



# GRAND VALLEY CANADA DAY SOAPBOX DERBY



July 1, 2017

**Registration Deadline & Location:**

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Completed registration forms, with photo, to be hand delivered to:  
Grand Valley Community Information Centre - 21 Main Street S.

**Soap Box Derby Car Inspection Day:**

Thursday June 29, 2017 at 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Drivers to bring their car to:  
The Door Youth Centre - 23 Mill Street W.

**Soap Box Derby Race Date:**

Drivers to meet on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 7:00 am at:

The Door Youth Centre - 23 Mill Street W.

Races to begin at 8:00 am

**Divisions**

Little Rascals - Ages 6-8

Derby Dodgers - Ages 9-13

Mighty Raptors - Ages 14-16

Powder Puffs - Moms

Seniors Puffs - 45+

[www.townofgrandvalley.ca](http://www.townofgrandvalley.ca)  
<http://bit.ly/GVCANADADAY>



The Town of Grand Valley  
**CANADA DAY**  
**SOAP BOX DERBY**



### Grand Valley Soap Box Derby ~ Driver Profile

Driver Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Driver Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age (on July 1): \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_  
Car Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Car Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Race History: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Favourite Subjects: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hobbies and Sports: \_\_\_\_\_  
Career Goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
Favourite Colour: \_\_\_\_\_ Favourite Food: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Release Form / Photo Waiver

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am allowing my child \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby, and do hereby release the Town of Grand Valley from any liability. I, and my child, will abide by the rules and regulations of the operation of the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby. Also in consideration for allowing my child to participate in the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby I hereby give, release and discharge the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby, my written permission to copyright or publish all photographs, films, and written material in which the above named minor appears in and / or have written, while participating in the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby event. I further agree that the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby may transfer, use or cause to be used, these photographs, films, and written material for any and all exhibitions, public displays, publications, commercials, art and advertising purposes, without limitation or reservation or any compensation, other than a receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a photo to go with your child's driver profile. All original photos will be returned on race day. Registration forms to be hand delivered to:

**The Grand Valley Community Information Centre**  
**21 Main Street South, Grand Valley ON, L9W 5S8**



For more information, visit our Facebook page:

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## **Grand Valley Soap Box Derby ~ Race Rules & Car Specifications**

### **Race Rules**

1. Soap box cars must meet the Construction and Safety Guidelines as described herein.
2. Participants **MUST** register by June 14, 2017.
3. Your child must be 6 years of age or older to participate as a driver.
4. Participants must arrive at 7:00 a.m. on July 1st. Participants must remain available to race at any time until all of his/her races are finished. Participants who are not available when required to race may be eliminated from further competition.
5. Cars may be inspected prior to each race to ensure they are deemed safe for racing. Ruling by the inspectors shall not be challenged. Cars rejected by the inspector must be removed immediately from the starting location.
6. When racing, drivers must wear shoes and a helmet with chin strap.
7. The race judges' decisions are final and shall not be contested.
8. By virtue of their registration, participants, or the parents/guardians of participants who are minors, have agreed to render harmless the Town of Grand Valley of any consequences arising from participation in the derby.

### **Soapbox Cars**

The design of the cars is up to the builders. Should you be fortunate enough to have access to a soapbox car stored and half forgotten in a barn or attic somewhere, you may be able to use it but all cars for the Grand Valley Soap Box Derby must meet the specifications described herein. Builders should keep in mind that they should be built with the intended driver in mind.

**Trophies will be awarded to the winners!**

REMEMBER TO BE CREATIVE .... Soap box cars will also be judged and awarded trophies in the following categories:

- Engineering
- Most original paint design
- Best novelty soap box car
- Overall best soap box car
- Safest box car



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## **Grand Valley Soap Box Derby ~ Race Rules & Car Specifications**

### **Home-Built Soapbox Car Specifications**

1. Soapbox cars are powered by gravity only - NO ENGINES OR MOTORS
2. The driver must sit in the car, facing forward and control the car using only hands and feet.
3. VERY IMPORTANT - The car must fit the driver. Drivers must be able to get in and out of the car. easily and operate steering/braking in the normal seated position without stretching or straining.
4. The centre of gravity, with the driver in place, should be as low as possible without violating the minimum road clearance (2.5") specification (including brake).
5. Cars must have four wheels. Minimum diameter is six inches. Wheels from manufacturers may not be modified but must be used "as is". Wheels may not be made of wood.
6. Measures must be taken to prevent wheels from departing the cart when in use. Use cotter pins or other positive means to keep the wheels in place.
7. Fasteners used in the steering and brake systems must be prevented from loosening when in use by the use of lock nuts, cotter pins, wire tying or other means.
8. Maximum overall cart length, 72"
9. Maximum wheel base (distance between front and rear axles), 56"
10. Maximum car body width, 40"
11. Maximum axle length, 44"
12. Road clearance to any part of the car, including fasteners, must be 2.5" minimum.
13. Minimize front and rear overhang to prevent getting hung up on the starting ramps.
14. All basic structure parts must be securely fastened to each other using bolts, screws or other suitable hardware. Plywood and solid wood are permitted structural materials. Particle or strand type board is not permitted for any structural part. The basic structure is defined as the chassis on which the driver sits and to which the axles, steering and brake mechanisms, and body shell are attached. The car body or shell may part of the basic structure. It must be made of rigid impact resistant material.
15. Back and forth movement of either front wheel shall be limited to one inch. Stops must be installed to prevent over-steering. Steering movement must be smooth.
16. The cars must have a breaking system capable of slowing the car to a smooth, short and safe straight line stop without damaging the road surface. If using drag clutches, the part touching the road must be made of wood or rubber.
17. Cable links used in steering and brake systems must be secured and not slip under stress.



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## **Grand Valley Soap Box Derby ~ Race Rules & Car Specifications**

### **Home-Built Soapbox Car Specifications (continued)**

18. Adjusting hardware such as turnbuckles must be lock-wired in the final adjusting position.
19. The driver's lower torso, legs and feet should be within the body shell. The driver should not be able to contact the road surface or the wheels when seated in the normal operating position in the car.
20. There shall be no exposed sharp edges or points. Exposed edges that may be contacted by the driver shall be smooth. Protective cushioning material may also be fitted.
21. Cars **MUST** have hooks on the front and back strong enough to pull the cars back up the hill.

### **Additional Important Guidelines \*\***

22. Build a stiff non-flexing basic structure.
23. Try to keep cars light, but tough and strong. **DO NOT ADD ADDITIONAL WEIGHT.**
24. It is recommended to incorporate hand-holds for ease of handling.
25. It is vitally important that the car can be driven repeatedly without steering and brake adjustment.
26. Test the steering and brake mechanisms for strength, repeatable and smooth operation.
27. Test the whole cart on a sloping surface. Make certain, through testing, that the intended drivers can safely operate the car. **PLEASE, DO NOT SHOW UP AT THE DERBY WITH AN UNTESTED SOAPBOX CAR OR DRIVER.**

This specifications sheet may seem daunting, but it isn't. Help is available for any questions you may encounter while building your car. Please contact Mike Cote at [mikecote96@gmail.com](mailto:mikecote96@gmail.com) or 519-216-3463.

Most important ... Have FUN building your Soap Box Car and have FUN spending quality time with your friends and family :)

### **Soap Box Derby Inspection Day**

Thursday June 29, 2017

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Door Youth Centre

23 Mill St. W., Grand Valley

Grand Valley, ON



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## Key Dates & Times to Remember

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## Divisions

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**Cost: Free!**



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