

DEMOLITION DERBY

PARTICIPANT RULES

READ FIRST This packet contains three separate divisions. Drivers must build to the rules for the division entered. A permission in one division does not apply to another division.

Divisions Included

- Modified V8
- Front-Wheel Drive Stocked / Powder Puff
- Youth Front-Wheel Drive

Participant Responsibility

- Read the entire rule set for your division before beginning the build.
- Ask derby officials about any unclear item before inspection day.
- Officials may reject or require correction of any vehicle that does not meet the applicable rules.
- Prize-winning vehicles may be re-inspected after the event. All official decisions are final.

IMPORTANT When a general statement and a division-specific rule appear to conflict, follow the rule written under your entered division and confirm the interpretation with derby officials before building.

DIVISION 1 — MODIFIED V8

Vehicle years 1980–2002

General

- All vehicles must be from 1980 through 2002.
- All vehicles must be stripped clean.
- Remove all glass, including the windshield, side windows, rear window, headlights, taillights, and mirrors. Remove the interior and all plastic or fiberglass parts before entering the facility. Rolling down windows is not permitted.

Minimum Driver Safety Equipment

- DOT- or SNELL-approved full-face helmet
- Goggles
- Neck brace
- Safety belt
- Long-sleeve shirt
- Long pants
- Proper footwear
- Fire-suit top recommended
- No electronic or communication devices are allowed in helmets.

Body

- Doors may be welded in two spots per vertical seam using 3 × 3-inch plates. A four-door car may have no more than six plates on one side.
- One 3/8-inch bolt may be installed at the top of each door.
- The trunk may be bolted in eight spots using 3/8-inch bolts through the drip rails.
- The trunk may be cut halfway off, or the trunk lid may be bent to 90 degrees.
- No body shaping whatsoever.
- The hood may be secured with #9 wire at three locations per side. Holes may be drilled and washers welded in place to prevent the wire from pulling through the sheet metal.
- Instead of wire, 2 × 1/4-inch angle may be used with one bolt to hold the hood down.
- Front window bars, chain, or wire are mandatory.

Core Support

- Factory front body bolts may be replaced with 5/8-inch all-thread.
- Core-support spacers may be no larger than 2 1/2 × 2 1/2 × 4-inch tubing and may be used for clearance only.

Bumpers

Front Bumper

- Aftermarket bumpers are allowed. No pointy bumpers.
- The bumper may be hard-nosed using 2–4-inch × 4-inch mounting plates welded to the sides of the frame. These plates may only help hold the bumper on.
- The frame may be cut back to the factory eye, but the factory eye must not be altered.
- A 4 × 4-inch plate may be welded on top of the factory eye.

Rear Bumper

- A factory rear bumper must be used.
- Factory bumper shocks for that car must be used.
- After the bumper is mounted, one 3 × 6 × 1/4-inch bumper strap may be welded from the bumper to the frame.

Frame

- Do not alter the body bolts.
- No frame welding except where specifically permitted in these rules.
- The frame may be dimpled or notched so the rear can roll.
- No pitching or cold bending.

Front Suspension & Ride Height

- Fords may change wishbone-style A-arms to boxed Ford A-arms. Stock factory Ford ball joints must be used; no aftermarket ball joints.
- Upper A-arms may be welded in two spots using 2 × 2 × 1/4-inch straps. This may not strengthen the frame. Abuse of this rule will result in removal of the material.
- Maximum front bumper height is 22 inches, measured from the bottom of the bumper to the ground. Anything higher will be cut.
- Rear bumper height is 15 inches, measured from the ground to the frame rail. Anything lower will be cut.

Drive Train

- Any engine may be used. Lower cradle with head plate only.
- No transmission protectors or steel bell housings.
- No braced rear ends. Ten-bolt rear ends are allowed.
- Vehicles from 1998–2002 must use the factory rear end with factory upper and lower control arms. No cutting or reinforcing.
- Rear ends may be chained with chain no larger than 3/8 inch. Choose only one method: (1) wrap the chain around the rear end and weld two links to the center hump only, or (2) wrap the chain around the rear end to the package tray for ride height.
- Factory crossmember only. A 3 × 3 × 6 × 1/4-inch angle may be welded in place to mount the crossmember.
- Slip shafts and aftermarket steering columns are allowed. No hydro steer.

Cage

- A four-point cage is permitted using material no larger than 2 × 6 × 1/4 inch.
- Side bars may be no longer than 60 inches. They may extend to the firewall but must remain 10 inches from the floor.
- The front bar must be 6 inches from the transmission tunnel and 6 inches from the firewall.
- The rollover bar must be straight up and down and may not extend past the side bars.
- Gas-tank protectors are allowed but must remain 4 inches from the package tray and may be no wider than 32 inches.
- #9 wire may be used at four locations from the cage to the frame, with two strands only. Any additional wire will be cut off.

FINAL NOTE This is intended to be an easy, fun build. Do not attempt to work around the rules. Build to these rules, or do not build.

DIVISION 2 — FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE STOCKED / POWDER PUFF

Stocked demolition derby driver rules - Powder Puff follows the same rules

Eligible Vehicles

- Front-wheel-drive cars only. No SUVs, trucks, vans, all-wheel-drive vehicles, or rear-wheel-drive vehicles.
- Stock engine, transmission, and wheelbase.
- Maximum wheelbase: 110.5 inches.

Allowed

- Any car tires, except studs, chains, or foam-filled tires.
- Headers are allowed.
- A four-point driver cage is allowed inside the driver area only and may not be tied to the frame.
- Creasing is allowed, but the quarter panels must remain upright.

Fuel Tank

- The fuel tank must be inside the vehicle; a boat tank or fuel cell may be used.
- The tank must be securely mounted and covered.
- A tank protector may be up to 30 inches wide and 1/4 inch thick.
- The tank protector must remain at least 4 inches from all sheet metal.

Battery

- The battery must be inside the vehicle, securely mounted, and covered.

Body

- Maximum of six tie points each for the doors, hood, and trunk.
- Tie material is limited to 3/8-inch chain and #9 wire.

No Reinforcement

- No frame plating or added metal.
- No reinforced bumpers.
- No welded suspension or cradle.

Bumpers

- Use a stock front-wheel-drive car bumper or a 1998–2002 Crown Victoria bumper.
- Zero reinforcement is permitted.
- No homemade bumpers.
- Single-pass weld only; multiple weld passes are not permitted.

Core Support

- The core support must remain stock and in the factory location.
- The front of the vehicle may be cut back flush with the core support.
- If cut any farther back than the core support, the vehicle will not be permitted to run.

DIVISION 3 — YOUTH FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE

Youth demolition derby vehicle and safety rules

Vehicle Requirements

- Front-wheel-drive compact cars only.
- The battery must be relocated inside the vehicle and securely mounted.
- A four-point roll cage is mandatory. Side bars may be no larger than 2 × 6 inches, and cross bars may be no larger than 4 inches.
- No gas-tank protectors are permitted.
- The trunk must remain in the stock location. It may be tucked or removed, but it may not be beaten down.
- Doors may be wired or taped with a maximum of three attachment points per seam.
- The trunk lid and hood may have a maximum of two attachment points per seam.
- No all-thread may be used on the hood.
- Instead of wire, the hood may use two angle brackets with one bolt through each bracket.
- Aftermarket shifters are permitted.
- No shifter protectors or any other protectors are allowed.
- Headers are permitted.
- Only DOT-approved street tires with straight tread and donut spare tires are allowed.
- No mud-grip tires, rally tires, or tire protectors.
- Racing harnesses are permitted.
- No tuned or modified engine computers (ECUs) are allowed.

SAFETY REMINDER These rules are intended to provide a safe and fair competition for all youth participants. Any vehicle that does not meet these rules may be disqualified at the discretion of derby officials.

Pre-Inspection Checklist

- ☐ Vehicle is a front-wheel-drive compact car.
- ☐ Battery is inside and securely mounted.
- ☐ Mandatory four-point roll cage meets the size limits.
- ☐ No gas-tank protector is installed.
- ☐ Trunk remains in the stock location and has not been beaten down.
- ☐ Door, hood, and trunk attachment counts are within the limits.
- ☐ No hood all-thread is installed.
- ☐ Tires are approved street-tread or donut spares.
- ☐ ECU is stock and unmodified.