

RULES FOR CONVENTIONAL PLOUGHING



1. **PLOUGHS**
 - a. Ploughs to be fitted with skimmers.
 - b. Tailpieces are allowed – the maximum size to be 26cm long and 22cm wide. The end of tailpiece to be no more than 32cm from the end of the mouldboard.
 - c. All plough bodies must be used when ploughing the finish.
 - d. Extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches are not allowed.
2. **TIME ALLOWED**
 - a. 20 minutes for opening. Penalty for failure to finish opening on time – 2 points per minute or part minute.
 - b. 40 minutes for opening to be judged.
 - c. 3 hours to complete the plot. Penalty for failure to finish plot at finishing signal – 10 points per minute or part minute.
 - d. 15 minutes extra time for any cast-off done after the ploughing has commenced.
 - e. Maximum of one hour only allowed for a breakdown.
3. **OPENING**
Double opening – no land to be left unturned.
4. **START**
 - a. Start to consist of 11 or 12 furrows.
 - b. Competitors to cast towards the next highest number plot.
5. **FINISH**
 - a. Finish to consist of last 8 furrows.
 - b. Last furrow to be ploughed towards competitor's own start.
6. **DEPTH**
Depth to be at the competitors discretion.
7. **GENERAL**
 - a. The first and second runs next to the neighbours' plot will be allowed as straightening furrows and will not be judged.
 - b. Rolling of furrows or scratches with a tractor wheel is not allowed. Penalty – 20 points deduction.
 - c. Twin tractor wheels are not allowed.
 - d. Three sighting poles only (one can be placed on the headland) – assistance to set and remove is allowed. No other assistance allowed including no assistance by signal, radio contact, mobile phone or any other method.
 - e. Handling, treading or shaping of scratches or furrows is not allowed
 - f. Only one tractor and one plough wheelmark allowed at the finish.
 - h. Only the competitor allowed to clean the plot of straw, stones, etc. Clearing stubble is not allowed and will be penalised.
 - i. The use of Global Positioning Technology, laser beams or any other electronic or computerised measuring devices are not allowed.
 - j. Any abuse or dispute by a competitor with an official or fellow competitor is not acceptable. Penalty – 20 points.
8. **SAFETY**
 - a. Passengers not allowed on tractors or ploughs at any time.
 - b. Society of Ploughmen Safety Policy to be adhered to at all times.

9. **FINAL DECISION**

Any questions arising and not provided for in these rules shall be decided by the Directors, whose decision shall be final and binding.

JUDGES METHOD OF SCORING – CONVENTIONAL PLOUGHS

OPENING	20
<i>Well cut, uniform and straight</i>	
START (11 or 12 furrows)	20
<i>Uniform and level</i>	
SEED BED	20
<i>Weed control and soil made available</i>	
FIRMNESS	20
<i>Firm, well packed furrows, no holes</i>	
UNIFORMITY	20
<i>Clearly defined uniform furrows and no pairing of furrows</i>	
FINISH	20
<i>Uniform and shallow</i>	
INS AND OUTS	20
<i>Neat, accurate and regular</i>	
STRAIGHTNESS	20
<i>Straightness of the whole plot</i>	
GENERAL APPEARANCE	20
<i>Workmanship and general appearance of the whole plot</i>	

FIXED PENALTY DEDUCTIONS

Two tractor wheel marks	up to 20 points penalty
Finish wrong way	20 points penalty
Rolling	20 points penalty
Failure to finish opening on time	2 points per minute or part minute over time
Failure to finish plot by finishing signal	10 points per minute or part minute over time
Abuse of officials or fellow competitors	20 points penalty
<u>At British National Ploughing Championships:</u>	
Failure to report for Plough Off Parade	20 points penalty
Failure to adhere to the Safety Policy	Disqualification

Any other penalty deduction will be decided by the Directors