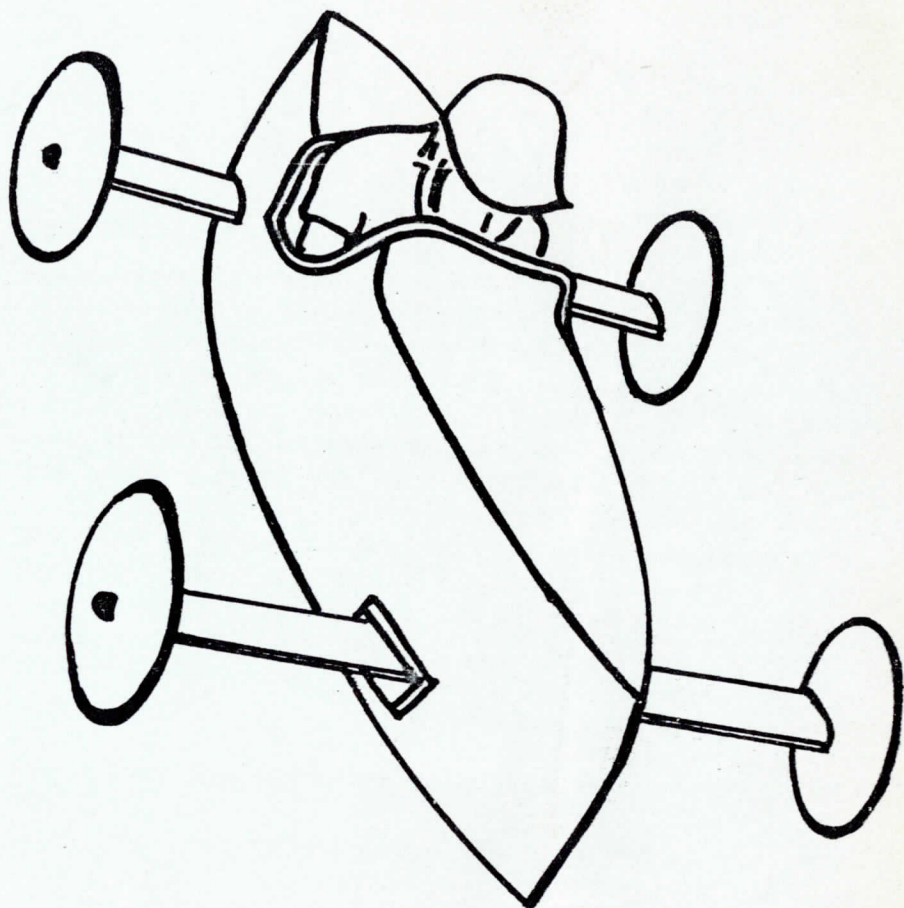


WARREN TRUMBULL CO.

SOAP BOX DERBY

6-12-20

JULY



1968

HISTORY OF THE SOAP BOX DERBY

The first Soap Box Derby was held on August 3, 1958, with Walter Susa acting as first Derby Director. The race was held on Sunday, August 3, 1958 at a site on Rt. 45 just South of Lordstown. One hundred and two boys participated in the first race. Joseph Martin, 14 was the first winner, who went to win two heats at the Akron Derby on August 18, 1958.

The Second Annual Derby was held on Sunday, August 2, 1959 on Youngstown Road just East of the City limits. Derby Director was James Strub. There were 100 Boys participating with Ronnie Noble, 13, winning the race.

The Third Annual Race was held on Sunday, July 24, 1960, with 93 boys participating. James Waldron was Derby Director. The race again was held at the Youngstown Road Site. Allen Frantz, 14, was the winner who went on to Akron to win his first heat.

The Fourth Annual Derby was held on July 23, 1961 with Ray C. (Red) Hutcheson, Director. The race, twice interrupted by showers, was won by Richard Maley, 14. One Hundred forty six boys participated.

The Fifth Annual Derby was held on July 22, 1962 with 144 boys participating. George J. Gentithes was Derby Director with David Hank, who twice came in second place shrugged off defeat and disappointment in previous years and won the race.

The Sixth Annual Derby saw Herb Engster acting as Director with 134 boys participating at the Youngstown Road Site. The winner was LaMarr Benton, 15 who found the silver lining in the stormy skies on Sunday, July 14, 1963.

The Seventh Annual Derby was directed by Stanton Walker on July 19, 1964. One hundred thirty one boys raced with Charles Noble 14, winning the race. Tom Noble, Chuck's cousin was Class B winner.

At the Awards Banquet the officials announced the purchase of a 27 acre site in Braceville Township for a permanent Derby site. The Derby Site was purchased by

DERBY WEEK

the Warren Tribune Chronicle and Martin Chevrolet. It is the intention of the sponsors to duplicate as closely as possible the contour of the Akron Derby Track.

Charles went on to come in ninth place in the Akron Derby and won a \$1,000 Scholarship.

The Eighth Annual Derby was directed by Paul Watson. The race held for the first time at the new track was won by Bobby Wilging. It was truly a triumphant year of hard work and team effort to make the Warren-Trumbull Soap Box Derby Site dream come true. One hundred twenty four toys raced in the derby.

The Ninth Annual Soap Box Derby was directed by Bill Lisby. Tom Noble 13, was the winner of the Derby. One hundred fifteen boys participated.

The Tenth Annual Race was held at the New Braceville Site with 110 boys participating. Richard Cowin was the Derby Director and David Wilging, whose brother had won previously took honors as the winner. David 11, was the smallest boy to participate in the Akron Derby in 1967 and won two heats at the National Derby in Akron.

The Eleventh Annual Trumbull Soap Box Derby is scheduled for July 28, 1968. The winner this year could be you!

The Derby Winners

- 1958 - Joseph Martin
- 1959 - Ronnie Noble
- 1960 - Allen Frantz
- 1961 - Richard Maley
- 1962 - David Hank
- 1963 - LaMarr Benton
- 1964 - Charles Noble
- 1965 - Bobby Wilging
- 1966 - Tom Noble
- 1967 - David Wilging
- 1968 - ?

Derby week, the final week of anxious waiting. A week filled with excitement and many things to do. In the boys mind there must be thoughts of how he should have done something different to make his car just a little faster. These thoughts are probably somewhat mingled with visions of winning race after race. But these thoughts cannot long occupy the boys mind for the activities of this week will allow little time for daydreaming.

Monday and Tuesday of Derby Week are used to make the last minute adjustments and changes. The final touches of paint and the layers of wax are applied. These are the last two days the boy will have his car in his possession for Wednesday is final inspection day.

On Wednesday, every car is inspected and allowed a final trial run. Pictures are taken and official shirts and helmets are issued. The cars which qualify for the race are stored in the inspection tent at the derby site until race day.

Thursday is fun day. The Derby Committees try to arrange a get together which will help relax the tense nerves. In past years, a swimming party, games, and a picnic have helped the boys to relax and enjoy the companionship of their future competition.

Friday is a day of relaxation, and also this day gives the boy a chance to discuss with dad the strategy to be used on race day.

Open house is held on Saturday evening. All the cars which will compete in Sundays race are on display in the big tent at the Derby site. This open house is an opportunity to see the competitors cars, and also to view for the first time the coveted trophies which will be awarded to the winners. All the sleek, highly polished racers assembled in one area is a sight not to soon to be forgotten.

Sunday, Race day is here at last. The boy undoubtedly will arise early and nervously try to hurry the family into leaving for the derby site. The tension will build as the boy first sees the crowd which has assembled to see the race. At one o'clock the parade starts its way down the hill to officially open the derby. Shortly after the parade the oil can derby is run. In this race two prominent local citizens compete in a race for the coveted oil can trophy.

The next event is the race. The crowd will nervously await the first contestants to come down the hill. Suddenly pair after pair of racers will come down the track until there are only two boys left. These last two boys will race for the right to represent Warren in the All-American Derby in Akron, Ohio. The winner of this final heat is the grand champion, but every boy who has built and raced his car is truly a champion in the minds of their parents and those who have watched them work and compete in such a great event.

AWARDS BANQUET

July 31, 1968 is the day that the boys have spent the past five or six months working for. On this day the Awards Banquet is held. On this night the boys receive the awards that they have achieved during the Derby Competition. The Grand award, which is \$1,000 savings bond, goes to the winner of the Warren-Trumbull Soap Box Derby with a \$200 savings bond going to the runner up. The third place runner up will receive a \$75 savings bond and fourth place receiving a \$25 savings bond.

THE SOAP BOX DERBY CLINIC

The purpose of a Clinic program is to offer guidance to the Soap Box Derby entrants on a regular scheduled basis. The planned series of Clinic sessions will help the boys design and build a racer in a logical sequence. Regular attendance at the Clinic sessions will make construction easier and improve the boys chances of meeting the rigid inspection requirements of building a safe Soap Box Derby racer.

Essentially, the Clinic is a classroom where Derby entrants, their friends and their parents learn about the Derby, the official rules and the construction of Soap Box Derby racers. The Clinic not only furnishes guidance but encouragement and stimulation to complete a challenging project.

DERBY CLINIC SCHEDULE FOR 1968

PLACE: Packard Electric, Dana Ave., Auditorium

TIME: 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

FIRST CLINIC: February 16, 1968

1967 National Race Film and Discuss New Rules

SECOND CLINIC: March 1, 1968

Show film entitled "The ABC of Hand Tools" animated by Walt Disney, Slide Films on floor board layout along with demonstration.

THIRD CLINIC: March 15, 1968

Slide films on Axle trees, suspension systems alignment, and brake design. Brake rubber to be available at this Clinic.

FOURTH CLINIC: March 29, 1968

Slide films on bulk heads, steering wheel, and body covering. Demonstration on block laminating.

FIFTH CLINIC: April 19, 1968

Slide films on body laminating and a complete Re-cape. Demonstration of body grinding.

SIXTH CLINIC: May 10, 1968

Fiber glass body construction By. Mr. Lloyd Egli, boyd painting and final finishing. Brake rubber to be available at this Clinic.

SEVENTH CLINIC: June 7, 1968

Wheel alignment and complete recap using slide films. Wheel oil will be available at this Clinic.

EIGHTH CLINIC: July 13, 1968

10:00 to 12:00 A.M. at the Elk's Lodge #295
Election of Derby Queen, local race film, and food.

TRIAL RUNS

PLACE: Warren-Trumbull County Derby Downs

DATES: July 6, 1968,

The purpose of trial runs is to give the boys participating in the Derby the chance to learn how to drive the race course, how to handle their racer and to learn the proper way to stop the racer. Trial runs also allows the boys the chance to lose their jitters which in turn means they can react better in actual competition.

In order to take advantage of trial runs a racer need not be completed. A partially constructed racer that has a working steering and braking system and deemed safe by the inspectors may make a trial run. One car at a time is allowed on the track with the first runs starting at mid track. Gradually the length of the runs are lengthened until the full length of the track is in use.

Since starting trial runs, less racers have failed final inspection, and failures that have

occured have been minor in nature and a definite decline has occurred in race day accidents. The trials have given the boys a chance to test various features of their racers which may be questionable and make him more competitive. The boys are encouraged to make as many trial runs as possible.

DERBY QUEEN

Every big event should have a queen and the Soap Box Derby is no exception. Each boy who participates in the derby has the opportunity to nominate one girl, from 11 to 15 years of age, to compete for Derby Queen. The girls nominated, along with their mothers are invited to attend a tea held in their honor on Sunday, July 7, 1968. At this tea, the girls themselves select five finalists, one from each age group to compete for the title of Derby Queen. After the voting the girls and mothers have an opportunity to become acquainted.

On Saturday, July 13, 1968 the five finalists are invited to attend the final construction clinic. At this clinic the girl to serve as Derby Queen is selected from the finalists by the vote of the boys. The Queen and her attendants are presented trophies and flowers, and reign over the lunch that follows. From this day on, the Queen and her court presides over all Derby activities.

FINAL INSPECTION

All boys and their racers must pass a final inspection before they may compete in race day activities. This is a thorough and complete inspection by competent Derby officials covering all points of the rule book. It includes physical and dimensional checks of the racer, construction checks for safety, and an overall check of such items as wheels, who built the racer, usage of prohibited materials, etc.

Final Inspection will be held on Wednesday, July 24, 1968 at the Warren-Trumbull Derby Downs. It is scheduled through out the day so that all boys have an opportunity of getting themselves and their racers to final inspection. The final inspection is under the direction of the Chief Inspector.

The exact order of activities on this day may vary from year to year but will closely resemble the following pattern:

1. Check in, review boy's name, address, school, age, sponsor. Receive Official race number.
2. Review cost sheet and rule book certificate.
3. Check weight of racer and boy.
4. Check racer dimensionally and for construction.
5. Check materials and safety.
6. Review construction with boy.
7. Issue T-shirt, helmet, and drivers licence.
8. Take boy's picture.
9. Service pits if necessary.
10. Test run down hill to check brakes and steering.
11. Service pits if necessary.
12. Impound racer.

Once a racer has completely passed final inspection, it will be impounded in an area unexcessable to all except Derby officials. It will remain there until race day and no further work may be performed on it.

FROM THE DERBY DIRECTOR

A word to prospective Derby entrants and parents. As Derby Director of the Warren-Trumbull Soap Box Derby for 1968, I would like to take this opportunity to talk to you about the "Derby".

BOYS, are you interested in learning to use tools, to work hard and diligently? Are you interested in sharing in the thrill and excitement of racing your car on Derby Day? If your answer is yes, let me assure you the Derby is for you.

DAD, are you willing to advise and show your son the techniques of building a racer? Are you willing to stand by him to reassure and encourage him in his endeavors? Do you want to see him grow and mature and to accomplish a big undertaking on his own? If your answer is yes, encourage your boy to enter the Derby.

Parents, do you want to share with your son the conflicts, the anxieties and the thrills that lie ahead? I know that you would be proud to watch your son win with humility or accept the loss with tears in his eyes and then congratulate his opponent. If you want your son to grow up to be an asset to his community and a joy to you, then take him down and let him sign up for the Derby.

I know of no other activity in which a boy can participate that will teach him so much. He will learn sportsmanship and fair play that are so hard to obtain any other way than through tough competition.

Sure boys, building a racer is hard work - but then anything worthwhile can be achieved only by hard work. There is also a great deal of fun involved in the Derby for we Derby workers know "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". There is the Derby picnic complete with swimming and many added attractions this year. There is the selection of the Derby Queen and her attendants. You can win some great prizes and also attend the All-American Derby in Akron.

Think it over boys! Discuss it with your parents and then come on down to Martin Chevrolet and sign up for the Derby. Get started on that racer early and look forward to a great Summer of Derby activities and thrills. I can assure you the Derby will be a never forgotten experience for you.

D. Keith Shirey
Derby Director

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 1968 Soap Box Derby will be held at Martin Chevrolet, 419 West Market, beginning Saturday, January 27, 1968 from 9:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M. and will be open Monday through Saturday until mid June. Registration is open for boys who will be 11 years old on or after August 1, 1968 and not older than 15 years on August 1, 1968. The boys will be divided into two groups: Class A 13-15 years old and Class B 11-12 years old. The entrant must be accompanied by his parent or guardian when the registration forms are filled out and at this time the entrant will receive his official Soap Box Derby Rule Book and instructions on how to build his car. The wheels and steering gear for the racer may be purchased from Martin Chevrolet at this time. Past experience has shown that the boys that register early have the best chance to be a winner because they have more time to build their car.

The boys will also be in competition for many other awards. Awards are given for the best constructed car, best designed car, the car with the best brakes, best steering, and other awards pertaining to the way the car is built. Awards are also given for sportsmanship, the winner of the fastest heat in both Class A and B, and other awards given for achievements during the race.

There is no better way to honor the boys, that have worked so hard, than by giving an Awards Banquet in their honor. For some of the boys it will be their last and for some it will be the first of many to come. But for certain it will be something that will be remembered for along time.

THE ALL-AMERICAN SOAP BOX DERBY August 24, 1968

As a fitting climax to the racing activities of the 1968 Soap Box Derby, all boys who build and race their Gravity-propelled card down the hill at Warren-Trumbull Derby Downs will be invited on the free excursion to the All-American Derby in Akron. The trip to Akron will start early in the morning in downtown Warren where the boys will board the bus with all the new friends they have made during the local derby week. Conversations recalling past experiences of constructing the cars, the trail runs, derby week, and the thrill of going down the hill for the first time will more than fill the time between Warren and Akron. Upon arrival at Derby Downs, jaw flapping will turn from conversation to food when the box lunches are passed out. After all appetites are satisfied the boys will receive a ticket for the All-American race and one of the most memorable experiences of the summer. They will find their seats in the grand stand just in time for the start of the big parade. Pre-race activities are climaxed by the oil can derby with Holly-

wood and television celebrities taking part.

Approximately 250 boys will race cars of every design imaginable down the 975' green asphalt track. The All-American race has gained in size and reputation since its beginning in Dayton, Ohio in 1933. The 1968 race is shaping up to be the largest yet with most of the 50 states represented. Although originated for American boys, the derby has steadily gained international stature and is recognized abroad as a living symbol of this country's sportsmanship and opportunity. Canada, Okinawa, the South American countries, and several other overseas guest countries send their champions to Akron each year to participate in the only one of its kind, the All-American Soap Box Derby. We will be on the bus to Akron, August 24, 1968, won't you join us?

If there any questions please call the Jaycee Office, 216 Franklin St., S.E., at 399-2152.