

GRC PRESS RELEASE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Open to any school or youth organization competing in the Gravity Racing Challenge.

Limit 3 entries per school or youth organization. Entries must be submitted online by deadline.

Judging Divisions: Grades 3-5 Grades 6-8 High School

Awards: 1st-3rd Place for each Division

Choice of Contest Categories for any entry submitted:

- 1) GRC Team Experience (car construction, team building, project delivery, competition excitement, etc.)
- 2) The Soap Box Derby (e.g. history, racing, STEM , etc.)
- 3) A Soap Box Derby Editorial
- 4) Our Gravity Racing Challenge Team—a Community Building Experience
- 5) The Soap Box Derby—Impacting Youths’ Lives
- 6) Other topics related to the Soap Box Derby

RULES

- ~ Press Release article must be factual, objective, and concise.
- ~ Article must include a catchy headline and byline with writer’s name, school/youth organization, grade/grade level.
- ~ Length: ½ -1 page Font: Times New Roman 12 font Spacing: Single spaced.
- ~ **Each article must include the following:**
 - A lead paragraph with strong introduction that answers who, what, when, and where.
 - Minimum 2 Informative body paragraphs that provide supportive, concise details to the article that address how and why.
 - Concluding paragraph that provides a captivating summary and takeaway.
 - Correct grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and spelling.
 - Minimum 2 personal or direct quotes from other sources properly cited.
 - One photo with a meaningful caption that is captivating and makes readers want to know more and read the entire article. Caption includes accurate description, proper grammar and complete sentences as well as name of photographer— *Courtesy of _____* or *Photo by _____*

JUDGING RUBRIC

The following rubric will be used for judging. Each rubric category will receive 0-5 points.

Press Release Scoring Rubric	Points Earned
Appealing and informative	0 1 2 3 4 5
Follows news release format	0 1 2 3 4 5
Usage of correct, appropriate grammar and spelling	0 1 2 3 4 5
Article well organized and Information cited correctly	0 1 2 3 4 5
Captivating lead sentence	0 1 2 3 4 5
Photograph with caption	0 1 2 3 4 5
Effective conclusion that ties information together	0 1 2 3 4 5