

## Arkalalah Soap Box Derby Race

Be part of this annual event as we kick-off this year's Arkalalah festival with some old-fashioned fun! The soap box derby race is open to the public, open to all ages, and free to enter.

### **Date:**

Wednesday, October 22nd - Entry deadline is Monday, October 20th, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

### **Time:**

6:00 p.m., contestants must be checked-in by 5:30 p.m.

### **Place:**

Downtown Ark City, check-in and starting line at the corner of Chestnut and Summit

### **Route:**

(See Map) Race starts at the corner of Chestnut Avenue and Summit, steering their way North, down a one-bock long serpentine course and finishing at the corner of Walnut Avenue and Summit Street.

### **Race Rules:**

This is a timed event, limited to one soap box derby racecar at any given time.

Contestants may receive a "push start" by up to a three-person pit crew at the corner of Chestnut Avenue and Summit. Any contestants whose soap box derby racecar is pushed beyond the starting line will have a five-second penalty added to their final time.

Should a contestant become stalled with their soap box derby racecar, they will have the option to be assisted by their pit crew to regain movement. Should assistance be required, a five-second penalty will be added to the contestant's final time.

Any contestant who fails to navigate a turn will have a five-second penalty per missed turn added to their final time. Any contestant who fails to stay within the course outer perimeters will be disqualified.

**Race Categories:** *Only one category entry per driver.*

**Business** – Open to any commercial business, community group, or civic organization with a majority (three of the four) of the team being part of the sponsoring entity.

**Youth** – Open to any team whose soap box derby racecar driver is fourteen years of age or younger. Pit crew team members may be over the age of fourteen.

**Open** - the open category is for any entry which does not qualify for either the business or youth race categories.

### **Soap Box Derby Racecar Rules:**

There are four basic requirements for derby cars and participants:

1. All cars must have four (4) wheels. Each derby car must be gravity powered. No motors, engines or pedals. There is no limitation on size, weight, materials or designs as long as driver and spectator safety is maintained.

2. All cars must have some form of steering. Simple pivot steering is the most basic and common steering system. Basically, the front axle is a solid piece that rotates about a single pivot in the center. The derby will be run on a serpentine course with gradual (not sharp) turns. Please do not design your car to turn on a dime, it is not safe and may cause your car to flip.

3. All cars must include some form of braking system which allow for the racecar to come to a safe and complete stop. Skid pad on the wheels is a very basic, yet very effective braking method. In this method, you set up a pad or brake shoe that rubs against the wheels to stop the car. This is the most preferred method for cars made from scratch because of its effectiveness and simplicity. Another option is caliper brakes on the wheels, like your basic bicycle brakes. This method works great although the construction needs to be fairly concise for the brakes to be effective. Regardless of the braking system that you choose the most important thing is that the car must be able to stop. Good brakes will go a long way in protecting our drivers and those in attendance.

4. All drivers must wear a helmet. Please do not alter helmets in any way that would change their effectiveness. Cars will not be allowed on the track unless the driver is wearing a helmet. Elbow pads are also strongly encouraged.

## **Other Information**

### **Prize Information:**

The contestant with the fastest time for their category will receive a prize. The specifics of the prize shall be solely determined by the Arkalalah Executive Committee. No cash or other prize substitution shall be permitted except at the Arkalalah Executive Committee's discretion. The prize is nontransferable. Any and all prize-related expenses, including without limitation any and all federal, state, and/or local taxes, shall be the sole responsibility of Winner. No substitution of prize or transfer/assignment of prize to others or request for the cash equivalent by Winner is permitted. Acceptance of prize constitutes permission for the Arkalalah Executive Committee to use Winner's name, likeness, and entry for purposes of advertising and trade without further compensation, unless prohibited by law.

### **Rights Granted By Contestants:**

By entering this contest you understand and agree that the Arkalalah Executive Committee, anyone acting on behalf of the Arkalalah Executive Committee, and the Arkalalah Executive Committee's licensees, successors, and assigns, shall have the right, where permitted by law, to print, publish, broadcast, distribute, and use in any media now known or hereafter developed, in perpetuity and throughout the World, without limitation, your entry, name, portrait, picture, voice, likeness, image, statements about the contest, and biographical information for news, publicity, information, trade, advertising, public relations, and promotional purposes without any further compensation, notice, review, or consent.

### **Limitation of Liability**

By entering, you agree to release and hold harmless the Arkalalah Executive Committee, and its subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising and promotion agencies, partners, representatives, agents, successors, assigns, employees, officers, and directors from any liability, illness, injury, death, loss, litigation, claim, or damage that may occur, directly or indirectly, whether caused by negligence or not.

### **Disputes**

THIS CONTEST IS GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND KANSAS, WITHOUT RESPECT TO CONFLICT OF LAW DOCTRINES. As a condition of participating in this contest, participant agrees that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved between the parties, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this contest, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, exclusively before a court located in Kansas having jurisdiction. Further, in any such dispute, under no circumstances shall participant be permitted to obtain awards for, and hereby waives all rights to, punitive, incidental, or consequential

damages, including reasonable attorney's fees, other than participant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (i.e. costs associated with entering this contest). Participant further waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

## Entry Form

Name of Participant

Age

Address

Telephone number

Race Category: Business/Youth/Open

Sponsoring Organization (Needed for Business Category Entries Only – see rules for category descriptions)

Please list identifying information on your car. (Color, name or number)

Name of Parent or Legal Guardian Telephone number

Please check each box as you have reviewed the information.

☐ I have read and understand the rules and regulations of the derby and agree to comply.

☐ My car has been constructed as outlined (has working steering and brakes) and is considered to be eligible to drive.

☐ I agree to conduct myself appropriately, demonstrating good sportsmanship and refraining from inappropriate conduct.

If driver is under the age of eighteen (18) years of age:

I give permission for my son or daughter, \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Arkalalah Soapbox Derby and will not hold the Arkalalah Festival, the Arkalalah Executive Committee, the City of Arkansas City or employees of the Arkalalah festival or City of Arkansas City responsible should an accident occur.

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Signature of Parent or Guardian