KC Soap Box Derby History

**History of the Kansas City Soap Box Derby**

***NOTE****: This section is primarily intended to record events of the Kansas City Soap Box Derby program, winners in Akron and leadership of the KC SBD over the years. Additional information is included to show some leadership and changes within the All-American program. That information is generally listed in smaller type.*

*The following information about the 1935-1939 races were obtained from archived micro-files of*

*the Kansas City Kansan newspaper by Librarian Monica Duffield. This expanded information is*

*provided to document what racing was like in the early years. We relied on information given by*

*the newspaper for this report as no official results or data was available.*

**1935:** The first race in Kansas City was held in Kansas City, Kansas on Thursday August 1st, 1935.

The race was sponsored by the Kansas City Kansan newspaper and Feld Chevrolet Motor Company.

There were 308 boys and 4 girls racing in the local Soap Box Derby race. Registration Headquarters was at Feld Chevrolet Motor Co. No entry fee was required by the boy.

It was the hottest day of the year as the mercury was at the 92 degree mark at noon. A crowd of approximately 20,000 spectators watched the race which was run down a 1,500 foot track. Rope was stretched along both sides of the track along the Seventh Street Traffic-way hill from Sandusky to Ohio Avenue to keep crowds off the track. Boy Scouts in full uniform and a score of police and county officers patrolled the ropes to keep the crowds in check.

Rules for the race: Each entrant must live in Kansas. There is no cost to enter the race. No car can be more than 80" long or more than 42" wide overall or over 36" high, except for the steering wheel. The running wheels, including tires cannot be more than 20" high. Rubber tires or any type of wheel with or without roller bearings may be used. Cars must not weigh more than 250 pounds (this apparently did not include the driver) and must be equipped with a brake.

You could build the car entirely by yourself or you could have your parents or friends help you

using any type of materials as long as the car met the requirements listed above.

Many unusual items and methods were used in constructing the racers. Cars were often built using orange crates obtained from the local grocery store and parts found in local junk shops or the junk yard. Here are some examples:

* The car was built using a spring and rope steering.
* The body was covered in polished tin.
* An ironing board was used for the floor board.
* He used an original type of steering that embodies the use of two wheels on the steering shaft.
* Intricate metal work was used on a welded body.
* Bronze bushings were inserted into the hubs to prevent shimmy.
* Canvas was modeled over a wood body.
* Duplicate brakes on the rear wheels operated by a hand lever.
* One boy had a first aid kit located directly behind the padded seat of his car.
* Wheels were purchased from a local Soap Plant.
* Used a steering wheel from an old Dodge car.
* The brakes operate on the rear wheels with a metal bar clamping the brake shoes on the rollers.
* Body was made from window boxes.
* Operating on 10” iron-spoke wheels.
* Used customary broom-stick and rope steering gear.
* An awning from an old store was used to cover the body.
* Steering gear constructed from parts of four different makes of cars.
* Only the front wheels have tires.
* Two strong steel springs and two heavy chains hold the wheels in place.
* The axles are the usual steel rods mounted under 2 x 4’s.
* The steering apparatus is out of a Model T Ford and is hooked to the axle by rope.
* Used a dual wheel friction brake operated by hand and a cushioned driver’s seat from an ancient Packard.
* He used a heavy wood frame covered with galvanized iron.
* The small racer is equipped with a horn to induce competitors in the race to give him plenty of room.

The race was run on a heat elimination basis running four cars down the track each time with no time handicaps. There were some accidents, wheels came off of several cars and many cars broke down before they got to the finish line. In one instance all four cars in one heat were disqualified as they could not finish the race.

Class A: Boys 6 to 9 years. (Roy Brown won the Class A Division.)

Class B: 10 to 16 years inclusive. (Floyd Cordonier won the Class B Division.)

The Class A and Class B finalists of their division competed with each other to determine the winner that would go on to Akron for the National race and compete for the chance to win a 4 year college scholarship. The other two national prizes were a 1935 Chevrolet motor car.

The local Kansas City awards were a fine watch and trophy. The winner and father or grandparent could travel by train with all expenses paid to and from Akron, Ohio including their stay in Akron or they would be furnished a new 1935 Chevrolet in which to make the trip.

The Class B winner Floyd Cordonier won the local race and the trip to Akron.

**1936:** Last year some 50,000 boys raced in 52 different cities in the National Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio. The race is for boys only. This year 112 cities are holding competition, some as far away as South Africa and Hawaii.

A crowd of approximately 20,000 to 25,000 people watched the local race sponsored jointly by the Kansas City Kansan newspaper and Feld Chevrolet Motor Car Co. The race was run down the Seventh Street Traffic-way slope from Sandusky to Ohio Ave, a distance of about 4 blocks long. Victor Sharp, general manager of the YMCA, headed the general committee in charge of the Derby. City officials and several leading citizens served on the general committee with Sharp. Included were Clarence T. Rice, Paul Campbell, Fred Olson and Clarence Lind. Also included were Mayor Don C. McCombs, George T. Darby and Harry F. Schaible, commissioners, William H. Stone, chief of police and Orlander Lind, Fire Chief.

The maximum weight allowed for the car was 175 pounds (this did not include the driver.)

Here are a few examples of construction used in building their car this year:

* Car will be easy riding as he has a large coil spring mounted over the rear axle.
* He hopes the scarlet fever sign on the front of his speedster will frighten the other entrants away and give him a clear field.
* A number of pneumatic tires were used this year with resulting trouble of low tires, punctures and other real automotive troubles.
* He’s going for the prize in the upholstery division for he has the entire inside of his car, sides, back and seat fully covered with mohair.

All racers were given a steel helmut for the race. This derby was run far smoother than last year with good competition and fewer accidents.

Class A: Boys 13-15 years (Berkley Harper won the Class A Division.)

Class B: Boys 9-12 years (Richard “Dick” Brown won the Class B Division.)

Berkley Harper was the final winner of this race in Kansas City, Kansas and the trip to Akron.

**1937:** The Kansas City Kansas Soap Box Derby was run on July 1st, 1937. Kansas City was the first city in America to hold its championship race for the 1937 National Derby Championship in Akron, Ohio.

The Kansas City Kansan newspaper and the Feld Chevrolet Motor Car Co. were again sponsors for the 3rd annual running of the local race.

The derby race was held on the Seventh Street Traffic-way between Sandusky and Ohio Avenue. The crowd this year was larger than ever, estimated at about 25,000 spectators’s lining the traffic-way, along the 1700 foot course. There were more than 75 racers in the competition.

The cars were stored at the Feld Motor Car Co. prior to the race. Just before the race, the boys and their cars were paraded down Minnesota Avenue pulling their cars to the course. Each racer participating in the derby received a loaf of ABC bread.

The starter, C.T. Rice fired a gun to start the first race. One of the motorcycle policeman’s duties was to attach the winner of each heat to his motorcycle and pull it and the boy back to the starting line for his next race.

There were a few minor accidents though no major ones.

Class A: Boys 13 to 15 years. (John Calovich won the Class A.)

Class B: Boys 9 to 12 years inclusive. (Walter Trikosko won the Class B.)

Walter Trikosko Jr. was the overall champion of the 1937 Kansas City race. He was awarded the M. E. Coyle Trophy named for the General Manager of the Chevrolet Motor Company. He became the first youth in all of America out of 25,000 entered to win the privilege of participating in the National Championship on August 15th for the first place prize, a 4-year college scholarship.

**1938:** The Kansas City Kansan newspaper and Feld Chevrolet Motor Car Co. were sponsors of the race again this year. An estimated 20,000 spectators watched the race. There were 66 boys racing.

Rules in this derby differed only slightly from last year, primarily the cost and the weight limits. The weight limit was 230 pounds. (We don’t know if this included the driver.) The requirement that the boys build their own car remained unchanged. The chief added requirement was the inclusion of a turnbuckle to the cable controlled steering. A 3” road clearance is required and a closed cab is prohibited. Wire wheels generally gave way to solid wheels. Every boy received a steel Helmut.

All preliminary heats and the semifinals were run in groups of three cars. In the finals only the two best cars were pitted against each other. Stop watches were used to time the races.

Class A: Boys 13-15 years. (Clyde Armstrong won the Class A.)

Class B: Boys 9-12 years. ( Marion Trikosko won the Class B.)

Marion Trikosko, younger brother of Walter Trikosko, won the overall city Championship and trip to Akron to compete in the National Derby Championships. He received a silver trophy and a Waltham wrist watch for the local race.

**1939:** The race was run on July 6, 1939 and was again sponsored by the Kansas City Kansan newspaper and Feld Chevrolet Motor Car Co. This Soap Box Derby race became known as the Kansan –Feld Soap Box Derby. There were 72 boys entered in this local Kansas City Derby.

The event started with a parade from the Feld used car lot down Minnesota Avenue to Seventh Street and then south to the course. Entrants steered their cars carefully along the street to the race course area.

Before each race, entrants applied grease to the wheels to prevent soft asphalt from sticking to the wheels as they raced down the street.

Class A: Boys 13 to 15 years. (Lloyd Armstrong won the Class A.)

Class B: Boys 9 to 12 years. (Harold Armstrong won the Class B.)

Lloyd set the fastest time for the overall race at 37.15seconds. The overall winner was decided by winning 2 out of 3 heats. The Armstrong boys, racing with their shoes off, competed against each other for the Championship. Harold won the last race and the Championship in 37.7 seconds, beating his brother by the slim margin of about four feet.

Harold received a silver trophy and a Waltham wrist watch for the local race. He took 2nd place in the National Championship in Akron, Ohio.

**1940:** Ivan Davis was the local Champion racing in Kansas City, Kansas. He went on to take 6th place at the National Championships in Akron, Ohio.

**1941 through 1946:** These were the war years. No races were held.

**1947:** This was the first Kansas City, Missouri SBD race. The race was held in Swope Park and sponsored by the Ararat Shrine.

Derby Director: Jerry Cohen

*The following information provided by John Thornton (1951 Champ).*

Bill Johnson was the Champion of this local race. He covered his car and himself with graphite, believing it would lower wind resistance. He did this in Akron as well. After that, the rule book strictly prohibited graphite. (It got all over anyone who touched the car.)

Starting at least in 1947, official derby racing wheels were purchased locally from Chevrolet dealers, which was the official location to sign up for the race. Clinics were also held at several Chevrolet dealerships. The official red wheels came with axels, wheel nuts and cotter keys. At least through the fifties, it was commonplace for contestants to balance the wheels by drilling holes in the rims and then covering the holes with Scotch tape. Some contestants even shaved the rubber to minimize the contact with the ground. The early wheels (probably up to the 1970’s) had steel bearings in a steel race. After that, the ball bearings were supported in a plastic ring. It was commonplace to “run in” your wheels to improve performance, using light oil and jewelers rouge. Performance was measured by timing how long the wheels would run after a sharp spin on the axel mounted in a vice.

**1948:** Whitney Kerr was the Kansas City Champion. This was the first laminated car used in the derby. It was finished to show the natural wood colors.

Derby Director: Jerry Cohens

**1949:** George Nixon was the Kansas City Champion.

Derby Director: Jerry Cohens

**1950:** Glenn Bradford, KC Champ, placed 4th in Akron. Glenn died shortly after the event from polio. 202 boys competed in this Kansas City Soap Box Derby held in Swope Park.

Derby Director: Jerry Cohens

**1951:** John Thornton was the local Champion. 160 Boys competed in the Kansas City Soap Box Derby held in Swope Park.

Derby Director: Jerry Cohens

**1952:** Bobby Myers was the local Champion. 169 boys competed in the race in Swope Park. Race sponsored by the Ararat Shrine and the Kansas City Chevrolet dealers.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**AASBD**: The Soap Box Derby is strictly a boy’s event. Its aim is to promote both craftsmanship and sportsmanship through competition in building and racing Soap Box Derby cars. Good sportsmanship

requires that your car shall represent only your own skill as its designer and builder – just as, when it

comes to the race, your performance will represent only your skills as a driver.

The total cost of the car shall not exceed $10.00, exclusive of wheels and axles.

The combined weight of the car and driver in either class (A or B) must not be more than 250 pounds.

Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years. Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years.

**1953:** Phillip Barnes Jr. was the local Champion. The 7th annual Kansas City, Missouri race was held in Swope Park for boys from 11 to 15 years. The wheels were sold by Chevrolet dealers.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car shall not exceed $10.00, exclusive of the wheels and axles.

The combined weight of the car and driver in either class (A or B) must not be more than 250 pounds. Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years. Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years.

**1954:** Dale M. Myers II was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1955:** John Evans was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1956:** Bruce Bradford was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1957:** Robert Brewster was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1958:** Tommy Gaylord was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1959:**  Charles Mc Kinney was the local champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1960:**  Sidney Hawks was the local Champion

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1961:** Robert Griffey was the local Champion

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1962:** No Local Race: Shrine declined to sponsor race this year.

**AASBD: 1962 was the 25th anniversary of the All-American Soap Box Derby.**

**1963:** Jim Loman was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**1964:** Stuart Turner won the local race and took 6th place in the All-American.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 36 racers. Class B - 65 racers.

**AASBD:** In 1964 Kansas had races in Hutchinson, Junction City, Parsons, Wichita and Garden City. Missouri had races in Kansas City, Ballwin, Columbia, Neosho, St. Charles, Warrensburg, Washington, Waynesville - Ft. Leonard Wood.

**1965:** Steve White was the local Kansas City Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car shall not exceed $25.00, exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total eight of the car and driver in either class must not be more than 250 pounds.

Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years. Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years.

**1966:** Mike Koval was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 67 racers Class B - 37 Racers

**1967:** Dennis Mullen was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 68 racers Class B - 53 Racers

**AASBD:** The Soap Box Derby is for boys only. You must build your own car. You must not let adults or anyone else work on your own car. You may accept advice and counsel from adults in the design and construction of your car. The purpose of the Derby is to match your skills as a builder and driver against the skill and driving ability of other boys. The derby promotes craftsmanship and sportsmanship through honest competition. All city class or division winners will compete for the city championship.

The total cost of the car shall not exceed $30.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total weight of car and driver must not be more than 250 pounds.Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years. Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years, inclusive.

**1968:** Steve Yelton was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 61 racers

Class B - 42 Racers

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car shall not exceed $30.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total weight of car and driver must not be more than 250 pounds.Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years.

Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years, inclusive.

**1969:** Eric Smith was the local Champion. The race was held in Swope Park. The Ararat Shrine Temple, KCMO broadcasting, Bill Allen Chevrolet and Van Chevrolet were the sponsors.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 50 racers Class B - 30 Racers

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car shall not exceed $30.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total weight of car and driver must not be more than 250 pounds.Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years.

Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years, inclusive.

**1970:** Harold A. Smith Jr. was the local Champion. The race was held in Swope Park, KCMO. The metropolitan Chevrolet Dealers and the Ararat Shrine sponsored the race.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

Class A - 42 racers

Class B - 30 Racers

**AASBD:** The Soap Box Derby is for boys . You must build all of your own car. You must not let adults or anyone else work on your own car. You may accept advice and counsel from adults in the design and construction of your car. The purpose of the Derby is to match your skills as a builder and driver against the skill and driving ability of other boys. The derby promotes craftsmanship and sportsmanship through honest competition. All city Class or Division winners will compete for the city championship.

The total cost of the car shall not exceed $35.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total weight of car and driver must not be more than 250 pounds.

Class A Division is for boys 13-15 years.

Class B Division is for boys 11-12 years, inclusive.

**1971:** David Armstrong was the local Champion. The Ararat Shrine sponsored the race in KC.

Derby Director: Al Shipley  
 Class A - 32 racers.

Class B - 35 racers.

**AASBD:** Girls were admitted into the program.

This was the last year for the Chevrolet Motor Division to be an active sponsor of the Derby. There are no age divisions at Akron. All city Class or Division winners will compete for the city championship.

The total cost of the car shall not exceed $35.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The total weight of car and driver cannot be more than 250 pounds.

Class A – ages 13-15

Class B – Ages 11-12

**1972:** Kansas City did not have a race this year. Al Shipley indicated plans could not be completed. Ararat Shrine gave up their sponsorship last year.

Derby Director: Al Shipley

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car was increased to $40.00

**1973:** Steve Dishon was the local Champion.

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

**1974:** Gino Smith was the local Champion.

The Kansas City annual race took place on Wornall Road (closed street), near the Avila school which was then a private school. The front page of the KC Star paper featured photograph of Sue Logston, first Kansas City female racer, in her lay down racer. The greater Kansas City Jaycees sponsored the race.

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The Soap Box Derby is open to all persons who will be 11 through 15 years of age. Class or Division winners will race for the City Championships.

The total cost of the car shall not exceed $75.00 exclusive of the wheels and axles.

The total weight of the car and driver cannot be more than 260 pounds. Class A – ages 13-15 Class B – Ages 11-12

On August 23, "State of Missouri Certificate of Incorporation was issued to Mid-America Soap Box Derby, Inc.", a general Not for Profit Corporation in Kansas City, Mo..

The first Meeting to incorporate the Mid-America Soap Box Derby, Inc. was held at 1515 Commerce Bank Building, Kansas City, MO. on August 23. The meeting commenced at 10:00 am.

The following, being all of the incorporators, were present:

David M. Harding

Paul Van Osdol, Jr.

Guy A. Magruder, Jr.

The following persons were unanimously elected as directors of the corporation to serve until their successors could be elected and qualified.

David M. Harding

E.R. Reasoner

Thomas Thornhill

Alva Shipley

Paul Arnsmeyer

Jack Cambell

Thomas Duncan

The first meeting of the Board of Directors was held at 10342 Tullis on August 23. Meeting commencing at 7:00 pm.

The following, constituting a quorum of the board, were present.

David M. Harding

E. R. Reasoner

Thomas Thornhill

Paul Arnsmeyer

Jack Cambell

Thomas Duncan

The following persons were elected as officials serving for one year.

Paul Arnsmeyer President

E. R. Reasoner Vice President

David M. Harding Secretary

Alva Shipley Treasurer

The President announced that a certificate of Incorporation had been issued to the corporation by the Secretary of State.

The president then reported on his trip to Akron, Ohio for the 1974 Derby and on his meetings with Derby officials. He noted that the Kansas City representatives presented their report on the feasibility of Kansas City receiving the national race and entertained questions from the various officials. A decision was to be made by October 1, 1974 as to the future site of the All-American.

**1975:** Steve Wells was the local Champion. The annual Kansas City SBD race was again held on Wornall Road. The KC Jaycees sponsored the race.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

***AASBD:*** The Soap Box Derby is open to all persons who will be 11 through 15 years of age.

The total cost of the car should not exceed $75.00, exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint. The combined weight of the car and driver cannot be more than 260 pounds.

**NOTE*:*** *Starting in 1976 the Kit Car and the Senior Car Divisions were created. Kansas City did not have a Kit Car race in 1976. All local race Champions are listed separately in the Champions History.*

**1976:** The annual Kansas City SBD race was held in Swope Park. There were 20 racers in the Jr. Division and 11 in the Sr. Division.

Negotiations began with the city of Kansas City for a permanent track facility. (Steered by Joe Service, Jaycees member. KC Councilman at large and Mayor pro tem.) The search team included Parks and Recreation Commissioner Frank Vydik, Assistant Commissioner Jerry Darter, Paul Arnsmeyer, Jim Burge the City Land Manager and Joe Serviss. First proposed track was in the Tiffany Springs area, north of the river. Second proposed location was 4600 Eastern Ave., adjacent to the Police Heliport. This location was decided to be the home of the KCSBD. The KC Jaycees, city and county worked together to create the track proposal.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The Soap Box Derby is for all youths 10 through 15 (inclusive) years of age. The Derby program was split into two divisions, Jr. and Senior.

The total cost of the car should not exceed $75.00 exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint.

10 and 11 years old, Jr. Division. Maximum weight, 200 pounds in Jr. Division.

12 years, your choice of Jr. or Sr. Divisions.

11 through 15 years can race in the Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds.

Wheels:  *Information provided by John Thornton. (1951 Champ).*

Starting in the mid to late 1970’s, K.C. Derby officials calibrated the official red steel wheels on a leveled, round steel table with a small ramp, where the numbers of revolutions were recorded. Based on the number of revolutions of each wheel, the wheels were placed in sets of four. Wheel sets were randomly drawn by racers, with the idea that all wheel sets would be the same, thus making the race outcome to be the result of car construction and driving. All wheels were owned by the derby association. Note: This procedure is very similar to the method used in Akron to calibrate wheels there.

**1977:** The annual Kansas City SBD race was held in Swope Park. City of Kansas City, MO.

There were 24 racers in the Jr. Division and 10 in the Sr. Division.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The total cost of the car should not exceed $75.00, exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint.

10 and 11 years old, Jr. Division. Maximum weight, 220 pounds.

12 years. Your choice of Jr. of Sr. Division

13 -15 years old, mandatory Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds.

Council (Mayor Richard Berkley) approved $25,000.00 budget for new track facility. In addition, the city Parks and Recreation would provide engineering and construction drawings. The City, Jaycees and Mid-America SBD signed a long term lease for the facility at 4600 Eastern Ave in the fall of 1977. Out of the budget, the city would pay for asphalt services, fencing, gates and diesel fuel. Bratton Corp. donated material for the bridge. Kansas City Star donated the starting device and pea gravel for the run-out area. Iron Workers Local 10 donated labor for constructing the bridge. Alan Cunningham Inc. donated concrete work for starting ramps, concrete pad for bridge and the starting line pad. The only paid contractors were the BC Anderson Asphalt ($22,500.00) and American Fencing for chain link fencing. The Jaycees provided installation of the fence. The KC Jaycees continued as our major sponsor.

**1978:** The first race was held on the new track at 4600 Eastern Ave. An elaborate ribbon cutting ceremony took place with Paul Arnsmeyer, Jerry Cohen and Al Shipley cutting the ribbon. Mayor Berkley and Joe Services attended the event. The ceremony included a Shriner parade. The need for track guardrails was recognized after a couple of accidents. The first guard rails were railroad ties, donated by a local company in the Leeds area. The railroad ties proved to be unsatisfactory. Races to this point had been simple double elimination.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**1979:** Paul Arnsmeyer heard of another 501(c)(3) that was available and going to be disbanded and asked them to donate their remaining funds ($5,000.) to the Kansas City SBD. With these funds, the derby purchased guard rails. The Jaycees installed the rails and Ironworks provided welding. The first race using a double elimination "photo swap" began. The Kansas City Star donated a Polaroid camera for determining winners of the races.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The program is designed as a parent- child program. A parent or adult is expected to help in the construction of the car for the boy or girl.

The total cost of the car should not exceed $75.00, exclusive of the wheels, axles, steering assembly and paint.

10-11 years, Mandatory Jr. Division. Maximum weight, 220 pounds.

12 years, Optional Jr. or Sr. Division

12-15 Years, Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds.

**1980:** The Polaroid camera (Donated by the KC Star) was used for the Photo Swap to record and determine the winner of a race heat. This was the first race held with a timer and wheel swap.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: Paul Arnsmeyer

Ass't. Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:**

**1981:** Kansas City race included 32 racers in Jr. Division and 16 in the Sr. Division.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The new Poly wheels were introduced into the program. They were optional at the local races this year.

10-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Maximum weight, 220 pounds.

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

13-15 Years, mandatory Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds.

**1982:** On May 22, 1982 the track was rededicated and named the "Paul H. Arnsmeyer Track." A Polaroid Camera was used to determine the winner of each heat. Kansas City's SBD race included 28 Jr. Racers and 16 Sr. Racers.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The 1982 All- American race was run on Nylon Wheels for the first time phasing out the steel wheels. The local Derby has the option to use either the steel wheels or the Z- Glass wheels.

10-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Maximum weight, 220 pounds with steel wheels.

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

13-15 Years, mandatory Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds with steel wheels.

Wheels*: This Information provided by John Thornton (1951 Champ and Derby Director)*. In 1982, nylon wheels (Z-glass) were introduced and the steel wheels were phased out the following year. More recently, contestants used their own wheels but exchanged two or four wheels between heats in a two heat timed elimination per round.

**1983:** The Kansas City Jaycees continued as the Major Sponsor. There were 23 racers in the Jr. Division and 12 racers in the Sr. Division.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** 1983 was the last year for using the plunger brake in the Jr. Division.

10-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Maximum, 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds using Z-Glass wheels.

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

12-15 Years, Sr. Division. Maximum weight, 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds using Z-Glass wheels.

**1984:** Kansas City had 13 racers in the Jr. Division and 9 in the Sr. Division.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:**

10-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division.

13-15 Years, mandatory Sr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1985:** Ken Frisby built the topside scoring table shade frame. Kansas City had 9 racers in the Jr. Division and 8 in the Sr. Division.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron. The local Derby has the option to use either the steel wheels or the Z- Glass wheels.

9-10 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11-12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

13-15 years, mandatory Sr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1986:** Darin Arnsmeyer placed 4th in the Senior Division at the All-American SBD Championships in Akron. Kansas City had 9 racers in the Jr. Division and 8 in the Sr. Division

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The AASBD started a rally racing program known as the wild card program. The Rally program consisted of awarding three "Wild Card" slots annually in each of the two Divisions which will grant those six the right to participate in this year's All -American race. Slots are granted to those six participants who have acquired the greatest Rally points and have not won their local race.

The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron.

9-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11 years, (past Jr. Champions only) Sr. Division

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

13-16 years, mandatory Sr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1987:**

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** **1987 was the 50th anniversary of the All-American Soap Box Derby.**

The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron.

9-11 years, mandatory Jr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11 years, (past Jr. Champions only) Sr. Division

12 years, optional Jr. or Sr. Division

13-16 years, mandatory Sr. Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1988:** David Duffield, 13 years old, won the local Masters Div. championship and went on to take 1st place in the Masters Div. at the All-American SBD World Championships in Akron. He had the fastest time of the race at 27.77 seconds. He became the first Kansas City derby youth to win first place at the World Championships.

President: Paul Arnsmeyer

Derby Director: John Thornton

**AASBD:** The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron.

The AASBD changed the name of the Senior Div. to the Masters Division.

9-11 years old, mandatory Kit Car Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11 years, (past Kit Car Champions ONLY) Masters Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

12-16 years, optional Kit Car or Masters Division.

**1989:** Rolan Duffield was appointed the new Derby Director.

**AASBD:** The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron. The local Derby has the option to use either the steel wheels or the Z- Glass wheels.

9-11 years old, mandatory Kit Car Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11 years, (past Kit Car Champions ONLY) Masters Division.

12-16 years, optional Kit Car or Masters Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1990:** The KC Jaycees sponsored the derby in KC from 1974 through the 1992 race season.

"State of Missouri Certificate of Change of Registered Agent by a Not for Profit Corporation" was approved on November 30, 1990. Names were changed from registered agent David M. Harding to Roy M. Fortner.

Derby Director: Rolan Duffield

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

**AASBD:** The Z-Glass wheels will be used in Akron. The local Derby has the option to use either the steel wheels or the Z- Glass wheels.

9-11 years old, mandatory Kit Car Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 220 pounds with steel wheels or 206 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

11 years, (past Kit Car Champions only in the Masters Division.)

12-16 years, optional Kit Car or Masters Division. Weight of car and driver cannot exceed 250 pounds with steel wheels or 236 pounds with Z- Glass wheels.

**1991:** The KC Jaycees and the YMCA of Greater Kansas City were the primary Sponsors of the race. Ken Frisby, Tim Clemens, Randy Clemens, John Woodward and David Duffield rebuilt one trailer and made a second trailer for transporting cars back to topside.

Will Long took 2nd place in the Masters Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron.

Derby Director: Rolan Duffield

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

**AASBD:** The All American Rally Program was created, replacing the wild card program which was started in 1985. Rolan Duffield was selected as one of the original 5 Rally Commissioners for the new program. He served as a Rally Commissioner through 2004.

Maximum weights for Z-Glass wheels is 206 for the Kit Car and 236 pounds for the Masters Divisions. The old steel wheels may be used in the local race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 - 10 years, mandatory Kit Car Division.

11-16 years, optional Kit Car or Masters Div.

**1992:** Ethan Yonker placed 3rd in the Kit Car Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron. He also had the fastest heat time of 28.22 sec. in the Kit Car Division.

The KC Jaycees was our major sponsor. They contributed some operating funds, supported the lease agreement with the City of Kansas City and provide manpower to conduct the All-American race.

Derby Director: Rolan Duffield

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

A**ASBD:** The new Stock Car was introduced into the program by the All American SBD. It is designed as a sit up car. Complete kits and wheels are purchased from the All American SBD.

Maximum weights for Z-Glass wheels should be 206 for the Stock or Kit Car and 236 pounds for the Masters Divisions. The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 - 10 years, mandatory Stock or Kit Car Div.

11-16 years, optional Stock, Kit car or Masters Div.

**1993**: Debbie Burroughs placed 7th in the Masters Division at the All-American World Championships. Rolan Duffield was recognized as an Outstanding Derby Director at the All -American World Championships.

Derby Director: Rolan Duffield

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

**AASBD:** Maximum weights for Z-Glass wheels should be 206 for the Stock or Kit Car and 236 pounds for the Masters Divisions. The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 – 10 years old, mandatory Stock or Kit Car Division

11 – 16 years old, optional Stock, Kit Car or Masters Division.

**1994:** Becky Shacklett placed 6th in the Kit Car Division and Jamee Clemens placed 1st in the Kit Car Rally Division at the All-American World Championships.

The Automotive Service Association headed by Roger Hurst became the primary sponsor of the KC Derby. KC Jaycees continued some support. (Valorie Horton, Mary Magnussen and Mike Foley.)

The articles of Incorporation were updated in preparation for establishing a Federal 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt status.

"State of Missouri Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of a General Not for Profit Corporation" was approved September 11, 1994.

"State of Missouri Certificate of amendment of a General Not for Profit Corporation" was approved on November 29, 1994.

Derby Director: Rolan Duffield

Asst. Derby Director: Joe Long

Chief Inspector: Tim Clemens

Secretary: Barbara McClain

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Ann Yonker

Track Facilities: Mike Foley

A**ASBD:** Maximum weights for Z-Glass wheels should be 206 for the Stock or Kit Car and 236 pounds for the Masters Division. The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 – 10 years old, mandatory Stock or Kit Car Division

11 – 16 years old, optional Stock, Kit Car or Masters Division

**1995:** Jamee Clemens placed 5th in the Masters Division and Matt Shacklett placed 2nd in the Rally Stock Division at the All-American Championships in Akron.

The Automotive Service Association continued as our primary sponsor. Advisors for the ASA were Roger Hurst and Earnie Sandbach. The KC Jaycees continued support. (Valorie Horton, Cheryl Richards and Mike Foley.)

We purchased a new state of the art timer for timing the SBD races in KC. John Miller built the control system to simplify setting up the timer for our races. Rolan Duffield built the control box to house the system. Prior to this time, the Polaroid Camera was used to determine who won a particular heat.

By laws of the Kansas City Soap Box Derby were completed and approved on January 22, 1995. These were required to apply for the 501(c)(3) document. The By Laws outlined the fact that the Kansas City Soap Box Derby is the same Corporation as indicated in the original documents as the "Mid -America Soap Box Derby." (Columbia, MO. also uses the name "Mid America Soap Box Derby.") A code of ethics was also established.

The "Federal Income Tax Exemption 501(c)(3)" for the KCSBD was established and completed by Roy Fortner on March 10, 1995.

The "State of Missouri exemption from Missouri Sales and use Taxes on Purchases and Sales" approved on May 16, 1995. Missouri Tax I.D. # 15742491. Expiration date 05-16-00.

KC Soap Box Derby Track was resurfaced in May 1995 by the Bowen Construction Co. at a cost of $15,600.00. Ken Frisby oversaw the installation. Prior to the resurfacing, Chet Manley Construction Co. donated the heavy equipment and workers to correct the drainage system. He installed a 4" drainage pipe under the track at the finish line and another one midway down the track. Catch basins were installed at both sides of the track at these points to direct water away from the track. Allied Concrete donated the catch basins. He then used the excess dirt to fill the ruts on the west side of the track. Chet's crew spent two full days of time, equipment and labor to complete this task. Chet Manley often donated gravel and services to repair the entrance ramp to topside. He also striped the track after it was resurfaced. We couldn't have completed this task without his support.

President: Rolan Duffield

Vice President: Joe Long

Derby Director: Tim Clemens

Asst. Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Vicki Foulk

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Ann Yonker

Track Facility: Mike Foley & Ken Frisby

**AASBD:** The original Kit Division was phased out of the All American program. The new Super Stock car was introduced into the program.

The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9-16 Years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 206 pounds.

10-16 Years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 206 pounds. 11- 16 Years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 236 pounds.

**1996:** Scott Andrews placed 6th in the Masters Division and Niki Madison was awarded "Originality in Decoration" in the Stock Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron, Ohio.

ASA continued as our major sponsor led by Roger Hurst & Earnie Sandbach. Valorie Horton and Mike Foley were KC Jaycee supporters.

We purchased a set of Derby Weight Scales from Ohio Valley Scale Co. in April 1996. These scales made by Intercomp Co. 14465 23rd. Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN.

President: Rolan Duffield

Vice President: Ann Yonker

Derby Director: Tim Clemens

Asst. Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Vicki Foulk

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Track Facility: Mike Foley & Richard Andrews

**AASBD:** The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9-16 Years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10-16 Years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 225 pounds. 11-16 Years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 240 pounds.

**1997:** Ann Yonker became the Kansas City SBD President. The Automotive Service Association continued as our major sponsor and The YMCA continued with their support.

We built and installed a communications line from the Bridge to Topside. This is used for phone communications to topside and for a speaker system.

President: Ann Yonker

Vice President: John Evans

Derby Director: Tim Clemens

Asst. Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Track Facilities: Mike Foley & Richard Andrews

Electronics Director: John Miller

**AASBD**:

9-16 Years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10-16 Years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds..

11-16 Years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 250 pounds.

**1998:** Mark Yonker received the "Best Decoration" award in the Stock Division at The All-American World Championships.

Electrical service was installed at topside. This provided power for the weight scales, topside communications and other needs. Tim Clemens and Randy Clemens made the arrangements with the Power Co.

The Automotive Service Association and the YMCA continued as our major sponsors. The ASA provided the trophies for the All American Race. A special thanks to Mike Foley (one of the original KC Jaycees) who again drove the winning local cars to Akron. Mike was always one of the first supporters to arrive at the track on race day to set up the equipment for the SBD races. He set up the bridge equipment and lined the roadway with cones to provide a safety barrier along the roadway. This continued faithfully for many years.

President: Ann Yonker

Vice President: John Evans

Derby Director: Tim Clemens.

Asst Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Track Facility: Richard Andrews

**AASBD:**

9 – 16 years, Stock Division. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10 – 16 years, Super Stock Division. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

11 – 16 years, Masters Division. Maximum weight is 250 pounds.

**1999:** Aaron Ratzlaff placed 9th in the Masters Division of the All-American World Championships in Akron, Ohio.

Our primary sponsor for the All American race continued to be the Automotive Service Association led by Roger Hurst and Ernie Sandbach. The ASA contributed the Trophies for the race and on race day they cooked hamburgers, sold concessions, lifted the cars on the trailers for return to topside and drove the return trucks.

President: Ann Yonker

Vice President: John Evans

Derby Director: Bryan Stephans

Asst Derby Director: Steve Yonker

Chief Inspector: Tim Clemens

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Promotions Committee: Rich LaGrece, Lee Freeman, Joe Mellott

Track Facilities: Richard Andrews

**AASBD**: The new Masters “Scottie” special car was introduced. It was named after Myron Scott.

The new Bleachers were built near the finish line.

9 -16 years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9-16 years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

11-16 years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 250 pounds.

**2000:** Megan Evans took 1st place in the Rally Super Stock Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron.

President: Ann Yonker

Vice President: John Evans

Derby Director: Tim Clemens

Asst. Derby Director: Brian Riddle

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Newsletter: Michelle Riddle

Equipment: Gary Wolfe

Track Facilities: Richard Andrews

Promotions: Rich LaGrece, Lee Freeman & Joe Mellott

**AASBD:** The new bridge was built over the finish line.

The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 -16 years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9-16 years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

11 -16 years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 250 pounds.

Price: Stock car: White $280.00, Blue and Red - $295.00.

Super Stock: $300.00.

**2001:** Megan Evans took 8th place in the Masters Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron. Tim Clemens was recognized as an "Outstanding Derby Director" at the All American World Championship race.

President: Ann Yonker

Derby Director: Brian Stephans

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Equipment: Gary Wolfe

**AASBD:** The new Topside storage barn was built.

The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

9 -16 years: Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9-16 years: Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

11 -16 years: Masters Div. Maximum weight is 255 pounds.

**2002:** Amy Clemens took 1st in the Rally Masters Division, Megan Evans placed 3rd in the Rally Masters Division Program at the All-American World Championships in Akron.

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Ann Yonker

Derby Director: Brian Riddle

Asst. Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Dale Graves

Asst. Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sharon Wolfe

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Equipment Manager: Gary Wolfe

Banquet/ Concessions: Michell Riddle

Newsletter: Michelle Hawkins

Promotions: Dave Bipes

Fundraising: Chris Ingo

Groundskeeper: Alan Wheeler

**AASBD**: This was the last year that Champs went to a camp for the week.

9 -16 years, Stock Div. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9-16 years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

11 -17 years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 250 pounds.

**2003:** Ben Riddle took 3rd place in the Super Stock Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron, Ohio.

The ASA sponsored the All American race and the trophies for the race.

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Terry Henry

Derby Director: Steve Yonker

Asst. Director: Alan Wheeler

Chief Inspector: Dale Graves

Secretary: Nancy Wheeler

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Promotions: Dave Bipes

Newsletter: Ann Yonker

Track Facilities: John Shelton

Fundraising: Sarah Graves

Equipment: Brian Riddle

Concessions: Michelle Riddle & Chris Ingo

**AASBD:** For the 66th All-American Soap Box Derby activities in 2003, all competing champions representing local races and rallies will stay with their families.

The AASBD indicated all racers are required to wear the new bicycle style helmets issued by the All American SBD. The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or

raced against each other.

8 -17 years, Stock and Super Stock Div.

10 - 17 years, Masters Div.

Stock- white $312.00, Red or Blue $327.00. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

Super Stock: $335.00. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

Masters Scottie Kit: $410.00. Maximum weight is 250 pounds. Z-Glass Wheels: $80.00

**2004:** Hillary Pearson took 1st place in the Masters Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron. She also received the "Best Construction" award and posted the fastest heat of the race at 28.24 Seconds.

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Terry Henry

Derby Director: Steve Yonker

Asst. Derby Director: Alan Wheeler

Chief Inspector: John Evans

Secretary: Nancy Wheeler

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

**AASBD:** This was the first year for the "Ultimate Speed Division" racing program at the All American SBD.

The old steel wheels may be used in the Local Race event, though they cannot be mixed or raced against each other.

8 -17 years, Stock and Super Stock Div.

10 - 17 years, Masters Div.

Stock cars: White $385.00, Red and Blue $390.00. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

Super Stock: $395.00. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

Masters: $485.00. Maximum weight is 255 pounds.

Z-Glass wheels: $90.00

**2005:** Kris Burroughs took 5th in the Stock Division and Shannon Kennedy took 3rd Place in the Super Stock Division at the All-American World Championships.

Steve Yonker was recognized as an "Outstanding Derby Director" at the All American World Championships.

Paul Arnsmeyer was inducted into the Soap Box Derby Hall of Fame in Akron during Derby week.

Orileys Auto parts sponsored the trophies for the KC All American race. Rolan Duffield retired as Region VI Director. John Evans replaced Rolan as the new Regional Director.

President: Sara Graves

Vice President: Tim Clemens

Derby Director: Steve Yonker

Asst. Derby Director: Alan Wheeler

Chief Inspector: Jerry Pearson

Secretary: Nancy Wheeler

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

**AASBD:**

8 -17 years, Stock. Maximum weight is 200 pounds.

8-17 years, Super Stock Div. Maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10 - 17 years, Masters Div. Maximum weight is 255 pounds.

**2006:**

President: Sara Graves

Vice President: Tim Clemens

Derby Director: Steve Yonker

Asst. Derby Director: Terry Henry

Chief Inspector: Alan Wheeler

Secretary: Nancy Wheeler

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Fundraising: Allen Kennedy

Concessions: Chris Ingo

Newsletter/ Webmaster: Ann Yonker

**AASBD:**

8- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 250 pounds.

**2007:** Andrew Hawkins took 2nd place in the Stock Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron.

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Dave Bipes

Derby Director: Alan Wheeler

Asst. Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Chief Inspector: Dale Graves

Secretary: Debbie Edwards

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Newsletter: Chris Ingo

Fundraising: Nancy Wheeler

**AASBD:**

8- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

**2008:**

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Steve Yonker

Derby Director: Alan Wheeler

Asst. Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Chief Inspector: Dale Graves

Secretary: Debbie Edwards

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

**AASBD:**

8- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

10- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

**2009:** Christian Fortner took 6th place in the Stock Car Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron.

President: Tim Clemens

Vice President: Alan Wheeler

Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Asst. Derby Director: David Ball

Chief Inspector: Bryan Stephans

Secretary: Jeannette Stephans

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

Newsletter/ Webmaster: Ann Yonker

Fundraising Coordinator: Debbie Edwards

**AASBD:**

8- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

**2010:** The track was resurfaced on May 5-7, 2010 by the Thornet & Son Asphalt Paving Co. The Control Board had previously discussed several options for the track including moving the Track to Blue Springs.

The Local Race on June 12th was preceded by a rededication of the newly resurfaced track with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Included were Brady Pollington, Assistant to KC Mayor Mark Funkhouser, Cindy Circo, District 5 Councilwoman, Charlie Poderbarac, creator of the Cowtown Comic Strip, Paul Arnsmeyer and Dr. Mary Magnussen. Paul Arnsmeyer was instrumental in finding the original location and overseeing the building of the Track facility in 1977. Dr. Mary Magnussen was one of the original KC Jaycees who helped at the track in those early years. She still supports as our primary car number caller.

Just as the race was about to begin a very hard rain started to fall. The race was delayed until 2:45pm and wasn't completed until it was almost dark. That complicated the Awards Banquet as the facility needed to be vacated by 9:30pm. Some of the supplies, the trophies and the winners didn't arrive until about 9:00pm. Terry Henry supplied the smoked chicken and most of the food. The awards ceremony was described as "quick and dirty" though was another great accomplishment for the KCSBD.

President: Brian Stephans

Vice President: Alan Wheeler

Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Asst. Derby Director: David Ball

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Jeannette Stephans

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sue Evans

**AASBD:**

8- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

**2011:** China Edwards placed 3rd in the Super Stock Division and Oakley Barnham, placed 4th in the Rally Stock Division at the All-American World Championships.

President: Brian Stephans

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Asst. Derby Director: Paul Meara

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sue Evans

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Debbie Edwards

**AASBD:**

**7**- 14 years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9- 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 230 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

**2012:**

President: Paul Meara

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director: Jon Edwards

Asst. Derby Director: Jeremy Darling

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Sue Evans

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Debbie Edwards

**AASBD: 2012 was the 75th anniversary of the All-American Soap Box Derby.**

The new Starting Line Shelter was built.

7-14 Years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9 - 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 240 pounds.

10– 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

Note: Regression between Divisions is permitted as long as the participant is age appropriate.

**2013:** Kansas City had nine champs in Akron this year (A record number). Morgan Brian was our

first representative to the National Super Kids program.

The Kansas City SBD Track was resealed in Early October.

President: Paul Meara

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director Jeremy Darling

Asst. Derby Director: Brian Bishop

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Secretary: Jeanne Hinnenkamp

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Publicity: Sarah Darling

**AASBD:**

7 to 14 Years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9 to 18 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 240 pounds.

10 to 18 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight limit is 255 pounds.

Stock car: Kits: White $430.00, Red & Blue: $455.00

Super Stock car: Kits: White $465.00, Blue $490.00

Masters car: Kit: $610.00,Helmets: $13.75, Wheels: $110.00

**2014:** Matt Thompson placed 7th in the Masters Division at the All-American World Championships in Akron, Ohio.

Ed Cambell and a few teammates built a large wood shelter over the starting line area. This

Is a welcome addition that provides shade for the derby entrants as they prepare for their run down the track.

President: Paul Meara

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director: Jeremy Darling

Asst. Derby Director: Jeff Cambell

Secretary: Jeanne Hinnenkamp

Treasurer: Tim Roth

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Webmaster: Ann Yonker

**AASBD:**

7 to 14 Years, Stock Div. The maximum weight is 200 pounds.

9 to 19 years, Super Stock Div. The maximum weight is 240 pounds.

10 to 19 years, Masters Div. The maximum weight is 255 pounds.

**2015:**

President: Paul Meara

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director: Jeremy Darling

Asst. Derby Director: Sara Darling

Secretary: Jeanne Hinnenkamp

Treasurer: Tim Roth

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Publicity: Ann Yonker

**AASBD:**

Stock Division:Must be 7 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 14 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 200 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Super Stock Division:Must be 9 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 19 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 240 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Masters Division:Must be 10 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 21 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 255 pounds. Must have 6 cars in the Division.

Stock car kits: White $430.00, Red: $455.00

Super Stock car kits: White $465.00, Blue or Red: $490.00

Scottie Masters car kit: $610.00

Helmets: $13.75, Z-Glass Wheels: $110.00

**2016:** Jeremy Darling and a friend modified the Timer system so that the “time and lane” output can now be read at the topside scoring table. The speaker system was also converted to be used at the starting line. A person is no longer needed on the Bridge for these tasks. This will greatly simplify communications and recordkeeping operations.

President: Sarah Darling

Vice President: Guy Emhoff

Derby Director: Jeremy Darling

Asst. Derby Director: Paul Meara

Secretary: Laura Hawkins

Treasurer: Tim Roth

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

Publicity: Stacy Plum

**AASBD:**

Stock Division:Must be 7 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 14 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 200 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Super Stock Division:Must be 9 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 19 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 240 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Masters Division:Must be 10 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 21 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 255 pounds. Must have 6 cars in the Division.

Stock car kits: White $465.00, Red or Blue: $495.00, Neon Orange kit: $500.00

Super Stock car kits: White $505.00, Red or Blue: $530.00

Scottie Masters Kit: $660.00

Helmets: $15.00, Z-Glass Wheels (white or black): $119.00

**2017:** A special All-American indoor Rally event was held in March at the Whiteman Air Force Base, home of the B2 Stealth bombers. Special ramps were built for the derby cars that ran off the ramps onto a flat surface inside one of the Hangers.

President: Laura Hawkins

Vice President: Stacy Plum

Derby Director: Tim Roth

Assistant Director: Paul Meara

Secretary: Guy Emhoff

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

**AASBD:** Proof of age is required. Stock Division:Must be 7 years old by date of first local rally and/or race. Must not turn 14 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 200 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Super Stock Division:Must be 9 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 19 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 240 pounds. Must have 12 cars in the Division.

Masters Division:Must be 10 years old by July 31st. Must not turn 21 years old before July 31st. Maximum weight is 255 pounds. Must have 6 cars in the Division.

Stock car kits: White $465.00

Super Stock car kits: White $505.00, Red or Blue: $515.00

Scottie Masters Kit: $675.00

Helmets: $20.00, Z-Glass Wheels, $125.00

**2018:** The spring Rally races were held on April 14th and 15th. It was a brutally cold weekend event. Saturday was a cold, windy day. Sunday was even colder with some light snow on the ground and the high temperature was an all time record low temperature of 30 degrees with a wind chill of 16 degrees. Even so, the races were completed successfully, thanks to a great support staff and the efforts of the racing participants.

At the awards banquet in June, Roy Fortner, Steve Yonker and Ann Yonker were recognized for 25 Years of outstanding support, leadership and faithful dedication to the Kansas City Soap Box Derby.

President: Laura Hawkins

Vice President: Stacy Plum

Derby Director: Tim Roth

Assistant Derby Director: Dale Brown

Secretary: Ann Yonker

Treasurer: Roy Fortner

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

**AASBD:** Age and weight rules are same as 2017. Kit prices are same as in 2017.

A-7.08 Once a Stock, Super Stock or Masters Car has participated in an AASBD World Championship Race the floorboard is no longer permitted to race in another sanctioned Local, Rally or AASBD World Championship

race by another participant.

**2019:** Roy Fortner retired as being our Treasurer for over 25 years.

The Osawatomie Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Kansas City Soap Box Derby and the city of Osawatomie hosted the “Tornado Alley Rally Race” on June 1st in Osawatomie, Kansas. The sanctioned All-American Rally Race started at 12th and Main Street and rolled down the Main street incline to 10th street and the entrance to the John Brown Memorial Park. The talk in Osawatomie is that they want this to be an annual event. There were 20 racers participating in the rally.

The Kansas City Soap Box Derby program was the recipient of a new weight scale for the derby cars and a new state of the art timer system, thanks to the generosity of four long time derby supporters, Steve Yonker, Roy Fortner, John Evans and Rolan Duffield.

President: Stacy Plum

Derby Director: Tim Roth

Assistant Derby Director: Travis Plum

Treasurer: Dale Brown

Secretary: Ann Yonkker

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

**AASBD:** Proof of age is required in all Divisions.

Stock Division:Must be 7 years of age by date of first Local and/or Rally race in which they participate. They must not turn 14 years of age before July 31st. A combined weight of an assembled Stock Car, Z-Glass wheels and the participant must not be less than 198 pounds and not exceed 200 pounds.

Super Stock Division:Must be 9 years of age by July 31st in the race year that they participate. They must not turn 19 years of age on or before July 31st. A combined weight of an assembled Super Stock Car, Z-Glass wheels and the participant must not be less than 238 pounds and must not exceed 240 pounds.

Masters Division: Must be 10 years of age by July 31st in the race year that they participate. They must not turn 21 years of age on or before July 31st. A combined weight of an assembled Masters Car, Z-Glass wheels and the participant must not be less than 253 pounds and must not exceed 255 pounds.

Stock car kit: White $520.00

Super Stock car kit: White $505.00

Scottie Masters Kit: $830.00

Z-Glass Wheels, $125.00

**2020:** All Soap Box Derby functions were suspended early in the year due to the COVID-19 coronavirus which became a worldwide health pandemic. This affected everyone as we were asked to stay at home, wear masks, keep at least six feet apart at all times and stay away from crowds during the pandemic. All non essential work, daily activities and all sports activities were affected and shut down for weeks, essentially closing the nation.

All spring Rally Races and the Local Soap Box Derby races were cancelled.

On May 26, 2020 the All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio sent out an email indicating the July Championship races were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The hopes are that the 2020-2021 Rally racing season can begin starting June 29, 2020.

President: Stacy Plum

Vice President: Aimee Crenshaw

Derby Director: Travis Plum

Assistant Derby Director: Dale Brown

Treasurer: Dale Brown

Secretary: Ann Yonker

Chief Inspector: Steve Yonker

**AASBD:** Proof of age is required in all Divisions.

All Division information for age, weight and cost is the same as in 2019.

**John Evans**, our Regional Director was selected for the All-American Soap Box Derby Hall of

Fame for the 2020 class of inductees. He will be honored online this year and be officially

inducted in-person as part of the 2021 race week activities.

John grew up in Independence, Missouri and raced in the nearby Kansas City Soap Box

Derby for four years beginning in 1952. He won the local race when he was 14 in 1955 and

competed in the All-American Soap Box Derby. He never lost his passion for the Soap Box

Derby, joining the Kansas City Derby board in 1990 and continues to serve as a local advisor.

John became our Assistant Regional Director in 2002 and has been our Regional Director

since 2006. He and Jerry Van Waart, from Iowa, are the Region 4 Director team advising

local race programs in eight states which includes Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado, North

Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Wyoming.