

# TRIALS INCORPORATED RULES AND PROCEDURES for 2025

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following rules are specific for Trials Incorporated events

## **DEFINITION**

Observed trials are conducted over a course consisting of observed sections. The object of the contest is for the competitor to ride his machine over the obstacles in the sections while incurring the minimum number of penalty points.

## **TRIALS INCORPORATED PROMOTED EVENTS**

There are two ways to have a T.I. sanctioned event.

- Trials Incorporated assumes responsibilities (Profit or loss) of the event. T.I. will supply scoring computer, scorers, section marking kit, score cards, insurance and AMA sanction, and individual awards. Land owners receive the gate fees and any camping fee if charged depending on the arrangements made with the land owner.
- Trials Incorporated recognizes other AMA chartered clubs (i.e., Saddleback East) and will allow sanctioning under that club's charter, as a T.I. event under the following conditions. Insurance and AMA sanction is provided by host club. The host club will pay T.I. \$5.00 per T.I. rider each day. T.I. will supply the following items for a fee; marking kit for the event (\$125.00 for 2-days), loop card sheets (\$1.00 each), score keepers (\$75.00 per day), and award medallions for event \$4.50 each. The promoting club supplies the overall two-day awards. The land owner receives gate fees and any camping fees if charged.

## **EMERGENCY INFORMATION POSTING**

Three weeks prior to the first trial for each event location, the President will be shown a sheet listing emergency information including: location of a phone, ambulance and rescue squad phone numbers, and a good map to the closest hospital. At least five (5) copies of this sheet must be available at the trial sign up area during the event.

## **SAFETY RULES**

**A motorcycle helmet must be worn by all riders while operating a motorized vehicle at the event site. See AMA/NATC supplemental riding rules for complete description.**

## **LOOP RIDING BY A NON-COMPETITOR**

Loop riding by a non-competitor is not allowed except for the following circumstance.

A rider with sufficient skills to ride a motorcycle around the loop may sign up as a "minder" to help or aid a rider, i.e.(father/son). The "minder" must be a current AMA member and report to the signup table where they will present their AMA card and pay a "minder" fee of \$10.00. They must also display an "M" on their number plate and carry with them any credentials issued to them at the signup table. "Minders" must conduct themselves with the same level of professionalism as expected from the

competition riders and can be removed from the trial for any unsportsmanlike conduct or behavior not deemed appropriate by a course official.

### **PIT RACING**

Pit racing will not be tolerated. High speed and exhibitionist type riding in the pits or other dangerous areas is forbidden. Violators will be warned once. A second offense will be grounds for disqualification. Non-competitors will be asked to leave.

### **TIRES**

In order to receive any awards, championship points or to compete as a member of a team, even though otherwise eligible, all class riders except Novice must have trials pattern tires fitted to the front and rear wheels of the motorcycle used in competition. Aids to traction such as spikes, chains, etc. may not be used. Tires may be trimmed to remove rounded edges but the original tread pattern must not be altered.

### **NUMBER PLATES**

Number plates must be fitted on the front of the motorcycle facing forward. The number plate will have a solid background with contrasting colors for letters. The rider's class is REQUIRED to be on the number plate (3/4"-3" letters, centered on plate). The rider's name (1/2"-3/4" letters, below rider class) is encouraged to be included on the number plate. Two, three or four letter abbreviations will be used to designate the class. (IE CH, EX, ADV, SP, INT and NOV.) The rider's place in the previous year may also be used if he is still riding that class.

### **COMPETITION NUMBERS**

A competition number will be assigned to each Trials Inc. Member when membership dues are paid.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE LAYOUT**

May be of a long or relatively difficult nature in order to provide between section enjoyment and build endurance, but because riders must adhere to markers it should not include tank traps or bottomless mud bogs etc., which advocates intentional machine destruction. The promoting group will post signs designating the pit area and the rider's course. If there are dangerous areas to riders and spectators on the trials grounds, they should be plainly marked with signs. Motorcycles should not be ridden faster than a walking speed in dangerous areas.

Any assisting signs deemed necessary to insure the safety of the public should be erected in plain sight.

### **LOOP AND SECTIONS**

Trials Inc events are normally a standard four (4) loop format. In a standard four loop trial, the Womens and Novice lines will complete their trial in only three (3) loops. If an alternate format is used(ie: three(3) loop trial at the discretion of the trials master), the Novice line will ride two(2) loops. In any case, the Novice line will ride one less loop than all other classes. All classes are recommended

to have at least eight(8) sections, although ten sections are preferred. The Novice class should at least have 24 section attempts in a three(3) loop trial. All other classes should have at least 32 attempts in a four(4) loop trial. The sections will be located to form a rotational loop and be ridden on a rotational basis. A route between sections will be plotted and clearly marked. All sections will be progressively numbered. The start of each section will be marked by two(2) markers (start cards). The section boundary will be marked continuously by ribbon, placed 4" to 12" above the ground (where possible). TI uses the gate system as explained in the NATC rules. All gates must avoid handlebar traps. Sections will end with two(2) markers (end cards). All markers used will be of a temporary nature. The trials master can close a section after the start of a Trial for Safety Reasons. The Meet Referee and scorekeeper will be contacted immediately, if a section is closed during the Trial, all scores incurred in that section will be disallowed. The Meet Referee will set the required number of laps prior to the beginning of the event, and will not alter that number during the event. No Trial, however, will be longer than five (5) hours of continuous competition except in unforeseen circumstances. Any competitor, who rides within the boundaries of any marked section previous to the official start of the Trial, will be disqualified from the Trial. A rider not actually in competition may not ride a section until the event has ended. All sections will be pre-ridden up to the Clerk of the Course's ability level, or by other individuals with a higher ability level not competing in the trial. Some class lines in a section may remain unriden, but must be closely inspected for safety and terrain stability, so as to not have a section deteriorate.

All gates will be marked with high-visibility ribbon

It is *strongly suggested* to use the minimum number of gates in each section.

### **SCORE CARDS**

It is the responsibility of the rider, and part of the competitive program, to keep his score card in good condition. If any of the scores on a rider's card are illegible, the rider will receive a score of 5 for that section. Score cards damaged by accident may be returned to the Meet Secretary for replacement. Altering a score card will cause the rider responsible to be disqualified from the Trial and from further Trials Inc. Trials events, pending reinstatement action by the Trials Inc.

Committee. If a rider is unable to finish the trial, he shall return his score card to the Meet Referee as soon as possible. "ALL SCORE CARDS MUST BE RETURNED". This is done so that the Meet Referee will know that no rider is left on the course. Upon completing the final section attempt, the rider shall personally return his score card immediately to the Meet Secretary with his motorcycle. To be eligible for an award, a rider must finish. He will have finished when he has completed one less loop than the assigned number for their class. If so, the rider will be assessed five (5) points for all un-attempted sections.

### **SCORING TABLE**

Stopping at the scoring table is required on each complete lap in order to have the rider's lap score posted on the results board.

### **RIDER CLASSIFICATION**

The following rider classes will be used:

YOUTH B

YOUTH A

NOVICE,

WOMENS,

SENIOR,  
SENIOR A,  
INTERMEDIATE,  
SPORTSMAN,  
SPORTSMAN ADVANCED,  
ADVANCED,  
EXPERT,  
CHAMP,  
EXHIBITION,

OPEN CLASS,  
VINTAGE A,  
VINTAGE.

### **COMPETITION CLASSES FOR T.I.**

#### **STRIDER**

This is a non-competition class for the very new, young riders. It's desirable to have some very simple sections available for these very young riders. A Strider type bicycle is required.

#### **YOUTH B**

This is a non-competition class for the very new youth riders. It's desirable to have some very simple sections available that can be ridden by beginning riders on small-wheeled bikes. Youth sections shall be on a totally separate and easy loop from the regular trial loop.

#### **YOUTH A**

This is a class for the more experienced youth rider, riders in this class must be a minimum of 4 years old. These riders understand the Sport and are developing the basic trials skills.

#### **NOVICE**

A novice-level rider at the entry level to the sport. Obstacles should be small and generally capable of being ridden over without the ability to loft the front wheel. The emphasis for section layout for this level rider should be on basic turns, simple hills and cambers, and control of the bike.

#### **WOMENS**

Womens only class will complete 3 loops (one less loop than intermediate) in the INTERMEDIATE line. See INTERMEDIATE requirements below.

#### **SENIOR**

This is a class based on the rider's age, 40 and over, who has attained Intermediate skill level, but would rather compete against riders their own age. They will ride the INTERMEDIATE line. See below.

#### **INTERMEDIATE**

A rider at this skill level has the ability to attempt the most basic obstacles including logs, rocky terrain, hills of moderate difficulty, and tight turns. Most riders at this level can overcome logs or small rock ledges by lofting the front of the bike but can't precisely place the front wheel.

## **SENIOR A**

This is a class based on the rider's age, 40 and over, who has attained Sportsman skill level, but would rather compete against riders their own age. They will ride the SPORTSMAN line. See below.

## **SPORTSMAN**

A rider at this skill level is competent to negotiate steep hills and off-camber turns, can use "unweighting" techniques to clear logs higher than the skid plate, and can climb obstacles of a moderate height so long as a steep drop-off doesn't immediately follow.

## **SPORTSMAN ADVANCED**

A rider at this skill level is competent to negotiate portions of both the SPORTSMAN and ADVANCED lines.

## **ADVANCED**

A rider at this skill level is competent to participate in the national support classes. The rider should have skills to include an ability to precisely place the front wheel so as to negotiate obstacles at an angle to the path, even on a steep descent.

## **EXPERT**

A rider at this skill level can readily compete in the national support classes. The rider should have skills at maneuvering the bike by hopping, climbing undercut rock ledges, lofting the front end for "wheelie drops" and other similar techniques that demonstrate expertise in the sport.

## **CHAMP**

The highest skill level classification at the local club level, comparable to the Expert level at the national championship competitions.

## **EXHIBITION – added at the discretion of the trials master for any event**

This class is designed for National Champion–level riders who maintain skills at a very high level. This class follows the Champ line unless otherwise designated. This is a non-points class.

## **OPEN CLASS**

This is a class used for the rider who, for one reason or another, chooses not to participate in one of the competitive classes and wants to ride for the fun of it. The OPEN class rider may choose any line at any section he feels comfortable riding.

- Open riders can ride different lines in a section each time they ride it, but must stay on one class's line on each attempt.
  - o "The open class rider must declare what line he/she is riding in each ride of each section."

## **VINTAGE A**

Air-Cooled engine, No Hydraulics, Must have Drum brakes. They will ride the SPORTSMAN line.

## **VINTAGE**

Air-Cooled engine, No Hydraulics, Must have Drum brakes. They will ride the INTERMEDIATE line.

### **SET-UP COMPETITION CLASSES**

There shall be a competitive class for each rider classification. Engine size will not be used in any class. One entry is sufficient to form a competitive class. Machines, which do not meet requirements or specifications for a regular class, may form a prototype class at the discretion of the Meet Referee.

### **MEET REFEREE**

The Meet Referee will have full authority over all activities involved in the running of the trial. The person selected to serve as a Meet Referee must be familiar with the rules and procedures and may not be a competitor in the trial nor shall he change any of the rules and procedures.

Competitors must abide by the judgment of the Meet Referee on the interpretation and implementation of the rules. Appeal of the actions of the Meet Referee must be submitted in writing within ten(10) days to the Competition Secretary for consideration by the Trials Inc. Officer and area representative committee at its next regular meeting. Protests must be submitted to the Meet Referee in writing within one-half hour after the end of the event. The Meet Referee must also be able to travel the loop of the event to be able to handle problems that arise during the event. The Meet Referee may also be referenced as "Trials Master", "Clerk of the Course" or "Area Representative".

### **SIGN UP**

The sign up of riders shall start no later than 1-½ hours prior to starting time and shall close at the start of the event unless otherwise specified. The standard entry fee shall be \$25.00 for both members and non-members over 18, and \$10.00 for both members and no-members under 18.

All entry fees are waived for Youth class competitors. Gate fee will be \$10.00 unless otherwise announced and needed for additional land expenses (e.g. landowner charges a camping fee). AMA membership is required for ALL competitors including Youth at all Trials Inc events. At the discretion of the Meet Referee, tardy riders may be signed-up. These riders shall pay the regular fee and must finish at the same time as those riders starting at the regular time. No member shall ride his home event, unless the member has fulfilled their obligation of working their required events, and supplied a checker, or there are enough checkers for the event. All work requirements are waived for Youth class competitors.

### **CHECKERS MEETING**

A checkers meeting will be held 15 to 60 minutes before the start of the event.

### **RIDERS MEETING**

The riders meeting will be held 15 minutes before the start of the event.

### **START AND END OF COMPETITION**

The Youth trial will start at 10:30am on Saturday and 8:30am on Sunday unless published otherwise. A rider may only start at sections designated by the Clerk of the Course or section one(1) if no designation was made. The time limit for all youth events will be 90 minutes or as specified by the Clerk of the Course. The time limit, once set, will not be changed, once the event starts.

The main trial will start at 12:00 noon on Saturday and 10:00 AM on Sunday unless published otherwise. A rider may only start at sections designated by the Clerk of the Course or section one(1) if no designation was made. A regular event time limit will be specified at the riders' meeting prior to the

start of the event. The time limit is usually five (5) hours, but may be increased to suit the conditions of the day, for example, a long loop or large turnout of riders. The time limit, once set, will not be changed, once the event starts.

To end the event, The Clerk of the Course may begin the sweep loop 15 minutes after the final rider picks up his/her final loop card. Any rider who arrives at a section after the sweep closes the section shall not be allowed to be scored or protest the section. Riders will receive a score of five (5) for all un-ridden sections. A rider's score card must be turned in at the scoring table by the time the Clerk of the Course has completed the sweep (because one or more score cards may have not been turned in indicating that riders may still be out on the course). The Clerk of the Course will collect score cards from any riders on the course and turn them in at the end of their sweep. If during competition someone would be injured and need assistance, the time penalty shall be voided so as to not penalize those persons giving assistance.

### **DEAD HEAT TIE BREAKER**

We use the NATC rules for breaking ties, other than the Dead Heat. If ties cannot be broken because the scores of riders are identical in every way, then the Dead Heat Tie Breaker will be based on the current age of the riders. The oldest rider will win, if more than two riders are in a Dead Heat, the oldest rider will win, then the next oldest, and so on.

### **AWARDS**

Minimum awards per class; three (3).

All Youth competitors will receive an award.

Additional places may be awarded at the discretion of the event organizer.

Non-finishers are not eligible for trophies.

### **YEAR-END AWARDS**

Members must work their required events and ride one less than half (rounded down) of the eligible events to receive year-end awards.

Example of required events: 13 events for year, work at 2 = 11 events eligible to ride. Half is 5.5 events, one less is 4.5 events, round down = 4 events must be ridden to receive year end awards.

### **SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP**

Any rider who is a Trials Inc. Club member prior to starting an event, has worked his two (2) work days, and has met all requirements, will be eligible for season championship points. All members must work their required events(2) to be eligible for the Season Championship. To ensure work credit a rider should report to event signup each day to be checked-in as a "worker". All eligible riders who finish at a trial will receive championship points. Championship points will be awarded to Trials Incorporated club members with all non-T.I. members excluded from receiving points.

Season championships will be determined by taking one more than half the number of events eligible (rounding-up) to ride, and taking the riders highest accumulation of championship points for that number of events. Example: 13 events for year, work at 2 = 11 events eligible to ride.

Half is 5.5 events, one more than half = 6.5, round up = 7 events count for championship points.

Year-end ties will be broken using AMA-NATC Rules.

- Champ Class – not required to check, but MUST provide a worker in their place.



## **AWARDING OF CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS**

All classes except OPEN class will receive championship points per the following table.

PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS
1	30	11	10	21	.9	31	.08
		12		22		32	
2	25		9		.8		.07
		13				33	
3	21	14	8	23	.7	34	.06
		15				35	
4	18		7	24	.6	36	.05
		16		25		37	
5	16		6		.5		.04
				26		38	
6	15				.4		.03
			5				
7	14	17	4	27	.3		.02
8	13	18	3	28	.2		.01
9	12	19	2	29	.1	39	.009
10	11	20	1	30	.09	40	.008

## **GUARANTEED POINTS**

Due to the long distances traveled 1st place points will be awarded to a rider who completes a trial but has no competitors in his championship class.

## **PROMOTION SYSTEM**

**\*\*The previously used promotion system has been suspended.\*\*** Because riders have been moving themselves to the higher classes as their skills have improved, the TI membership voted to discontinue the mandatory promotion system that had been used.

## **TRIALS INC. MEMBERSHIP**

Yearly Membership Dues will be \$15.00 per person. A family membership fee, regardless of the number of members in the family (two (2) adults and dependent children) is \$35.00.

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **ARTICLE NO. 1**

This club shall be known as TRIALS INCORPORATED.

## **ARTICLE NO. 2**

Active members shall be riders of trials motorcycles, persons actively concerned with this sport, or motorcycle enthusiasts.

## **ARTICLE NO. 3**

The officers of the club shall be a President, vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Competition Secretary, and Publicity Secretary (which are elected position) and Area Representatives or designee (which are voluntary positions) these shall constitute the T.I. Committee and shall vote on all matters concerning the club. There will also be a North American Trials Counsel Representative (who is appointed by the President, subject to approval by the T.I. Committee).

## **ARTICLE NO. 4**

The duties of the President shall be: to preside at all meetings of the club. To have general supervision of all affairs of the club. To assist all the other officers of the club in their records, correspondence and other duties. To promote interest on the part of each member in club activities. To vote only when one vote is necessary to break a tie.

## **ARTICLE NO. 5**

The duties of the Vice-president shall be: To perform the duties of the President in his absence. To make up the yearly schedule. To make all arrangements for the Awards Banquet. To obtain and distribute supplies needed for events to the Area Representatives.

## **ARTICLE NO. 6**

The duties of the Secretary shall be: To keep a record of all club meetings and to present a digital copy of the meeting minutes to the Competition Secretary for distribution to the membership.

## **ARTICLE NO. 7**

The duties of the Treasurer shall be: To handle all monies concerned with the club. Maintain an accurate and up-to-date set of books and bank account.

## **ARTICLE NO. 8**

The duties of the Competition Secretary shall be: To verify the digital online record of all results and championship points. To verify the online rules are current and to present updates for approval at the Annual meeting. Maintains all digital media including sending out digital correspondence about event signups, etc, to all members with a valid email address. Email/Website will be the preferred and ordinary communications to all TI Members.

## **ARTICLE NO. 9**

The duties of the Publicity Secretary shall be: To write information articles on the club's events, and send same to Trials Competition USA and Cycle News.

## **ARTICLE NO. 10**

The elective offices shall be filled at an annual election to be held in November. All officers shall hold office for one year, and their terms shall end at the T.I. Banquet or as soon as appropriately possible.

## **ARTICLE NO. 11**

At least one-half of the committee members must be present to form a quorum for the transaction of the club business.

**ARTICLE NO. 12**

The duties of the NATC Representative shall be: To attend and represent the interest of T.I. membership at NATC occurrences.