

*January 2009 Official Newsletter*

# **Omaha Area**

## **Soap Box Derby Association**

*Franchised by*

**Southeast Nebraska-----Southwest Iowa**

# **Optimist Clubs**

**2009 REGISTRATION**

**YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION IS NEEDED**

In the coming weeks you will be contacted by phone to get a verbal commitment on your racing status in 2009. Your responds is very important to us as we start planning for 2009. Our 2009 Local ALL-American race will be June 20-21. Please look at your family calendar and prepare to commit. If we leave a message to call us back please do so as soon as possible! Thank You!

We all understand family budgets are tight, but we must raise our fees slightly in 2009. After contact by phone you will be receiving your 2009 All-American Local Championship Race registration form. If you need additional copies for new racers in the family or friends please make copies. It is very important that you read over the form very carefully and return it in the self addressed envelope also enclosed. It is due back by March 15th. If you have a corporate car and are not racing, we will need to make arrangements to pick up the car as soon as possible to allow another family the opportunity to race on June 20-21. We can not wait one week before the local race to find out you are not racing a corporate car. Along with the form a check should be sent for association membership and All-American race fees. We understand that some times things come up at the last min, and you must drop. We will refund entry fees up to June 6<sup>th</sup>. If you are a first time participant please include a copy of a birth certificate. Please fill out the form as completely as possible. In the past several have left off their sponsors and they did not get listed in the program. If you have any questions concerning car # or sponsors please call. If you have a car for sale please contact Jerry Van Waart at 347-9702 to help direct prospects to you. It is very difficult to plan, budget, and run a race not knowing what your status is. You need to keep us informed. A quick phone call would be a great help to our race directors. ! Please check your calendar----do this today---Please !

### **ROOKIE DRIVERS CLUB 2009**

In 2009 we will be starring a Rookie Driver Club in the stock & Super Stock division. It is intended to help new drivers gain more experience much faster and also name a rookie of the year . It will be based on number of rookie rallies and other rallies attended, any placing in rallies. More information will follow. At this time we planning two rookie nights at the track Thursday April 30 and May 7 . This is 6-8 pm. at the track. It will be Rookie only practice and match racing along with speed and driving tips.

## **2009 BASIC INFORMATION OF THE OMAHA AREA SBD ASSOC.**

**NEWSLETTERS!** We attempt to put out a newsletter about once a month during the year. We will never win any prizes for writing, but we will keep you informed. All we need you to do is **PLEASE READ** it. This is the best way we can keep you informed. The biggest help you can be to us is being on time, honoring the mandatory dates, and **keeping us informed on your racing status**. This year we will be attempting to send our newsletters and reminders thru your e-mail. When you fill out your 2009 registration form make sure that you include a PARENT e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail we will continue to send out a paper copy for you.

**2009 REGISTRATION & FEES** Registration for last years non corporate car participants are due by our March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Please start planning, your immediate attention will be very helpful to us. The 2009 form will be sent out very soon. Please read carefully and completely fill in all blanks!!! There will be a slight increase in 2009 fee. For first family member it is \$35, and \$25 for the second and no charge for participants over two in one family. Check for Corporate car rates below.

**2009 OMAHA AREA LOCAL ALL-AMERICAN RACE** The June 20-21 is the only race you are registering for at this time. Winners of this local race will go to Akron in July. Mandatory for Corporate cars!! This race is a two day event. A consolation race will be ran for non place winners.

**RALLY RACING** Omaha AA Spring Rally will be May 9. **AA Rallies** are for points. The top two or three point earners in all three divisions out of Region IV, who do not win their local, also qualify for Akron. Last year several of the 9 spots in Dist. 4 were from our association. Omaha NDR Rally will be Sept. **NDR Rallies** are also a points race to attend the NDR Nationals. All you need to qualify is to be in member and attend two NDR rallies. This year 2009 NDR is in Des Moines, IA. the last week of July. Plan ahead! **NEVER** go to a rally without making many practice runs prior to the race. **Always** show up on time and ready to race! (alignment, new brake pad, weight check) Our track and scales are open the night before all rallies. Help when ever possible! We will have our under the lights AA Monster Rally early Oct. Our 2009 rally fees will remain the same as 2008.

**TRACK USAGE AND SAFETY** The track is located in the northwest corner of Seymour Smith Park 72nd and Washington. The track is open 24-7-365 for your use. **Simple safety requirements.** #1. Always walk the track before starting to practice looking for objects and check the car over for tight steering and a good brake pad. #2. **Never** start a first timer from the top. Work them up the hill. #3. If you are using the yellow center line to practice make sure your driver is past the finish line completely before putting on the brake. There is a metal plate on the finish line and you may catch and **bend** your brake plunger. #4. **Never** let a driver go down while there is someone or another car sitting on the track. #5. You should have a second person on the bottom to act as a lookout. #6. Remind drivers to make slow correction and keep **both** hands on the steering wheel at all times especially while braking!.

**CORPORATE CARS** The association has over 40 cars that have been purchased by clubs or businesses. The 2009 registration fee is \$45 dollars for the firsts family member and \$35 for any additional cars per family using a corporate car for the season. **This fee will also give you one Omaha rally race.** (excluding the Oct. Monster rally) If you are using a corporate car there are two dates you are **committed** to. The mandatory inspection date and the June 21-22 local race date. If at any time you cannot fulfill this commitment you need to notify your derby uncle or the board. We will have a waiting list of families wanting to race. It is **very embarrassing** for us when a sponsor shows up to the local race and their car is **NOT** there. If you are a first timer family with a corporate car you and the driver must take the time to break the car down and reassemble to 2009 plans and comply per-plan. You are allowed to race this car in rallies in Omaha or other area race cities. You are responsible for the cost to rally. The driver who is registered to race in the local June 20-21 is the **ONLY** driver whocan use the car in an All-American Rally. If the car is being used in an NDR Rally another person can use the car for that race only. This car must be stored **inside, a dry, secure place**. The family must maintain this car in good working order and replace any damaged items. Arrangements must be made

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to keep the car covered when transporting in foul weather, or sitting out a rain delay at a rally. **WATER SOAKED CARS ARE TOAST!!! A CORPORATE CAR NEW IS OVER \$500 DOLLARS.**

**DERBY UNCLES** All participants will be assigned a Derby Uncle.. This along with your newsletter will be our way of keeping you informed and updated. This person can also be a resource to aid in assembly or timely racing tips. Remember there are no dumb derby questions, you have to start somewhere! Trust me, we all have put the steering in backwards more than once.

**RACE DAY PROCEDURES** All of our races will be a double elimination lane and 2-4 wheel swap race to the top 8 places. To be eliminated from the days competition you must lose two heats. One in the winners side of the bracket and one in the challengers side of the bracket. The exception would be if you are racing off for 5-6-7-8 places. To win or lose a heat you must go down the hill with your opponent twice. A timer at the finish line will be started as the first car crosses the finish line and stopped as the second car breaks the beam. That will give the winner a 1st. phase time differential. Both cars will be taken back to the top where the cars will be blocked up and all four wheels will be exchanged spindle for spindle. Care should be taken to not turn the wheels around or setting them down on the ground. Only the car handler and driver should handle the wheels. Replace and check wheel pins and go to the start ramps and line up in the opposite lane than the first phase. Second phase racers have priority on the ramp. We do not want long periods of time between phases of heats. The second phase is raced and a second time differential is taken. The car with the greater differential is the over all winner and advances in the bracket. Prior to going to the scale for the first phase two wheels will be swapped. All your wheels should be marked with your name and the direction you are running them. You can use washers inside and out. You should check your wheels and your opponent wheels to make sure that their wheels do not rub against your air foils. If you have older bearings that are loose and move out during racing, they will need to be fix or replaced to insure fair and equable racing for both cars in a heat!!

**PROMOTIONS & RECRUITMENT** The association does not have a large budget for promotion or large scale recruitment programs. The best source to get the message out about the program is our membership. We have one of the larger races in the Nation. We would like to continue to grow. To do this we need to have each member recruit a new race family. If you know of any family interested please have them contact Jerry Van Waart at 347-9702. We will have a display at the car show in March and we will need some help in manning the display and answering questions. Please call and volunteer !!

**PER-PLAN ASSEMBLE** It is your responsibility and commitment to review changes and updates to confirm that your car is in compliance. There are no changes in 09 for all three divisions just clarifications. Some are mandatory and others are optional. It is very important that the car is updated before the rally season starts in April. The 2009 plans are posted on the All-American web site (aasbd.org). You can and should down load a copy. If you have questions please call! 347-9702

**BOARD MEETINGS** Association Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We meet at Sam & Louie's Pizza 72<sup>nd</sup>. & Q. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. You are all invited to attend and welcome to put in your two cents. All changes in meeting location, date or time will be in the newsletter. A call to Jerry to confirm the meeting is always wise. We are very lucky to have several board members who do not have children racing. They are such a valuable resource for our association. We also have an advisory board made of former champs and parents. Your input is welcomed!!!

**Web Sites** Our web site is [www.omahasapboxderby.org](http://www.omahasapboxderby.org) All-American [www.aasbd.org](http://www.aasbd.org)

**CLINIC'S** Please check your newsletters for any upcoming construction and speed clinics. If anyone is interested in moving to the Scottie Masters division please call Jerry VW.

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## **NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2009**

The 2009 Omaha Area Soap Box Derby Board was elected in Dec. We had a great turn out and several new families wanting to help serve on the board. Some of us old dogs were thrilled to see this willingness to help direct our racing program. New ideas help make a program grow and gives us a very bright future. Thanks to all of you willing to serve and those who served so well in 2008.

### **2008 OFFICERS AND BOARD**

<b>President</b>	<b>Candy Plog</b>	<b><u>Board Members</u></b>	
<b>V-President</b>	<b>Jim Kunkel</b>	<b>Kevin Callan</b>	<b>Jack Wagner</b>
<b>Sec. Trea.</b>	<b>Jerry Van Waart</b>	<b>Ron Hoffman</b>	<b>Jerry Luttig</b>
<b><u>Appointments</u></b>		<b>Larry Morford</b>	<b>Dusty Brand</b>
<b>Race Director</b>	<b>Steve Brand</b>	<b>Scott Rasmussen</b>	<b>Joe Bailey</b>
<b>Asst. Director</b>	<b>Roger Van Waart</b>	<b>Jon Trapp</b>	
<b>Rally Director</b>	<b>Jerry Van Waart</b>		

You need not be a board member to attend meetings. Stop by or call if you have some concerns or ideals, or **MONEY!!** Money gets you first up on the agenda!! Please Help when ever possible.

### **LOOKING FOR SPONSORS**

If you know of any prospective All-American local or rally race sponsors please get in contact with us so we can contact them and present our program to them. If you need more in formation please let us know. Any and all contacts will be greatly appreciated.

**OMAHA Area Soap Box Derby**  
**490 Coronado Circle**  
**Carter Lake Iowa 51510**

**Important 2009 Registration information enclosed!!**

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