

DEPARTMENT – O-53 – Tractor Operator Contest

SUPERINTENDENTS – Bryan Harris (410-984-0626)

Assistant – Jason Watt (443-277-6891), Joe Linthicum (410-868-2567), Kenny Nusbaum

Entries must be completed on line at www.carrollcountyfair.com. Entry fees need to be paid by credit card only. No late entries will be accepted.

Due to proposed Maryland budgetary constraints that are beyond the control of the Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair Board, Inc., the Board reserves the right to withhold a portion of premium monies, up to and including all of an exhibitors earned premium payment, for the 2025 4-H/FFA Fair.

- A 4-H or FFA member must be enrolled in a tractor or a mechanical science project in order to enter the Tractor Operator Contest at the Carroll Co. 4-H & FFA Fair.

RULES AND REGULATIONS – Tractor Operator Contest

1. Junior 4-H members (ages 8-10) will participate in a skill-a-thon that will involve various stations relating to safety, tractor operation, and parts.
2. Intermediate 4-H members (ages 11-13) and Senior age (14-18) participants will take a written exam and troubleshooting practical test that will be given the same day as the driving contest.
3. Only Intermediate age (ages 11-13) as of January 1 of the current year and senior age (ages 14-18) as of January 1 of the current year members who have participated in tractor-safety program and have passed a tractor safety exam are eligible for the tractor-operator contest. (70% correct is considered a passing score. Participants have the option to re-take the exam once in order to participate.)
4. Participants who have already achieved certification through the tractor-safety program should attend in the current year two tractor safety meetings designated by the instructor(s).
5. Groups of participants will be assigned driving times by the Superintendent(s) according to the event listing provided from the entry form. All out-of-county participants will follow the assigned numbers and times. Adults accompanying out-of-county participants may be asked to assist with running elements of the contest.
6. Intermediate operators will be required to drive two-wheeled implements only. Senior operators will be required to drive both two- and four-wheeled implements.
7. Designated judges will preside over the event and their decisions will be final. Contestants must abide by the rules and regulations. Any judge may disqualify a contestant because of unsafe practices or acts unbecoming a 4-H or FFA member. Participants must be physically large enough to operate the tractor without help from others or bypassing the tractor-safety interlock systems.
8. The high-scoring senior participant may represent Carroll County in the Maryland State Fair Tractor Operator Contest.
9. Premiums – 1st - \$10, 2nd - \$9, 3rd - \$8, 4th - \$7, 5th - \$6, all below - \$5

Section 001: Tractor Operators Contest

Classes:

- Class 1001 Junior
- Class 2001 Intermediate
- Class 3001 Senior

Section 002: Special Awards

Tractor Operator

- Class 1002 Champion & Reserve Junior - Rosette and Award
- Class 2002 Champion & Reserve Intermediate - Rosette and Award
- Class 3002 Champion & Reserve Senior - Rosette and Award