



## **604 CRATE LATE MODELS 2026 TECHNICAL RULEBOOK**

**\*PENTON SUSPENSION AND ENGINE RULES IN GENERAL RULES ALSO APPLY**

### **ENGINE SETBACK**

**PENTON ENGINE RULES IN GENERAL RULES ALSO APPLY**

1. Engine setback will be 6" from center of top ball joint to the most forward spark plug
2. There will be a 1" tolerance on engine setback.

### **FRAME**

1. All frames must be of steel construction
  - a. Square or rectangular frame must have a minimum of 2" by 2" material, .083 wall thickness.
  - b. Round tube frame must have a minimum of 1-<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" outside diameter, .083 wall thickness

### **WHEEL BASE**

1. Minimum wheelbase will be 103" with a 1" tolerance.

### **ROLL CAGE**

1. All cars must have a suitable steel roll cage protecting the driver's compartment, including headrest.
2. Side roll bars are mandatory, and must extend into the door panels. A minimum of three (3) bars must be used on the left side.
3. Each bar must be at least 1-<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" in diameter, with a minimum material thickness of .083".
4. Roll cages must be welded to frame.

## BODY

### PENTON BODY RULES APPLY (Figures 1,2,3,4)

1. Spoilers will be measured according to total length and width of material, in any shape.
2. Gurney Flaps or Curls are allowed along the upper edge of the spoiler, but their length will be included in all measurements.
3. **Droop rule is in effect.** We will follow World of Outlaws, Lucas Oil Super Dirt Late Model Series, Hunt the Front, Schaffer's Oil, etc.
  - Rear Travel Limiter (Droop Rule)
    - A vertical travel limiting chain must be installed on the left rear of the car from the left rear axle housing to the frame. The travel limiting chain must attach to a bearing type mount or a clamp mounted bracket with the chain mounted to the top (12 o'clock) of the left rear axle tube, between the birdcage and the edge of the left rear bell of the axle housing, and to the left rear frame directly above the chain mount on the rear axle. Travel limiting chains must be installed so that when taunted they are as close to vertical as possible. One (1) compliance device may be used. The compliance device must not be more than one inch (1") thick (without a load applied) and remain completely open and visible. Compliance devices can be rubber or any like material but must not be installed in any type of canister. Springs, spring loaded, and/or pneumatic devices will not be permitted. No tapered, beveled, or roller skate type of compliance rubber will be permitted. Compliance devices must be solid material, same diameter top to bottom, not hollowed or drilled to soften the material.
    - The travel limiting chain including the compliance rubber must be installed so that when the car is jacked up from the rear the chain assembly is tight (no slack). The travel limiting chain is subject to inspection at any time during the event at the discretion of the officials. Cars will be jacked up on the under-slung frame rail one inch (1") in front of the rear axle tube, between the center of the rear axle and the panhard bar mount. The left rear under-slung rail must be located between the left rear birdcage and the edge of the left rear axle housing bell. Cars will be jacked up until a forty-thousandths of an inch (.040") shim will slide between the left rear tire and the ground. Once the car is jacked up as described a vertical measurement will be taken from the ground to the top trailing edge of the rear deck bar, six inches (6") inboard of the left rear quarter panel outer edge. The measurement must not exceed fifty-one inches (51").
    - All droop limited assemblies must support the unsprung mass of the rear-end. The stretched value of the droop limiter assembly may be no more than three-quarters of an inch ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " at 1,200 lbs. The procedure: preload 100 lbs. Zero (0) distance, pull to a value of 1,200 lbs.
4. When jacked up, 51" deck height from the bottom of the spoiler, 6" in from left rear.

## SAFETY

### PENTON SAFETY RULES IN GENERAL RULES ALSO APPLY

1. Approved helmet and full fire resistant driver's suit required.
2. All cars must have 3" lap belt and 2" shoulder harness and crotch strap MINIMUM and must be attached to roll cage.
3. All cars must have an approved fire extinguisher, securely mounted, within easy reach of the driver. A 10 lb. halon system is recommended.

## **APPROVED SEALED CRATE ENGINES**

1. The following have been approved for use in competition:
  - a. 602 GM part number 19258602
  - b. 604 GM part number 19318604
2. GM Engines may be purchased at any GM dealer.
3. Sealed engines must remain intact and may not be tampered with. Any seals that have been removed or tampered with will make the engine illegal and not eligible for competition at Penton Raceway.
4. No changes are allowed to the engine (intake manifold, heads, valve covers, oil pan, harmonic balancer or any other part(s) on/in the engine. ***Crate Engines must not be altered, modified, or changed from factory specs.***
5. No vacuum pumps.
6. All crate engines must be sealed with factory GM bolts or Crate USA seals. Other series seals may be allowed if they can be verified for authenticity. No R/M bolts.

## **CRANKING COMPRESSION**

1. All crate engines will have a maximum cranking pressure of 200 psi.
2. Any engine over 200 psi will be illegal for use at Penton Raceway.

## **WATER PUMP**

1. Cast or aluminum water pump permitted.
2. No electric water pumps.

## **FUEL PUMP**

1. Mechanical pump only- no electric pump

## **DISTRIBUTOR**

1. Any ignition with the exception of magnetos and coil pack distributorless ignition systems. Magnetos and coil pack distributorless ignition systems are not allowed.

## **CARBURETOR**

1. One four-barrel carburetor only, of any manufacturer.
2. Engine must be naturally aspirated.
3. May use one carburetor spacer.
  - a. 602 may use a 2 inch total thickness - .040 tolerance
  - b. 604 may use a 1 inch total thickness - .040 tolerance

- c. D347SR may use a 1 inch total thickness - .040 tolerance
- d. No part of spacer may enter intake plenum
4. May use 2 standard one-piece paper gaskets (maximum 0.070 inch thick) - one gasket between intake to spacer and one gasket between spacer to carburetor.

## **STARTER**

1. All cars must have a starter in working order.

## **EXHAUST/MUFFLERS- REQUIRED AT PENTON RACEWAY**

1. Any commercially manufactured muffler- MUST register under 100 decibels.
2. Collector type headers only. No 180 degree headers, or TRI-Y headers.
3. No modifications and/or alterations to mufflers will be allowed. (No deliberate air leaks, vents, holes, etc.)
4. Any car that loses a muffler will automatically be disqualified.
5. Any car that is deemed too loud by Track Officials under race conditions will be black-flagged.

## **BRAKES**

1. Four-wheel disc brakes permitted.
2. No carbon fiber brake parts allowed.

## **FUEL CELL/FUEL**

1. An approved fuel cell (32 gallon maximum) must be securely mounted in the trunk area of the car, inside a .20 gauge metal box supported by a minimum of two 2" by 1/8" steel straps.
2. All fuel cells must be completely visible from the rear of the car.
3. Fuel cell must not be mounted lower than bottom of quick-change rear end.
4. Pump gas or racing fuel only. (*RACING FUEL AVAILABLE AT TRACK*)
  - a. Pump gas may contain up to 10% ethanol as allowed by law.
  - b. Gas must pass acid test.
5. E85 Fuel is allowed.
  - a. Fuel must check within 1% at any time checked, (MIN 84% ETHANOL- MAX 86%)
6. No alcohol, methanol, nitrous oxide, or chemical additives including, but not limited to, propylene oxide, nitromethane, nitro propane, or any nitrate additives.

## **TRANSMISSION**

1. Must have at least one forward and one reverse gear in working order.
2. Automatic transmission permitted-must have torque converter or manual fluid by-pass valve system.
3. No straight drives or in and out boxes.

## WHEELS

1. Any brand or type of wheel allowed- must be mounted with lug nuts.
2. No knock-off or center lock wheels.
3. Maximum wheel width- 14"

## TIRES

1. Hoosier Crate 21 or 55.
2. Grooving, siping, and buffing tires permitted.
3. All numbers, codes, and manufacturer names must remain visible on the tire. No grinding off of numbers, codes or names. Any tire that has been altered will be illegal.
4. No tire softeners or conditioners permitted.
  - a. Tires may not be altered using any natural or unnatural, hazardous or nonhazardous, components or chemicals that affect the factory set baseline settings of a given tire.
  - b. ALL competitors are subject to tire inspections.**
5. Tires available on race night or call CSR 404-925-1888.

## WEIGHT

1. All cars must have specified weight posted on top left side of roof.
  - GM Crate Engine 602- 2200 lbs.
  - GM Crate Engine 604- 2300 lbs.
2. Minimum weight will be measured with driver in car.
3. Attached weight must be securely bolted to frame with ½" or larger bolts, and painted white or silver with car number clearly painted on them.
4. No weight may be attached to rear bumper.
5. No lead pellets or liquid weight.
6. No driver operated weight adjustment devices.
7. One pound per lap weight allowance after race.
8. Track reserves the right to adjust weights in interest of competition should it be deemed necessary.

## REPAIR & REBUILD PROGRAM

Penton Raceway has in place a network of Authorized Crate Engine Repair/Rebuild Centers. All repairs and rebuilds must be done by one of these Authorized Repair/Rebuild Centers. The engine will be repaired, or rebuilt, and sealed according to the specific guidelines provided by the manufacturer of the engine. *Please call Penton Raceway at 770-599-6161 for a complete list of the Authorized Repair/Rebuild Centers.*

## CRATE LATE MODEL PROTEST FEES

Protest fees are as follows:

\$2000 engine protest fee. \$300 goes to the track. \$1700 goes to the winner of the protest.

Any item not listed in the protest fees above is considered a visual protest item and must be protested **before** race- not after.

Any Crate Engine protested must be reassembled and resealed by one of the Authorized Repair/Rebuild Centers approved by Penton Raceway.

## **PENALTIES FOR CRATE ENGINE INFRACTION**

Disqualification from race, 0 points, \$0.00 in prize money awarded during the race, and a \$300.00 fine. *Fines must be paid before either car or driver can return to competition at Penton Raceway.*