



**UPDATE #7**

**May 19, 2024**

**2024 Soapbox is into our final month of preparations.  
Just 26 days to Race day and 19 Days to Cart Inspection/Driver Orientation**

**Very positive 1<sup>st</sup> Bring your cart session on May 11**

10+ carts along with their build teams (parents and kids) took advantage of the 1<sup>st</sup> offering of Bring your Cart. Parents and kids had the chance to see and sit in other designs, look at race tested adaptations (like feet protectors – 2 by 4's on the outside of the base) and get some hands on experiences.



Top activities included drilling out the front axle “wheel adjustment/alignment” hole, aligning the front wheels with “toe in” and a cart weight check. Some very interesting design options visited the Garys Build garage for this event.

**Q: The basic ¾” plywood build is 40-44 pounds depending on seat/belts.**

The weight of the cart may **not exceed 80lbs** (36.3kg) and **should be a minimum of 60lbs** (27.2 kg). The driver’s weight is not included in the cart weight. *Cart weight for Race weekend is recorded at Cart Safety Inspection/Racer Orientation session.* Combined driver and cart weight is used in the initial race scheduling in age categories.



*Carts are subject to random selection for weighing on race weekend. Soapbox may choose to weigh and inspect any or all carts that qualify for quarter, semi or final races.*

Your Race weekend cart weight is the weight as recorded at the June 8 Cart Safety Inspection/Racer Orientation. **No adding of cart weights AFTER Cart Safety Inspection/Racer Orientation**

**Next 30 days(not counting finishing your cart and some local practice runs)**

**1) 2024 Registration and refund requests closes on Wednesday May 22.**

If you have registered and are unable to participate, if you let us know by May 22, your \$35 registration fee will be refunded.

Soapbox is at just over **170 anticipated racers** for the 2024 Race weekend up from 132 in 2023 and 86 in 2022.

**2) Cart Inspection and Racer Orientation – Saturday June 8 10-2**

Carts are inspected and weighed. Racers go through an individual orientation using their cart. **REQUIRED so your racer(s) can be scheduled to race.**

**NAKI Transit Centre details/maps will come out May 23.**

**Racer scheduling is based on carts/racers who complete and pass on June 8**

Each racer is scheduled for a minimum of three (3) races on June 15.

**3) Racer Scheduling starts June 9 completed by June 12**

A team of three (3) volunteers has been updating the scheduling program so the 2024 volunteer effort (and stress level) is reduced and racer communication is improved.

170 racers get placed in their age categories, sorted into three heats with an attempt to have different racers in each heat. ***Some may get an email if there is a racer registration question – please respond ASAP.*** Volunteer racer results sheets get created to track and record race results. Individual race results get compiled into a series of semifinals and eventually into the final three.

**Racer parents should expect an email with each racer AGE GROUP start time by Wednesday night.** Racers are expected to be in their cart ready to race a minimum of 20 minutes before **start of their AGE GROUP racing.** Once racing starts the racing que moves quickly. When you do the practice race Friday night, you will see the process in action and why being early on Saturday is good for all racers.

**3) Soapbox Walk thru and Practice – Friday June 14 Evening –  
**STRONGLY RECOMMENDED****

Arrive at Race Hill - St Vital Ave, see the area and parking. Visit registration to get your racer/volunteer packages. Unload your cart. Go through what you will do on Saturday (staging check in, staging, ram load, racer in cart.....

Get some practice races in.

**LEAVE YOUR CART ON THE HILL – OVERNIGHT SECURITY ON SITE – Bring a cart cover if you wish.**

For 2024, Friday venue setup officially starts with Road closure at 6PM which is 2 hours later than in 2023.

We are **hopeful that practice racing will start by 7PM** (depending on # of volunteers to help setup)

Race Weekend access maps with parking suggestions shortly.

**4) Race Day - Saturday June 15** – Age Category starting time will be provided after Inspections and Scheduling . usually mid week.

NOTE: 1<sup>st</sup> race 7:30AM in 2023, racers were asked to be ready in their cart to race 20 minutes before Age Group start time. Please allow for extra time to find parking and get your racer(s) to the top of the hill. You know your racer(s) the best. Friday night will give you an idea of how things work.

Anticipate 60-80 other racer parents in the 6-7-8 and 9-10-11 and ~30 in the 12-13-14 categories will be arriving at the same time all trying to have a perfect experience with their young racers. Parking will be tight. **(A very good reason to practice on Friday and have your cart already on the hill – less stress !)**

**5) Volunteers needed June 8, June 14 and June 15.**

Have friends who are interested in helping out at Soapbox Derby, please forward this document to them.

**Volunteers are very welcome, please email**

**[Volunteer@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca](mailto:Volunteer@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca) for volunteer opportunities.**

Take a look at [StAlbertSoapboxDerby.ca](http://StAlbertSoapboxDerby.ca) for additional information and some exciting fun racing videos.

Any general questions, please send an email to [Info@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca](mailto:Info@stalbertsoapboxderby.ca)

2024 St Albert Soap Box Derby Working Group