



## Canadian Plowing Organization

### “Rules & Regulations”

2016 Edition

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## **PREFACE**

The main intention of all judging on a competition plot of plowing must be the promotion of good tillage. In order to reach that goal, judges are asked to fulfil their duty in a positive spirit. They shall allocate points in accordance with the official WPO (World Plowing Organization) and the CPO (Canadian Plowing Organization) scoring system. The judges will only judge aspects on their score sheet.

Any Infringements of the rules, or offence in conduct by a competitor noticed by the judges at any time during the Official Program, should be duly noted and reported to the Head Steward Team. Head Stewards only, have the authority to evaluate the infringement and consequently impose penalties.

## General Plowing Rules

### 1. CONTESTANTS

- A) Senior Contestants using Conventional Plows
- B) Senior Contestants using Reversible Plows
- C) Junior Contestants using Conventional Plows

### 2. General Rules

#### a) **COMPETITORS**

Open to two or more senior contestants and two junior contestants from each province or territory who must be recognized as having qualified in a Championship Plowing Contest in his or her Territory conducted in accordance with rules of qualification approved by the CPO. Host Province or Territory may enter one addition junior contestant. The Plowing Association conducting the Provincial or Territory championship contest must satisfy the Canadian Plowing Organization that the true champions are chosen to represent their respective Province or Territory. There is no age limit for the senior contest. Junior contestants must not have reached the age of twenty one years (21) by December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year the contest is held.

**b) All Competitors must provide the “CPO Secretary” proof that they have \$1 M Liability Insurance before the competition begins. If you are part of a group policy, the contestant’s names must be listed.**

#### c) **Judges and Score Cards**

1. The Canadian Plowing Organization score cards will be used.
2. Each affiliated Province or Territory should nominate one – two judges, which will then be approved by the Board of Directors of the CDN Plowing Organization.
- 3) When practicable the judges will judge in panels of 2-3 and judge those aspects of the plots assigned to that panel. The decision of the judges is final and binding.

### 3. **PLOWS**

- a) Competitors are encouraged to supply their own equipment, but in case of someone needing help, a contact number will be supplied by the Host Organization.
- b) The CDN Plowing Contest will be limited to 2 or 3 furrow mould board plows. The plows shall be either Conventional or Reversible models fitted with a maximum of one coulter, one skimmer and one share per body. Tail pieces are optional (see item #(c). As for Reversible there is an exception; when plowing the crown one extra disc, coulter or skimmer is allowed.

**c) Tail pieces:**

The size of the tailpiece must not exceed 26 cm in length and 22 cm in width. The total distance from the end of the mould board to the end of the tailpiece, including brackets, must not exceed 32 cm. The concave or convex of the tail piece must not be greater than the ratio of 1 cm to each 15 cm of width.

**d) Skimmer Tailpiece**

Tailpieces can be used on the skimmers and can be adjustable or fixed.

**e) Control Devices:**

GPS, laser beams, electronic remote control devices, electronic devices enabling the competitor to control the plow or tractor settings in an automatic way are not allowed. Hydraulic, pneumatic, electric, photographic and audio instruments for transmission of settings to enable manual adjustments of the plow are permitted.

**f) Extraneous attachments:**

Extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches are not allowed. Any extensions at the end of the mould board must be permanent. Extensions at the end of the mould board must be equal on all bodies. Permanent additions to the bottom of the mould board are allowed for the opening split.

**g) Markers:**

Markers and attachments on the tractor or on the sighting poles are not allowed. Markers on the land other than the scratch marks are not allowed.

**h) Plow wheels:**

Anything rotating other than a disc coulter is a wheel. Any other gadgets like a skid or slide acting as a brace or support to the plow is considered replacing a wheel and therefore will be counted as a wheel. A maximum of 3 plow wheels (plow supporting gages) are permitted per side of plow. (Conventional plows a maximum of 3 wheels, Reversible plows a maximum of 6 wheels fitted)

**g) Tractors:** Must be fully equipped with hoods, fenders etc. and are in good repair for safety reasons. The CPO encourages contestants to use tractors with roll bars or cabs.

**4. Type of Land:**

Each competitor will be required to plow at least one plot of stubble and one plot of grassland, "when available"

**5. Size of Plots:**

**a) Conventional Plowing:**

The plot will measure 100 meters long and 20 meters wide

**b) Reversible plowing:**

The plot will measure 100 meters long and 20 meters wide at one end and 16 meters at the other end.

**c) Junior plowing:**

Plots for junior competitors shall measure 100 meters long and 17 meters wide.

**d) Should the size of the plots have to change, all competitors must be notified.**

**6. Time Allowed:**

**a) Opening split / opening furrow:**

The time allowed to complete the opening split / opening furrow shall be 20 minutes.

**b) Break:**

After completion of the opening split / opening furrow, all plowing must stop for a minimum of 30 – 60 minutes, while the openings are judged. Cast-off furrows and the scratch marks for reversible plowing must be done while judging is completed.

**c) Plowing the plot:**

The time allowed for the completion of the plots is two (2) hours and forty (40) minutes, making a total of three (3) hours.

**d) Waiting time for cast off:**

When a competitor must wait for his / her neighbour before starting their cast off, they must contact the plot Steward; His / Her plowing time will stop. After a minimum of 20 minutes waiting time, they may get permission from the Head Stewards Team to make their own cast-off.

**e) Extra time in case of breakdowns, injuries or incidents:**

In the event of a mechanical breakdown, the competitor must contact the plot steward and their time will stop. When a competitor must leave the plowing field to do repairs, a CPO Board Member could accompany the competitor to ensure only the necessary repairs are carried out and no other changes are done to the plow. The maximum time allowed for repairs, regardless of the severity of the breakdown shall be 60 minutes. If the breakdown takes longer than the 60 minutes, his / her plowing time resumes. Their lot must be completed within the additional 60 minutes. (Anything not finished within that 60 minutes cannot be judged.)

**7. Depth of Plowing:**

The depth if any will be relayed during the Competitor Briefing.

## 8. **Infringements:**

### a) General:

Any competitor committing any of the following infringements will be notified and may be penalized by the Head Steward Team. Any subsequent infringement will be penalized.

### **b) Infringements that incur 1 to 20 penalty points are as follows:**

- Shaping of the furrows by hand or a hand held instrument or by treading or any other manipulation.
- Rolling the plot, opening scratches, the butts or ins and outs, with tractor wheel except in the normal course of plowing.
- Use of extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches
- Use of GPS, laser beams, electronic remote control devices, electronic devices enabling the competitor to control the plow or tractor settings in an automatic way
- Use of unapproved parts
- Removing shares, skimmers, coulters and plow bodies whilst plowing. (Skimmers may be removed for the opening split and finish only and shares may be removed for the opening only.)
- Using more than three sighting poles
- Using more than three plow wheels (conventional) or more than six plow wheels (reversible)
- Incorrect positing of sighting poles
- Receiving assistance by signal, radio contact, mobile phone or any other method
- Unauthorized practice plowing
- Abuse or offence of any Official during the official program
- Treading of furrows – Competitors must dismount from tractor on to the unplowed land-side of the tractor where possible
- Wheel Marks – Only one wheel mark allowed at the finish, part of the plow wheel may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on opposite side of the finish)  
A short explanation: wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear wheel originating from one run. To make it absolutely clear the rule book states; any offending wheel marks showing will be penalized by the Head Stewards.

c) Repeated infringements of the rules and regulations could lead to disqualification by the Head Stewards.

**d) Infringements that occur, obligatory penalties deductions are:**

- Overtime for opening – 1 point deducted for each minute or part minute
- Overtime for plot – 5 points deducted for each minute or part minute.
- Conventional plowing – 10 points for finish if laid wrong way.
- Reversible plowing – 10 points deducted if there is an incorrect number of furrows in the finish.
- Reversible plowing – 10 points deducted if there is an idle run.

Any of these and any other infringements of the rules will be assessed by the Head Stewards. All penalties will be formally imposed by the Head Steward Team at the end of the contest.

**9 Final Decision**

Any questions arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Board of the Canadian Plowing Organization whose decision will be final and binding.

**10 Start and Finish Signals**

When the red, yellow and green or blue Light Signal is used, the sequence of the lights will be as follows;

**Flashing Red ----- Stop**

**Flashing Yellow with Red -----Get Ready (5 minutes)**

**Green -----Start Opening (20 minutes)**

**Green with Flashing Yellow ----- 5 minutes to Stop**

**Red -----Stop (for 30 – 60 minutes)**

**Flashing Yellow -----Get Ready (5 minutes)**

**Green -----Start Plowing (2 hours, 40 minutes)**

**Note: After 30 minutes green light will be turned off, then 30 minutes before the end of the contest the green will be turned on again.**

**Green with Flashing Yellow -----5 minutes to stop**

**Red -----Stop (time to complete plowing has expired)**

## Rules particular to conventional competitors

### 1. Sighting and setting out

- a) Sighting poles – Three sighting poles only may be used. One pole may be sighted on the headland of the plot. They may only be used in the opening split.
- b) Other markers – the use of plot number markers, guide lines, foot – marks, stones or any guide other than the three sighting poles is not allowed.
- c) Assistance – Competitors can have assistance to place and remove the sighting poles. No other assistance allowed during the contest.

### 2. Opening Split

- a) Opening Split – In conventional plowing the competitor must make an opening split at the setting out.
- b) Scratches – Shall be turned out leaving no land in the center of the opening un-cut.
- c) Penalties – failure to complete the opening split in the permitted time (20) minutes will result in penalties. Penalty will be 1 point per minute or part of a minute taken.

### 3. Method of plowing

- a) Crown – Two furrow plows: After completing the first four rounds, which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then commences to cast off to the next neighbor. (This may be the highest or lowest number depending on the layout) The crown must consist of 15 or 16 furrows.
- b) Crown – Three furrow plow: After completing the first three rounds, which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then commences to cast to the plot of his next neighbor. In this case they must have 17 or 18 furrows.

(The host organization can lay out the field, casting either to the lower or higher number, in either case the competitor must be made aware.)

- c) Cast-off – the first run to your next neighbor's plot will be allowed as straightening furrows and will not be judged. However, in the opinion of the Head Steward if this is impossible to correct a second run will be allowed. In this case, all furrows must be fully turned with all grass and trash completely buried, otherwise these runs will be considered faulty and judged accordingly. The neighbors plowing must not be run on, except in extreme circumstances and only then with the approval of the Head Steward.
- d) Single furrow runs are allowed, but all bodies must be in the plowing position.
- e) Finish – the finish comprises of the last 12 furrows, (six furrows on the throw side of the finish and 5 furrows and the sole furrow on the crown side.)

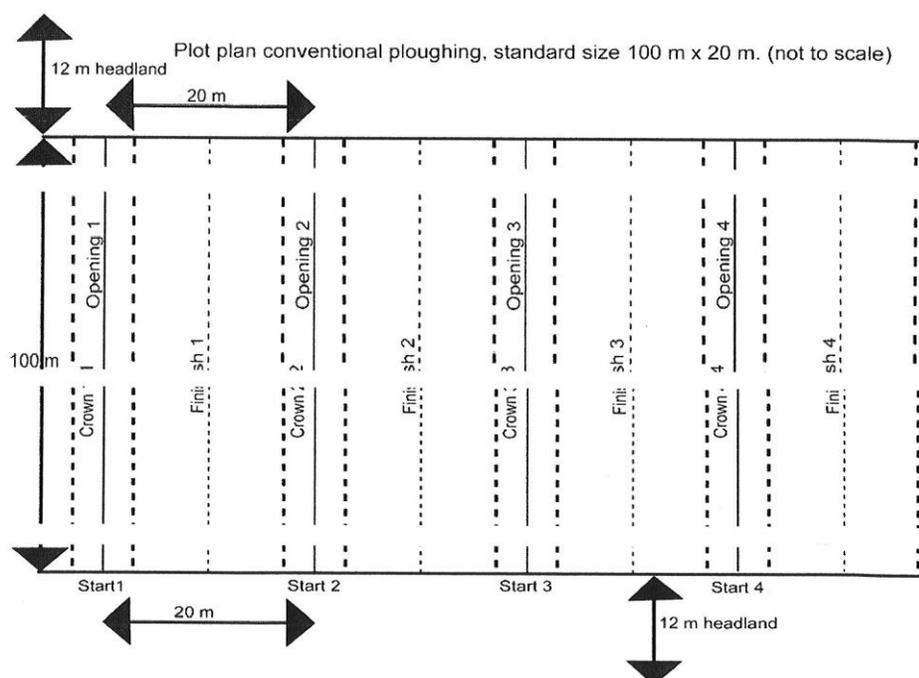
f) Final furrow – (sole furrow) must be thrown towards the competitors crown.

e Wheel marks – Only one wheel mark is allowed at the finish, part of the plow wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark. (Opposite side of the finish, see drawing on page #7)

f. Idle runs – to the opposite end are allowed, but must be made on the headland and not the plot.

**4. Final Decision-** any questions arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Board of the Canadian Plowing Organization, whose decision will be final and binding.

#### Plot plan of conventional plowing



## Rules for Reversible Plowing

### 1. Sighting and setting out

- a) Sighting poles – Three sighting poles only may be used. One pole may be sighted on the headland of the plot. They may only be used in the opening split.
- b) Other markers – the use of plot number markers, guide lines, foot – marks, stones or any guide other than the three sighting poles is not allowed.
- c) Assistance – Competitors can have assistance to place and remove the sighting poles. No other assistance allowed during the contest.

## 2. Opening furrows

- a) Opening furrows – in reversible plowing competitors must make a single opening.
- b) Right rear body – the opening furrow is a single furrow using the right rear body.
- c) Penalties - failure to complete the opening split in the permitted time will result in penalties. Penalty will be, 1 point per minute of part of a minute for extra time taken.

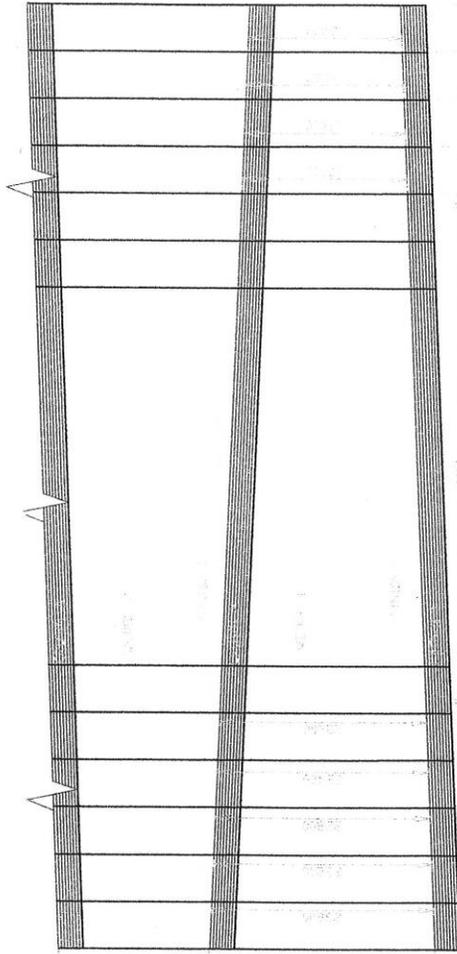
## 3. Method of plowing

- a. Scratch mark for butts – must be made while opening split is being judged. The scratch mark for the butts should be made parallel to the opening furrow, allowing for 19 or 20 furrows for a 2 furrow plow and 20 or 21 for a 3 furrow plow from opening furrow to the butts. Three sighting poles may be used for marking the scratch mark. Assistance is allowed to place and remove the poles. No handling or rolling of the scratch is allowed. (Either left or right hand bodies may be used)
- b. Two furrow plows- Plowing must commence using the left hand bodies and after completing eight furrows which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then proceeds to plow against his neighbor. (Either low or high numbers may be used)
- c. Three furrow plows – Plowing must commence using the left hand bodies and after completing nine furrows which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then proceeds to plow against his neighbor. (Either low or high numbers may be used)
- d. Crown – On completion of the crown the competitor then plows all the land between the next competitors plot and his scratch mark, thus completing the butts. When plowing the crown one extra disc, coulter or skimmer is allowed on the first furrow,
- e. Butts – On completion of the crown the competitors then plows, all land between the next competitors plot and his scratch mark, thus completing the butts.
- f. Using all bodies – All plow bodies must be in a plowing position at all times except the ins and outs and the butts. Competitors must use all plow bodies when plowing the finish furrows. They are allowed to use one plow body when plowing the connecting furrow.

- g. Two furrow plows – The finishing furrows shall be the remaining 19 or 20 furrows between the butts and the finishing furrow, including the connecting furrow. All competitors must make 10 runs to conclude the finishing furrows. The connecting furrow can be plowed showing one or two furrows, but with all bodies in a working position. No further single furrows across the whole field are permitted.
- h. Three furrow plows – The finishing furrows shall be the remaining 20 or 21 furrows between the butts and the finishing furrow. All competitors must make 7 runs to conclude the finishing furrows. The connecting furrow may be plowed using 2 or 3 furrows, but with all bodies in a working position. No further single (two bodies in work) across whole field are permitted.
- i. Finish – The competitor then starts at the scratch mark for the butts and plows to the finish at the cut of the opening furrow. Sighting poles are not allowed when plowing the connecting furrow and the final furrow should be the same height.
- j. Final furrow – The final furrow should be cut close to the opening furrow. There should be no land left unplowed and no part of the first furrow of the start re-plowed. The first furrow and the final furrow should be the same height.
- k. Wheel marks - Only one wheel mark is allowed at the finish, however, part of the plow wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel (opposite side of the finish)
- l. Alternate bodies – must be used at all times when plowing the plot.
- m. Idle runs – are not permitted

#### **4. Final Decision**

Any questions arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Board of the Canadian Plowing Organization, whose decision will be final and binding.



If plots are shorter in length, plots must be shortened equal amounts at each end to maintain full width plots and correct angle.  
 Use table to determine plot widths in relation to length

**COMPETITORS MUST START FROM CORRECT END**  
**CAST OFFS Must Be On Competitors LEFT**

**WIDTH OF PLOTS & OFFSET**

- 100 Metre Plot Length = 24.000 x 16.000 x 4.000 Offset
- 90 Metre Plot Length = 23.600 x 16.400 x 3.600 Offset
- 80 Metre Plot Length = 23.200 x 16.800 x 3.200 Offset
- 70 Metre Plot Length = 22.800 x 17.200 x 2.800 Offset
- 60 Metre Plot Length = 22.400 x 17.600 x 2.400 Offset

## **Explanatory notes on rules for plowing**

### **Opening split (conventional plowing)**

The depth of the scratches should be such that the furrow slices are completely free from the under soil surface through the whole length of the opening furrow. The scratch should be straight, neat and uniform in depth throughout its whole length. Although they do not, have to conform to each other.

### **Opening furrow reversible plowing**

The depth of the scratch should be such that furrow slice is cut completely free from the under-soil surface through the whole length of the opening furrow. The scratch should be straight, neat and uniform in its whole length.

### **The crown / start (conventional plowing)**

All land must be cut through. The furrow slices in the crown should lie close against each other without gaps or openings. All crown furrows must be uniform and level with the rest of the plowing and present ample soil to produce a good seedbed. The furrows in the crown should conform to the rest of the plowing. No wheel marks showing.

### **The crown / start (reversible plowing)**

All land must be cut through. The first furrow of the crown should be turned into the opening and the cut edge of the furrow should be vertical with the cut edge of the opening. The furrows in the crown should conform to the rest of the plowing. No wheel marks showing.

### **Connecting furrow and butts (reversible plowing)**

All land must be cut through. No dips and mounds, uniform and level with the rest of the plowing. The first connecting furrow should be visible over the length of the plot. No wheel marks showing.

## **Weed control**

All stubble, grass and weeds must be completely buried beneath the furrows. The plowing should be done in such a way that all roots are cut or torn off. Skimmers must be used.

## **Seed Bed**

Furrows should be properly turned so that sufficient soil is made available to produce a seed bed without pulling grass or stubble to the surface in future cultivations.

### **The finish (conventional plowing)**

The finish must be straight and parallel to the crown. The last furrows should be turned towards the competitor's crown / start. The finish should be no deeper than the rest of the plowing and should be no wider than the normal furrow the plow leaves.

### **Wheel marks**

Only one wheel mark allowed at the finish, part of the plow wheel may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on opposite side of finish). (See page # 6)

### **The finish (reversible plowing)**

The final furrow adjoining the crown / start should be of equal height to the crown and there should be no un-plowed or re-plowed land. Only one wheel mark showing, part of the plow wheel may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on opposite side of finish).

### **Ins and Outs**

The share must enter the ground at the headland scratch mark and the share must leave the ground at the headland scratch mark. No wheel marks showing.

### **General appearance**

All furrows in the plot should be straight, clearly defined, uniform and well-turned with good weed control. Faulty plowing done by a neighboring competitor should be corrected in the first and second runs adjoining the neighbor plot. The tractor must not be driven on the plowed land.

### **Connecting furrow at butts (reversible plowing)**

All land must be cut through, no dips and mounds. These furrows must be uniform and level with the rest of the plowing. The first connecting furrow should be visible over the length of the plot. No wheel marks showing.

### **Briefing of competitors**

A special meeting will be held in which competitors will be given further explanations of the rules and procedures for the conduct of the contest and at which competitors' questions will be answered.

## **Canadian Plowing Organization Safety Policy Statement**

The prevention of all accidents, particularly those involving personal injury or damage to equipment or property is paramount.

The Canadian Plowing Organization commits itself to implement and enforce the safety policy of the host provinces.

Where no declared policy exists, The Canadian Plowing Organization will ensure the following basic safety procedures are strictly enforced.

- a. Passengers are not allowed to ride on tractors or plows.
- b. CPO recommends the installation of cabs or roll-over bars.
- c. Eye-protection goggles and gloves must be worn when using cutting / sharpening / grinding machines.
- d. Electrical equipment must be properly installed and grounded. Care should be taken to ensure electrical cords are not run over by a tractor or other equipment.
- e. The sharp edges of spare up-standing disc coulters or skimmers must be guarded. When lying on the ground during plowing, they must lay flat on the headland.
- f. All plows must have a support when they are in the up-right position and being worked on.
- g. The plow must be lowered when the competitor leaves the tractor.
- h. Extra tractor wheel when not in use must lay flat on the headland.
- i. The instructions of the "Head Steward Team" must be OBEYED.

**Accidents Do Not Happen! They Are Always Caused**