



ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

2012 Soapbox Derby Newsletter #4

11th March 2012

Dear School and Sponsors,

SBD Safety Day:

The team were very pleased to see that the cars were well set up and safe.

Please fix any of the minor issues prior to racing and remember... the teams that didn't make this day need to contact Lyn and take the car to him for checking prior to Race Day.

A copy of the Safety Brief is on our website: www.soapboxderby.co.nz

There is important information in this – like suitable clothing and no sitting on the barriers – so make sure the teams fully understand this.

This document is part of our Health and Safety Plan so please use it.

Derby Day Parking:



The Salvation Army have offered parking in their paddock for a gold coin donation. **We request that people use this and support the Sallies.**

The retail workers usually park on the side roads and on Westgate Drive. With the public car park at the bottom half closed due to a tower construction and us using the road they are under pressure both for staff and customer parking.

The smaller the impact we make on them and their businesses the better!

Race Day Timeline:

Our goal, subject to any delays, is:

7:30am	School teams start arriving
8:00am	Registration desk opens
8:00am	Scrutinizing of cars start
8:30am	Calibrate lanes and double check timing system is working correctly
9:00am	Racing starts
12:00 noon approx	Lunch Break with displays
1:00pm approx	Finalists race
2:00pm approx	Races finish and site clean up
2:30pm approx	Prize Giving





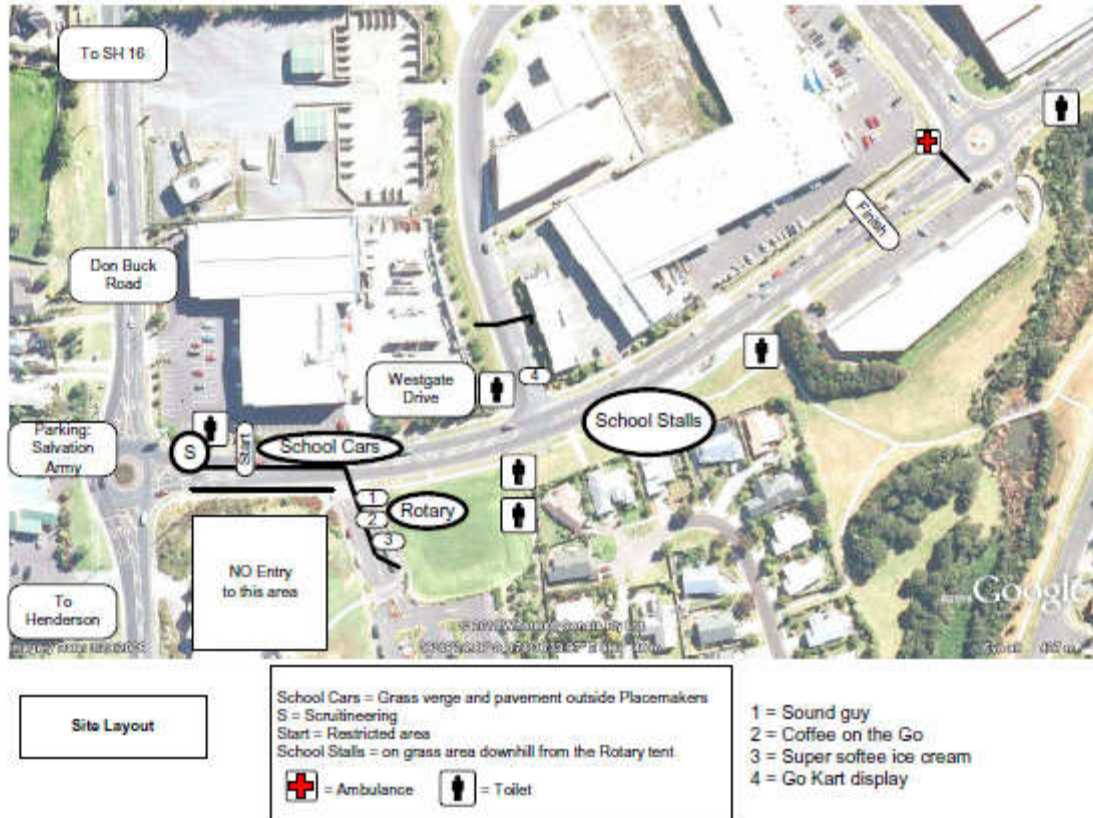
ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Map:



We are, as usual, tight on space.

Pit crews go on the grass verge outside Placemakers (please, no overflowing into their car park) and the grass verge if required in Cabernet Crescent. Events and displays will happen on the road so keep this clear.

The flat grass area will contain the Rotary tent, one or two sponsor tents and events arranged by the Air Scouts.

School stalls will go on the sloping grass verge down the track.

First in, first served!

The Road Closure team will be at work from 6am with the Rotarians drifting in thereafter – but don't expect too many of us to be wide awake and able to answer intelligent questions at this hour and before coffee.





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Remember:

Loose Steering and poor brakes make great photos:



Whangaparaoa Race 2011
(As seen on the front page of The Rodney Times)



NZ Champ Aaron practising for Akron
(As seen on You Tube)



Waitakere Race 2009
A hay bale incident prior to a major crash in the next race



Waitakere Race 2009
The major crash – and car out of the race
(As seen in the Western Leader)

Keep an eye on the car as it goes down the track. If it wiggles then there is a steering problem that will rapidly get worse. Actively encourage your drivers to report problems. If they say "It felt funny" or "I hit a hay bale" - pay attention! The next race may result in a crash and disqualification.

Alternatively – arm your team with cameras and send me the photos. I **will** use them!

And a hint whilst practising: use video cameras to record the practice (from a safe place). Steering wiggles and early braking are easily detected on playback.

Drivers' Registration Forms:

Thank you to all who have given me their forms. If you need copies they can be found here: http://www.aasbd.org/media/2254/loca_race_registration_form_2012.pdf

I also need race order of the drivers by **WEDNESDAY LATEST** so I can issue the Race Draw.





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Birth Certificates:

For our local race we trust the schools and parents to only submit drivers aged 10 and over. However ...

Within 24 hours of the NZ Finals our Race Director needs to send off a whole pile of paperwork to Akron - and this includes a copy of the NZ Champion's birth certificate.

To avoid nasty surprises like "Oh, we lost it in our last move and will have to get a new one from Wellington" or "Ah, well actually ... <pause>... I may not have quite followed the rules" (an issue that is guaranteed to send the blood pressure of the organizers soaring) we ask for Birth Certificates for all Finalists prior to the NZ Finals on 1st April.

The rules are:

A-3. Age Limitations

A-3.02 Participants in the Super Stock Division must be ten (10) years of age by the date of the first Local and/or Rally race in which they participate.

They must not turn eighteen (18) years of age on or before August 1. Proof of age is required.

http://www.aasbd.org/media/17910/aasbd_rule_book.pdf

SBD Workshops:

Hmm... very interesting ...

It is not too late for those who couldn't make it learn a few quick tips to car set up and to "spindle" their wheels. Shawn and Barry are both busy people but may be able to squeeze you in prior to race day if you ask nicely:

- Shawn Dyer - 027 390 9885
- Barry Hinton - 0220143862

NOTE: As it takes a good 15 minutes per car to do this, Sunday morning prior to a 9am start is NOT a good time to think about this! It just can't be done.

Stickers

If anyone is in need of stickers please let Heather know **URGENTLY** so we can get these made. We do need some car numbers and these will be made this week. If you haven't yet let us know that you need some - tell Heather ASAP.



How to remove stickers:

- Use a hot air gun or hairdryer to heat the sticker
- Peel it off gently





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Sponsors:

Please advise us of any changes to the following:

2012 Schools and Confirmed Sponsors to date		
School	Full Sponsors	Part Sponsors
AGC Sunderland College		2 Degrees (half) Warehouse Stationers (half)
Bruce McLaren Intermediate		
Henderson Intermediate	NZRPG	
Hobsonville Primary	Western Leader	
Massey High	MD Aluminium	
Matipo Primary		Westpac
Rangeview Intermediate	DARE	
Riverhead Scouts		
Rutherford College	Toshiba Heat Pumps	
Swanson School	Future Cuisine	
Taupaki School	Douglas Pharmaceuticals	
Taupaki School	Ritchies	
Waitakere Primary		
Whenuapai		Pinepac

Sponsor Stalls:



A few of the Matipo team, seen here in their Westpac bank caps, checking out the Northcote SBD.

Their proud sponsor:



Sponsors are more than welcome to display banners, signs and have stalls at our Derby.

Westpac will be there on Derby day to support our new school Matipo and they will have a stall.

Douglas Pharmaceuticals, one of our founding full sponsors, will also be there on the day.

One or two people from Noel Leeming – who have donated a fantastic prize for our West Auckland Champ – are planning on dropping by incognito to watch.

All sponsors are very welcome. Bring banners, signs, information, yourselves... and drop by the Rotary Tent for a warm welcome!





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Video Award:

Some kids are born to race; others aren't - but have other useful skills. Involve them!

Details of our Annual Video Award are on our website: www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Our 2011 SBD video included the Hobsonville and Waitakere School videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Njjd4IZqfRw&lr=1>

We showed this to the kids at Matipo School and it really helped bring the derby alive for them and the questions started pouring in. Can your students make one this year? I've seen one school's practice schedule with film crew included in the team.

Corporate Cars:

Whilst we were really keen to see the Principals taking on the Sponsors it appears that not all Principals and Sponsors are as adventurous as the kids! But others in their organizations are saying "Pick Me!"

We have therefore changed the rule to be:
Principal or Nominee and Sponsor or Nominee

We have time for around 10 races so drivers are required on a first come/first served basis (And if anyone sneaks an entry in without asking the principal if they want to drive first - expect detention!)

Contestants to date:

School / Sponsor	Position	Name
Swanson Primary	Principal	Bruce McLachlan
Rutherford College	Principal	Gary Moore
Massey High	Associate Principal	Mr Riseborough
Bruce McLaren	Principal	Roy Lilley
MD Aluminium	Sponsor	MD Aluminium
DARE	Sponsor	Constable Luke

The Corporate cars had their first outing at the Northcote race on Saturday 10th March:





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Mainfreight CEO versus local teacher



A North Shore Teacher in the Rotary car



The Mainfreight CEO Sponsor was positively bouncing after his race in the Clarkson Electrical car and we couldn't get the grin off his face.

He says he now totally understands why the kids love it.

NOTE: Mainfreight run a car every year at Northcote in return for shipping our Champion's car to the States and bringing back our parts. They are great people to deal with.

Also note that after a "technical issue" with the brakes on Saturday a modification has been made. Andrew Anderson, V8 driver from Whenuapai, gave the cars a good workout on Sunday on the Westgate Drive practice track and proved they now work well.

<There is nothing quite like a top car racer as a guinea pig for testing purposes. Thank you Andrew>

Jo Hinton also went down and found it fun.

Carnival Ideas:

We all know that the racing is absorbing, fascinating and great to watch. But for a real family day extra activities add spice and colour.

The Whenuapai Air Scouts are planning some great low cost carnival ideas. Does your school have ideas too?

Involve your parents and PTA, dream up a few ideas and contact Heather with the details and remember – all profit goes to those who run these activities.

Life and Colour:



Bring your Cheerleading team!





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Food Stalls:

- Coffee, ice cream, drinks and a sausage sizzle. Do any other teams want food stalls?
- Ask your PTA or parents if they would like to run a food stall as a fundraiser – and email Heather with their suggestion.

Suggested stalls include, but are not limited to:

American Hotdogs
Candy floss
Chocolate
Filled pita breads

Filled rolls
Fresh fruit
Fruit smoothies
Kebabs

Milk Shakes
Pop-corn
Sausage sizzle
Scones/muffins

Guide Biscuits:

It is biscuit season. If any Guides have any remaining stocks that they want to sell then by all means do so at the Derby

Practice:

A few teams were out there on Sunday trying out the ramps.



Rotary:



You've all met some of our members and (probably) found us to be quite normal people. If you are interested in finding out more about what we do, check out our website and the Rotary Tent on Derby day.

We do some very interesting things aside from Soapbox Derby.

Membership enquiries are welcome!





ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Website:

www.soapboxderby.co.nz


As information becomes available we add it to our website – including copies of the newsletters. Photos, videos etc from past derbies are also on our site.

Emails:

Please keep an eye on your emails as more information will be coming out soon. If you have other people who would like copies - email Heather with their email address and they will be added to the mail out list.

As usual few schools have added their parents to the email list so please ensure they get a copy and know about the website.

The Rotary core team for the event and contact details are:

Kerry McMillan Derby Director clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz Phone 832-3229 or 021-416-777	(Mr) Lyn Parts Phone: 021 251 5490
Heather Pattison Project Manager heather@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-719-569	Alan Pattison Technical Assistant alan@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-80-88-30
Rotary Meetings: Wednesday 6pm to 8pm Starling Park Sports Grounds 34 Glen Road Ranui	Are YOU the missing piece?  Rotary Membership Enquiries Welcome!

Heather Pattison

Please copy this newsletter and distribute to all of the people involved in the event!

