

Minnesota State Bus Roadeo

**Judges Overview of
Operator Obstacle Course**



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

SCORING REGULATIONS

1. Two separate competitions will be conducted: one for large buses and one for small buses. A total maximum point for the competition is 650 in both competitions. Awards will be given to the three contestants with the highest point scores in each of the large and small bus competitions.
2. In cases of a tie, time on the course will be used as the tiebreaker, with contestants having lower times ranked above those with higher times. The second tiebreaker will be the score on the Judgment Stop.
3. Points will be deducted for all event (obstacle) cones touched (any portion) as specified on the score sheets.
4. The full value of the event (obstacle) will be deducted for any event not attempted or completed as designed.
5. All judgment decisions made by Event Judges will be final.
6. Procedural questions will be directed to the roadeo course director.
7. Contestants (and spectators) are not allowed on the course **at any time**, unless competing.
8. Contestants are not permitted to talk to Event Judges at any time during the competition. The only exception to this rule would be the On Board Judge during the drivers competition run.
9. Award winners will be announced at the Bus Roadeo Awards Banquet.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

JUDGES RESPONSIBILITY

1. Always be at your assigned location unless a relief has been provided for you.
2. Judges must remain completely clear of the path of the bus as it maneuvers the skills course.
3. The approved shirt for judges (and safety attire if necessary) must be worn while on the obstacle course.
4. Except for emergencies, do not use your cell phone while on the obstacle course.
5. Be consistent when filling out the score sheets.
6. A rodeo judge at each obstacle will be designated as the lead judge and is responsible for completing and verifying the score sheets for the obstacle.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

SCORE REPORTING PROCEDURES

1. A definite system of recording scores must be maintained to ensure accurate evaluation of each contestant's ability (see attached exercise descriptions).
2. Judges shall be provided with the score sheets for their assigned obstacle. As each operator completes an obstacle, a score sheet is filled out for the operator and kept by the judge.
3. Routinely throughout the competition, the Roadeo Chair or designee shall collect the judges' score sheets and deliver them to the scorekeeper located in the official scoring bus or location.
 - a. The scorekeeper will tally all the score sheets from each judge and the timekeeper for the initial tabulation of total score for each operator.
 - b. A second person designated by the Roadeo chair or a sub-committee shall then recheck for accuracy of the initial tabulation.
 - c. Once the Operator's score is double checked, the roadeo representative will then enter it into the database.
 - d. Operators shall not see, have possession or knowledge of; their score and/or score sheet until after the winners are announced at the Bus Roadeo banquet.
4. Tie Scores
 - a. If there exists a tie at the close of competition, the tie can be settled as follows:
 1. Lowest time on the course
 2. Score on the judgment stop
5. The maximum score that can be achieved in the Roadeo competition is 650 points.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

SERPENTINE

This skill tests an Operator's ability to maneuver turns. The Operator is required to enter a gate (two cones) and then maneuver to the right of the center pivot cone and then out through the exit gate.

Each judge will position themselves on opposite sides of the bus and maneuver to have the best view.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse will also be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

OFFSET STREET

This skill tests an Operator's ability to drive through two separate narrow lanes that are offset one full lane. After entering the first set of cones, the operator will maneuver the bus to the right, and then continue through the second set of cones.

Each judge will position themselves on opposite sides of the bus to have the best view.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse will also be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark the cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

REAR DUALS CLEARANCE

This skill tests an Operator's ability to drive through a lane with the right front and rear dual tires. The lane is outlined with tennis balls.

Each judge will position themselves on opposite sides of the bus to have the best view.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse will also be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any balls touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Replace damaged balls as necessary.
- Mark the balls touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

RIGHT TURN

This skill tests an Operator's ability to maneuver a 90 degree right turn. The corner is marked with cones and the outside right rear tire of the bus must pass within 6 inches of the pivot cone.

To measure this, a line is marked out 45 degrees from the pivot cone and divided into 6-inch segments. The judge on the right side must observe all the right side cones and which segment the right rear tire passes over. The other judge must be positioned to observe the cones on the left front and the left rear entrance cone.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse will be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark the cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Draw a line through the six-inch segment where the rear wheel touched on the enlarged, segmented line of the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

FIRST & SECOND PASSENGER STOP

This skill tests an Operator's ability to make a passenger stop at a permanent or simulated curbing bus stop. In order to make the stop properly, the front tires of the bus must be 6 inches or less from the curb. The rear tires must be 15 inches or less from the curb.

The bus cannot touch any of the cones, nor can the tires touch the curb at any time. Otherwise, points will be lost for the obstacle. The skill is set to simulate a bus stop therefore; a parked vehicle (or erected cones to simulate a vehicle) must be placed at each end of the stop.

Once the Operator comes to a complete stop, he/she must open the door and the Event Judge will measure the distance from the curb to the center of the front and rear tires. Measurements are taken from the curb to the center of the tire and rounded up to the next inch. Example, 6 ¼ inches will be recorded at 7 inches.

One Judge is positioned at the front right side of the simulated bus stop and the other Judge is positioned at the rear right side of the simulated bus stop.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones or curbing touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark the cones or curb touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Only one deduction is taken for touching the curb even if multiple sections are hit.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

LEFT HAND TURN

This skill tests an Operator's ability to maneuver a left turn. The Operator must maneuver the bus into a 90 degree left turn without hitting any of the cones in this obstacle.

One Judge will be on the left side at the entrance of the obstacle, and one on the right side positioned to observe the right front and the right rear bumper.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse will be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark the cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

RIGHT HAND REVERSE

This skill tests an Operator's ability to simulate a bus backing between two objects. The Operator should back into the lane of cones and stop the bus before touching the rear cone.

One judge must be positioned above the line of cones across the front of the entrance to the obstacle. This judge must observe the left front of the bus when entering the obstacle and left rear while the bus is backing into the lane. The other judge must observe from the passenger side of the bus.

The Operator must stop the bus at the end of the alley within 36 inches of the rear cone.

The judge will measure the distance from the rear cone to the closest point to the bus when the bus is more than 36 inches away from the cone.

The bus must be stopped and taken out of gear before measurements will be taken.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Each gearshift change to reverse, after the initial shift into reverse, will be recorded in the appropriate space.

Key points to remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Draw a line through the 36-inch segment where the rear of the bus stopped on the enlarged segmented line of the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with diagram markings.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

DIMINISHING CLEARANCE

This skill tests an Operator's ability to judge position and speed of the vehicle. The Operator is required to drive through the diminishing barrels/cones.

The bus must enter the barrels/cones at a minimum speed of 20 M.P.H. but not over 25 MPH; failure to do so will result in a 25-point penalty.

One Judge will be positioned on the left side at the entrance of the skill course. The other Judge will be positioned on the right side at the entrance of the skill course.

Each judge will report the number of cones touched on his/her side of the bus. The lead judge will then mark the cones on the score sheet.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges should not reset any barrels/cones touched until the bus is clear of the obstacle.
- Mark the barrels/cones touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.

Judges must remain completely clear of the path of the bus as it negotiates the skill course.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

JUDGEMENT STOP

This skill tests an Operator's ability to judge stopping distances between the bus and a small object directly ahead. The bus must stop with the front bumper within 6 inches or less of a small 18-inch cone, which represents the finish line.

One Judge will be positioned at the finish line. Measurements will be taken from the bumper to the cone and rounded up to the next inch. Example, 6 ¼ inches will be recorded as 7 inches.

The judge will record the points on the score sheet.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Judges must put the cone in place before the next bus enters the previous obstacle.
- Mark the cone touched with an "X" on the score sheet diagram.
- Be sure the score sheet corresponds with the diagram markings.

Judges must remain completely clear of the path of the bus as it negotiates the skill course.



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

SMOOTHNESS OF OPERATION

The Judge is on board the bus while the Operator drives through the skills course. The judge will evaluate the ability of the Operator to deliver a smooth ride including starting, stopping and turning.

The ADA announcement must be made. The Operator would announce the street names that are located on a sign at the two passenger stops. The announcement must be made either as he/she is approaching, entering or stopped at each passenger stop. The announcement must be made prior to leaving the stop.

The Judge must be consistent in grading the smoothness for each operator.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.

TIMEKEEPER

The Judge is on board the bus while the Operator drives through the skills course. He/She will time and record the exact time that it takes the Operator to maneuver through the skills course using a stopwatch.

Any time that the Operator stops the bus for measurements, mechanical problems, and/or when the bus is stopped on the course due to the spacing of other buses, the timekeeper will stop the stopwatch and restart when the bus is moving again.

The Judge must be consistent in timing each operator. An Operator should maneuver through the skills course within seven (7) minutes. Each second over seven (7) minutes will count as one penalty point and should be indicated on the score sheet.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Measurements taken at: 1st and 2nd Passenger Stops
Right Hand Reverse
Judgment Stop



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

SAFETY HABITS

The Judge is on board the bus while the Operator drives throughout the skills course. He/she will evaluate the safe driving skills of the Operator as he/she maneuvers through the course.

The use of the turn signals, horn, flashers, mirrors, and the proper position of the Operator's hands and feet will be observed by the on board Judge.

The Operator must wear his/her seat belt.

Failure to properly exhibit these safe driving skills will result in penalty points.

Key Points to Remember:

- Record the contestant's competition number and bus number on the score sheet.
- Maximum penalty points are 50.
- Horn use: When backing – prior to movement
 Right Hand Reverse – when bus stops for measurement
 Left Hand Reverse – when bus stops for measurement
- Flasher use: When backing – prior to movement
- Turn signals: Anytime the bus is maneuvering left or right turn signals must be used



BUS ROADEO COMPETITION – JUDGES OVERVIEW

PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE

The Operator should present the most professional appearance and pleasant attitude to the customer.

The Operator will be judged on being well groomed and dressed in his/her appropriate regulation uniform.

Key Points to Remember:

- Clean, pressed and neat uniform.
- Neatly groomed and clean hair.
- Clean hands and fingernails.
- Appropriately maintained footwear.
- Be sure that the score sheet is filled out completely.