



2017 Soap Box Derby

Instructions & Rules

Limit of Entries

The Sights & Sounds Soap Box Derby Committee has limited the number of entries to 50 vehicles.

General Instructions

Do not start building your soap box until your entry form has been accepted.

Since ramp starting will be used, you **must** build your car so that it conforms to the minimum and maximum dimensions on the attached rules and sketches.

Proof of age will be necessary, and must be shown to the scrutinizers when your vehicle is inspected. All participants must be at minimum eight (8) years old on derby day.

Your car will be issued an officially approved sticker after it has passed inspection. No alterations to your car will be allowed after the sticker is issued.

In all cases where a decision is required, the Race Judge's decision will be made. If this does not resolve any issue, then the Grand Race Marshall will be asked to decide and that will be final.

It is expected that all drivers and people in their pit crew will act in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Anyone who does not uphold the requests of the Race Officials may be expelled from the race.

There will be Race Officials along the race course to ensure participants stay within their lanes and to ensure that fair racing is maintained.

There will be two Starting Officials to ensure fair starts.

There will be two Race Officials at the finish-line; the first car to cross the finish line will win.

If your car needs repair during the races and you are called upon to race, you will be given one run's grace (or about ten minutes). You must be ready when your number is called for a second time however, or you will be eliminated. This action must be taken as to not slow the race schedule.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

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A JOINT INITIATIVE INVOLVING HANOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT AREA AND TOWN OF HANOVER



2017 Soap Box Derby

Instructions & Rules

On race day, the Grand Race Marshall has the authority to reject and eliminate from the race any vehicle which he believes is unsafe, or does not conform to the specifications.

Entries may be disqualified for unsportsmanlike behavior of driver or pit crew.

Protective head gear must be worn during each race. We strongly recommend a snowmobile, bicycle or motorcycle helmet. Rules of the race will be available at the Grand Race Marshall's desk on race day.

The Vehicle – Formula 1340

To maintain fairness and family fun we recommend home built soap box cars ONLY. No professionally constructed entries will be allowed.

In order to ensure a competitive atmosphere, the vehicle must conform to the following specifications. The following rules have been established to ensure better safety of the racers. Some rules that follow are that of the National Soap Box Racing Association.

1. Each entrant must build his/her own soap box, or participate in its construction.
2. The total receipted value of the vehicle (excluding the wheels) cannot exceed \$ 250.00. Receipts must be given for all purchases or donations put towards the construction of the vehicle.
3. The vehicle length will be no longer than 80" (inches).
4. Minimum ground clearance of 3" (inches) and a maximum of 7" (inches) when the driver is seated in the vehicle.
5. Minimum wheelbase of 48" (inches) and a maximum of 54" (inches) - the distance between the center of the front and rear wheels of the left and right wheels.
6. Front and rear axles must be the same width and must not rotate. The width between the wheels must be between a minimum of 30" (inches) and no more than 36" (inches) maximum - no exceptions.
7. The soap box height will be no taller than 28" (inches) from the ground.

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8. The soap box must have an effective braking system. We require a drag brake which is easy to operate and which will stop the vehicle quickly and safely. It must be possible to operate the brake without losing control of the vehicle.
9. The steering apparatus must be enclosed as nearly as possible by the body of the soap box and shall include limit devices which prevent the front wheels from rubbing the body or frame.
10. The body of the vehicle must be made of wood, fiberglass or plastic ONLY (NO METAL). The body must not enclose the seating area and must permit free use of the hands and arms (no enclosed cockpits).
11. The head cannot be confined by the vehicle.
12. No sharp edges or protruding objects on exterior or interior.
13. Weight of driver and car (must not exceed **200 lbs.**)
- 14. The car number must be visible from both sides and front of the vehicle.**

Note: Cars must use wheels supplied by the Sights & Sounds Soap Box Committee. These wheels will be available during registration dates or any alternative times set by the Sights & Sounds Soap Box Derby Committee. When the Safety Inspection has been completed we will apply a Certified Sticker, stating that your soap box meets all the specifications required for a fair and fun day.

The Race

The course will be on 10th Street hill, starting at 9th Avenue.

You are advised to be at the staging area with your car at least two hours prior to race time for final registration [9th Avenue (one way street)]. Once cars are inspected, practice runs will be allowed, as time permits.

All cars will be started from a ramp. False starts will be called only if the Starting Judges feel an advantage from the start was made. Each car will have at least two runs, each time changing lanes when possible.

The order of the first round racing shall be determined by a draw.



2017 Soap Box Derby

Instructions & Rules

Cars will be returned after each race to the staging and pit area.

Drivers and cars must be ready to race when their name is called.

If an odd number of cars are left to race, the odd car will be entered into the last race in that particular round.

Any further instructions will be made on race day at the drivers meeting prior to race time.

Final Inspection on Race Day

Alterations as determined at safety pre-inspection and qualification must be completed for inspection and approval on the day of the race in order to qualify.

Safety, inspection and qualification of the vehicle - Inspector will check the following:

The driver of the soap box must be in attendance of the safety, inspection and qualification, at which time the following will be confirmed:

- Proof of age of the driver
- Proper fitting of helmet
- Weight of driver and car (must not exceed **200 lbs.**)
- Inspection of the vehicle so that it conforms to all the rules and regulations.
- Brakes (a test of the brakes will be performed)
- Strength of the frame
- Fastening and securing of the axels and wheels
- No sharp edges or objects
- NO ALTERATIONS to wheels or bearings will be allowed, including excess use of oil

Any car that does not comply will have to be altered prior to race time.

A final note

1. Changes to cars: Absolutely no changes may be made to any car once it has been inspected and received the approval sticker.



2017 Soap Box Derby

Instructions & Rules

Anyone found making changes to his/her car during the course of the race will be automatically disqualified and eliminated from the remainder of the race.

This shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. Removal of, or addition to, weight of the car – ex. Sandbagging.
- B. Removal of, or modification to, body panels or structure of the car.
- C. Changing to a second set of wheels.

In the event of damage to a car, for example where the driver hits a curb, repairs can be made (to the extent that as little work as necessary is done to allow the car to continue racing) and it must pass safety inspection before continuing.

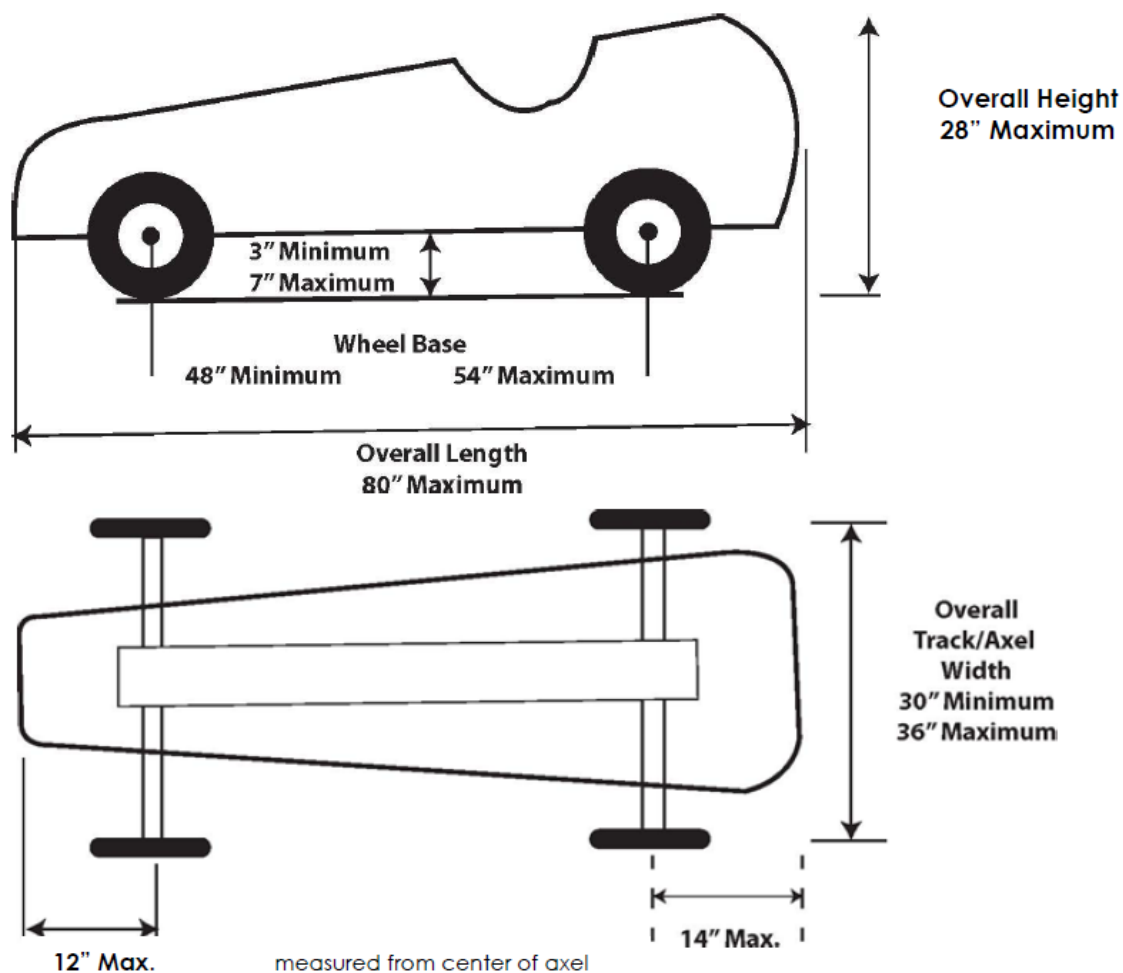
2. Conduct: We would appreciate both drivers and pit crew, including parents, to act in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Race Officials will attempt to make sure that vehicles are running according to regulation and that all races are run in a fair manner. Race Officials' decisions are final. Race Officials have the right *to disqualify driver, vehicle or pit crew at any time for inappropriate behavior.*



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Soap Box Derby Car Specifications



Maximum weight with driver = 200 lb



WHEELS
8" Diameter
1/2" Axle