

Introduction

This manual was developed by members of the Western Snow Conference National Snow Roadeo Committee. It is to serve as a guide to the Western Snow Conference National Snow Roadeo, and is the official statement of rules and regulations governing the Roadeo. IT may also serve as a guide for those interested in putting on a Snow Roadeo

The National Snow Roadeo was originally introduced as a training device. Participants and observers are encouraged to use the Roadeo concept to train snowplow and equipment operators. Specific events which are conducted as part of the Western Snow Conference have become very popular and as a result, it has turned into a competitive event. It should be stressed, however, that the sponsors of the Western Snow Conference National Snow Roadeo still considers training and testing of operator skills, to be the primary objective of the Roadeo.

It should be noted that the measurements presented in this manual for setting up a Roadeo Course are just guidelines. The overall size and dimensions of the site to be used for the Roadeo are important in determining the actual course layout, arrangement/problems of the obstacles and the actual dimensions and distance of the obstacles. The size and turning radius of the equipment being used is very important in determining the actual course size and layout. The course should be designed to fit the particular truck and/or plow, loader or motor grader being used. This is the only way to ensure a challenging and tight roadeo course. Whenever possible, the equipment being used for the Roadeo should be of the same make and mode and should either be all automatic or all manual transmissions. This ensures that all operators have an equal opportunity in the Roadeo.

The Roadeo is designed to test the skills and knowledge of all snowplow and equipment operators. The Roadeo can help identify an individual operator's strengths and weaknesses, knowledge of applicable laws, general knowledge of sanding/salting procedures, as well as an operator's knowledge of equipment maintenance and safety. Because teamwork is an important concept in any successful operation, the Western Snow Conference National Snow Roadeo required the plowing events to be performed by a two-person team. Loader, Motor Grader and Skid Steer events are performed by a one-person team.

Rules

1. All participants may enter from 1 to 5 events including single/tandem axle, grader, loader and skid steer.

On single or tandem axle competition, participants may enter one or both events.

2. All participants and teams must register for the Roadeo by mail or internet. Entries must be submitted by the deadlines indicated in the brochure.
3. All contestants must check-in and pick up team numbers at the conference registrations table.
4. Each individual or team will be issued a number, which must be affixed to the equipment when running the course.
5. **Seat belts must be worn by each contestant when running the obstacle courses.** The Roadeo Judge will check to see if seat belts are secured at the beginning and end of the obstacle course. You will receive a "no score" if seatbelts are not worn.
6. **Roadeo equipment may NOT be altered in any way by any contestant.** The only exceptions are mirrors and seats may be adjusted prior to starting the course. Plows may not be change or moved in any way (this includes any accidental actions by the driver or passenger that would allow the plow to float or turn freely).
7. **Any form of recklessness that could endanger course officials or spectators, damage course obstacles or Roadeo equipment, and/or driving that does not reflect proper equipment operation or simulate real life conditions WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. The Roadeo Master for each course will immediately disqualify any team exhibiting any of these reckless characteristics.** Actions that will result in disqualification include: excessive speed, spinning tires, running the course the wrong way, or completely missing an obstacle.
8. Any actions by participants that could be viewed as cheating, i.e. relaying answers, etc. to other participants during or after the written or diagnostic tests, will result in disqualification.
9. Contestants may be disqualified if the Roadeo Master detects alcohol or any

other drug usage involved during the Roadeo.

10. For team events, i.e. Single Axle and Tandem Axle, one (1) team member will take the written test and the other team member will take the diagnostic test. These tests will run concurrent with each other. Both team members will participate in the driving portion of the competition.
11. For single events i.e., loader, motor grader and skid steer, each individual will take the written test, diagnostic test and the driving portion of the competition.
12. **The decision of the Judge(s) at each obstacle is FINAL.** Video equipment and/or cameras to dispute any decision are prohibited.

Failure to comply with any of the rules or instructions contained in this manual may result in disqualification from the Roadeo.

National Snow Roadeo Instructions

*There are three (3) components to the National Snow Roadeo: A written test, equipment diagnostic, and the obstacle course. For the Team events, one member will take the written exam while the other member will take the diagnostic test with the test running concurrent with each other. For the individual events, i.e. Loader and Motor Grader, each individual will take the written **and** diagnostic tests.*

Written Test

The test will include questions on rules of the road, sanding/salting techniques, de-icing/plowing techniques, safety, equipment maintenance, and mechanical knowledge. It has been developed with the national scope of this event in mind. The questions are of a "generic" nature, and the answers are the same regardless of the jurisdiction or geographical area that participants come from.

Only one (1) member of each team event will take the written test. Written tests for the Western Snow Conference National Snow Roadeo include 10 questions consisting of true or false and multiple-choice answers, each worth 40 points. Total points possible are 400. (If you are holding an event at your agency, you may want to change the length of the test to better meet your training needs).

Diagnostic Test

The diagnostic test challenges an operator's ability to perform a pre-test inspection on either a snowplow truck, loader or motor grader.

The National Snow Roadeo diagnostic test is a time event, four (4) minutes. Only one (1) member of each team will take the diagnostic test. Generally, the pre-trip inspection will include a visual inspection of the truck, spreader, plow, eternal hydraulic hoses, tires, lights, and signals (including warning lights). A general check of fluid levels can be included and the cab should be checked for safety equipment. In some organizations, the pre-trip inspection may also include mechanical items. The National Snow Roadeo diagnostic consists of four (4) defects worth 100 points. Total points possible are 400.

Driving Course

The driving course is designed to test an operator's ability to maneuver a vehicle through a series of obstacles in a continuous motion that simulate actual driving conditions. In the Team events one (1) member begins the obstacle course, while the other team member rides along as a passenger. Halfway through the course, both

team members must exit the vehicle and change positions, allowing the passenger to become the driver and the driver to become the passenger for the remainder of the course. Any team not changing drivers will be disqualified from the competition. Hint: Remember to fasten seat belts after the switch. For the individual events, the individual will complete the entire course.

The objective is to complete the course without hitting any of the obstacles, other than target cones, and to operate the equipment in such a way to demonstrate safe and proper equipment operations. Whenever an obstacle is hit or is knocked down, other than target cones, penalty points are deducted from the score. Some obstacles will be a continuous movement, some will not, therefore some stopping and/or backing your vehicle to realign it may result in penalty points.

The course is marked by chalk lines, arrows, and cones. Follow the course through each obstacle. Scoring only takes place within the limits of each obstacle boundary. If you hit a cone or barricade, points will be deducted. If the Rodeo Master defines excessive knockdowns of cones or barricades as reckless behavior, the participant shall be subject to disqualification.

Course time for each event will be set prior to Rodeo day. To arrive at the official time, three (3) pre-determined teams will negotiate the course ahead of time. An average time of the three (3) teams will be taken and 30 seconds added to it. If your time is within this course time, you will receive 100 points for your team. If your time is over the course time set, you lose 100 points, plus for every second over the allotted time, you will lose one (1) point. Any ties will be resolved by course time.

Scoring

The Rodeo rules and scoring are designed to make the event as challenging as possible. The rules are also designed to ensure safety and the proper use and operation of equipment.

The objective of each team is to accumulate the most points for each event entered. The score is derived by subtracting penalty points from the obstacle course, written exam, and diagnostic test from the total points received for each event. The team with the highest overall score per event will be declared the winner in each class of equipment. Course times will be used in the event of a tie.

The final point total for the Motor Grader Rodeo event will differ from the other Rodeo events. Total elapsed course completion time will be recorded. This time will be multiplied by the factor listed in the table in the course narrative. For example: an operator completing the course in less than four minutes will receive

100% of the total points earned; an operator finishing the course time in 6 minutes and 25 seconds will receive 90% of their total points earned; operators finishing the course in 9 minutes or greater will be disqualified. Please refer to the Motor Grader Course Narrative for the table details.