



## **2017 Rock 'N August Father's Day Soapbox Derby**

Presented in support of the *Alberta Diabetes Foundation*

**(CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW FOR 2017)**

**Sunday, June 18, 2017  
Safety Rules & Regulations**

## Introduction

The 2017 Father's Day Soapbox Derby is for "Go-kit" Cars only. In the following pages you will find the specifications for the racers, and safety specifications. All soapbox cars must be inspected at one of our inspection nights Tuesday June 13 or Thursday June 15, 2017 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm each night. (Scheduled for Leo Nickerson Elementary School, 10 Sycamore Ave, St. Albert). Any soapbox cars not passing inspection must be re-inspected before racing on race day.

**Note to ALL Racers: Although you may have been inspected and passed, the Race Director reserves the right to re-inspect and disqualify ANY cart that does not meet safety standards on the day of the race.**

**Waiver:** Everyone must have their 2017 Father's Day Soapbox Derby Insurance Waiver signed and submitted in order to race!

You may email completed scanned waivers to [StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com](mailto:StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com) . Please put the racer's name in the subject line of the email: *"Waiver: Bob Smith"*

**Registration:** Registration is on a first come basis. Space is limited, so don't delay. Boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 12 **ON** June 18, 2017 are eligible. Depending on age, each child will be placed in their respective age group. There are three categories to compete in; 6-7 year old, 8-9 year old, 10-12 year old.

You may email completed scanned registration to [StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com](mailto:StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com) . Please put the racer's name in the subject line of the email: *"Registration: Bob Smith"*

Payment is accepted by cash, cheques or credit card. See details on the 2017 Registration Form.

**BY MAIL:** Rock 'N August  
PMB 121  
3-11 Bellerose Drive  
St. Albert, AB T8N 5C9

**CHEQUE:** Mail Cheques and registration to **"Rock 'N August"**

### **CREDIT CARD: (MC/VISA/AMEX)**

Include details on your registration and fax to 780-450-0186 Attn: Cheryl MacKenzie or email to [StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com](mailto:StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com). If you would prefer NOT to include your credit card information on the form, you may contact Cheryl MacKenzie, 780-907-1034, and she will take your payment over the phone.

### **CASH:**

If you would like to make cash payment, please email us at [StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com](mailto:StAlbertSoapboxDerby@gmail.com) and make arrangements **OR**, during business hours of Monday- Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm you may drop your registration off at DK Sparklean at **8 Riel Drive**, St Albert. PLEASE do not send cash by mail.

# Official Rules and Regulations for the 2017 Father's Day Soapbox Derby

## REQUIREMENTS (Subject to Inspection prior to Race Day):

1. All parts in the "Go-Kit" must be used to assure equal chance by all racers competing with the special allowance on wheels noted in number 2 below.
2. Wheels must not be altered or exchanged for different style or brand. No changing of bearings, shaving of tires, covering of wheel hubs, or any alterations whatsoever is permitted; **except** lubrication and painting.

**NOTE:** You may purchase locally sources plastic tires for your cart. Although they will not be branded as derby wheels, they must match the diameter specifications of the tires that originally shipped with your kit. They may contain NO additional modifications including but not limited to bearings, metal parts etc. Tires are subject to inspection.

3. Gravity is the only form of power allowed.
4. Cars must run on four wheels; two fronts and two rears. All wheels must have contact with and touch the ground at all times when racing.
5. The base of the car must be constructed from 5/8" plywood; neither MDF nor Particle Board is acceptable.
6. Feet must be in forward position with legs extended when driver is in racing position.
7. Seat belts are required. They must be safely attached to the floorboard or frame member **and include two (2) shoulder restraints and a waist restraint.**
8. A properly fitting helmet must be worn. Bicycle, motorcycle, football or hockey helmets are acceptable. Full face protection is preferred.
9. Drivers must wear shoes during competition (Flip flops and sandals are not allowed). Wearing gloves, elbow and/or knee pads are optional but preferred.
10. Brakes must be one of the four designs provided in the kit. Brakes must be capable of stopping the car in a short straight line, with no damage to the road surface.

ALTERNATE brake options may be used based on prior approval of the Race Director. They must demonstrate full braking capability at inspection.

11. Steering must be by wheel; circular or other design are acceptable.
12. A roll bar high enough to protect the driver's head while seated in the car in the unlikely event of a roll-over. Roll Bar must exceed the height of the driver while wearing helmet and seated in the cart.

As seen in prior races, even with all of the precautions, roll overs do sometimes occur. It is very important to provide protection against potential whiplash. Provide an adequate head rest for the driver.

13. **UNDER REVIEW** - The weight of the cart alone must meet a minimum weight of 60lbs and not exceed 140lbs (Drivers will not be included in the weight in 2017). Weight may be added to the cart subject to safety review as long as the overall weight is within guidance. If the Race Director OR Inspectors deem the weight to be unsafe or improperly secured, you will be requested to remove the weights prior to entering the cart into the race.

NOTE: Loading weights on the extreme front of the cart will be considered dangerous and at the discretion of the inspector, you may be requested to relocate or remove any additional weights added to the cart.

14. The length of the car cannot exceed 53 inches. (Staging Physical Limit)
15. No sharp protruding objects or design elements may be attached to any side of the car. (At the discretion of Inspectors – Safety is first priority)
16. Care must be taken to keep the center of gravity as low as possible to prevent roll overs.
17. The overriding requirement in any soap box race is safety. Mishaps do occur, of course; but it's your obligation to build a car which is safe to ride, and presents minimal danger to the driver and spectator; if an accident should occur.
18. Keep in mind that safety of others is important and the design of the front of the racer should be kept from being too dangerous in a collision.

### **EXPANDED RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following provides safety “recommendations” in building your Derby Cart and outfitting your Racer. They are provided based on 5 years of running the event and observing the operations of the Derby Carts and their Drivers.

*Please remember that this is an at speed event. Carts will travel at a rate of 20-40km per hour by the time they reach the midpoint of the hill. Impact with any object may cause forward motion of the driver and precautions are recommended.*

**HELMET:** Helmets are a required personal safety item. The type of helmet, although at the parent/guardian’s discretion, is recommended to be one that provides full face protection. Helmets such as Hockey Helmets, Motorcycle or BMX Full Face covered are the best options.

**BRAKES:** You have the choice of a number of designs included in your kit. NOT all designs are suited to all racers. You know your child best. It is recommended to use either the foot pedal brake or single arm brake. Both of these versions allow the racer to keep one hand on the wheel while engaging the braking system. Two handed brakes eliminate that control.

**SEATBELTS:** Seatbelts may be constructed of any material that restrains the driver in their seat for the duration of the race. Based on past performance, it is recommended to use a wide material crossing from shoulder to opposite hip location in each direction. Added protection would be the inclusion of a waist belt. Due to the speed of the event and the chance of a driver sliding forward on the deck of the cart, crotch mounted restraints are to be used cautiously and should be padded if used.

Successfully used materials in the past have included actual retired car “racing” belts; leather belts or suitcase straps cut into two or seatbelts cut out of cars from an auto wreckers. Any of these styles may be secured to the cart with a bolt and washer at each mounting location. ANY belt must be tightly secured around the driver when they are loaded into the chute. Any car to have seatbelts that have deemed to have failed or cannot be secured will NOT be allowed to race. This is at the discretion of the

Official Starter or the Race Director.

## **SCORING**

Scoring will be based on a finish position ranking. Carts finishing in first place will receive 10 points, carts finishing in second place will receive 5 points and carts finishing in third place or not crossing the finish line will receive 1 point.

At the end of regular heats, it will be determined if a run off is required. At that time, the Scoring and Staging Managers will consult and set a run off schedule which will be communicated to the Drivers and their Pit Crews. Scheduling of the Run Off is at the discretion of the Staging Manager.

## **PIT CREW & DRIVER CODE OF 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 all 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.

By entering the Rock 'N August Father's Day Soapbox Derby, you and your pit crew agree to adhere to this code.

Remember, a racers experience is directly related to the role models around them. Finishing the race should be a win for everyone. Embrace the Father's Day Experience and enjoy the day.

***Finally, this is a fun event for the Racers. These guidelines and recommendations are for their safety and to ensure that they enjoy the event from start to finish.***

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you should have any questions about the Information contained in this document, please feel free to contact the Race Director, Cheryl MacKenzie, at 780-907-1034.