



*"Celebrating 225 Years"*

## **Rutherfordton's 3rd Annual "Race for the Gold"**

# **Adult Soapbox Derby**

**Date:** Friday July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Time:** 10am – 2pm

**Place:** Downtown Rutherfordton (Main Street, from 2<sup>nd</sup> St to City Hall)

**Event:** Adult Soapbox Derby to benefit Rutherford Town Revitalization

**Contact:** Doug Grondahl, Event Coordinator [doug@legalgrounds.net](mailto:doug@legalgrounds.net)

**Website:** [www.Rutherfordtown.com/derby](http://www.Rutherfordtown.com/derby)

**Facebook:** [www.Facebook.com/downtownderby](http://www.Facebook.com/downtownderby)

**Purpose:** Provide a fun event for the entire community that is family friendly and enjoyable for all ages. Our primary goal is HAVE FUN! Our secondary goal is to raise money for Rutherford Town Revitalization. Proceeds from race will go directly to RTR for the purpose of downtown projects and community events. Your support of this event, either by participation or by sponsorship, is greatly appreciated by community.

**What is Rutherford Town Revitalization?:** Rutherford Town Revitalization, Inc is a catalyst to aid the downtown by promoting quality of life, sense of community, economic growth and preservation and restoration of the historic district.

**Why a soapbox derby?:** Downtown Rutherfordton is not a flat town and what better way to take advantage of this then with a race. This event is a GREEN and GRAVITY powered event that brings community and creativity together.

**Why July 4<sup>th</sup>?:** What better way to celebrate our nations independence than with an all-American soapbox derby. This day will be filled with family friendly events. In addition to the derby downtown Rutherfordton will have a car, truck & bike show, parade, live music, food vendors, kids area, cornhole tournament, dunking booths, watermelon & pie eating contests, FIREWORKS and much more. Not to mention this will be the only all-day 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Rutherford County.

**Participation and Volunteers:** There will be a limited amount of teams for this event therefore, a first come basis. Teams must be registered by May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Each team will be assigned a number that must be displayed and will be given sponsor decals that must be displayed on each team's car. Each team will have a minimum of three adults. Each team can have no more than

three drivers. **Each team will be required to have at least one volunteer who must show up early and work during the entire event. Failure to provide a volunteer will result in disqualification.**

**Course Description:** Course will be a straight shot down Main Street Rutherfordton. Starting line will be near the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Main Street (across from Legal Grounds) and travel across Court Street and end across from Town Hall. Course is approximately .21 miles long and will be lined with hay bales. Bumping will not be permitted. Weapons of any kind, including Ben Hur axles will not be permitted. Cell phones, text messaging and alcohol do not mix with driving nor do they with operating a soapbox car. Team members will not be allowed to consume alcohol until they have been eliminated from the event.

Racers will race two vehicles at a time. Each team will run the course 3 times and be placed in heats determined by average time. Racers will then compete in single elimination races until all but one are eliminated.

**Is speed the only objective?:** No, the primary objective is FUN! This means fun for the participants and the bystanders. Teams may choose to focus on either Art or Speed or both. Designing something outrageous, creative, slow, fast, wacky or wild will add both entertainment and amusement to the race. The competition is designed to bring out the competitive instinct in all team members, during the design and construction stages as well as on race day! As we tell our kids....please "do your best"!

**How will the course be staffed?:** Each team will provide at least one volunteer to man the race. Additionally, local service organizations will be asked to participate by assisting with the course management duties. Finally, event organizers will insure proper staffing through their own volunteer efforts.

**Safety:** We would like this to be an accident free and fun event. It is the responsibility of all team captains to insure that their teams race in a controlled and safe manner, for the entire length of the event. If any vehicle is determined by the race staff to be unsafe, it may be disqualified at the discretion of the race organizers. Medical personnel will be on duty to provide assistance if needed. Each driver is required to wear a helmet that is secured to their head by a strap. At a minimum, helmets must meet bicycle helmet standards. Full-face helmets are recommended. Closed-toed shoes and other protective gear are recommended also.

