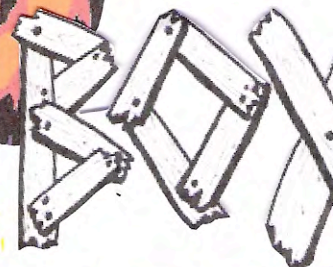


SOAP



RACE

The wind rushes past your helmet and the road tears along under your feet. The adrenaline shoots through your body and you can't get enough of this thrill seeking rush! Your biggest dream is to one day race in the big finals... This sensation many people are hooked on, and they express it by racing in self build racing cars, called soapboxes.

The name "Soapbox" comes from the origin of building the cars, many years ago...started around 1933. People began building these cars out of wooden boxes in which soap was transported, and placed four primitive wheels underneath. (But between you and me, it might just as well have been orange boxes!)

Today's cars are split into three categories: **Stock**, **Super Stock** and **Masters**.

-**Stock** (pointed at both ends), and **Super Stock** (more rounded) cars must be built with an official kit to make sure all the cars on the tracks are similar down to the last screw and wire.

-**Master** (most freedom in shaping) cars are permitted a bit more personal creative input but must still confirm to certain national race-rules.

The total weight of car and driver combined are 200 pounds (90, 72 kg) for Stock, 230 (104, 33 kg) for Super Stock and 255 (115, 67 kg) for Masters.

The cars are driven by gravity but can reach a speed up to 50 km/h.

Many downhill festival events are organised to keep this sport living, and to create an opportunity for the builders to share their passion for homemade race cars with each other.

The biggest sponsor in this sport is Red Bull, who has produced more than 35 races around the world, free to the public and participants.

To gain points in the race the participants wear outrageous costumes and create their own music soundtracks for the race. **Teams are judged on speed, creativity and showmanship.**

Rules: Four or more wheels, no bicycles, must role (no motors), steer and stop, not too big or heavy, no weapons, no spikes, no paint guns...

...keep it simple and safe!

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