



COVID-19 Effects on Soap Box Derby

May 13, 2020

Here is the latest update from the Soap Box Derby, as we continue to closely monitor the status of COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines in place in Ohio, as well as in states where local race programs are staged.

By June 1, we will make a final decision on running the race in July or postponing the event. We will finalize the format for the All-American by June 15 at the latest. When we make a final decision on holding the 83rd FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby in July, we will announce appropriate health and safety protocols.

LOCAL RACE SAFETY SUGGESTIONS

If you are going to host a race, follow your local and state guidelines for social distancing and number of persons at an event. We are seeing outdoor activities open in a smart fashion with hundreds of persons gathering but being safe by social distancing. Please use common sense as your health and safety is our #1 concern.

Here are some ideas for you to think about as you try to make your race as safe as possible for your racers and families.

- Please limit the number of racers in your Local race so you can safely social distance. If you can't safely social distance with your field size, we suggest running the races with separate divisions at different times (ie stock in morning, super stock in afternoon)
- Please limit the number of spectators.
- Please evaluate the following areas when setting social distancing guidelines for your race – pit areas, starting line, run out, return vehicles and racer transport, wheel swaps and finish line timers/scorers.
- When setting the pits for cars, please consider spacing for social distancing and make sure you separate each area by six feet (6').



- When lining up racers in any situation, officials should keep at least four feet between the tail of one car to the front of another car.
- There should be no hugging, shaking hands, playing or gathering.
- When you are at the race, you must wear a mask
- All race directors and parents should have hand sanitizer and urge frequent cleaning and washing of hands.
- Parents should monitor the health of their family. Any family member with a temperature of 100 or higher or other symptoms consistent with COVID should stay home.
- Mark six feet (6') spaces out on the ground in all places that a line may form.
- Consider limiting attendance to racers and two car handlers – one at the bottom and one at top.
- Encourage online race registration (call the office if you need help setting up)
- Limit of two champs per return vehicle, or recommend champs walk up the hill.

RACER PARTICIPATION

B-3.01 A participant must register and compete at the closest Local Race to his or her permanent residence. **If a participant's local race is canceled he or she will NOT be permitted to travel to another local race in 2020.**

There will be no changes in age limits for 2021 competition if local or All-American Soap Box Derby races are canceled in 2020.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our office and staff by emailing soapbox@soapboxderby.org.

Thanks for your continued support of the International Soap Box Derby.