

Derby Safety Guidelines
4th Annual Squirrel Box Derby

Don't miss the excitement of the upcoming 2010 Squirrel Box Derby. Kids (8-11 years and 12-17 years) will race on Saturday, May 29. Those 18 and over (including businesses) will race on Sunday, May 30.

In order to continue to keep safety our #1 priority, here are some design guidelines, as you begin designing your entry for May 2010:

- 1) Braking System: must affect a minimum of 2 of the 4 wheels that are on the ground. We do not recommend having two independent brake "pedals" for the primary system. The dominant hand/foot may cause the vehicle to start spinning. (We strongly encourage having a back-up breaking system.)
- 2) Steering System: must affect 2 of the 4 wheels that are on the ground. Try to design to prevent over-steering that can lead to flipping over.
- 3) To protect the head and/or prevent falling out: a DOT-approved helmet is **MANDATORY**. We HIGHLY RECOMMEND a roll bar/cage or designing the back of the kart so that it is higher than the driver's head (in case the kart flips). We REQUIRE a safety belt/restraint.
- 4) Towing capacity: we are REQUIRING that you include towing hooks (eye screws) either at the back or front end for towing up Jailhouse Hill.
- 5) The propulsion of the derby car is solely driven by gravity. Spring-loaded and shifting, or artificial starting devices are not allowed.

Other entry requirements:

- Overall footprint dimensions cannot exceed 32 square feet.
- Wheel base needs to be wider than the height of the vehicle body.
This does not include lightweight safety apparatus (i.e., roll bar, windshield).
- Total maximum weight (driver & vehicle): 250 lbs. (ages 8-11), 350 lbs. (ages 12 and above).
- Hand-built and must incorporate some form of bodywork.

Besides the mandatory DOT-approved helmet, we REQUIRE that drivers wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts/jackets, long pants, and

closed-toe shoes. We encourage children and youth to wear elbow pads, as well. Major road burn can be avoided with proper clothing.

(Standard derby kit cars will need modification to meet our safety standards. We encourage you to create your own design.)

ALL DRIVERS AND VEHICLES WILL BE INSPECTED BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO COMPETE.

ALL DRIVERS WILL BE TESTED IN USING THEIR BRAKING SYSTEM EFFECTIVELY.

EVERY DRIVER IS REQUIRED TO DO A TRIAL RUN BEFORE COMPETING. Additional runs may occur based on time available.

Don't forget those creative designs for the nuttiest or squirreliest categories!

Applications will be available in March on our website:

www.brevardnc.org

Please return by the May 20 deadline.

No alterations/additions/deletions can be made to the vehicle once it passes inspection (exceptions for safety will have to be cleared with the Emergency Safety Director and HOB Director).

Build them SAFE first, FAST second.

Please contact Heart of Brevard 884-3278 or
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