

**52nd Edition**

**School Bus Driver International  
Safety Competition**

**Driver and Competition Handbook**



Title Sponsor:



Presented by:



**June 27 - 28, 2026**

**Austin Marriott Downtown - Hays CISD  
Austin, TX**

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## **2026 SAFETY COMETITION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**Purpose** - The purpose of the School Bus Driver International Safety Competition (SBDISC or Competition), sponsored by the National School Transportation Association (NSTA), is to showcase the best school bus drivers in North America to school administrators, teachers, parents, students, school boards, and the general public. States and Provinces are authorized to develop eligibility requirements that ensure their contestants meet this objective. The competition presents an opportunity to present the profession in a positive light in news reports and social media.

**Multistate Competitions** - A State/Province holding a School Bus Driver Safety Competition may issue an invitation to one or more adjoining states to participate in their competition. Each State/Province participating will be eligible to enter drivers in the School Bus Driver International Safety Competition if they otherwise qualify under SBDISC eligibility requirements. Multistate/Provincial competition must have a single competition that includes both the public and private sectors, if applicable. Each State or Province meeting these criteria must have no less than six (6) contestants competing in each school bus Class (D, C, A) (if offered).

### **DRIVER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (Please Read Carefully):**

1. The SBDISC shall be limited to a maximum of 100 contestants based on date of entries unless the approved competition has reserved space before the date of the competition. Drivers who have been declared winners of a State/Provincial/Multistate competition, as well as NSTA member inclusion drivers, are eligible for participation in the International Competition if they meet the criteria outlined in Sections 2, 3 & 4. Keep in mind that the School Bus Driver International Safety Competition is conducted utilizing diesel powered vehicles, although State/Provincial/Multistate Competitions are free to utilize vehicles other than diesel powered ones as they see fit.
2. Each State/Provincial/Multistate Competition is allowed to have a maximum of three (3) contestants in each school bus class as follows:
  - a. Transit Class - Type D: Top 3 competitors by score, regardless of public or private designation, a total of three (3) drivers.
  - b. Conventional Class - Type C: Top 3 competitors by score regardless of public or private designation for a total of three (3) drivers
  - c. Small Bus Class - Type A: Top 3 competitors by score regardless of public or private designation for a total of three (3) drivers.
  - d. If any of the Classes (D, C, A) outlined above does not have a public or private designee in the top three, then the state/regional/provincial competition shall be eligible to send one (1) additional driver to compete in that specific driver class (D, C, A).
3. A driver may only enter one class of competition and/or one sector, public or private. For example, if a driver/contestant competes for a public or private sector company at the State/Provincial level and becomes eligible to advance to the SBDISC, they shall compete for the same public or private operator that they were employed at the time they qualified at the state level. If they change employers after the State/Provincial/Multistate Competition and prior to SBDISC, then they must notify NSTA as soon as possible and ensure the required registration fee is paid.
4. NSTA Member Inclusion Eligibility – NSTA members in good standing are eligible to send up to (2) drivers to the SBDISC without participation in a Safety Competition, and driver(s) shall hold a valid CDL with S and P endorsements and have driven primarily as a school bus driver within the past five (5)

consecutive years. Drivers utilizing the Member Inclusion waiver competitors cannot participate or have participated in a current year State/Provincial/Multistate competition. NSTA Member Inclusion drivers must be registered for the competition no later than June 1, 2026, and driver substitution will only occur under extenuating circumstances.

5. State/Province/Multistate Competition Hosting Requirements – it is not required that state student transportation associations or their designees host a competition. Other reputable student transportation entities are eligible to host a competition, provided that the competition is advertised publicly and open to all registrants operating within the jurisdiction of the competition. Other reputable student transportation entities include, but are not limited to, School Districts, student transportation agencies, and student transportation service providers but shall not include transit agencies or motor coach only operators.
6. The State/Provincial/Multistate Competition must include a driving course component in the competition, and it is strongly suggested that the course align with the course layout set forth in this Handbook. A driver must compete in a Safety Competition event authorized by the NSTA Safety Competition Committee in order to be qualified to compete in the International Competition.
7. In States or Provinces where the public sector or private sector holds separate competitions, the three (3) highest scores in each competition (A, C, D) shall be eligible for participation in the School Bus Driver International Safety Competition.
8. In the case of an exclusive private or public competition, information must be provided that the competition was open to all private or public sector participants in the State or Province and properly advertised. If a State or Province has only a public sector competition, they will be limited to a maximum of nine (9) public sector contestants, or three for each of the A, C, D school bus classes. The same criteria would apply to private sector-only competitions.
9. In order for a contestant to be accepted, NSTA must be provided information of the date, location, and a list by name, score, and employer of the three highest scores in the competition. In cases where the three highest scores come from one class (public or private) your highest ranked contestant in the non-represented class must be provided as well. In these cases, that competitor does not have to finish fourth overall, but rather they are the highest ranked competitor in the non-represented class. Driver - Contestants will be approved for competition upon receipt of this information by NSTA. Keep in mind that competition documentation may be submitted by the Driver – Contestant or a duly authorized representative of the certified or entity host of the Safety Competition. Please note that unlike previous years, Driver – Contestants will self-certify their application.
10. In order to qualify for participation in the Competition, a driver must hold a valid Commercial Driver License (CDL) with S and P endorsements and meet any other licensing, credentialing, and/or certification requirements for a school bus driver from the State or Province where he or she is employed. Drivers holding a "School Bus Only" CDL are eligible for participation.
11. No public or private entity winner will be eligible unless he/she meets the criteria for State/Multistate/Provincial Competition winner during the past year or is an NSTA Member Inclusion driver.

12. A contestant must enter the school bus class of competition in which he/she competed during the State/Provincial/Multistate Competition, and Member Inclusion participants must declare, upon registration, the Class (D, C, A) in which they will participate. After the registration process is complete, drivers are not able to change their Competition Class.

13. All contestants must report to the competition registration desk between 1:00 PM and 2:15 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026. Contestant must be available for orientation and testing by 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026. All contestants must report by 7:00 AM (CT) on June 27, 2026, for the driving competition, and drivers are requested to take the shuttle bus to the Competition Site. Registration and testing must be completed prior to 7:00 AM (CT) on June 27, 2026, in order to compete. Registration and testing will be done at the Austin Marriott Downtown, unless contestants are otherwise instructed prior to the Competition. Driver – Contestants are also required to attend a Pre-Orientation virtual webinar on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 1:00 PM (ET), which will outline the requirements for participation before going to Austin.

14. The location of the driving competition and shuttles will be announced at the Competition Contestant Orientation on Saturday, June 27, 2026.

15. The registration fee for each contestant is \$175.00 (U.S. Currency). Please do not send your payment until your eligibility is confirmed and only after completing and submitting your driver application. Payment in full is required prior to participating in the Safety Competition.

16. State/Provincial/Multistate Competitions scheduled after June 1, 2026, may reserve space for their future eligible contestants by notifying the NSTA office. The request must be in writing and request the number of spots to be reserved. The request cannot exceed the number of eligible contestants, with a maximum of nine (9), or in certain circumstances twelve (12). The date of the competition, and name, and the contact information of the State/Provincial/Multistate official contact must be provided. If these slots are not utilized, you must notify NSTA immediately. Failure to do so may make your local competition ineligible for future participation.

17. **OFFICIAL DRIVER DEADLINE:** Competition winner applications must be received by NSTA officials no later than June 22, 2026. Local contestant winner applications should be sent to NSTA within two (2) days after the conclusion of the State/Provincial/Multistate Competition. This will help ensure that contestant applications are received by NSTA in advance of the application deadline.

18. Registration remains on a first-come, first-served basis, and once the competition reaches its driver limit, then drivers will be placed on a waiting list. In these cases, the competition will utilize a waiting list, drivers who are not paid-in-full may be removed, in order to accommodate “wait-list” drivers as deemed appropriate by the Safety Competition Committee.

**NSTA Safety Competition Contact Information:**

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 9843, Trenton, NJ 08650

**Overnight Deliveries:** 4573 South Broad St., Suite 200, Yardville, NJ 08620

**Telephone:** 703-684-3200

**General Email:** [Info@yellowbuses.org](mailto:Info@yellowbuses.org)

## **ORIENTATION:**

Driver - Contestants and Judges are expected to register for the Safety Competition in advance and report for the following competition activities:

- Judge's Check-In: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026
- Judge's Orientation: 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026
- Driver's Check-In: 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026
- Driver's Orientation/Testing: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM (CT) on Saturday, June 27, 2026
- Driving Competition Pre-Check and Road Course Orientation: Competitors must be available on Sunday, June 28, 2026 at the appointed time for their Category's (Type A, Type C, Type D) Pre-Check and Road Course Orientation. This information will be disseminated at Driver Orientation on Saturday (June 27<sup>th</sup>).
- *Late arrival to any of the above activities may disqualify the contestant. Shuttle buses will be provided from the Austin Marriott Downtown to the competition site. If you wish to drive yourself, driving directions will be provided at Check-In. Please be advised parking will be limited.*
- Pictures and Presentation of Certificates 5:50 PM to 6:30 PM (CT) on Sunday, June 28, 2026.
- Dinner and Awards Banquet 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM (CT) on Sunday, June 28, 2026.

**(All times are Central Time Zone and subject to change)**

1. Contestants will be required to remain in the designated driver preparation area until called for competition. Drivers are not allowed on the course or adjacent area to any of the event stations.
2. Since states and provinces have different laws and regulations; all competition rules will apply, even though they may differ from the laws and regulations under which the contestant normally operates. Competitors qualifying to participate in the 2026 School Bus Driver International Safety Competition are expected to have competed in or practiced in a Safety Competition or simulated Safety Competition at the state and/or local level that includes the backup stall event.
3. It is understood that elementary students are on the bus from the time the driver leaves the starting line and the driver must conduct him/herself accordingly, even though students are not present at the Safety Competition.
4. In all events vehicle doors must remain closed unless the rules of an event require doors to be opened.
5. Contestants will drive in the order of the contestant number provided at Check-In/Orientation on Saturday, for the school bus class of competition that they entered. If a contestant is not available at the time they are scheduled to drive, they may be disqualified. The driver must report to the start line within (5) minutes of announcement.
6. Each contestant will be allowed a **maximum of eight (8) minutes** to familiarize him/herself with the instrumentation and controls of the school bus to be driven in competition. The driver may request assistance, from a competition official, in the adjustment of mirrors and seats within the manufactured specifications. This process will be done at the Start Line, where contestants will also be required to produce proper credentials according to the state in which they normally drive/operate a school bus. At

a minimum a proper CDL and Medical Certificate will be required at the Start Line, although some contestants may be required to produce a state-specific certification or other credentials.

- 7 The Driver - Contestant may be timed at selected events. The contestant's accumulated time for the timed events will be used to determine ranking in the case of a tie in the final total score.

No changes to the course will occur to the course set-up once competition starts. However, the Safety Competition Chair has the jurisdiction to remove any event during competition and apply a point value equally to all contestants.

- 8 Contestants can contact the lead judge at the specific event on the course for an immediate appeal if they feel that interference or disruption affects their competition. If interference or disruption is confirmed and the score of the individual competitor is affected, an immediate determination will be made as to whether to allow a re-run of that event. If a re-run is granted, the lead judge will ensure the immediate re-run shall take place at that time. Additionally, if a re-run is allowed, the score of the re-run will become the official score and not the previous score that was recorded before the re-run. If an appeal is denied by the lead judge, a competitor can make a final grievance- appeal to the Safety Competition Chair, immediately after their competition vehicle is secured and before leaving the Skills Competition site. The Competition Chair Appeal shall only be utilized in cases of misapplication of Safety Competition rules, or direct conflict with a lead judge, but not in judgement cases where a lead judge has already ruled upon the grievance. Once competition scores have been finalized, and winners announced, no grievance or changes in the score can occur. No appeal or grievance will be accepted after a contestant leaves the Skills Competition site, and contestants are advised that prolonged debate or argument of a decision, both on-site and off-site, could disqualify a contestant from participation in future competitions.
- 9 No individual scores will be provided prior to the Awards Banquet Ceremony on Sunday evening, June 28, 2026. A Scoring Summary will be provided on the NSTA Website, as soon as practicable following the competition. Individual score sheets may not be available at the close of the awards presentation.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

Any of the following may result in disqualification of a contestant:

1. Any misconduct on the part of a participant or spectator such as the following:
  - Unprofessional behavior
  - Speeding and/or unsafe driving on the course
  - Use of drugs
  - Use of any alcohol during or immediately prior to the competition.
2. Any contestant who knowingly accepts signals from anyone may be automatically disqualified. **No one other than Competition Judges, Committee Members, Safety Competition Officials, and NSTA Staff are allowed on the competition course. Spectators are required to stay in the spectator viewing area and/or public bathroom in the Hays CISD Transportation Facility and are not allowed on the course. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in the disqualification of**

**a competitor, as these distractions affect other competitors. (No exceptions)**

3. Failure to maintain proper driving position, (i.e., firmly in the driver's seat, hands on the wheel, etc.)
4. A contestant is not allowed to place his/her head out the window. Make modifications to the driver's seat in any way, other than the manufacturer's standards, which could help the driver, will disqualify the driver and may disqualify any other driver prior to the discovery. Drivers may use a driving cushion. No attachments to the brake or gas pedal will be permitted.
5. Any bus used in competition shall have a mirror system that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS 111). **Mirrors should be adjusted to provide the driver vision that would normally be required for the safe operation of the vehicle, getting the maximum field of vision and see at least 200 feet to the rear of the bus.** The driver should not lower their head below the highest point of the steering wheel to adjust the mirrors. Mirrors can only be adjusted within the recommended mirror box standards and not adjusted to just see the ground. During vehicle preparation before competition, drivers may use markers on the ground to adjust the mirrors, such as small cones, rulers, etc. Mirrors shall not be adjusted after being set by the driver and in compliance with FMVSS 111. Any mirror being adjusted after the driver has properly set their mirrors in the bus preparation period will result in disqualification from the Safety Competition.
6. Failure to wear the seat belt properly will disqualify the driver. Placement of the shoulder harness behind the back is not permitted.
7. No smoking, eating, or drinking beverages will be allowed during the driving competition.
8. Drivers who fail to operate vehicle with headlights on during competition will be disqualified in the event(s) that this violation occurs.
9. No communication devices of any type will be allowed on the bus during competition or to be operated while driving on the course. (AM, FM, Disk Player, 2-way, CB, smart phones, cell phones, Bluetooth, Blackberries, etc.)
10. Drivers may be asked to produce a valid School Bus Driver's License or Certificate required by the State or Province in which they regularly drive/operate at the time of registration/check-in. Proper credential will be required at the
11. Entry into the scoring area by a contestant or driving coach is prohibited.

**(NO COMMUNICATION DEVICES OF ANY KIND IS ALLOWED IN A COMPETITION SCHOOL BUS)**

**The Safety Competition Committee Chair will make the final determination on any disqualification.**

## **COMPETITION EVENTS**

Each of the following sections includes the title of the event, a description of the event, layout instructions, and the scoring procedures, including score sheets. The better understanding the contestants have of the information, the more successful they are likely to be during the competition. The sequence of events in this publication is not necessarily the sequence of events in the International Competition; nor will all the events necessarily be included. Any changes to the scoring matrix will be provided to participants at the Driver-Contestant Orientation meeting.

### **SUMMARY OF POSSIBLE POINTS PER EVENT**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
General Knowledge Written Test	100
Vehicle Inspection Written Test	100
Offset Alley Event	75
Railroad Grade Crossing Event	75
Right Turn Event	50
Straight Line Event	50
Diminishing Clearance Event	50
Back up Stall Event	50
Left Turn Event	50
Parallel Parking Event	50
Curb Line Student Loading Zone Event	75
Stop Line Event	25
Surprise Event (optional)	50
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>800 (750 without Surprise Event)</b>

# GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEST / VEHICLE INSPECTION TEST

Total Possible Score 200 points

## **PURPOSE OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEST:**

A school bus driver must be familiar with many laws and regulations, which he/she must faithfully observe. Experts in the school transportation industry have established these laws and regulations over many years. Contestants for the International Competition are encouraged to study their state/province rules, regulations, and state laws for school bus drivers. Since many state/province laws and regulations vary, the following documents should be studied for best practices, established by national publications. The driver needs to be knowledgeable in the requirements by law in the daily inspection of the school bus, before transporting students. The test will evaluate the contestants' knowledge of laws regarding pre-trip inspection, as well as the knowledge of vehicle components and knowledge of "why" we check certain items.

Publications to study for the International Competition written test are as follows:

1. **52nd Annual International School Bus Safety Competition General Information Handbook**  
Available from NSTA at [www.yellowbuses.org/](http://www.yellowbuses.org/) (Safety Competition Navigation Tab)
2. ***Commercial Driver License Manual (latest publication)***  
Available from your State Driver's License Agency (SDLA)
3. ***Operation Lifesaver School Bus Driver Instructor Facilitation Guide***

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

This test will be composed of a combination of 50 true or false and/or multiple-choice questions. Questions used in the Knowledge Test are based on publications mentioned above and on common CDL driving scenarios. Examples below are of the general type that will be used, and an approved study guide, provided by the Safety Competition Committee, shall be available to competitors before the International Competition and available on the NSTA website.

## **TIME LIMIT & SCORING:**

A total time limit of **30 minutes** has been established for the General Knowledge Test/Vehicle Inspection Test. Each test question answered incorrectly or not completed will result in a charge of four demerits for the written knowledge test. The test will be administered electronically with tablets provided by the International Competition.

Examples of types of Test Questions:

	True	False
1. Smoking is permitted on a school bus when all students are off the bus. (True or False)	—	—
2. A stop sign means (Choose 1 answer):		
a. Slow down to at least 10 mph		
b. Slow down to at least 5 mph		
c. Proceed cautiously if there is no traffic within 100 yards.		
d. Come to a complete stop.		

## OFFSET ALLEY EVENT

Maximum Score: 75 Points

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

This event is designed to evaluate a driver's ability to handle the bus under actual, and simulated, driving conditions. An offset alley is set up to determine the contestant's ability to drive his/her bus through the offset lanes with a minimum of hesitation and without touching the barriers or flag tips.

**This is a timed event: The contestant will be allowed two (2) minutes to complete the event.** Time starts when the front bumper enters the first set of barricades and ends when the rear bumper exits the last set of barricades.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYPE C & D BUSES OVER 28 FEET & ALL SMALL TYPE A BUSES:** Three sets of parallel barriers, 10 feet long, are set up with flag tips 10 feet apart. The right barrier flag tips of the first set are placed in a direct line with the left barrier flag tips of the second set (the offset barriers), or visa-versa. The distance between any two sets of barriers (from the end of the first set to the beginning of the second set) will be the length of the bus plus three feet for buses over 28 feet long and small Type A buses.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYPE C & D BUSES 28 FEET OR UNDER:** Three sets of parallel barriers, 10 feet long, are set up with the flag tips 10 feet apart. The right barrier flag tips of the first set are placed in a direct line with the left barrier flag tips of the second set, or visa-versa. The distance between any two sets of barriers (from the end of the first set to the beginning of the second set) will be the length of the bus plus two feet for buses 28 feet long or under, except small type A buses will be provided three feet.

The direction of the offset (left or right) will be determined by the Competition Director.

### **SCORING:**

The following demerits will be charged for touching of a flag tip:

1 flag tip	(7 demerits)
2 flag tips	(21 demerits)
3 flag tips	(42 demerits)
4 flag tips	(50 demerits)
5 flag tips	(62 demerits)
6 flag tips	(75 demerits)

For each time of stopping the forward motion of the bus, eight (8) demerits will be charged (not to exceed 16 demerits):

1 time	(8 demerits)
2 times	(16 demerits)

Backing the bus during event	(75 demerits)
Touching a barrier	(50 demerits)

### **Failure to:**

Wear a seat belt	(50 demerits)
Keep door closed during event	(50 demerits)
Drive with headlights on	(50 demerits)
Complete event within the time limit	(50 demerits)

# OFFSET ALLEY TEST

Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 75 points  
Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_  
Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## FAILURE TO:

Complete event in the 2-minute time limit	(75 demerits)	DEMERITS
Drive with the headlights on	(75 demerits)	_____
Wear seat belt properly	(75 demerits)	_____
Keep door closed during event	(75 demerits)	_____

Each instance of stopping forward motion of the bus (8) Max. of (16 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

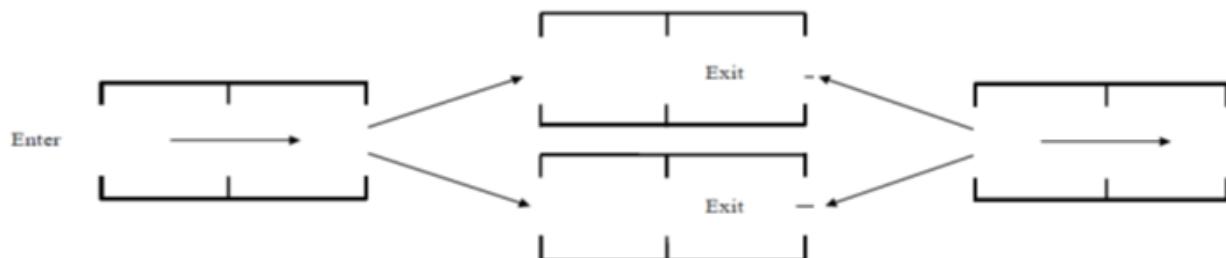
For each flag tip touched (1=7)(2=21)(3=42)(4=50)(5=62)(6=75) Max. of (75 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Backing during the event (75 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle touches a barrier (excluding base) (50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Time \_\_\_\_\_ Min. \_\_\_\_\_ Sec.

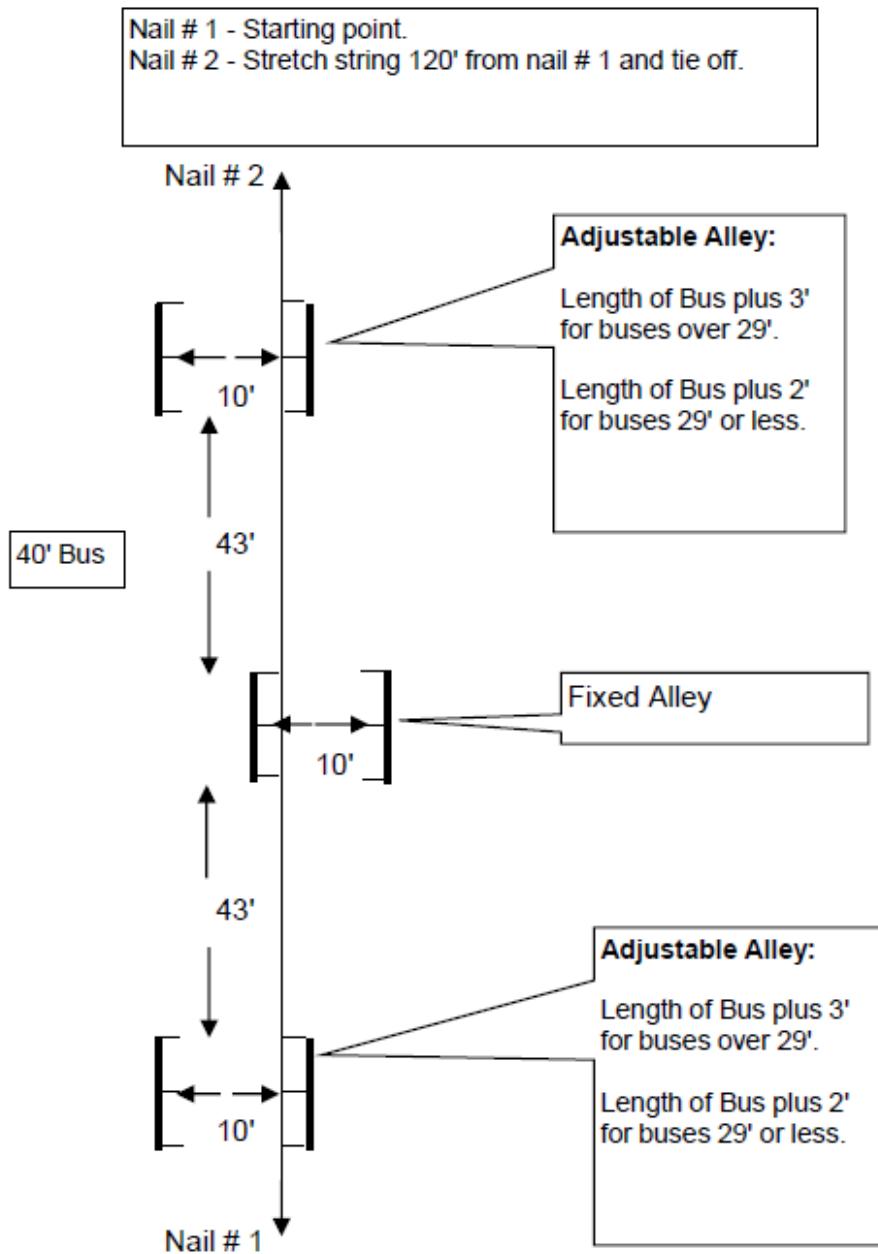
Indicate which flag tip or barrier has been touched



## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

(Type A bus mirror brackets must higher than 48")

### **Double Offset Alley Layout**



## **RXR GRADE CROSSING - RIGHT TURN EVENT**

Maximum Score: 75 points per event

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

Making a right turn at a railroad crossing represents one of the greatest hazards insofar as mass casualties or fatalities are concerned. This test evaluates the driver's common sense, degree of care and knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations when required to maneuver a school bus across railroad tracks at an intersection. The test also evaluates the driver's ability to make a right turn and determine the clearance of the tracks with the vehicle.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

A simulated railroad crossing is laid out as follows:

- A two lane roadway crossing one set of railroad tracks located approximately 50 feet from an intersection.
- Railroad grade crossing signs will be properly positioned to the right side of the roadway in which the driver will make the approach to the intersection.
- The driver will approach the railroad grade crossing giving the correct direction signal and stop as required by law.
- Upon checking the tracks on both directions, the driver will activate the correct turn signal and proceed. The driver shall continue to steer the bus in a straight line until ready to execute the right turn. The point at which the turn begins is determined by the driver's ability to judge a predetermined relationship with the corner (turning point). The turn must be executed without touching the curb line.

**Right Turn is a timed event: The contestant will be allowed 15 seconds to complete the right turn.** The time will start when the right rear tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry scoring template and will stop when the right rear tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

The turning radius will be determined on the day of competition.

### ***Scoring***

Drivers are judged for two different events. They are judged from the time they approach the crossing until they complete the right-hand turn. They will be checked on use of directional signals and mirrors, stopping the bus, opening the door and window, checking the tracks in both directions, driving across the railroad tracks, etc. Recommended procedures outlined in "Operation Lifesaver" publications will be used for the basis of scoring:

### **APPROACH THE RXR GRADE CROSSING AND RIGHT TURN:**



FAILURE TO:	DEMERITS
Complete the event	(75 demerits)
Drive with headlights on or not wearing seat belt	(75 demerits)
Properly use turn signals during the event	(25 demerits)
Stop between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail	(75 demerits)
demerits)	
Stop, open door or window (if applicable) at RXR grade crossing	(75 demerits)
Check the tracks in both directions and ensure that it is safe to cross	(75 demerits)
Check left outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Check right outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Check inside rearview mirror before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Close entrance door	(25 demerits)
Clear back of bus by at least 15 feet from the nearest rail after crossing the tracks	(75 demerits)

#### RIGHT TURN:

**THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT.** *The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds to complete the right turn.* The time will start when the right rear dual enters or passes the front edge of the entry score template and will end when the right rear tire enters or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

#### Scoring

Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, **the outer edge of the tire's tread will be used.** The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn. Measuring from the curbside of each template, the following demerits shall be charged depending on the travel path of the scoring tire:

- The tire enters and exits the scoring template in the yellow (zero) 0 demerits
- The tire enters and/or exits the scoring template in the black (ten) 10 demerits
- The tire enters and/or exits the scoring template in the red (twenty) 20 demerits
- The tire misses the front edge of the scoring template (twenty five) 25 demerits

The highest value of demerits will be given based on the tires travel through the templates

Red	9" to 12"	20 demerits
Black	6" to 9"	10 demerits
Yellow	0" to 6"	0 demerits

**The tire “does not” pass through the entire template 25 demerits**



Improper use of 8 light “School Bus Flashers”	(25 demerits)
Backs up during event	(75 demerits)

# RXR GRADE CROSSING EVENT

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 75 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPROACH THE RXR GRADE CROSSING:

### FAILURE TO:

	<b>DEMERITS</b>
Complete the event	(75 demerits)
Drive with headlights on or not wearing seat belt	(75 demerits)
Properly use turn signals during the event	(25 demerits)
Stop between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail	(75 demerits)
Stop, open door or window ( <b>if applicable</b> ) at RXR grade crossing	(75 demerits)
Check the tracks in both directions and ensure that it is safe to cross	(75 demerits)
Check left outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Check right outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Check inside rearview mirror before crossing the tracks	(10 demerits)
Close entrance door	(25 demerits)
Clear back of bus by at least 15 feet from the nearest rail after crossing the tracks	(75 demerits)
Improper use of 8 light "School Bus Flashers"	(25 demerits)
Backs up during event	(75 demerits)
Shifting gears manually while crossing tracks	(75 demerits)
Bus stops on tracks	(75 demerits)

## RIGHT TURN EVENT

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 75 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

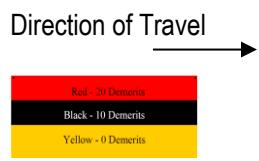
Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

### ENTERING TURN:

**THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT. The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds to complete the turn.**

The time will start when the right rear dual enters or passes the front edge of the entry score template and will end when the right rear tire enters or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, **the outer edge of the tire's tread will be used.** The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn.



Tire travel through entire scoring template

(Off of Template)		(25 demerits)	_____
Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)	_____
Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)	_____
Yellow	0" to 6"	(0 demerits)	_____

### RECOVERING FROM TURN:

For scoring purposes, **the outer edge of the tire's tread will be used.** The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn



Tire travel through entire scoring template

(Off of Template)		(25 demerits)	_____
Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)	_____
Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)	_____
Yellow	0" to 6"	(0 demerits)	_____

Improper use of 8 light "School Bus Flashers"

(25 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Backs up during event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Stopping while in turn

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

(More than 15 seconds)

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

### FAILURE TO:

Complete the event

**DEMERITS**

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Drive with headlights on or not wearing seat belt

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Properly use turn signals during the event

(25 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTUAL TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

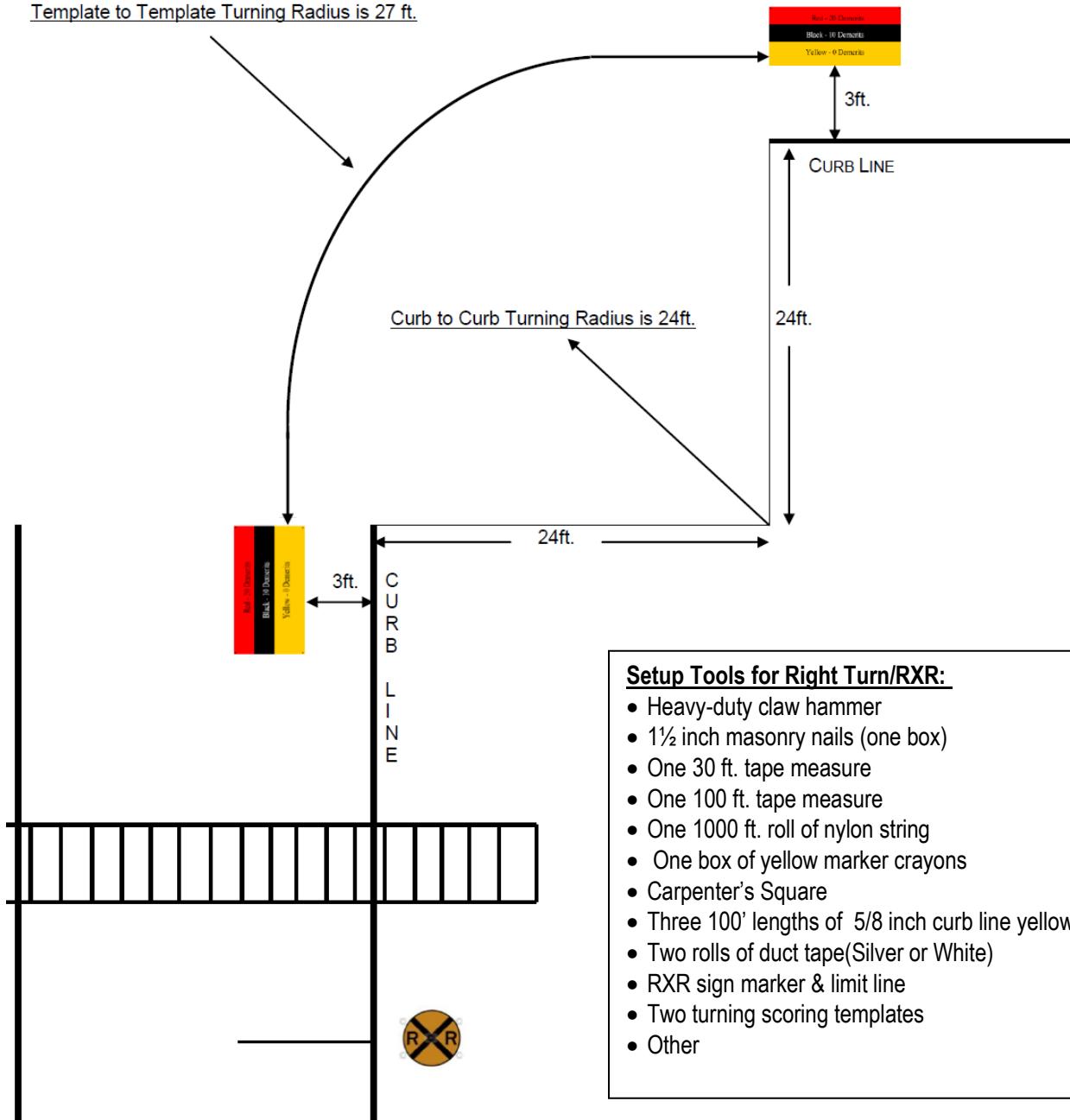
Min.

Sec.

## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **RXR Grade Crossing - Right Turn Template to Template Set-Up SAMPLE**

Template to Template Turning Radius is 27 ft.



## ***STRAIGHT LINE EVENT***

Maximum Score: 50 points

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

To determine the driver's ability to maneuver the right wheels of school bus over a straight path of a given width.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

The right wheels of the bus must travel the indicated path without striking or moving the markers with any wheel. The bus must be operated in a continuous forward motion. The distance between the markers is the width of the rear duals plus three (3) inches. Measure all right side dual widths. The distance between each set of Tennis Balls is 25 ft. with 4 sets of balls.

### ***Scoring:***

For each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus

(Maximum of 20 demerits.)

(2 demerits)

For each instance of stopping forward motion of bus

(Maximum of 20 demerits.)

(4 demerits)

Each instance where wheel touches or knocks a tennis ball off

(Maximum of 50 points.)

(5 demerits)

Drives either side of pair of tennis ball markers (Maximum of 50 points)

(10 demerits)

Failure to complete the event

(50 demerits)

Failure to wear seat belt

(50 demerits)

Failure to have door closed during event

(50 demerits)

Backing up during event

(50 demerits)

Failure to drive with headlights on

(50 demerits)

# STRAIGHT LINE TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 50 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMERITS

Each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus

(2) (2) (2) (2) (maximum of 20 demerits)

(2 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Each instance of stopping forward motion

(4) (4) (4) (4) (maximum of 20 demerits)

(4 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Each instance where wheel **touches or knocks** tennis ball off

(5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (maximum of 50 demerits)

(5 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Drives to either side of pair of tennis ball markers

(10) (10) (10) (10) (maximum of 50 demerits)

(10 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Failure to:***

Complete the event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Wear seat belt

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Keep door closed during event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

To drive with headlights on

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Back up during the event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_



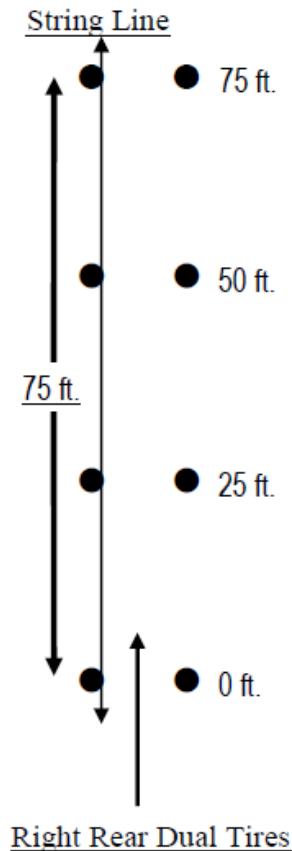
## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Measure a 75 ft. straight line and string.
2. Mark the line in intervals of 25 ft. with crayon or chalk.
3. Place a set of tennis balls on holders every 25 ft. Set the base of the ball holder on the outside edge of the string line.
4. Secure the measurement of the right rear duals of all vehicles used in competition. The measurement shall be from bulge to bulge. Tire sizes must be the same type if more than one vehicle type is used.
5. Use the measurement of the duals plus 3" to determine distance between balls.
6. Measure the alignment of the tennis balls from the inside edge of the tennis ball to the inside edge of the other tennis ball.
7. Make a visual check to be sure that there is a perfect straight line with the four sets of tennis balls.
8. Mark the location of the tennis ball holders with crayon or chalk.

### **Setup Tools for Straight Line:**

- Heavy-duty claw hammer
- 1½ inch masonry nails (one box)
- One 12 ft. tape measure
- One 100 ft. tape measure
- One 1000 ft. roll of nylon string
- One box of yellow marker crayons
- Carpenter's Square
- Ten tennis balls
- Ten tennis ball holders
- Other



## **DIMINISHING CLEARANCE EVENT**

Maximum Score: 50 points

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

The contestant is required to drive the bus in a straight line with diminishing clearances while driving in a smooth and continuous manner.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

For the purpose of conducting this test, five pairs of parallel standards are set up. Each pair of standards, however, is parallel to the next. The distance between each pair of standards is 25 feet. The width of each pair varies as follows:

First pair of standards	Width of bus plus 10 inches
Second pair of standards	Width of bus plus 8 inches
Third pair of standards	Width of bus plus 6 inches
Fourth pair of standards	Width of bus plus 4 inches
Fifth pair of standards	Width of bus plus 2 inches

**Note:** The measurement is from flag tip to flag tip. The alley is set up to allow for the course to diminish equally on both sides.

### ***Scoring***

Contestants will be scored on the following:

Each instance of jerky or uneven movement (Maximum of 10 demerits)	(2 demerits)
Each instance of stopping forward movement of bus (Maximum of 20 demerits)	(4 demerits)
Each instance of bus touching flag tips (Maximum of 50 demerits)	(10 demerits)
Striking standard with bus	(50 demerits)
Failure to complete the event	(50 demerits)
Failure to wear seat belt	(50 demerits)
Backing up during the event	(50 demerits)
Keep door closed during event	(50 demerits)
Failure to drive with headlights on	(50 demerits)

# DIMINISHING CLEARANCE TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 50 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMERITS

Each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus

(2) (2) (2) (2) (2) maximum of 10 demerits

(2 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Each instance of stopping forward motion of bus

(4) (4) (4) (4) (4) maximum of 20 demerits

(4 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Each instance of bus touching flag tip

(10) (10) (10) (10) (10) maximum of 50 demerits

(10 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Bus strikes flag standard

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Backing up bus during event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

## Failure to:

Complete the event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Wear Seat Belt

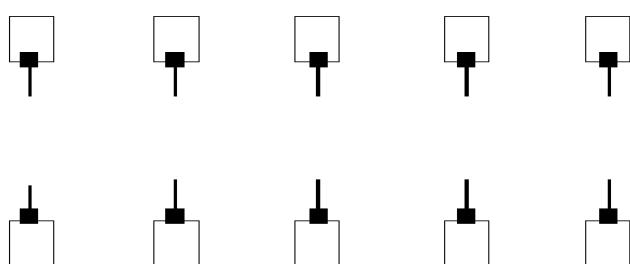
(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

Keep door closed during event

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_

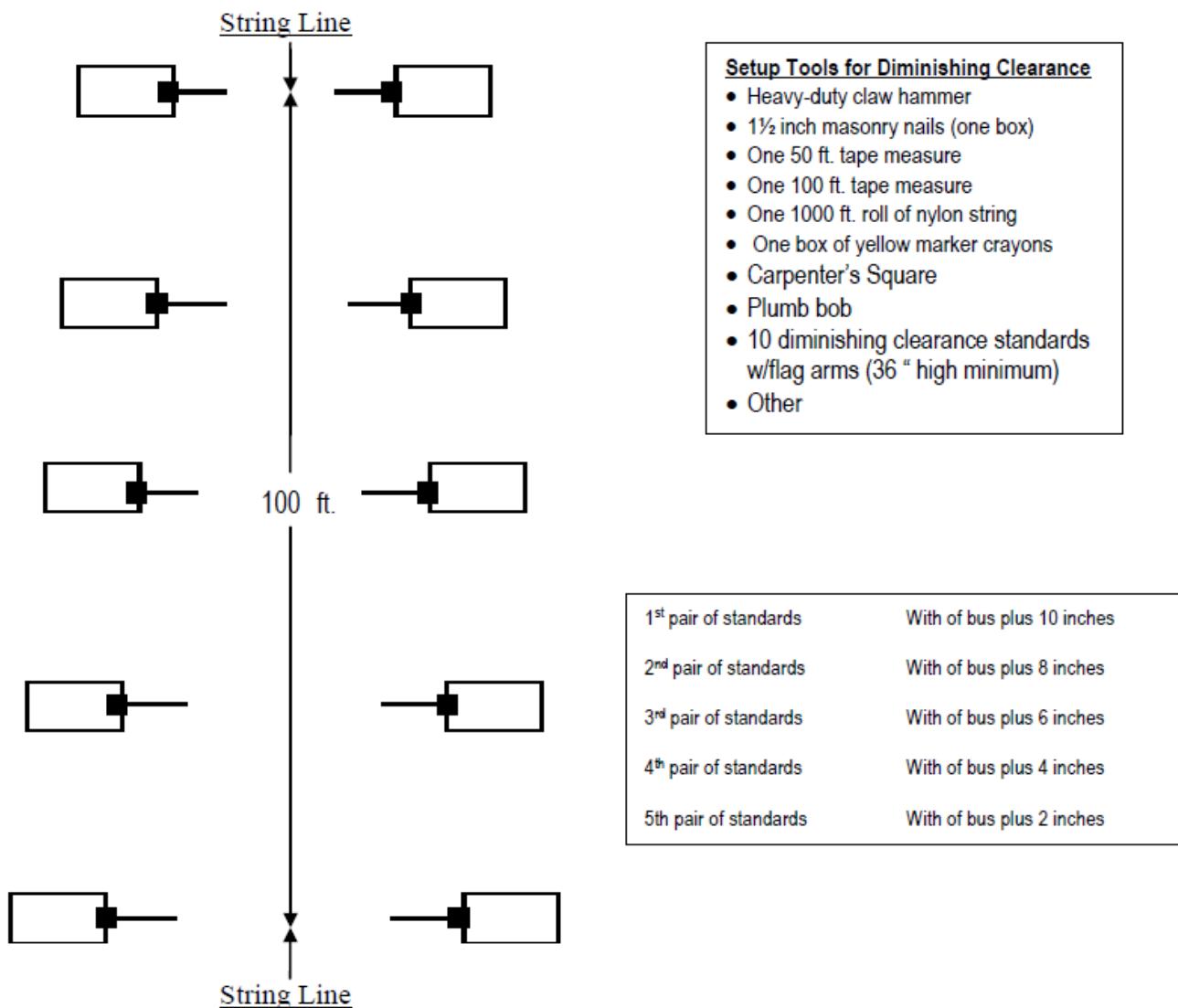
Drive with headlights on

(50 demerits) \_\_\_\_\_



## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

1. Measure a distance of 100'
2. Mark the measurement at 25' intervals.
3. Place a straight line down with string. Stretch tight.
4. Secure width of buses to be used in competition. Consider rub rails, rubber around tire wells or any other object that will hit the standards such as mirror brackets, etc.
5. Determine the measurement to be used at each diminishing clearance standard.
6. Measure from the center line out to the end of the flag or standard on each side to equal the total measurement. To make sure the measurement is correct, use plumb bob from tip of flag to ground where measurement was made.
7. Do a visual check to make sure that you have a diminishing alley from the perspective of the contestant entering the offset.
8. Mark bases of the standards with crayons or chalk.



## **BACK UP STALL EVENT**

Maximum score: 50 points

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

This test is designed to evaluate the driver's ability to back the bus into a stall. A stall the width of the bus plus two (2) feet is provided into which the driver must back their bus into without touching the upright standards and without crossing over the stall limit lines. Depth perception is tested by penalizing the driver for backing up too close to the rear barrier or parking the bus too far from the rear barrier, or not having the bus centered in the stall (front and rear).

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Two parallel yellow ropes on the ground the width of the bus plus two (2) feet identify each stall. Each front corner of the stall will be marked by upright standards that will not interfere with the backing of the bus. In order to limit the driver's maneuvering room, a front wheel limitation line will be placed on the ground perpendicular to the parallel stall lines. The distance from the front stall standards to the wheel limitation line will be as follows:

Type D - Transit	Length of bus plus 1'
Type C - Conventional	Length of bus plus 4'
Type A - Small Bus	Length of bus plus 4' ( <b>mirror brackets must higher than 48"</b> )

The approach to the back-up stall will be made from the right side only. A three minute time limit starts when the front bumper passes the first upright standard. The bus must be parked in the stall, **with the parking brake set, and the horn sounded, within the three-minute time limit. Each contestant will be permitted one back-up before demerits are charged for excessive backing.**

Upon completion of this event, the bus should be parked as near to the center of the stall as possible. Centering of the bus in the stall will be determined by the relationship of the **center of the front and rear bumpers** the center of the stall, but with only the farthest distance off center (**front or back**) being used to compute demerits.

There will be a one-foot free zone four to five feet in front of the rear barriers in the center of the stall and demerits will be charged if the bus is parked ahead or behind the free zone. After the bus is measured, the contestant will exit the stall between the upright standards.

### ***Scoring***

The following are demerits for this event:

Tire tread touches the wheel limitation line	(50 demerits)
Bus touches the front upright standards	(50 demerits)
Tire touches stall sidelines	(50 demerits)
Touching the rear barrier	(50 demerits)

Failure to park the bus, set parking brake and sound the horn within the 3-minute time limit.	(50 demerits)
Failure to pull out between the front upright standards	(50 demerits)
Failure to keep door closed	(50 demerits)
Failure to wear seat belt	(50 demerits)
Failure to drive with headlights on	(50 demerits)
Failure to complete event	(50 demerits)

Per instance of forward motion after the first back-up (not to exceed 42 demerits)	(6 demerits)
Bus parked more than 1 inch off of the center line, front or rear (greatest only)	(2 demerits)
Bus parked forward of 1' free zone and each 6" or fraction thereof, (not to exceed 50 demerits)	(5 demerits)
Bus parked behind 1' free zone and each 6" or fraction thereof (not to exceed 50 demerits)	(10 demerits)

# BACK UP STALL TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 50 points  
Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_  
Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMERITS

Tire tread touches the wheel limitation line	(50 demerits)	_____
Bus touches the front upright standards	(50 demerits)	_____
Tire tread touches the stall sideline	(50 demerits)	_____
Bus extends into or over rear barrier	(50 demerits)	_____
Failure to pull out between the front upright standards	(50 demerits)	_____
Failure to park bus, set the parking brake and sound horn within three (3) minute time limit (Time starts when front bumper passes upright standard)	(50 demerits)	_____
Each instance of forward motion after the first back up (0) (6) (12) (18) (24) (30) (36) (42) maximum of 42 demerits	(50 demerits)	_____
Bus parked more than 1 inch off of center line each inch or fraction thereof (front and/or rear - greatest only) (2) (4) (6) (8) (10) (12) (14) maximum of 14 demerits	(6 demerits)	_____
Forward of the one-foot free zone-5 demerits for each 6" or fraction thereof (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) (30) (35) (40) (45) (50) maximum of 50 demerits	(2 demerits)	_____
Bus parked behind one-foot free zone-10 demerits for each 6" or fraction thereof (10) (20) (30) (40) (50)	(05 demerits)	_____
	(10 demerits)	_____

## Failure to:

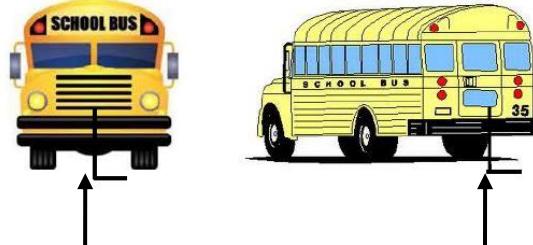
Complete the event	(50 demerits)	_____
Wear seat belt	(50 demerits)	_____
Keep door closed during event	(50 demerits)	_____
Drive with headlights on	(50 demerits)	_____

ACTUAL TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ /  
Min. Sec.

## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **Setup Tools for Backup Stall**

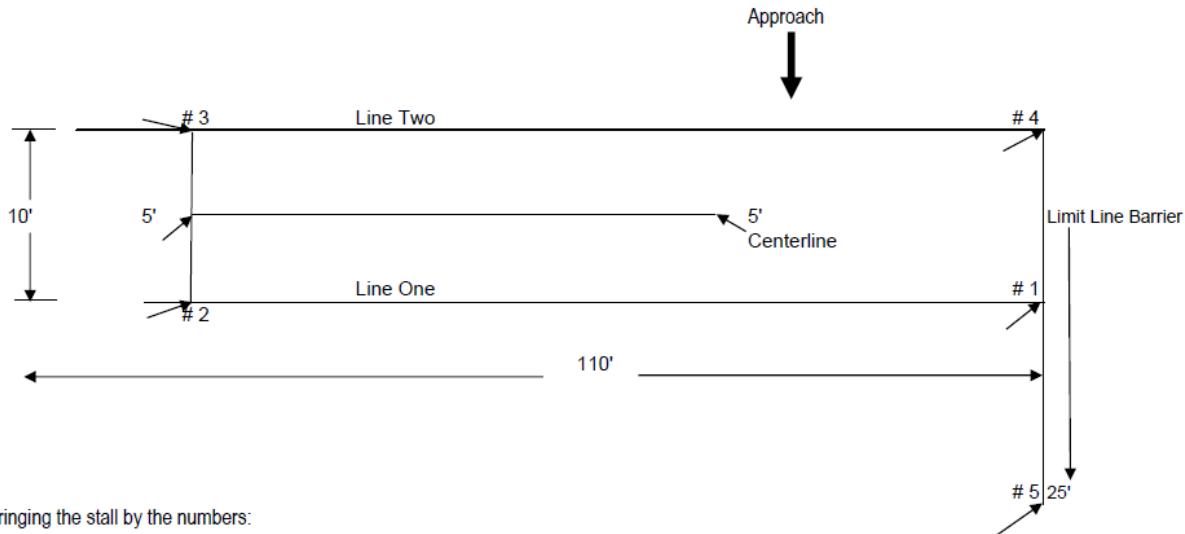
- Heavy-duty claw hammer
- 1½ inch masonry nails (one box)
- One 30 ft. tape measure
- One 100 ft. tape measure
- Two 1000 ft. roll of nylon string
- One box of yellow marker crayons
- One roll of duct tape (Silver or Black)
- Carpenter's Square
- Four 100' lengths of 5/8 inch curb line yellow rope
- Two 25' lengths of 5/8 inch limit line yellow rope
- Two backup stall equipment setups.
- Two timer clocks
- Other



**Measure from the center of the front and rear bumper only.**

**(DO NOT MEASURE FROM THE CROSSING CONTROL ARM.)**

### **Back-Up Stall - 10 Foot Wide Right Side of Bus Approach**



**Note:** Stringing the stall by the numbers:

Nail # 1 - Stall layout starting point.

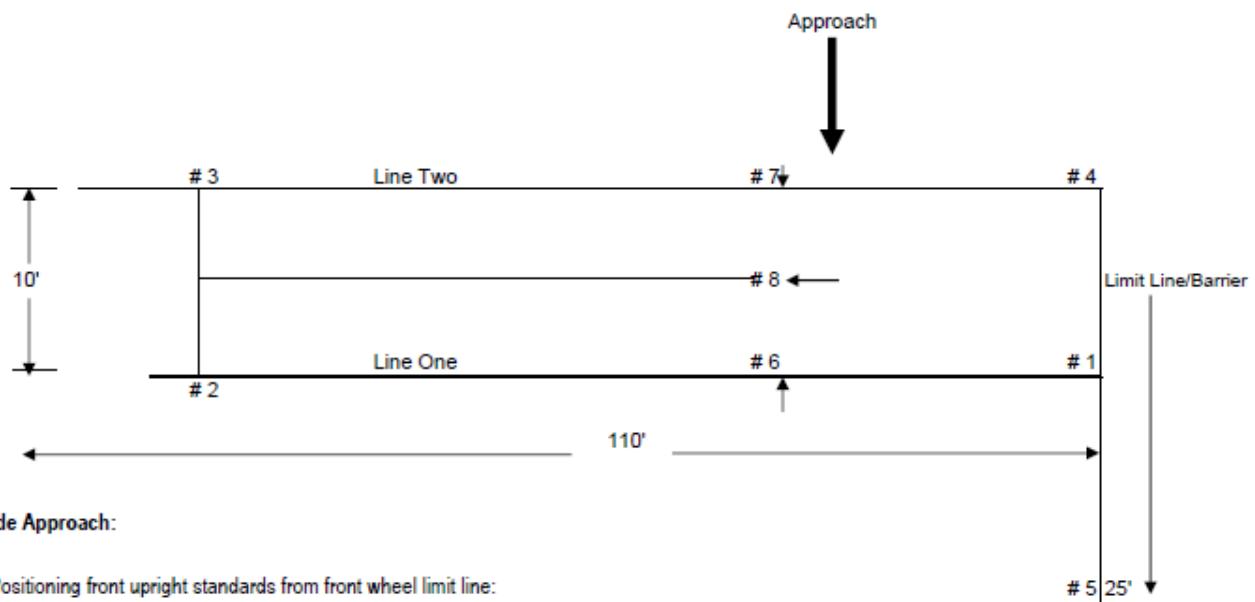
Nail # 2 - Stretch the string 100' and nail # 2.

Nail # 3 - Measure 10' across, using a 90 degree carpenters square, square the stall using the string and tape measure between # 2 and # 3, when squared, nail # 3. Measure 5' and place nail in center of stall.

Nail # 4 - Stretch the string 100', square the stall using the string between # 1 and # 2, measure 10' and square the stall, nail # 4.

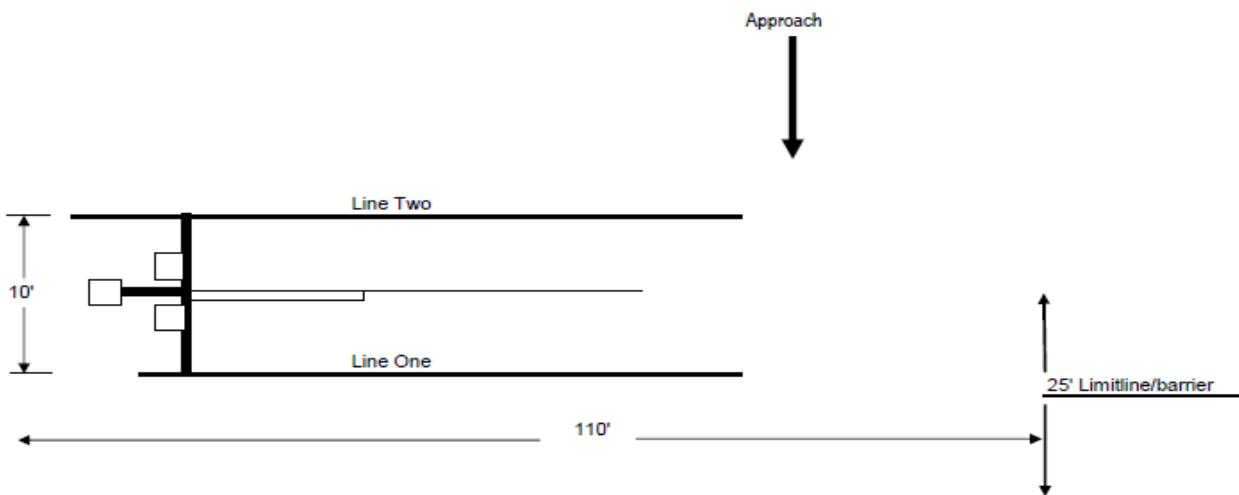
Nail # 5 - Stretch the string 35' aligning with the outside edge of # 1, nail and tie off.

**Back-Up Stall - 10 Foot Wide  
Right Side of Bus Approach**



Mark # 6 - Measure from # 1 using the length of the shortest bus plus 1' to 4' depending on the bus type and place # 6.  
 Mark # 7 - Measure from # 4 using the length of the shortest bus plus 1' to 4' depending on the bus type and place # 7.  
 Nail # 8 - Measure from the outside edge of # 6 to the outside edge of # 7. Nail # 8 @ 5' the center of the stall.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Back-Up Stall - 10 Foot Wide  
Right Side of Bus Approach**



## LEFT TURN EVENT

Maximum Score 50 points

**PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:** This event is designed to determine the driver's ability to properly prepare for, and execute, a left turn.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** A sign indicating "Left Turn" will be placed approximately 150 feet from the beginning of the turn. A lane will be provided in which the driver will make the approach to the corner. The lane is marked on the left with a curb line 50 feet long. The driver will approach the corner giving the correct directional signal at least 100 feet from the turn, as required by law. Each contestant shall continue to steer the bus in a straight line until ready to execute the turn. The point at which the turn begins is determined by the driver's ability to judge a predetermined relationship with the corner (turning point). When this point is reached, the bus should be steered the left. When properly executed, this method of turning left will cause the bus to safely complete the left turn. The bus may not be stopped during this event.

**This is a timed event. The contestant will be allowed 15 seconds to complete the event.** The time will start when the left rear tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry scoring template and will end when the left rear tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

The turning radius will be determined on the day of competition.

**SCORING:** Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, **the outer edge of the left outside tire tread will be used.** The left rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn. The highest value of demerits will be given based on the tires travel through the entire template. Should the tire enter or leave off the inner or outer side of the template at any time it is to be considered off the template. There is a maximum of 25 demerits per scoring template.

Measuring from the curbside of each template, the following demerits shall be charged depending on the travel path of the scored tire through the entire template.

Red - 20 Demerits	Black - 10 Demerits	Yellow - 0 Demerits	

Yellow      0" to 6"  
Black      6" to 9"  
Red      9" to 12"  
**(Off of Template)**

( 0 demerits)  
(10 demerits)  
(20 demerits)  
(25 demerits)

**Additional demerits as follows:**

<b>10 demerits</b>	Failure to properly activate the left directional signal
<b>10 demerits</b>	Failure to cancel the left directional signal
<b>5 demerits</b>	Each instance of stopping the bus
<b>50 demerits</b>	If any tire touches the curb line at any time
<b>50 demerits</b>	For backing the bus
<b>50 demerits</b>	Failure to complete turn within 15 seconds
<b>50 demerits</b>	Failure to keep door closed during the event

# LEFT TURN TEST

Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 50 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

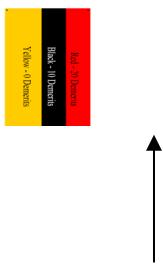
Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## ENTERING AND RECOVERING FROM TURN:

**THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT. The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds.**

The time will start when the left rear outside tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry score template and will end when the left rear outside tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

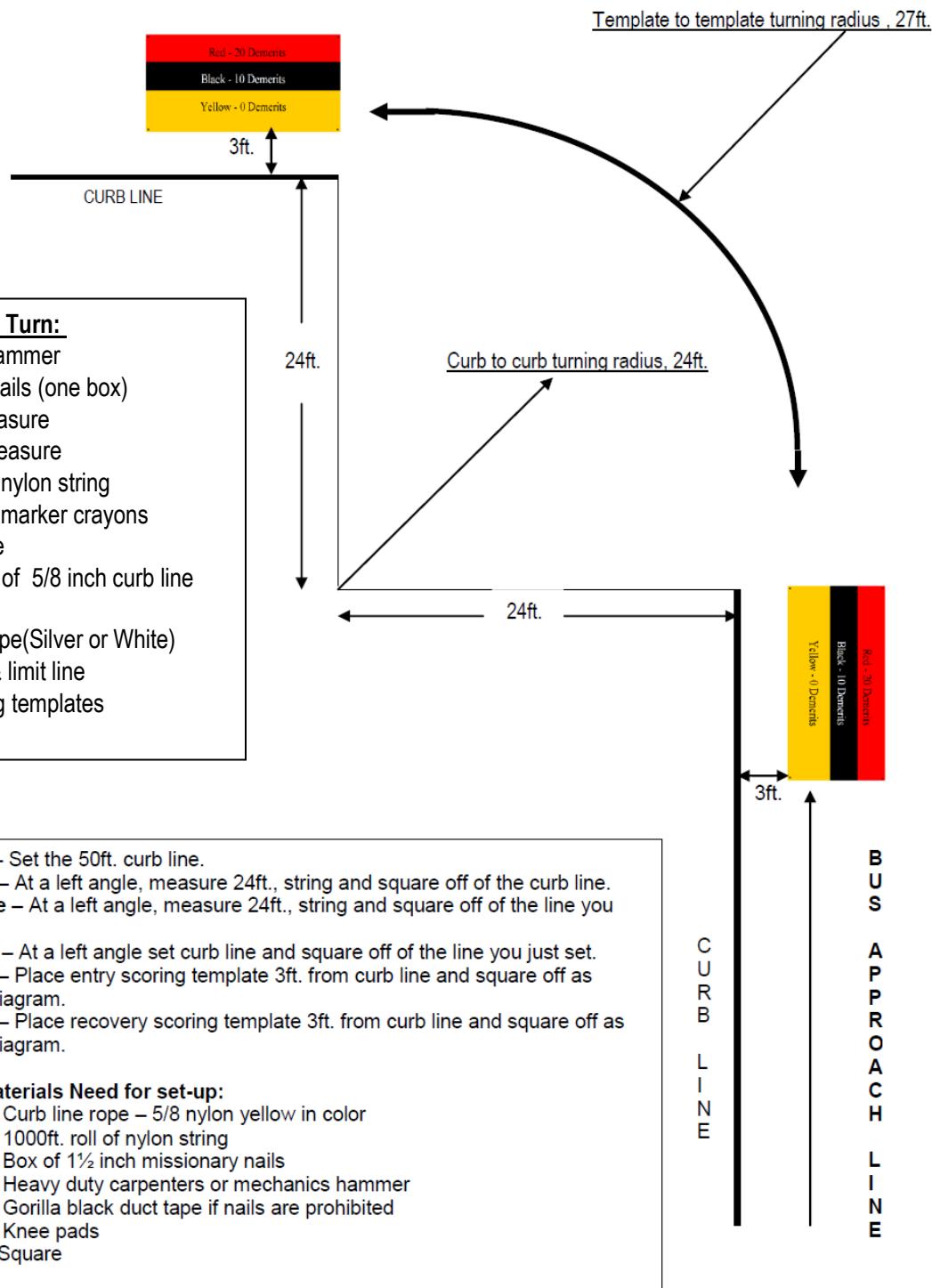
Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, **the outer edge of the left outside tire tread will be used**. The left rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn.

Direction of Travel	Tire travel through entire scoring template	DEMERITS												
	<table> <tr> <td>Yellow</td> <td>0" to 6"</td> <td>( 0 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black</td> <td>6" to 9"</td> <td>(10 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Red</td> <td>9" to 12"</td> <td>(20 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>(Off of Template)</b></td> <td></td> <td>(25 demerits)</td> </tr> </table>	Yellow	0" to 6"	( 0 demerits)	Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)	Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)	<b>(Off of Template)</b>		(25 demerits)	_____
Yellow	0" to 6"	( 0 demerits)												
Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)												
Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)												
<b>(Off of Template)</b>		(25 demerits)												
	<table> <tr> <td>Yellow</td> <td>0" to 6"</td> <td>( 0 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black</td> <td>6" to 9"</td> <td>(10 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Red</td> <td>9" to 12"</td> <td>(20 demerits)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>(Off of Template)</b></td> <td></td> <td>(25 demerits)</td> </tr> </table>	Yellow	0" to 6"	( 0 demerits)	Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)	Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)	<b>(Off of Template)</b>		(25 demerits)	_____
Yellow	0" to 6"	( 0 demerits)												
Black	6" to 9"	(10 demerits)												
Red	9" to 12"	(20 demerits)												
<b>(Off of Template)</b>		(25 demerits)												
For each instance of stopping	(5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (not to exceed 25 demerits)	_____												
Backing of the bus	(50 demerits)	_____												
Any tire tread touches the curb line	(50 demerits)	_____												
<b>Failure to:</b>														
Activate left directional turn signal	(10 demerits)	_____												
Cancel left directional turn signal	(10 demerits)	_____												
Drive with the headlights on	(50 demerits)	_____												
Wear seat belt	(50 demerits)	_____												
Keep door closed during the event	(50 demerits)	_____												
Complete event within the 15 second time limit	(50 demerits)	_____												

**ACTUAL TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Min. Sec.

## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **Left Turn Template to Template Set-Up**



# PARALLEL PARKING EVENT

Maximum Score: 50 points

## **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

This event is designed to evaluate the contestant's ability to park the bus parallel to a curb without touching barriers placed at both ends of the parking area, without touching the curb and within 18 inches of the curb. It is also designed to judge the contestant's ability to drive the bus out of the parking area without touching the barriers or the curb.

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

A section of rope will represent the curb unless a natural curb is available. Two barriers will be set at right angles to the curb line, extending out eight feet from the curb. The distance between the two barriers will be:

1. For all transits, the length of the bus plus six feet.
2. For all conventional and type A buses the length of the bus plus seven feet. (**mirror brackets over 48 inches**)
3. For all type A buses, the length of the bus plus 8 feet. (**mirror brackets under 48 inches**)

A measurement will be made to determine how close the bus is parked to the curb line, and for determining the number of demerits to be charged. This is a timed event. The contestant is allowed three (3) minutes from the time the front bumper of the bus first passes the rear barrier of approach. The contestant must have the bus parked, set parking brake, and sound the horn within the three (3) minute limit.

**Backing in:** The contestant will be permitted to back up twice before demerits are charged.  
**Pulling out:** The contestant will be permitted to back up twice before demerits are charged.

**Scoring:** Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and exits a stall.

Failure to park the bus, set parking brake and sound the horn within the three (3) minute time limit	(50 demerits)
Bus touching front or rear barrier at anytime	(50 demerits)
Failure to wear seat belt	(50 demerits)
Keep the door closed during event	(50 demerits)
Failure to drive with headlights on	(50 demerits)
Failure to complete event	(50 demerits)

<b>Score for Backing In:</b>	(50 demerits)
Failure to use right turn signal before entering	(50 demerits)
Tire tread touches curb line	(50 demerits)
For each instance of backing more than twice (not to exceed 25 demerits)	(5 demerits)

<b>Scoring for Zones parallel to curb:</b>	
Zone 1	0" to 3" from curb (0 demerits)
Zone 2	3" to 6" from curb (3 demerits)
Zone 3	6" to 9" from curb (6 demerits)
Zone 4	9" to 12" from curb (9 demerits)
Zone 5	12" to 15" from curb (12 demerits)
Zone 6	15" to 18" from curb (15 demerits)

Over 18" from the curb	(50 demerits)
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**Scoring for Pulling Out:**

Failure to use left turn signal	(50 demerits)
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Each instance for backing more than twice (not to exceed 25 demerits)	(5 demerits)
--	--------------

Tire tread touches curb line	(50 demerits)
------------------------------	---------------

Failure to cancel directional signal	(10 demerits)
--------------------------------------	---------------

# PARALLEL PARKING TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 50 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMERITS

### Entering the Parking Zone

Check each instance of backing the bus and charge 5 demerits each instance over two backs.

(0) (0) (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) not to exceed 25 demerits	(05 demerits)	_____
Bus touches any barrier	(50 demerits)	_____
Tire tread touches the curb line	(50 demerits)	_____

### Parking Zone Scoring Parallel to Curb:

Zone 1	Bus parked 0"-3"	(00 demerits)	_____
Zone 2	Bus parked 3"-6"	(03 demerits)	_____
Zone 3	Bus parked 6"-9"	(06 demerits)	_____
Zone 4	Bus parked 9"-12"	(09 demerits)	_____
Zone 5	Bus parked 12"-15"	(12 demerits)	_____
Zone 6	Bus parked 15"-18"	(15 demerits)	_____
	Bus parked (over 18" from curb)	(50 demerits)	_____

### Exiting the Parking Zone:

Check each instance of backing up the bus and charge 5 demerits for each instance over two backs.

(0) (0) (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) not to exceed 25 demerits	(05 demerits)	_____
Bus touches any barrier	(50 demerits)	_____
Tire tread touches the curb line	(50 demerits)	_____

### Failure to:

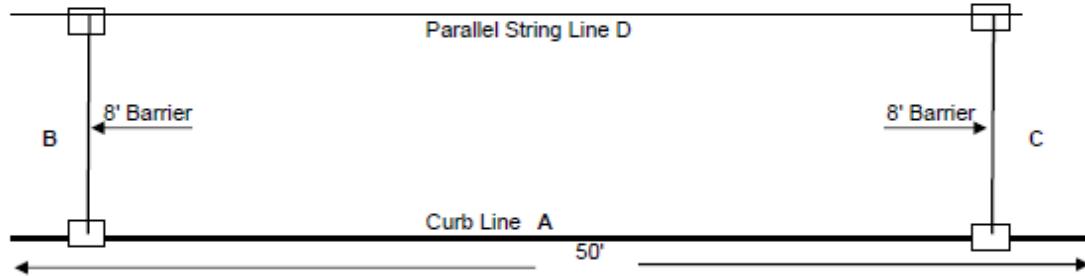
Park the bus, set the parking brake and sound horn within the 3-minute limit	(50 demerits)	_____
Drive with the headlights on	(50 demerits)	_____
Wear seat belt	(50 demerits)	_____
Keep door closed during event	(50 demerits)	_____
Activate directional signal (entering/exiting)	(50 demerits)	_____
Cancel directional signal	(10 demerits)	_____

ACTUAL TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ /  
Min. Sec.

## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **Setup Tools for Parallel Parking Stall**

- Heavy-duty claw hammer
- 1½ inch masonry nails (one box)
- One 12 ft. tape measure
- One 50 ft. tape measure
- One 1000 ft. roll of nylon string
- One box of yellow marker crayons
- Carpenter's Square
- 50' of 5/8 inch curb line yellow rope
- Other



### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. - Layout the 50' rope curb line "A".
2. - Align the outside edge of the 8' barriers "B" & "C" on curb line "A" at a 90 degree angle.
3. - Layout a parallel string line "D", 8' from curb line "A" at a 90 degree angle to barrier B and C.
4. - Measure and mark along curb line "A" and parallel line "D" the appropriate stall lengths.

#### **Settings for bus stall lengths:**

Transit Bus.....	Length of bus plus 6'
Conventional Bus.....	Length of bus plus 7'
Van type Bus.....	Length of bus plus 7'

5. - Move barrier "B" as necessary for appropriate bus length.

# **CURB LINE STUDENT LOADING ZONE EVENT**

Maximum Score: 75 points

## **PURPOSE OF EVENT:**

School bus loading **danger** zones present a high risk for school pupils. This procedure can be one of the most lifesaving maneuvers a school bus driver performs. This test is designed to evaluate the driver's alertness to the loading of elementary passengers and to determine their ability to remember and perform several other important functions incidental to such loading. Such items include proper use of directional signals, yellow warning lights, red flashing crossover lights, stop arm deployment and proper mirror use.

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

A curb line rope, 120 feet in length, to represent the edge of roadway or curb (or if available, an actual curb) will mark the loading zone area. For loading passengers, the contestant will pull into the loading zone. The contestant will utilize the yellow warning lights (100 feet) prior to entering the loading zone. The contestant will then use the red flashing crossover lights and stop arm when stopped to load students.

During the maneuver the contestant will be judged on the bus position in relation to the curb, correct use of directional signals, proper mirror use before and after the stop, proper use of lights, smooth stopping, bus position while stopped, transmission in neutral with parking brake set before door is opened. The contestant must stop the school bus at least 10 feet back, but not more than 15 feet away from student(s).

A measurement will be made at the loading zone area to determine how close the bus is parked to the curb line for determining the number of demerits to be charged.

Scoring demerits for the curb line student-loading zone event are as follows:

## **ENTERING STUDENT LOADING ZONE:**

Backing bus	(75 demerits)
Bus hit barrier	(75 demerits)
Bus Stops more than once between barriers (25 each instance up to)	(75 demerits)
Tire or tire tread touches curb on approach	(75 demerits)

## **FAILURE TO:**

Drive with headlights activated	(75 demerits)
Wear lap/shoulder belts	(75 demerits)
Perform correct mirror check	(50 demerits)
Activate amber warning lights	(75 demerits)
Activate proper directional signal on approach	(75 demerits)
Cancel directional signal	(25 demerits)
Place bus in neutral/park and set parking brake	(75 demerits)
Perform correct mirror check	(50 demerits)
Activate red flashing crossover lights and deploy stop arm	(75 demerits)
Stop at least 10 feet back/away from student (sign)	(25 demerits)
Stop within 15 feet of student (sign)	(25 demerits)
Open service door when safe to do so	(75 demerits)

**BUS MEASURING ZONE FROM CURB OR CURB LINE:**

0" to 12"	(00 demerits)
12" to 18"	(25 demerits)
Over 18 "	(75 demerits)

**EXITING STUDENT LOADING ZONE:**

Bus hits barrier	(50 demerits)
Backing the bus	(50 demerits)

**FAILURE TO:**

Close service door before putting bus in motion	(50 demerits)
Perform correct mirror check	(75 demerits)
Ensure students are safely seated	(75 demerits)
Deactivate red flashing crossover lights	(75 demerits)
Perform additional correct mirror check	(75 demerits)
Activate proper directional signal for departure	(75 demerits)
Cancel directional signal	(25 demerits)
Complete event	(75 demerits)

# CURB LINE STUDENT LOADING ZONE TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 75 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMERITS

### ENTERING / EXITING STUDENT LOADING ZONE:

Backing bus	(75 demerits)	_____
Bus Stops more than once (25 each instance up to)	(75 demerits)	_____
Tire or tire tread touches curb on approach	(75 demerits)	_____

### FAILURE TO:

Drive with headlights activated	(75 demerits)	_____
Wear lap/shoulder belts	(75 demerits)	_____
Perform (5-point) mirror check	(50 demerits)	_____
Activate amber warning lights	(75 demerits)	_____
Activate proper directional signal at least 100 ft. on approach	(75 demerits)	_____
Cancel directional signal	(25 demerits)	_____
Place bus in neutral/park and set parking brake	(75 demerits)	_____
Perform correct mirror check	(50 demerits)	_____
Activate red flashing crossover lights and deploy stop arm	(75 demerits)	_____
Stop at least 10 feet back/away from student (sign)	(25 demerits)	_____
Stop within 15 feet of student (sign)	(25 demerits)	_____
Open service door when safe to do so	(75 demerits)	_____
Close service door before putting bus in motion	(50 demerits)	_____
Perform correct mirror check (5-point)	(75 demerits)	_____
Ensure students are safely seated	(75 demerits)	_____
Deactivate red flashing crossover lights	(75 demerits)	_____
Perform additional (5-point) mirror check	(75 demerits)	_____
Activate proper directional signal before departure	(75 demerits)	_____
Cancel directional signal	(25 demerits)	_____
Complete event	(75 demerits)	_____

### Furthest measurement from curb – front and/or rear:

0" to 12"	(00 demerits)	_____
12" to 18"	(25 demerits)	_____
Over 18 "	(75 demerits)	_____

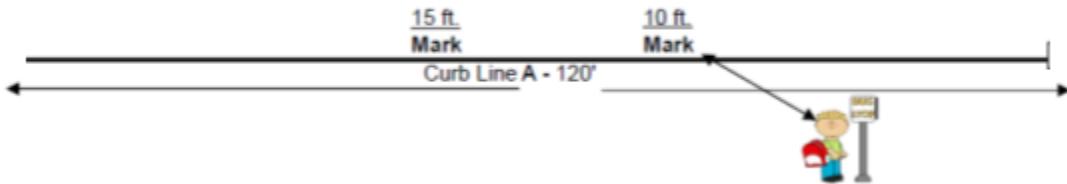
**ACTUAL TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Min. Sec.

## **LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS:**

### **Setup Tools - Curb Line Student Loading Zone**

- Heavy-duty claw hammer
- 1½ inch masonry nails (one box) or gorilla tape
- One 12 ft. tape measure
- One 100 ft. tape measure
- One 1000 ft. roll of nylon string
- One box of yellow marker crayons
- Carpenter's Square
- 120' of 5/8-inch curb line yellow rope or actual curb
- Other

1. Layout a 50 ft. curb line rope "A". This will represent the right side of the roadway.
2. Place the Student Sign near the end of and behind the curb line or edge of roadway.
3. Mark where the Student Sign is to be located with crayons or chalk.
4. Make a small crayon or chalk mark 10 ft. from the Student Sign, this will represent the closest the bus can stop from the student.
5. Make a small crayon or chalk mark 15 ft. from the Student Sign which indicates the bus is further than 15 ft. away from the student.



## **STOP LINE EVENT**

Maximum Score: 25 points

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVENT:**

This test determines the contestant's depth perception, ability to use crossover mirrors and ability to bring the bus to a smooth complete stop.

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

A yellow 5/8 inch rope stop limit line six feet long is layout. The contestant should bring the bus to a complete stop as close to the stop limit line as possible. Only one stop will be allowed. The stop limit line may be in sequence with another event, such as the right turn or the railroad grade crossing. The contestant will sound the horn after the stop is made and the vehicle has been placed in neutral gear and the park brake set.

### ***Scoring***

Measurement for scoring the stop line will be taken from the front surface of the bumper to the edge of the line closest to the bus. Measurement will be taken any place on the bumper that is the closest to the line. The bus must stop two (2) inches or less from the stop limit line to avoid demerits being given.

0" to 2"	(0 demerits)
over 2" to 4"	(3 demerits)
over 4" to 6"	(6 demerits)
over 6" to 8"	(9 demerits)
over 8" to 10"	(12 demerits)
over 10" to 12"	(15 demerits)
over 12" to 14"	(18 demerits)
over 14" to 16"	(21 demerits)
over 16"	(25 demerits)

Stops with bumper beyond line	(25 demerits)
Failure to complete event	(25 demerits)
Backs up during event	(25 demerits)
Failure to wear seat belt	(25 demerits)
Failure to keep door closed	(25 demerits)
Failure to drive with headlights on	(25 demerits)
Stops more than once	(25 demerits)

### **Setup Tools for Stop Line Event**

- Heavy-duty claw hammer
- 1½ inch masonry nails (one box)
- One 12 ft. tape measure
- One box of yellow marker crayons

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Determine location of stop. Make sure that it does not line up with any ground reference that could be used as a marker.
2. Place a 6 ft. stop line rope on the location determined for the stop line.
3. Place a stop sign on a standard to the right of the line, but not in a location that can be used as a marker or ground reference.

## STOP LINE TEST

Contestant #\_\_\_\_\_

Event Judge\_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Score: 25 points

Demerits: \_\_\_\_\_

Score Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

### DEMERITS

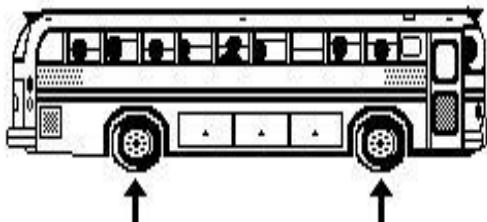
0"-2"	(0 demerits)	_____
Over 2" to 4"	(3 demerits)	_____
Over 4" to 6"	(6 demerits)	_____
Over 6" to 8"	(9 demerits)	_____
Over 8" to 10"	(12 demerits)	_____
Over 10" to 12"	(15 demerits)	_____
Over 12" to 14"	(18 demerits)	_____
Over 14" to 16"	(21 demerits)	_____
Over 16"	(25 demerits)	_____
Stops with bumper beyond stop line	(25 demerits)	_____
Failure to complete event	(25 demerits)	_____
Backs up during event	(25 demerits)	_____
Failure to wear seat belt	(25 demerits)	_____
Failure to keep door closed	(25 demerits)	_____
Failure to drive with headlights on	(25 demerits)	_____
Stops more than once	(25 demerits)	_____

## ***SURPRISE EVENT***

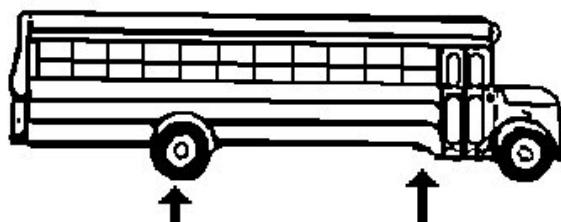
Maximum Score: 50 pts.

The Competition Committee may select a surprise event for the competition. The event will be announced at the Orientation Meeting on Saturday evening, and if implemented, the event will be designed to test the ability of a driver to react to an unplanned event.

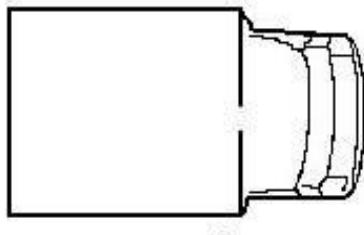
## BUS MEASURING POINTS:



Center & bottom of the tire, both front & rear in relation to the curb line.  
(Do Not Measure from the Tire Bulge)

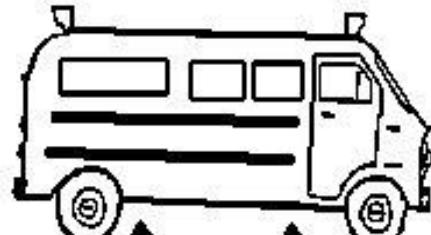


Center & bottom of the rear tire & the widest point of the body just behind the entrance door in relation to the curb line.  
(Do Not Measure from the Tire Bulge)



(WIDE BODY VANS)

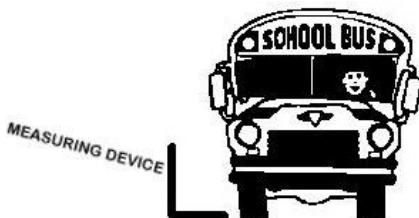
The widest part of the body front and rear in relation to the curb line.



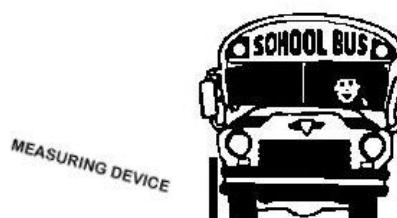
(FOR ALL OTHER VANS)

The widest part of the body front and rear in relation to the curb line.

### How to use the measuring device



Measuring from the center of the tire tread



Measuring from the body

**For Events:** Parallel Parking and Curb line Parking

**School Bus Driver International Safety Competition**  
**Previous Champions**

1971	Larry Beckstrom, California	2001	Jerry Kinney, Michigan – Conventional
1972	Roger Sill, California		David Martin, Oregon – Transit
1973	Dan Perry, California		Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Small Bus
1974	Roger Sill, California	2002	Bob Drouin, Ontario, Canada – Conventional
1975	Bob Ives, Kansas		Brent Carman, California – Transit
1976	James McKeel, Kansas		Suzanne Gettings, New York – Small Bus
1977	Nelson Benedict, Ohio	2003	Mark Corker, Kansas – Conventional
1978	J. Burton Haerr, III, Ohio		Brent Carman, California – Transit
1979	Bob Ives, Kansas		Bob Hutson, Kansas – Small Bus
1980	George Powell, New Mexico	2004	Melvin Meinhart, Colorado – Conventional
1981	Sarah Fanton, Massachusetts		Osgood Simpkins, Virginia – Transit
1982	Ruth Hatfield, West Virginia		James Huddleston, Kentucky – Small Bus
1983	Ron Peterson, Kansas	2005	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional
1984	Alex MacDonald, Washington		Osgood Simpkins, Virginia – Transit
1985	Darrel Wagoner, West Virginia		Bob Hutson, Kansas – Small Bus
1986	Ranell Tyler, Texas	2006	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional
1987	Nick Darnell, Ohio		Dana Opp, Michigan – Transit
1988	Donald Edwards, Pennsylvania		Jaye Knickelbein, Kentucky – Small Bus
1989	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania	2007	George Soverns, Pennsylvania – Conventional
1990	Sylvia Swords, Texas		Alfred Boyce, Colorado – Transit
1991	Phyllis Meides, New York		Jaye Knickelbein, Kentucky – Small Bus
1992	Don Hawkins, New Hampshire	2008	Cindy Shipley, Colorado – Conventional
1993	Roger Kerns, Kentucky		Chris Fritz, Colorado – Transit
1994	Don Hawkins, New Hampshire - Conventional		Brent Carman, California – Small Bus
	Kent Hawkins, Utah – Transit	2009	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional
1995	Don Hawkins, New Hampshire – Conventional		Danny Mack Stegall, Missouri – Transit
	Jack Clary, Washington – Transit		Brandy Ellen Acevedo, California – Small Bus
1996	Lawrence Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional	2010	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional
	Kent Hawkins, Utah – Transit		Mark Miller, Washington – Transit
1997	Bob Carroll, Florida – Conventional		Richard Hall, Kentucky – Small Bus
	Kent Hawkins, Utah – Transit	2011	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional
1998	Shirley Miller, Texas – Conventional		Mark Miller, Washington – Transit
	John L. Martin, California – Transit		Russell Altizer, Virginia – Small Bus
	Debra Huntington, New York – Small Bus	2012	Mark Koelbl, Canada – Conventional
1999	Patti Cox, Georgia – Conventional		Antonio Perez, California – Transit
	John Cain, California – Transit		Russell Altizer, Virginia – Small Bus
	Lynn White, Ontario, Canada – Small Bus		
2000	James L. Roark, II, Florida – Conventional		
	Brent Carman, California – Transit		
	Lynn White, Ontario, Canada – Small Bus		

2013	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional Antonio Perez, California – Transit John Labus, West Virginia – Small Bus
2014	Ed Rollins, West Virginia – Conventional Mark Miller, Washington – Transit Russell Altizer, Virginia – Small Bus
2015	Bill Wiseman, West Virginia - Conventional Victor Garza, California - Transit Mary Slate, West Virginia – Small Bus
2016	Kristina Raley, Texas - Conventional Mark Miller, Washington - Transit Virginia Smythe, Oregon – Small Bus
2017	Billy Wiseman, West Virginia - Conventional Hanna Beard, Missouri, Transit David Mansfield, Minnesota, Small Bus
2018	Larry Hannon, Pennsylvania – Conventional Victor Garza, California – Transit Josh Simpkins, Virginia – Small Bus
2019	Billy Wiseman, West Virginia – Type C Bus Mark Miller, Washington – Type D Bus John Labus, West Virginia – Type A Bus
2024	Wanda VanZonnevald, Colorado – Type C Bus Mark Miller, Washington – Type D Bus Dorothy Dorman, Kansas – Type A Bus
2025	Brian Rickmann, Oregon (Grand Champion) Betty Nelson, Michigan – Type C Bus Brian Rickmann, Oregon – Type D Bus Claudia Christen, Alberta – Type A Bus