Hunstanton Soap Box Derby 2019
Full rules and specifications

Entry details

1. Teams may consist of up to four crew members, at least one of whom must be over 18 years of age on race day. A maximum of two from the crew may occupy the kart (i.e. as drivers).
2. If two drivers, both must be in the same age category.
3. There are four categories for Soap Box entrants:
   - 10-12 year olds
   - 13-15 year olds
   - Adults 16+
   - Over 65s
   (Ages as of race day)
4. Prizes will be presented to teams finishing first, second and third in each category.
5. In addition there will be one award per category presented to the team judged, in the opinion of the organisers, to have the best decorated/best looking kart - The ‘Concourse de Elegance award’.
6. Soap Box karts must meet the Construction and Safety Guidelines as described herein.
7. Participants must enter online by 6 September. Late entries will not be accepted. Note: there is a maximum entry limit and entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Race day

8. Participants must report to the scrutineering area by the prescribed time*
   - All karts must pass scrutineering before being allocated a race number
   - All karts must be registered and have passed scrutineering by the prescribed time* at the latest.
   - Late arrivals will not be able to take part.
   - No karts will be permitted to race without passing scrutineering.
   - Race numbers will be issued by the Booking-in Team.
9. Racers must be available and ready to race at the starting location at the prescribed time*
   - Racers 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.
   - A listing of drivers will be posted at the Booking-in Area.
   - The number of runs will be decided on the day, but should be at least two (weather/judge's decision dependent).

* Prescribed times will be notified prior to the event
Rules

- When racing, drivers must as a minimum wear suitable footwear and a helmet with chin strap. **No crash helmet = No racing.**
- The race judges’ decisions are final and shall not be contested.
- By virtue of registration, participants, or the parents or guardians of participants who are minors, have agreed to render harmless the Hunstanton Soap Box Derby, the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and volunteers assisting with the event organisers of any consequences arising from participation in the Derby.
- Adults with junior drivers must stay with their children at all times during the event.
- Competitors must follow the precise instruction of the race marshals at all times.
- The minimum age for a driver is 10 years old; no one under 10 may take part in the event.
- Team names judged inappropriate by race organisers will not be accepted and will be changed. Similarly, karts decorated inappropriately may not take part.
- Any crew members deemed to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will result in the whole crew being withdrawn from the competition.

Soap Box kart design

The design of the karts is up to the builders. Remember that the judges will be looking for style and originality. Builders should keep in mind that the Soap Box should be built with the intended driver in mind.

1. Soap Box karts are powered by gravity only – **no engines or motors.**
2. Karts can have one or two drivers.
3. The driver must sit in the kart, facing forward and control the kart using only hands and feet.
4. The kart must fit the driver. Drivers must be able to get in and out of the kart easily and operate steering and braking in the normal seated position without stretching or straining.
5. The centre of gravity, with the driver in place, should be as low as possible without violating the minimum road clearance (8cm) specification (including brake).
6. The kart must have four wheels; **minimum diameter is 15cm.** Wheels may not be made of wood.
7. Measures must be taken to prevent wheels from departing the kart when in use. Use cotter pins or other positive means to keep the wheels in place.
8. Fasteners used in the steering and brake systems must be prevented from loosening when in use by using lock nuts, cotter pins, wire tying or other means.
9. **Maximum** overall kart length, 280cm.
10. **Maximum** wheel base (distance between front & rear axles), 190cm.
11. **Maximum** kart body width, 150cm. **Minimum** kart body width, 50cm.
12. **Maximum** axle length, 140cm.
13. **Minimum** road clearance to any part of the kart, including fasteners, must be 8cm.
14. Minimize front and rear overhang.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. The kart body or shell may form part of the basic structure. It must be made of rigid impact resistant material.
18. Back and forth movement of either front wheel shall be limited to 3cm. Stops must be installed to prevent over-steering. Steering movement must be smooth.
19. The kart must have a braking system capable of slowing the kart to a smooth, short and safe straight line stop without damaging the road surface or making contact with the tyres.
20. Cable links used in steering and brake systems must be secured and not slip under stress.
21. Adjusting hardware such as turnbuckles must be lock-wired in the final adjusting position.
22. We recommend that the drivers lower torso, legs and feet are within a 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 kart.
23. There shall be no exposed sharp edges or points.
24. Exposed edges that may be contacted by the driver shall be smooth. Protective cushioning material may also be fitted.
25. Build a stiff non-flexing basic structure. Try to keep karts light, but tough and strong. Do not add additional weight.
26. It is recommended to incorporate hand-holds for ease of handling.
27. It is vitally important that the kart can be driven repeatedly without steering and brake adjustments.
28. Test the steering and brake mechanisms for strength, repeatable and smooth operation.
29. Test the whole kart on a sloping surface. Make certain, through testing, that the intended drivers can safely operate the kart.

Please do not arrive at the Soap Box Derby with an untested kart or driver!