

The 143rd BOLTON FAIR

August 14 - 16, 2026

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR EXHIBITORS

*** *PLEASE READ CAREFULLY* ***

STEVE EMERY MEMORIAL TRACTOR PULL

Date: Saturday, August 15th – Scale Opens at 8AM, Pull begins at 9AM.
Rain or shine event.

Superintendent: Doug MacMillan
(207) 897 8108
Ribbons: 1st – 4th Place
Steve Emery “Free for All” Award
Premiums: 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$50, 3rd - \$25



Classes

- 1 3,500# or less
- 2 4,500# or less
- 3 5,500# or less
- 4 7,500# or less
- 5 9,500# or less
- 6 11,500# or less
- 7 13,500# or less
- 8 15,500# or less

Rules and Regulations

1. **ALL EXHIBITORS PAY GENERAL ADMISSION – NO ENTRY (Hook-up) FEES WILL BE CHARGED.**
2. All decisions are final that are made by Superintendent or pull officials. Slight modifications of rules may be made by Superintendent or pull officials at any time in the event of conflict and or local pad or bolt conditions, including scale and weight classes.
3. Exhibitors will enter fairgrounds through Gate 3 – only vehicles carrying tractor/weights will be allowed inside the fairgrounds.

Operators

4. Drivers must be at least 16 years old with proof of ID.
5. No switching of drivers during any one class.
6. No alcoholic beverages allowed during pull.

Tractor

7. Farm stock, two-wheel drive (four-wheel drive may compete but must pull with front disengaged). Stock farm type (R1 bias ply or radial ply), pneumatic, rubber tire. No tire size restrictions. Standard agricultural type tread on tires (no industrial or graded tread tires allowed), single tires (no duals). Tractors equipped with differential lock may use it at the discretion of the operator. No tractor may enter more than two classes (pending the number of entries). The third link of the 3-point hitch will not be used to stabilize the drawbar. Drawbar height to top will be no more than 21" in all classes. Maximum thickness of drawbar is 2". Hole size not less than 1". Hook must stay at the measured area of hitch and not allowed to slide up hitch in any way or form or tractor will be disqualified. All exhausts must either discharge vertically upward with a minimum of 18" straight pipe or muffler in working condition or discharge through a factory underslung exhaust system in working condition. Tractors must have wheelie bars able to support the tractor in class it is entered in.

Pulling

8. Full pull will be a 6' continuous pull starting from a taut chain. No snapping of chain - 1st warning, 2nd disqualification. Full pull of 6' in one steady movement. If bolt stops for more than 3 sec it will be pinned, measured, and counted as a try. Driver allowed 3 measured tries or 4-min. total time on pad. Adjustments made with the clock running. The boat must be set back if it has moved more than 1' in one or more tries. It may be set back at the request of the driver if it has moved less than 1' in one or more tries. The contact area of the rear wheels must remain on the slab for the full distance of pull. Tractor may pass one hitch if not ready or repairs being made. Pulling order will be by random draw prior to class. ONLY two helpers are allowed to assist driver at any time.

Weight

9. Tractor must be weighed before entering each class. Weight for each class to include the driver. Tractor may not weigh more than the class it is entering but may weigh less. First three places subject to reweigh at end of class. Tires may be loaded. All added weight must be securely attached to wheels or frame. Added weight bracket(s) may be used but must be bolted to tractor in a secure manner. No added weight to extend beyond the rear wheels or interfere with hitching. Weight not to exceed 36" forward of the frontmost portion of the tractor. Any added weight lost while hooked to bolt will cause disqualification of that hitch. No weights may be moved from one tractor to another tractor competing in the same class. You must use functional wheelie-bars that can support the weight of the tractor in the class it is entered.

It is recommended that each tractor have one 2.5lb. ABC Fire Extinguisher mounted.

Improvements to the Tractor Pull Arena, including the new concrete track and premium amounts have been made possible by a generous donation from the Emery Family. Please read more about Steve (continued page 3).

Stephen John Emery

November 29, 1966 – March 14, 2025

Stephen John Emery was born in 1966 in Leominster, MA, son of Lillian Brown and the late Walter Emery. Steve was a cherished husband, son, step-son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, great-uncle, nephew, cousin, friend and colleague.

Steve lived in Leominster during his early childhood with his mom and sisters Beth and Lisa, moving to Sterling, MA when he was 10. His step-father Elliott Brown introduced him to and instilled in him the love of tractors and tractor pulling.

Steve graduated from “Monty Tech” in 1984, with a specialty in Diesel Mechanics. He put that to good use fixing cars, trucks, tractors and lots of other things. He loved cars, motorcycles and tractors, traveling around New England with step-dad Elliott to compete in antique tractor-pulls. He ran the garden-tractor pull at the Bolton Fair for many years, teaching and inspiring the next generation (including his nephews) in tractor skills. Steve’s career included numerous jobs, including mechanic, salesman, wood shop operator and manager. Finally, he had a long and successful 20-year career at Applied Biosystems/Thermo-Fisher as a Senior Facilities Manager in biotechnology, combining these many skills and more. He mentored his team in equipment and facility maintenance, safety and management. He retired in 2024 due to health challenges.

Steve owned a retreat in Wardsboro, VT, in the Green Mountains, with his wife Corinne. Steve embraced life there, with many hours spent hiking, snowshoeing, wood-splitting and stacking, gardening, tractoring and sugaring. They operated the Bobcat Sugar Shack, making maple syrup every year during early spring. He became expert in asparagus and garlic cultivation. He enjoyed the solitude of the woods and stewarding the forest and land.

Steve was a loved and admired family member, friend and colleague.