



COVID-19 Effects on Soap Box Derby: UPDATED

June 9, 2020

The International Soap Box Derby continues to closely monitor the status of COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines in place in Ohio, as well as in states where licensed race programs are staged.

After lengthy discussions among the Racing Commission, Rally Commission and Regional Directors concerning racing going forward, here is the latest update.

RACER PARTICIPATION

There will be no changes in age limits for the 2020 - 2021 race season.

There will be no Racers automatically qualified for the 2021 FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship Race.

RALLY SEASON 2020 - 2021

The 2020-21 Rally race season is now open for racing. Although the 2019 - 2020 season ended early, Rally points earned will not carry over to the new season.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

Local racing for 2021 can begin June 29, 2020.

RACE SAFETY GUIDELINES

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.

- 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

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- 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.

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.

