



AgShows NSW Chainsaw Racing

FAQs and Additional Information

AgShows NSW Chainsaw Racing Rules Checklist to be read in conjunction with Chainsaw Racing Rules introduced as at 1 July 2024.

[Agshows NSW Chainsaw Racing Rules](#)

[Australian Axemans Association \(AAA\) Competition Rules](#)

The following Checklist has been created to assist with running a Chainsaw Racing Competition.

In compliance with WHS, event organisers MUST understand and follow the complete [Chainsaw Racing Rules](#) in conjunction with the [Chainsaw Racing Entry Form Fillable](#) (word version available on website) and [Chainsaw Racing Risk Management Plan](#) and suggested [Arena Layout](#)

This Checklist is only an abbreviation of, and addition to, the complete rules and only to be used as a guide.

Eligibility

- Adhere to all organiser rules.
- Competitors must have basic or level 1 chainsaw accreditation from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).
- Proof of accreditation must be provided upon entry.
- Competitors aged 16-18 need independent assessment to compete.
- Maximum of two shows without accreditation under supervision.
- Competitors must not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Only officials and competitors in the cutting area during heats and finals.
- Novice cutter eligibility and race conditions must be adhered to.
- Competitors over 55 years qualify for veteran events.
- Decisions of Judge and Chief Steward are final.
- No bad sportsmanship or bad language.
- Protest results immediately after each heat/race (\$50 fee).

PPE

- Australian Standard PPE Safety gear required (helmet, muffs or ear plugs), eye protection, leg protection, steel cap boots). No loose-fitting clothing. Equipment checks by Judges/Stewards anytime.

Chainsaw Compliance

- Chain brake system must be operational if the saw is manufactured with one and you are competing in any production saw events. The only exception being the Production Hot Saw class.
- No loose handles or broken components on chainsaws.
- Bar covers fitted when saw is not in use.
- Notify officials if using non-standard fuel mix and have necessary firefighting equipment.
- Hand on each handle when saw is operational.
- Left-handed operators may use saw on the left side.
- Any competitor who is running a fuel mix, which is outside standard pump fuel, must notify officials prior to racing

Specific event rules – Refer to Chainsaw Racing Competition Rules

refer to the below for additional clarity for each event type

1. Speed Events

A cutter can use a backup saw, as long as that saw hasn't raced in that event or wasn't planned to be raced in that event. One saw per cutter per event.

The specific Ladies speed races will not require a pierce cut. They will cut three (3) discs, with two down cuts and an up cut in this order. If an event has specific Ladies speed races on the program and the competitor chooses to race in the Open races on the day, they will not be eligible to compete in the specific Ladies races as well. Where there are not specific Ladies races, the Ladies are able to compete in the Open competition.

2. Fence Post Cutting

The chain brake is to be engaged at all times when the saw is not in the operators' hands, if it isn't turned off. In the case of a saw that wasn't manufactured with a chain brake (i.e. Stihl 090) the saw must be turned off when not in the operators' hands.

Competitors signal they have finished racing by raising both hands above their shoulders. A Competitor must not walk through their posts or touch or move any part of their billet after they have thrown their hands and prior to judging by officials.

3. Team Post Rips & Jack & Jill Events

Team members may help to roll the billet, but they can't place their hands on the timber while the saw is operational in the wood.

Wedging of the billet must not commence whilst sawing is in progress. Wedging commences when the saw is on the ground and chain brake is on for a one billet race, or when ripping of another billet commences (in a race with 2 or more billets per team). Whilst wedging is in operation, the other team member cannot assist.

Traditionally in a Jack and Jill post rip, the man will undertake the sawing, and the lady will undertake the wedging. It is up to the discretion of the individual event if they wish to vary this, however it must be clearly stated on the program if this variation is to occur.

4. Vertical Disc Stacking

(no additional notes)

5. Cold Start Open and Production Hot Saw

1. An Open or Production Hotsaw may be configured as set out in clause 7 - Definition of Saw Classes of these regulations.
2. Prior to the commencement of any Hotsaw Event, all Hotsaws intended to be used in that event may be required to be presented for inspection by the Steward, or his delegate.
3. An Open Hotsaw may only be used in an Event if, following the inspection provided for in Rule 2, permission has been granted by the Steward or his delegate. The Steward must not grant that permission unless he has been advised, in writing, by a suitable technically experienced person. Nonetheless, the decision whether or not to grant permission is wholly at the discretion of the Steward (or his delegate, as appropriate) and must not be called into question by a Competitor.
4. No person may make any modification of any kind or description to an Open Hotsaw after inspection as provided in Rule 2 unless directed to do so by the Steward or his delegate.
5. At all times when carrying, testing or operating an Open or Production Hotsaw, a Competitor must be wearing safety protection equipment that is appropriate in the circumstances, including at least eye and ear protection and chaps or long pants that are cut proof and steel cap boots.
6. The Steward (or his delegate) may direct that a Competitor comply with any requirement which the Steward, or his delegate, considers is desirable in the interests of safety.
7. The Hotsaw may only be started and operated in the area designated for that purpose by the Committee, which area must include safety screens of no less than 600 x 1500 positioned in such a way as to protect persons in the area from impact of shavings thrown during operation of the Hotsaw.
8. At all times when a Hotsaw is operating, it must be held and must be pointing in a manner and direction that is safe for all Competitors and other persons in the vicinity.
9. In a Hotsaw Event, the block must be marked with a line drawn around the entire block, approximately 6 inches (15cm) from the end of the block. If during the conduct of the Event the line is severed or the Competitor cuts on the other side of the line, the Competitor is disqualified.
10. For the start, a starter cord tether must be used where the Open Hotsaw has a detachable starter cord. If a second starter cord is required, a tether is not required, but

the second starter cord must remain within the area defined by the safety screens, failing which the Competitor is disqualified.

11. A Competitor must supply his own starter cord tether, or the organisers of the event can supply one to be used if they wish.
12. Prior to commencement of the warmup for the event, all persons, other than the Competitor, must vacate the area in which the event will take place, and must stay in such position as may have been nominated by the Committee for that purpose.
13. A period of 60 seconds will be allowed for warming up a Hotsaw. This will be announced as follows: "Timers ready, Competitors ready, 60 seconds to warm up starts now". The announcer will advise when there is 30 seconds remaining and at the completion of the full 60 seconds, the announcer will tell the cutters to shut down the saws.
14. The Hotsaw must be shut off, placed on the ground, and the Competitor's hands must be resting on the top of the block. The announcer will say: "Hands on the block, get set 3 2 1". The gun will be fired, or other signal to start given, at which point the timer starts.
15. Until such time as the starter's gun is fired (or other signal to start is given) the Competitor's hands must be placed in such a way so that the Competitor's fingers (not the thumb) of each hand break the plane of a line drawn longitudinally down the centre of the block. If the competitor moves their hands from the block, prior to the starters gun or other signal, they will be disqualified.
16. The Competitor must make 3 complete cuts of the block: first cut down, second cut up, third cut down. If a disk is not complete, the Competitor may make a fourth cut, either up or down. If there are not 3 complete disks, the Competitor is disqualified. The timer stops when the last disk is completely severed.

Rules 1 to 17 (above) are binding in respect of all Cold Start Open & Production Hotsaw Events and Competitions and no Show Society or Local Association, seeking to conduct, or in fact conducting a Cold Start Open or Production Hotsaw Event or Competition may make any rule, or adopt any practice or procedure, that is inconsistent with those Rules. However, this does not prevent any such Show Society or Local Association from adopting any rule in respect of a Cold Start Open or Production Hotsaw Competition that is not inconsistent with those Rules and which enhances safety.

6. Open Hot Saw

An Open Hot Saw may be configured in such a manner as the competitor chooses but

- Must only have 1 cylinder (or rotor).
- There must be no alteration to the chain side strap
- Must have an internal combustion engine
- May be started with help and an external power source.
- Must be carried to the block and operated by one (1) person only, another person may assist to start the saw. This is not applicable in a Cold Start race