

Rock and Road Soapbox Derby

BUILDING RULES AND REGULATIONS

This unique non-motorized racing event challenges amateur racers to design and build gravity-powered soapbox cars to compete against the clock in a downhill race. Not to be confused with the National All-American Soapbox Derby, The Soapbox Derby is a race for amateur drivers, which is fueled by creativity and family fun. The following Rules and Regulations are not intended to hinder any creativity but rather allow for a safe race for both the drivers and spectators. Please note this is not a professionally hosted derby. This derby is a charitable event led by amateur volunteers with an emphasis on FUN!!!

Rules for ALL teams:

1. This Derby is for “home-built” racers only. “Kit or Pre-Fabricated Cars” may be permitted to race but are ineligible for any awards. All Cars must be gravity powered with no engines or other sources.
2. Mandatory Car Dimensions must be followed. See the ‘MANDATORY CAR’ Dimensions.
3. Cars must run on two front and two rear (4) wheels. All wheels must touch the ground at all times.
4. Cars must be equipped with Steering and a Brake.
5. Cars must be equipped with Steering “Stop Blocks”. Stop Blocks prevent over-steering.
6. A properly fitting helmet must be worn. Bicycle, motorcycle, or football helmets are acceptable.
7. All cars are subject to inspection before the race and can be disqualified from racing.
8. Each driver is required to wear a helmet that is secured to their head by a strap. At a minimum, helmets must meet bicycle helmet standards. Full-face helmets are recommended. Closed toed shoes and other protective gear are recommended.
9. "Head First" driver/passenger positions will not be allowed, due to higher risk of injury.
10. All drivers and team members must sign a liability and photo release form prior to racing. Failure to do so will result in drivers not being able to race.
11. All drivers must be present with their vehicle at the time of inspection on race day.
12. All cars must start by gravity without aide from a standstill, at a starting line or a starting ramp on the track, positioned so that their foremost parts, or noses, are the starting points.
13. A total of 34 teams will be allowed for the 18 and under category and 32 total teams for the 18 and up category.
14. Under 18 category: The top 8 teams, based on time, will advance to the head-to-head, single elimination round. Head-to-head race matches will be drawn at random. Top 8 will eliminate to top 4. Top 4 will eliminate to top 2. Final race will determine the overall 18 and under category champion.
15. 18 and up category: The top 4 teams, based on time, will advance to the head-to-head, single elimination round. Head-to-head race matches will be drawn at random. Top 4 will eliminate to top 2. Final race will determine the overall 18 and under category champion.

EXCLUSIVE TO 18 & UP TEAMS:

1. Teams must consist of four people including the driver (5 people) and you'll need all of them to get a good push at the start line. No more than two people can be in the Soapbox for the downhill portion of the race. Pit crew can only push as far as the start line - the driver and co-driver are on their own after that!
2. All team members are required to have coordinating outfits coordinating with their car theme.
3. Team themes must be appropriate for public viewing. The Rock and Road Soap Box Derby has the right to void a team's participation with no refund if their theme is deemed inappropriate.

MANDATORY CAR DIMENSIONS

- **Axle Length (front & rear)** Maximum 5 Feet *from 'outside-to-outside' of wheels*
- **Protrusion of Axle Beyond Wheel Hub** Maximum 1" Length Overall
- **Under 18 Age Groups** Maximum 'Overall' Length is 7 Feet
- **18 & Up Age Group** Maximum 'Overall' Length is 8 Feet
- **Wheelbase (front to back axle measurement)** Minimum 40" Ground Clearance (Bottom of Floorboard to ground) Minimum 3", Maximum 7" *Care must be taken to keep the center of gravity as low as possible.*
- **Width** Maximum of 6 Feet
- **Height** Maximum of 5 Feet
- **A tow hook/eyelet at front of the car to allow for car return to start line pit area if advancing to next round**

TESTING YOUR CAR

Please try to perform testing of your car before the day of the race. Even more important is having your driver get comfortable behind the wheel. You can start testing well before the car is completed by running the car on flat or slightly inclined surfaces. When the car is completed, test it at higher speeds. Make brake tests where there is no danger if they fail or if the car starts to skid. Let the driver get used to the car and learn to control it so that it runs in a straight line before the big day.