

2025 BUDDY RIDER RULES

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

(The National Ag Safety Database advises against extra riders on farm equipment. Visit

<http://nasdonline.org/987/d000973/extra-riders-on-farm-equipment.html> for more information.)



ALL BUDDY SEATS MUST BE REGISTERED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 8, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS. ANY REQUIRED MODIFICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2025.

The Tractor Trek Planning Committee has given approval for Buddy Riders to participate in the 5th Annual Tractor Trek. A strict set of safety rules has been set in place. Each Buddy Rider must abide by these rules set forth by the Tractor Trek Planning Committee. These rules must be agreed to by participating Buddy Rider, Rider's parent or guardian, and the driver.

BUDDY RIDER REQUIREMENTS

- Each Buddy Rider is recommended to be at least 10 years or older to ride next to the driver on the tractor during the Tractor Trek. A tractor driver with an approved, age-appropriate buddy seat must be an adult (18+). Maximum of two (2) people per tractor with an approved buddy seat.

BUDDY SEAT APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

All Buddy Seat pre-authorization forms must be submitted to the Tractor Trek Planning Committee no later than August 8, 2025. Any modifications we request must be completed by September 1, 2025.

All Buddy Seat Riders must follow the guidelines below:

- All buddy seats must be pre-approved before registering. Drivers requesting a buddy rider must fill out the pre-approval form (available online) and submit two (2) photos. A confirmation number will be provided upon approval. Drivers will then be able to register a buddy rider using the confirmation number.
 - Drivers registering in person, please bring the two (2) photos of the tractor and buddy seat with you.

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

Photo Requirements

- At least two (2) photos of different angles of the seat must be submitted at the time of registration. These photos should show how the seat is bolted on and include all requirements listed below:

BUDDY SEAT REQUIREMENTS

1. The Buddy Rider seat must be secured to the tractor beside the driver. No Buddy Rider will be allowed directly behind the driver. No Buddy Rider will be ahead of the driver. No buddy rider may sit over the fender.
2. Buddy rider seat must face forward.
3. The Buddy Rider seat must not be rusted out or welded up.
4. Tractors must have fenders to protect the Buddy Rider from the tractor tires.
5. There can be absolutely no interference with the driver's ability to drive the tractor for the entire Tractor Trek route safely. This includes tractor steering, clutch, brakes, and vision of the driver. The driver must have full control of the tractor at all times. At no time will the Buddy Rider be allowed to have control of the tractor.
6. All tractors with rotating parts (i.e. brake drums) near the tractor's operating station will be required to have guards covering these parts to protect Driver and Buddy Rider.
7. No Buddy Rider seat shall only be mounted directly to the rear, straight drawbar.
8. Buddy rider seat must be fixed, not using the hitch to lift up and down.
9. Seats must have secure and safe back support for the rider. Even if the tractor may have a seat for a rider from the factory, it will still need to be approved by the Tractor Trek Planning Committee.
10. A grab handle must be secured to the tractor for the Buddy Rider's safety during the Tractor Trek. Seat belt use is at the sole discretion of the Buddy Rider. Those using seat belts should read about the pros and cons of using a seat belt on a farm tractor. The National Ag Safety Database advises against the use of seat belts on a tractor unless the tractor is equipped with a ROPS (Roll Over Protection System). Visit <https://nasdonline.org/2470/d002296/safe-farm-use-tractors-with-rops-to-save.html> for more information. If a seat belt is used by the Buddy Rider, it must be installed securely and safely on the tractor.
11. The Tractor Trek Planning Committee, the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau® Foundation and the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau® assume no liability for Drivers, Buddy Riders, or the tractor during this entire event, that does not meet our safety requirements.

12. The Tractor Trek Planning Committee and Event Officials have the right to deny any Buddy Rider or driver during this event.
13. The Tractor Trek Planning Committee has the right to amend or modify these rules at its discretion.
14. By signing the Participant Form, all drivers and Buddy Riders agree to abide by the above rules. Failure to comply with these rules will disqualify the driver and the buddy rider from participating in the event.

The Tractor Trek Planning Committee and Event Officials will be enforcing these rules prior to and during the event.

Comments or questions concerning the Buddy Rider Rules can be sent to wbfmanager@winnebago-boonefarmbureau.org.