



AVON DASSETT SOAPBOX DERBY RACE

REGULATIONS AND SOAPBOX

SPECIFICATIONS 2025

These rules are mandatory and part of the conditions of entry to compete in the event. Any prospective competitor refusing or failing to adhere to the rules will not be allowed to compete. They have been designed for the safety of drivers and spectators. Please read them carefully.

THE RACE

Avon Dasset Soapbox Derby for **Juniors** (aged 7-13 on the date of the race) is a time trial with each soapbox having a practice run and timed run. The fastest time wins. The course is on a steep hill with an S bend. Marshals will control the event and spectators and drivers must adhere to their instructions at all times.

Avon Dasset Soapbox Derby for **Adults** (14 and over) is a knockout competition run for soapboxes organised in heats. There will be at least one individual practice run before the heats begin. The course is on a steep hill with an S bend. After the practice run(s), soapboxes run in pairs and the first across the finish line will go forward to the next stage. Marshals will control the event and spectators and drivers must adhere to their instructions at all times.

RACE CATEGORIES

- CLASS A: Juniors (7-13)
- CLASS B: Adults (14 and over)

ONLY ONE DRIVER PER SOAPBOX PER CLASS (An adult and junior may both enter in the same soapbox but not in the same class)

Medals will be awarded to all racers. There will also be prizes for the best decorated/themed soapboxes in the junior and adult races.

Please note there are limited spaces and entries for each class will close once full.

ENTRY FEES

- CLASS A: Juniors – £30
- CLASS B: Adults – £35

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE [HERE](#).

Please submit entry forms online or for a paper copy contact Sarah Richardson, Flat 4 Bitham Hall, Avon Dassett, Southam, CV47 2AH (drsarahrichardson@gmail.com). Information on payment of fees is available on the online form.

KEY DATES

Entries open: **2 February 2025**

Entries close: **21 May 2025**

Race date: **21 June 2025**

SOAPBOX SPECIFICATIONS / CONSTRUCTION

- **ALL** Drivers must travel feet-first
- **Chassis** constructed from metal or wood
- **Bodywork** constructed from GRP, shatterproof plastic, wood, metal or cardboard
- **Motive Power** - The Soapbox must be solely powered by gravity and have no on-board auxiliary energy sources
- **Maximum Width:** 1.2 Metres
- **Maximum Length:** 2.5 Metres
- **Wheels:** Only 4 wheels allowed
- **Seating** - Single seat only. No sidecars.
- **Brakes** - The braking system must be operated by hands and/or feet and act on at least 2 wheels on the same axle.

RULES

Scrutineering will take place on the morning of the event between 9 am and 10 am in the Cemetery Car Park next to Top Lodge in Avon Dassett. Race numbers will only be issued to Soapboxes which have passed scrutineering.

Safety of Construction – It is each entrant's responsibility to ensure their Soapbox meets the regulations and is safe.

Brakes – ALL Soapboxes must demonstrate a low speed "Emergency stop" as part of the scrutineering process.

Clothing – Driver's clothing must cover all arms and legs up to wrists and ankles (motorcycle leathers or clothing preferred). Clothing should be abrasion-resistant.

Crash helmets (full face recommended) must be worn and comply with UK road use regulations. Goggles are recommended if an open-face helmet is being used. (Helmets designed for other sports such as cycling, climbing, skate-boarding, canoeing, etc. WILL NOT BE PERMITTED). Crash Helmets must be presented at scrutineering.

Modifications to be eligible to race – The Scrutineers will specify any changes / modifications necessary to allow any Soapbox to run, prior to any hill runs (practice or race). Scrutineering will concentrate on the effectiveness of brakes, driver safety and general Soapbox construction in terms of being fit for purpose on what is regarded as an arduous hill run including speeds of circa 40mph and sharp bends. (Even if a driver is prepared to run, the organisers have to consider the safety of the spectators.)

Modifications during the event – no modifications are permitted to any

soapbox during the event, other than running repairs. Addition or removal of weight during the event is not allowed.

Soapbox eligibility – The decision of the Scrutineers is final.

Drivers – Senior drivers must complete and sign the Driver Consent Form at registration. Drivers under 18 must have their forms counter-signed by a parent or guardian.

Insurance – All drivers are recommended to have insurance. Specialist soapbox derby insurance may be obtained here:

<https://www.sportscoverdirect.com/insurance/soap-box-racing-insurance/>

RACE REGULATIONS

- **Race format** – Senior racing will take the form of a knockout competition with 2 Soapboxes running at a time. “Byes” may be allocated as required to facilitate a race running order. Seeding will be based on the individual timed practice run. Junior racing will take the form of a time trial on a shorter course. Junior and Senior practice races will take place in the morning with heats and finals after the lunch break.
- **Race results** – The race director’s decision is final and binding.
- **Prize Giving** – will be at the Finish Line at approximately 5 pm.
- The organisers reserve the right to modify the course as required to mitigate risks of any currently unforeseen hazards.
- All drivers are required to walk the course on the morning of the event before taking part in any runs (including practice) and their signature on their entry form implies acceptance to participate in the event on this basis.
- **Accidents** – if there is an accident on the course, the safety car will be sent to the scene. The soapbox(s) involved must be checked by the scrutineer before being able to race on. Drivers must be checked by the first aid team before being able to race on.