

2026 HANDBOOK



MHDS HANDBOOK

RULES AND PROCEDURES

TIM DAY
SERIES DIRECTOR
Midwest Hornet Dirt Series

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MIDWEST HORNET DIRT SERIES

GENERAL RACING CONDUCT HANDBOOK

1. PURPOSE, SCOPE & AUTHORITY

1.1 Purpose

The rules and guidelines in this handbook exist to provide for the orderly conduct of Midwest Hornet Dirt Series (MHDS) events, to establish clear expectations for driver and team behavior, and to promote a safe, fair, and family-friendly racing environment.

1.2 Scope

These conduct rules apply to **all** participants at MHDS events, including but not limited to:

- Drivers
- Car owners
- Crew members
- Family and guests in the pit area
- Officials and volunteers, where applicable

They apply at **all times** you are on the premises of a series event (from the moment you enter the property until you leave), and also to your public representation of the series, including social media and media interviews.

1.3 Relationship to Track & Sanctioning Rules

- MHDS conduct rules **supplement** (do not replace) individual track rules and any applicable sanctioning body rules (such as USRA or IMCA if in effect at a given event).
- If there is a direct conflict between MHDS rules and track rules, **track rules take precedence** for that event.
- All participants are responsible to know and follow **ALL** applicable rules: track, sanctioning body (if used), and MHDS.

1.4 Authority of Officials

- The Series Director, Race Director, and appointed MHDS officials have full authority over conduct-related decisions at MHDS events.
- Officials' decisions regarding penalties, disqualifications, or suspensions are **final** for that event.

- MHDS reserves the right to adjust or amend these rules at any time; updates will be made available through official MHDS channels.

1.5 No Warranty of Safety

Racing is inherently dangerous. These rules are intended to guide conduct and improve safety, but **no expressed or implied warranty of safety** shall result from their publication or enforcement.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Participant – Any driver, owner, crew member, or guest signed into the pits or representing a race team.

2.2 Official – Any individual acting in an official MHDS or track capacity (Series Director, Race Director, Tech, Scorers, etc.).

2.3 Event – Any MHDS-sanctioned race date, including hot laps, qualifying, heats, B-mains, features, driver meetings, and post-race tech.

2.4 Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Any action or behavior that, in the judgment of officials, is detrimental to safety, fairness, integrity, or reputation of MHDS events.

2.5 Social Media – Any online platform where content can be posted publicly or semi-publicly (Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, forums, etc.).

3. GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT

3.1 Professionalism & Sportsmanship

All participants are expected to:

- Treat officials, other competitors, track staff, and fans with respect.
- Accept official decisions without abusive language, threats, or intimidation.
- Compete with honesty and integrity, avoiding cheating or attempting to exploit “loopholes.”

3.2 Responsibility for Your Team

The driver is ultimately responsible for the conduct of:

- Their crew members
- Family members
- Guests in the pits

Actions of your team can result in penalties **to you** as the driver, including fines, points loss, or suspension.

3.3 Language & Behavior Standards

The following are prohibited:

- Profanity directed at any individual (official, competitor, or fan).
- Threats, harassment, or bullying—verbal, written, or online.
- Vandalism or destruction of property at any track or MHDS-affiliated location.
- Public intoxication or disorderly conduct.

3.4 Zero Tolerance for Fighting

- **Physical altercations** (punching, shoving, tackling, etc.) will result in immediate penalties, which may include removal from the premises, disqualification, fines, and/or multi-race suspension.
- Instigating or joining a fight, even if you did not throw the first punch, can result in equal penalty.
- Crew members involved in fighting may be banned from future events; the associated driver may face penalties as well.

4. PIT AREA & PRE-RACE CONDUCT

4.1 Speed in Pits

- All vehicles (race cars, four-wheelers, pit bikes, etc.) must travel at **idle speed** in the pit area.
- Excessive speed or reckless driving in the pits will not be tolerated and may lead to loss of pit vehicle privileges, fines, or suspensions.

4.2 Alcohol & Substance Use in Pits

- **No alcohol** is to be consumed by drivers or crew members who are working on or driving race cars prior to or during on-track competition.
- Illegal drugs or non-prescribed controlled substances are strictly prohibited.
- Officials may require a driver to sit out an event if there is reasonable suspicion of impairment.

4.3 Pit Appearance & Conduct

- Keep your pit area reasonably clean and orderly.
- Dispose of fluids, tires, and trash in designated areas only.
- No open fires except in designated areas, subject to track rules.

4.4 Children in Pits

- All minors must have completed the track's minor release process.
- Children must be supervised at all times; no horseplay with pit vehicles or in active traffic lanes.

4.5 Driver Meeting

- Attendance at the drivers' meeting is **mandatory** for all drivers.
 - Updates on procedures, changes to the night's format, and special instructions will be given.
 - Failure to attend may result in loss of starting position or additional penalties.
-

5. ON-TRACK CONDUCT

5.1 Driving Philosophy

MHDS promotes **hard, clean, respectful racing**. Drivers are expected to:

- Maintain control of their car at all times.
- Avoid unnecessary contact.
- Race others how they wish to be raced.

5.2 Avoidable Contact

- "Avoidable contact" is any contact that, in the judgment of officials, could reasonably have been avoided and materially affects another car's race (spin, damage, loss of position).
- Penalties for avoidable contact can include:
 - Warning
 - Loss of position
 - Being sent to the rear
 - Black flag (disqualification from that race)

- Further disciplinary action for repeated offenses

5.3 Retaliation

- Retaliation; using your car as a weapon, brake-checking, swerving into another car, or intentionally spinning or wrecking another driver, will be penalized severely.
- Retaliation **after the checkered flag** or under caution will generally carry heavier penalties than incidental contact under green.

5.4 Yellow & Red Flag Conduct

- Once a caution or red flag is displayed, drivers must **slow down safely**, hold their position (unless directed by an official), and avoid any aggressive driving.
- Intentionally ramming another car under caution or red will result in immediate disqualification and likely suspension.

5.5 Rough Driving / Aggressive Patterns

- Officials may note patterns of overly aggressive driving over multiple events.
- Repeated rough driving, even without a single dramatic incident, can lead to probation or suspension.

5.6 Stopping on Track

- Intentionally stopping on the track to draw a caution (unless for safety reasons such as fire or injury) is prohibited and may result in being sent to the rear or disqualification.
- If your car is disabled, follow official instructions and remain in your car unless there is fire or immediate danger.

5.7 Signals & Gestures

- Obscene hand gestures or unprofessional behavior toward competitors or officials while on track may result in penalties.

6. POST-RACE CONDUCT & TECH AREA

6.1 After the Checkered Flag

- Cool-down laps must be taken at a moderate speed. No swerving toward other cars in anger.

- Victory lane celebrations must be conducted in a safe manner (no burnouts in crowded areas, etc.), subject to track approval.

6.2 Tech Area

- Selected cars must report immediately and directly to the tech area as instructed.
- Failure to go to tech, leaving tech without permission, or refusal to allow inspection will result in disqualification and loss of points and pay for that event.
- Drivers and one designated crew member should treat tech officials with respect; arguing, shouting, or interfering with inspection may result in additional penalties.

6.3 Discussions with Officials

- Post-race conversations with officials must be carried out in a respectful manner.
- If you wish to discuss an incident, request a meeting with the Race Director or Series Director rather than confronting officials in an aggressive way in front of the crowd.

7. SOCIAL MEDIA & PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

7.1 General Expectations

MHDS recognizes that social media is a major part of modern racing. Drivers and teams are ambassadors for the series online. You are free to express opinions, but:

- Do not post threats, profanity-filled rants, or personal attacks toward other competitors, tracks, officials, or sponsors.
- Do not spread knowingly false, slanderous, or inflammatory information about MHDS or its partners.

7.2 Criticism vs. Abuse

- Reasonable, respectful feedback, even if critical, is acceptable.
- **Harassment, name-calling, or defamation** is not.
- Persistent online attacks can lead to penalties, including loss of points, fines, or suspension from series events.

7.3 Representing Sponsors & Youth

- Remember that sponsors, families, and young fans see your posts.

- Content that is vulgar, obscene, or glorifies illegal activity reflects poorly on the series and may impact your standing with MHDS and its partners.
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8. SAFETY, SUBSTANCE USE & MEDICAL

8.1 Safety First

- All drivers must use required safety equipment as per track or sanctioning rules (helmet, suit, belts, etc.).
- Any driver who appears unfit to safely operate a race car (due to injury, illness, or suspected impairment) may be removed from competition at official discretion.

8.2 Alcohol & Drugs

- No driver may compete under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, or misused prescription medication.
- If officials reasonably suspect impairment, the driver may be:
 - Parked for the night
 - Subject to further disciplinary review
 - Required to provide documentation or testing in serious cases (as available under track policy)

8.3 Accidents & Injuries

- After a serious incident, remain in your car unless there is immediate danger (fire, fuel leak, oncoming traffic).
 - Cooperate with medical staff and follow their instructions; they have the authority to decide if you are medically cleared to continue.
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9. PENALTIES & DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

9.1 Types of Penalties

Depending on the severity of the conduct, MHDS officials may impose:

- **Verbal Warning**
- **Written Warning / Probation**
- **Loss of Position** in race results

- **Sent to Rear** of the field
- **Disqualification (DQ)** from heat, B-main, or feature
- **Loss of Points and/or Pay** for an event
- **Fines**
- **Suspension** from one or more series events
- **Indefinite Suspension or Ban** from MHDS competition

9.2 Factors Considered

When determining penalties, officials may consider:

- Intent versus accident
- Severity of contact or behavior
- Past conduct record
- Impact on safety, fairness, and series reputation

9.3 Progressive Discipline

- Many issues will be handled progressively, starting with a warning and escalating if behavior continues.
- However, **serious incidents** (fighting, intentional wrecking, threats, etc.) may result in immediate severe penalties on a first offense.

9.4 Series-Level vs. Event-Level Penalties

- Some penalties will apply only to the current event (e.g., sent to rear, DQ).
- Others may carry over to future MHDS dates (probation, suspension, loss of points toward the series).

10. PROTESTS, APPEALS & DISPUTES

10.1 General Attitude

- Protests and disagreements should be handled in a calm, respectful way.
- Abusive or threatening behavior while protesting a call is itself a conduct violation.

10.2 Protests (Technical or Scoring)

- Technical and scoring protests are governed primarily by track and/or sanctioning rules.
- MHDS may set a standard protest procedure (time limit, fees, who can file, etc.) that will be published separately or integrated into the full series rulebook.

10.3 Conduct-Related Appeals

- A driver who believes a conduct penalty was unjust may submit a written request for review to the Series Director within a specified time frame (within 48 hours of the event).
 - The Series Director will consider the request and may uphold, reduce, or overturn the penalty.
 - During review, the original penalty typically remains in effect.
 - The decision of the Series Director or review board is final for series purposes.
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11. FANS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY IMAGE

11.1 Family-Friendly Atmosphere

- MHDS aims to be a family-friendly series.
- Public behavior in the grandstands, pit area, and victory lane should reflect that goal.

11.2 Autographs & Interaction

- Drivers are encouraged to interact positively with fans, especially kids, sign autographs, take pictures, and answer questions respectfully.

11.3 Community Reputation

- Tracks and sponsors support the series because they believe it benefits the community.
 - Conduct that damages community relationships (vandalism, threats, discriminatory comments, etc.) may result in series-level penalties even if it occurs offsite but is clearly connected to MHDS participation.
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12. AMENDMENTS & ACCEPTANCE

12.1 Rule Changes

- MHDS reserves the right to alter, amend, or interpret these conduct rules at any time as needed to protect safety, fairness, and the reputation of the series.
- Changes will be communicated through official series channels (website, social media, printed updates at the track, or drivers' meetings).

12.2 Condition of Participation

- By participating in any MHDS event (entering the pits, signing in as a driver or crew, or entering a car), you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agreed to comply with this General Racing Conduct Handbook and all related rules.

RACE PROCEDURES

Note: Any changes to procedures for a specific event will be announced at the drivers' meeting. Drivers are responsible for knowing that night's format.

1. EVENT FORMAT OVERVIEW

1.1 Field Size

- The **A-Feature** (main event) will start a maximum of **20 cars**, plus **2 provisionals**, for a total of up to **22 cars**.

1.2 Lap Count

- Feature **lap count will vary by event** and will be announced at the drivers' meeting and/or posted by the track.
- Heat race and B-main laps will also be set by the series officials and announced in advance.

1.3 Lineups

- Heat race and B-main lineups will be set by one of the following methods, as determined by the series:
 - Draw / redraw
 - Passing points
 - Time trials or group qualifying (if used)

- The **Feature lineup** will be based on the published format (e.g., qualifying, passing points, transfer positions, redraw, etc.), plus designated provisionals.

1.4 Transfer Positions

- The number of cars transferring from each heat and B-main to the Feature will be announced at the drivers' meeting and/or posted.
 - All non-transfers will be lined up for B-mains or used as alternates as needed.
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2. NIGHTLY PROVISIONAL STARTERS

2.1 Total Provisionals

- The Midwest Hornet Dirt Series A-Feature allows for **two (2) provisional starting positions**:
 1. **Track Provisional**
 2. **Series Provisional**

2.2 Track Provisional

- The **Track Provisional** is reserved for a driver selected by the **host track**, according to their local rules and/or promoter discretion.
- The track provisional must:
 - Be a legal, signed-in participant for that event.
 - Have made a reasonable effort to qualify (heats and/or B-main), unless otherwise approved by officials.

2.3 Series Provisional

- The **Series Provisional** is reserved for a driver based on **Midwest Hornet Dirt Series criteria**:
 - Current series points position, and/or
- The series provisional must be a legal, signed-in series member and have attempted to qualify unless otherwise approved by officials.

2.4 Placement of Provisionals in Lineup

- Provisionals will start at the **rear of the Feature field** (after all qualified transfers) in the order:

1. Series Provisional

2. Track Provisional

- If only one provisional is used, it will start in the last position.
- If a qualified car is unable to start the Feature, officials may adjust the lineup and/or provisionals at their discretion.

2.5 Limitations

- MHDS reserves the right to set limits on how often a driver may use a provisional during the season. This may include:
 - Maximum number of provisional starts per season.
 - Requirement that provisionals may not be used for the opening event of the year.

3. STARTS & RESTARTS

3.1 Initial Start of Feature

- The initial Feature start will be lined up **double-file**
- The front row will set the pace; no brake-checking or jumping the start.
- The race officially starts when the **green flag** is displayed. Pole car starts the race between the Restart Zone Flags
- If the start is deemed unfair (jumping, uneven rows, etc.), officials may call it back and:
 - Issue a warning,
 - Swap front-row positions, or
 - Send the offending car(s) back a row, as deemed appropriate.

3.2 Choose Cone – All Restarts

- **All restarts will use the “Choose Cone” rule**
- After the field is properly sorted under caution and the one-to-go signal is given:
 1. Cars will proceed single-file to the cone.
 2. Each driver must commit to **either the inside or outside** lane by driving with **at least two wheels clearly to the chosen side** of the cone.

3. Once a lane is chosen, that driver is locked into that lane; no pulling back across after the cone.
- **Choose Cone Order:**
 - Cars will choose in running order (1st place chooses first, then 2nd, etc.).
 - The restart lineup will be built according to the lane choices made.
 - **Cone Violations:**
 - Hitting or running over the cone.
 - Straddling the cone.
 - Swerving across the cone after committing.
 - **Penalty** may include being sent to the rear of the field or another penalty as announced.

3.3 Single-File Restarts

- For late-race, time-limit, or track-condition reasons, officials may revert to **single-file restarts**.
- This will be clearly signaled to the field.

3.4 Jumping Restarts

- If a driver jumps the restart (taking off before the leader or obvious lane advantage gained), officials may:
 - Issue a warning, and/or
 - Dock positions at the next caution or at the end of the race, and/or
 - Send the driver to the rear.

4. CAUTIONS & OFFICIAL JUDGMENT

4.1 Judgment Calls on Cautions

- All yellow flag situations are subject to **official judgment**.
- Officials will determine:
 - Which car(s), if any, are deemed responsible for bringing out the caution.
 - Which car(s) will be sent to the **rear of the field**.

4.2 Involvement vs. Responsibility

- A car **directly causing** a spin, crash, or stoppage will typically be charged with the caution.
- A car that spins or stops on its own will typically be charged with the caution.
- Cars with **nowhere to go**, tangled after the incident, or caught up after the fact may or may not be charged, at the discretion of officials.

4.3 Stopping on Track

- Stopping on the track to intentionally bring out a caution (unless for safety, fire, or obvious mechanical issue) may result in being sent to the rear and/or loss of laps/positions.
- Repeated instances may result in further penalties.

4.4 Caution Lineup

- After a caution is called:
 - The field will be frozen by **scoring loop and/or visual observation** at the time of the yellow, per track policy.
 - The car(s) deemed to have caused the caution will be placed at the rear of the field, behind all cars on the lead lap, unless stated otherwise.
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5. TWO-SPIN RULE

5.1 Definition

- The **Two-Spin Rule** applies to the **Feature event only**.

5.2 First Spin / First Involvement

- On the **first spin or caution charged** to a driver in the Feature:
 - The driver will be **sent to the rear** of the field for the restart.

5.3 Second Spin / Second Involvement

- On the **second spin or caution charged** to the same driver in the Feature:
 - The driver will be **black flagged** and removed from the Feature.
 - The driver must exit the racing surface and will not be scored further for that event.

5.4 Clarifications

- The two-spin rule is **per car/driver**.
 - If a car is damaged and rejoins the race with the same driver, prior spins still count.
 - Officials retain the right to bypass the two-spin process and park a driver immediately for dangerous or reckless behavior.
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6. LAP COUNTS, TIME LIMITS & OFFICIAL FINISH

6.1 Lap Counts

- Feature lap count will be announced at each event and is subject to track length, car count, and schedule.
- Heat and B-main lap counts will be set by the track and/or series officials.

6.2 Official Race

- Once a race has completed a minimum number of laps, it may be declared **official** if halted by weather, curfew, or other conditions.
- If a race is stopped before reaching the official distance, officials may:
 - Attempt to restart the event, or
 - Declare a no-contest or partial result, as appropriate.

6.3 Green/White/Checkered

- When feasible, races may be extended **slightly** to allow for a green/white/checkered finish, subject to track time limits and conditions.
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7. TECH INSPECTION & POST-RACE PROCEDURES

7.1 Top 5 to Tech

- After the Feature, the **top five (5) finishers** must report directly to the **tech area**.
- Order: 1st through 5th place finishers, unless otherwise directed.

7.2 Failure to Report

- Any top-5 car failing to report to tech or leaving tech without permission will be considered a **refusal to tech** and will be:

- **Disqualified** from the Feature,
- Scored last in the Feature or as a DQ per series policy, and
- Subject to loss of points and pay for that event.

7.3 Additional Cars to Tech

- Series or track officials may call **additional cars** to tech at their discretion (random selections or targeted inspections).
- Those cars are subject to the same requirements and penalties.

7.4 Post-Race Conduct in Tech

- Drivers and one crew member are allowed in tech unless otherwise specified.
- Arguing, interfering, or refusing to follow tech official instructions can result in additional penalties.
- Once a **car/driver leaves** the Tech Area, they have accepted the outcome presented by the Tech Official. There will be **no reversal** of tech decisions after the car/driver leaves the Tech Area. As a series we will do our best to make tech fair and even. The driver will be given an opportunity to pull a part or open a part to **prove/disprove** the decision.

8. OFFICIALS' DISCRETION & FINALITY

8.1 Discretion

- Race procedures may be adjusted due to weather, time constraints, car count, or safety concerns.
- Officials may shorten races, change starting formats, alter restart procedures, or postpone competition as needed.

8.2 Final Decisions

- All race procedure calls made by the Race Director and/or Series Director are **final** for that event.
- Any formal protests or reviews must follow the series' published protest/appeal procedures.

2026 Points Structure

Base points are awarded according to **official feature finish position** as follows:

Finish Points

1st 100

2nd 90

3rd 88

4th 86

5th 84

6th 82

7th 80

8th 78

9th 76

10th 74

11th 72

12th 70

13th 68

14th 66

15th 64

16th 62

17th 60

18th 58

19th 56

20th 55

21st 54

22nd 52

Show-Up Points

- Any driver who **officially checks in and attempts to compete** (qualifying, heat, or B-main) but **does not make the feature**, or finishes beyond the last listed position, will receive **50 “Show Up” points** for that event.

2. Sliding Scale Regional Points Multiplier (Only for Regional Events)

For designated **Regional Events**, the above base feature points are multiplied by an **event value percentage** based on:

- Total cars** that start the feature, and
- Number of registered Series members** in that feature.

Regional Points for a driver = Base Feature Points × Event Multiplier (rounded to nearest whole point).

2.1 Event Multiplier Table

Cars \ Members 1–4 Members 5–8 Members 9–12 Members 13+ Members

0–10 Cars	85%	90%	100%	N/A
11–14 Cars	100%	105%	110%	115%
15–18 Cars	105%	110%	115%	120%
19–22 Cars	110%	115%	120%	125%
23+ Cars	115%	120%	125%	130%

- “Cars” = number of cars **taking the green in the feature**.
- “Members” = number of **paid series members in that feature**.
- If the combination of cars/members does not appear in the chart (for example, impossible combos like 0–10 cars and 13+ members), the next **lower valid column/row** will be used, or officials may default to **100%**.
 - For Example:** On a race night if there are 11 cars at the event you have committed to and 6 of those are series members, this would be the formula for math.
 - You would receive 105% of points.

- If you were to finish 3rd in the feature event you would receive 88 points, multiply that by 105%. $88 \times 1.05 = 92$ points. Rounded to the nearest whole number.

3. Approved Tracks for 2026 Regional Races

These are the **eligible host tracks** for Regional events.

Friday Tracks

- **Oklahoma** – Arrowhead Speedway
- **Arkansas** – 67 Speedway
- **Missouri** – Midway Speedway, Electric City Speedway, Callaway Raceway
- **Kansas** – Humboldt Speedway
- **Texas** – Boyd Raceway

Saturday Tracks

- **Oklahoma** – Longdale Speedway
- **Arkansas** – Diamond Park Speedway
- **Missouri** – Nevada Speedway, I-35 Speedway
- **Kansas** – 81 Speedway
- **Texas** – Grayson County Speedway, RPM Speedway

4. Approved 2026 Regional Race Dates

Regional races may be scheduled only on the following dates:

May Regional Dates

- May 15th
- May 16th
- May 22nd
- May 23rd

July Regional Dates

- July 10th
- July 11th
- July 17th
- July 18th

5. Regional Race Concept

- Over four regional weekends (May & July), the Midwest Hornet Dirt Series will sanction races at **the above listed tracks**.
- **Each driver must pre-select 4 regional events** from those dates.
- Those **4 chosen events** will be the only regional races that count toward their **overall series championship points**, which are decided at **Diamond Park Speedway on August 8**.
- Drivers can still race **as many additional regional events as they want**, but those extras will only count toward the **IRONMAN Challenge**, not their overall series total.

6. Regional Events & Championship Points

6.1 Regional Event Structure

The Midwest Hornet Dirt Series will sanction regional events on four (4) weekends: May 15–16, May 22–23, July 10–11, and July 17–18. Across these dates, the series will partner with up to thirteen (13) different tracks. These events are designated as **Midwest Hornet Dirt Series Regional Events**.

6.2 Regional Points Declaration

Each driver must **pre-declare four (4) regional events** from the published regional schedule. Only the driver's **declared four regional events** will be used to calculate their **overall Midwest Hornet Dirt Series championship points**.

1. Declarations must be submitted on the official **Regional Points Declaration Form** by the deadline established by the series.
2. A driver may compete in additional regional events beyond the four declared, but **those additional events will not change or replace** their four declared championship-counting events.
3. All declared regional events will pay **sliding series points** toward the season championship, described above.

6.3 Non-Declared Regional Events

Any regional event not listed on a driver's declaration form will:

- Pay **purse money and contingency awards**,
 - Count for **IRONMAN Challenge** (see below),
 - But **will not** count toward that driver's overall championship points total.
-

7. The IRONMAN Challenge

The **Midwest Hornet IRONMAN Challenge** is awarded to the driver who chases the tour the hardest—running extra regional events *beyond* their four declared points shows, and consistently answering the bell whenever the Hornets roll into town.

- It **does not change** the overall championship points.
 - It **rewards commitment, miles, and grit** on the non-declared regional nights.
 - It gives the “road warrior” driver something legit to race for, even if they're not in the main points hunt.
-

8. Which Races Count Toward IRONMAN?

- **IRONMAN points are earned ONLY on:**
 - **Regional events** a driver races
 - All 8 are available to earn points
 - If weather affects one track, be an IRONMAN and travel to the next available race.
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9. IRONMAN Points System

9.1 Base Points Structure

For **every regional race** a driver starts:

- Starts feature, finishes 11th–24th → **10 points**
- Starts feature, finishes 6th–10th → **12 points**
- Starts feature, finishes 2nd–5th → **13 points**

- Starts feature, **wins** → **15 points**

9.2 Tie-Breaker

If two or more drivers tie in total IRONMAN points:

1. Most **IRONMAN starts** (non-declared regional feature starts)
2. Most **IRONMAN wins**
3. Most **IRONMAN top-5s**
4. Best single IRONMAN finish (highest finishing position in any Ironman-eligible race)
5. If still tied: **coin toss** or **head-to-head best-of-three rock-paper-scissors at the banquet**

9.3 Awards and Payout for the IRONMAN Challenge

- The IRONMAN will award a trophy and prize money.
 - Base Payout
 - 1st – Trophy & \$250
 - 2nd – Trophy & \$100
 - 3rd – Trophy & \$50
 - 4th – Trophy & Contingency Prize
 - 5th – Trophy
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10. IRONMAN Notification

If you race a **Regional Event** that is not on your **declared events** paperwork and you want it to count towards **the IRONMAN**, you must notify the Series Director via text, email or message by the **Sunday post** completion of event.

CONTENT CREATOR COLLABORATION PROGRAM

1.1 Purpose

The Content Creator Collaboration Program is designed to grow the visibility of the Midwest Hornet Dirt Series, our drivers, and our sponsors through short-form social media content. Drivers can earn extra payout by consistently posting race-related content and properly tagging the series and sponsors.

This program applies to **all MHDS events**, including **regional races**.

2. Eligibility

1. Open to all drivers who:
 - Are signed in and competing in that MHDS event (series or regional).
 - Have active personal **Facebook** and **TikTok** accounts.
2. Driver must be in good standing with the series (no outstanding fines or suspensions).

3. Content Requirements

To qualify for the Content Creator payout for a given event, the driver must:

3.1 Create at least one (1) video from that event, with:

- **Minimum length:** 60 seconds (1 minute).
- Content may include (but is not limited to):
 - In-car or GoPro footage
 - Pre-race walk-around or updates
 - Post-race recap/interview
 - Pit-area behind-the-scenes
 - Travel vlog to/from the event

3.2 Post the same piece of content (or edited versions of it) to BOTH:

Personal **Facebook** page/account

Personal **TikTok** account

3.3 Tagging Requirements (Must Do ALL):

Tag the **Midwest Hornet Dirt Series** official accounts:

Facebook: @MidwestHornetDirtSeries

TikTok: @MidwestHornetDirtSeries

Tag the **event's primary series sponsors** as announced at the drivers' meeting and/or posted on official MHDS channels.

Use any **official event or series hashtags** announced for that race

#MidwestHornetDirtSeries

#HornetNation

Event-specific hashtag

3.4 Timing:

Content should be posted **no later than within 48 hours after the event**

Posts made after the deadline may not be eligible for payout.

4. Payout Details

4.1 Drivers who meet all requirements in **Section 3** for a given event will receive a **Content Creator payout** at their **next Complete MHDS event** they attend.

4.2 Amount and structure of payout (per event, per post, or per season) will be:

- Announced at the start of the season, and/or
- Posted on the official MHDS channels.

4.3 Payout is made to the **driver of record** and may be included with nightly pay or paid separately at the pay window, at the discretion of series officials.

5. Verification

To help the series verify content and tags:

5.1 Driver should be prepared to **show proof** of their posts at the next event, which may include:

- Screenshots of the post on Facebook and TikTok (showing date/time and tags), or
- Direct links shown to an official on a phone.

5.2 Series officials may also verify posts by searching the series tags and handles.

5.3 If proper tagging or minimum length is not met, payout may be denied for that event.

6. Content Standards

All Content Creator posts must:

6.1 Follow general MHDS conduct rules and reflect a **family-friendly**, professional image.

6.2 Avoid:

- Profanity or explicit language in captions or audio.
- Attacks against officials, tracks, sponsors, or other competitors.
- Content that glorifies illegal activity, drug/alcohol abuse, or unsafe behavior.

6.3 Show respect to all involved (tracks, sponsors, fellow drivers, fans, and series officials).

Content that violates conduct standards may result in loss of payout for that event and potential additional penalties under the conduct rules.

6. Use of Content by Series & Sponsors

By participating in the Content Creator Collaboration Program:

7.1 Driver grants MHDS and designated sponsors permission to **share, repost, or feature** their public content related to MHDS events on series and sponsor platforms (social media, website, promo videos, etc.).

7.2 Driver retains ownership of their original content but understands that re-shares and reposts may be used to promote the series and its partners, with credit given when possible.

8. Program Changes

The Content Creator Collaboration Program, including payout amounts, deadlines, and tagging requirements, may be adjusted during the season. Any changes will be announced through official MHDS channels and/or at the drivers' meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT & CONTACT INFORMATION

The Midwest Hornet Dirt Series exists to give drivers, crews, families, and fans a place to enjoy grassroots racing in a safe, fair, and respectful environment. These rules are not meant to take the fun out of racing, but to protect it—by setting clear expectations, encouraging clean competition, and honoring the tracks and sponsors who make this series possible. Every time you unload a car, strap in, or step into the pits, you represent yourself, your team, and this series.

By entering any MHDS event, each driver and team member agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, procedures, and conduct standards outlined in this handbook, as well as any additional track or event rules. Ignorance of the rules is not a defense. If you have questions, it is your responsibility to ask an official **before** you compete.

We appreciate your commitment to racing with integrity and helping us build a series that you can be proud to race with and bring your family to. Thank you for your support of the Midwest Hornet Dirt Series.

DRIVER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand the **Midwest Hornet Dirt Series Handbook**. I agree to abide by these rules and accept the authority of MHDS and track officials in all matters of competition and conduct.

Driver Name (print): _____

Driver Signature: _____

Date: _____

Car Number: _____ Home Track: _____

SERIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Midwest Hornet Dirt Series

Series Director: Tim Day

Phone: (573) 434-3075

Email: midwesthornetdirtseries@gmail.com

Website: midwesthornetdirtseries.com

Facebook/Page: @Midwest Hornet Dirt Series

For rule questions, tech clarifications, or concerns about conduct or procedures, please contact the Series Director or an MHDS official **before race night whenever possible** so we can address issues calmly and clearly.