

**NEW ENGLAND  
TRIALS ASSOCIATION**



[www.NewEnglandTrials.com](http://www.NewEnglandTrials.com)

**2022**

**OFFICIAL RULEBOOK**

# Release Date: February 01, 2022

## **NETA Rulebook Changes 2022 (changes in Blue)**

Page 12

IX. K) 4.

Senior C riders will now ride 3 loops instead of 4

Page 16

XI B.) 5.) (b)

Revised “hand off the handlebar” failure rule

Page 18

XII B.)2)

Revised End of year points calculation: 2 Throwaways for greater than 8 events;  
1 Throwaway for 8 or less events

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XIII. B)4.)

Rider fund eligibility revised. NETA to match calculated rider funds.

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# 2022 NETA RULEBOOK

## **NETA Board of Directors:**

President - Stu Preston  
VP/Scorekeeper – Max Parks  
Treasurer – Bill Bonneau  
Secretary – David Scarbro  
Membership Chair - Lee Bourque  
Sporting Steward - Gary Bourque  
Rule Committee Chair – Dave Allen

## **Volunteer Position:**

Webmasters - David Scarbro, Grant Heffernan

## **NETA Rulebook / Mission Statement:**

*The following rules for trials competition and non-competition are intended as a guide to assist the trials clubs in New England with providing a consistent set of rules governing NETA sanctioned events.*

## **NATC-AMA Rulebooks:**

Applicable NATC-AMA rules will be used as supplements to the NETA Rulebook.

## **Disclaimer:**

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL RIDERS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS (INCLUDING AUTHORIZED ADULTS) OF MINOR RIDERS, MINDERS, EVENT WORKERS AND PROMOTORS TO READ, UNDERSTAND AND COMPLY WITH ALL ASPECTS OF THIS RULEBOOK. Rules directed toward, or related to safety, are promulgated to make all persons concerned with safety. However, the NETA and/or the AMA neither warrant safety, if the rules are followed, nor compliance as to enforcement of these rules. Moreover, each participant in competition has the responsibility to assess the safety aspects of facilities and conditions and must assume the risk of competition. MOTORCYCLE MISHAPS, IN COMPETITION OR OTHERWISE, CAN RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH. MOTORCYCLES SHOULD NEVER BE RIDDEN BY MINORS WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT.

NETA does not inspect vehicles used in NETA events for safety related problems. Participants and their parents/guardians (if applicable) are solely responsible for the condition of their vehicles and their competence to ride them. Additionally, NETA does not inspect courses nor certify the competence of organizers. Participants and their parents/guardians (if applicable) should recognize that trail riding and trials competition is inherently dangerous, and that their safety is their responsibility.

## **Abbreviations Found in this Rulebook:**

AMA - American Motorcyclist Association

NETA - New England Trials Association

NATC - North American Trials Council

CH - Champ

EX - Expert

SR ADV - Senior Advanced

ADV - Advanced

INT - Intermediate

SR INT - Senior Intermediate

SR A - Senior A

SR B - Senior B

SR C - Senior C

VIN B - Vintage B

WO C - Women C

SP A - Sportsman A

SP B - Sportsman B

SP C - Sportsman C

YOUTH A - Youth A

YOUTH B - Youth B

## **NETA Board Authority:**

The NETA Board of Directors will be the final authority for all NETA sanctioned events. The NETA Board of Directors shall have the authority to eliminate any section considered inappropriate. Any NETA Board member may administer penalty points or disqualify a Rider from the final standings for any infraction of these rules. Authority of the elected NETA Board members shall remain in effect up through the date of the Annual Meeting/Banquet of the following year.

## **Trials Master Authority & Responsibility:**

The Trials Master has the authority and responsibility to enforce these rules. It is the sole responsibility of the Trials Master and hosting club to cancel or postpone an event due to unforeseen circumstances. The NETA Board must be notified immediately once the decision is made. The Trials Master shall ensure that Riders can sign-up for AMA at their event (see: XII, D).

## I. Rider Eligibility Requirements:

- A) Any person entering a NETA event must be a member of:
- 1) NETA (a NETA "Day Pass" fulfills this requirement. (see: XIII, A, 3)
  - 2) A full member of the American Motorcyclist Association (neither AMA Associate nor Canadian Motorcyclist Association memberships meets this requirement).
- B) Any person who, in the opinion of the organizers, has a reasonably prepared trials motorcycle may enter a NETA sanctioned trials event.
- C) A reasonably prepared non-trials type motorcycle shall be allowed in the Youth classes however, specific trials-type tires may be required at some locations (see: VI, A and IX, O, 6).
- D) "Minor Riders" (under 18 years of age)
- 1) **The parent, legal guardian, or authorized adult for a minor must remain on-site at the event at all times during participation by that minor in any AMA sanctioned meet.** An authorized adult is an adult that has been given the authority by the parent or legal guardian to be responsible for the supervision and medical care of a minor in the absence of the parent/legal guardian. This authority must be in writing via the NETA "**Adult Authorization Form**", notarized, and given to the event Trials Master /organizer at registration. The Authorized Adult should retain a copy should medical attention be required. Additionally, it is highly recommended the parent/legal guardian provide the Authorized Adult with a completed NETA "**Minor Medical Form**" to support prompt medical attention. NOTE: An "Authorized Adult" CANNOT sign any event documents that require the minor's parents/legal guardian's signature.
    - (a) See NETA Addendum A - "Adult Authorization Form"
    - (b) See NETA Addendum B - "Minor Medical Form"
  - 2) Minor's parent/legal guardian is responsible for ensuring minor meets all laws for operation of a motorcycle off public ways in the state where the event is being held.
  - 3) All minor Riders or their parents/legal guardians MUST complete and provide the following AMA liability release forms or present a current AMA Annual Minor Release card to the event organizer during registration at each event:
    - (a) AMA's "MINOR RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT".
    - (b) AMA's "MINOR'S ASSUMPTION OF RISK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT"
  - 4) Minders are recommended for minor Riders but not required. Use of Minders and alike is left to the discretion of the minor's parent/legal guardian.
  - 5) **It is the parents/legal guardians' responsibility to understand the rules and risks associated with participation in a NETA event and to safeguard and supervise their child as appropriate to ensure his/her safety and to ensure their actions don't adversely affect the safety of others at all times.** Failure to do so may result in disqualification of the Rider by the event Trials Master or NETA official.

- 6) **All MINOR's less than 9 years of age or competing in the "Youth Class" MUST be accompanied by a parent /legal guardian or authorized adult (i.e., via NETA "Adult Authorization Form") at ALL times.** Accompanied is defined herein as being in close proximity to assist and supervise as necessary.
- E) Any person entering a NETA event should have health insurance.
- F) No Rider who has test-ridden a section prior to an event may ride that section during the event for a score (see: X, C, 1).
- G) Any organizer may demand proof of age from any Rider, by requiring him/her or parent/legal guardian to present a birth certificate or other legal proof of age.

## **II. Competition Eligibility Requirements > Year-End-Points:**

- A) Riders in a NETA sanctioned series for "year-end-points" must fulfill the requirements of Section I. (above) and fulfill the requirements of this section. A Rider:
  - 1) will be considered as having competed in an event, if the Rider's front axle enters the start gate of any section after receiving loop cards for that event (see: XI- SCORING).
  - 2) must work at (and not compete in) one (1) NETA sanctioned event in a season with thirteen (13) events or less; and must work at (and not compete in) two (2) NETA sanctioned events in a season with fourteen (14) events or more. To guarantee work dates, they must be confirmed with individual Trials Masters in advance. All activities that are attributed to work date requirements for year-end-points are at the discretion of the Trials Master of that event. Champ class Riders are exempt from this requirement.
  - 3) submit a "*Letter of Intent*" to the NETA Membership Chair stating the Rider's intention to ride for year-end-points. It must be filed before the event for which the Rider wishes to receive points (see: VIII, B.).
- B) All classes are eligible for NETA year-end awards, except anyone riding Non-Competition. All Youth Class (see: XI, M) participants shall receive a NETA year-end award with no work requirement.
- C) Riders who are working an event for year-end-points must be listed on the official results (score sheet) posted after the event.

## **III. Minder Eligibility Requirements:**

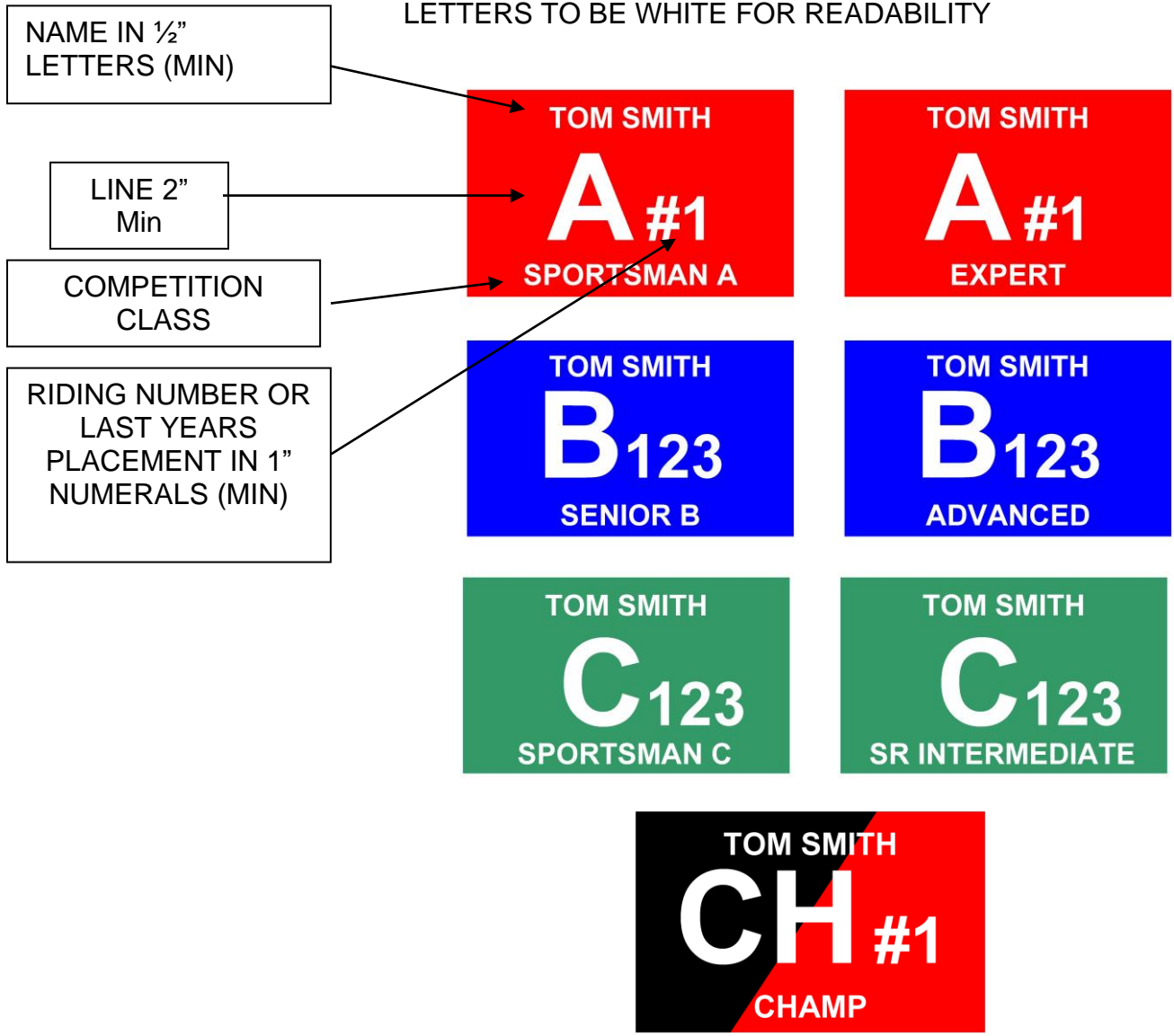
- A) Minders shall be allowed at NETA events; however, they must fulfill all requirements of Section I (above) and fulfill the following stipulations:
  - 1) Minders will follow all AMA and NATC rules, with the exception that Minders will NOT be charged a fee by the hosting club for the event.
  - 2) Prior to each event at which a Minder assists a Rider, he/she will complete and file proper paperwork with the NETA Membership Chair. The signatures of the Rider and Minder are required.
  - 3) All Minders will be issued a temporary (yellow) "*Minder*" plate with his/her Rider's number on it, by the Membership Chair. This plate must be properly displayed on his/her bike during the event (see: XI, F). Non-compliance will result in a ten (10) point penalty added to the Rider's score.
  - 4) The conduct of Minders will be subject to any applicable penalty points listed in this Rulebook. The Minder's penalty points will be reflected in his/her Rider's scores. Further, it is the responsibility of the Rider to avail his/her Minder, for whom he/she is fully accountable, of these requirements.

- 5) Approval of non-trials type bikes ridden by Minders will be at the discretion of the Trials Master prior to the event.
- 6) All Minders must be at least 18 years of age.

#### IV. Rider Number Plate Requirements:

A) Riders must display the proper number plate on the front of their motorcycles as depicted in the following examples (refer to graphic). A 10-point penalty will be assessed to any Rider who does not display a proper Number Plate (see: XI, F).

COLOR OF PLATE TO MATCH LINE AND GATES RIDDEN  
 A-RED  
 B-BLUE  
 C-GREEN  
 CH-RED & BLACK  
 LETTERS TO BE WHITE FOR READABILITY





- 1) Rider's last name and class in a minimum of 1/2" tall letters.
  - 2) Riders must display their NETA issued Rider Number in minimum 1" tall numbers. However, if a Rider finishes the previous season in the top 10 for their class, they may display that position on their number plate during the following season.
  - 3) A "letter" (A, B, C, CH), indicating the line the Rider will ride, must be clearly displayed before the Rider's Number (i.e. "B241"). The letter must be a minimum of 2" tall.
  - 4) NETA will absorb the cost of the Decal. **Rider can order the proper decal from an approved NETA vendor. Order forms are available on the NETA website.**
- B) Riders changing classes are required to update their Number Plate information. Non-compliance is subject to a 10-point penalty. Rider can order the decal with the new class from the NETA approved Vendor at no cost to the rider.
- C) Day-Pass Riders must display the temporary Rider Number Plate issued by Membership at registration on the front of their motorcycles. The Rider's last name will be written across the top and class at the bottom. This plate is valid for only a single event (round), except in the case when a multi-use pass is issued for two-day events. Non-compliance is subject to a 10-point penalty.

## V. Motorcycle Use Requirements:

- A) A motorcycle may not be ridden by more than one (1) Rider at an event. However, an exception may be made by express permission of the Trials Master for Riders in the Sportsman C class. Noncompliance is subject to disqualification.
- B) A Rider may not ride more than one (1) machine at any event. Non-compliance is subject to disqualification for that event.

## VI. Motorcycle & Gear Requirements:

- A) TIRES: Non-trials-type tires may be used in Youth Class B if not prohibited by local land use rules (III, A, 5). Only trials-type tires are permitted for use in all other NETA classes. Non-compliance is subject to disqualification.
- B) MUFFLERS: Motorcycles found to be improperly muffled may be disqualified by the Trials Master or any NETA Board member.
- C) RIDING GEAR: It is the Rider's responsibility to provide and wear suitable riding garments consistent with motorcycle competition. Long sleeve jerseys are recommended; however, three-inch (3) minimum length short sleeves are acceptable. All riding gear is subject to scrutiny by the Trials Master. Non-compliance is subject to disqualification.
- D) HELMETS: Approved motorcycle helmets are required and must be worn on the head of all Riders while riding any motorcycle at the site of all NETA sanctioned events. This includes, but is not limited to, practice before and/or after an event plus riding in the pit area. Non-compliance is subject to disqualification and possible expulsion from the event site.
- E) WRIST TETHER-TYPE MOTOR-KILLING DEVICE: All Riders shall have this device installed, functioning, and used at all times during competition (see XI, B, 5, r).

## VII. **General Safety Requirements:**

- A) PIT RACING: Pit racing is prohibited and considered unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after an event (see: XI, G). Event organizers shall post the pit area and other areas where appropriate with 5 M.P.H. speed limit signs. Non-compliance is subject to a 25-point penalty and may lead to disqualification (XI, J).
- B) All Non-Competition Riders shall be required to sign the same waivers and indemnity agreements required for competition Riders.
- C) FIRE EXTINGUISHERS: All Riders should have a working, 2-pound minimum, BC rated fire extinguisher in their pit area.

## VIII. **Award Requirements:**

- A) YEAR-END-POINTS: Riders fulfilling all the requirements (see: I. and II.) may ride events for year-end-points and/or individual event awards. The accumulation of year-end-points (see: XII, B), will decide the final positions of Riders in the season series and the distribution of awards based on those positions.
- B) LETTER OF INTENT / CLASS CHANGES:
  - 1) A "*Letter of Intent*" must be filed with the NETA Scorekeeper before any year-end-points will be awarded in any class (see: II, B, 3).
  - 2) Riders are permitted to change classes; however, the following stipulations apply:
    - (a) A new "*Letter of Intent*" is filed with the NETA Scorekeeper prior to riding the new class for year-end-points.
    - (b) The Rider relinquishes all year-end-points earned prior to the class change.
    - (c) Events ridden without a "*Letter of Intent*" to "*change*" class will accrue no year-end-points and will be considered non-Competition rides.
- C) NON-COMPETITION RIDES: Riders may enter and ride any class as non-Competition without filing an amended "*Letter of Intent*." Non-Competition Riders may ride any line within a section but will receive 5 points for passing through gates other than the class that they selected at sign-up. No year-end-points will be awarded or lost due to non-Competition rides. No trophies will be awarded for non-Competition rides.

## IX. **Riding Class Definitions and Rules:**

All riders 50 or over as Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year must ride the Senior Classes if available except for: Expert, Vintage, and Women's Class.

- A) **CHAMP CLASS (CH)**: The CH class is offered to the most proficient Riders and is a self-promoting class from the Expert Class. The Rider earning the most year-end-points in this class is the winner of the season's NETA Champion award.
  - 1) This class will be designated as CH on signage.
  - 2) Trials Masters shall provide a minimum of two (2) CH sections. CH sections may be gates within the EX sections.
  - 3) Will ride the "A" gates in Expert sections and all CH gates (see: X, B, 9).
  - 4) Will ride four (4) loops.
- B) **EXPERT CLASS (EX)**: This is a self-promoting class. Advanced Riders may move up to EX class after completing a minimum of three (3) NETA events in Advance class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as EX on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the "A" gates in Expert sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- C) **SENIOR ADVANCED (SR ADV)** This is a self promoting class. Riders must be at least 50 years of age as of Jan. 1.
  - 1) This class will be designated as SRX on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the "B" gates in Expert sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- D) **ADVANCED CLASS (ADV)**: This is a self-promoting class from Intermediate class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as ADV on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the "B" gates in Expert sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- E) **INTERMEDIATE CLASS (INT)**: This is a self-promoting class from Sportsman class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as INT on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the "C" gates in Expert sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- F) **SENIOR INTERMEDIATE (SR INT)**: This is a self-promoting age-specific class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as SR INT on signage.
  - 2) Riders must be over fifty (50) years of age (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year).
  - 3) Will ride the "C" gates in Expert sections.
  - 4) Will ride four (4) loops.
- G) **SPORTSMAN A (SP A)**: This is a self-promoting class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as SP A on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the "A" gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- H) **SENIOR A (SR A)**: This is a self-promoting age-specific class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as SR A on signage.
  - 2) Riders must be over fifty (50) years of age (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year).
  - 3) Will ride the "A" gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 4) Will ride four (4) loops.
- I) **SENIOR B (SR B)**: This is a self-promoting age-specific class.
  - 1) This class will be designated as SR B on signage.
  - 2) Riders must be over fifty (50) years of age (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year).
  - 3) Will ride the "B" gates in Sportsman sections.

- 4) Will ride four (4) loops.
- J) VINTAGE B (VIN B): This is a motorcycle specific class.
- 1) This class will be designated as VIN (Vintage) on signage.
  - 2) Limited to trials bikes with two (2) rear shock absorbers, air-cooled engines and drum brakes (front and rear).
  - 3) Will ride the “B” gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 4) Will ride four (4) loops.
- K) SENIOR C (SR C): This is a self-promoting age-specific class.
- 1) This class will be designated as SR C on signage.
  - 2) Riders must be over fifty (50) years of age (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year).
  - 3) Will ride the “C” gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 4) Will ride **three (3)** loops.
- L) SPORTSMAN B (SP B): This is a self-promoting class.
- 1) This class will be designated as SP B on signage.
  - 2) Will ride the “B” gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 3) Will ride four (4) loops.
- M) WOMEN C (WO C): This is a gender specific class.
- 1) This class will be designated as WO on signage.
  - 2) Limited to female Riders of any age.
  - 3) Will ride the “C” gates in Sportsman sections.
  - 4) Will ride three (3) loops.
  - 5)
- N) SPORTSMAN C (SP C): This is a self-promoting class.
- 1) This class will be designated as SP C on signage.
  - 2) This class is intended as an introductory class for new Riders.
  - 3) Will ride the “C” gates when using Sportsman sections. Separate SP C sections may be used at the discretion of the Trials Master.
  - 4) Will ride three (3) loops.
- O) YOUTH A and B: These are age-specific classes.
- 1) This class will be designated as YOUTH A or YOUTH B on signage.
  - 2) Youth A and B are age specific classes, dedicated to minors age twelve (12) and younger, who may be younger and/or less experienced than those participating in the Sportsman C class.
  - 3) Youth A and B classes will include sections and a loop segregated from all other classes and with a dedicated Youth Trials Master.
  - 4) All YOUTH Riders MUST be accompanied by a parent /legal guardian or authorized adult (i.e. via NETA “Adult Authorization Form”) at ALL times. Accompanied is defined here in as being in close proximity to assist and supervise as necessary.
  - 5) Youth A will be the more advanced group, yet their sections will utilize open turns and very small or no obstacles. Admission to Youth A will be at the discretion of the Youth Trials Master.
  - 6) Youth B is the least challenging youth class, designed for small non-trials type motorcycles and very young and possibly inexperienced Riders. Youth B is recommended for Riders eight (8) years of age or younger riding their first event.
  - 7) Although all classes are mandatory at NETA sanctioned events, there are some venues that prohibit non-trials bike tires, thus disqualifying some Youth A and B Riders’ bikes. If Youth A and B classes are not offered at an event, event organizers will give notice on the NETA website.

- 8) Youth A and B classes will start one (1) hour earlier than adult classes, usually at 10:00 a.m.
- 9) Parent/legal guardian is responsible to provide appropriate riding gear and size motorcycle for their Rider (see: I.).
- 10) Will ride three (3) loops at the discretion of the Youth Trials Master.

## X. The Trials Course:

- A) **CLASSES:** ALL classes are mandatory and must be included at all NETA sanctioned events, unless otherwise noted in this Rulebook (see: I, C and IX, O, 6).
- B) **SECTION BOUNDARIES and GATE MARKINGS:** Each section must be marked so the intended class lines are unambiguous and must be clearly visible for the duration of the event as follows:
  - 1) Section boundaries must be marked by WHITE ribbon.
  - 2) Ribbon must be a minimum of one (1) inch wide.
  - 3) Ribbons should be four (4) to twelve (12) inches off the ground wherever possible.
  - 4) Ribbons should be attached to solid stationary objects (i.e. trees, stakes and large rocks) and not to easily movable objects (i.e. dead trees, small limbs, twigs or stones).
  - 5) The minimum section width at handlebar height shall be forty-eight (48") inches. However, much wider sections are recommended to permit multiple lines for the Riders.
  - 6) The minimum gate width shall be no less than forty-eight (48") inches.
  - 7) Gates must be clearly marked with the letter which indicates its level of difficulty (i.e. CH, A, B, C). "CH" being the most challenging followed by "A" then "B". Gates can be ridden in one direction only. Gate marker arrows should be visible from one side only. Any gate may be marked for, and ridden by more than one class. For example, both A and B Riders can ride through the same gate as long as it has opposing sets of A and B gate markers on both sides.
  - 8) Youth gates shall be "A" and "B", "A" being the most challenging.
  - 9) All events shall include a minimum of two (2) CH sections or two (2) EX sections with CH gates. CH will ride all the "A" lines in all EX sections and all CH gates.
  - 10) The beginning of all sections shall have two (2) markers (a minimum of 4"x6") showing the word "START" with the section number and class designation (SP or EX). The end of all sections must be similarly marked showing the word "END."
  - 11) The loop shall be sufficiently marked with "LOOP ARROWS" to provide adequate trail direction for Riders and spectators. Spectator only trails shall be clearly marked (i.e. "Spectator Only" or a footprint graphic).
  - 12) In order to standardize the Trials Course, all NETA sanctioned events shall use the gate markers and loop arrows required by the NETA Board. The following formats shall be used:
    - (a) The "START" gate markers shall be red in color. This indicates that the Rider shall stop at these gate markers until the Checker signals to enter the section (see: X, D, 3).
    - (b) The "END" gate markers shall be green in color. This indicates that the Rider shall go through these gate markers until out of the section (see: X, D, 3).
    - (c) The class gate markers shall be the following colors: black for "CH", red for "A", blue for "B", green for "C",.
    - (d) Loop Arrows shall be a red arrow on a white background (a minimum of 4"x6").
- C) **SECTION LAYOUTS:** (see: IX. RIDING CLASS DEFINITIONS for class, # of loops and gate requirements.)
  - 1) Sections must be laid out so all eligible types of trials bikes can successfully compete (see: I, B). Furthermore, it is suggested that the hosting club have Riders with appropriate riding

skills, attempt all sections prior to events to insure they are class-appropriate and in compliance with layout rules. Riders may not compete in sections they have test ridden for year-end-points (see: I, F).

- 2) There should be no impossible turns, ascents or descents.
  - 3) Youth A and B lines shall be exceptionally easy containing objects less than 3" high with wide turns.
  - 4) Three-Minute Rule: The Three-Minute Rule is an optional rule to be used at the discretion of the Trials Master. If the Trials Master enforces the rule, it shall apply to all sections and all classes utilizing the following guidelines:
    - (a) Riders shall have three (3) minutes to complete each section.
    - (b) Checkers will signal the start of the ride, with a two (2) minute warning, and at the three (3) minute mark.
    - (c) If the Rider's front axle is not out of the section at the three (3) minute mark, a 5-point penalty will be awarded.
  - 5) There shall be at least eight (8) separate EX sections and seven (7) separate SP sections at any given event.
  - 6) It is recommended that adequate spacing between sections should be allowed to avoid congestion or long waiting lines.
  - 7) YOUTH sections shall be located in close proximity to the pits (less than 1/2 a mile) with easy access by foot or motorcycle.
  - 8) Continuous or double sections are not allowed.
- D) RIDING SECTIONS: (see: SCORING for penalties due to non-compliance of this section)
- 1) Riders may choose to start at the section of his/her choice, unless designated by the Trials Master. All sections shall be strictly ridden in numerical sequence (i.e., 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8); or the last section shall be followed by the first section (i.e., 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-1). (See: XI, A, 5)
  - 2) At the discretion of the Trials Master, the number of loops may be reduced if conditions deem it necessary. (i.e., course condition, time constraints, etc.).
  - 3) A Rider is considered "in the section" when his/her front axle crosses the vertical plane of the "start" gate and is out of the section when his/her front axle crosses the vertical plane of the "end" gate.
  - 4) A Rider cannot ride a section more than one (1) time per loop, except in the case of a re-ride (see: X, D, 8 also XI, A, 5).
  - 5) Riders must ride every section gate for their class. Champ Riders must ride all "A" and "CH" gates.
  - 6) Riders may walk sections at the discretion of the Checker.
  - 7) No changes may be made to any section BEFORE or DURING the event except by the Trials Master. Noncompliance will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in a 25-point penalty. However, sections may be closed during an event, at the discretion of the Trials Master or any member of the NETA Board of Directors, if they are deemed inappropriate for competition. Points accrued in sections closed during an event will not be included in the Riders' event final scores.
  - 8) RE-RIDE: If a Rider is severely distracted or blocked after entering a section, he/she may claim a BALK and request a re-ride. At the discretion of the Checker, a re-ride may be permitted and the re-ride score will be final.
  - 9) Any Rider cutting the course or riding backward on the loop shall be assessed a 25-point penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct.
- E) RIDER PROTOCOL:
- 1) All Riders shall attend the Riders' Meeting.

- 2) All Riders and Minders are allowed to walk, not ride, the sections prior to the event. Altering any sections is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and a 25-point penalty will be awarded for each offense. (See: X, D, 7).
- 3) The Trials Master must designate the official time and clock at the beginning of the event. The NETA "atomic clock" should be used as the official clock when available.
- 4) After completing his mandatory loops (i.e. finishes the event), a Rider shall not ride any section until after the Trials Master (or his/her agent) has notified the Checker that the event is over.
- 5) Neither event Workers nor spectators may ride sections while an event is in progress.
- 6) A Rider may not protest another Rider's score in a section. Checkers must score solely on direct observation.
- 7) No Rider is permitted to enter a section until repairs are made to ribbons or markers.
- 8) No Rider shall enter a section without the Checker's acknowledgement.
- 9) A Rider may not compete in more than one (1) class at any event. Non-compliance is subject to disqualification for that event.

## **XI. Scoring and Penalties:**

### **A) LOOP CARDS:**

- 1) Clubs shall only use the loop cards issued by NETA for series events.
- 2) All clubs must use punches.
- 3) Riders are responsible for the readability of their loop cards. If the scorekeeper cannot read the card, the Rider will be disqualified.
- 4) Riders must clearly write their name, Rider number, class and a loop number on each of their cards.
- 5) It is the Rider's responsibility to have his/her loop card punched after riding each section. Failing to do so will result in a ten (10) point penalty (per section missed) if the situation is unresolved and the Rider attempts another section. However, a missed ride or punch can be corrected by continuing through the loop (without attempting any subsequent sections) and returning to ride the missed section, or obtaining a missed punch (if the Checker can recall that score).
- 6) Riders shall turn loop cards into the scoring officials at the end of each loop or as soon as possible after each card is filled.

### **B) SCORING SYSTEM:** A standardized scoring system will be used for all NETA sanctioned events while the Rider is in the section as follows:

- 1) ZERO POINTS shall be awarded:
  - (a) When no part of the Rider's body or motorcycle other than the tires, skid plate or foot pegs touches any surface while attempting to maintain balance or forward motion.
- 2) ONE POINT shall be awarded:
  - (a) For one (1) dab or touch with any part of the body or motorcycle other than the tires, skid plate or foot pegs against any surface while attempting to maintain balance or forward motion.
  - (b) Foot rotation is considered one (1) dab or touch point.
- 3) TWO POINTS shall be awarded:
  - (a) For two (2) dabs or touches accumulated as above or for two (2) dabs or touches at the same time.
- 4) THREE POINTS shall be awarded:
  - (a) When single points are accumulated as described above, for any number of touches greater than two (2).

- (b) For a “sliding” dab where the Rider gains support from a continuous linear contact with one or more points on their body.
- 5) FIVE POINTS shall be awarded:
- (a) When requested by a Rider opting to not ride a section.
  - (b) The Rider removes their hand from the handlebar and uses their hand to assist, reposition the motorcycle or perform mechanical adjustments to the motorcycle when footing while stationary.**
  - (c) When the engine stops while footing or while any other part of the machine, except for the tires, is used for support without forward motion. The motorcycle must be moving forward while footing with a dead engine to avoid a five (5).
  - (d) If the handlebar is used for support and the motorcycle is beyond 45-degrees from vertical.
  - (e) For any backward motion of the motorcycle.
  - (f) When the motorcycle or Rider breaks, or permanently displaces, a boundary ribbon, or marker in a section through direct contact. Breaking or displacement of a ribbon or marker due to indirect shock of impact is not a failure.
  - (g) When either tire of the motorcycle is clearly outside the section boundaries while the Rider is attempting the section. If the tire is on the section boundary (i.e. on top of the ribbon) it is still considered in the section. Riders should confer with Checkers regarding section boundaries before entering a section.
  - (h) When both tires cross their own path while in the section.
  - (i) When a Rider passes through the “start” gates of a section more than once.
  - (j) When a Rider dismounts from the machine and has both feet on the ground on the same side of or behind the machine.
  - (k) Floating both tires over a boundary.
  - (l) When a Rider receives outside assistance.
  - (m) When a Rider begins a section attempt without the Checker’s acknowledgment.
  - (n) When a Rider fails to pass through all of the gates for their class.
  - (o) When a Rider passes through a gate of another class, backward or forward. Breaking the vertical plane of the gate with either axle is considered passing through the gate.
  - (p) When the rear wheel passes through the gate before the front wheel.
  - (q) When a Rider passes through a gate from the back side of the gate.
  - (r) For failure to wear a wrist-tether type motor-killing device (see VI, E).
- 6) 10-POINT PENALTIES: (see: III, A, 3; IV, A, B & C; XI, A, 5; XI, F.)
- 7) 25-POINT PENALTIES: (see: VII, A; X, E, 2; XI, G.)
- 8) DISQUALIFICATION: (see: V, A & B; VI, A, B, C & D; VII, A; XI, A, 3; XI, C, H & J)
- 9) EXPULSIONS: (see: I, D)
- 10) NOTE: There is no possible combination that will generate a four (4) point score in any one section. Points for one ride can only total “0, 1, 2, 3, or 5” (with the exception of additional unsportsmanlike conduct points).
- 11) Checkers must score solely on direct observation. The opinion of spectators and Riders should in no way sway a Checker’s decisions. Riders may not protest another Rider’s score in a section.
- C) TIME LIMIT POINTS: All events shall have the time limit announced at the Riders’ Meeting. A penalty of ½ point per minute will be added to the Riders’ scores after the time limit has been reached, up to a thirty (30) minute grace period (i.e. a Rider finishing twenty-three minutes into the grace period would have 11.5 points added to his/her score). Riders finishing after the grace period will be disqualified.



- D) EVENT FINAL SCORE TALLY: A Rider's final score for an event will be the sum of his/her loop scores, accrued time penalties and unsportsmanlike conduct points.
- E) TIEBREAKERS AND RIDE-OFFS: In the case of a tie score the rider with the greatest number of "Cleans", 0 points will be the winner. If a tie still persists the greatest number of 1 point rides, then 2 point rides, then 3 point rides will be taken into account. If at the end of this elimination, a tie still exists, a "Ride Off" will be used to settle the tie.
- F) NUMBER PLATE PENALTY: A 10-point penalty will be assessed for non-compliance of the Number Plate Requirement (see: IV, A, B and C).
- G) PIT RACING: A 25-point unsportsmanlike conduct point penalty will be assessed for noncompliance of the Pit Racing Requirement (see: VII, A).
- H) FALSIFYING SCORES: Any Rider found self-modifying the score on their loop card or using any means to knowingly falsify their score, will be disqualified.
- I) EVENT FINAL RESULTS:
- 1) All event results will be final thirty (30) minutes after being posted.
- J) UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT: Riders shall be assessed 10 or 25 penalty points for abusive language and other offenses enacted by themselves or their Minders as defined in this Rulebook as unsportsmanlike conduct at any time on site. Severe or chronic unsportsmanlike conduct can result in disqualification at the discretion of the Trials Master or any NETA Board member. Unsportsmanlike conduct does not have to be directed at a Checker to result in disqualification.
- K) SCORING A RE-RIDE: (see: X, D, 8).
- L) YOUTH CLASSES: Special rules apply to the Youth Classes as follows:
- 1) Scoring of both Youth A and B should be very lenient and only used as a learning tool and encouragement. Youth Trials Masters should be mindful that these Riders do not compete for event awards or year-end-points.
  - 2) Roll-backs are not penalized.
  - 3) Minders (parent/guardian or Authorized Adult) should be in sections at all times and may gently assist and instruct their Riders without penalty.
- M) AWARDS: The recommended awards to be given at each event are as follows:
- CHAMP - 1st
  - EXPERT – 1st thru 3rd
  - SENIOR ADVANCED – 1st thru 3rd
  - ADVANCED – 1st thru 3rd
  - INTERMEDIATE – 1st thru 3rd
  - SENIOR INTERMEDIATE – 1st thru 4th
  - SPORTSMAN A – 1st thru 5th
  - SENIOR A – 1st thru 3rd
  - SENIOR B – 1st thru 3rd
  - SPORTSMAN B – 1st
  - VINTAGE B – 1st thru 2nd
  - SENIOR C – 1st thru 4th
  - WOMEN C – 1st
  - SPORTSMAN C – 1st
  - YOUTH - All Youth Riders to receive an award consistent with type given to the upper classes to state "NETA YOUTH CLASS" and placement shall state "Participant".
  - NON-COMPETITION - No trophies will be awarded for Non-Competition rides.
- N) PROTESTS: All protests and problems should be brought to the attention of the sponsoring club's Trials Master. If they are unable to successfully rectify any situation, it can then be brought to the attention of any NETA Board member for resolution.

O) EVENT SCORE POSTING:

- 1) The NETA Secretary will provide pre-printed scoreboard sheets (11" X 17") to clubs. The Scoreboard Sheets and Worker List shall be posted for thirty (30) minutes following the event before they become final. It is the responsibility of Riders and Workers to review the posted Scoreboard Sheets and Worker List and bring discrepancies to the attention of the Trials Master within the thirty (30) minute review period.
- 2) The NETA Scorekeeper will collect the final Scoreboard Sheets and Worker List for:
  - (a) Update of the Year-End-Points Standings
  - (b) Providing results to the Webmaster for posting prior to next event (2 day events will be posted together.)

XII. **Year-End-Points Awards:**

A) POINT SYSTEM:

- 1) Year-end-points shall be awarded according to the following system:
  - 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE = 30 POINTS
  - 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE = 25 POINTS
  - 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE = 21 POINTS
  - 4<sup>TH</sup> PLACE = 18 POINTS
  - 5<sup>TH</sup> PLACE = 16 POINTS
  - 6<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> = decreases 1 point per position
  - 21<sup>st</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup> = decreases 1/10<sup>th</sup> point (0.1) per position
  - 30<sup>th</sup> through 39<sup>th</sup> = decreases 1/100<sup>th</sup> point (0.01) per position

B) YEAR-END STANDING CALCULATIONS:

- 1) At year's end, the NETA Scorekeeper will remove all Riders not meeting the requirements as specified by Section II from the year-end-points standings. All other Riders will then be indexed up for each event in every class.
- 2) The remaining Riders, that have earned year-end-points, **will have two (2) "throw away" events for years with greater than 8 events and one (1) "throw away" event for years with 8 events or less removed from their year-end-points standings.** The "throw away" events are defined as: event(s) with the Rider's lowest place finish(es), event(s) that the Rider failed to finish, or event(s) that the Rider did not compete in. A "throw away" event cannot be an event worked to meet the requirements of II, A, 2. **The Work Requirement is not used in year end points calculation for Champ riders.**

C) TIE BREAKING

- 1) In the event of a tie for year-end-points, the Rider having the greater number of 1st places, 2nd Places, etc. shall be the winner of the tie. If the Riders are still tied the Scorekeeper shall total each Rider's actual event scores for events they rode together and award the higher placement to the lowest score. In instances where they never competed together, the NETA Score Keeper will total the Rider's event scores and award the higher placement to the lowest score. If the tie is still unbroken, the Riders will share that final position in the Year-End Standings.

D) YEAR-END AWARDS:

- 1) Year-end awards will be given to the top ten (10) places for each class based upon year-end standings.

XIII. **Dues and Fees:**

A) NETA MEMBERSHIPS:

- 1) New = \$15.00 (first time member or anyone who has not been a member for the past 3 years)

- 2) Renewal:
  - (a) \$15.00 - Minors less than 16 years old as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
  - (b) \$30.00 - 16 to 17 years old as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
  - (c) \$30.00 - Adults – online or postmarked by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year.
  - (d) \$45.00 – Family, wife/husband, all children under 18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. After April 15 family rate is unavailable.
  - (e) \$50.00 - Adults – after April 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year.
- 3) Day Pass Rider = \$15.00
- 4) An individual's annual NETA membership shall remain in effect up through the date of the Annual Meeting. An individual must have an active NETA membership in order to vote at Annual Meeting.

**B) NETA EVENT AND SANCTIONING FEES:**

- 1) NETA event sanction = \$50.00
- 2) Loop Cards = \$1.00 per Rider.
- 3) Start, End & Gate Markers = \$50.00
- 4) Riders' Fund = \$1.00 per Rider.

Rider fund fees will be collected by the NETA Treasurer at each event.

**Monies from the Riders' Fund may be donated to NETA Riders aged 18 and under participating in NATC/AMA National Series, East and West Coast Youth Nationals, or Trials'd Nations events by recommendation of the NETA Board of Directors and a vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting.**

**A Rider must compete in and ride ½ or more of the events in the NETA series to qualify for Rider fund money as well as ride ½ or more (days) for each qualifying National series including the Trials'd Nations (TDN). Riders must work one NETA event and submit resume of last year's participation prior to the Annual Meeting. NETA will match the rider fund payout with funds from the General fund.**

**C) EVENT ENTRY FEES:** (These fees are generated by the hosting clubs, not NETA)

- 1) \$15.00 per Rider, per event for minors under the age of eighteen (18).
- 2) \$30.00 per Rider, per event for all other Riders.

**D) AMA FEES:**

- 1) All Riders competing in NETA sanctioned events must be full members of the AMA. AMA membership fees can be paid at events (cash or check), on-line, or by telephone with a credit card.
- 2) Clubs should apply for their current AMA club Charter plus submit Sanctioning and Insurance applications no less than sixty (60) days prior to their event date(s).
- 3) Event Sanctions and Liability Insurance provided through the AMA (or AMA approved providers) is required for all NETA sanctioned events. The NETA must be listed as an "Additional Insured" on the Liability Insurance application.

**XIV. Event Site Requirements:**

- A) All spectators, Riders, Minders, event Workers and anyone on or near an operating motorcycle over the age of eighteen (18) must sign an Adult Liability Release form.
- B) All spectators, Riders, Minders, event Workers and anyone on or near an operating motorcycle under the age of eighteen (18) must sign a Minor Liability Release form along with their parent/legal guardian.
- C) Toilet facilities must be provided at all NETA sanctioned events. A \$250.00 fine may be assessed for non-compliance, payable to the NETA.
- D) It is the responsibility of the sponsoring club to obtain landowner permission and all required permits.

- E) It is suggested that organizers provide separate loop entrances and exits from the pits to minimize two-way traffic.
- F) Trials Masters should consider Rider skill limitations when laying out the loop for Junior, Sportsman C, Youth A and B classes and others on small motorcycles.

## **XV. Event Schedules and Paperwork:**

- A) Event schedules for the following year are set at the Annual Meeting at the end of each season. However, additional events may be submitted to the NETA Board of Directors for approval up to April 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year. No new events will be added after April 15<sup>th</sup>. It is suggested that clubs wishing to add an event after the Annual Meeting, check for AMA application sanctioning deadlines prior to submitting a requested date on the NETA schedule.
- B) The Annual Meeting will be held in January of the following year. The newly elected NETA Board President shall set, at his/her discretion, the date and location for the next Annual Meeting.
- C) All requests for event sanctions must include the name of the Trials Master, location of the event, contact information, date of event, directions to the event, fees (spectator, gate, land use, etc.) and any other pertinent information that must be conveyed to the membership (i.e. provisions for camping, knobby tires use, bans on pets, etc.). It is recommended that clubs procure more insurance than is required by the AMA. It is recommended that clubs forward a copy of their event sanctions to the Secretary/Membership Chair along with a current listing of their officers and Trials Master(s) to assure that all AMA paperwork has been submitted and approved.
- D) Event day schedule (see: Trials Master Authority & Responsibility):
  - 1) NETA Membership sign-up: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
  - 2) Event sign-up (accomplished by sponsoring club): recommended 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
  - 3) AMA sign-up (accomplished by sponsoring club): recommended 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
  - 4) Riders' Meeting: 10:45 a.m.(see: X, E, 1).
  - 5) Start time: 11:00 a.m.
  - 6) Finish time: 3:00 p.m.
  - 7) Grace Period: 3:30 p.m. (see: XI, C).
  - 8) Event Score Posting (accomplished and determined by sponsoring club): recommended by 4:00 pm. (see: XI, O).
  - 9) Event Final Results: 30 minutes after Event Score Posting (see: XI, I and XI, O).
- E) NETA Club Kit – available via NETA website. Defines items to be provided by the NETA Board and items that are the responsibility of the sponsoring club to provide.

## **XVI. Rule Changes:**

- A) It is recommended that rule change proposals are submitted to the NETA Board by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
- B) Rule changes and additions to the NETA Rulebook are determined by a vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting.