



Ploughing Rules

World Ploughing Organization

Edition 2025

WPO Ploughing Rules

For the WORLD PLOUGHING CONTEST
CONVENTIONAL and REVERSIBLE PLOUGHS

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Preface:

The main intention of all judging on a competition plot of ploughing must be the promotion of good tillage. In order to reach that goal Judges are asked to fulfil their duty in a positive spirit. They shall allocate points in accordance with the official WPO scoring system. The judges should only judge the aspects on their scoresheet.

Any infringement of the rules, or offence in conduct by a competitor noticed by Judges or Head Stewards at any time during the official programme, should be reported in writing to Head Stewards. Head Stewards only, have the authority to evaluate the infringement and consequently impose penalties.



General Rules for Ploughing

1. Official entries

a. Competitors

The World Ploughing Contests are open to all plough persons from all affiliated countries or regions of the World. From each country (or region as designated by the WPO) may be entered by the acknowledged authority for the promotion of ploughing competitions on a nation-wide scale in each respective country or region not more than two competitors who must be recognized as having qualified in a nation-wide championship contest in accordance with their rules of qualification. There is no age limit. The acknowledged authority in each country or region must satisfy the WPO as to its qualifications and status. An affiliate can send one or a maximum of two competitors to the World Ploughing Contest. That may consist of two reversible competitors or two conventional competitors or one reversible competitor and/or one conventional competitor.

b. Judges

Each affiliated country or region may nominate a Judge and a Reserve Judge who should be experienced, proficient and able to accompany the plough persons and who may act as their coach. Judges nominated by an affiliate must be a permanent resident in that affiliate country. Should the nominated Judge be unable to officiate then the reserve Judge shall be the Judge from that country. No Judge shall officiate on the plots of competitors from their own country. If any Judges are not appointed to the panel of judges, they will be appointed to other official duties for the Contest.

All judges are required to attend all pre-contest briefing meetings. Any nominated judge who fails to attend any briefing meeting will not be appointed to officiate in the contest. Note: Board Members cannot Judge at World Ploughing Contest, Board Members must be available for WPO duties at all times during World Programme.

c. Entries

The names of competitors and the make of tractors and ploughs to be used in the World Ploughing Contest should be sent to the WPO General Secretary on the Official entry form after each National qualifying competition and in any event not later than the stated closing date, stating which contest (Conventional or Reversible) each competitor wishes to enter.

d. Equipment

The names of the makes of tractor and plough to be used by each competitor must be stated on the entry form. No changing to any other make of tractor or plough is allowed after the entry has been made, except under special circumstances and with the permission of the WPO General Secretary.

e. Pledge

Competitors and Coaches will be accorded the hospitality of the host organisation of the World Ploughing Contest which may include a program of functions, educational visits and sightseeing tours.

All participants are required to participate in the Official programme and must not leave without the permission of the WPO General Secretary and the host organisation.



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2. Ploughs

a. Number of plough bodies

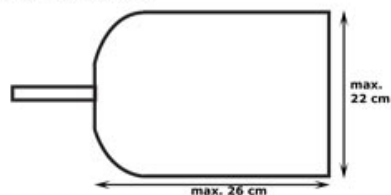
The World Ploughing Contest will be limited to tractor 2-furrow or 3-furrow mould board ploughs until further notice. The ploughs shall be either Conventional or Reversible models fitted with a maximum of one coulter, one skimmer and one share per body. Tailpieces are optional. For Reversible there is an exception: when ploughing the crown one extra disc, coulter and skimmer is allowed.

b. Tailpieces

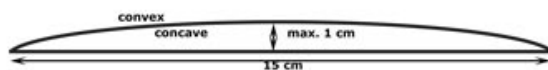
The size of any tailpiece must not exceed 26 cm in length and 22 cm in width. The total distance from the end of the mould board to the end of the tailpiece, including brackets, must not exceed 32 cm. The concave or convex of the tailpiece must not be greater than a ratio of 1 cm to each 15 cm of width.

Sketch of approved tailpiece

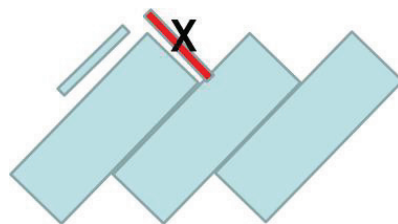
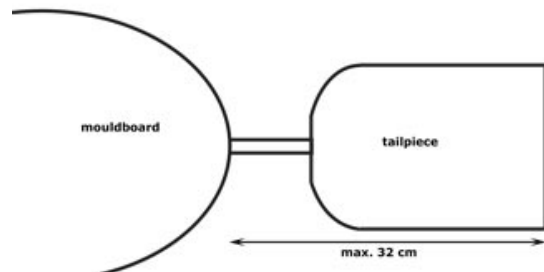
Minimum length and width



Ratio of concave or convex = max. 1 : 15



Minimum overall length from mouldboard



Tailpiece: must not be at an angle as shown in above picture



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c. Skimmer tailpiece

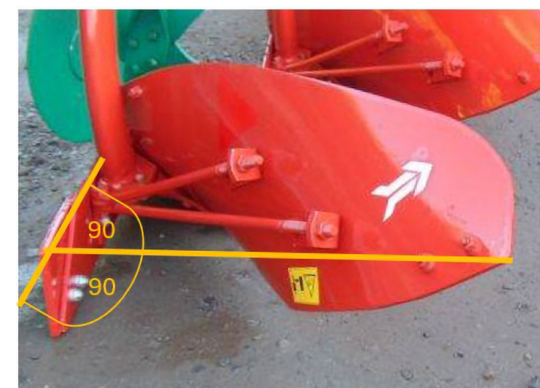
Tailpieces may be used on skimmers and can be adjustable or fixed.

d. Control Devices

GPS, laser beams, electronic remote control devices, electronic devices enabling the competitor to control the plough or tractor settings in an automatic way are not allowed. Hydraulic, pneumatic, electric, photographic and audio instruments for transmission of status of settings to enable manual adjustment of the plough are permitted.

e. Extraneous attachments

Extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches are not allowed. Any alteration or extensions to the mould boards must be permanent and equal on all bodies. Extensions at the end of the mould boards must be equal on all bodies. Permanent additions to the bottom of the mould board are allowed. Temporary additions to the bottom of the mouldboard are allowed for the opening split only. However, the additions must not be any longer than the end of the mouldboard. Please see image of mouldboard.



Longest part of the mouldboard

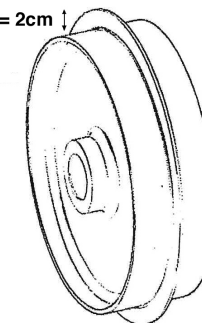
f. Markers

Markers and attachments on the tractor or on sighting poles are not allowed. Marks on the land other than headland scratch marks are not allowed.

g. Depth Control Devices

Anything rotating other than a disc coulter is considered a wheel. Any other gadgets like a skid or slide acting as a brace or support to the plough will be considered as replacing a wheel and therefore will be counted as a wheel. It is acceptable for a rib of maximum height of 2 cm to be fitted to a plough wheel (See Diagram). A maximum of 3 plough wheels (plough supporting gadgets) are

Max Height = 2cm





permitted per side of the plough.
(Conventional ploughs maximum 3 wheels fitted to the plough at any time when the plough is ploughing. Reversible ploughs maximum 6 wheels fitted to the plough at any time when the plough is ploughing). Additional wheels over the 3(conventional) and 6(reversible) can be left safely on the headland.

All Depth Controlling Devices must be fitted to the plough only

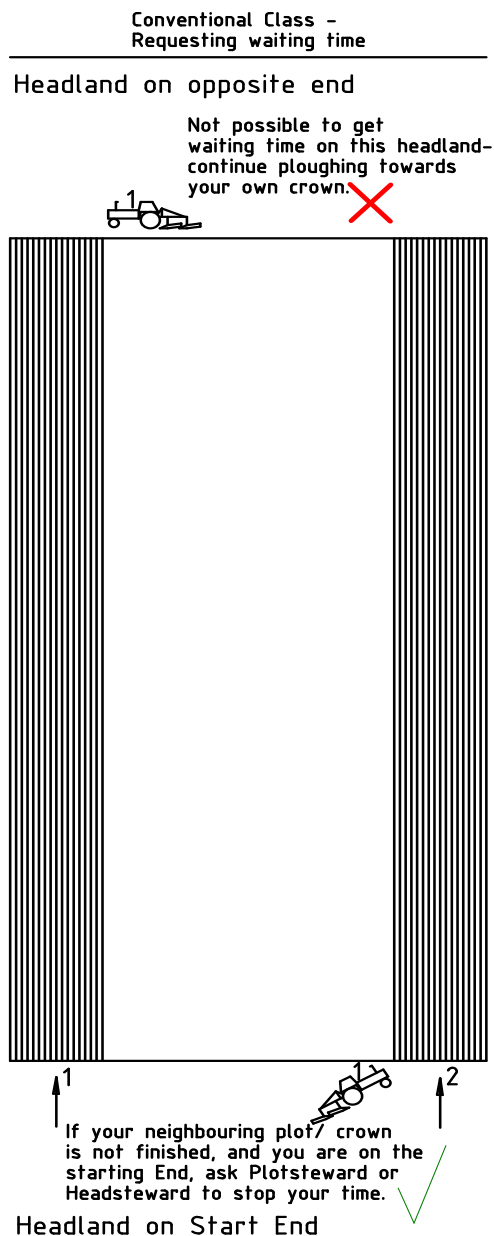
- h. Coulters
Only flat coulters, either plain or serrated, may be used without anything added to either the coulters or its hub.

3. Type of Land

Each competitor will be required to plough one plot of stubble land and one plot of grassland. The Ploughing is to take place on two successive days.

4. Size of Plots

- a Conventional ploughing
The plots will measure 100 metres long and 20 metres wide. See also the Plan of conventional ploughing plots on Page 14.
- b Reversible ploughing
The plots will measure 100 metres long, 24 metres wide at one end and 16 metres wide at the other end. See also the plan of reversible ploughing plots on page 19.
- c Headlands
Headlands will be 15 metres wide.
- d Other sizes
Should the size of the plots or the headlands have to be changed – all competitors will be notified.



5. Time for Ploughing

- a. Opening split/opening furrow
The time allowed to complete the opening split/opening furrow is 20 minutes.
- b. Break
After the completion of the opening split/opening furrow, all ploughing will stop for a minimum of 60 minutes whilst the opening splits/opening furrows are being judged. Reversible competitors must make their scratch mark for the butts whilst the opening furrow is being judged.
- c. Ploughing the plot
The time allowed for the completion of the ploughing of the whole plot is 2 hours and 40 minutes, making a total of 3 hours.
- d. **Waiting time Cast off**
When a competitor must wait for his neighbour before starting his/her cast-off he/she should contact the plot steward or Head Steward on the start end (see drawing). His/ her ploughing time stops. After a maximum of 20 minutes waiting time he/she can get the permission of the head steward to make his/her own cast-off. Waiting time will be added while making the new cast-off.
- e. Extra time in case of breakdowns, injuries or incidents.
Extra time may be allowed. In these circumstances, the competitor must contact the plot steward and his ploughing time stops. The competitor could receive the permission from the head stewards to do repairs on the field or leave the ploughing field to do repairs. A WPO Board member (appointed by the headstewards) shall accompany the competitor to ensure only necessary repairs are carried out and no other changes to the plough. The maximum time credit for repairs or other incidents is 60 minutes. If the competitor is using more than 60 minutes for repair his ploughing time is running. The competitor has to finish his plot not later than 60 minutes after the usual competition ends. Additional waiting time approved by the headstewards (Cast offs etc.) will be added. Not finished aspects cannot be judged. Time Credit for a breakdown starts when the repair begins or the service person is available to the competitor.

6. Depth of Ploughing / width of furrows

- a. Depth
Depth is set by WPO. The host organisation shall recommend a depth to the Governing Board.
- b. Depth range
The depth range shall be not less than 4 cm.
- c. Depth changes
The depth or depth range will either be confirmed or altered by the Head Stewards after reviewing soil conditions and with full consultation with the host organisation.
- d. Width of the furrows lies in the discretion of the Ploughman. The actual width must relate to the depth of ploughing with regards to good tillage.
(Explanation: Minimum width is never measured.)

7. Infringements

- a. General

Any competitor committing any of the following infringements will be notified with a yellow card and may be penalized by the Head Stewards.
- b. Infringements that incur penalties from 1 to 20 points are as follows:
 1. Shaping of furrows by hand or by a hand held instrument or by treading or any other manipulation.
 2. Rolling the plot, opening scratches, the butts or ins and outs, with the tractor wheels except in the normal course of ploughing.
 3. Use of extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches.
 4. GPS, laser beams, electronic remote control devices, electronic devices enabling the competitor to control the plough or tractor settings in an automatic way.
 5. Use of any parts unapproved by the WPO Plough Inspectors.
 6. Removing shares, skimmers, coulters and plough bodies whilst ploughing. (Skimmers may be removed for the opening split and finish only and shares may be removed for the opening only.)
 7. Using more than three or incorrect positioning of sighting poles.
 8. Using more than three plough wheels (conventional), or more than six plough wheels (reversible). Additional wheels over the 3 (conventional) and over 6 (reversible) can be left safely on the headland.
 9. Receiving assistance by signal, radio contact, mobile phone or any other method.
 10. Unauthorized practice ploughing.
 11. Abuse or offence of any Official during the official programme.
 12. Treading of furrows - Competitors must dismount from the tractor on to the unploughed land-side of the tractor where possible.
 13. Wheel Marks - Only one wheel mark allowed at the finish, part of the plough wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on the opposite side of the finish).

Short Explanation: A wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear tractor wheel together with the plough wheel, originating from one run. (See image on page 9).
- c. Repeated infringements

Repeated infringements of the rules and regulations could lead to disqualification by the Head Stewards.
- d. Infringements that incur obligatory penalty deductions are:
 - Overtime for opening - 1 point deducted for each minute or part minute.
 - Overtime for the plot - 5 points deducted for each minute or part minute.
 - Conventional Ploughing - 10 points deducted if the finish is laid the wrong way.
 - Reversible Ploughing - 10 points deducted if there are an incorrect number of furrows in the finish.
 - Reversible Ploughing - 10 points deducted in case of an idle run.
- e. Ploughmen will be penalized if they do not comply with safety rules at anytime throughout the official programme.



**Incorrect
Wheel Marks**



**Correct
Wheel Marks**



All these and any other infringements of the rules will be assessed by the Head Stewards. Any penalties imposed on a competitor outside of the contest field will be taken off the competitors overall score.
Any penalties imposed on a competitor inside the contest field during the contest days will be taken off that contest days result.
All penalties will be formally imposed by the Head Stewards in Committee.

8. Start and finish signals

When the Red, Orange and Green light signalling system is used, the sequence of the lights will be:

Flashing RED STOP
Flashing ORANGE with RED GET READY (5 minutes)
Flashing GREEN START OPENING (20 minutes)
Flashing GREEN with ORANGE 5 MINUTES TO STOP (5 minutes)
Flashing RED STOP (60 minutes)
Flashing ORANGE with RED GET READY (5 minutes)
Flashing GREEN START PLOUGHING (2 hours and 40 minutes)
Flashing GREEN with ORANGE 5 MINUTES TO STOP (5 minutes)
Flashing RED STOP (End of contest)

9. Official ploughing practice

- Provision of land
Competitors will be provided with land to practice on the days in the official programme designated for practice prior to the contest. Each competitor will be allocated practice land and no other practice will be allowed during the official program.
- Practice and national contest
Competitors from the host country will be allowed to plough in their own National competition if the competition is held on the official practice days.
- Supervision
All practicing will be under the supervision of the Head Stewards and any competitor breaking the practice rules, or abusing any official will be penalized.

10. Parade of competitors

All competitors will proceed to their respective plots in parade formation and return to the marshalling area in parade formation under the supervision of the appointed Parade Marshals.

11. Supervision

These rules will be strictly enforced and competitors must abide by them under the supervision of the Plot Stewards and Head Stewards.



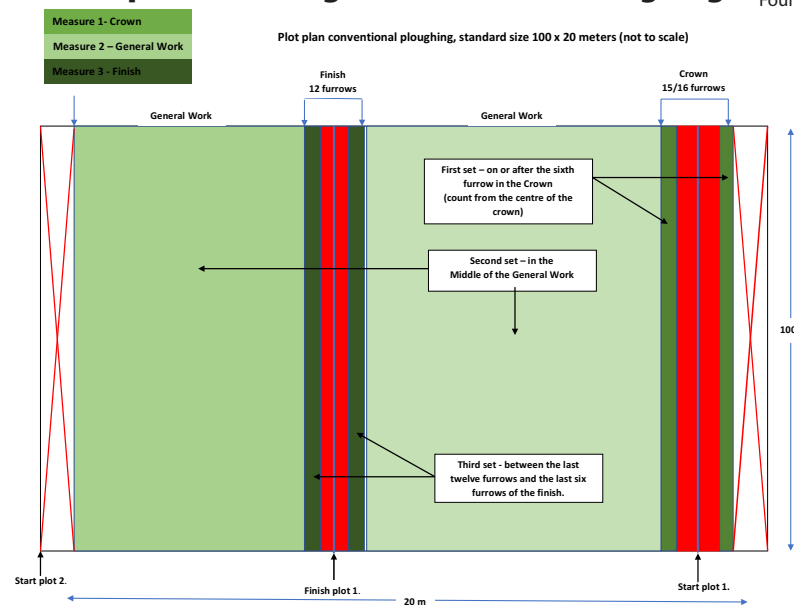
12. Depth measurements

- Specified depth
Conventional - The specified depth must be achieved by the sixth furrow and adhered to until the last six furrows.
Reversible - The specified depth must be achieved by the sixth furrow and adhered to until the last six furrows.
- Number of measurements
Conventional - The depth will be measured a total of eighteen times in three sets of six measurements on each competitors plot. The first set of measurements will be taken on or after the sixth furrow. The second set of measurements will be taken in the middle of the general work. The third set of three measurements must be taken between the last twelve furrows and the last six furrows of the finish.
Reversible - The depth will be measured a total of eighteen times in three sets of six measurements on each competitors plot. The first set of measurements will be taken on or after the sixth furrow. The second set of measurements will be taken in the middle of the general work. The third set of measurements will be taken on or after the fourth furrow into the finish and before the last four furrows of the finish.
- Where to measure
Measurements will be taken in the same furrow as specified in 12b at approximately 25% of the plot length, approximately 50% of the plot length and approximately 75% of the plot length and at each point 2 measurements are to be taken approximately 2 meters apart.
- Average
Depth is judged on the average of each set of measurements.
- Sharing Information
The measuring team will share the average of the first set of measurements in writing below the plot number on the start end of the plot.
- Penalties
1 point will be deducted for each 0.50 cm or part thereof when the ploughing is up to 2.50 cm shallower than the minimum or deeper than the maximum depth required, for each set of measurements.
10 points will be deducted when the ploughing is more than 2.50 cm shallower than the minimum or deeper than the maximum depth required, for each set of measurements.

13. Final decision

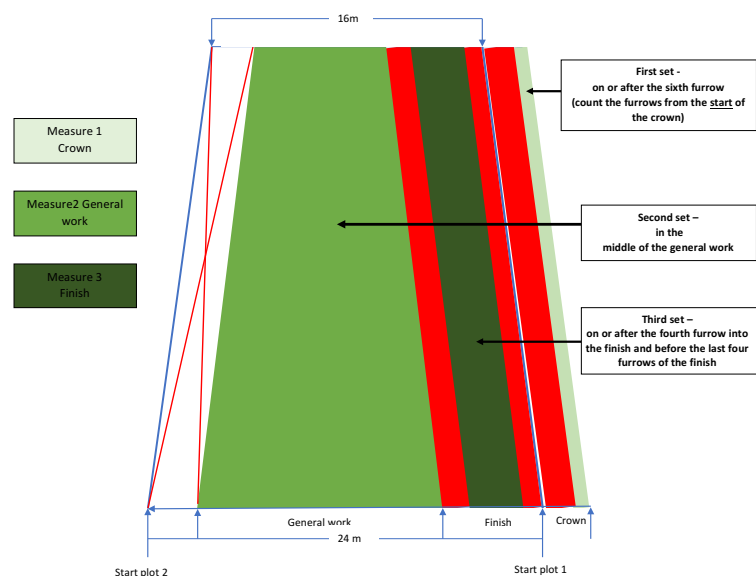
Any matter arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Governing Board of the World Ploughing Organization whose decision shall be final and binding.
NOTE: Any necessary contact with the competitors during the contest must be made through the Head Steward and is then communicated to the competitor on the headland.
The depth measuring stewards should communicate with the competitor only if the first measurement is incorrect.
Any delay caused by such communication should be given an extra time consideration.

Depth Measuring - Conventional Ploughing



Depth Measuring - Reversible Ploughing

Plot plan reversible ploughing, standard size with: 16 x 24 meters - length 100 meters (not to scale)



Rules particular to conventional ploughing

1. Sighting and setting out

- Sighting poles
Three sighting poles only may be used. One pole may be sighted on the headland of the plot. Only official sighting poles, supplied by the host organisation, must be used.
- Other markers
The use of plot number markers, guide lines, foot-marks, stones or any guide other than the three sighting poles is not allowed.
- Assistance
Competitors can have assistance to place and remove the sighting poles. No other assistance is allowed during the contest.

2. Opening split

- Opening split
In conventional ploughing competitors must make an opening split at the setting out.
- Scratches
The Scratches shall be turned out leaving no land in the centre of the opening that has not been moved.

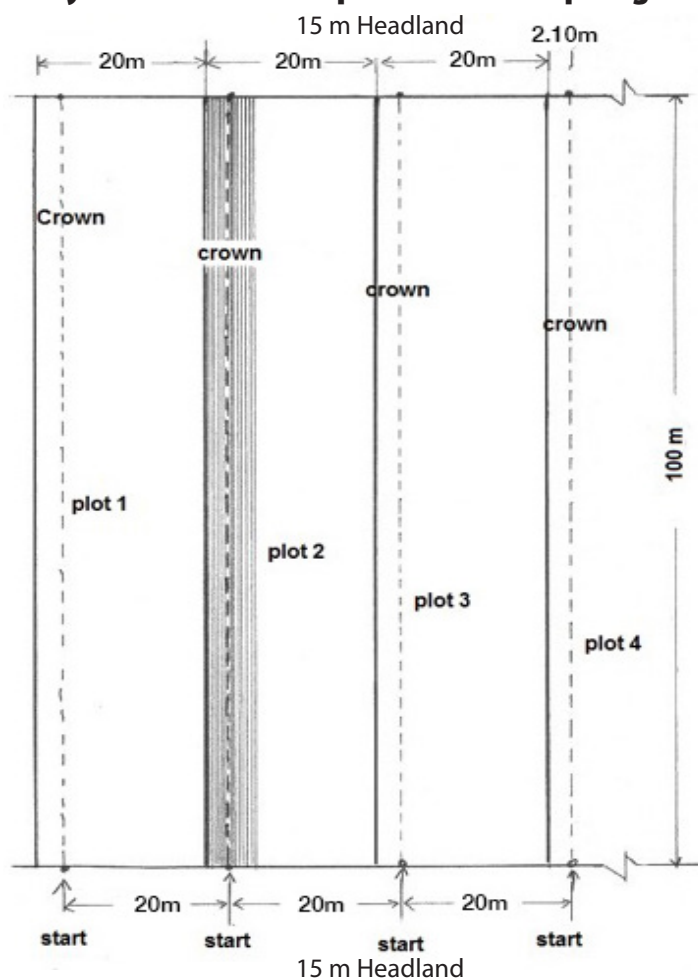
3. Method of ploughing

- Crown - two furrow ploughs
After completing the first four rounds, which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then commences to throw out to the plot of the next neighbour. The crown must consist of 15 or 16 furrows.
- Crown - three furrow ploughs
After completing the first three rounds, which shall constitute the crown, the competitor then commences to throw out to the plot of the next neighbour. It is allowed to have 17 or 18 furrows in the crown.
(Explanation: To make organisation of a ploughing contest easier, the layout may be different per category. This means ploughing to the next higher number or to the next lower number is both allowed. For competitors this means they have to be aware of this to avoid mistakes.)
- Straightening furrows
The first and second runs next to the neighbours plot will be allowed as straightening furrows and will not be judged. However, all furrows in the first two runs must be fully turned with all grass and trash completely buried, otherwise these two runs will be considered faulty and judged accordingly. The neighbours ploughing must not be run on or damaged, except in extreme circumstances and only then with the approval of the Head Stewards and judged accordingly. In extreme circumstances, competitors require Head Steward approval to run on, or damage their neighbours ploughing for straightening furrows. A competitor may erect sighting poles for the straightening furrows, only with approval from Head Stewards.
- Single furrow runs are allowed but all bodies must be in the ploughing position.



- e. Finish
The Finish comprises the last 12 furrows. (i.e. 6 furrows on the throw out side of the finish and 5 furrows and the sole furrow on the crown side).
- f. Final furrow
The sole furrow (final furrow) must be turned towards the competitor's crown.
- g. Wheel marks
Only one wheel allowed at the finish, part of the plough wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on the opposite side of the finish).

Layout conventional plots - 2 furrow ploughs



Short Explanation:

A wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear tractor wheel together with the plough wheel, originating from one run. (See image on page 9).

- h. Idle runs
Idle runs to the opposite end are allowed but must be made on the headland and not across the plot.

4. Final decision

Any question arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Governing Board of the World Ploughing Organization whose decision shall be final and binding.

Scoring system conventional ploughing

1. Opening Split: Completeness of cutting through the sod throughout the whole length and width of the split. Uniformity and Neatness. 10 points
 2. Crown - Weed Control: No stubble, grass or weed (trash). Furrow slices close. No wheel marks. 10 points
 3. Crown - Uniformity: Uniform furrow slices. No high furrows. Soil made available. 10 points
 4. Weed control: No stubble, grass or weed (trash) Skimmers must be used. 10 points
 5. Firmness of furrows: (Weed control) Furrow slices close and firm. No holes. No wheel marks. 10 points
 6. Soil for seed bed: Soil made available for a seed bed. 10 points
 7. Uniformity of furrow: Uniformity and conformity of furrow slices. 10 points
 8. Finish - Weed Control: Neatness and weed control. 10 points
 9. Finish - Uniformity: Closeness and uniformity of finishing furrow slices. Narrowness and shallowness. 10 points
 10. Ins and Outs: Neatness and regularity. No wheel marks. 10 points
 11. Straightness: Measured four times: (i) Opening Split, (ii) Crown, (iii) General Work, (iv) Finish. All the points awarded for straightness will be added and divided by 2. 20 points
 12. General appearance: All aspects and workmanship. Clearly defined and uniform furrow slices. No pairing of furrows. 10 points
- Judges score at all times from 1 – 10. Total maximum 130 points per panel per day.

Ties

In the event of two or more competitors having equal points (tie) in the stubble or grassland contest or the overall contest a countback system will be used to resolve the tie and decide the ranking of each competitor. In a case when the first considered aspect has the same result, the following aspect will be reviewed and so on.

The order of the aspects are fixed in table on page 16.

In the overall ranking the points from both stubble and grassland contests will be added together to resolve the tie as per the table on page 16.



CONVENTIONAL			REVERSIBLE		
Count Back Ranking	Aspect	Description	Count Back Ranking	Aspect	Description
1	12	General Appearance	1	12	General Appearance
2	9	Finish - Uniformity	2	9	Final Furrow
3	8	Finish - Weed Control	3	8	Finish Furrows
4	7	Uniformity of Furrow	4	7	Uniformity of Furrow
5	6	Soil for Seed Bed	5	6	Soil for Seed Bed
6	5	Firmness of Furrows	6	5	Firmness of Furrows
7	4	Weed Control	7	4	Weed Control
8	3	Crown - Uniformity	8	3b	Connecting Furrow at the Butts
9	2	Crown - Weed Control	9	3a	The Butts
10	1	Opening Split	10	2	Crown
11	11.iv	Straightness in Finish	11	1	Opening Furrow
12	11.iii	Straightness in General Work	12	11.iv	Straightness in Finish
13	11.ii	Straightness in Crown	13	11.iii	Straightness in General Work
14	10	Ins and Outs	14	11.ii	Straightness in Crown
15	11.i	Straightness in Opening Split	15	10	Ins and Outs
16			16	11.i	Straightness in Opening Furrow



Rules particular to Reversible Ploughing

1. Sighting and setting out

- Sighting poles
Three sighting poles only may be used. One pole may be sighted on the headland of the plot. They may only be used for the opening and for the scratch mark for the butts. Only official sighting poles, supplied by the host organisation, must be used.
- Other markers
The use of plot number markers, guide lines, foot-marks, stones or any guide other than the three sighting poles is not allowed.
- Assistance
Competitors can have assistance to place and remove the sighting poles. No other assistance is allowed during the contest.

2. Opening furrow

- Opening furrow
In reversible ploughing competitors must make a single opening furrow at the setting out.
- Rear right body
The opening furrow is a single furrow ploughed from the start using the rear right-body.

3. Method of ploughing

- Scratch mark for butts
This scratch mark must be made whilst the opening furrow is being judged. The scratch mark for the butts should be made parallel to the opening furrow to allow 19 or 20 furrows for two furrow ploughs or 20 or 21 furrows for three furrow ploughs from the opening furrow to the butts. Three sighting poles may be used for making the scratch mark. Assistance is allowed to place and remove the sighting poles. No handling or rolling of the scratch allowed. Either left or right hand bodies may be used for making the scratch mark.
- Crown - Two furrow ploughs
Ploughing must commence using the left hand bodies and after completing eight furrows which shall constitute the Crown, the competitor then proceeds to plough against the next neighbour. When ploughing the crown one extra disc, coulter or skimmer is allowed on the first furrow.
- Crown - Three furrow ploughs
Ploughing must commence using the left hand bodies and after completing nine furrows which shall constitute the Crown, the competitor then proceeds to plough against the next neighbour. When ploughing the crown one extra disc, coulter or skimmer is allowed on the first furrow.
(Explanation: To make organisation of a ploughing contest easier, the layout may be different per category. This means ploughing to the next higher number or to the next lower number is both allowed. For competitors this means they have to be aware of this to avoid mistakes.)
- Butts
On completion of the crown the competitor then ploughs all the land between the next competitor plot and his scratch mark, thus completing the butts.



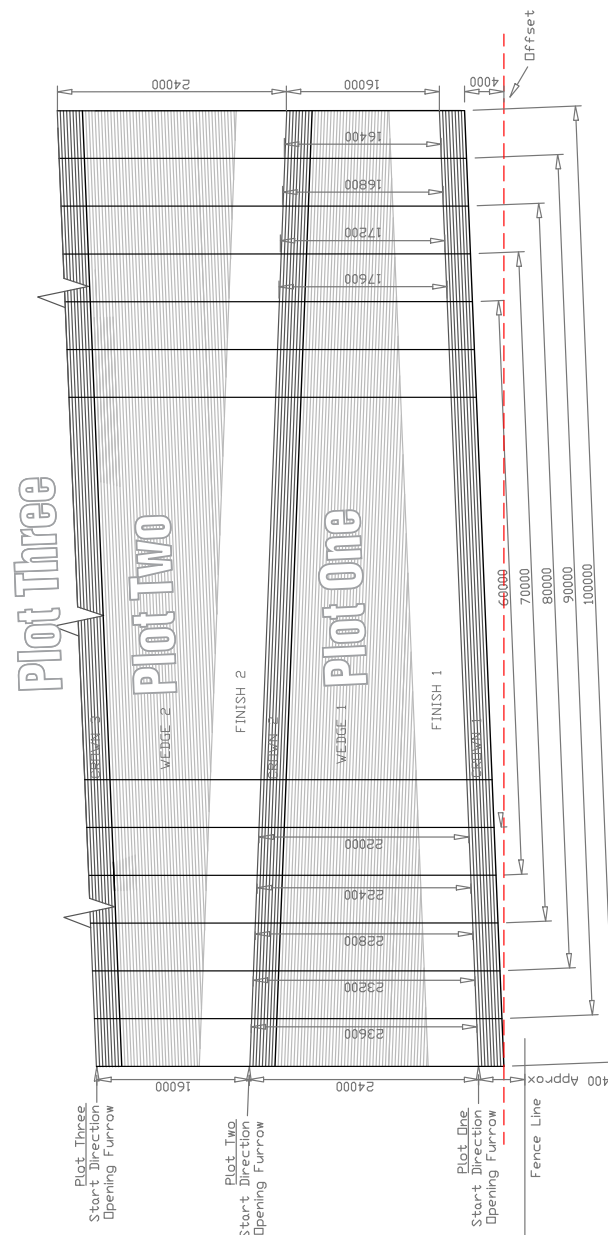
- e. Using all bodies
All plough bodies must be in a ploughing position at all times excluding ins and outs and butts. Competitors must use all plough bodies when ploughing the finishing furrows. It is allowed to use one plough body when ploughing the connecting furrow.
- f. Finish
The competitor then starts at the scratch mark for the butts and ploughs to a finish at the cut of the opening furrow. Sighting poles are not allowed when ploughing the connecting furrow at the scratch mark for the butts.
- f(i). Two furrow ploughs
The finishing furrows shall be the remaining 19 or 20 furrows between the butts and the finishing furrow, including the connecting furrow. All competitors must make 10 runs to conclude the finishing furrows. The connecting furrow may be ploughed showing one or two furrows but with all bodies in a working position. No further single furrows across the whole field are permitted.
- f(ii). Three furrow ploughs
The finishing furrows shall be the remaining 20 or 21 furrows between the butts and the finishing furrow, including the connecting furrow. All competitors must make 7 runs to conclude the finishing furrows. The connecting furrow may be ploughed showing two or three furrows but with all bodies in a working position. No further single furrows (two bodies in work) across the whole field are permitted.
- g. Final furrow
The final furrow should be cut close to the opening furrow. There should be no land left unploughed and no part of the first furrow of the start re-ploughed. The first furrow and the final furrow should be the same height.
- h. Wheel marks
Only one wheel allowed at the finish, part of the plough wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on the opposite side of the finish).
Short Explanation: A wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear tractor wheel, together with the plough wheel, originating from one run. (See image on page 9).
- i. Alternate bodies
Alternate bodies must be used at all times when ploughing the plot.
- j. Idle runs
Idle runs are not permitted.

4. Final decision

Any question arising and not provided for in these rules will be decided by the Governing Board of the World Ploughing Organization whose decision shall be final and binding.



Plot Plan of Reversible Ploughing Plots



WIDTH OF PLOTS & OFFSET	
100 Metre Plot Length =	24.000 x 4.000 Offset
90 Metre Plot Length =	23.600 x 3.600 Offset
80 Metre Plot Length =	23.200 x 3.200 Offset
70 Metre Plot Length =	22.800 x 2.800 Offset
60 Metre Plot Length =	22.400 x 2.400 Offset

If plots are shorter in length, plots must be shortened equal amounts at each end to maintain full width plots and correct angle.
Use table to determine plot widths in relation to length

COMPETITORS MUST START FROM CORRECT END
CAST OFFS: Must Be On Competitors LEFT



Scoring system reversible ploughing

1. Opening furrow: Completeness of cutting through the sod throughout the whole length and width of the opening furrow. Uniformity and neatness. 10 points
2. Crown: Cut through, uniformity and evenness - no wheel marks. 10 points
3. a. THE BUTTS: Joining furrows at the butts: Completeness of cut through, no dips or mounds. 10 points.
b. CONNECTING FURROW AT BUTTS: The connecting furrow should be visible the total length of plot, uniformity and evenness - no wheel marks. 10 points
4. Weed control: No stubble, grass weed or trash. Skimmers must be used. 10 points
5. Firmness of furrows: Furrow slices close and firm. No holes. No wheel marks. 10 points
6. Soil for Seed bed: Soil made available for a seed bed. 10 points
7. Uniformity of furrow: Uniformity and conformity of furrow slices. 10 points
8. Finish furrows: (The furrows from the butts to the final furrow) -weed control, uniformity and conformity of furrows. 10 points
9. Final furrows: (Last two furrows adjoining the crown) - should be of equal height as the crown, no unploughed or re-ploughed land - weed control, uniformity and conformity of furrows. 10 points
10. Ins and outs: Neatness and regularity and no wheel marks. 10 Points.
11. Straightness: Measured four times: (i) Opening Split, (ii) Crown, (iii) General Work, (iv) Finish. All the points awarded for straightness will be added and divided by 2. 20 points
12. General appearance: All aspects and workmanship. Clearly defined and uniform furrow slices. No pairing of furrows. 10 points
Judges score at all times from 1 – 10. Total maximum 140 points per panel per day.

Ties

In the event of two or more competitors having equal points (tie) in the stubble or grassland contest or the overall contest a countback system will be used to resolve the tie and decide the ranking of each competitor. In a case when the first considered aspect has the same result, the following aspect will be reviewed and so on.

The order of the aspects are fixed in table on page 16.

In the overall ranking the points from both stubble and grassland contests will be added together to resolve the tie as per the table on page 16.



Explanatory notes on the rules for ploughing

Opening split (conventional ploughing)

The depth of the scratches should be such that the furrow slices are cut completely free from the under-soil surface throughout the whole length of the opening split.

Each scratch should be straight, neat and uniform in width and depth throughout its whole length. The scratches need not conform in size with each other.

Opening furrow (reversible ploughing)

The depth of the scratch should be such that the furrow slice is cut completely free from the under-soil surface throughout the whole length of the opening furrow.

The scratch should be straight, neat and uniform in its' whole length.

The Crown/Start (conventional ploughing)

All land must be cut through. The furrow slices in the crown should lie close against each other without gaps or openings. All crown furrows must be uniform and level with the rest of the ploughing and present ample soil to produce a good seedbed. The furrows in the crown should conform to the rest of the ploughing. No wheel marks showing.

The Crown/Start (reversible ploughing)

All land must be cut through. The first furrow of the crown should be turned into the opening and the cut edge at the furrow should be vertical with the cut edge of the opening. The furrows in the crown should conform to the rest of the ploughing. No wheel marks showing.

Connecting furrow at butts (reversible ploughing)

All land must be cut through. No dips and mounds. Uniform and level with the rest of the ploughing. The connecting furrow should be visible over the total length of the plot. No wheel marks showing.

Weed control

All stubble and grass must be completely buried beneath the furrows.

The ploughing should be done in such a way that all roots are cut or torn off.

Skimmers must be used. No wheel marks showing.

Seed bed

Furrows should be properly turned so that sufficient soil is made available to produce a seed bed without pulling stubble or grass to the surface in future cultivations.

The Finish (conventional ploughing)

The finish must be straight and parallel to the crown. The last furrows should be turned towards the competitor's own crown/start.

The finish should be no deeper than the rest of the ploughing and should be no wider than the normal furrow the plough leaves.

Wheel Marks

Only one wheel mark allowed at the finish, part of the plough wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on the opposite side of the finish).

(See image on page 9).



Short Explanation: A wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear tractor wheel together with the plough wheel, originating from one run.

The Finish (reversible ploughing)

The Finish must be straight, parallel and of equal height with the crown. The Finish Furrows should be ploughed no deeper, wider or narrower than the rest of the plot.

Wheel Marks

Only one wheel mark allowed at the finish, part of the plough wheel mark may be visible on the outside of the tractor wheel mark (on the opposite side of the finish).

Short Explanation: A wheel mark is the mark of the front and rear tractor wheel, together with the plough wheel, originating from one run. (See image on page 9).

Ins and outs

The front share must enter the ground at the headland scratch mark and the rear share must leave the ground at the headland scratch mark. No wheel marks showing.

General Appearance

All furrows in the plot should be straight, clearly defined, uniform and well turned with good weed control. Faulty ploughing done by the neighbouring competitor should be corrected in the first and second runs adjoining the neighbours plot. The tractor must not be driven on the ploughed land.

Briefing of Competitors

A special meeting will be held at which competitors will be given further explanations of the Rules and procedure for the conduct of the contest and at which competitor's questions will be answered. (The date and time of this meeting is stated in the Itinerary as also is the date and time for the ceremony of drawing for plot numbers.)

Safety policy statement

The prevention of all accidents, particularly those involving personal injury or damage to equipment and property is paramount.

In host countries where an official Safety Policy is operative, the WPO commits itself to the implementation and enforcement of the host country's policy statement.

Where no such declared safety policy exists, the Head Stewards will ensure that the following basic procedures are strictly enforced:

No passengers will be allowed to ride on tractors or ploughs at any time throughout the official programme.

Tractors should preferably be fitted with safety cabs or roll-over bars.

Eye-protection goggles and gloves must be worn when using cutting/sharpening/grinding machines.

Eye-protection shields and/or preferably welding booths should be used when electrical welding, to minimize the risk of glare to all.

Competitors are advised to wear steel toecap boots on practice and competition days.

Electrical equipment should be properly fitted and installed.



Particular care should be taken to ensure that electrical extension cables are not run-over by tractors and other vehicles.

The sharp edges of spare upstanding disc coulters must be guarded.

All ploughs must have a support when a competitor is working underneath.

Extra tractor wheels not mounted on the tractor must be laid down flat on the headland.

Competitors must seek assistance when fitting extra tractor wheels.

The plough must be lowered when the competitor leaves the tractor.

The instructions of the Marshalling Yard Supervisor and Parade Directors MUST BE OBEYED!

TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS! THE SAFETY CODE MUST BE OBEYED.

ACCIDENTS DON'T HAPPEN! THEY ARE ALWAYS CAUSED!

Duties of Plot Stewards

Plot stewards will be appointed from the host country and from any other countries. Plot Stewards will wear armbands, or other identification.

Relatives of competitors in any competition, and representatives of manufacturers and interested firms are not eligible for appointment as Plot Stewards.

Any person accepting appointment as a Plot Stewards must make herself/himself conversant with the rules of the World Ploughing Contest and also attend the Instructions of Stewards' Meeting which will be arranged by the Head Stewards.

Each Plot Steward will supervise 3 or, if necessary, 4 plots from his/her own headland. The principal duty is to ensure that competitors are given no assistance by other persons and spectators and other persons are not allowed to interfere with competitors or trample their work.

Each Steward is required to continuously keep observation on the competitors under his/her supervision during the whole period of the Contest and no Plot Steward shall leave his/her allocated plots during the period of the Contest without first notifying the Head Steward. Plot Stewards will ensure that competitors strictly observe the Rules and will report the details of any infringements to the Head Stewards with the minimum of delay. The Head Stewards will consider the reported infringement and, if the infringement is substantiated, notify the competitor with a yellow card.

Absolutely no assistance is allowed to any competitor other than to set and remove sighting poles. This rule must be strictly enforced, and any competitor who is so helped must at once be reported to the Head Stewards.

No person is allowed to signal to a competitor by any means from the headland. This shall be considered as assistance and must be reported. The Plot Stewards will protect competitors from being approached by Press people and others during the period of the Contest and will prevent all persons other than the judges from walking on the ploughed land.

The Plot Steward must also protect the competitor from "helpful" spectators offering any assistance.

Mobile Loudspeakers may be available and Plot Stewards should make use of them in appealing to spectators to keep off the plots, if necessary.



Stewards must at all times do all they can to safeguard the interests of competitors to ensure them every fair chance.

Stewards must answer any queries which the competitor may have or obtain an answer from the Head Stewards and may, if permitted by the Head Stewards, assist only with the lifting of heavy equipment such as is normally required to be handled by more than one person.

Stewards must, however, during the period of the Contest, not assist with mounting and dismounting tractor twin wheels, must make sure that no persons can be injured by tractor wheels parked on the headlands.

Assistance in the event of mechanical breakdown may be permitted by the Head Stewards.

The Plot Steward will be responsible for recording the time lost by any of the competitors under his/her supervision owing to mechanical breakdown, "force majeure", or having to wait on his/her neighbour and will report the same without delay to the Head Stewards.

During the period of recorded lost time the competitor must not perform any operation, i.e. measuring plot, adjusting plough, etc. Finishing time. The Contest is ended as soon as the final Red signal is given. All competitors must, however, finish their plots.

Removal of Tractors and Ploughs. Plot Stewards must make sure all competitors return to the Marshalling Yard with their tractors and ploughs as directed by the Parade Marshall.

Protests

Protests in writing will be accepted by the WPO General Secretary from any member of the Official Team registered, the protest must also be signed by the Person or Persons involved.

Protests relating to the Official Practice, must be lodged at the earliest opportunity and no latter than Two (2) Hours prior to the last briefing before the Official Contest commences.

Protests relating to Day One must be lodged at the earliest opportunity and no latter than One (1) hour after the contest for Day One is completed.

Protests relating to Day Two must be lodged at the earliest opportunity and no latter than One (1) hour after the contest for Day Two is completed.

All protests must include the local currency equivalent of 75 Euro, this will be forfeited if the protest is found to be without cause.

The Executive Committee will investigate the protest as soon as possible after receiving the protest.

Representatives from the Executive Committee or the WPO Chairman or both, will convey the result verbally and in writing to the applicant.

World Ploughing Organization

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