2019 Buddy Rider Rules

(Updated February 12, 2019)

PLEASE READ ALL RULES PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR A BUDDY SEAT. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR ENTRY FEES.

ALL NEW BUDDY SEATS MUST BE REGISTERED NO LATER THAN JULY 15, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS. ANY REQUIRED MODIFICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 15, 2019.

The Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) has given approval for Buddy Riders to participate in the Owosso Tractor Repair & Parts Antique Tractor Parade & Show 2019 / 12th Annual Mackinac Bridge Antique Tractor Crossing. A strict set of safety rules have been set in place. Each Buddy Rider must abide by these rules set forth by Owosso Tractor Repair & Parts and approved by the MBA. These rules must be agreed to by participating Buddy Riders, driver and club President.

BUDDY RIDER REQUIREMENTS

- Each Buddy Rider must be at least 16 years or older to ride next to the driver in the parade on the tractor. Tractor driver must be 18 years old, as described in the event Rules and Regulations.
- Buddy Riders aged 13-15 will be allowed to participate in the 2019 Crossing. These riders must be on a bench seat behind the driver. An adult (18+) must accompany the 13-15 year old's on the bench seat.
- Each Buddy Rider must be a member of the respective participating club. Some clubs have family membership. Contact your club board to verify if family members are included on their club roster.
    - ****IT IS UP TO THE CLUB WHETHER OR NOT THEY ACCEPT BUDDY RIDERS. SOME CLUBS MAY ALLOW 16+ BUT NOT 13-15 AND SOME MAY NOT ALLOW AT ALL. PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR CLUB BEFORE SIGNING UP****

BUDDY SEAT REQUIREMENTS

All Buddy Seats must be submitted to Owosso Tractor Repair & Parts and your club President at no later than July 15, 2019. Any modifications we request must be completed by August 15, 2019. If your seat has been approved a previous year and has **not** been modified in any way, you will not need to have it approved again. All Buddy Seats must follow the guidelines below:

- New for 2019: All new buddy seats or modified seats must submit photos at time of registration. You will not be able to register a buddy rider unless pictures of have submitted.
    - If you are registering online the form will request photos to be uploaded prior to payment
    - If you are registering in person, please bring photos with you
    - If you are registering by mail, please send photos with registration

**NOTE: Registrations that are mailed in or presented in person without photos will be returned and registration will not be completed.

Photo Requirements

- At least four photos of different angles of the seat must be submitted upon time of registration. These photos should show how the seat is bolted on and include all requirements listed below

1. All Buddy Rider seats must be secured to the tractor beside the driver if possible. No Buddy Rider will be directly behind the driver unless there is a safety bumper separate from the seat frame. No Buddy Rider will be ahead of the driver. No buddy rider may sit over the fender.

2. Seat must not be rusted out or welded up.

3. Tractor must have fenders to protect the Buddy Rider from the tractor tires.

4. There can be absolutely no interference to the driver's ability to drive the tractor across the Mackinac Bridge or the entire parade route safely. This includes tractor steering, clutch, brakes, and vision of the driver. The driver must have full control of the tractor at all times. At no time will the Buddy Rider be allowed to have control of the tractor.

5. All tractors with rotating parts (i.e. brake drums) near the tractor's operating station will be required to have guards covering these parts to protect Buddy Rider and driver.

6. Absolutely no Buddy Rider seats mounted directly to the rear straight drawbar only.

7. Buddy rider seat must be fixed, not using the hitch to lift up and down.

8. All seats must have a secure and safe back support for the rider. Even if the tractor may have a seat for a rider from the factory, it will still need to be approved by Owosso Tractor Repair & Parts.

9. A grab handle must be secured to the tractor for the Buddy Rider's safety during the parade. Seat belt use is at the sole discretion of the Buddy Rider. Those using seat belts should read about the pros and cons of using a seat belt on a farm tractor. The http://nasdonline.org/document/940/d000778/use-tractors-with-rops-to-save-lives.html advises against the use of seat belts on a tractor unless the tractor is equipped with a ROPS (Roll Over Protection System). Visit the above website for more information. If a seat belt is used by the Buddy Rider, it must be installed securely and safely on the tractor.

10. OTPE and the MBA assume no liability for Buddy Riders, the tractor or the driver during this entire event.

11. All buddy rider seats must face forward.

12. Club officials have the right to deny any Buddy Rider or driver during this event

13. Owosso Tractor has the right to amend or modify these rules at its discretion

14. By signing the Participant Form, the Buddy Rider agrees to abide by the above rules. Failure to comply with these rules will disqualify the individual and the buddy rider from participating in the event.

OTPE and the MBA will be enforcing these rules prior to and during the event.

Comments or questions concerning the Buddy Rider Rules can be sent to buddyseats@owossotractor.com