

# Woodchop and Chainsaw Racing Competitions

## Arena Layout Considerations

### (Sample Only)

When designing an arena layout for Woodchop and Chainsaw Racing Competitions, safety is paramount. Protection barriers are essential to ensure the safety of both competitors and spectators. Here is a general guide to help you with the layout and placement of protection barriers for a woodchop competition:

#### Layout Considerations

1. **Competition Area:**
  - **Chopping Blocks/Stands:** These should be positioned centrally within the competition area.
  - **Competitor Zones:** Each competitor needs adequate space to swing their axes safely without interfering with others.
2. **Safety Barriers:**
  - **Around Competition Area:** Barriers should enclose the entire competition area, ensuring that only authorized personnel can enter.
  - **Between Competitors and Spectators:** A secondary barrier should be placed to separate spectators from the competitors, providing a safe distance to protect against flying debris.
3. **Entry and Exit Points:**
  - Clearly marked entry and exit points for competitors, officials, and emergency services.

#### Protection Barriers

1. **Types of Barriers:**
  - **Fencing:** Use sturdy, non-climbable fencing that is at least 1.2 metre high.
  - **Netting:** High-tensile netting can catch flying debris, offering additional protection.
  - **Solid Barriers:** Plywood or other solid materials can be used to shield areas directly behind competitors.
2. **Placement:**
  - **Perimeter Fencing:** Around the entire competition area.
  - **Internal Barriers:** Between each chopping stand to prevent interference between competitors.
  - **Spectator Area:** A buffer zone of at least 2-3 metres from the competition area, with barriers placed to protect against flying wood chips and axe heads.
3. **Material:**
  - **Durability:** Barriers should be made from materials that can withstand impact from wood chips and axe heads.
  - **Visibility:** Ensure that barriers do not obstruct the view of the spectators entirely, unless safety necessitates it.

#### Safety Zones

1. **Competitor Safety Zone:**
  - An area behind each chopping block where competitors can safely retreat.

## 2. Officials Zone:

- An area for judges and officials to observe the competition safely.

## 3. Emergency Access:

- Clear paths for medical personnel and emergency services to access the competition area quickly.

### Sample Layout



### Consider the following:

- Spectator Area - (2-3 metre buffer zone)
- Spectator Barrier/Fencing with Netting - 1.2 metre high
- Competitor Safety Zone
- Chopping Block 1 to Block 2 - 2-3 metres apart
- Officials and Judges Office
- First Aid
- Fire Extinguishers
- Emergency Access Points

### Additional Tips

- **Signage:** Clearly mark all areas, especially restricted zones and emergency exits.
- **Inspection:** Regularly inspect barriers for damage and repair or replace as necessary.
- **Training:** Ensure all competitors and officials are aware of the safety protocols and emergency procedures.

By following these guidelines, you can create a safe and efficient layout for your woodchop competition, ensuring the protection of everyone involved.