

# Douglas Volunteer Fire Department

43rd Annual DVFD Demolition Derby

In Memory of Billy Cathcart

Saturday August 15th, 2026

## CHAIN-UP CLASS

### GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS and SAFETY RULES

*\*Highlighted areas are the only changes for 2026*

1. **These rules will be strictly enforced. NO CHEATING WILL BE TOLERATED! Any driver not obeying the rules will be disqualified. Disqualification will result in forfeiture of all entry fees. Any crewmember who is disqualified will have the car he/she is attached to disqualified.**
2. ALL REMITTANCE WILL BE CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ALLOWED
3. **The Douglas Volunteer Fire Department reserves the right to approve or reject any and all entries. The judge's decision is final. The head judge will decide any discrepancies.**
4. Participants must be 16 years of age or older; anyone under 18 years of age must have a signed minor release.
5. Only drivers, owners, and mechanics who sign the release sheet will be permitted in the arena area. 1 Driver and 2 arena passes will be allowed per car registration. You may purchase 2 additional spectator passes/\$15.00 and/or 1 additional arena pass/\$25.00. **ALL** driver, arena, and spectator passes **MUST** be picked up by 5:30. All entry fees are non-refundable
6. Any participant who has run in one of the preliminary heats and can be repaired for the consolation heat is eligible to enter again at the discretion of the judges. The car may be re-inspected for compliance.
7. The use of intoxicating beverages or controlled substances before or during the show disqualifies the user from the day's events, and they are subject to suspension at future demos sponsored by the Douglas Volunteer Fire Department. **This will be enforced and subjected to a breathalyzer.**
8. The Douglas Volunteer Fire Department, or its representation, and Wyoming State Fair, State of Wyoming, will not be responsible for any accident, injury, or property loss incurred during Demolition Derby activities.
9. No walkie-talkies or radio systems are permitted in the cars.
10. A driver must hit another car every 90 seconds to prevent disqualification. Being hit by another car does not qualify as your hit. A hit must have complete separation and produce a noticeable impact.
11. **There will be NO deliberate hitting of the driver's door. This will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of any entry fees. ALL JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL!**

12. All cars must be registered **BEFORE** being inspected. Inspection will be between 11:00 am – 4:00 pm on the day of the derby. Any vehicle not registered by 3:00 pm will be charged an additional \$50 late fee. **Please have your vehicle ready and in compliance upon arrival.** Any vehicles not inspected by 5:00 pm **will not be eligible to run.** After final inspection, all vehicles will be impounded. A mandatory driver's only meeting will be at 5:00.
13. Due to a lack of adequate space in the pits, any non-derby cars or non-support vehicles will not be allowed in the pit. One support vehicle with a trailer per derby car is permitted. **NO HOT RODDING IN THE PITS.** Keep it at an idle. Any violation of this will result in the car being disqualified.
14. In the event of a vehicle fire, a flip-over, injury, or any debris deemed unsafe, only Fire Department personnel are allowed on the track, and heat will be stopped until safety is restored. Cars may get 1 additional chance to run as long as the vehicle passes a safety check and the driver is OK. All other drivers will remain in their cars at all times or will be disqualified.
15. Stay in the car! Do not leave your car or loosen your safety belt until the last car has stopped and been given the checkered flag, except in case of fire. A Red flag means ALL cars must stop where they are until the green flag is given again. In the event of a red flag, all remaining drivers are given a fresh 90-second hit time when the heat is restarted. A Black flag, when waved at you, means you have been disqualified. Stop, shut off your engine, break your stick, and remain in the car until the heat is over. **DO NOT** remove your helmet! No smoking will be allowed.
16. All cars will be inspected before the program begins. Winning cars will be impounded after the heat to prevent repairs or alterations. The number of cars taken from each heat will be determined at the time of the derby. All vehicles eligible for the main will be given 25 minutes before to make repairs. In the main, the last car to initiate a hit is the winner. The top 3 cars may be re-inspected at the conclusion of the main. Everyone else will stay back until the cars are verified to be legal.
17. All cars must be removed by midnight on the day of the derby, or they will be towed at the owner's expense and will be disqualified from the following year's event.
18. **Profanity, displays of temper, unruliness, belligerence, or any kind of conduct not deemed the norms of society in general will not be tolerated. Any person exhibiting such conduct to any official of the Douglas Volunteer Fire Department or another contestant will be subject to expulsion from the Demo Derby. All entry fees and deposits will be forfeited. ALL JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL!**

## Car Specifications and Rules

*\*Highlighted areas are the only changes for 2026*

1. All drivers must wear a DOT-certified safety helmet. If you do not have a helmet, you may borrow one from another driver who is not in your heat. All drivers must have safety belts that are operational and worn. **Neck braces and FR clothing are strongly encouraged.** Vehicles must have working brakes at the beginning of the heat.
2. 1970 and newer, American and foreign cars, Front- or Rear Wheel Drive, minivans, cars, or station wagons. **No 4-wheel drives, all-wheel drives, Convertibles, Ambulances, Imperials/imperial sub frame swaps, Hearses, or Trucks.**
3. All airbags, sensors, and propellant charges must be removed or discharged.
4. All glass, including head and taillights, must be removed **before** your arrival.

5. The rear seat, driver's door armrest, door handles, door locks, seat belts not being used, mounting screws, clips, license plates, and all side and decorative chrome, trim, and rubber stops must be removed. Antennas and dash clusters also must be removed.
6. All dirt, loose debris, screws, broken glass, and anything deemed unsafe must be swept, vacuumed, or removed from the car.
7. A fuel tank with a maximum capacity of 6 gallons will be allowed. The fuel tank must be moved into the backseat area and properly secured. **No** plumbers strap allowed. Covered with a non-flammable material is recommended. The original fuel tank must be removed, or the entire bottom of the tank cut out. Floating & reinforced fuel tank cages are allowed, but should be designed only to protect the fuel tank.
8. Vehicles may utilize electric fuel pumps. A fuel cut-off switch **MUST** be clearly marked with RED PAINT for easy identification near the driver in the event of a fire. This is for the protection of drivers and fire personnel.
9. Only one battery is permitted and **MUST** be mounted inside the vehicle. The battery must be properly secured and covered with a non-conductive material. No plumbers strap allowed. (ex. Rubber, wood, etc.)
10. The driver's door may be welded shut; all other doors can be chained with up to 3/8" chain or 9-gauge wire. The driver's door **MUST** be reinforced for driver protection, which will consist of plate, angle iron, or pipe, but not to exceed 12" past each driver's door seam. No welding or addition of seam plates to any other doors but the driver's door. Doors can be chained or wired up to six (6) spots per side of the vehicle. The bottom of the door seams may be chained (max 3/8" chain) through the door and around the frame. A max of 2 wraps at each location using chain or a max of 4 wraps at each location using 9-gauge wire.

## 11. HOOD AND TRUNKS

- A. Must be open during inspection.
- B. There must be a 16" diameter hole in the center of the hood and trunk.
- C. Hoods can be chained or bolted (no larger than 1" bolts, or 3/8" chain); if bolted, must use angle iron. Maximum of 4 bolts or chains. If two pieces of angle iron are welded on top of the hood and fender to bolt the hood, they cannot be longer than 8" or larger than 2" by 2" angle,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick. If chains are used, they may be single looped around the bumper and no larger than 3/8".
- D. May also use 9-gauge wire.

## 12. CAGE

The driver door **MUST** be reinforced for safety by a 4-Point Cage or Door Brace. Safety reinforcements must be contained within the passenger compartment **ONLY** (except the Halo bar and Outside Door Brace). Safety reinforcements may be welded to the floorboard or chassis. Drivers may also use plates where pipe or tubing meets the floorboard (maximum of 8" X 8" in size and up to 1/4" thick). When welding directly to the chassis, then **NO ADDITIONAL** plates may be used. All safety reinforcements must be constructed **WITH A MAXIMUM OF 6" diameter and a minimum of 2" round or square tubing**.

- A. 4-Point Cage - The 4-Point Cage may be constructed with a maximum of (4) vertical posts. (1) bar across the dash area, (2) bars across both the driver and passenger doors, and (2) bars across the rear seat area no more than 12" behind the driver seat (1 of the rear bars must be no more than 12" above the floorboard).
- B. Door Braces - The Door Brace may be constructed with (1) door bar slanted upward across the driver and passenger door and (1) rear seat bar slanted downward to the opposite rear floorboard, no more than 12" above the floorboard.
- C. Outside Door Brace - An Outside Door Brace may be used instead. It can **NOT** extend more than 12" past the front and rear door seams. The use of "Grader Blade" material as an Outside Door Brace is allowed, but it is **NOT RECOMMENDED**.

- D. Halo Bar - Halo bar or roll-over protection is **MANDATORY**. It may be routed inside or over the roof of the vehicle. If using a Halo bar with a 4-Point Cage, it will extend upward from the two rear vertical posts. If used with the Door Brace, the Halo vertical bars can be independent and must be welded to the top of the frame.

## 13. Suspension

- A. No suspension modifications - period.

## 14. Frames

- A. Vehicles are authorized with 12" of reinforcing plate on each frame rail in the location of your choice.
  - 1) Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed 1/4" thick. Must have a means to verify the thickness of the patch material.
  - 2) Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed the frame's height or width.
  - 3) Reinforcing plates can **NOT** exceed 6" in length in a given location.
  - 4) Reinforcing plates can **NOT** be located within 3" of another plate.
  - 5) Reinforcing plates can **NOT** be connected to the bumper.
  - 6) Only 1 frame plate per location. No wrapping of frames.
  - 7) All reinforcing plates **MUST** be **painted RED**. This is **MANDATORY**.
- B. No pre-bending
- C. Must have 2" of frame in front of radiator support.
- D. Body spacers are required and need to be OEM with OEM hardware.
  - 1) If body spacers need to be replaced, OEM pucks or a 1" spacer, not solid material, measuring 1"x1"x1" can be used.

## 15. Bumpers

- A. The maximum height of the front bumper is 22" from the bottom of the bumper to the ground. The minimum height of the rear bumper is 15" from the bottom of the bumper to the ground
- B. For factory bumper:
  - 1) It can be welded without adding any metal. Bumper shocks & brackets may be welded to the bumper, but no more than 6" on top and 6" on bottom
- C. You may remove ALL factory brackets and shock tubes, and in its place use an 8" X 4" X 1/4" flat plate with a bend in the middle after 4" into an "L", the 4 inches may be welded to the first 4" of the outside of the frame leaving the other 4" bend to mount the bumper to. The 4" bend cannot be in front of the frame rail.
- D. 9-gauge wire or 3/8" chain **must** go around the front and rear bumpers and be secured to the frame or body in two (2) places with a max of 2 wraps at each location. This is done to help prevent bumpers from falling off and stopping the show.
- E. INSTEAD of chains or 9-gauge wire, Drivers may use (2) metal straps from the front bumper to the core support ONLY.
  - 1) Straps can **NOT** exceed 3" wide and 1/4" thick material.
  - 2) Straps can only be welded up to 6" onto the bumper and 6" onto the core support.
    - a. Straps may not connect to each other.
- F. 4x4 tubing may be used, but cannot exceed 3/16" thick. The tube cannot extend beyond the vehicle's track width and must be open at both ends. No shelving allowed.
- G. 3" diameter x 1/4" thick pipe or smaller may be used. The pipe cannot extend beyond the vehicle's track width and must be open at both ends. No shelving allowed.

## 16. RADIATORS

- A. If used, it must be in the original location.
- B. All coolant must be inside the engine compartment.
- C. No spray foam ballasts.

## 17. TRANSMISSIONS

- A. Coolers are acceptable but must be mounted in the rear seat area.
- B. Must remain in original style mounts. Reinforcing with additional brackets is not allowed.

## 18. ENGINES

- A. Engine swaps from other vehicle brands are allowed.
- B. Firewalls and floorboards may be trimmed or bent for engine and/or distributor clearance, but every attempt must be made to close off the interior of the vehicle from the engine compartment for driver safety. Openings larger than 1" must be covered with SHEET METAL.
- C. All engines MUST have an air cleaner. No open carburetors.
- D. TWO additional chains may be used to tie the engine down to the frame. NO MORE THAN 4" of chain may be welded to the frame for each mount.
- E. Stock or aftermarket motor mounts may be used.
- F. **LOWER ENGINE CRADLES** are allowed but can **NOT** reinforce the frame.

## 19. REAR ENDS

- A. Any **factory** 5-lug rear ends of passenger-car origin may be used.
- B. You may interchange make and models.
- C. Rear-end gears/axles may be changed, welded, or posi'd.
- D. No braced, hybrids, or truck rear ends allowed.
- E. You may chain coil springs with 1 loop per side for safety.

## 20. Windshield/Rear Window Openings

- A. For safety, all windshield openings **MUST** have (2) bars welded vertically in front of the driver.
- B. For safety, rear window openings **MAY** have up to (2) bars. If equipped, the front bar connection shall be welded to the halo bar, and the rear connection shall be welded to sheet metal not to exceed past the rear axle. Bars cannot exceed 6" in diameter.

## 21. Wheels/Tires

- A. Air-filled tires only,
- B. No bead locks or full wheel centers.
- C. Small wheel centers can be no larger than 8" wide.
- D. Valve stem protectors are allowed.
- E. All wheel weights must be removed

22. No body creasing, folding, or bending.

23. No ballasts, stuffing, or spray foam of any kind will be allowed in any part of the vehicle, including: tires, inside of doors, fenders, hoods, around radiators, bumpers, frame, or other areas. This will be checked.

24. A large number must be painted on the front car doors **AND** the top, and must be legible enough to be seen from a distance.

- A. The number must be in contrast colors from the background. No graphics can interfere with reading the number.
- B. A fin plate alone will not meet these requirements.

25. These are the rules - there are **NO** gray areas.

26. **If it's not in the rules, it does not mean you can do it. Call for clarification.**

**Contact Clint at 307-351-1039 or Kurt at 307-359-3140.**

