

Southern Nomads - SPort Erin



SPORT ERIN
SOUTHERN NOMADS

Soap Box Derby 2011 RULES & GUIDELINES



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1. Carts must be built using the kit provided; substitution or modification of any kit parts is not allowed, except where recommended by the race organisers.
2. **No form of propulsion is permitted.** (No adding a motor, peddles, sails etc.)
3. A braking mechanism must be provided. **Please test out your braking mechanism and ensure it is effective.** Also a steering mechanism is recommended - the course does bend.
4. For racing no part of the carts "superstructure" should be more than 1m from the ground (This is a safety issue). However for display purposes this height can be exceeded so long as these items are removed prior to racing. (Example - if a cart is designed to look like a ship, then masts may be added for display purposes, prior to racing however these masts must be removed). The only exception to the 1m rule is the inclusion of a **"Timing Flag"**
5. This year's timing system works by the carts cutting a "beam" on the finish line, this "timing beam" will be positioned 1m above the ground, in order to cut this beam one part of the cart (or driver) must be a over 1m in height. If the driver (when seated on the cart) is less than 1m in height, a "timing flag" should be included in the design.

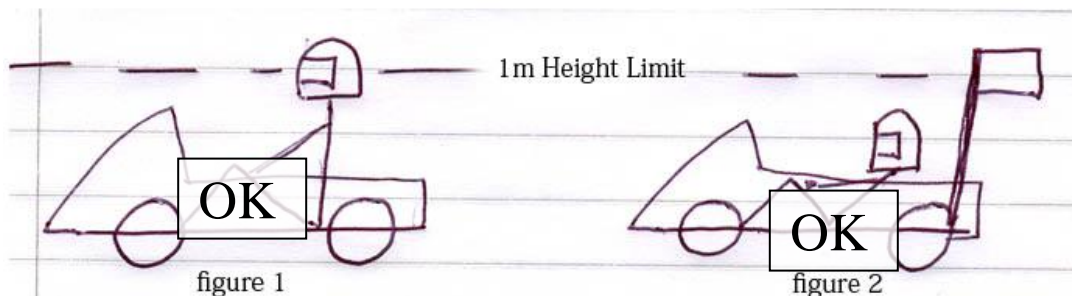
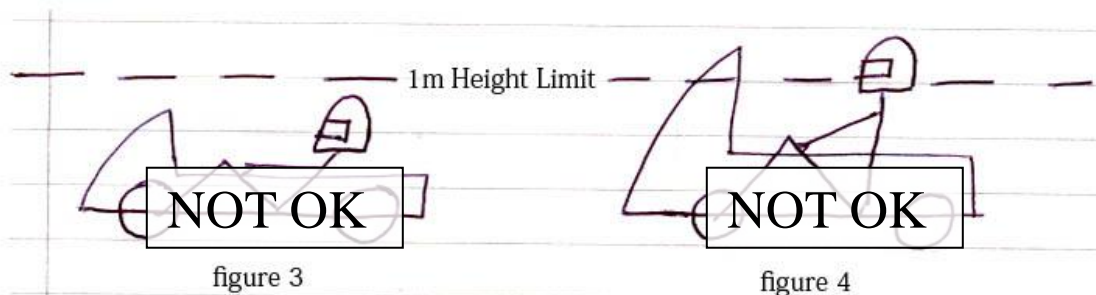


Figure 1 shows the driver positioned to cut the beam. Figure 2 shows the inclusion of a "timing flag" to cut the beam.



*Figure 3 shows no part of the cart or driver above 1m so NO time will be recorded. Figure 4 shows the cart **and** driver above 1m so two times will be recorded and this is not acceptable.*

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- The size of the “timing flag” is required to be about 15cm x 15cm and should be of a stiff construction. (thin plywood or stiff cardboard).
- The “timing flag” may be positioned on any part of the cart.

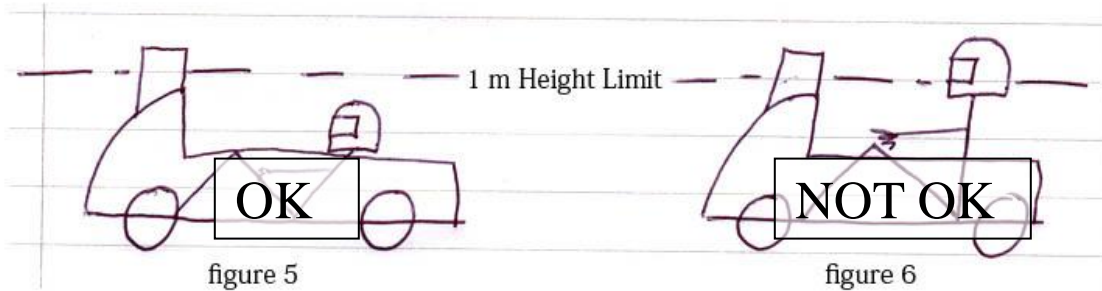


Figure 5, but remember that if the driver is above 1m no flag should be included as this would mean two parts would cut the beam as in Figure 6.

- Teams can nominate **two** drivers; both nominated drivers should be over fourteen years of age on the day of the event **17th July 2011**. (Drivers under 16 must have a parent/guardian signed approval). Nominated drivers must complete the enclosed "nominated driver" form which must be returned by the date specified on the forms. **Only** nominated drivers can compete in the event. (Either one or both drivers may compete on the day)
- All drivers **must wear a helmet, substantial gloves, long sleeved top and long trousers. Elbow and knee pads are highly recommended.**
- A "pit crew" of up to two people should be on hand to provide a "standing push start". The pit crew can be any age. (it may also be an advantage if team members are available to help push the cart back to the start line)
- All carts and drivers must assemble before 12pm on the day of the event at the "scrutineering area" (probably the grass area in front of the Imperial Hotel) any cart failing scrutineering will be disqualified.
- The “Design Trophy” is awarded to the best turned out cart (as decided by an independent judge). Any team winning the design trophy must redesign the cart to make it eligible for the following year, e.g. the same design cannot win more than once.
- All teams are encouraged to modify or completely redesign the look of their cart each year to help keep the event fresh!
- We have nearly fifty teams entered into this year’s Soapbox Derby so we need to make sure that everything moves smoothly and on time. Could all teams please assemble at the top of Port Erin Prom between 12-00 and 12-30 each team will be allocated a parking space for their cart on the grassy area opposite the Imperial hotel, each space will be designated with a numbered peg.
- Each team will have a race number assigned to them, sticky numbers will be available for each cart on the day but if anyone wants to paint their number on the cart beforehand that is

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- OK (contact organisers nearer the day for race number).
16. Whilst in the “pit” area all carts will be scrutineered, any cart that fails scrutineering because they have not followed the design rules and are seen to have an advantage over other competitors will be allowed to run but their time may not be considered for the final. Any team failing scrutineering because of a safety issue may not be allowed to run. (So just in case you decide to fit an engine “just for a laugh” you will not be allowed to run!).
 17. Qualifying involves teams running in pairs, two runs per team alternating between outside and inside lanes. Although probably unavoidable, contact between carts during qualifying is discouraged and any deliberate contact may result in penalisation or disqualification.
 18. The quickest teams in qualifying will go through to the final round. (the amount of teams going through to final round may depend on how much time we have).
 19. After all teams have had their qualifying runs and before the final we will have a parade lap. This will involve all “none” qualifying carts “parading” down the hill all at once!
 20. The final involves the qualifying teams being allowed one solo run down the course. The winning team will be the one that achieves the best time in this final run.
 21. As well as the “Champions Award” there will also be “The Design Award” for the best cart design (as decided by an appointed official.) and also the “Team Spirit Award” this is awarded for “shear effort and TEAM involvement”.
 22. The Clerk of the Course’s decision is final.

Thank you all for entering and we’ll see you on July 17th

Any Questions please contact: sporterin@southernnomads.com



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Some Final Words

The Soap Box Derby can be quite dangerous – please don't underestimate the speed at which your cart will travel. If you are driving your team's cart, make sure that you are wearing suitable clothing – roads aren't soft!

This is a fun event – it is human nature to be competitive, which we are all fully aware of. That being said, this day is meant to be a fun family day – please make sure that everyone enjoys the day – the spectators, the organisers and most importantly yourselves.