16" hardware.
- 8. Trunks lids may be "wedged" within the following rules:
 - a. Trunk lids may be pushed downward or caved-in, and rear fenders may be bent or folded inward.
 - b. Trunk and tailgate seams can **NOT** be welded in any place on the interior of the trunk floor or lower trunk side extensions; however, rear fenders may be pushed inward and bolted to the lower trunk side extensions with a maximum of 5/16" hardware. No more than (10) bolts may be used on each side.
 - c. **MODERATE** welding is allowed (no added metal) to secure fenders. *Inspectors will use discretion.*
- 9. **IN ADDITION TO** all trunk and tailgate closure methods above (including tucking), drivers are allowed (2) All-thread (one per side) up to 1" in diameter in the location of their choice under the following stipulations:
 - a. All-thread can be welded or bolted *to or through* the rear frame with no added metal.

- b. Holes for All-thread may have a 1" washer welded to trunk skin with no added metal.
 - 10. Rear seat to trunk opening **MUST** remain open to inspect the trunk area. If the trunk is wedged, (2) holes with a 6" diameter on each side of the trunk lid are **MANDATORY** for inspection.
 - 11. Station wagon spare-tire access covers may be welded or bolted according to the following rules:
 - a. Stitch welded with 4" long welds separated by 4" gap.
 - b. Bolted every 4" with a maximum of 5/16" hardware.
 - c. A 10" diameter hole **MUST** be cut in the center of the spare-tire access cover for inspection underneath.
 - d. Drivers may also choose to completely remove the spare-tire access cover if desired.
- C. Hoods
1. Hoods may be secured with bolted angle iron (pieces of opposing angle iron each being welded to the hood and front fender). Hood angle iron will be inspected within the following rules:
 - a. Angle iron can only be welded to the **SIDES** of the hood. This is defined as driver and passenger sides.
 - b. Hood angle iron can **NOT** exceed 18" **TOTAL LENGTH** per side of the hood. Drivers may split their allowable 18" of angle iron as desired, but drivers can **NOT** use angle irons pieces shorter than 4" in length (i.e. 5" - 5" - 8" **OR** 6" & 12" **OR** 4" - 6" - 8" and so on).
 - c. Hood angle iron can **NOT** exceed 2" in height & width.
 - d. Hood angle iron can **NOT** exceed 1/4" in thickness.
 - e. A maximum of 2 bolts per set of angle iron are allowed, but can **NOT** exceed 1/2" hardware.
 2. **IN ADDITION TO** bolted angle iron, (2) All-thread (one per side) with a maximum diameter of 1" may be used under the following stipulations:
 - a. All-thread **MUST** be located immediately in front, behind, or pass through the radiator core support.
 - b. All-thread can be welded or bolted *to or through* the front frame with no added metal.
 - c. Holes for All-thread may have a 1" flat washer welded to the hood skin with no added metal.
 3. **ALTERNATIVELY**, if drivers do not wish to use the bolted angle iron, (4) additional All-thread (two more per side) with a maximum diameter of 1" may be used (*like Riverton*) under the following stipulations:
 - a. All-thread can be welded or bolted *to or through* the frame with no added metal.
 - b. Holes for All-thread may have a 1" flat washer welded to the hood skin with no added metal.
 4. Hoods must remain in **ORIGINAL POSITIONS**. They can be folded over at the radiator core support but can **NOT** be slid forward. If folded, hoods can **NOT** be bolted or welded to bumper or radiator core support.
 5. Hoods can **NOT** be cut/sectioned with the front portion bolted or welded to fenders or radiator core support.
 6. Hood skin from openings can **NOT** be folded back under itself nor folded into the engine compartment and welded/bolted to the underside of the hood, inner fenders, or radiator core support.
 7. Underhood support webbing can **NOT** be welded or bolted to the hood skin.
 8. Hoods must be able to be opened and will be completely removed or lifted on hinges prior to inspection.
 9. Hood openings will adhere to the following rules:
 - a. A minimum of (2) holes with a 6" diameter on each side of the engine near the carburetor are **MANDATORY** in case of fire. Hood holes from stacks or headers should meet this requirement, but they may need to be enlarged at the discretion of the inspector.
 - b. All hood openings for exhaust and engine maintenance (radiators / transmission dipsticks / etc.) may have the hood skin and under-hood support webbing secured together by welding the perimeter of the opening with no added metal or by bolting with a maximum of 1/4" hardware.

VI. Fuel Systems

- A. **PUMP GAS ONLY!** Premium or lesser octane - No aviation, alcohol, or racing fuel will be allowed.
- B. All stock, factory gas tanks **MUST** be removed. The *only exception* to this rule are vehicles that have the fuel tank integrated into the trunk floor. These tanks **MUST** have holes punched in them.
- C. Fuel tanks with a maximum capacity of 6 gallons must be located in the rear seat area. They must be effectively secured and fastened with bolts, ratchet, or welded straps. Bungee or pull-style straps are **NOT** allowed.
- D. Metal fuel tanks are highly recommended, but plastic fuel tanks are allowed provided they are designed to be a fuel tank (no gas cans). Fuel tank fittings must be secured into the tank in an appropriate fashion (no duct tape).
- E. Vehicles may utilize electric fuel pumps. The switch area must be clearly marked with RED PAINT for easy identification in the event of a fire. This is for driver and fire personnel protection.

VII. Cooling Systems

- A. Radiators may be completely removed, but not relocated.

- B. Aftermarket aluminum radiators are allowed.
- C. Additional or external coolant tanks can **NOT** be used to increase coolant capacity.
- D. Radiator core supports can **NOT** be reinforced and **MUST** be bolted within 1" of the **ORIGINAL MOUNTS**.
- E. Electric cooling fans are allowed.
- F. Radiator and cooling fan mounts may be bolted or welded to the radiator core support **ONLY**. Mounts can **NOT** be excessive enough to be considered reinforcement and can **NOT** be attached to the frame.
- G. Transmission coolers with fans or "cold boxes" are allowed. If used, they **MUST** be located in the rear seat area.

VIII. Electrical Systems

- A. Batteries **MUST** be relocated to the passenger front floorboard.
- B. A maximum of (2) automotive/marine batteries **OR** (1) large tractor/Cat battery may be used.
- C. Batteries **MUST** be secure and **MUST** be covered for driver safety.
- D. Metal battery boxes with a top strap are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** and may be bolted or welded to the floor.

IX. Brake Systems

- A. All vehicles **MUST** have sufficient brakes. You will be asked to demonstrate braking ability at inspection.
- B. Pinion brakes are allowed.

X. Drive-trains

- A. Engines
 - 1. Engine swaps from other vehicle brands are allowed.
 - 2. Engines **MUST** be located within 4" of the stock engine location.
 - 3. Firewalls and floorboards may be trimmed or bent for engine and/or distributor clearance but every attempt must be made to close off the interior of the vehicle from the engine compartment for driver safety. Openings larger than 6" must be covered with **SHEET METAL!**
 - 4. All engines **MUST** have an air cleaner. No open carburetors.
 - 5. Engine mounts will be inspected within the following rules:
 - a. Stock engine mounts may be welded or made solid.
 - b. Individually fabricated engine mounts are difficult to regulate due to unique mounting requirements, but bottom line, they can **NOT** be excessive or reinforce the frame in any way. *Inspectors will use discretion.*
 - c. An additional (4) chains or straps may be used to tie the engine down to the frame. **NO MORE THAN 4"** of chain or strap may be welded to the frame for **EACH** mount.
 - d. Basic engine cradles are allowed but can **NOT** reinforce the frame. *Inspectors will use discretion.*
 - 6. Basic distributor protectors will be allowed. For engines with rear-mounted distributors, the distributor protector must be at least 10" away from dash bar. No full engine halos / protectors will be allowed.
- B. Transmissions
 - 1. Transmission mounts may be chained, welded, or made solid.
 - 2. Individually fabricated floor shifters are allowed. Floor shifters may be bolted to the floorboard or directly to the transmission. They may also be welded to the floorboard.
- C. Rear Differentials
 - 1. Rear-end swaps from one make/style to another make/style are allowed provided it is a compact car rear-end. **5-LUG MAX!** See **Rule XI.F** for allowable mounting methods.
- D. 4WD vehicles **MUST** have one driveshaft completely removed. Drivers may choose either the front or rear.
- E. Drivers may use any OEM driveline to include factory two-piece or slider-type drivelines. Drivers may also use aftermarket or fabricated slider-type drivelines.

XI. Suspensions

- A. The maximum height of any vehicle is 20" to the center of the front and rear bumpers. Inspectors will allow flexibility – within reason – for pre-run vehicles on a case-by-case basis. *Pre-bending does not qualify as pre-run.*
- B. Adjusting factory suspensions within factory means is allowed. **NO SOLID OR WELDED SUSPENSIONS.**
- C. Air shocks can **NOT** be used to increase height and must be disconnected.
- D. Lifting blocks or shackles can **NOT** be used to increase height.
- E. Coil springs may be welded to the rear axle and the frame with no added metal.
- F. If a rear-end swap is performed, it **MUST** be mounted just as the factory did for the vehicle it's swapped **INTO**. This means drivers must use the same brackets, saddles, perches, trailing arms, etc. as their vehicle did in stock

form. If they are damaged beyond repair or altogether missing, drivers must use materials similar to stock in strength and design. **LEAF CONVERSIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED!**

- G. Rear frame humps may be chained to the axle with a single loop of chain. Chain can **NOT** exceed 3/8" link.
- H. Rear leaf springs must be stock, and can **NOT** be welded together. Drivers may add stock-type or fabricated leaf spring clamps if they desire. A **MAXIMUM** of (4) clamps are allowed per set of leaf springs.

XII. Safety

A. Driver safety equipment

- 1. All drivers must wear closed-toed shoes and pants. Shorts/sandals will **NOT** be permitted.
- 2. Long sleeve shirts and gloves are recommended. The use of fire-retardant clothing is also recommended.
- 3. A DOT approved closed-faced safety helmet is **MANDATORY**. If this equipment falls off during the derby, you may be **DISQUALIFIED**. Face shields, goggles, or safety glasses are recommended.
- 4. At a minimum, a lap-safety belt is **MANDATORY**. If a safety belt becomes unsecured or fails during the derby, you may be **DISQUALIFIED**. A shoulder harness is recommended.
- 5. Fire extinguishers are optional, but if used, they **MUST** be mounted **SECURELY!**

B. Windshield/Rear Window Openings

- 1. For safety, all windshield openings **MUST** have (2) bars welded vertically in front of the driver.
- 2. For safety, rear window openings **MAY** have up to (2) bars welded vertically in the window frame only. These bars must start and end within 2" of the rear window opening and can **NOT** extend onto the trunk.
- 3. Material for windshield/rear windows can **NOT** exceed 1" in diameter/width (rod, pipe, tubing, etc.).

C. The driver door **MUST** be welded. It **MUST** also be reinforced for driver safety by a 4-Point Cage or Door Brace. Safety reinforcements must be contained within the passenger compartment **ONLY**. The only exceptions are the Halo bar and Outside Door Brace. Safety reinforcements may be welded to the **FLOORBOARD ONLY**. To increase strength and safety, Drivers may utilize end plates where the pipe or tubing meets the floorboard. End plates can be a maximum of 6" X 6" in size and up to 1/4" in thickness. All safety reinforcements must be constructed **WITH A MAXIMUM OF 3" diameter pipe or 3" square tubing**.

- 1. 4-Point Cage – The 4-Point Cage may be constructed *with a maximum* of (4) vertical posts, (1) bar across the dash area, (2) bars across both the driver and passenger doors, and (2) bars across the rear seat area no more than 12" behind the driver seat [(1) of the rear seat bars must be no more than 12" above the floorboard].
- 2. Door braces – The Door Brace may be constructed with (1) door bar slanted upward across the driver door and (1) rear seat bar slanted downward to the passenger rear floorboard no more than 12" behind driver seat.
- 3. Halo bar – Halo bar or roll-over protection is **MANDATORY**. They may be routed inside or over the roof of the vehicle. If using a Halo bar with a 4-Point Cage, it will be extended upward from the two rear, vertical posts. If used with the Door Brace, the Halo bar can be independent and attached to the floorboard.
- 4. Outside Door Brace – An Outside Door Brace may be used instead, but they are **NOT RECOMMENDED**. It can **NOT** extend more than 12" past the front and rear door seams. The use of "Grader Blade" material as an Outside Door Brace is allowed, but it is **NOT RECOMMENDED!**