

# Hobson Centennial Soap Box Derby

A Soap Box Derby (SBD), sponsored by the Hobson Endowment Foundation, will be held on Saturday, July 5, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. during the Hobson Centennial Celebration. This should be a fun event for participants and for spectators.

The SBD is a youth racing program which has run nationally since 1934. The goals of the SBD program are to teach youngsters some basic skills of workmanship, the spirit of competition, and the perseverance to continue a project once it has begun. The SBD program is designed as a parent/guardian program. A parent, guardian, or other adult is expected to help in the construction of the car. The adult must not build the car, but will share in the experience by being there for help if needed. This program is meant to be an enjoyable learning experience for both adult and child, and provide them with the opportunity to develop mutual respect and trust, and demonstrate the importance of individual pride and sportsmanship.

The SBD to be held in Hobson during the Centennial Celebration will not be an officially sanctioned All-American SBD but many of their guidelines and regulations will be used. Officially sanctioned car kits and racing wheels sold by the All-American SBD will *not* be allowed in order to keep the race fair and equitable for all participants. ***This is a build-your-own style of gravity powered car to enter in a race of your peers.*** Participants are encouraged to display their soap box in the parade on July 4.

There will be three age divisions for the Centennial SBD. Division I – Ages 8-12, Division II – Ages 13-16 and Division III – Ages 17 and up. Trophies will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in each division.

## ***Rules Governing The Hobson Centennial Soap Box Derby***

The two main purposes of the rules are fairness to all competitors and safety. All competitors should have an equal chance based upon their own abilities. Derby cars should operate with maximum safety and have no parts which could cause injury in the event of loss of control. The following is a list of general guidelines and specific rules governing the Hobson Centennial Soap Box Derby (SBD):

- **Pre-registration is required for all entrants by completing an entry form which must be turned in by June 13, 2008.** Completed forms should be sent to: Bill Hesselbart • PO Box 433, Hobson, MT 59452 • [bs4cent@yahoo.com](mailto:bs4cent@yahoo.com) Forms are available at Nancy's Country Market in Hobson, [www.HobsonReunion.com](http://www.HobsonReunion.com) or contact Bill Hesselbart
- Age Limits – There will be three divisions based on age the day of the race: Division I – Ages 8-12, Division II – Ages 13-16 and Division III – Ages 17 and up.
- Participants may enter only one car in the SBD and must race the car he/she built. If illness prevents racing, a substitute driver can be entered.
- Participants must wear some form of protective head gear, i.e., bicycle helmet.
- Cars must start by gravity power only and no propelling or driving assistance devices are allowed. Cars should be designed for maximum propulsion with minimal resistance to forward motion.
- The race car must be constructed so the driver can maintain a line of sight that assures safe navigation from start to finish.
- The driver's head cannot be in front of his feet, no lay forward positions.
- Car wheels can be no larger than 24 inches. All types of wheels, except officially sanctioned racing wheels, may be used on the car.



- No glass or other materials that would shatter or cause injuries to driver or spectators can be used in construction of the car.
- The car nose must be the forward most portion of the car body.
- All cars must have at least 4 wheels touching the ground at all times.
- The car must not exceed 40 inches in width or 84 inches in length.
- All cars must be available for inspection by judges and/or race director the day of the race.
- No lunging or other motions intended to assist in propelling the car will be allowed. The driver must remain still except for steering and braking maneuvers.
- All races will be run on a system of elimination by heats. Times in previous heats shall have no bearing in subsequent heats.
- Cars will be positioned at the start so their foremost part, or “noses”, will be the starting point.
- All participants will be allowed one trial run prior to the start of the race.
- The car whose nose is over the finish line first, according to the judges, is the winner.
- Upon receiving the entry form, all participants will be assigned a number and will be notified so the number can be painted on the car.
- Excellent personal conduct and sportsmanship must be adhered to by participants.
- Participants should be at the school parking lot no later than 10:00 a.m. on July 5<sup>th</sup> for inspection and instructions.

ENTRY FORM

***Hobson Centennial Soap Box Derby***

(Reminder: Races begin at 11:00 a.m. on July 5, 2008)

Name of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Age (Day of Race) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions of Car: Width \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Car Weight \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete and return by **June 13, 2008** to:*

Bill Hesselbart • PO Box 433 • Hobson, MT 59452 • [bs4cent@yahoo.com](mailto:bs4cent@yahoo.com)

