

OUTWITTING THE NEXT GUY IN SOAP BOX RACING

BECOMING AN ENTRANT:

In order to become an entrant you must be between the ages of eleven to fifteen, and must go to school.

RULES & REGULATIONS:

There are several rules & regulations that you must go by. The entrant must design & construct the racer by himself. They are given specifications on the length, height, & width of car. There are several clearance rules, weight of driver & car, cost and a few other minor details. The most important rule is concerned with the wheels, being the major part of the race.

CONSTRUCTION OF CAR:

The car may be made of several elements. It may be covered with wood, tin aluminum, fiber glass or papier-maché. Every car must have a well-built brake and steering system. Springs may be built of wood only. The car should be more or less streamlined to a good aerodynamic design. Weight must be built in car of wood only. The car may not cost over 15 dollars.

PROCEDURE OF LOCAL RACES:

On race day all cars must pass inspection. Then all cars are taken to the top of the hill where they are set on a ramp, and then are released at once so they will get a even start. Being a gravity race, downhill maximum weight would be to the advantage. The winner of each heat is taken back to

OUTWITTING THE NEXT GUY IN SOAP BOX RACINGPROCEDURE OF LOCAL RACES: (cont.)

the top of the hill where he will compete with other winners. Being a limination type of race they will race till the last three cars.

WINNERS OF LOCAL VICENITYS:

All local winners are sent to Arkon, Ohio, where they will compete for the grand prize of five thousand dollars. There are about one hundred and fifty seven local winners representing various citys, towns and other countrys. Soap Box Racing is sponcered by the Chevolet dealers and a local newspaper from each city.

HOWTO BECOME A CHAMPION:

This is the question that go's thru the minds of thousands of young lads who make a honest effort and would almost give anything to become a champion. I can truthfully say that 90% of the boys work hours and hours, just to be disappointed. WHY? Because they are either to lazy to go out to find out what makes a champ, maybe because ^{of} their ^{ex}inaperience, or maybe their not rich enough~~x~~. Well, Soap Box Racing is not a young lads' game. It's for about 10% of the boys' fathers to build a good car and then, try to find four superior wheels that in their opinion can not be beat or ^{will be} hard to beat. Being in Soap Box Racing for seven years, I have met over a dozen boys who have gone to Arkon and have either placed first second or third in the finals. I have gone to school

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HOW TO BECOME A CHAMPION: (cont.)

with some and have ~~met~~^{made} the acquaintance of others.

How these fellows have gone back are all similar.

Wheels. There are a few ways to get superior wheels.

1. You must go through hundreds of sets of wheels and by actual testing on the track you can determine which are the best, (it will take close to a year to test all wheels.)

2. About the biggest crime in wheels is where the fathers pressed the bearings out and put precision-made ball bearings in. Also they will buff the rubber down about ~~a~~ one-eighth of an inch, and then dip the whole wheel in a solution or just plain white gas and by chemical reaction the rubber will react to this treatment and will be twelve inches again, (wheels are all the same diameter: 12").

The rules specifically say you must not tamper with the wheels at all. You must buy them at the Chevrolet agency and use them at the race only. If every one would go by the rules then it would be luck who got the better wheels, and the race would consist of many things, like a well-constructed car, good driving, good rear wheel alignment, good suspension, good weight distribution and a few other things. Having the wheels fixed by an expert may cost up to four hundred dollars, but it is truly worth it if you want to become a champ. There are several headaches and you must have patients. Everything

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HOW TO BECOME A CHAMPION: (cont.)

must be perfect. You should never be disappointed if you don't win because if you don't, there was a better person outwitting you.

I have just mention^{ed} briefly and ruffly a few things on what it takes to become a champion.

MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN SOAP BOX RACEING:

I started when I was thirteen years of age and my older brother John ~~suggested~~^{asked} to me if I would be interest in entering. It sounded interesting so we started from scratch. After three to four months, we finish^{ed} our master piece. The day of the race came and we thought we had the winner.

To our surprise we lost our first heat. ~~We~~ were really^c disappointed and discourag^e. Thank God, someone took a interest in us and he happen^{ed} to be one of what you might call the clang. He told us that we were banging our heads against a stone wall if we didn't know a few things that ~~was~~^{were} going on, which we soon learned. I would have to give all the credit to my brother, because he made a point to find out every^c thing that had to be done. The next year I grew a little and we thought we would build one for my younger brother George. New Ideas went into action that year. We tryed a few sets of wheels and were given a few and then we picked the four that were best. We placed tenth out of six hundred entrants. We didn't stop there. We got more ideas, better wheels, and returned to the track the following

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MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN SOAP BOX RACEING: (cont.)

year. Once again we improved by going up to the finals. We were determined to win this race yet. We entered a few local races which were sponcered by small citys, and they just gave trophies and prizes. We won one of those but that didn't give us the right to go to ~~Apkon~~. This was our final year since my brother was fifteen. We had quiet a bid of experiance behind us. It was just a few years but my brother John knew as much if not more than a person of ten years of experiance. We were so determined to win that we travel^{ed} to Phoenix, Arizona, because we wanted to win for sure. The competition at Los Angeles is one of the hardest spots in the United States. We knew we had the best car and one of the best sets of wheels that could ^{be} used. Through a lot of expence and time our dreams came true. We had the rights to go to the ~~East~~. The day of the finals came, and racing began. We had won our first three heats and died through each one, knowing that if ^{he} ~~he~~ would lose ^{me} won heat he would be elimi~~ated~~. He was up for the final heat. The winner would win 5000~~x~~ dollars, the boy that took second would win \$4000. & the third winner would win \$3000. all in college scollarships, plus several other w~~ou~~nderful prizes. Well, George took second losing by a foot and a half. Every time George went down John & I went right down with him.

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Good

Bad

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MY FIRST EXPERIENCE IN SOAP BOX RACING (cont.)
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by all clubs, and they just gave trophies and
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through each one, knowing that if he would lose
won first he would be eliminated. He was up for the
final heat. The winner would win 5000 dollars,
the boy that took second would win 2400. & the
third winner would win 1300. all in college
scholarships, plus several other wonderful prizes.
Well George took second losing by a foot and a half.
Every time George went down John & I went right down
with him.

This is one of the most interesting reports I've ever read!
Your title is very good + the account of your own + conversational + what we want, the style is informal + that's

Spelling!
No. 2
Official notes
with out bibliography (very important)

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