



**COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

**FEBRUARY 2016**

**[www.showmowracing.com](http://www.showmowracing.com)**

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# Aims of SHOWMOW RACING AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

While some form of Competition and Technical Regulations are required and are provided in the following paragraphs, the primary aim of ShowMow Racing Incorporated (ShowMow) is to provide a simple, low cost and fun activity for competitors whilst also providing an entertaining activity for spectators.

The spirit of fun and friendly competition is to be maintained. At times mowers which do not comply with all technical regulations may be permitted to compete provided they fall within the “spirit” of the event and regulations. Conversely mowers that technically comply may be excluded where it is apparent they fall outside the “spirit” of the event. Such decisions will be made by the Chief Steward for the event and such decisions are final.

**We race lawn mowers - they must remain lawn mowers**

**Note – if it is not mentioned in these rules, it is not allowed.**

(If unsure, please fill out “*request variation*” form)

## COMPETITION REGULATIONS

### 1. GENERAL

- 1.1. The organisers retain the right to limit the number of entries.
- 1.2. If entry numbers are insufficient for any class, the organisers may cancel competition for that class or combine it with another class by using some form of handicap if necessary.
- 1.3. Entry Fees will be \$5 for each driver, each event. But the objective remains to limit costs as much as possible.
- 1.4. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed by any driver or crew member before the end of the last race or any other on-track activity. No illegal drugs or controlled substances shall be tolerated on the track premises at any time. Violation will result in disqualification and loss of points or results.
- 1.5. All on-track and competition (i.e. non-technical) issues must be raised with the Chief Flag Steward.
- 1.6. Any technical specification issue should be referred to the Chief Scrutineer.
- 1.7. Unauthorised persons are not allowed onto the track or pit area at anytime.
- 1.8. Pets are not allowed onto the track at any time.

### 2. RULES OF THE TRACK

- 2.1. No bumping or deliberate blocking will be tolerated. A driver maintaining a racing line is not considered to be blocking, however several changes of line to deliberately impede a following driver will be penalised.
- 2.2. The responsibility of a safe pass rests with the overtaking driver.
- 2.3. The following flag signals (where flags are used) will be followed without question:
  - 2.3.1. **GREEN (held steady)** – prepare for race start
  - 2.3.2. **GREEN (waved)** – the race is underway, or resume racing after yellow.

- 2.3.3. **YELLOW – caution. SLOW DOWN.** Obstruction or mishap ahead - No passing until past hazard or next flag point indicating green flag. Drivers are to form a single line behind the leader and follow the starter's directions. Very slow machines may signal following machines to pass.
- 2.3.4. **RED – danger.** Stop racing immediately and clear the course as much as possible.
- 2.3.5. **BLACK (furled)** –displayed as a warning for a driving infringement. Continued infringement will result in an unfurled Black flag and disqualification.
- 2.3.6. **BLACK (unfurled)** – displayed for dangerous driving, continued driving infringements or flagrant breaking of the rules. The driver must complete the lap and pull off the race track to the pits or a safe area away from the track without impeding any other competitors.
- 2.3.7. **BLUE (optional, at Head Marshalls discretion)** – a quicker vehicle is close behind. Maintain your course and allow them to pass.
- 2.3.8. **CHEQUERED** – end of race
- 2.4. If a driver leaves the course he/she must re-enter the course as close as possible to the same point the mower left the marked course. The driver may not simply re-enter further down the course in order to gain an advantage.
- 2.5. **If a mower stalls on the course the driver's first responsibility is to raise one hand high**, then await instruction from the flag marshals. Crew members are not to go onto the course unless directed to do so by the Chief Steward or his/her representative.
- 2.6. Unsafe track driving practices may result in disqualification.
- 2.7. Grid positions may be determined by random public draw and/or qualifying times if available.
- 2.8. Starts may be "Le-Mans" style, with engines off and drivers on the opposite side of the track. When Green Flag is waved, drivers run to their mowers, start them and commence racing. No outside assistance is permitted.
- 2.9. The duration of a race (i.e. number of laps) will be advised to the drivers prior to commencement of the race. If a race is stopped (e.g. red flagged) prior to completing the notified number of laps, then the race can be declared finished if more than 75% of the notified number of laps have been completed. The finishing order will be as the mowers passed the finish line on the last completed lap prior to the display of the red flag. If less than 75% of laps have been completed then the race may be abandoned or, if time permits, rerun in full or restarted from the point it was stopped. If the race is restarted it shall be single file and in the order as mowers finished the last lap prior to the display of the red flag.

### 3. RULES OF THE PITS AND GRID

- 3.1. No person under the age of 16, unless competing shall be permitted on the grid.
- 3.2. No mower may have more than one attendant on the grid in addition to the driver unless permission is granted by the chief steward or committee.
- 3.3. Long pants, closed shoes and shirts are required to be worn by all crew members in the track and grid area.
- 3.4. No smoking in the pits, track and grid area AT ALL.
- 3.5. During refuelling the engine must be off and driver must dismount. An appropriately rated fire extinguisher must be in the hands of a crew member any time fuel is added to a hot machine.

- 3.6. Mower must be completely stopped before the driver dismounts.
- 3.7. Drivers and Crew members are under the direction of the pit stewards, or their representatives, at all times when machines are in the pit area.
- 3.8 All drivers, crews & attendants must be current financial members of Showmow Racing Australia Inc

#### **4. DRIVER ELIGIBILITY**

- 4.1. For C Class, Modified & Super Modified Classes, drivers must be at least 17 years of age, and be the holder of a current driver's license (exemption under special circumstances may be granted by the Chief Steward, e.g.: driver has significant experience in junior class motorsport). Driver eligibility for all classes may be re-assessed for individual cases at the committee's discretion.
- 4.2. For Junior Classes, drivers must be a minimum of 8 years of age and a maximum of 16 years of age. Prior to competing in any event Junior Class drivers must be able to demonstrate to the Chief Steward adequate skill and control of the mower. (See Section 10 for Junior Class mower requirements)
- 4.3. All drivers must sign a release form discharging the organizers from liability and for drivers under 18 years of age this form must also be signed by an attending parent/guardian.
- 4.4. All drivers must be financial members of ShowMow Racing Australia Inc.
- 4.5. Drivers new to ShowMow Racing Australia inc. will be required to start from rear of grid in each race in their first three Race Meetings (that is, three Shows) to allow Stewards to observe driver standards. All drivers wishing to drive SUPER MODIFIED mowers must have competed as a senior for a minimum of two years, with a satisfactory completion rate of races to demonstrate ability and attitude commensurate with the risk involved in high level motor sports. Persons with an active competition license (e.g. CAMS or speedway) may, at the discretion of the committee, compete in super modified after one year in modified.
- 4.6. Effective 3rd February 2014 members (subject to meeting clause 4.1 - 4.5 except 4.2) must commence racing in C Class and then after a minimum of 1 full year of competition may progress to Modified Class. After a further full year of competition in Modified Class they may progress to Super Modified Class. All current members as of 3rd February 2014 may continue to race in their current entered classes for the 2013 - 2014 season.
- 4.7. A racer in a class higher than the entry class for new members (currently C class or Juniors if <16) must complete a minimum of 50% of eligible race meetings and competition races to retain a licence at this level. Should a driver take a leave of absence from the club or not meet this competency (i.e. 50% rule) then they will be required to recommence their racing at the entry class and follow the provisions listed in section 4.6.

#### **5. DRIVER SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

- 5.1. Every driver MUST wear an automobile or motorcycle type helmet with the minimum of AS 1698 approval sticker attached. Helmets must be in sound overall condition, and fit snugly. Chin straps must be done up while racing or practising.
- 5.2. Goggles, approved safety glasses or a face shield are required. Reading or straight sunglasses are NOT sufficient. Sunglasses may be worn under a CLOSED visor.

5.3. Every driver must wear (as a minimum) long pants, long sleeved shirt or jacket, full finger gloves and leather over-the-ankle footwear (e.g. overalls, leather work gloves and work boots). Motorcycle leathers or anti-abrasion karting suite are highly recommended.

Go kart style neck braces are also highly recommended. No loose clothing (unbuttoned or untucked shirts etc) allowed. Long hair must be kept tucked inside helmet.

5.4. Drivers must have a fully charged appropriately rated fire extinguisher in their equipment and it must be readily available adjacent to any fuelling operation. **Drivers who discharge someone else's are required to replace it.**

5.5. The placing of hands around and/or under rear guards of the mowers is not permitted. Drivers may fit handles or handgrips to the top of the rear guards of their mowers but the handles must not extend outside the existing bodywork at the rear of the mower and must be sufficiently large to enable their gloved hand to fit under the handle and be removed without getting caught

## 6. MOWER ELIGIBILITY

6.1. Events are open to all self propelled lawn mowers, the main provision being that the mower must originally have been designed and sold commercially to mow residential lawns.

6.2. The generally accepted category is ride-on mowers and lawn tractors with rear tyres 20 inches (510mm) diameter and under. Tyres MUST be turf tread mower tyres. (refer 9:20)

6.3. Final drive ratio is free for all senior mowers. Junior mowers may be restricted by gearing or engine revs or other means to achieve a maximum speed of 22kph.

6.4. Demonstration or "novelty" classes may be included for mowers that otherwise may not be eligible for competition.

6.5. Other classes may be added if sufficient interest is shown.

## 7. SCRUTINEERING

7.1. Every mower must be presented for scrutineering prior to any event. An indicator that the mower has passed a scrutineering check is required before that mower will be allowed to enter the grid or track areas.

7.2. Any mower may be re-scrutineered at any time if, in the opinion of the Chief Steward or Chief Scrutineer, the mower's eligibility may have changed.

7.3. All safety equipment (including fire extinguisher) and clothing must be presented for inspection at the time of scrutineering and must be clean and in sound condition. Equipment that has holes, is torn or badly stained may be rejected.

7.4. Drivers may be tested on their flag knowledge at scrutineering.

7.5. A completed entry form and scrutineering sheet, signed by the driver and Event Secretary, must be presented to the Scrutineer.

7.6. Scrutineering faults will be noted on the entry/scrutineering form. If that fault is not rectified by the next event it may not be permitted to race. If permitted NO championship points will be awarded until fault is rectified.

7.7. It is each driver's responsibility to ensure their mower complies with these Competition Regulations.

7.8. A driver must nominate at scrutineering at each meet which race category they are entering and the mower (i.e. C class/mower name) they will use for that meet. Another mower may be used for a race in lieu of this mower (for race participation purposes), but no championship points will be awarded.

7.9. Only ONE mower per category can be nominated for competition points

## **8. FUEL and FUEL DELIVERY**

8.1. Only petrol commercially available at a service station may be used. If organisers provide fuel, only that fuel may be used.

8.2. Any apparatus other than the carburettor or fuel injection system (where fitted as standard by the factory) which can be used to introduce any gaseous or liquid substance into the induction flow, whether connected or not, is prohibited. Such devices include, but are not limited to, Nitrous Oxide, alcohol or water injection systems, turbo or superchargers, and/or the attendant hardware consistent with these systems. Any attempt to use, conceal or disguise such apparatus will be considered a flagrant violation of the rules and will result in disqualification.

8.3. Electric fuel pumps are not permitted except where fitted as a standard factory item.

## **9. GENERAL MOWER REQUIREMENTS**

***NOTE – THESE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL RACING CLASSES. ANY EXCEPTIONS ARE LISTED IN INDIVIDUAL BUILD RULES.***

9.1. Cutting decks must be removed completely from all mowers

9.2. All mowers must be fitted with a device to ensure the mower will come to a stop if the driver removes pressure from the drive pedal. If this is a foot accelerator pedal, the linkages must be fitted with a minimum of two return springs. Hand only throttles are not permitted if it is the only means of the mower stopping or slowing.

9.3. All mowers MUST be fitted with a “kill switch” that will turn the engine off in the event the driver falls from the mower.

9.4. This MUST be the commercially available “lanyard” type with a tether mechanically connecting to the driver and the mower (similar to that available for a jet ski) as available from the club. Other lanyards will not be allowed.

9.5. The lanyard is to be no longer than 1 metre, but should also be of a length proportionate to driver and mower to ensure effective operation should incident occur

9.6. Velcro is NOT to be used to attach the tether to the driver or the mower.

9.7. Homemade switches, pressure switches or magnetic switches are not acceptable even if as fitted to the originally manufactured mower.

9.8. Additional switches that by-pass the kill switch are not allowed under any circumstance.

9.9. Mower brakes must be in good working order. A parking brake may be fitted for safety if desired.

9.10. If racing at night events, working headlights must be fitted (so other drivers can see you)

9.11. Mowers must be free of projections, which could injure the driver or a competitor, or damage another mower. No axle or wheel mounting bolts may protrude beyond the face of the side-wall.

- 9.12. Mowers must be safe and complete: all parts and panels in place, with no missing bolts, nuts or cotter pins etc.
- 9.13. All exposed chains and sprockets must be fitted with a metal guard that will deflect a broken chain downward
- 9.14. Mowers must be neat and clean, with paint in new or very good condition. No excess dirt, oil, grease, rust or primer should be evident. Sponsor graphics must not interfere with the mowers racing numbers and 'MOW' name. Mowers racing numbers and 'MOW' name must be clearly visible. (see 9.16)
- 9.15. In racing classes, bumpers may be permitted. The front most portion of the bar must not protrude any further than 30mm from the furthestmost extremities of the body work when measured on a vertical axis. The bar must not protrude past the width of the body work. No push bars, rollover protection or seatbelts allowed. All mowers must be fitted with an effective muffler.
- 9.16. Race numbers and 'MOW' names are to be requested on the Official Entry Form or by pre-registering with the event Secretary. Pre-registered numbers will take precedence. The required minimum dimensions of both numbers and 'mow' names is 70mm. Numbers MUST be clearly visible on a contrasting background. e.g. white letters on black circle/square or black letters on white circle/square.
- 9.17. All positive charged terminals must be insulated with a cover of heavy tape or original rubber/plastic cover securely fixed, and battery must be securely fixed.
- 9.18. Glass headlamps must be taped or removed.
- 9.19. Steering wheels and handlebars may be substituted for any commercially available pieces, but may not be substituted for each other except in the Super Modified class. From the 1st July 2012 there will be no further mowers allowed in any class accepted with handlebars in lieu of a steering wheel. Existing mowers in super modified at this date may retain this mechanism - with the view to encourage removal of all handlebars by the close of 2013.
- 9.20. Tyres must be lawn tractor tyres. No tractor tread, A.T.V, commercial mower or performance compound, competition or kart tyres. Additional grooving is not permitted. Flat tyres will be black flagged.
- 9.21. No centrifugal or torque converter clutches allowed except in the Super Modified class.
- 9.22 **GROUND CLEARANCE - Junior and 'C'** class min of 200mm to lowest part of chassis,  
Including footboards  
**Modified & Super Modified** – 100mm to lowest part of chassis, including foot boards.  
Only steering, exhausts and front axle cross beam may be below this height
- 9.23 Horsepower ratings by class:
- 9.23.1 JUNIOR CLASS – Maximum horsepower permitted is 14 HP  
Maximum top speed is restricted to 22kph.
- 9.23.2 CLASSIC 'C' CLASS - Maximum horsepower permitted is 14 HP.
- 9.23.3 MODIFIED CLASS - Maximum horsepower permitted is 19 HP.
- 9.23.4 SUPER MODIFIED - Anything over 19 HP is classified as Super Modified OR a Motorbike engine must not exceed 250cc LAMS. Mower Engines are not restricted.
- 9.24 All bonnets must be fitted with securing devices to prevent opening during racing.



9.25 All engines must be verifiable by the original manufacturers Model Number and/or Engine Number. Should these details be not available, then the mower will only be qualified to compete in the super modified class of racing.

## 10 JUNIOR

10.1 Juniors have to comply with # General Rules and Regulations.

10.2 Junior mowers must also comply with horsepower and gearing restrictions as per Sections 9.23.1

10.3 Juniors are NOT permitted to race Super Modified mowers.

10.4 Junior mowers must have a riveted plate fitted to ensure gear restrictions are not breached.

10.5 Maximum speed permitted is 22kph.

10.6 Driver seat may be lowered, but only by bolting it directly to centre bodywork. Cutting it into the guards or bodywork is NOT permitted.

## 11. C CLASS

*The emphasis for class 'C' or Classic is to provide a restricted class resembling the origins of Showmow Racing Australia Inc. Therefore, certain restrictions are in place to provide an entry level, plus a level for those wishing to race at a less frantic pace and still enjoy their motorsport. It is foreseen that the top performers in this class would migrate to the modified class with suitable experience. It is intended that C class mowers are basically standard, as supplied from manufacturer, with only the barest of modifications allowed - factory guards etc must be maintained.*

*Any modifications required or desired must be submitted to committee prior to commencement of work to ensure that alterations will not interfere with the integrity of the class - Which is an entry level mower. If unsure fill out & submit 'variation form'.*

11.1 These rules are a sub heading to 'MODIFIED CLASS RULES'. If it is not specified in these 'C' class rules, it is not permitted. All other requirements are listed under 'GENERAL MOWER REQUIREMENTS'.

11.2 The limit for engines is 14hp and below and this must be verifiable by the original manufacturers Model Number and/or Engine Number. Should these details be not available, then the mower will only be qualified to compete in the super modified class of racing.

11.3 Carburettors must remain as standard supplied by manufacturer

11.4 Exhaust is free design, whilst still remaining at acceptable noise level

11.5 Standard safety equipment as specified for all other classes must be adhered to i.e. lanyard (of a length proportionate to driver and mower), auto return throttle etc

11.6 Driveline must be standard available ride-on mower equipment

11.7 The mower may be lowered, but must not be lower than 200mm from the ground, measured from the lowest part of the chassis. The only exclusion is the actual trailing arm in the steering at the bottom of the kingpin, if that arm is mounted as standard at the bottom of the kingpin assembly. (Most arms are mounted above)... All steering rods from this point back must slope upward so as to

adhere to the 100mm clearance rule. 200mm clearance must be maintained under the side steps of the mower. **Exhausts are to be mounted as high to the body as possible.**

11.8 Driver seat may be lowered, but only by bolting it directly to centre bodywork. Cutting it into the guards or bodywork is NOT permitted.

11.9 The front cross member may be bolted to stop lateral movement. The castor and camber angle may be altered. To this end, fabrication of a new cross member and kingpin arrangement is allowed, within the tolerances. (See also 100 mm rule)

11.10 Where no running board is fitted as standard (i.e. Rover Rancher) a suitable running board to prevent feet from becoming entangled with wheels, must be fitted.

11.11 Driver restrictions - As with the mowers in this class, it is intended that drivers be of an entry level standard. It is recommended that after two championship wins, that a driver is elevated to the more advanced modified class. Should they choose to remain in this class, they will be relegated to rear starting /grid positions to gain further experience prior to advancement.

In a similar manner, any driver who wishes to return to this class after competing in modified level or higher will do so from the back of the grid, and will also make a concession to new drivers by not being eligible for championship points. It is anticipated that this will not be a common event and will in the greater part be for training and development purposes.

## 12 MODIFIED CLASS

12.1 These mowers are as delivered from the factory except for the modifications listed below.

12.2 Engine must be originally manufactured for use in lawn mowing equipment and be stock in appearance, with the exception of air filter, air cleaner or velocity stack. (Ram tube.) Crankshaft must be in original orientation. Vertical crankshafts must pass through the original, unaltered crankshaft clearance hole in the frame. Engine may be internally modified. Maximum rating is 19 HP. **ALL engine markings/casting numbers identifying engine size etc, MUST be retained and clearly visible & unchanged. Penalties may occur for infringement.**

12.3 Exhaust design is open, but must terminate away from driver and competitors and present no apparent safety hazard, and be of approved noise level at scrutineer's discretion.

12.4 Starter must be onboard, either electric or pull-rope.

12.5 Driveline may be modified from the engine pulley to the rear wheels.

12.6 Rear axle may use open differential, locked, "live" or solid axle. No single wheel drive.

12.7 Rear axle should be secured in all areas to the minimum factory standard, but can also use shaft locks, centre bolts or through bolts to secure the rear wheels.

12.8 All steering linkages must use ball-type or spherical threaded rod ends.

12.9 Front axle and steering may be reinforced, substituted or fabricated. In the case of racer-fabricated axles, these will be subject to the judgement of the Scrutineer as to their apparent safety for racing.

- 12.10 Front axle may be pinned, bolted or welded in stock position. No suspension and no shock absorbers permitted. Seats may have **DISCREET** shock absorbing capability. Axles must have an I-piece beam. Rubber bump stops may be used to dampen centre pivoted front axles.
- 12.11 Shaft locks, centre-drilled axle with locking bolts, castellated nuts with cotter pins, and washers with new cotter pins, are acceptable for securing front wheels. Cotter pins (except where fitted as factory standard and with rub washer), E-rings and Circlips alone, bent nails, hitch pins, over-centre pins and quick-release pins are not sufficient for wheel retention and are not approved.
- 12.12 Wheels must be the **same size on the rear axle, likewise front both front wheels must be the same**, and of lawn mower origin, made of metal. No dual or tandem wheels.
- 12.13 Throttle and brake controls may be relocated.
- 12.14 Brakes may be improved in any way.
- 12.15 Standard lawn mower tyres **must** be used.
- 12.16 All parts should be of lawn mower origin with the exception of those specifically mentioned in these regulations.
- 12.17 The original Chassis, whether pressed or frame type, must not have outside dimensions altered. Wheel base must not be altered.
- 12.18 Seat may be lowered, but top of seat padding may NOT be lower than top of rear guards  
Mowers must still be clearly and easily recognised as mowers, and be neat, tidy and have good paint presentation.

### 13 SUPER MODIFIED

*"All drivers wishing to drive SUPER MODIFIED mowers must have competed as a senior for a minimum of two years with a satisfactory completion rate of races to demonstrate ability and attitude commensurate with the risk involved in high level motor sports. Exceptions to this may be granted by the committee under special circumstances e.g.: applicant has history of circuit racing and holds (or has actively held) a CAMS competition license." (Refer 4:5)*

- 13.2 "Super modified" means a ride on lawn mower, which has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications in any structural or mechanical aspect and has been fitted with a mower engine in excess of 19 HP or a motorcycle engine not exceeding 250cc capacity (refer 9:23.4). It must also comply with all the General Requirements. (See Section 9)
- 13.3 The minimum braking requirement for all modified mowers is that they shall be fitted with a braking mechanism such as hydraulic calipers applied to a braking disc which is securely affixed to the driving axle and which slows both wheels simultaneously.
- 13.4 Handlebars are not permitted.
- 13.5 Mowers shall not be fitted with suspension to the front or the rear wheels; however springs under the seat as such are permissible. (see 12.10)
- 13.6 The maximum width of any mower shall be 1 metre at the widest point.
- 13.7 The installation of braces or other components to strengthen the original chassis or body is permitted.

- 13.8 Modification of the original chassis is permitted where such modification may include the lengthening cutting or adapting of the chassis. Outer mud guards must be re-fitted, and the finished mower MUST retain and be clearly visible as a mower.
- 13.9 Where any portion of the chassis is replaced during the course of any modifications necessary, the same type and quality material shall be used
- 13.10 Any alterations repairs or replacements to the body or chassis of the mower are permitted provided the mower retains the appearance of, and can be readily recognized as a ride on lawn mower.
- 13.11 Wheel rims on Super Modified Class Mowers shall be of steel or machined alloy only and be of a one piece or welded construction. No two-piece rims are permitted.

#### 14 OTHER TYPES

- 14.2 Mowers of front drive/rear steer, derived from 'Zero-Turn' origins and/or articulated are NOT eligible to compete in any class (at this stage).