



2023 Truck Driving Championships

Registration Packet

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions
7000 Kalahari Drive; Sandusky, Ohio 44870
877-525-2427



The Ohio Trucking Association (OTA) is excited to announce our 2023 Truck Driving Championships (TDC)! This competition is designed to bring together talented drivers to compete for the highest honors in the state, as well as an opportunity to compete on the national stage at the ATA National Truck Driving Championships.

Drivers participating in the TDC take a written test, perform a pre-trip inspection, and navigate a driving course designed to push their skills to the limit.

I hope that you consider selecting outstanding drivers from your organization to compete in this year's competition. We have enclosed information in this packet to assist in the registration process. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact Bradie Berry at bradie@ohiotrucking.org or 614-519-6462. The deadline to register is Friday, April 21, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom 16", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas A. Balzer, CAE
President & CEO
Ohio Trucking Association

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** Driver, banquet, and volunteer registrations must be made online or via the forms sent by the Ohio Trucking Association through email and are due no later than **Friday, April 21, 2023**. Payment is due at time of registration. No refunds will be given after this date except in extreme circumstances.*

Truck Driving Championships Contestant Certification

All contestants must certify that during the twelve months prior to the 2023 TDC:

- ✓ A driver must be employed by their entering motor carrier, and away from work no more than 30 days starting August 15, 2022 until May 19, 2023. The following days should not be counted towards a driver's 30 days. *Note that sick days must be counted towards a driver's 30-day count.*
 - Normal days off, vacation and holidays to which the driver is entitled by company policy.
 - Bereavement leave resulting from a death in the immediate family is limited to two days.
 - Jury service properly verified to the employer.
 - An assignment as a member of the America's Road Team or the Road Team of an ATA-affiliated state trucking association.
 - A driver's birthday.
- ✓ the driver has not been involved in a fleet motor vehicle or motor carrier vehicle accident in the course of such employment;
- ✓ the driver has the proper class Commercial Driver's License (not required if the applicant is a SVDC applicant), as well as required endorsement(s) for the class of competition in which the driver is registered;
- ✓ the driver holds a CDL from or occupationally domiciled in the state of Ohio. "Occupationally domiciled" means that the terminal, garage, or other operating base from which the driver normally works is supervised;
- ✓ The NTDC and Ohio TDC Committee recognizes the two off years (2020 / 2021) as retirement years, thus no driver will need to retire from a class in the 2023 TDC Season;
- ✓ the driver has not received any form of pay, bonus, prize, or other consideration for time spent in practice as set forth in the ATA Truck Driving Championships Rules and Procedures, State and National;
- ✓ the driver agrees that, if the driver competes and wins the Ohio TDC, that driver will compete at the National TDC or SVDC (as applicable), unless disqualified or detained due to a medical emergency, in which the driver will notify the Ohio Trucking Association immediately; and
- ✓ the driver acknowledges that any misstatement made with respect to the driver's eligibility for the TDC or SVDC competition may result in the forfeiture of the driver's right to complete, or in the disqualification from said competition.

Companies will complete the 2023 Ohio Trucking Association Truck Driving Championships registration spreadsheet or register their drivers online at ohiotrucking.org. The safety manager of that company will certify on the registration form that the registered drivers meet the above qualifications. Copies of the MVR or CDL license are not required.

Summary of Contestant Ground Rules and Expectations

Registration & Orientation

All TDC contestants must report to the Kilimanjaro Ballroom on Friday, May 19, 2023, by 8:00AM for registration and orientation. Failure to register or attend orientation will result in disqualification, unless the reason for absence given from a company representative is deemed acceptable by the majority of the Ohio Trucking Association TDC Steering Committee. If the driver in question is from a Steering Committee Member's company, a different company representative must plead the driver's case if available.

Attendance

All TDC contestants must attend all roll calls; initial roll call will be on Friday, May 19, 2023 at 8:00AM for *all* contestants. Any additional roll calls will be sent to competitors and volunteers via email prior to the event. Bullpen volunteers will conduct roll calls for drivers throughout the competition.

Written Exam

All TDC contestants will be required to complete the written exam on Friday, May 19, 2023 at 8:30AM. The Ohio Trucking Association strongly recommends studying the American Trucking Association's *Facts for Drivers Handbook*.

Classes

Drivers must report to their designated class area at least 20 minutes before their competition. An announcement will be made concerning these times.

The day on which a driver class will compete will depend on the number of registrants in that class. Half of the classes will complete their pre-trip and course competition on Friday, and the remaining classes will complete their pre-trip and course competition on Saturday. Drivers and safety managers will be notified via email of their course and pre-trip competition days no later than two weeks prior to the Truck Driving Championships.

Each class of drivers will remain together during their day of competition. Drivers will be advised when and where to report after all registrations are received and classes are assigned their pre-trip and course test day (either Friday, May 19, 2023 or Saturday, May 20, 2023).

The room to which classes are assigned for both pre-trip and course events will be clearly marked outside of the room, as well as in the final agenda sent out before the event.

If a contestant has a concern or problem, it is to be reported to their bullpen volunteer, a course or pre-trip judge, or an Ohio Trucking Association staff member. These individuals will be marked as such on their name badges. These individuals will then notify the TDC chairman and/or the committee if necessary.

All contestants must report back to the area they are advised to go to after finishing their pre-trip or course event. Drivers are not permitted to leave a designated area until a TDC representative has instructed them to do so.

Teams

Teams will consist of all drivers from the same company. Terminal teams are not permitted.

- ✓ Teams consisting of 3-4 drivers will be entered in the Small Team Competition, and only the top three competitors' scores will be considered.
- ✓ Teams consisting of five or more drivers will be entered in the Large Team Competition, and only the top five competitors' scores will be considered.

Meals

All drivers receive breakfast on Friday morning; those drivers completing their pre-trip and course competition on Friday will also receive lunch that day. Competitors completing their pre-trip and course competition on Saturday will receive breakfast Saturday morning.

Audience

Spectators, including families and drivers (when not competing), are welcome to enjoy the Kalahari Resort during their free time. Drivers are also welcome to watch the driving course portion of the competition when not competing. *Please note that family members are not permitted inside the competition areas or restricted areas unless escorted by a committee or staff member, and only in the event of an emergency.*

Safety Protocols

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, are waiting for COVID-19 test results, have COVID-19 symptoms, or if you have had close contact with a person who has tested positive for or who has symptoms of COVID-19, please do not attend the 2023 Ohio Truck Driving Championships.

Code of Conduct

Professionalism is required of all contestants, judges, volunteers, staff, and company and industry representatives. The Code of Conduct must be adhered to at all times.

1. No alcohol is permitted in or around the competition area during the entire event; alcohol must not be consumed at any time during competition days, until the competition is over.
2. Kalahari Resorts & Conventions is a smoke-free area. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas.
3. No abusive or profane language will be tolerated.
4. Respect will be shown to all fellow contestants, judges, and volunteers.
5. No destruction of personal or private property will be tolerated.
6. All contestants and their families are expected to behave responsibly and in a professional manner.
7. Cell phones are not permitted to be with the driver at any time during the competition (including written test, pre-trip or course competition). Volunteers must take calls outside of the competition area.
8. Any driving accident will result in immediate disqualification.
9. For all situations not addressed in this code, or for more stringent company policy, please see your company official or representative for clarification.

Violation of the Code of Conduct will result in immediate disqualification from this year's event. If a driver has completed any or all of the competition when the violation occurs, the driver's scores will be voided. Company officials will be notified and, depending on the severity of the violation, an individual or company may be denied entry in further TDC events.

The Contestant Ground Rules and Expectations and the Code of Conduct have been implemented to ensure safety for drivers, their families, and volunteers, as well as fair and equal opportunities for all drivers competing.

Tentative Truck Driving Championships Schedule

Note that we will be running a continuous schedule on Saturday!

Friday, May 19, 2023

6:30-8:00AM	Breakfast	Orange Room
8:00AM	Registration	Kilimanjaro Ballroom
8:30-9:30AM	Written Test	Kilimanjaro Ballroom
10:00AM	Group 1 Reports to Course Bullpen	
10:00AM	Group 2 Reports to Pre-Trip Bullpen	
11:30-1:00PM	Lunch	North Pathway
1:00PM	Group 1 Reports to Pre-Trip Bullpen	
1:00PM	Group 2 Reports to Course Bullpen	

Groups 3 and 4 are released for the day following the written test.

Saturday, May 20, 2023

6:00-7:00AM	Breakfast	Orange Room
7:00AM	Group 3 Reports to Course Bullpen	
7:00AM	Group 4 Reports to Pre-Trip Bullpen	
6:00PM	Reception & Awards Banquet	Kilimanjaro Ballroom

Times subject to change based on competition pace

Additional Information

Facility Information

Driving Course and Pre-Trip Information

The driving course is outside; please dress appropriately according to the weather. Bleachers will be available; spectators are permitted to bring their own chairs..

Drones

Flying drones in and around the Ohio Truck Driving Championships competition is strictly prohibited unless you have received prior, written approval from the TDC Chairman.

Outside Food and Beverage Policy

All food and beverages associated with the Ohio Truck Driving Championships must be provided, prepared and served by the Hotel and must be consumed on Hotel premises. Absolutely no food or beverage is permitted to be brought into the Hotel unless provided and served by Kalahari.

Hotel Information

Hotel Reservations

All competitors will book their room reservations through their company representative as listed on their competitor registration sheet.

For companies booking fewer than ten sleeping rooms, contact:

Kalahari Reservation Department
877-525-2427 or book online [here](#)

For companies booking more than ten sleeping rooms, contact:

Jerry Simon, Director of Sales
419-433-7081
jsimon@kalahariresorts.com

Room availability is on a first come, first serve basis and will sell out very quickly, so we urge you to book as soon as possible. All reservations must be made on or before Friday, April 14, 2023. When contacting Kalahari, make sure that they are aware you are calling for the "2023 Truck Driving Championships" room block.

The sleeping room rate starts at \$154/night. Please be aware of all deposit and cancellation policies.

Hotel Key Pickup

Company representatives should direct each competitor to check-in directly with the front desk. If you have any questions regarding check-in, please call the Kalahari Reservation Department at 877-525-2427.

Water Park and Amenities Information

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions houses one of the largest water parks in the country. To ensure that all families enjoy these facilities, each sleeping room reservation receives four complimentary water park passes. Additional passes may be purchased.

All guests in the Ohio Trucking Association Truck Driving Championships room block will also receive complimentary wireless internet in guest rooms and convention center and 20% off at Spa Kalahari.

Volunteer Information

Registration

Volunteers will need to register through their company via the form sent to their company's representative by email or online at ohiotrucking.org.

Meals

Volunteers will receive meals on the days that they work except for the banquet on Saturday night, for which they must pay the standard banquet meal price. The banquet registration deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023.

Banquet Information

Drivers

Each driver competing receives one banquet ticket as part of their registration fee. Drivers will be seated with their company.

Family Members and Guests

Family members and guests must have a banquet ticket, which can be purchased online or using the banquet registration form. The banquet registration deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023.

Volunteers

Volunteers must purchase a banquet ticket if they wish to attend the banquet. These tickets can be purchased online or using the banquet registration form. The banquet registration deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023. Volunteers will be seated with their company.

Dress Code

The dress code for the banquet is business professional; a photographer will be present to take pictures of the audience as well as sponsors and award winners.

Truck Driving Championships Sponsorship Information

Our Truck Driving Championships are made possible by both event-specific sponsors and year-round Ohio Trucking Association sponsors. **To become a sponsor, please contact OTA President & CEO Tom Balzer at 614-653-0290 or tom@ohiotrucking.org.** Sponsorships are sold on a first come, first serve basis.

Lunch Sponsor - \$3,000 (2)

- Two tickets to Saturday night banquet
- Featured on all signage, all programs, and banquet presentation

Breakfast Sponsor - \$2,500 (2)

- Two tickets to Saturday night banquet
- Featured on all signage, all programs, and banquet presentation

Class Sponsor - \$2,000 (9)

- Two tickets to Saturday night banquet
- Featured on all signage, all programs, and banquet presentation
- Featured on class Eagle awards
- On-stage presence for award presentation

After Hours Social Sponsor - \$1,000 (1)

- One ticket to Saturday night banquet
- Featured on all signage, all programs, and banquet presentation

Banquet Cocktail Hour Sponsor - \$1,000 (1)

- Featured on all programs, banquet presentation, and event signs

Driver Coffee Break Sponsor - \$500 (5)

- Featured on signage near coffee stations

National Truck Driving Championships

All first-place winners in each class, as well as the Grand Champion, will be eligible to go to the National Truck Driving Championships held August 16-19 in Columbus, Ohio. Driver companies will be advised of the cost of registration and the driver will be given a packet of information. The American Trucking Association's NTDC registration form must be completed, and a check must be sent to the Ohio Trucking Association for the registration to be forwarded to ATA along with registration information.

Kalahari Conventions Map

