

An aerial, sepia-toned photograph of a street race. A large crowd of spectators lines the sidewalks, separated from the road by a metal barricade. Several vintage cars are visible on the street, including a white van in the foreground and a truck in the middle ground. In the background, there are buildings, trees, and a sign that reads "Potato Chips".

Utah Valley Gravity Racing

Overview and Proposal

Description

A safe and inexpensive way for people to build and race their own car.



You're not just making a car

The Gravity Gran Prix is a soap box derby race that gives everyone a unique opportunity to build and race their own cars in an environment lean, and fun.



You're making memories



Gravity Gran Prix

Visit derby.Leany.com for more details

History

- Soap Box Racing as a sanctioned event started in the Midwest in 1934
- It developed from the practice of building cars from wagon wheels nailed to a soap box and running them down hills on city streets





Salem City Gravity Gran Prix

- Salem began holding the derby in 2004
- Salem's soap box derby is not affiliated with The All-American Soap Box Derby and the cars are not built to their specs



Vehicle Specifications

	Minimum	Maximum
Track width (outside of tires)*	24 inches	36 inches
Vehicle height	3" ground clearance	60 inches
Seating surface height	(3" ground clearance)	16" above road surface
Total vehicle length	72 inches	96 inches
Wheelbase	45 inches	72 inches
Vehicle Weight		
Colt (8-12 yrs)**	- none -	275 lbs. with driver
Mustang (13-17 yrs)	- none -	340 lbs. with driver
Stallion (18+ yrs)	- none -	400 lbs. with driver

**Width of body cannot project beyond maximum width*

***Colt class racers will be started lower on the ramp to reduce their speed*

All weight must be bolted or otherwise securely attached. No loose ballast is permitted.

Cars may be made of any material. Any metal frame elements that extend beyond the wheels must be properly blunted with a cross bar to prevent piercing in the event of a crash. Sheet metal on the body is okay. Axles and components may be steel.









Guiding Principles

Provide the most amount of fun memories for the highest number of people

- Safety
- Uniformity for fair competition
- Access (affordability)
 - Compatibility with equipment





What it's all about







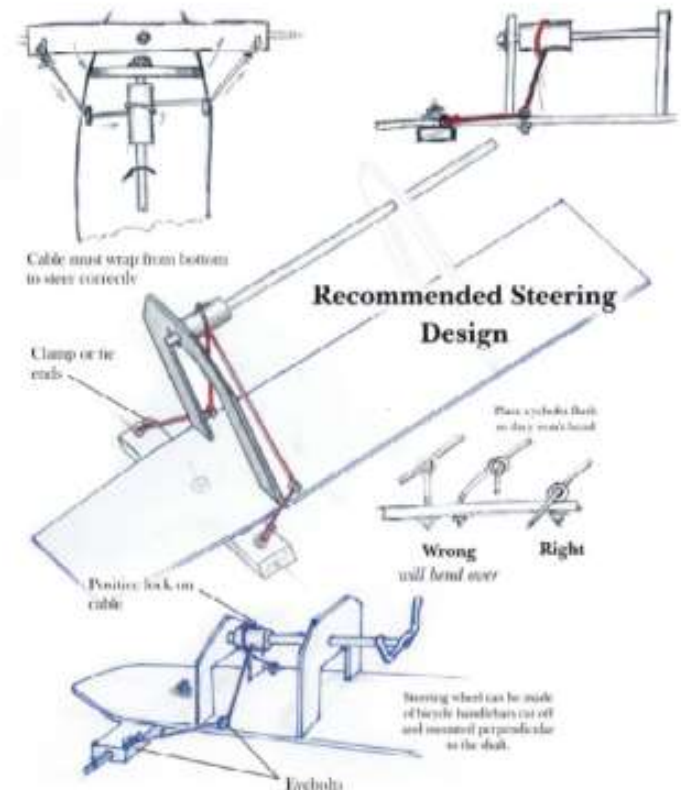




Safety

Safety—The most important consideration

- Reduce liability for the sponsoring body
- Wrecks take away from the fun, which is the driving factor behind the event
- Construction Quality
- Steering
- Brakes
- Center of Gravity
- Safety equipment



Expanding the Event to More Cities

We want to expand the event to all the cities in Utah County, providing the opportunity for more people to race in their own hometown and to compete with racers from other towns.

– Reasons:

- Extend the fun
- Enable people to race more than once for all their work
- Provide a mechanism to address safety concerns

– Issues to Address

- Committee Chair for each municipality
- Uniformity of rules
- Transport of equipment



Role of the City

- Close road
- Provide public safety services
- Establish public safety guidelines
- Provide support as with other activities in the festival
 - Prizes, T-shirts, publicity, etc.
 - (Race can be budget neutral—funds itself)



Basically we are asking you to sponsor a race with your summer festival and to implement rules that are compatible with the existing structure to draw from the existing pool of cars and racers

Next Steps

- Identify a local person to run the event
- Get help from us with what we've learned



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