

St Albert Soap Box Derby Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

What is the estimated cost to race?

Minimum cart construction cost estimate ~\$250, intermediate cost ~\$350 and high end cost ?? The build cost depends on the builder skills, power tools and time available. **Realistically the majority of builds will cost ~\$350. Please read [build options](#) to see the details**

Soap Box recognized builders may have limited time and have constructed “Build Kits” to make building easier. A Basic (uncut plywood) and a Plus Kit pre cut wood plus a braking system, tow hook and registration and GoKit. All builders can attend free Info Build sessions to learn the steps to successful cart construction with build tips and operational suggestions to consider as you build. Example cart builds with different braking options can be found at Fountain Tire St Albert Race HQ.

There is also ask an expert email for builders with build and operational questions at TechBuild@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca

Cart builders have an asset that can be used in multiple race categories in a year and of course used for multiple race years.

What is a GoKit ?

The DERBY**GOKIT*® includes an automotive style steering mechanism, wheels, templates and the instructions needed to build a basic racer.

The use of a GoKit is **mandatory** for participation in St Albert Soap Box Derby.

What is not included in a GoKit is a half sheet of plywood (3/4” recommended), nails, screws, glue and paint. Instructions on brake options are included: parts to build a brake are not. ***St Albert Soap Box Derby also requires a 3-point safety harness, tow bar, roll bar and a helmet.***



Please see [2023 Rules and Recommendations](#) for Race details.

What is a Build Kit – available at Fountain Tire St Albert

To make building easier, Build Kits were created. A Build Kit consists of a GoKit®, plywood, a St Albert Brake, a Tow hook and one registration.

The **Build Kit Basic** has a ½ sheet of ¾ inch plywood.

The **Build Kit Plus** has the plywood cut into 10 pieces for the cart including the roll bar ready for assembly.



What is the St Albert Tread Brake

To make building easier carts easier, St Albert Soap Box has constructed a tread brake. A tread brake works by racer foot motion pushing a rubber tread down onto the road to stop the cart. (like a GT snow racer pushing down into the snow to stop). Thanks Gary Poff !

Racer hands remain on the steering wheel. **This is the St Albert Soap Box Derby preferred option to brake.**



Where can I purchase a Build Kit or the DIY parts for my cart.

Fountain Tire St Albert Race HQ. *Registration is online only.*

Registration Questions

Why do you need the weight (in Kg) of each racer?

Soapbox tries to have equal weight racers with carts in each race heat. Carts are weighed at mandatory Inspection Day one week before race.

Can I register two racers in the same cart in the same age category?

One racer per cart in age category (6-8), (9-11) and (12-14) unless twins.

What do I need to do to Register?

Racers with **existing carts** can go online and pay \$35 registration fee. Fountain Tire is not accepting walk in registrations.

New registration requires knowledge to make some basic decisions. StAlbertSoapboxDerby.ca gets ***you the basic knowledge to be able to register.***

1) You should read all the 2023 updates on stalbertsoapboxdeby.ca and subscribe to get future updates.

2) Depending on your built skills and tools, Soapbox sees three build options. **To register, you need to know which option fits your build.**

- a) Do it Yourself (DIY) estimated time and cost min \$230+? most power tools and skills required.
- b) Build Kit Base lower cost and less time than DIY ~ \$200
Power wood cutting tools required. Harness additional
- c) Build Kit Plus lowest build time and minimal tools \$300. Harness additional

Please note, purchase of a Build Kit **includes registration**. After you pay for a build kit, you need to online to register. Final question payment choice would “part of build kit”.

A reference sheet with details titled [Build options](#) can be found under Build Info. While here, you should also read [2023 Rules and Recommendations](#).

3) Visit Fountain Tire St Albert Race HQ to see some constructed carts.

For more information please check out StAlbertSoapBoxDerby.ca or visit our Facebook or Instagram pages or send a note to Info@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca

What resources are available to cart builders?

- 1) Visit Fountain Tire St Albert Race HQ to see some completed carts and brake options.
- 2) Subscribe to the newsletter on StAlbertsoapboxderby.ca for updates as they are distributed. Read the 2023 updates to get current.
- 3) On the website, Build Info tab has all the documents.

St Albert Soap Box Build Info



Race June 16-17, 2023

- Registration: New racer registration opens Feb 10, 2023
- Race Package
- [GoKits© Brake Options](#) (pdf)
- [Build Kit V1 Update](#) (pdf)
- [Build Options](#) (pdf)
- [Installing the St Albert Brake in a GoKit](#) (pdf)
- Frequently Asked Questions - FAQ's
- [2023 Updated Rules and Recommendations](#) (pdf)
- [GoKits© Information](#) (website)
- [GoKits© Instructions](#) (website)
- [2023 Info Session Flyer](#) (pdf)

- 4) Register and attend one of the Info Build sessions on April 15 and May 20. **Requires reading the GoKit instructions and ideally starting your cart build.**
- 5) If you have **technical or build questions**, please contact techbuild@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca

General Soapbox questions, info@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca please

- 6) A build video is being planned for 2023. When video is completed, it will be announced via update to subscribers/racers.

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