

# **SOUTH DAKOTA TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SIOUX FALLS, SD 2023 RULES**

## **1. How do we enter the 2023 SDTA Truck Driving Championships?**

Complete the Indication of Interest Form and return it to the SDTA office. You will then receive the Official Entry & Release Forms together with a Driver Information Book and Official Truck Driving Championship Patches for each competing driver. The Facts for Drivers Book will contain the necessary details for the Truck Driving Championships as well as sample questions for the written exam, which will help the driver prepare for the competition.

## **2. When is the deadline?**

The Completed Entry & Release Forms together with a check for the entry fee **(\$165)** must be received in the South Dakota Trucking Association office no later than May 1, 2023. This is the official deadline. No entries will be accepted after midnight on May 1, 2023.

All Entry and Release Forms must have attached a copy of the driver's CDL with proper endorsement and a copy of their most recent MVR. Forms no longer need to be notarized. Since step van competitors are not required to hold a CDL, they need to provide a copy of their state issued driver's license.

## **3. Who is eligible?**

All city or road truck drivers, employed by a Common, Contract, or Private Carrier or Owner-Operator are eligible to compete. They must have an accident-free record for at least 12 months prior to entering the competition. (Definition of an accident is: Any occurrence involving a fleet motor vehicle that results in death, injury or property damage, who was injured, what property was damaged or to what extent is NOT a factor.) They must have been a driver 11 of the past 12 months for the employer who is entering the driver.

NOTE: Involvement in an accident involving an animal is NOT a disqualifying event as long as the only injury/fatality is to the animal AND provided that the only vehicle damage is from the initial impact with the animal (i.e., not due to swerving to miss the animal or losing control after hitting the animal).

Drivers entered must not have had a violation of 49 CFR Part 382 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. The driver must be a permanent resident of South Dakota or regularly dispatched from or reporting to a terminal domiciled in South Dakota.

## **4. How much is the entry fee?**

The entry fee is **\$165** for each driver. This fee includes one breakfast ticket, one lunch ticket and two banquet tickets. (Additional tickets may be purchased.)

## **5. How many drivers may a company enter?**

A company may have a maximum of two drivers in each class of competition. Classes are: Step Van, Straight Truck; 3-Axle Tractor Semitrailer; 4-Axle Tractor Semitrailer; 5-Axle Tractor Semitrailer; 5-Axle Sleeper Berth; 5-Axle Tank; 5-Axle Flatbed; and Twin Trailers.

## **6. When will the 2023 SDTA Truck Driving Championships be held?**

The Truck Driving Championship will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Southeast Technical College, in Sioux Falls. Following Saturday breakfast at Southeast Technical Institute, the driving competition will be held in the SE Tech parking lot. Driver registration will run from 7:00 - 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20th. Any driver not registered by 7:30 a.m. will be docked 25 points for failure to follow instructions. The written exam will start promptly at 7:30 a.m., followed by driver orientation at 8:30 a.m.

All events will be held at SE Tech with the exception of the Banquet, which will be held at the Ramkota Hotel, 3200 W. Maple Street, Sioux Falls, SD.

**7. What will the winners receive?**

First, Second and Third place winners in each class will receive plaques. The Champion in each class will represent South Dakota at the ATA National Truck Driving Championships, which will be held in Columbus, Ohio, from August 16-19, 2023. Special Awards and cash prizes will be presented. The Rookie of the Year award will go to the outstanding driver competing for the first time. This winning driver will receive a special plaque and cash award. A Vehicle Condition Award will be given to the contestant winning the Pre-Trip Inspection and they will receive a special plaque and cash prize. The Grand Champion, the driver who compiles the highest aggregated score, will receive a plaque and cash prize. Also, special awards will be presented to the Top Score on the Written Exam, the Top Score on the Driving Course and Special Top Score on the Pre-Trip Inspection.

**ANY DRIVER RECEIVING A PERFECT DRIVING SCORE OF 300 WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL CASH AWARD.**

**8. Entering the SDTA Team Truck Driving Competition:**

For a company to enter a Team Driving Competition, a company must have a minimum of at least three (3) or more eligible drivers entered into the driving competition. In order for a Company Team Championship to be held, there must be a minimum of three (3) companies eligible to participate in this special award. The average score of entire fleet by company will be calculated to determine top company winner. The winning Company Team will receive a special plaque.

**9. Is there anything else we should know?**

These are important points to remember:

- A. A driver may not practice on company time prior to the Truck Driving Championships nor may a driver be paid for the time spent in practice. Violations will disqualify a driver from competition. Drivers should be encouraged to practice on their own off-duty time.
- B. Carriers are urged to adhere to the practice of paying their competing drivers for actual working days only. A driver should not be paid for Saturday of the Truck Driving Championships if that is the driver's regular day off.
- C. Carriers may, at their option, elect to pay the driver for an actual working day spent in competition and reimburse expenses for the driver and spouse at the Truck Driving Championships.
- D. All driver qualification protests must be filed in writing no later than midnight on May 1, 2023. No protests will be considered after this time.

**Help Make the 2023 Truck Driving Championships a Huge Success!**

**Register Today...**

**COMPLETE AND RETURN THE INDICATION OF INTEREST FORM  
TO THE SDTA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO RECEIVE YOUR  
FINAL MATERIALS TO ENTER YOUR DRIVERS**

REMIT TO:

SDTA • PO Box 89008 • Sioux Falls, SD 57109-9008 • P: 605-334-8871 • F: 605-334-1938 • Email: [michelle@southdakotatrucking.com](mailto:michelle@southdakotatrucking.com)