

WPGA BOBTAIL ROADEO

Official Rules & Competition Criteria

Updated: July 1, 2026

ELIGIBILITY

1. Contestants must be employed by a company that is a current member in good standing of the (WPGA).
2. Contestants must possess a valid driver's license and any required endorsements necessary to operate a bobtail vehicle.
3. All contestants must sign a waiver at event registration.
4. The decisions of the judges and event officials are final.
5. Only one (1) contestant per company location may register prior to August 15. Beginning August 16, additional contestants from the same location may register on a first-come, first-served basis until the maximum field of 24 contestants is reached.
6. Registration is limited to a maximum of twenty-four (24) contestants.

EQUIPMENT

1. All contestants will compete using bobtail vehicles provided by the WPGA Bobtail Rodeo.
2. Contestants are prohibited from bringing or competing with their own company bobtail vehicle.
3. WPGA will make every effort to provide comparable vehicles for competition. Contestants will be given adequate time to adjust mirrors, seating position, and become familiar with the vehicle before beginning the driving course.
4. No modifications may be made to the provided vehicle by contestants or their companies.
5. Any mechanical issue identified during competition shall be reported immediately to event officials. Event officials will determine whether a rerun or accommodation is warranted.
6. Contestants must operate the assigned vehicle in a safe and professional manner at all times.

GENERAL COMPETITION FORMAT

1. Contestants will rotate through three competition sections:
 - Written Exam
 - Pre-Trip Inspection Challenge
 - Driving Course
2. Contestants will be assigned a starting section and staggered throughout the competition.
3. Contestants must remain in the designated contestant corral or waiting area until called to compete. Contestants may observe other competitors from approved viewing areas but must not interfere with or distract active competitors.
4. Event officials reserve the right to modify the schedule or competition format due to weather, safety concerns, or unforeseen circumstances.

SCORING

1. Overall champions will be determined by combining scores from:
 - Written Exam
 - Pre-Trip Inspection Challenge
 - Driving Course
2. Individual awards will be presented for the highest score in each competition section.
3. The contestant with the highest combined score will be declared the WPGA Bobtail Rodeo Champion.
4. In the event of a tie, the tie-breakers shall be:
 - a. Highest Written Exam score
 - b. Highest Pre-Trip Inspection score
 - c. Highest Driving Course score
 - d. Fastest Driving Course time

DRIVING COURSE RULES

1. Contestants will be given ample time to adjust the seat, mirrors, and become familiar with the vehicle before beginning the course.
2. Seat belts must be properly fastened before entering the course. Failure to wear a seat belt will result in immediate disqualification.

3. Contestants shall use three points of contact when entering and exiting the vehicle. Failure to do so will result in a one-point reduction for each occurrence.
4. The vehicle shall remain in continuous motion throughout the course except when:
 - Required by a specific obstacle or change in direction on the course
 - Directed by an event official (one long whistle blast)
5. For each unauthorized stop shall result in 5 point deduction.
6. Contestants must remain within all designated course boundaries and avoid striking obstacles, markers, barricades, or props.
7. Deductions of 5 points shall be assessed for each driving error involving:
 - Crossing a boundary line
 - Striking a prop or obstacle
 - Unauthorized stop or repositioning
8. Officials will signal course violations using one long whistle blast.
9. Examples of scoring:
 - Driver stops and realigns before striking an obstacle: 5-point deduction.
 - Driver continues until stopped by an official after contacting (or nearly) an obstacle: 10-point deduction.
 - Official must move a prop or barricade to prevent contact: 10-point deduction.

MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES

1. When an event requires a measurement:
 - The contestant shall stop and signal readiness with one short horn blast.
 - The judge shall take the measurement as quickly and accurately as possible.
 - Upon completion, the judge shall signal the contestant to proceed with two short whistle blasts.
2. Measurements recorded by judges are final.

TIME LIMIT

1. Contestants will have seven (7) minutes to complete the driving course.
2. One (1) minute of overtime will be permitted.
3. Overtime deductions shall be assessed as follows →

Seconds Over Limit	Point Deductions
1–15 Seconds	5
16–30 Seconds	15
31–60 Seconds	30
Over 61 Seconds	50

POST-RUN REVIEW

1. Upon completion of the driving course, contestants shall park the vehicle as directed.
2. At the end of the competition, contestants will be given a change to review results. NO PHOTOS are permitted.
3. Contestants may ask questions regarding scoring; however, judges' decisions are final.

SAFETY is always #1!

1. Unsafe operation of a vehicle or unsafe conduct may result in penalties or disqualification.
2. Any contestant who intentionally disregards instructions from officials or judges will be disqualified.
3. No alcohol or illegal substances are permitted during competition activities.
4. Event officials reserve the right to remove any participant whose actions create a safety concern.

AWARDS

Overall Competition Awards

- 1st Place: \$1,500
- 2nd Place: \$1,000
- 3rd Place: \$500

Section Awards

- Written Exam Champion: \$250
- Pre-Trip Inspection Champion: \$250
- Driving Course Champion: \$250

Additional optional competitions, including Bags and Ladder Ball, may also feature prize money and awards.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

WPGA reserves the right to modify, interpret, or enforce these rules as necessary to ensure a safe, fair, and successful event. Judges shall not judge/assess contestants from the same company. All decisions made by event officials and judges are final.