

The Ultimate Speed Challenge is an All-American Soap Box Derby sanctioned racing format developed to preserve the tradition of innovation, creativity, and craftsmanship in the design of a gravity powered racing vehicle while generating intrigue, excitement, and engaging the audience at the annual All-American Soap Box Derby competition.

The goal of the event is to attract creative entries designed to reach speeds never before attainable on the historic Akron hill. The competition will consist of three timed runs (one run in each lane), down Akron's 989' hill. The car and team that achieve the fastest single run will be declared the winner. The timed runs will be completed during the All-American Soap Box Derby race week.

The spirit of the rules ensures the following:

- The event must be safe for contestants and spectators.
- The cars must be able to be launched from the existing Akron starting gates and trip the timing equipment.
- The cars must not damage the track facilities or the run-out area.
- The cars are limited to gravity power only and will include no propelling or driving assisting devices of any kind.

Team Selection Criteria: The All-American Soap Box Derby headquarters will accept applications for the Ultimate Speed Challenge during a specified open registration period. All applications must name the Crew Chief and Driver. A registration fee must accompany the application. Only mailed (postmarked) applications will be accepted. Top finishing teams that have participated in the most recent completed Ultimate Speed Challenge will be given registration priority if a valid qualified application is received from the Crew Chief during the open application period. Crew Chiefs will be notified if their application is accepted for participation in the Ultimate Speed challenge. The registration fee will be returned for those applications that are not accepted.

A racing team will consist of a Driver and Crew Chief. The Crew Chief must be an adult and represent the sponsor or owner of the car. The Team Driver must be 16 years through 24 years of age on All-American Soap Box Derby annual race day. The Team Driver must have participated in an annual All-American Soap Box Derby Competition at Derby Downs in Akron, Ohio if their age is less than 18 (minor) on race day. A driver will not be able to compete as an All-American Local (Stock, Super Stock, Master) Champion or Rally (Stock, Super Stock, Master) Champion and the Ultimate Speed division in the same All-American race week. There would be conflicts in the race week activity schedule. A substitute driver can be named if/when it is determined a registered team driver has qualified for the All-American race in another division (Local or Rally). The substitute driver must meet all the Team Driver requirements.

Race Format: During All-American race week teams will compete to determine the annual Ultimate Speed Champion.

Safety: The race car must be constructed so that the driver can maintain a line of sight that assures safe navigation from starting gate to the finish line. Driver must wear approved protective headgear. The driver's head cannot be in front of his feet, no lay forward positions. Wheels can be no larger than 24" diameter. No glass or other materials that would shatter or cause injuries to drivers or spectators can be used in the construction of the car. Braking and

steering systems must pass pre-race inspection and a track test. The car must be able to stop multiple times within 200' without adjustments.

Akron Starting Gate and Timing Light Requirements: Dimensional rules assure that the cars will successfully launch from the Akron starting plates, will not infringe on a competitor's lane, and will cross the finish line triggering the timing equipment consistently. The maximum length of the car is 96 inches, including wheels. The car nose must be the forward most portion of the car body at all times. The nose shall be no sharper than a one inch radius and shall be located on the centerline of the fuselage. The starting ramp paddles must contact and support the car by the nose. The contact patch of the nose and the starting paddle must be greater than 7 inches and less than 9 inches above the ground. The maximum width of the car is 40 inches. A ground clearance must be maintained to insure the car body clears the dropped starting paddle. A wheelbase must be maintained that assures the wheel/ground contact area does not extend over the back edge of the starting plate. In the starting gate all parts of the car and wheels can only contact the starting plate and the paddle. To avoid contact with the reinforcement strip a minimum inside wheel to wheel clearance of 25 inches is needed. Cars must remain stable and have at least 4 wheels touching the ground at all times. A measurement gauge specification will be provided to assist in designing and building a car that will meet the dimensional requirements and limitations of the track facility.

Car Limitations: No propelling devices will be permitted including mechanical, electrical, magnetic or pneumatic or any other device designed to store and release energy. No electrical devices will be permitted. The driver must remain still at all times, except for steering and braking maneuvers. No lunging or other motions intended to assist in propelling the car will be allowed. The driver must be able to easily enter/exit the car in 30 seconds or less. No liquids can be used for ballast. All ballast must be bolted in a fixed condition to the chassis with 5/16" bolts, minimum. Maximum weight of car and driver is 300 pounds. The tread of each wheel must be made from an elastomer and must have a min 1/4" width contact patch with the track. If a drag brake is utilized, the track contact pad must be made of rubber and of sufficient surface area to stop the car as described above.